

# YEH KASHMIR HAI...



Visitors at Tulip Garden after it was opened for the public in Srinagar on Wednesday. PIONEER PHOTO

**MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ Srinagar

With over 1.7 million tulips of 74 exquisite varieties in its lap, Asia's largest Tulip garden overlooking the world-famous Dal Lake was thrown open on Wednesday by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, marking the beginning of the new tourism season in the Valley.

"Delighted to throw open Asia's largest Tulip Garden in Srinagar today," the Chief Minister's office posted on X.

The Chief Minister, sporting a skull cap and a traditional 'pheran' greeted and interacted with the tourists assembled at the garden to witness the blooming carpet of flowers.

He also extended an invitation to tourists from all over the world to make a plan to witness the sublime beauty of

nature and enjoy the warm hospitality of Kashmir. Visitors, who were seen posing for a group photograph, acknowledged the hard work of gardeners and all others who worked laboriously behind the scenes to decorate the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden.

The Tourism department is already expecting a heavy tourist influx this year as compared to last year. Last year, as many as 4.45 lakh tourists thronged the garden, which was the highest ever.

A record number of tourists visited the Kashmir valley this year raising hopes of hoteliers and all other stakeholders of a buoyant tourism season ahead.

The floriculture department has expanded the channel to the top of the garden. In addition, some fountains have been set up in the garden to make it more attractive.

Briefing media persons, Floriculture director Shakeel-ul-Rehman Rather said, "Tourists intending to visit the famous Tulip Garden can now book tickets online as authorities have started an online and QR code-based booking system at several places, including the Srinagar Airport."

"We have planted 17.50 lakh tulip bulbs and other flowers," Rather said.

The director said this year, the department has started the facility of an online ticket booking system. "Tie-up has also been done with the tourism departments of many countries and their websites have the link for online tickets. Apart from this, tickets are also available through the physical mode."

The Union Territory administration has already made elaborate arrangements to accommodate the large rush of tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir.

# Supreme Court outraged by Allahabad High Court's insensitive rape order

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE** ■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed the Allahabad High Court's recent observations on grabbing of a woman's breasts and pulling the drawstrings of her "pyjama" not amounting to an attempt to rape and admonished that the order reflected total "insensitivity" and "inhuman approach".

Taking a strong exception to the High Court's observations made in its March 17 verdict, the apex court termed it a "very serious matter".

"In normal circumstances, we are slow in granting stay at this stage. But since the observations appearing in paragraphs 21, 24 and 26 are totally unknown to the canons of law and depict total insensitive and inhuman approach, we are inclined to stay the said observations," a Bench of Justices BR Gavai and Augustine George Masih said.

The top court took suo motu cognisance of the matter after "We the Women of India" collective wrote to Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna. "Until further orders, there shall be stay to the observations made by the judge in paragraphs 21, 24 and 26 of the order dated March 17, 2025," the Bench held.

to be naked..." Referring to the High Court's observations, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said, "This is one judgement I take a very serious exception." Attorney General R Venkataramani also appeared in the matter.

"It is a very serious matter," Justice Gavai said, "exhibiting total insensitivity on the part of the judge." The Bench added, "We are sorry to use such harsh words against the judge." The SG Mehta said the Chief Justice of the High Court was the master of the roster there and it was advisable that some steps were taken. "We are at pains to say that some of the observations made in the impugned order and particularly in paragraphs 21, 24 and 26 depict a total lack of insensitivity on the part of the author of the judgment," the Bench said.

**Until further orders, there shall be stay to the observations made by the judge in paragraphs 21, 24 and 26 of the order dated March 17, 2025** — BENCH

and take such steps as deemed fit and proper," the bench said, posting the matter for hearing on April 15.

During the hearing, one of the advocates appearing in the matter said they moved a plea against the High Court Order. The Bench said the plea would be heard along with the suo motu proceedings. Another lawyer said they would file an application on behalf of the survivor's mother. The accused had challenged the summoning order of a special judge in Kasganj under Section 376 (rape) of the IPC, among other sections.

It came on record that an application was moved before the court of special judge, POCSO Act, alleging that on November 10, 2021, she (informant) was returning from her sister-in-law's home along with her 14-year-old daughter and Pawan, Akash and Ashok, who hailed from the same village, met her on the way and offered a lift to her daughter. They allegedly stopped their motorbike on the way to her village and grabbed her breasts.

Akash was accused of dragging her and trying to take her beneath the culvert while pulling the drawstrings of her lowers. The High Court said the alleged actions of the accused Pawan and Akash was "not sufficient to draw an inference that the accused persons had determined to commit rape" on the survivor as "apart from these facts no other act was attributed to them to further their alleged desire to commit rape on the victim."

Opposition parties also slammed the order as Shiv Sena (UBT) Rajya Sabha member Priyanka Chaturvedi wrote to CJI Sanjiv Khanna calling it "flawed" and seeking the judge's disqualification "for delivering such a misguided verdict." Calling the observations "outrageous" and "unacceptable", Chairperson of the Congress Social Media and Digital Platforms Supriya Shrinete said, "If courts give such observations, where do children and women go and report about incidents when they are harassed?"

# CBI raids ex-Chhattisgarh CM Baghel's houses

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE** ■ New Delhi/Raipur

The CBI on Wednesday conducted searches at 60 locations, including the residence of former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, in connection with the alleged ₹6,000 Crore Mahadev betting app scam, officials said.

The agency teams cracked on at Baghel's residences in Raipur and Bhilai, as well as the houses of a senior police officer and a close associate of the former CM, they said. The searches also covered the premises of Congress MLA Devendra Yadav in Bhilai town of Durg district and of IPS officers Anand Chhabra, Abhishek Pallava and Arif Sheikh, among others, sources said. Congress said the CBI's searches at Baghel's residences were politically motivated, and asserted it will not be intimidated by such actions.

In a social media post from Baghel's office, the former chief minister's office said, "Now CBI has arrived. Former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is scheduled to

go to Delhi today for the meeting of the 'Drafting Committee' constituted for the AICC meeting to be held in Ahmedabad (Gujarat) on 8 and 9 April. Before that, the CBI has reached Raipur and Bhilai Niwas."

The CBI has taken over the investigation from the Economic Offences Wing of the Chhattisgarh Police, which had earlier named Congress leader Baghel, promoters of the app, Ravi Uppal, Saurabh Chandrakar, Shubham Soni, and Anil Kumar Agrawal, and 14 others in its FIR. Baghel had termed the EOW FIR "politically motivated." The Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is also probing the case, has alleged that its probe revealed the involvement of several top politicians and bureaucrats from Chhattisgarh. The app was an umbrella syndicate arranging online platforms for illegal betting websites to enrol new users, create user IDs and launder money through a layered web of 'benami' bank accounts, it claimed. The projected proceeds of crime are about Rs 6,000 crore, the ED earlier said.

# MHA finally responds to Rahul's citizenship issue

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE** ■ New Delhi

Union Home Ministry on Wednesday informed the Delhi High Court that probe on the British Citizenship of Rahul Gandhi is "under consideration". Previous hearing, the High Court had sent notice to MHA to declare its stand, while the Ministry many times sought time to reply to the petition filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy.

"In this regard it is humbly submitted that the subject matter is presently under consideration in the Ministry. Therefore it is requested to appraise the Honorable Court regarding the same on the next date of hearing ie 26.3.2025, thereby defending the interest of the Union of India," said MHA's Foreigners Division (Citizenship Wing). The next hearing is posted for March 28, by dismissing an intervening petition by a BJP worker Vignesh Shishir.

The BJP worker from Karnataka had approached Allahabad High Court, and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been asked to take a decision by April 21. A Division Bench of Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice



Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi during the Budget session of Parliament. PTI

Shishir. "It has been posted for hearing before High Court on April 21," the ASG pointed out.

The petitioner Subramanian Swamy alleged that Government was resorting to delay tactics. "This is delaying tactic. My petition has been there since 2019. The minister had given a show cause notice to which Gandhi has not replied. At least, a direction can be passed to file his affidavit. When I had filed this matter, there was no other matter (in any other High Court). It is unfair that after doing all this work, they have recycled the same matter," Swamy said.

The Court nevertheless said that the issue is under the consideration of the MHA and the hearing can wait till a decision is taken by the Government. "ASG has been informed by Ministry about the Allahabad High Court order. It is for the Ministry to make this decision. We cannot pass any direction. We are only taking notice of the Allahabad High Court decision which has been passed by a division bench," the Delhi High Court remarked while adjourning the case.

# Mirror, mirror on the wall...who's the fairest of us all?

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN** ■ Kochi

Sarada Muraleedharan, chief secretary of Kerala, who had made empowerment of women, social justice and equal opportunities as her mission in life found late on Tuesday night that the renaissance of the State as claimed by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has remained a non-starter and there is large scale discrimination based on colour of one's skin.

People in the State was in for a shock on Wednesday morning as Muraleedharan took to the social media to give vent to her shock and sorrow over comments made by a section of the society that the last seven months of her tenure as the top bureaucrat of Kerala was a period

of black while her predecessor's stewardship stood out as white. Muraleedharan had taken over as chief secretary from V Venu on August 31, 2024. Interestingly, Venu is her husband and it was a rare event in the State to see the wife succeeding her husband as chief secretary.

Venu happened to be of fair complexion while Muraleedharan was a bit on the dark side. The comments about the colour of Muraleedharan's skin are yet another proof that the self-styled progressive State is yet to come out of the regressive mindset. The heart-wrenching account by Muraleedharan speaks about dilemma and taunts suffered by her because of the tone of her skin.

"As a four-year-old, I apparently asked my mother whether she could put me back in her womb and bring

me out again, all white and pretty. I have lived for over 50 years buried under that narrative of not being a colour that was good enough. And buying into that narrative. Of not seeing beauty or value in black. Of being fascinated by fair skin. And fair minds, and all that was fair and good and wholesome. And of feeling that I was a lesser person for not being that — which had to be compensated somehow," writes Muraleedharan.

She further stated that it was her children who glorified the beauty of black and she felt happy afterwards about her tone. "Black is the all pervasive truth of the universe. Black is that which can absorb anything, the most powerful pulse of energy known to humankind.

Tushar Rao Gedela noted the same and also said the Ministry should have apprised the Court of the action taken, since the pendency of similar matter before Allahabad High Court could lead to divergent orders.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma, appearing for the MHA, said that the Allahabad High Court had on March 24 ordered MHA to decide the representation filed by the petitioner before the High Court, one Vignesh

# Juvenile crime turns fatal, 16-year-old killed for ransom

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE** ■ New Delhi

A 16-year-old boy was abducted and killed for an ₹10 Lakh ransom in the Wazirabad area of north Delhi and three juveniles were apprehended in connection with the crime. They reportedly also tried to cut the boy's body into parts. All the three lived near the victim's home.

The class nine students were taken to a deserted area near Bhalaswa Lake, where he was stabbed multiple times, police officials said on Wednesday.

"The family members of the boy had received a call regarding a ransom of ₹10 Lakh. Later, they discovered his body," said the officer.

On Monday, a complaint was filed at the local police station about a boy missing since Sunday. The boy studied in Mukherjee Nagar.

"During investigation, it was found that the missing/kidnapped boy was last seen with three boys, two of them aged 16 and 17, on a motorcycle on Jharoda Pushta road," the officer said.

The sighting was confirmed through CCTV footage from the area.

Police apprehended all three boys, who, during interrogation, revealed they had kidnapped the boy for a ransom of ₹10 Lakh.

They said that on Sunday, they took him

with them on a motorcycle to hang out. They took him to a forested area near Bhalaswa Lake, where they stabbed him and fled, leaving him dead.

The next day, they called the boy's father, a driver by profession, using the boy's SIM and demanded a ransom of ₹10 Lakh.

"The body of the victim was discovered by a police team at the instance of the apprehended juveniles," the officer said. Police sources said that the accused also tried to cut the boy's body into parts. Victim's mother told reporters that the boys, who allegedly killed her, son lived nearby.

"My son left on Sunday around 7.30 pm after receiving a call, saying he will come back in 10 minutes. Later, we got a call with a demand for ₹10 Lakh," she said.

The father of the boy added, "Two boys came to our house to pick my son. After that, his mother kept calling him but it went unanswered. Around 9 pm on Sunday, his phone went off. I started a search for him and then went to the police station to register a complaint."

He said around midnight he got a call with the demand for a ransom, to be paid within three days, or else his son would be killed.

"He was killed so brutally. His throat was slit and he was stabbed multiple times. I want them to go through the same pain that my son did," he said.

# Muslim prayer inadmissible in Sabarimala: Islamic zealot

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN** ■ Kochi

Malayalam film industry's megastar Mammooty has been dragged into a controversy by a religious zealot O Abdullah, a Jama-at-e-Islami fundamentalist, who questioned the former for allowing another megastar Mohan Lal to offer prayers at the holy shrine of Sabarimala for the former's health.

Abdullah and another Islamic extremist Nazir Faizi who heads a powerful wing by name Samasta called for an atonement by Mammooty and they also demanded the megastar to apologise to the Muslim community in the State.

Mohan Lal's special pooja for the

health of his friend Mammooty, whom he addresses as Mammookka (a mark of respect for his senior) was the fall out of an unsubstantiated news that the latter was suffering from colon cancer.

Though there has been no communication from Mammooty or his close family members about the report, persons who claim to be close to the megastar said he was diagnosed with the ailment and was undergoing medication for the same.

What added to the controversial news was that Mammooty and family shifted to Chennai from Kochi and he has cancelled his shooting schedule for the next two months.

But this could be due to the fasting he

routinely undertakes during the Ramadan month. Mohan Lal who undertook a pilgrimage to Sabarimala on the first of Malayalam month Meenam had held special poojas as the shrine for his mother, wife and Mammooty.

The receipt from the temple authorities carrying the birth-star and name of Mammooty went viral in the social media and this made Abdullah, who masquerades as a journalist, furious. The Jamaat-e-Islami leader lambasted Mammooty and called him to perform atonement lest he may have to face religious punishment.

Abdullah's comment has created a furor in Kerala as Mammooty remains a

widely respected and adored artist in the State irrespective of caste and religion.

The Jamaat-e-Islami leader and another leader who owns educational institutions across Kerala have called for the establishment of a Caliphate in South India.

"This is ridiculous. Offering pooja at a temple is to request the God Almighty to cure the person for whom the ritual is held. The community and political leaders should see this as a plea to the deity for the well being of the person," said Sreejit Panicker, political observer.

Lal's pooja for Mammooty is happening in a film industry, which is a dog eating dog world.

## Classifieds

### LOST AND FOUND

It is certified that the matric class certificate of Geeta D/o Shri Chaman Lal R/o 132/4, Valmiki Mandir, Majri Mohalla, Shahabad Markanda, District, Kurukshetra, has been lost whose roll number is 132984, examination year 1981 and school record is attached with it. This certificate is related to Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. Its online FIR has been lodged through 132320712500883.

### BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, **Geeta Rani** W/o Late Jetin R/o Village ahmadpur, Teh. & Distt. Sonapat has disowned my son Sahil from my all movable-immovable property as he is out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with him, he/she will do at their own risk.

I, **Mahavir Singh** Jagdev s/o Late Air Cmr. Dayal Singh, R/O # 1101, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh declare that my elder daughter Simit Jagdev who stays in London (UK) is out of my control. So, I disown her and severed all ties with her. Anybody deals with her will do so at their own risk. I and my family members will not be responsible for any of her act.

I, **Sunita** W/o Late Balkar R/o House No. 2436, Kheda Colony, Sector 16, Karnal, That my son Sahil Lather & his wife Soniya Rani is out of my control. That's why I disown them from my movable and immovable property. In future, the person who deals with it himself will be responsible. I and my other family members and relatives will not have any responsibility.

I, **Kitabo** W/o Sh. Dayanand R/o Ahmadpur, Fazilpur, Distt. Sonapat declares that my son Raju is mentally retarded. I have taken permission to sell my son Raju's property. I've disowned my sons Rohtash, Subhash and daughters Angrejo, Rajrani from his property, who are beyond my control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do their own risk.

I, **Suresh Kumar** S/o Sh. Nafe Singh R/o Village Girawar, Teh. Meham Distt. Rohtak declare that my son Sumit is out of my control. So I disown him from my all movable/immovable properties. Any body dealing with him at their own risk. I or my family are not responsible for any type of their any acts.

**We, Balwan Singh** S/o Bhalle Ram S/o Ram Jash and Chander Parbha W/o Balwan Singh R/o Dhani Gopal Tehsil and District Fatehabad state Haryana declares that our son Rohit Kumar and his wife Suman Devi are beyond our control. Therefore we evict them from our movable and immovable property. In future, anyone who deals with them will be responsible himself. We and our family will not have any responsibility.

I, **Bhulla Singh** S/o Puran Singh R/o G.T Road, VPO Daburji Amritsar Tehsil/ Sub Tehsil Amritsar District Amritsar have declare that my son Manjit Singh and his wife Harjinder Kaur and Their Daughter Jaspreet Kaur Son Jagroop Singh out of my Control I disinherit them from my all movable and immovable properties any body deal with them is his own risk and responsibility.

I, **Gurpal Singh** S/o Kesho Ram village Shahpur postoffice Shahpur - Nurhad Tehsil Naraingarh distt. Ambala. My son karmjeet singh and daughter -in-law Aarti wife Karmajeet singh are out of my family control. So I disown her from all movable & Immovable properties .In Future Any body dealing in any cases with will do so at his/her own risk and Responsibilities. I, and my family will not have any responsibility.

**We, Hiranam Prasad** S/o Indrasan Prasad and Manti Devi W/o Hiranam Prasad R/o # 3700, Sector 56, Palsora, Chandigarh, Our daughter Ragni W/o Pankaj is out of our control. We disown her from our movable/ immovable properties. If anybody deals her in future any type, shall be self responsible.

I, **Vidya Wati** W/o Late Ram Tirath R/o # 61, Dashmesh Nagar, Naya Gaon, Distt. Mohali, Punjab, My son Ram Karan and his wife Renu are out of my control. I disown them from my movable/immovable properties. Anybody deals them any type in future shall be self responsible.

I, **Chhatar Pal** S/o Sh. Shiv Charan R/o House No. 316, Shastri Nagar, Manimajra, (UT) Chandigarh, declare that My son Deepak and his wife Nirmala both are out of my control. So, I disown them from my all moveable / immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk and Responsibility.

I, **Mohan Singh** S/o chhwan Singh R/o House No.51, Neelima Vihar Near Rishi Colony Patiala declare that our son Ankit Rawat, his wife Pooja Bhandari are out of our control. We, Evict them from all our moveable / immovable properties. Anyone dealing with them shall do so on their own risk, we will not be responsible.

I, **Thakur Dass** Varma S/o Karan Chand R/o House No 188/13 For Marla Colony Pehowa Post Office Pehowa Distt.Kurukshetra My Son Lakshay Verma is out of my control. I, disown them from my all moveable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with him that will be at his own risk.

I, **Asha Rani** Widow Ashok Kumar Vill.Jhansa, Ismailabad Distt.Kurukshetra My Son Munish Kumar and his wife Monika is out of my control. I, disown them from my all moveable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with him that will be at his own risk.

I, **Sushil Kumar** Gupta S/o Sh. Jai Bhagwan R/o House No.C-003, Tower C, Ras Residency, Sector -35, Karnal declare that my son Sourav Gupta his wife Ritika and their daughter Pawni are out of my control. I disown them from my moveable and immovable property. They will be responsible for their transactions, good-bad, legal-illegal activities.

I, **Ravinder Kaur** W/O Late Harjinder Singh R/O House No. 194, Punjabagi Bagh, Samrala Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) hereby inform that Since my son Bhawanpreet Singh was out of my control, I had evicted him through two newspapers on 14-09-2023, but now my son Bhawanpreet Singh is in my control and takes full care of me. Therefore, the eviction notice given by me earlier should be cancelled.

**ਮੈਂ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ** ਪਤੀ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਨਿਵੇਸੀ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹਰਿਆਣਾ, ਮੇਰੇ ਬੇਟੇ ਦੇ ਜਨਮ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣ ਪਤਰ ਮੇਰੇ ਨਾਮ ਰਜਨੀ ਵ ਮੇਰੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਅੰਗਲਾ ਦੂਜੇ ਹੇ, ਜੁਬਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ ਹੈ, ਚੁਕੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਹੈ, ਓਰ ਸਹੀ ਪਤਾ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹੈ।

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **Vikas** S/o Krishan Lal R/o Sushma Chandigarh Grande, Flat 1404, Tower F, Opposite Holiday Inn Zirakpur SAS Nagar Mohali Punjab have changed my name from Vikas to Vikas Sharma.

I, **Kotipatrani** Tavittamma, Mother of No 15183985H Rank HAV (CLK SD) Name Kotipatrani Nagarajya presently residing at Vill - Fareedpeta, PO - Fareedpeta, Teh - Etcherla, Distt - Srikkulam, State - Andhra Pradesh & PIN - 532410 and Present Address - 13 Fd Regt c/o 99 APO have changed my name and Date of Birth from Kotipatrani Tavittamma ( D O B - 23 August 1968) to Kotipatrani Tavittamma (DOB - 01 January 1967).

I, **No.16121556P** Rank L/HAV name Peeragouda Patil Unit 4 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 225, Near SSMP High School, VTC : Bhendwad, PO Bhendwad, Distt. Belagavi, State-Karnataka-591222 declare that I have changed my minor son name from Shravan to Shravan Peeragouda Patil vide affidavit dated 25.03.2025

I, **Ramphal** Aadhar Card No. (6139 9485 3843) S/o Munsri Ram R/o H.No. 234/10, Housing Board Colony, Sonipat, Haryana do hereby declare that my Wife Name is Darshana Devi. But my My all Documents Record her Name is Mentioned as Darsana Devi Which have Spelling Mistake Which is Incorrect but in her all documents her Name Mentioned Darshana Devi Which is correct. That I want to correct her Name in My Documents Record as Darshana Devi That Darsana Devi and Darshana Devi is Belongs to same Person.

I, **Sarabjit Kaur** Spouse Of Service No.2496955H Rank Hav Sukhjith Singh R/O Village -Purawal Arian, Po-Chor Sidhwan, Tehsil-Gurdaspur, District-Gurdaspur. Pin Code-143521, State- Punjab. Declare That My Name Sarabjit Kaur Is Wrong. But My Name Sarbjeet Kaur Is Correct. Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb2028767064374x Dated 26-03-2025 Before Notary Public Gurdaspur Punjab.

I, **Jaswinder Kaur**, wife of Gurmaj Singh, residing at Village Kakrala, Tehsil Samana, District Patiala, Punjab (India). I hereby clarify that in some of my government/non-government documents my name is mentioned as Jaswinder Kaur and in some documents my name is written only as Jaswinder. Both these names are mine. Related Notices

I, **Haroon Masih** R/O Vill: Bhattian Jattan Po. Tanda Ram Sahai Teh-Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur, Pb, declare that in my Passport No. S9857870 my name recorded as Haroon Masih. Now I request that my name Masih will be considered as the first name and Haroon as the Last name.

I, **Jagdev Singh** S/o Budh Singh R/o Bajakhana Road, Kuddo Patti, Jaitu (Faridkot) declare that in Matriculation and Senior Secondary School Certificates of my son Jaskaran Singh my name written as Baldev Singh but in my all documents my name read and written as Jagdev Singh. I Jagdev Singh and Baldev Singh is one and the same person of both names and said both names are related to me.

I, **Sukhjith Kaur** W/o Jagdev Singh R/o Bajakhana Road, Kuddo Patti, Jaitu (Faridkot) declare that in Matriculation and Senior Secondary School Certificates of my son Jaskaran Singh my name written as Parmjeet Kaur but in my all documents my name read and written as Sukhjith Kaur. I Sukhjith Kaur and Parmjeet Kaur is one and the same lady of both names and said both names are related to me.

I, **Balkaran Singh** Aulakh S/O Uttar Singh R/O Ramiana (Faridkot) declare that in my Aadhar Card and other related documents my father's name mentioned as Uttar Singh but in my driving license my father name mentioned as Avtar Singh and in Jamabandi his name mentioned as Uttar Singh alias Avtar Singh. That my father known by both names Uttar Singh alias Avtar Singh.

I, **Sushma Rani**, W/o Shri Balwinder Singh, R/o Village Kurali, Tehsil Naraingarh, District Ambala declare that the policy account number 33531489809 opened by my husband in SBI Naraingarh has Harjeet Kaur wife of Balwinder Singh written in it. Harjeet Kaur is not a member of my family. Whereas I, Sushma Rani, am the wife of the said policy holder. If later anyone has any objection regarding this, then I myself will be responsible for it.

I, **Army no. 16122362A** Rank SPR Name Palla Thulasi Nandana Kumar of Unit 6 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Declare that my Daughter Palla Hansika Date of Birth 04.11.2020 is Wrongly Mentioned in my Army Service Records But my Daughter correct Date of Birth is 19.06.2017.

I, **Palla** Lakshmidivi is Legally Mother of Army No. 16122326N Rank SPR Name Palla Thulasi Nandana Kumar of Unit 6 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Resident of House No.4-57-A, Ragi Cheettu Veedhi, VTC. Dommara nandyala, Po. Dommara nandyala, District Cuddapah State Andhra Pradesh Pin-516431 Declare That my Name P Lakshmi Devi and Date of Birth 21.02.1968 Wrongly Mentioned in my son Army Service Record but my correct Name is Palla Lakshmidivi and Date of Birth is 01.01.1956.

I, **Arjo Devi** is Legally Mother of Army No. JC-389988x Rank Sub Name Sukhbir Singh of Unit 23 Inf.Div.Sig. Regt C/o 99 APO Resident of 105, Tobha(20), Ambala State Haryana Pin-133104 Declare That my Name Arzoo Devi and Date of Birth 01.07.1950 Wrongly Mentioned in my son Army Service Record but my correct Name is Arjo Devi and Date of Birth is 01.01.1948.

I, **Army No. 15164853A** Rank NK Dharmendra Kumar Yadav Unit of 197 FD Regt C/o 56 APO Resident of Village Khanpur P.o Kajha Khurd Tehsil Mohammda Bad (Gohana) Distt Mau State U.P Pin 276403, declare That my Army Service Records my minor Son Aslitav Kumar Yadav Date of Birth Wrongly mentioned as 20/05/2010 But Actual and Correct my minor Son Aslitav Kumar Yadav Date of birth 17/08/2010.

### CHANGE OF NAME

**ਮੈਂ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ** ਪਤੀ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਨਿਵੇਸੀ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹਰਿਆਣਾ, ਮੇਰੇ ਬੇਟੇ ਦੇ ਜਨਮ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣ ਪਤਰ ਮੇਰੇ ਨਾਮ ਰਜਨੀ ਵ ਮੇਰੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਅੰਗਲਾ ਦੂਜੇ ਹੇ, ਜੁਬਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ ਹੈ, ਚੁਕੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਹੈ, ਓਰ ਸਹੀ ਪਤਾ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹੈ।

**ਮੈਂ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ** ਪਤੀ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਨਿਵੇਸੀ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹਰਿਆਣਾ, ਮੇਰੇ ਬੇਟੇ ਦੇ ਜਨਮ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਣ ਪਤਰ ਮੇਰੇ ਨਾਮ ਰਜਨੀ ਵ ਮੇਰੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਅੰਗਲਾ ਦੂਜੇ ਹੇ, ਜੁਬਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਸੁਨੀਤਾ ਹੈ, ਚੁਕੇ ਪਤਿ ਕਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਮਦਨ ਲਾਲ ਹੈ, ਓਰ ਸਹੀ ਪਤਾ ਗਾਂਧੀ ਮਾਮਲੀ ਤਹਸੀਲ ਜਗਾਧਰੀ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਯਮੁਨਾਨਗਰ ਹੈ।

I, **Ankush** S/o Rajesh R/o VPO Nyoli Kalan (169), District Hisar 125004, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Ankush Dhanda to Ankush in future. I will be known as Ankush in future.

I, **Ritika Brar** D/o Dipinder Singh Brar, R/o # 20, Sector 5, Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor son from Kian Singh Marwah to Kian Singh Brar.

I, **Bhawana** W/o Varun R/o VPO Buria, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Bhawana to Bhawna.

I, **Parvinder Singh** Saini S/o Mohinder Singh Saini R/O Village Kainthall Khurd, PO Barwa, Tehsil Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra have changed my name from Parvinder Singh Saini to Parvinder Singh. All concerns please note.

I, **Dharmendar Mani** Pandey S/O Late Ravi Pratap Pandey R/O # 3235 Sector 47-D, Chandigarh have changed my name to Dharmendra Mani Pandey.

I, **Tara Kukreja** W/o Naresh Kukreja R/O 462/14, 4 Marla, Near Hanuman Mandir, Sonipat, Haryana have changed my name to Tara Rani for all future purposes.

I, **Sukhbir Dass** S/o Premdass R/o Village-Kharak Ramji, Tehsil & District Jind have changed my name from Sukhbir Sath S/o Prem Sath to Sukhbir Dass S/o Premdass.

I, **Parmod** S/o Satbir Singh R/o H. No. 1, Sector 6, Rajiv Gandhi Sports Complex, Rohtak have changed my name from Parmod Kumar to Parmod.

I, **Nirola Baruah** Mother of Deba Kanta Baruah, Permanent resident of House No.49A, Village Puthikhathi Saikia Chuburi, P.O. Dekargaon, Tehsil Haleswar, P.S. Tezpur, District Sonitpur (Assam), India, Pin code - 784501 have changed my name from Nirola Baruah To Nirala Baruah and correction my date of birth from 01 July 1964 to 08 July 1965 vide Affidavit dated 22-03-2025 before Mr. Sat Pal, Notary, Pathankot (Punjab).

I, **Padum** Chandra Baruah, Date of Birth- 01 July 1959, Father of Deba Kanta Baruah, Permanent resident of House No.49A, Village Puthikhathi Saikia Chuburi, P.O. Dekargaon, Tehsil Haleswar, P.S. Tezpur, District Sonitpur (Assam), India, Pin Code - 784501 have Correction My Date of Birth From 01 July 1959 to 31 March 1958 vide Affidavit dated 22-03-2025 before Mr.Sat Pal, Notary, Pathankot (Punjab).

I, **Sellma** D/o Sadian R/o House no 1726, Mauli Jagran Chandigarh have changed my name from Sellma to Silma.

I, **Sushila** W/o Budhi Singh R/o House No. 1250, Puspach Complex, Sector 49-B, Chandigarh, declare that in School Leaving Certificate my name has been entered as Sushila Devi instead of correct name Sushila. Henceforth I will be known as Sushila. Concerned note.

I, **Anju Goyal** w/o Jatinder kumar R/o House no. 5389, FF Block-F, Aerocity Mohali Pincode 140603 have changed my name to Anju Bala.

I, **Jasleen Chauhan** D/o Sh. Vikram Singh R/o House No 3604, Sector 37-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Jasleen Chauhan to Monisha.

I, **Daya Nand** S/o Amar Chand my Old Address # 124, Luxmi Garden, Yamunanagar now I have changed my new address is # 25/21, Shipurib-B, Kansapur, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar and have changed my name from Daya Nand to Dayanand Mehra.

I, **Bhupinder Kumar** S/o Late Surender Kumar, H.No. 931, Dwarikapuri, Ward-1, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name from Bhupinder Kumar Sharma to Bhupinder Kumar.

I, **Guddu Gupta** S/o Dina Nath Gupta, H.No. 1102, ganganagar colony, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name from Guddu Kumar Gupta to Guddu Gupta.

I, **Karan Kumar** s/o Deep Chand r/o Village Mirzapur, PO Sadhaura, Distt Yamunanagar state that Karan & Karan Kumar both are one & same person.

I, **Parmod** S/o Satbir Singh R/o H. No. 1, Sector 6, Rajiv Gandhi Sports Complex, Rohtak declares that Parmod Kumar and Parmod both are my name one and the same person.

I, **Harish Kumar** S/o Sh. Amar Nath R/o H.No.236, City Cable Wali Gali, 8 Marla, Panipat, declare that I have changed my name from Harish Pahwa or Harish Kumar Pahwa to Harish Kumar. For all future purpose.

I, **Nisha**, W/o Sh. Jatindra Kumar Manchanda, R/o House No. 50, Green Park, Tehsil Camp, Panipat, declare that my name is Nisha in my Aadhar card and my husband's name is Jatindra Kumar Manchanda. But in my 10th mark sheet, my name is Nisha Gandhi. Nisha and Nisha Gandhi are both names of the same woman. In future, I should be known by the name of Nisha.

I, **Jatinder Kumar** Manchanda S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Manchanda, R/o House No. 50, Green Park, Tehsil Camp, Panipat, declare that my name in my Aadhar card is Jatinder Kumar Manchanda and my father's name is Ashok Kumar Manchanda. But in my 10th Class mark sheet, my name is Jatinder Kumar and my father's name is Ashok Kumar. Jatinder Kumar Manchanda and Jatinder Kumar both are same and one person names. In future, I want to be known by the name of Jatinder Kumar Manchanda.

I, **Dharam Pal** S/o Mangat Ram R/o Village Dadlu, Postoffice Rawa, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Dharam Pal to Dharampal.

I, **Kashmiro Devi** W/o Dharampal R/o Village Dadlu, Postoffice Rawa, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Kashmiro Devi to Kashmiri Kaur.

I, **Deepak** S/o Sita Ram R/o 579/1, jhansa road, soudagran maholla, Thanesar, Kurukshetra Haryana -136118, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Deepak Kumar in my minor daughter name Isha, aged 16 Years in her 10th Class educational documents. The actual name of mine is Deepak, which may be amended accordingly.

I, **Sanjeev Kumar** S/o Mehar Chand R/o Village Kaul, District Kaithal, Haryana, I have changed my minor daughter name from Yashvi to Yashvi Choudhary for all future purposes.

I, **Sanjeev Kumar** S/o Mehar Chand R/o Village Kaul, District Kaithal, Haryana, I have changed my minor son name from Rishab to Rishab Choudhary for all future purposes.

I, **Rekha** W/o Vishavnath R/o Guru Teg Bahadur Colony VPO Tanda Ram Sahai. Mukerian Hoshiarpur Punjab, have changed my name from Rekha to Rekha Mehra.

I, **Rasleen** alias Manmeet Kaur D/o Jaspal Singh R/O Village Jand, PO Nangal Dial Singh, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab-143113 have changed my name from Rasleen alias Manmeet Kaur to Manmeet Kaur.

I, **Deepshikha Singla** D/o Naresh Kumar Singla W/o Gaurav Khemka R/o H.No. 27, Street No. 4, Gokul Avenue, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name after marriage from Deepshikha Singla to Shikha Khemka.

I, **KM Anjali** Singh spouse of Sumnesh Kumar Sharma R/o #608-A, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from KM Anjali Singh to Anjali Singh vide Affidavit No - IN-CH55167045204032X Dated 18-03-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court at Chandigarh.

I, **Neha Sharma** spouse of Gaurav Kumar Sharma R/o #436, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from Neha Sharma to Neha Bhardwaj vide Affidavit No - IN-CH55188180357611X Dated 18-03-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court at Chandigarh.

I, **Sanjay** Shrikishna Savane Father of Indereet R/o #946-A, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my son name from Indereet to Indereet Sanjay Savane vide Affidavit No - IN-CH55334648133914X Dated 25-03-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, **Sanjay** Shrikishna Savane Father of Indereet R/o #946-A, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my son name from Indereet to Indereet Sanjay Savane vide Affidavit No - IN-CH55334648133914X Dated 25-03-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, **Pankaj Ghai** S/o Thakur Dass R/o 56, Ashok Nagar, Ward no. 22, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Pankaj Ghai to Pankaj Kumar.

I hitherto known as Nishtha Wife of Atul Khindria Resident of House No. 6519, Block-G, Near Government School Aerocity, Post Office Manauli, District SAS Nagar Mohali, Punjab Pin Code 140306, India have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nishtha Khindria.

I, **Monika Sharma** W/o Dinesh Kumar R/o Ward No. 11 Geeta Colony Safidon Tehsil Safidon district Jind I have to declare that my name change from Monika to Monika Sharma for all future purposes.

I, **Anil Behl** S/o Shri Jagdish Chander R/o House No. 972 Ward No. 14 Gohana Road Krishna Colony Rohtak declare that I have changed my son name from Pratham to Pratham Behl. In future he should be known as Pratham Behl.

I, **Saroj Bala** W/o No. 15112983-N Ex Sepoy Late Sh. Narender Kumar R/o Vill. & P.O. Marodhi Jattan, Teh. Kalanaur, Distt. Rohtak (Haryana) declare that my name Saroj and my DOB 19 Yrs age at the time of my marriage are wrongly mentioned in my husband Army record. But my correct & actual name is Saroj Bala and my correct DOB is 06.09.1973. vide Affidavit dated 24.03.2025 Notary Public Rohtak.

I, **Virender kumar** Kaushal alias V k kaushal S/o Raghu Nath, R/o n no.411-R model town near soni hospital, Panipat have changed my name from Virender kumar Kaushal alias V k Kaushal to Virender kaushal for all future purposes.

I, **No. 6283781K** Ex Hav Karnal Singh S/o Sh. Udharn Singh residence of Village & PO Pandori Atwala Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur (PB) has changed my wife's name from Balbir Kour to Balbir Kaur and her correct date of birth is 15/03/1950. Concern Note.

I, **No. 1049226L** Ex Nk Bhag Mal residence of Village Sehjowal PO Garhdivala Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur (PB) has changed my wife's name from Baldev Kaur and Baldev Kumari to Baldev Kaur. Concern Note.

I, **Lakhvir Kaur** W/o Jitender Singh R/o Dhani Chetampura, Tehsil & Distt. Fatehabad declares that I have changed my name from Lakhvir Kaur to Jaspinder Kaur. In future, I will be known as Jaspinder Kaur.

I, **Mandeep Kaur** wife of No.3406416K Hav Jagtar Singh R/o VPO Chhabhal Kalan Tehsil and District Tarn Taran have changed date of birth from 15.08.1989 to 10.08.1991 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB16641043402742X Dt.17.03.2025 before Executive Magistrate Tarn Taran

I, **Jagjevan Kaur** Sarkaria wife of No.14316079M Ex Hav Rupinder Singh Sarkaria R/O H.No.6, Dr Surat Singh Road, Post Khalsa College Amritsar have changed my name from Jagjeevan Kaur to Jagjeevan Kaur Sarkaria and Date of Birth from 29.04.1961 to 17.09.1966 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB17518014876117X Dt.19.03.2025 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, **Kusum** W/o Rohit Sharma R/o 335, Gali Gobind Katra Khazana Amritsar have changed my name from Kusum to Kusam

I, **Amarjeet Kaur** W/o Major Singh R/o Vpo Daburji G T Road Amritsar changed my name from Amarjeet Kaur to Amarjit Kaur

I, **Jyoti Bala** W/o Tehleem Gill R/o H.No.F18/213, Prem Nagar Tower Wali Gali Majitha Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Jyoti Bala to Jyoti After Marriage

I, **Ghanshyam Lal** father of No.13774562Y Hav Suraj Lal Unit of 11 Jak Rif C/o 56 APO that in my sons's army service record my name has been wrongly entered as Ghanshyam Lal but my correct name is Ghanshyam Nishad Vide affidavit No.IN-PB2029086371507X Dt.26.03.2025 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, **Beena Bai** mother of No.13774562Y Hav Suraj Lal Unit of 11 Jak Rif C/o 56 APO that in my sons's army service record my name has been wrongly entered as Beena Bai but my correct name is Bina Bai Nishad Vide affidavit No.IN-PB2029393781827X Dt.26.03.2025 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, **Gurpinder Pal** Singh S/o Kulpid Singh R/o Gunowal, Jandiالا Guru Distt Amritsar have changed my name from Gurpinder Pal Singh to Gurpinderpal Singh

I, **Rajesh Agnihotri** s/o Baldev Raj Resident at H.No. F20/197, near baba mir shah, Nehru Colony, Majitha Road Amritsar have changed my name from Rajesh Agnihotri to Rajesh Kumar

I, **Harjit Kaur** D/o Sarmukh Singh R/o H.No.30, New Darshan Avenue, Sultanwind Road, Amritsar, have declare that my Daughter Navneet Kaur. Navneet is her Given name and Kaur is her Surname

I, **Babli Devi** W/o Joginder Singh # 705, Village Dariya, Chandigarh have changed my name to Kavita.

I, **Bhanu Priya** D/o Mukesh Kumar R/o # 1249, Sector 15 B, Chandigarh, have changed the name of my minor Daughter from Myra Singh to Saanvi.

I, **Sandeep Kaur**, wife of Kanwaljit Singh, resident of village Miran kot Khurd Post Office, Miran kot Kalan Amritsar have changed my name from Sandeep Kaur to given name Sandeep surname Kaur

I, **Narender Nagal** S/o Sh. Dinesh Kumar R/o House No. 431, Ward No. 11, Village Siswala, Hisar, Teh. and Distt. Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Narender Nagal to Narender for all future purpose.

I, **Chander Devi** W/o Sh. Raj Kumar R/o House No. 140/27, Near Balmiki Mandir, Patel Nagar, Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Chander Devi to Chandra for all future purpose.

I, **Taruna** W/O Tejbeer Singh R/O 930, Malkhan Patti Panjokhra Sahib Ambala, Have Changed My Name From Taruna To Taruna Kaur

I, **Vikram Singh** S/o Nafe Singh R/o House No 127, ward No 4, Bus Adda, Aibla Jagir, Karnal, Haryana have changed my son name from James to James Bodla.

I, **Damyanti** W/o Late Sukh Dayal R/o H.No. 993, Urban Estate, Sector-7, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, Haryana have changed my name from Asha Rani to Damyanti.

I, **Babli Devi** W/o Joginder Singh # 705, Village Dariya, Chandigarh have changed my name to Kavita.

I, **Bhanu Priya** D/o Mukesh Kumar R/o # 1249, Sector 15 B, Chandigarh, have changed the name of my minor Daughter from Myra Singh to Saanvi.

### Continuity Pg. No. 11



### SJVN's NJHPS organizes 23rd Edition of Vendor Development Meet

**Shimla:** SJVN's 1500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) successfully organized the 23rd Edition of Vendor Development Meet for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) today. Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma

## No New Taxes, first-ever Drug Census; Sehat Cards: Cheema presents Rs 2.36-cr Budget

**WITH MAJOR ALLOCATIONS TO DRUG ERADICATION, HEALTH, INFRASTRUCTURE; BUDGET SILENT ON RS 1100 TO WOMEN**

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Wednesday presented a Rs 2.36 lakh crore Budget for the fiscal year 2025-26, with a strong focus on tackling drug addiction, improving healthcare, and strengthening rural and urban infrastructure. The Budget, themed 'Badalda Punjab Roadmap for 2025-26', aimed at economic consolidation while keeping populist measures in check, notably making no provisions for the Rs 1,100 monthly grant to women — one of the key election "guarantees" of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

This marked the fourth Budget presented by the AAP-led Punjab Government, continuing its emphasis on welfare schemes, youth engagement, and industrial growth. While no new taxes were introduced, the Budget underlined the state's financial challenges, with an outstanding debt of Rs 3.96 lakh crore by the end of the current fiscal, and a proposed Rs 49,900 crore loan to meet financial requirements.

Stating that this year's budget set the stage for economic revival, fiscal consolidation, and transformative governance, Cheema noted that the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) projected to touch Rs 8,91,301 crore, reflecting a 10 percent growth, which is "a good sign of improvement in state's economy". Cheema also emphasized the government's success in boosting own tax revenue by 14 percent with an estimated Rs 63,250 crore expected in the upcoming fiscal year.

The budget outlined AAP's bold vision focusing on transformative initiatives across various sectors. From a war on drugs to massive sports investments, rural revival programs, universal healthcare, and industrial incentives, the budget sought to uplift every segment of society.

Among the key announcements and initiatives include the first-ever Drug Census; recruitment of state's 5000 youth as home guards to prepare a 'second line of defense' at Indo-Pak border, deploying anti-drone system to check cross border smuggling, as a part of its ongoing war against drugs. Cheema also announced expansion of the Sehat Bima Yojna covering state's all 65 lakh families with free health insurance while also doubling the increasing cover from Rs five lakhs to Rs 10 lakhs.

Also giving a major boost to the sports under 'Khed Da Punjab, Badalda Punjab', the budget also aimed to give a massive push to infrastructure development across all districts by allocating Rs five crore to each of 117 constituencies. In another major relief, a loan waiver has been announced for Scheduled Caste beneficiaries, who defaulted on loans taken from the Punjab Scheduled Castes Land Development and Finance Corporation (PSCFC) until March 31, 2020 — benefiting 4,650 individuals and providing them a chance to rebuild their lives.

Boasting of the state's improved financial situation while quoting figures, Cheema pointed that the Fiscal Deficit stood at 3.84 percent of GSDP, adhering to responsible financial management, while the effective revenue deficit stands at 2.51 percent — indicating a steady path to fiscal sustainability. The Debt-to-GSDP ratio has improved to 44.50 percent, from 44.70 percent, reflecting better fiscal discipline compared to previous years.

Cheema also boasted of Punjab's increased own tax revenue by 14 percent, reaching an estimated Rs 63,250 crore for 2025-26, up from Rs 57,919 crore in 2024-25 (RE). The GST receipts alone are projected to rise to Rs 27,650 crore — the highest-ever estimate for the state, while excise revenue is expected to reach Rs 11,200 crore, continuing a 63 percent surge since 2021-22.

### WAR ON DRUGS: A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH

Describing drugs as the "biggest threat to the progress and prosperity" of Punjab,



Cheema announced the launch of 'Yudh Nashe De Virudh' — a statewide anti-drug campaign that has already led to 2,136 FIRs and 3,816 drug smuggler arrests. In one of the one of the most aggressive measures, Cheema announced deployment of 5,000 home guards along the border to combat cross-border trafficking and creating a second line of defense. In a groundbreaking move, the state will invest Rs 110 crore in advanced anti-drone systems to intercept drug-laden drones from across the border.

Additionally, a first-ever 'Drug Census' will be conducted, with Rs 150 crore allocated for data-driven policymaking to tackle addiction effectively.

### STRENGTHENING LAW AND ORDER

Punjab's law enforcement will also undergo a major revamp with the largest-ever expansion of Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs). The budget allocates Rs 125 crore for 758 new four-wheelers and 916 two-wheelers, aiming to reduce police response time from 30 minutes to just eight minutes — to be the fastest in India. Additionally, Rs 53 crore is earmarked for a state-of-the-art 'Dial 112' headquarters in Mohali.

### KHED-DA PUNJAB, BADALDA PUNJAB

Recognizing sports as a powerful alternative to drugs, Punjab has launched its largest-ever sports initiative, 'Khed-da Punjab, Badalda Punjab'. Every village will get playgrounds with running tracks, children's play areas, and solar lighting. A historic Rs 979 crore allocation — the highest ever — will fund 3,000 indoor gyms, modernize 13 Centers of Excellence, and develop facilities for a "locally popular sport" in every village playground like volleyball, football, hockey, kabaddi, and others.

### UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE: RS 10L COVER FOR ALL FAMILIES

In a historic move, Punjab will provide universal health insurance, covering state's all 65 lakh families under the Mukh Mantri Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana. Cheema announced doubling the insurance cover to Rs 10 lakh per annum, with a Rs five lakh top-up for Centre's Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries. Additionally, families will receive Sehat Cards for cashless treatment in government and private hospitals. For the same, Punjab has also allocated Rs 778 crore, part of a Rs 5,598 crore health sector budget — reflecting a 10 percent increase over the previous year. "There will be no bar or discrimination - rural or urban, rich or poor everyone can participate in this scheme," Cheema clarified.

AAP Government's ambitious Farisheet Scheme also gets Rs 10 crore for accident victims' emergency care; while allocating Rs 268 crore for expansion of Aam Aadmi Clinics,

currently 881 in number.

### REVIVING RURAL PUNJAB WITH RS 6,373-CR BOOST

Cheema unveiled 'Badalde Pind, Badalda Punjab' initiative, committing Rs 3,500 crore for infrastructure development across 12,581 villages in the next two years. Key projects include pond rejuvenation, sewage treatment, Nehri Khaal (irrigation channels) restoration, new village playground construction, and streetlight installation. Additionally, Rs 2,873 crore has been allocated to upgrade or construct 18,944 km of rural link roads by Punjab Mandi Board, ensuring seamless connectivity. "Our goal will be to ensure that there doesn't remain a single link road that is broken after a year," said Cheema.

### RANGLA PUNJAB VIKAS SCHEME: RS 5-CR TO EACH CONSTITUENCY

To ensure holistic district-wise development, Cheema announced Rs 585 crore 'Rangla Punjab Vikas Scheme', under which Rs five crore per constituency will be allocated for roads, bridges, healthcare, education, water, and sanitation. The fund, to be administered by the Deputy Commissioners, will be utilized based on inputs from MLAs, community groups, and citizens to address local needs and restore Punjab's lost glory.

### URBAN TRANSFORMATION WITH RS 5,983-CR PUSH

Cheema announced a Rs 140 crore project to build 50 km of world-class roads in Ludhiana, Amritsar, Jalandhar, and Mohali — a first-of-its-kind initiative. Designed by top architects, these roads will feature redesigned lanes, obstruction-free footpaths, aligned public utilities, and 10-year contractor-led maintenance with mechanized cleaning. Additionally, Rs 225 crore is allocated to improve essential municipal services in all 166 towns and cities, ensuring better cleanliness, water supply, sewage, roads, and streetlights. To enhance public transport, 347 e-buses will be procured, and major bus depots upgraded, besides Rs 300 crore for Punjab Municipal Services Improvement Project to strengthen urban governance, finances, and delivery of sustainable water services to the citizens of Amritsar and Ludhiana city. In all, Rs 5,983 crore has been allocated for housing and urban development.

### NEW SCHEME TO ILLUMINATE VILLAGES WITH 2.5L STREETLIGHTS

Cheema announced a new scheme — Mukh Mantri Street Light Yojana — with a Rs 115 crore allocation to install 2.5 lakh streetlights across villages and towns. In a first-of-its-kind model, lights will be installed outside homes, drawing power from domestic connections, with consumed units

### Budget Allocation for Various Departments

Department	Budget Allocation
Education	Rs 17,975 cr
Health	Rs 5,598 cr
Sports	Rs 979 cr
Agriculture	Rs 4,524 cr
Social Justice and Welfare	Rs 9,340 cr
Power	Rs 7,614 cr
Urban Development	Rs 5,983 cr
Home and Jails	Rs 11,560 cr
Water Resources	Rs 3,246 cr
Tourism and Cultural Affairs	Rs 204 cr

### MAJOR INITIATIVES

- First-ever Drug Census to assess drug addiction patterns
- Anti-drone systems to intercept drug smuggling across borders
- 5,000 home guards to be deployed along the border
- Universal Health Insurance, covering all 65 lakh families with a Rs 10 lakh per annum insurance cap
- Loan waiver for PSCFC loan defaulters
- Rs 3,500 crore for rejuvenating 12,581 villages with better sewage, irrigation, and streetlights
- Rs 2,873 crore for repairing village link roads
- Rs 5 crore per constituency for holistic development
- Rs 5,983 crore for urban infrastructure, including Rs 140 crore for world-class roads
- Rs 25,564 crore for power subsidy, including Rs 9,992 crore for farmers; Rs 7,614 crore for 300 units of free electricity for domestic consumers; Rs 3,426 crore for industries
- Rs 500 crore for stubble management to curb pollution
- Rs 315 crore for canal rejuvenation
- 3,000 indoor gyms and playgrounds in villages
- Rs 80 crore for 'Unity Mall' in Amritsar to showcase artisans' products
- Rs 10 crore to develop Nangal as a tourism hub

deducted from household bills. Additionally, Rs 7,614 crore has been earmarked for 300 free units of power per month for domestic consumers.

### INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC REVIVAL

A historic Rs 250 crore allocation has been made for financial incentives to industries — the highest in the state's history. Cheema said: "In contrast, the previous Congress government spent only Rs 53 crore in five years, while the Akali-BJP regime allocated nothing." Further, to promote national integration and Punjab's industrial growth, an Rs 80 crore 'Unity Mall' will be set up in Amritsar, featuring stalls from all States or UTs and Punjab's 23 districts to support artisans and entrepreneurs. Additionally, Rs 120 crore under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMPP) Scheme will support MSMEs, while Rs 3,426 crore is earmarked for subsidized power, besides Rs 10 crore for upgradation of R&D Centre and the Institute of Auto Parts and Hand Tools Technology (IAHT) in Ludhiana.

### MAJOR BOOST FOR WELFARE, SOCIAL JUSTICE

Cheema also announced Rs 9,340 crore allocation for social welfare, ensuring support from birth to old age. He also announced a loan waiver scheme, benefiting 4,650 Scheduled Caste beneficiaries who defaulted on loans from PSCFC before March 31, 2020. The key allocations include Rs 6,175 crore for financial aid to the elderly, widows, destitutes, and persons with disabilities; Rs 1,177 crore for Nutrition and ICDS; Rs 360 crore for the Ashirwad Scheme; and Rs 262 crore for various scholarship programs. The government has also allocated Rs 450 crore to continue free bus travel scheme for women. A whopping Rs 13,987 crore has been allocated to the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP), accounting for 34 percent of the State's total development budget.

### FOCUS ON CROP DIVERSIFICATION;

### HORTICULTURE

Cheema also allocated Rs 14,524 crore for agriculture and allied sectors in 2025-26, marking a five percent increase from the previous year. To incentivize crop diversification, a new scheme in Bathinda, Kapurthala, and Gurdaspur will encourage farmers to shift 21,000 hectares from paddy to Kharif maize, supporting India's 20 percent ethanol blending target. Farmers will receive a Rs 17,500 per hectare subsidy, benefiting 30,000 farmers, with Rs 115 crore allocated for crop diversification initiatives.

Under Krishonnati Yojana, Rs 149 crore is earmarked for agriculture extension, food security, horticulture, seed development, and digital agriculture. Additionally, Rs 9,992 crore is allocated for power subsidies to farmers. Punjab will also launch a Rs 137 crore Natural Farming initiative in five districts — Amritsar, SBS Nagar, Ropar, Mohali, and Hoshiarpur — promoting eco-friendly practices through awareness programs, farmer incentives, and training support.

### STUBBLE MANAGEMENT, WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

A total of Rs 560 crore has been allocated to tackle stubble burning and promote sustainable agriculture — of which Rs 60 crore will support industries adopting paddy stubble-based boilers, utilizing three million tonnes of crop residue annually; while Rs 500 crore will assist farmers, cooperatives, and gram panchayats in purchasing Crop Residue Management (CRM) machines and developing supply chains. For water conservation, Rs 100 crore is earmarked for strengthening canal irrigation in Sangru, benefiting 20,000 farmer families, covering 38,000 hectares.

### RS 17,975-CR EDUCATION BUDGET

Cheema allocated Rs 17,975 crore for education — 12 percent of total expenditure — aiming for transformative reforms. Key allocations include Rs 1,240 crore for Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Rs 466 crore for PM Poshan, Rs 75 crore for free books, and Rs 35 crore for uniforms. Higher education gets Rs 199 crore under RUSA and Rs 160

### Quote-Unquote

"Budget is a paradigm shift to Rangla Punjab from the regressive one during the previous regimes... funds have been earmarked for every sector like health, education, jobs, industry and others which will give impetus to development of the state. It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction that this third tax free budget has been presented by my government"

- Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann

"When AAP Government was formed in 2022, the people of Punjab voted for change. We are correcting all the wrongs done by the SAD-BJP, Congress Governments in Punjab. We are working to get the youth out of the trap of drugs. We have launched a campaign against drugs and for this, we have made special provisions in the budget. Whether it is to purchase anti-drone systems, recruit 5000 Home Guard jawans, setting up more than 1000 sports nurseries, we will break the chain of drugs, we will take our youth towards sports"

- Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema

"This is a defeatist budget as the AAP appears to have reconciled to its imminent defeat and exit. Looks like a 'pre-emptive revenge' against people of Punjab"

- Punjab Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring

"Before implementing the drug census, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and all 117 MLAs should undergo drug tests conducted by an independent health agency"

- Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa

"Empty vessels make the loudest noise. AAP has failed to deliver Rs 1,000 per month for women and added Rs one lakh crore to Punjab's debt"

- Union Minister, BJP leader Ravneet Singh Bittu

"AAP government and CM Bhagwant Mann have betrayed Punjabis by going back on all promises, failing farmers, women, youth, businesses, and weaker sections of society"

crore for infrastructure upgradation; while technical education sees Rs 579 crore for upgrading infrastructure, new courses, skill development and ITI expansion. Total Rs 1,336 crore has been allocated for Medical Education, including setting up a new medical college, with 50 MBBS seats, at Barnala Kalan in Nawanshahr. Additionally, Rs 1,650 crore is earmarked as grants-in-aid for state universities.

### ENHANCED PRISON SECURITY, POLICE INFRASTRUCTURE

A Rs 11,560 crore allocation strengthened home affairs, including AI-powered CCTV in jails, V-Kavach jammers, and inmate rehabilitation. Rs 233 crore is earmarked for modernizing police infrastructure, while Rs 132 crore will fund new court complexes in Derabassi, Khanna, and Patran. Additionally, Rs 100 crore is set aside for jail infrastructure upgrades.

### RS 3,246-CR FOR WATER MANAGEMENT, IRRIGATION

Allocation of Rs 3,246 crore has been made for irrigation and water conservation. With an investment of Rs 2,604 crore, the Shahpur Kandi Dam is expected to generate 1,042 MU hydroelectricity and irrigating 1.55 lakh hectares. Additionally, Rs 85 crore will fund 207 new tubewells — including 40 deep and 167 shallow; while Rs 315 crore is set for canal rejuvenation. With groundwater extraction at 166 percent, Rs 8,227 crore worth of surface water projects are planned to ensure sustainable water management across Punjab.

## Haryana Registration and Regulation of Travel Agents Bill among four passed in Assembly

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Vidhan Sabha on Wednesday passed four significant Bills, including the Haryana Honourable Disposal of Dead Body Bill, 2025; Haryana Registration and Regulation of Travel Agents Bill, 2025; Haryana Prevention of Public Gambling Bill, 2025; and Haryana Contractual Employees (Security of Service) Amendment Bill, 2025. Additionally, the Haryana Horticulture Nurseries Bill, 2025, and the Aparna Institution (Taking Over of Management and Control) Bill, 2025 were introduced.

During the discussion on the Haryana Prevention of Public Gambling Bill, 2025, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini emphasized the urgency of tackling illegal gambling and betting in the state. "Many families have been ruined due to illegal gambling. This Bill will help protect people and curb match-fixing and spot-fixing," he said. The new law includes stringent provisions, including imprisonment and heavy fines for offenders, and allows the confiscation of properties acquired through illegal activities.

means. Total 102 agents have faced action, and eight have been arrested. The Bill aims to ensure transparency and accountability in the travel industry and includes strict penalties of seven to 10 years imprisonment for those involved in human trafficking.

Responding to a question by Congress MLA Shishpal Keharwala, the Chief Minister clarified that Haryana Government employees can use social media during office hours but only for creating literary, artistic, or scientific content.

Additionally, sportspersons employed under the sports quota earning over Rs 8,000 per annum from social media must deposit one-third of their income in the state exchequer. "If the income is below Rs 8,000, they can retain it," Saini explained.

Keharwala had raised three key queries: whether government employees can use social media for educational content, whether they can engage in such activities during or after office hours, and whether sportspersons can upload fitness-related content.

### OPPOSITION SLAMS GOVT OVER POOR SCHOOL INFRA

The opposition Congress strongly criticized the BJP-led Government for failing to provide basic amenities in state government schools. Congress leader Ashok Arora,

speaking during the Calling Attention Motion, highlighted shocking gaps in school infrastructure. He said that 71 percent of schools lack computers, while 16 percent of provided computers are non-functional; 20 percent of schools have no toilets, while three percent lack girls' toilets entirely; and 14 percent of schools lack drinking water facilities.

Former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda also raised concerns over rising private school fees, demanding urgent government intervention.

Defending the government's position, Haryana Education Minister Mahipal Dhanda said that the state is actively working to improve school facilities and fill teacher vacancies. Key measures include recruitment of 4,780 Post Graduate Teachers (PGTs), with 1,704 already recommended by the Haryana Public Service Commission; promotion of 4,550 teachers to PGT positions; 3,427 new teaching posts filled through Haryana Kaushal Rozgar Nigam (HKRN); and 7,110 contractual teachers appointed through HKRN (1,162 PGTs and 5,948 TGTs).

Dhanda assured that all vacant positions will be filled before the next academic session, and the government is committed to strengthen school infrastructure across Haryana.

### Punjab Vigilance Sees Third Leadership Change in a Month

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab government's latest bureaucratic reshuffle has sparked discussions in political and administrative circles as IPS officer SPS Parmar was appointed the new Chief Director of the Vigilance Bureau — the third such change in just over a month. Parmar replaced G Nageshwara Rao, who held the position for barely five weeks.

Parmar, a seasoned officer who was serving as Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order), brings a mix of experience to the role. He is currently heading a Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the high-profile case involving the alleged assault of an Army Colonel and his son by Punjab Police personnel in Patiala earlier this month. Originally from the state police service, Parmar was elevated to the IPS in 2012 with seniority backdated to 1997.

Rao, a 1996-batch IPS officer, has now been reassigned as ADGP (Provisioning), a role he previously held before his short-lived tenure as Vigilance chief. His predecessor, Varinder Kumar — a 1993-batch officer appointed in May 2022 shortly after the AAP government took charge — was abruptly removed in February and has since been attached to the DGP's office awaiting a new posting. Kumar is set to retire in July 2025.

### Himachal Assembly Passes Rs 62,387.61 Cr Budget

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Assembly on Wednesday passed the state budget for the fiscal year 2025-26, along with the related Appropriation Bill, authorizing the government to spend Rs 62,387.61 crore from the Consolidated Fund.

The budget, presented by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on March 17, was his third consecutive budget as the finance minister. The Assembly debated and voted on key sectors, including health, public works, roads and bridges, police, and allied organizations, while the remaining demands were passed without discussion under the guillotine procedure applied by Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania.

Among the key highlights of the budget include no fresh taxes imposed; 24 percent of total expenditure allocated to development projects; 45 percent of the budget set aside for salaries and pensions; 12 percent earmarked for interest payments; nine percent for debt repayment, and another nine percent for subsidies to autonomous institutions. The estimated budget deficit is Rs 6,390 crore, with fiscal deficit standing at Rs 10,338 crore.

The budget focused on job creation, employee benefits, tourism, rural development, and green energy. Key measures include creation of 25,000 new jobs for the youth; additional dearness allowance (DA) for employees and pensioners; and payment of arrears for revised pay scales to employ-

ees aged 70-75 years.

The budget also emphasized on tourism infrastructure, sustainable energy, and rural upliftment to strengthen the state's economy.

### SPEAKER WARNS AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED USE OF ASSEMBLY PREMISES

Himachal Pradesh Assembly Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania on Wednesday stated that only sitting MLAs can use the Assembly premises, and former legislators are not authorized to address the media inside the Vidhan Sabha.

His remarks came after BJP MLA Randhir Sharma raised concerns over former Congress MLA Bamber Thakur addressing media persons inside the Assembly premises, where he allegedly accused BJP leaders of shielding criminals involved in an attack on him.

Thakur, who survived a gun attack on Holi in Bilaspur, had alleged that the attackers were protected by BJP leaders and linked to the drug trade. However, Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur objected, arguing that naming individuals inside the Assembly when an investigation is ongoing is inappropriate.

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri also urged the Speaker to issue a clear ruling on outsiders addressing the media within the Assembly premises. Pathania assured that a decision would be taken in accordance with House rules.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, Vijender Kumar s/o Mool Chand r/o H.No.1127/3, Near Old Bus Stand, at present residing at H.No. 163, Sector-21, Panchkula (Haryana) declare that my brother Rajesh (Haryana) is missing for many years and he has two daughters namely Kajal and Vidhika. My mother's wife Luxmi Devi not taking care of her daughter in any way. We and my family members/relatives have taken care of both the girls Kajal and Vidhika. So we break up all relation with my sister in law Luxmi Devi w/o Rajesh Kumar. In future Luxmi Devi will be responsible for every good or bad thing they do. We will not be responsible.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, Kajal d/o Rajesh r/o H.No.1127/3, Near Old Bus Stand, Rohk (Haryana) declare that my father Rajesh is missing for many years and he has two daughters namely Kajal and Vidhika. My mother Luxmi Devi not taking care of her in any way. My family members/relatives have taken care of both Kajal and Vidhika. So we break up all relation with my mother Luxmi Devi. In future Luxmi Devi will be responsible for every good or bad thing they do. We will not be responsible.

**बैठकली सूचना**  
हम, पुनव कृष्ण शर्मा श्री नरेन्द्र मलिक व अलका मलिक पत्नी श्री पुनव कुमार निवासी D-38, सेक्टर 36, लखनौ, रोहतक अजमे इलक से ब्याक करते हैं कि हमारा लड़का विद्वान व पुरवसु मानवा हमारे करने-सुनने से बाहर है इसलिए हम इनको अपनी चला-चल सवारी से बेदेखल करते हैं। भविष्य में इनके द्वारा किए गए अथवा बुरे कार्यों व लेन देन व किसी प्रकार के कानूनी व वैदिक कानूनी कार्य के लिए वह स्वयं जिम्मेदार होंगे। हमारी कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी।

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
We, Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Babu Ram and Pushpa Rani W/o Pawan Kumar R/o Mandi Kalandwari, Distt. Sirsa declare that our son Shippy Bansal and his wife Monika are out of our control. So we disown them from our all moveable/immovable properties. Any body dealing with them at their own risk. We or our family are not responsible for any type of their any acts. -Deponent

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Regarding Shop No. 40 and Booth No. 3 of New Grain Market Pali (Kaithal) The general public is hereby informed that Shop No. 40 (size 20'x85') located at New Grain Market, Pali (Kaithal) was allotted on 01.08.2001 to Sh. Sahib Ram, son of Sh. Beenu resident of village Siamore District Kaithal. Currently, the ownership of the said shop is registered in the name of Smt. Ompati wife of Dharampal resident of Village Bhanu District Kaithal and Smt. Santosh wife of Sunder Singh resident of Panchkula, Smt. Shakuntala Devi wife of Gulab Singh resident of Hathoi, Smt. Sangeta Rani wife of Kanwar Singh resident of Kamal, Similarly, Booth No. 3 (size 10'x20') was allotted on 18.01.2001 to Sh. Ganesh Das son of Sh. Ramchand resident of Village Pali District Kaithal. Currently, the ownership of the said booth is registered in the name of Smt. Ompati wife of Dharampal resident of Village Bhanu District Kaithal. Now, Krishan, Ranbir Singh and Kuldeep Singh sons of Sh. Dharampal residents of Village Bhanu District Kaithal have informed the office of the Market Committee Pali that their mother Smt. Ompati, passed away on 10.10.2023. According to a registered will dated 19.06.2013, recorded with the Sub-Joint Registrar's Office, Pundi, after her demise, her three sons Krishan, Ranbir Singh and Kuldeep Singh are the rightful owners of her moveable and immovable properties. The applicants have submitted an application to transfer the ownership of Shop No. 40 and Booth No. 3 of their mother Smt. Ompati to their names based on the registered will. If anyone has any objection regarding the ownership transfer of these properties, they may submit their objections to the Office of the Market Committee, Pali (Kaithal) within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failure to do so will be deemed as the consent of the said properties will be transferred to the applicants' names as per the policy of the Haryana State Agricultural Markets Board, Panchkula. Secretary Cum-Executive Officer Market Committee, Pali (Kaithal)

**केनरा बैंक Canara Bank**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

**REGIONAL OFFICE PANIPAT**  
N D TOWERS, FIRST FLOOR  
SANJAY CHOWK PANIPAT  
PHONE No. 7015926780  
Email: ropptrec@canarabank.com

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**  
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE/IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002. UNDER READ WITH PROVISIO TO RULE 6(2), 8(6) & 9 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

**LAST DATE RECEIPT OF EMD IS 28.04.2025 UPTO 05.00 P.M.**  
**DATE OF E-AUCTION IS 30.04.2025, 12.30 PM TO 01.30 PM**  
(with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the Conclusion of the sale)

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank of respective branches will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" E- auction arranged by the service provider M/S PSB Alliance Private Limited (eKRay). Contact No. 7046612345/ 6354910172/ 8291220220/ 9892219848/ 8160205051, Email: support.ebkray@psballiance.com / support.ebkray@procure247.com through the website: https://ebkray.in

Sr. No.	Branch Name & Authorised Officer/ Name & Address of the Borrower(s) Guarantor(s)	Brief Description of Property/ies	Total Liabilities as on specified Date	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Detail of A/c No. IFSC Code Possession Type
1.	<b>NAULTHA BRANCH</b> Gohana Road VPO Naultha, Panipat, Haryana Sh. Vikas Gaur, M: 8572803446 E-Mail: cb2048@canarabank.com	Residential property, northern portion having area 5 Biswa i.e. 250 Sq. Yards being 5/92 share out of 4 Bigha - 12 Biswa forming part of Khata No. 308/3 situated in the area of Patti Gadwara	Rs. 1,71,53,148/- plus on 04.12.2024 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any).	Rs. 43.45 Lakh	Rs. 4,34,500/-	209272434 CNRB0002048 Symbolic Possession
	M/S K.S. Trading Company, Prop. Narender S/o Late Sh. Ved Singh, Village Chamara, Panipat-132103, Sh. Narender S/o Ved Singh, Village Chamara Tehsil Israna, Panipat-132103, Sh. Satender S/o Late Sh. Ved Singh, Village Chamara Tehsil Israna, Panipat-132103, Sh. Sanjeev Kumar S/o Pale Ram, Village Binjhol, Panipat-132103	Abadi Shiv Nagar, Krishanpura, with M.C. Limit of Panipat vide Transfer Deed 6067/1 dated 27.10.2014. Bounded as under: East: 37'-5" Road, West: 37'-5" Property of Other Owner, North: 60'-0" Property of Ishwar, South: 60'-0" Property of Kuldeep				
2.	<b>GANNAUR BRANCH</b> M C Road, Gannaaur-131101, Haryana Sh. Vikas Gaur, M: 8572803446 E-Mail: cb3446@canarabank.com	A property measuring 136 Sq. Yards i.e. 4 Marla 5 Sarsai i.e. 9/184 share out of total land measuring 4K - 12M having dimension east to west 20.9ft, North to South 59 ft. Comprised in Khewat No. 744/658, Khata No. 1082 rect and Killa No. 57/113/1(4-12) as per jamabandi for the year 2005-06 and on the basis of Gift Deed No. 2924 dated 10.08.2011 a Mutation No. 16394 dated 10.09.2011 entered and sanctioned in favour of applicant, at present the property is situated in Khewat No. 871/811, Khata No. 1811 as per jamabandi for the year 2015-16 situated at Mauja Gannaaur with M.C. Limit Gannaaur, Tehsil Gannaaur, Distt. Sonapat and is bounded by: North: Remaining plot of Jai, South: Land of Others, East: Gali Rasta, West: Gali Rasta	Rs. 13,46,275.75 as on 03.12.2024 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any).	Rs. 23.83 Lakh	Rs. 2,38,300/-	209272434 CNRB0003446 Symbolic Possession
	M/s Virendra Electricals, Prop. Sh. Virender, Panchi Road, Opp. Railway Fly Over, Gannaaur, Sonapat 131101, Sh. Virender S/o Sh. Jai Kishan, House No. 263-B, VPO Tewri, Gannaaur, Sonapat-131101, Mob: 9466036584					

**Other terms and conditions:**  
a) The property is being sold with all the existing and further encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorized officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the property to his satisfaction. The bidder is advised to visit the property to satisfy themselves with the title and correctness of others details pertaining to the secured assets including the size/area of the immovable secured asset in question and also ascertain any other dues/liabilities/encumbrances from the concerned authorities to their satisfaction before submitting the bid. The purchaser shall not be entitled to make any claim against the authorized officer/Secured Creditors in this regard at a later date.  
b) In the event of any default in payment of any of the amounts, or if the sale is not completed by reasons of default on the part of the purchaser/ bidder within the aforesaid time limit, the bank shall be entitled to forfeit all monies paid by the purchaser/bidder till then and put up the secured asset(s) for sale again, in its absolute discretion. Further, all costs, expenses incurred by the bank on account of such resale shall be borne and paid by the defaulting purchaser.  
c) Auction/bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website https://ebkray.in (Mention the website). Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.  
d) The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorized Officer, on or before the date of submission of EMD i.e. 28.04.2025.  
e) The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process.  
f) EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of Demand Draft in favour of Authorized Officer of respective Canara Bank Branches, OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of respective Canara Bank Branches, on or before 28.04.2025 by 05.00 pm.  
g) After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 28.04.2025, 05.00 PM, to Canara Bank Branch mentioned above/Regional Office Panipat by hand or by email.  
i) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT, acknowledgment receipt thereof with UTR No.  
ii) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount.  
iii) Bidders Name, Contact No, Address, E Mail Id.  
iv) Bidder's A/c details for online refund of EMD.  
g) EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest.  
h) Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs. 10,000/- The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor.  
i) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorized Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again.  
j) For sale proceeds of Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank.  
k) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only.  
l) Authorized Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.  
m) In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the e-auction, they can approach concerned Regional Office, as a facilitating center. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact Authorized Officer of the concerned Branch mentioned above or Regional Office Contact No. 7015926780 Email Id: Email: ropptrec@canarabank.com

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION**  
Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back-up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

**STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002**  
Date: 26.03.2025 Place: Panipat Authorised Officer, Canara Bank

**pnb punjab national bank**  
.... Together for the better

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the following persons have availed locker facilities from Bank.

Sr.No.	Locker No.	Name of Locker Hirer(s)	Address	Amount Dues	Amount Dues from
1.	AA00007	Rabinder Nath Sharma	C/o M/s Vardman Spring Mills, HIG 447, Punjab Housing Board Colony, Jamalpur, Ludhiana - 141010	Rs. 9,000/-	01.06.2020
2.	AA00023	Pritam Singh Chauhan	S/o Sh. Purn Singh, 149, New Subhash Nagar, Ludhiana-141007	Rs. 9,875/-	07.06.2018
3.	AA00061	Bhag Singh & Harjit Kaur	Village Mangli Neechi, P.O. Rampur, Ludhiana - 141418	Rs. 11,484/-	04.11.2017
4.	AA00086	Rajinder Singh Grewal	Sh. Sant Singh Grewal V&P.O. Khasi Kalan, Ludhiana - 141015	Rs. 11,574/-	04.01.2018
5.	AC00238	Labh Kaur	W/o S Joginder Singh, Bank of Baroda C/o Surinder, Ludhiana - 141008	Rs. 8,263/-	11.11.2020
6.	AE00382	Puneet Kumar S/o Ramesh Chander	H.No. 537, Ward No. 4, Kishan Nagar Gurdas Pur L-ADD, Ludhiana-141001	Rs. 9,846/-	20.01.2020
7.	AE00413	Kirpal Singh	Sh. Jawala Singh, 324, Harcharan Nagar, Ludhiana - 141008	Rs. 7,136/-	01.09.2021

These persons have failed and neglected in making payments towards the locker rentals to the Bank or have not used from last 7 Years. The Bank has issued the notices to them via Letter to their last known recorded address with the Bank, advising them to make the repayment of locker rentals or operate the locker if not operated from last 7 Years.  
This is final notice to notify that if the above mentioned persons fails to pay the arrears of locker rentals to the Bank / Operate Locker on or before 27.06.2025, the Bank shall break and open the locker at locker hirer's risk and responsibility, as per the Banking Law and Practice and take inventory of items, if any, lying in locker and keep the same in Bank's custody until such time the arrears of rent along with interest, expenses, charges etc. are paid to the Bank.  
The Bank reserved the rights to adjust the cash, if any found in the locker against the outstanding dues of the above persons to the Bank and it shall be treated as proper discharge on claims, shall be entertained thereafter in the regards. For the balance dues of locker rental, the Bank reserves its right to proceed legally against the locker hirer/s for recovery of its dues.  
Date: 26.03.2025 Place: Ludhiana AUTHORIZED OFFICER

**pnb punjab national bank**  
.... Together for the better

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the following persons have availed locker facilities from Bank.

Sr.No.	Locker No.	Name of Locker Hirer(s)	Address	Amount Dues	Amount Dues from
1.	AA00398	Charanjit Singh Thapar and Amaninder Singh Thapar	106, New Rajguru Nagar, Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 23,804.36	22.05.2021
2.	AB00058	Harjeet Singh S/o Tarsem Singh	130G, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Pakhowal Road, Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 13,388.20	18.02.2021
3.	AB00067	Harvinder Singh Lamba	267-D, Rajguru Nagar Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 15,930/-	11.10.2020
4.	AC00081	P.K. Garg & Usha Garg	187-A, Rajguru Nagar, Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 13,273.99	26.10.2021
5.	AC00145	Harjit Kaur W/o Jaswinder Singh	61, New Rajguru Nagar, Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 14,187.51	19.04.2020
6.	AH00004	Inderjit Singh S/o Prem Singh	201-D, BRS Nagar, Ludhiana - 141012	Rs. 8,475.92	08.02.2022

These persons have failed and neglected in making payments towards the locker rentals to the Bank or have not used from last 3 Years or more. The Bank has issued the notices to them via Letter to their last known recorded address with the Bank, advising them to make the repayment of locker rentals or operate the locker if not operated from last 3 Years or more.  
This is final notice to notify that if the above mentioned persons fails to pay the arrears of locker rentals to the Bank / Operate Locker on or before 26.06.2025, the Bank shall break and open the locker at locker hirer's risk and responsibility, as per the Banking Law and Practice and take inventory of items, if any, lying in locker and keep the same in Bank's custody until such time the arrears of rent along with interest, expenses, charges etc. are paid to the Bank.  
The Bank reserved the rights to adjust the cash, if any found in the locker against the outstanding dues of the above persons to the Bank and it shall be treated as proper discharge on claims, shall be entertained thereafter in the regards. For the balance dues of locker rental, the Bank reserves its right to proceed legally against the locker hirer/s for recovery of its dues.  
Date: 26.03.2025 Place: Ludhiana AUTHORIZED OFFICER

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
In the name of Smt. Ompati wife of Dharampal resident of Village Bhanu District Kaithal and Smt. Santosh wife of Sunder Singh resident of Panchkula, Smt. Shakuntala Devi wife of Gulab Singh resident of Hathoi, Smt. Sangeta Rani wife of Kanwar Singh resident of Kamal, Similarly, Booth No. 3 (size 10'x20') was allotted on 18.01.2001 to Sh. Ganesh Das son of Sh. Ramchand resident of Village Pali District Kaithal. Currently, the ownership of the said booth is registered in the name of Smt. Ompati wife of Dharampal resident of Village Bhanu District Kaithal. Now, Krishan, Ranbir Singh and Kuldeep Singh sons of Sh. Dharampal residents of Village Bhanu District Kaithal have informed the office of the Market Committee Pali that their mother Smt. Ompati, passed away on 10.10.2023. According to a registered will dated 19.06.2013, recorded with the Sub-Joint Registrar's Office, Pundi, after her demise, her three sons Krishan, Ranbir Singh and Kuldeep Singh are the rightful owners of her moveable and immovable properties. The applicants have submitted an application to transfer the ownership of Shop No. 40 and Booth No. 3 of their mother Smt. Ompati to their names based on the registered will. If anyone has any objection regarding the ownership transfer of these properties, they may submit their objections to the Office of the Market Committee, Pali (Kaithal) within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failure to do so will be deemed as the consent of the said properties will be transferred to the applicants' names as per the policy of the Haryana State Agricultural Markets Board, Panchkula. Secretary Cum-Executive Officer Market Committee, Pali (Kaithal)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
मैं बेवारी प्रियात पुत्री श्री वीरेंद्र कुमार निवासी ही। यह कि मेरे पतन नंबर 859 सेक्टर-16 अर्द्ध स्टेट कनाल के ओरियन्टल फॉर्म-सी, जिस का मोनो नंबर 80376 दिनांक 23.8.1991 और कन्सिडर डीट नंबर 5862/1 दिनांक 31.10.2001 है और re numbering letter नंबर 8037 है, दिनांक 23-8-1991 है और पोस्टाग लिज का नंबर 1587 है जिस का दिनांक 19-1-2004 है सेक्टर-6 कनाल में कही गुप्त हो गई है काफी तलाश करने पर भी नहीं मिला इसकी पुनर्विचार करना मैं करवा दी है जिसका FIR नंबर 2600144/2025 है। मैं इस संर्चित का मासिक हूँ जिसको मैं नोटिफिकेशन को बेच दी है और जो की S.B.I Bank (RACPB) शक्ति कालोनी से लेन दे रहे हैं। किसी को कोई अप्रति हो तो 15 दिन अंदर संर्षक को नोटिफिकेशन को 01844092001

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is informed to the public at large that Punjab & Sind Bank, Branch Office Goidingharh Mandi is in receipt of loan application from Mrs.Nidhi Sabharwal W/o Mangat Ram Sabharwal, R/o 1524/313, Mohalla Gauda, Fatehgarh Sahib (Mobile No.98145-21400) Mortgage for property loan on land measuring 0 Kanal 3.66 Marla states that original sale deed bearing Wasika No.1546 dated 22 June, 2012 registered in the office of Registrar, Fatehgarh Sahib in the name of Rakesh Kumar S/o Pawan Kumar S/o Ram Das, has lost somewhere in Fatehgarh Sahib. Mrs.Nidhi Sabharwal has lodged formal Police Complaint regarding the same vide LR No.559811/2025 on 18/02/2025 at 10:42 HR PSOC Fatehgarh Sahib. Therefore, if anybody has any objection or any claim over the above mentioned property, he/she may inform the bank in writing within 15 days along with proof of his/her objection/claim to Punjab & Sind Bank, Branch Office Goidingharh Mandi Email: g0197@psb.co.in or contact Branch Incharge: 8283005211

**LOST & FOUND**  
I, Rekha W/o Sanjeev Kumar R/o #296, Sector-5, Distt.Panchkula (Haryana) declare that have lost my original sale deed No. 3147, Dated:- 12-11-2018. Lost on 04-01-2025. Which Police Complaint No. 132350612500584. If anybody found please contact-Rishi Associates Advocates & Legal Consultants, Office: SCO No. 87, 1st Floor, Royal Estate, Chandigarh Ambala Highway, Zirakpur - Ph: 01762-356060, M: 98140-58484 & 99141-38484.

**Document lost**  
I Satpal s/o Bhart Singh r/o Narwana Distt. Jind declare that I have lost my Title Deed No. 1409 dt. 09.01.1976 & Title Deed 573 dt. 25.06.96 somewhere at Patel Nagar Narwana. I have also lodged complaint no. 132300282500282 & 132300282500276 in this regard.

**Estate Manager Housing Board Haryana Panchkula**  
NO. HBH/EM/PKL/2025/1094 Date 25/03/25  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Sub- Transfer of House No.101, Housing Board Sector-18, Panchkula in the name of Smt. Mahendar Kaur W/o Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh R/o H.No.101, HBC, Sector-18, Panchkula, Haryana due to death of Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh S/o Late Sh. Jivan Singh living intestate property. It is notified for the information of the general public and all concerned with the property, House No.101, Housing Board Colony, Sector-18, Panchkula, Haryana which stands in the name of Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh S/o Late Sh. Jivan Singh as per record of this office. It has been reported by the applicant (s) Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh S/o Late Sh. Jivan Singh who was the owner of this property died on 19.04.2000. Smt. Mahendar Kaur W/o Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh R/o H.No.101, HBC, Sector-18, Panchkula, Haryana have claimed/applied for the transfer for the said property in his name on the basis of intestate death of Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh S/o Late Sh. Jivan Singh. If anybody have any objection for the transfer of the said property in favour of the applicant, Smt. Mahendar Kaur W/o Late Sh. Tarnjit Singh R/o H.No. 101, HBC, Sector-18, Panchkula, Haryana they may furnish their objection in writing in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which this property shall be transferred accordingly and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained later on.  
Estate Manager, Housing Board Haryana, Panchkula

**COOPERATIVE BANK**  
Branch : Jandiála, Distt. Jalandhar  
**CORRIDGEM**  
With reference to the publication of the Symbolic Possession published in The Pioneer on dated 25-03-2025 of A/C M/s P.K. Traders. The Symbolic possession date be read 19-03-2025 instead of 19-03-2023. Rest will remain the same.  
Date : 26-03-2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer

**District MAGISTRATE-CUM-MARRIAGE OFFICER SIRSA (HARYANA)**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
(Under Section 16 of Special Marriage Act, 1954)  
Public notice is hereby given that an application has been received from of Parninder Singh S/o Sh. Gurial Singh R/o Village Lakrawali, Tehsil Kalandwari, District Sirsa (Haryana) and Evangelina Manos D/o Konstantinos Manos R/o Kungsgangen Stockholm Sweden for the registration of their marriage under section 16 of the Special Marriage Act, 1954. If any person having any objection to the registration of the said marriage, may within thirty days from the publication of this notice, apply to writing in this office specifying the grounds for such objection. -sd-  
District Magistrate-cum-Marrriage Officer, Sirsa (Haryana)  
Place :-Sirsa (Haryana)  
Dated:-

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank** Branch Office : ICICI Bank Limited Shal Tower Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh New Delhi-110005  
The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Vinod Kumar/ Aman Kumar/ LBYGR0005375306/ LBYGR00004976726/ LBYGR00004976729	House No.383, Ward No.21, Property No. 290C226U220, Situated at Kuldeep Nagar, Tehsil-Jagadhri, Within Municipal Corporation, District Yamunanagar, Haryana 135001/ March 24, 2025	August 23,2024 Rs. 30,66,244.61/-	Yamunanagar (Haryana)

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold for 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
Date: March 27, 2025, Place: Yamunanagar (Haryana) Sincerely Authorised Signatory, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

**Government of Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department**  
**E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB).  
The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, H.P.PWD, Kullu on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the items rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction /Launching of following work from the H.P.P.W.D. registered Contractors only.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Bid Security	Document Cost	Period of Comp.
1.	Construction of 90 Meter span steel truss suspension foot bridge at Saprai Village over Beas ri ver, Tehsil SadarDistt. Mandi ( SH- Construction of Super structure	42,75,163/-	85,550/-	2000/-	Six Months

2. Key dates:-

1.	Date of online publication	25.03.2025 at 11:00 AM
2.	Document Download start and End date	25.03.2025 at 11:00 AM 03-04-2025 till 5:00 PM
3.	Bid submission start and End date	25-03-2025 at 11:00 AM 03-04-2025 till 5:00 PM
4.	Physical submission of EMD and cost of tender document	04-04-2025 till 5:00PM
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by opening of Financial Bid.	05-04-2025 at 11:00AM

Bidders documents can be downloaded from the Website <http://hp tenders.govt.in>. The document download from the site should not be tempered, and if any such tempering is detected before or after the opening of bids, the bidders shall be penalized and blacklisted. Other terms & condition shall remain unchanged same as given in the bid document which can be seen on the website.

3. Terms and conditions:-  
1. Scanned copy of Registration / Enlistment with HP PWD Department and contractor having experience in similar work or the work awarded and is being executed for further details of minimum work done condition the bid document will be referred.  
2. Scanned copy of PAN /GST No. & Income Tax clearance certificate.  
3. Copy of work done certificate of similar nature work.  
4. Scanned copy of Earnest Money and Cost of Form.  
5. Scanned copy of Affidavit regarding genuineness and correctness of document attached.  
6. As per new guidelines issued by Special Secretary (PW) to the Govt. of H.P. Shilma vide order No. PBW (BA) (3)/2020-1 dated-7-10-2021 negotiation for above & below will be applicable.  
7. Apply as per class.  
4. Tender details:- The tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 cover.  
Cover 1: Shall contain scanned copies of all Technical Documents/ Eligibility Criteria.  
Cover 2: Shall contain "BOQ/Original Bid" where contractor will quote his rates for each item.  
5. Submission of original documents:- The bidders are required to submit bids in two separate covers.  
Cover 1 (A) Original demand draft towards the cost of bid documents.  
Cover 2 (B) Original bid security/Earnest Money (EMD) and other technical requirement documents.  
Cover 2 Financial bid in the office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, H.P.P.W.D. Kullu as specified in key dates at Sr. No. 4 on tender opening date, failing which the bids will be declared non responsive. Bidders should attach the scanned copies of cost of documents, EMD (The earnest money in shape of call deposit of post office or fixed deposits/demand draft of schedule bank duly pledged in favour of undersigned payable at Kullu) and other documents as specified in the tender documents in the online bid. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents and EMD are required to be submitted to the tender inviting authority on or before the time of opening of bids, failing which the bid will be declared non responsive. The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be the same as submitted online (Scanned copies) otherwise tender will summarily be rejected.  
6. Bid Opening Details: - The bids shall be open on 05-04-2025 at 11.00AM in the office of Executive Engineer Mechanical Division H.P.P.W.D Kullu by the authorized officers in their interest the Tenders advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.  
7. The bids for the above work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 90/120 days after the deadline date of bid submission.  
8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure or beyond its control Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender and the undersigned has the right to accept/reject the tenders without assigning any reasons.  
(E. G. L. Thakur)  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical Division,  
HP PWD Kullu-175101. Ph:-01902-222052.  
E-mail: eems-kul-hp@nic.in

RO NO. 6077/2024-2025 Dated: 26-03-2025

**सुनाव प्रोग्राम**

क्र.सं.	विवरण	तिथि व समय	स्थान
1.	उप नियम 35 के उप पैरा 2 के अधीन यथा अपेक्षित मतदाताओं की सूची का प्रदर्शन	दिनांक 24.03.2025 से 26.03.2025 तक	1. कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां चो दादरी 2. निरीक्षक सहकारी समितियां चो दादरी -1 3.

**Editor's TAKE**

## Mending ties with China

The ongoing talks with China are a step in the right direction to resolve pending issues

As the saying goes, you can choose your friends, but changing your neighbors is no easy feat. That's why maintaining good relations with them is crucial. However, this is often easier said than done—especially when the neighbor in question is China, making the task even more challenging. But the effort must always be there to achieve this end. India and China recently engaged in discussions aimed at resolving outstanding bilateral issues and enhancing cooperation in areas such as border management, trans-border river sharing, and the Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrimage. Though the talks may not resolve the issues but talking about it does help in reaching a solution.

The Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) meeting in Beijing was a step toward normalising relations between the two nations following their agreement to disengage military forces in the Ladakh sector of the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

The discussions at the WMCC meeting revolved around implementing agreements reached during the Special Representatives' meeting on the boundary question in December. The talks were described as "positive and constructive," with both sides exchanging views on early resumption of cross-border cooperation, including religious pilgrimages and data-sharing on trans-border rivers. Additionally, the two nations explored measures to strengthen diplomatic and military mechanisms to ensure peace and stability along the border. Both sides also agreed to make substantial preparations for the upcoming meeting of the special representatives, which will take place in India later this year.

Resolving border tensions would create a stable environment for trade and investment. Both countries are major economies, and fostering better relations could lead to increased economic exchanges, benefiting businesses and consumers alike. Given their influence in regional geopolitics, improved India-China relations would contribute to broader stability in Asia. A peaceful resolution of disputes would also help mitigate security concerns and reduce military expenditures.

Resuming the Kailash-Mansarovar yatra would promote cultural ties and strengthen people-to-people exchanges. Such initiatives foster goodwill and mutual understanding between the people of both countries. India's push for resuming data-sharing on trans-border rivers is crucial, particularly given China's plans to develop hydropower projects on the upper reaches of the Brahmaputra. Cooperative management of water resources would help in flood control, irrigation, and sustainable use of river systems.

An agreement on effective border management mechanisms would ensure peace and prevent potential flare-ups along the LAC. Confidence-building measures would allow both countries to focus on development rather than military posturing. Despite the progress in discussions, several challenges remain, including the final resolution of the border dispute, withdrawal of forces from key friction points, and rebuilding trust after the Galwan Valley clash in 2020. However, continued dialogue, coupled with diplomatic and military coordination, is essential for lasting peace. The latest round of talks between India and China signals a willingness to mend strained ties and find common ground. If both nations successfully resolve their differences, they stand to gain economically, strategically, and diplomatically. A cooperative approach will not only benefit the two countries but also contribute to regional and global stability. Moving forward, sustained engagement and trust-building measures will be crucial in shaping the future of India-China relations.

# India's rise to AI global leadership

India's rise as a leader in AI is all about driving innovation, however, its true success lies in making AI accessible, inclusive, and transformative, write VINAY PATHAK and SANDEEP JOSHI

The journey of Artificial Intelligence (AI) from an unattainable goal to becoming a real-world changer has happened within a short period. For an emerging nation like India, AI is more than just a technological breakthrough, it is a powerful catalyst poised to reshape the country's future.

In recent decades, India has been employing AI step by step, simultaneously starting with school studies and competing with countries that are front-runners in the global AI arena. The path, which is marked by commitment, far-reaching planning, and the promotion of equal economic growth, demonstrates the country's readiness to employ the latest technology for the common good. At present, India is not only one of the key participants in the global AI revolution but is also one of the primary developers.

This became evident with India playing a crucial role at the recent AI Summit in Paris, where India showcased its noteworthy progress in the field of AI.

India's journey to the top of AI is profoundly linked with the wider narrative of development and progress. The first corners of AI research in India were practised at the campuses of top colleges and research laboratories. Undergraduate and graduate students at institutes such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) are the ones who started an AI era in India by exploring the possibilities of machine learning, neural networks, and data analytics. They were just small-scale attempts. Nevertheless, they had laid the basis for a national movement.

India's emergence as a powerful force in the IT revolution not only placed the nation on the global stage but also laid the foundation with robust, flexible infrastructure, transforming emerging technologies into tangible realities. Indian IT professionals, known for their problem-solving skills, started using AI in real-life applications, from healthcare diagnosis to stock market predictions, as early as in the first decade.

As the capabilities of AI become more evident day by day, cities in the different part of nation start adopting technology to address challenges and improve governance. potential of AI became increasingly evident, cities and states across nation start adopting technology for improvement of governance and to address challenges. Today, AI-driven initiatives are transforming urban landscapes, making cities smarter, more efficient, and more liveable. Lucknow, designated as India's first AI city, is fostering technological advancements and economic growth through AI-centric infrastructure. Maharashtra is leveraging AI



in agriculture, healthcare, and education, with predictive analytics for crop management, telemedicine services, and personalised learning platforms. Tamil Nadu Artificial Intelligence Mission (TNAIM) aims to position the state as a leading AI hub, focusing on governance, social welfare, and economic development. Karnataka is at the forefront of AI adoption in education and governance, while Kerala is advancing AI research with its Digital University developing an indigenous AI processor. Gujarat emphasises sustainable AI practices, focusing on energy-efficient technologies, and Andhra Pradesh is building AI-enabled cities like Visakhapatnam. West Bengal is innovating for safer roads with AI-driven traffic management systems in Kolkata, and Telangana has established an Applied AI Research Centre in Hyderabad. Even smaller states like Goa and Sikkim are leveraging AI for traffic management, addressing unique urban mobility challenges. There are numerous stories where India is leveraging AI for its holistic development and social progress.

These city and state-level initiatives are part of a larger national movement driven by visionary policies and initiatives. The "AI for India 2030" initiative provides a structured approach to integrating AI across the socio-economic fabric of the country. By focusing on sectors like agriculture, healthcare, and urban planning, this initiative aims to contribute significantly to the economy and improve the quality of life for millions.

The digital Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj high-

lights India's innovative use of AI capabilities to handle massive gathering of public by AI-powered tools.

On one hand it helped in the security and seamless operation and on the other hand set a global benchmark for event management.

India's role in AI is not surprisingly only a technological one; today it is a socially responsible one too. As a leader in the world, India acknowledges AI's ethical dimensions and, thus, is aiming to build a framework that will ensure transparency, fairness, and responsibility in the development of this innovative technology. The country's increasing focus on making AI a useful tool for social welfare, sustainable development, and inclusive growth has made it a role model for the rest of the world. This dedication was vividly demonstrated at the recent AI Summit in Paris where India was a spearhead in shaping international policies on AI regulation and democratisation. In Paris India co-chaired debates on the proper use of AI, thus contributing to the signing of a joint declaration with other 57 countries. The Summit emphasised the need for the establishment of a governing body that could warrant the ethical and sustainable development of AI innovation. The invitation for India to co-chair the AI Summit is a strong demonstration of the world's realisation of India as a leader in AI and of its commitment to ethical innovation. The world leaders are convinced and have strong faith in leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that he is capable to democratise AI regulatory body or

framework to neutralise the biasness of data.

On the domestic front, while the Union Budget allocated ₹500 Crore for AI education, another major accomplishment was made when Meta announced the gigantic underwater cabling project for boosting digital infrastructure. Furthermore, the CEO of OpenAI, Sam Altman, had a meeting with India's IT Minister, where they discussed expanding the ecosystem of AI, a move that showed India's commitment to becoming a global leader in the AI revolution.

Rapid developments in the field of AI in India puts the country at a special vantage point of responsibility. The nation's achievements stand as a model for other developing countries as to how technology can be used for inclusive and sustainable development. Grounded in grassroots innovation and an international vision, India has the potential to be a driving force in the design of the next generation of AI. India's commitment to ethical practices in research and international sharing of knowledge places it in a strong position to handle this complex landscape. As India gains prominence on the global stage, it also shares the responsibility of steering the AI revolution with both vision and strategic foresight. This is a testament to India's indomitable will and commitment to build a better tomorrow for all.

(Vinay Pathak is assistant professor, IIT and Sandeep Joshi is senior tech journalist. Views expressed are personal)

## Leaderspeak

In Uttar Pradesh, Muslims are the safest. If Hindus are safe, then they are also safe. If there were riots in UP before 2017, if Hindu shops were burning, then Muslim shops were also burning. If Hindu houses were burning, then Muslim houses were also burning. And after 2017, the riots stopped. They will have the freedom to practise all religious customs. But can 50 Hindus be safe among 100 Muslim families? If there is smoke or someone is being hit, we should be careful before we get hit.

YOGI ADITYANATH, CHIEF MINISTER OF UTTAR PRADESH

## A small inconvenience for a safer, better world

### SECOND Opinion

The late-night flight from Dubai to Chennai landed smoothly. My mind was full of expectations about a large family gathering at a wedding the next day. As I walked out after immigration clearance, I saw a customs officer flagging someone frantically. I presumed it was for someone behind me, but he accosted me and asked, "Are you carrying any gold?"

"No, no, nothing except what I am wearing," I blurted. "The bangles you are wearing seem to be new."

"No, these are my everyday bangles," I said wrenching a bangle from my wrist and showing him the white film of soap settled in the grooves.

"If you are hiding any gold with you other than this, you must declare it now," the officer said, a tad menacingly.

I yanked my mangalsutra out. "Don't show, just answer me." The instruction wasn't rude, but it was firm. He called a lady subordinate and asked her to take me for a full-body frisk. Did he think I was smuggling gold? Did I look like a carrier?

The lady did a full pat down. It was a first for me in 27 years of living abroad and multiple times entering the country through various airports. I should have been outraged for being obliquely seen in a shadow of doubt, but I was not.

Startled but not overly perturbed, I let the officials do the search and be convinced that I was not a partner in any crime



ASHA IYER KUMAR

like the one Kannada actress Ranya Rao had been caught for in Bengaluru. I had an obligation as a law-abiding citizen to let the officers perform their duty. I could not blame them. Smugglers came in all sizes, shapes and genders these days and they carried out daring acts that belied stereotypes. A lone woman traveller from Dubai could be anything but innocent, and the keepers of law had every right to make sure no guilty got away even if a few innocents got inconvenienced.

On my return flight to Dubai, I was stopped again at the security checkpoint. I was asked to open my cabin baggage, much to my disappointment. I had been very diligent in my packing, making sure I did not carry any prohibited articles in the hand baggage, and yet, I was called up to open my bag and spill its contents. What had shown up in the scanner was the jewellery I had carried for the family wedding. They asked me to hold up each piece to see if there was anything dangerous. None, whatsoever. "Are they real?" a junior officer asked.

I laughed good-naturedly. "Who wears original jewellery these days, sir? Especially when we have pretty ones in imitation?" The senior officer did not find my quip amusing and pointed at a plastic bag in which I was carrying my lunch, and asked, "What's in the box?"

"Curd rice," I said. He asked me to open it. I opened it without batting an eyelid. When I was cleared, I was left with two trays full of assorted items waiting to be repacked. I was annoyed, but only slightly.

I felt pity for all those who went through the ordeal, along with my understanding of how the security personnel themselves bore the brunt of public irritation for following the protocol and making sure that nothing went wrong because of their oversight. As I stood there watching the officers work, I realised that the people in uniform were doing exactly what they were trained to do—ensuring that no one got away with jeopardising the safety of others. They were upholding a system designed to protect everyone, even when it meant inconveniencing some innocent travellers in the process.

Why do we feel affronted and targeted when we are asked to follow rules? As much as we may hate the hassle, isn't it a small price to pay for the peace of mind that comes with knowing these checks are in place? It is about understanding that the system is not designed to harass us, but to protect us, or to maintain law and order in society. The obligation to follow rules is incumbent upon us. As I read a small poster on the cockpit door from my second-row seat, I was reminded that everyone had rules to follow. I felt a quiet gratitude for those who dedicated themselves to keeping us safe on the ground and in the sky.

"Flying is a serious profession. Do not carry your worries beyond this point," the signage read. By the same token, let us not carry resentment against those who uphold the rules, for, more often than not, their vigilance is the reason the world still has some order.

(The author is a Dubai-based columnist and writing coach. She has published six books. Views expressed are personal)

## Letters to the Editor

### The perils of suppressing democracy

Madam—The turmoil in Turkey (26-3-25) should serve as a warning to all those who attempt to establish a dictatorship under the guise of cleansing democracy. It is perhaps a human weakness to suppress opposition and expect unquestioning praise, even for one's misdeeds and mistakes. The process often begins with subjugating the media, followed by suppressing freedom of expression.

Critics and dissenters are then imprisoned under various pretexts. To maintain public support, a particular group is often vilified as an "evil force," while people's attention is skillfully diverted from the audacious actions of the ruler. When things spiral out of control, religion is invoked to silence dissent. Such tactics are evident in many countries today. However, history provides an unmistakable lesson: authoritarian rule—whether by an individual or a group—is always short-lived.

Recent events in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have demonstrated this inevitable truth. People may tolerate misgovernance for a long time, hoping for correction, but when reforms fail to materialise, they react sharply—often with an unstoppable force. The absence of an effective opposition weakens democracy and leads to regression. Citizens must remain vigilant and act wisely.

### Parliament meet to discuss Waqf

Madam—The Central government has called a meeting of all Members of Parliament to discuss the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 in a conference room within the Parliament complex. The meeting will provide MPs with a briefing on the proposed amendments to Waqf laws. The government is presumably keen on explaining the contents of the Bill before presenting it to Parliament, amidst growing Opposition.

The Waqf Amendment Bill has sparked controversy across the nation, with many groups accusing the Centre of acting against the interests of the Muslim community. Various Muslim organisations, including the prominent Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind, have raised objections.

They argue that the amendments could lead to the mismanagement of waqf properties and undermine the autonomy of the Muslim community in managing its charitable endowments by insisting that non-Muslims be made part of waqf boards. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) has been vocal in its opposition, declaring that it will organize large-scale protests in different parts of the country. The Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 has ignited nationwide controversy, with strong opposition from Muslim organisations. As the government prepares to present the Bill, protests loom, highlighting deep divisions and the potential for significant political and social repercussions.

### Chinese company surges ahead of Tesla

Madam—It is often said that an industrialist or businessman should not abandon their business to become a permanent player in the game of politics. Instead, they should fulfill their political responsibilities solely through donations to their preferred parties. If they fail to do so, their business and trade may suffer the consequences. Take the case of the world's richest man, Elon Musk. For the past year, he has openly aligned himself with Donald Trump ever since Trump became the Republican Party's presidential candidate. Now that Trump has assumed the presidency, it almost seems as if Musk has become the unofficial Vice President of America. He has carried out mass layoffs, resulting in hundreds of thousands of workers losing their jobs.

US foreign aid has been halted, and illegal immigrants have been expelled and subjected to harsh treatment. But interestingly enough, Tesla has fallen behind its Chinese competitor, BYD. Meanwhile, Tesla's sales have been steadily declining, partly due to Musk's open support for right-wing political groups.

In contrast, BYD has aggressively expanded into overseas markets, including Europe, with new compact electric models and advanced charging technology. It seems that China is quietly benefiting from the outspoken and disruptive nature of Musk and Trump.

### JUDICIARY UNDER SCRUTINY: THE NEED FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

As proposed by the headline "Dhankhar holds meet over cash controversy" (March 26), the controversy surrounding the unaccounted cash found at the residence of Delhi High Court Judge Yashwant Varna is bound to have far-reaching implications. This issue raises serious concerns about the erosion of public faith in the judiciary.

The first political fallout of this controversy is the renewed debate over the implementation of the NJAC Act, 2014, which seeks to replace the Collegium system.

The Supreme Court, as the guardian of the law, has the responsibility to uphold the integrity of the legal system. The Collegium system has once again come under scrutiny following the discovery of substantial unaccounted cash at Justice Varna's official residence—an issue that remains uninvestigated even after two weeks. Speculation suggests that any in-depth

inquiry into this matter could expose deeper systemic issues within the judiciary. The absence of accountability in the institution is fostering public disillusionment. Citizens' trust in the Indian judiciary may wane due to the lack of an alternative mechanism.

There should be no political interference or debate regarding the implementation of the NJAC Act, 2014, especially when the Collegium system is plagued by opacity. Instead, the recruitment of judges could be entrusted to the UPSC through the Civil Services Examination to address the existing vacancies across the country.

Why should the elected government not have a say in the appointment of judges and be credibly entitled to participate in the process? Moreover, it is perplexing why the NJAC Act, passed by Parliament a decade ago, remains unimplemented.

VINOD JOHRI | DELHI

## The spiritual marvel of Maha Kumbh

Maha Kumbh is a monumental event of immense scale and spiritual significance, marked by seamless organisation, the unwavering faith of pilgrims, and the extraordinary vision that brings this sacred gathering to life.

FIRST  
Column



believed that River Saraswati is also part of this Sangam.

We carried the sacred water of Maa Ganga back with us to the US. Ganga jal is considered pious and is an integral part of the puja samagri of every Hindu household. Having taken the holy dip in the Triveni Sangam and seeing the incredible enthusiasm among our fellow Hindus, we felt energised, spiritually uplifted, and of course very emotional.

We prayed to Maa Ganga for the good health and happiness of everyone in our family, and a bright future for Bharat (India) and all 1.4 Billion Bharatiyas (Indians). While in the waters of Maa Ganga, I realised how incredibly blessed I was to have been born in Prayagraj and for my father and grand-

father to have lived in Prayagraj for almost two decades.

After our snan in the Triveni Sangam, we also performed a puja of Maa Ganga on one of the boats stationed there with a priest. We recited Sanskrit shlokas, and offered milk, water and some sacred materials to Maa Ganga.

We also went around the various Akharas, including the Kinnar Akhara and the Gau Seva Akhara etc. It was amazing to see how well planned and decorated these Akharas were, and tens of thousands of devotees were thronging them to seek blessings of the leaders of these Akharas.

All through this journey of eight-plus kms, we saw numerous free food distribution centers and hundreds of volunteers serving food to those who stood in long queues to be seated and then served meals.

Our experience at the Maha Kumbh included

wide-ranging discussions with many, among others, over the last two days, besides visiting the Triveni Sangam for the holy dip, we witnessed the Ganga Aarti, prayed at the Hanuman and the Patalpuri temples, saw the digital Maha Kumbh Gallery, visited the Akshay Vat, Parmarth Niketan, the Shivalaya Park, the Kinnar Akhara, and Gau Seva Akhara etc.

The Digital Maha Kumbh Experience Center was a very well-put-together digital centre with vital historical, religious and astronomical information about the Ardh Kumbh, Poorna Kumbh, and Maha Kumbh.

In Uttar Pradesh's journey to become a trillion-dollar economy, tourism, and especially religious tourism, is playing, and will continue to play, a significant role in boosting the size of the State economy.

The Maha Kumbh which lasted for 45 days, is

estimated to infuse approximately \$40 Billion into the State economy!

As of the last count, a staggering number of 660-plus million devotees had taken a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam at Prayagraj. Of this colossal figure, 175 Million devotees (30 per cent of the total so far) took the dip during the five auspicious days: Pausa Purnima (17 Million), Makar Sankranti (35 Million), Mauni Amavasya (76 Million), Basant Panchami (27 Million) and Maghi Purnima (20 Million).

I met the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath ji in Lucknow on February 9 and told him that the arrangements made by his government in Prayagraj were very praiseworthy and met all the requirements of hundreds of millions of devotees that were coming for the Maha Kumbh.

I strongly believe that neither any other Indian state nor for that matter, any country in the world can organise such a colossal event. A visionary and bold leadership at the federal and the state level along with years of planning, detailing, inter-departmental coordination, widespread use of technology, including AI, deployment of tens of thousands of volunteers, sanitation staff, security personnel, construction workers, and many others could make this event possible. All in all, I would give them an A+.

At Columbia University, I plan to undertake a detailed case study of the Maha Kumbh with a special focus on the use of ICT tools and platforms (digital Maha Kumbh) in the Maha Kumbh's organisation, monitoring, data driven decision making, safety and security and so much more.

For people in the US, it is unfathomable to even imagine that over 660 Million people could visit, over 45 days, a small stretch of land at the banks of the river Ganga to take a holy dip.

By the final count, the total number of devotees who visited the Maha Kumbh was almost double the population of the United States, which stands at 335 Million.

Maha Kumbh is seen here in the US as nothing short of a miracle, wherein, daily, tens of millions of devotees, from out of town, have been coming to Prayagraj and after seeking the blessings of Maa Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati, return on the same day, or at best the next day to their homes. This is seen as a once in a lifetime spiritual journey for the Hindus who have been coming to Prayagraj from all parts of India and the world.

For people in the US, it is rather scary to even imagine being a part of such large gatherings, let alone being there in person.

(The writer is a development economist at the Columbia Climate School at Columbia University and a Padma Shri awardee. Views expressed are personal)

My wife, Sagun and I flew from New York to join the millions of devotees at the Maha Kumbh and had a remarkable experience visiting Prayagraj. This Maha Kumbh, to my mind, is a 'Maha Yagya' that has attracted hundreds of millions of devotees to this revered land for an event occurring after 144 years! Incidentally, Prayagraj or Tirth Prayag happens to be my birthplace which I visited after a gap of 33 years!

Being there in person was a remarkable experience. As far as the eye could see, human beings from all parts of India and the world converged there to take a holy dip in Maa (mother) Ganga.

Statistics bears testimony to the fact that the Maha Kumbh's organisation was an incredible feat. The arrangements made by the local administration, especially by the team led by the Mela Adhikari, Maha Kumbh under the direction of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and senior officials, were exceptional to say the least. Of course, PM Modi's vision, planning, detailing, strategising and leadership were imprinted all over the Maha Kumbh as well.

The establishment of a temporary city with roads, pontoon bridges, tens of thousands of tents, walking paths, cleanliness, safety and security, water and sanitation and large-scale availability of food for the devotees were some of the key highlights. The widespread use of digital technology helped in every conceivable way.

This was no mean feat, managing to have tens of millions of devotees come in, day in and day out, for 45 straight days and to provide them with all the necessary facilities is a humongous job, one that was done with utmost care and professionalism by the state government officials in-charge on the site.

We stayed in a tent of the Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation (UPSTDC) which had all the amenities one would have asked for, including spotlessly clean bed sheets, pillows, quilts, and towels, access to hot water in the bathroom, a very effective room heater, a fire extinguisher, TV, several phone charging points, cupboards, a table and a chair, drinking water all in a well-lit tent which could be locked for ones belongings to be safe. UPSTDC also provided very good vegetarian food (breakfast, lunch and dinner) to everyone staying in their tents.

My wife and I were blessed by taking a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam at the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj. Millions of devotees thronged the banks of the Ganga to seek Mata (mother) Ganga's blessings.

At the Sangam, the confluence of the green waters of River Ganga and the blue waters of River Yamuna were clearly seen coming together. It is



NIRUPAM  
BAJPAI

## Geostrategic communication: Need for a new global information order

The way we interact, negotiate, and perceive the world has undergone an astronomical shift. From backroom diplomacy to high-profile summits, from hushed alliances to social media-driven narratives, the landscape of global communication is more intricate, focused and instant. Yet, the structures guiding this flow of information remain relics of a bygone era.

The world has evolved, but the framework governing its communication has not. It is time to reimagine and reframe, a new global information order is not just desirable, but essential.

As the world steps into this new chapter of geopolitical shifts, communication strategies are becoming more sophisticated, dynamic, and multidimensional. The need of the hour is to analyse new institutional structures in the shifting political landscape and the major geopolitical developments. The evolving political climate is challenging traditional paradigms, compelling communication specialists, diplomats, and policymakers to rethink how messages are crafted, delivered, and received on a global stage. The era demands a communication framework that not only transcends borders but also bridges communication gaps with precision authenticity and timeliness. The last real effort to balance global communication came in the 1970s with the New World Information and Communication Order (NWICO). Born from the recommendations of the MacBride Commission, NWICO sought to challenge media hegemony and build a more equitable information ecosystem. But the world has moved light-years ahead since then. Digital revolutions, social media, AI-driven content, and the collapse of traditional media gatekeeping have rewritten the rules. Information today is less about access and more about credibility, control, and interpretation. The question is no longer who gets to speak, but how narratives are crafted, consumed, and manipulated. We now live in a world of instant gratification, where attention spans are shorter than ever. Information is expected to be quick, simplified, and emotionally engaging. This 'instant noodle syndrome' of communication has transformed how global narratives unfold. In the middle of a geopolitical crisis, or sudden diplomatic shifts, the first response is not from policymakers but from trending hashtags and viral videos. Public perception forms in real-time, often before official statements are drafted. This new reality demands a shift in approach. Diplomacy and governance can no longer afford to treat communication as an afterthought. Strategic messaging must be an integral part of decision-making from the start, ensuring that global narratives are shaped with intention rather than left to the chaos of digital virality.

Geopolitical alliances have been positioned on the pillars of economic cooperation, security, socio-economic issues, commitment to equity, inclusiveness, participation and cooperation. In an era where information is power, their role must expand to shaping global communication standards. Misinformation, propaganda wars, and AI-generated 'deepfakes' have turned digital spaces into battlegrounds. By pooling their resources, alliances could lead the charge in crafting a framework that promotes transparency, accountability and digital responsibility.

An information-sharing network between alliances and institutions could facilitate counter-coordinated disinformation campaigns. A standardised approach to AI-driven content moderation could set ethical boundaries for algorithmic influence. More importantly, these alliances can ensure that information remains a tool for progress rather than a weapon of manipulation.

As we stand at this technological crossroads, the question is no longer whether AI will transform communications-it already has. The real question is how we shape this transformation to serve humanity's best interests. The challenge lies not just in leveraging AI but in redefining communication itself in an era where technology and human intellect must coexist harmoniously. Ultimately, AI's most profound impact may be its ability to compel us to re-examine what meaningful human connection looks like in a digital world. As we harness AI to amplify our messages, we must ensure we do not lose sight of communication's essence-the human touch that transforms information into understanding and dialogue into trust.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is no longer a futuristic concept, it is the present. AI writes news articles, curates social media feeds, and even shapes political narratives. While it enhances efficiency, it also raises critical concerns. Who controls the algorithms? What biases are embedded in machine-generated content? Without a global framework, AI-driven information dissemination is an unchecked force that can either unify or divide societies.

At the same time, Gen Z-the digital-native generation-has become an undeniable force in global discourse. Their ability to mobilise, influence, and disrupt traditional narratives through social media is unmatched. A new information order must account for this shift, incorporating digital literacy, responsible AI governance, and fact-checking mechanisms into the larger conversation.

A new information order cannot be an abstract idea, it needs a tangible structure. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) should spearhead discussions on an international information governance framework, establishing a 'Threshold Agreement for Global Communication'. Such an initiative should include Ethical Standards for AI-generated content to ensure transparency and reduce

algorithmic biases. It must also introduce a crisis communication protocol to prevent misinformation spirals during global emergencies. Additionally, a global fact-checking consortium should be established to unite journalists, researchers, and policymakers in a collaborative effort to combat digital disinformation. Lastly, balanced digital sovereignty measures are essential to allow countries to maintain narrative control without suppressing free speech.

What we acquire is a renewed collaborative effort to establish a new 'Global Information order', a platform established institutionally to bridge the gap in the medium and message equation. The 7Rs in communication ie, relevance, reliability, response, revival, reconnection, reconstruction, and reposition need to be mainstreamed in the geopolitical setting. The new global order must work towards the framework that calibrates perceptions, builds relationships and drives action based on mutually agreeable communication tools. This mode should integrate rather than disconnect and create gaps and place a narrative that addresses opportunity, experiences and the vision of mutual coexistence. The changing geopolitical reality of 2025 highlights the need for adaptability in communication. Traditional media must evolve to remain relevant, embracing digital innovations and audience-centric approaches. Meanwhile, social media must grapple with issues of misinformation, polarisation, and echo chambers, striving to become a platform that unites rather than divides. In this era, communication is no longer just about delivering a message, it is about shaping perceptions, building relationships, and driving action.

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the ability to communicate effectively will be one of the most powerful tools in navigating the complexities of a neo-geopolitical era. For too long, communication has been seen as a mere tool, a final step to package decisions and policies for public consumption. That mindset is outdated and ineffective. In today's world, perception is as powerful as policy, and messaging is as critical as the action itself. Strategic communication must be embedded into policymaking from the outset, ensuring that every decision carries a clear, coherent, and credible message. A new global information order is not about control, it is about coherence. It is about ensuring that in an age of instant narratives, the truth is not lost in the noise. It is about fostering a communication ecosystem that is resilient, transparent, and aligned with the evolving digital landscape. The world has already changed. Now, it is time for our information order to catch up.

What we need is a renewed collaborative effort to establish a new 'Global Information order', a platform established institutionally to bridge the gap in the medium and message equation.

(The writer is former civil servant. Views expressed are personal)



CHAITANYA K  
PRASAD

## Overcoming our addiction to sugar and salt

Oh, I am a sweets person, or "I prefer salty food." But have we pondered what is at the root of these cravings? Can a salty person become a sweet person, or vice versa?

Invariably craving for sugary and salty foods arises from various factors, which include stress, dehydration, sleep deprivation, nutritional deficiencies, emotional upheavals such as tragedies, illness, separation, bulimia, premenstrual syndrome or an individual unable to achieve his/her goals in life.

Such foods trigger the release of dopamine which tends to provide a temporary sense of comfort or rush of energy. It is pyrrhic and provides a temporary high to the mind which has a long-term impact on the gut and our physical and mental wellbeing. Upon quitting alcohol, I developed a strong craving for sweets. Sweets were to replace spirits as I embarked on my journey of sobriety.

Now I am making a serious attempt to kick this habit. The mind yearns for something sweet after every meal. By eating refined sugar not only does an individual add weight at all the wrong places in the body which makes him or her appear ungainly, sugar is also hazardous for the gut.

"How will you do yoga watching me gorging a delicious pastry," my Yoga teacher admonished me.

The problem begins at the level of the abdomen and slowly, but surely spreads to various parts of the body. Sugar addiction is as deleterious as being hooked on cocaine. A close relative, also a doctor by training, talking about her husband, a former alcoholic, mentioned, "So long as he does not drink, sweets are fine."

But excessive consumption of sweets is equally dangerous to the body. Be it white or brown, sugar remains an anathema. The same applies to the excessive intake of salt. Excessive salt causes high blood pressure and cardiac-related ailments. Recently I read a thought-provoking article by a runner. For the last forty years, this gentleman had been running incessantly across the country and was sprightly and fit.

He also advocates running barefoot quite like the celebrity Milind Soman. The runner champions a no-sugar and no-salt diet. "Humans get adequate quota of salt from the vegetables we partake," says the runner.

Excess of sugar causes Diabetes Mellitus or DM. The disease is a chronic condition that is associated with abnormally high levels of sugar (glucose) in the blood. The common symptoms associated with diabetes are reflected in excessive urination, uncontrolled thirst, weight loss, pangs of hunger, fatigue, skin-related problems, tardy healing of wounds and injuries, yeast infection and tingling or numbness in feet and toes.

Diabetes, like high blood pressure, is a silent killer if left untreated.

Therefore, a combination of dietary habits, change in lifestyle patterns and a positive approach to life is paramount to combat the Scylla and Charybdis of diabetes and blood pressure.

Overweight people, obese individuals, those leading a sedentary lifestyle, humans with a family history of diabetes, those suffering from hypertension and hypotension, low levels of HDL (efficacious cholesterol) and elevated triglycerides are all prone to be afflicted by Diabetes Mellitus.

Madhumeha Mukht Bharat is a Nationwide Stop-Diabetes Movement under the aegis of Swami Vivekanand Yoga Anusthana Samsthana (SVYASA), Bengaluru, to spread awareness about diabetes and to aid in its prevention among a wide cross-section of Indians across the country, using the ancient holistic approach of yoga.

The Art of Living is supporting SVYASA in their noble efforts to promote health and harmony. Therefore, on World Diabetes Day that is on November 14, an event was flagged off, the first training programme for Yoga Teachers for Diabetes Management was held at the Bangalore Ashram of the Art of Living.

Several other schools of yoga and other organisations too participated in the workshop. Around 100 teachers of the Art of Living are being identified to tackle the menace of diabetes and provide holistic treatment through yoga. There is a Zen story about a monk named Haku as he learned from his master about the impermanent and temporary nature of life as one feels after drinking a coke, eating a pastry, or consuming a packet of chips.

Through the simple act of tasting salt and sugar, Haku grasped the truth that beneath the changing phenomena of life, there is an enduring essence. Giving up salt and sugar required training of the mind. This is simple Zen story which ignites our minds to reflect on the nature of existence, reality and impermanence of human life.

To begin with we need to train our minds to unflinchingly say no to sugar and salt. Can we? Maybe the mind would resist this change, but certainly, humans can take baby steps by reducing the quantities significantly and will soon see radical changes in their bodies, minds, and souls.

By consciously reducing our intake of sugar and salt, we take the first step toward a healthier body and mind. With discipline and awareness, we can break free from cravings and embrace a more balanced, fulfilling life.

(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. Views expressed are personal)

# Palestinians protest Hamas in rare public show

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Cairo

Palestinians chanted against Hamas during an anti-war protest in the Gaza Strip, according to videos circulating online in a rare show of public anger against the militant group, which has long repressed dissent and still rules the territory 17 months into the war with Israel.

The videos, which appeared to be authentic, showed hundreds of people taking part in an anti-war protest in the heavily destroyed northern town of Beit Lahiya on Tuesday.

People held signs saying "Stop the war," "We refuse to die," and "The blood of our children is not cheap."

Some could be heard chanting: "Hamas out!" Other videos appeared to show Hamas supporters dispersing the crowds.

"We are sick of the bombing, killing and displacement," Ammar Hassan, a young man from Beit Lahiya who took part in the protest.

He said it started as an anti-war protest with just a few dozen people but then



Palestinians walk amid the destruction caused by the Israeli air and ground offensive at Al-Shati camp, Gaza City

swelled to more than 2,000, with people chanting against Hamas.

"It's the only party we can affect," he said over the phone. "Protests won't stop the (Israeli) occupation, but it can affect Hamas," he said.

"The protest was not about politics. It was about people's lives," said Mohammed Abu Saker, a father of three from the nearby town of Beit Hanoun, who joined the demonstration.

"We want to stop the killing and dis-

placement, no matter the price. We can't stop Israel from killing us, but we can press Hamas to give concessions," he said.

A statement released by family elders from Beit Lahiya expressed support for the protests against Israel's offensive and its tightened blockade. They also said the community fully supports armed resistance against Israel and rejects "any attempt to exploit legitimate popular demands by a fifth column," apparently referring to opponents of Hamas.

The protests erupted a week after Israel ended its ceasefire with Hamas by launching a surprise wave of strikes that killed hundreds of people. Earlier this month, Israel halted deliveries of food, fuel, medicine and humanitarian aid to Gaza's roughly 2 million Palestinians.

Israel has vowed to escalate the war until Hamas returns the 59 hostages it still holds 24 of whom are believed to be alive. Israel is also demanding that the group give up power, disarm and send its leaders into exile. Hamas has said it will only release the remaining captives in exchange for Palestinian prisoners, a lasting ceasefire

and an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza.

The war was triggered by Hamas' October 7, 2023, attack into Israel, in which Palestinian militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducted 251. Hamas has said only a handful of its top commanders knew about the attack ahead of time.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 50,000 people, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not say how many were civilians or combatants. Israel's bombardment and ground operations have caused vast destruction and at their height displaced some 90 per cent of Gaza's population.

Hamas won a landslide victory in the last Palestinian elections, held in 2006. It seized power in Gaza from the Western-backed Palestinian Authority, dominated by the secular Fatah movement, the following year after months of factional unrest and a week of heavy street battles.

Rights groups say both the Palestinian Authority and Hamas violently suppress dissent, quashing protests in the areas they control and jailing and torturing critics.

# US intelligence officials to appear at House hearing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Washington

President Donald Trump's top intelligence officials will brief House lawmakers Wednesday on global threats facing the US - though they'll likely be questioned again over their use of a group text to discuss plans for military strikes in Yemen.

CIA Director John Ratcliffe, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard and FBI Director Kash Patel are among those who were asked to testify before the House Intelligence Committee as part of its annual review of threats facing the US.

At a similar hearing on Tuesday before the Senate Intelligence Committee, Gabbard briefed lawmakers on her office's threat assessment, noting that China, Russia, Iran and North Korea continue to pose security challenges to the United States, as do drug cartels and transnational criminal organisations.

The presentations from top Trump appointees reflect Trump's foreign policy priorities, including a focus on combating the flow of fentanyl, illegal immigration and human trafficking, and are taking place as Trump attempts to work out a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine three years after Russia's invasion.

Tuesday's hearing was dominated by questions about Ratcliffe and Gabbard's participation in a group chat on Signal in which they discussed plans to strike Houthi rebels in Yemen. The group included a journalist, The Atlantic editor-in-chief named Jeffrey Goldberg.

Gabbard and Ratcliffe have said no classified information was included in the messages, but Democrats have decried the use of the messaging app, saying that any release of information about timetables, weapons or military activities could have put US service-members at risk.

At Tuesday's hearing they asked Patel, who was not a participant in the text chain, if he would investigate.

# Russia convicts 23 captured Ukrainians on terrorism charges

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Moscow

Russia on Wednesday convicted 23 captured Ukrainians on terrorism charges stemming from the fighting in Ukraine in a trial that Kyiv denounced as a sham and a violation of international law.

The defendants included 14 current or former fighters of the elite Azov brigade, which Russia designated a terrorist group, and nine women and one man who worked as cooks or support personnel, according to Russian media reports and rights activists.

Twelve defendants were not in court 11 had returned to Ukraine in two prisoner exchanges and were convicted in absentia. One more died in custody last year.

All had been charged with staging a violent coup d'etat and organising activities of a terrorist organisation. Some faced an additional charge of training to return to terrorist activities.

They were given sentences ranging from 13 to 23 years in prison.

Memorial, a prominent Russian rights group that won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2022, has designated all the defendants as political prisoners.

According to Memorial, some of them were captured in 2022 during fighting in the port city of Mariupol, where they held out at the Azovstal steel mill, besieged by Russian troops.

Others were detained as they tried to leave the city after it was overrun by Russian forces, the group said.

Ukraine's human rights envoy, Dmytro Lubinets, denounced the proceedings when they began in June 2023 as "another sham trial" held for Russia's "own amusement."

"Russia and fair justice' have nothing in common. The world must respond to such shameful sham trials of Ukrainian defenders," Lubinets said.

"It is obvious to everyone that those who should be in the dock are not those defending themselves but those who initiated the aggression, those who invaded foreign land with weapons and those who arrived with tanks on the territory of an independent state!"

# Ukraine ready to proceed with ceasefire: Zelenskyy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Kyiv

Ukraine is ready to proceed with a ceasefire prohibiting attacks on energy infrastructure, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, in line with a deal that was brokered by the United States during three days of negotiations with Ukrainian and Russian officials in the Saudi capital.

Speaking in a video address late Tuesday, Zelenskyy said Ukraine had agreed with US negotiators "that a ceasefire for energy infrastructure can start today."

But, he warned, any strikes on Ukraine's energy facilities by Moscow would draw "strong retaliation."

The comments underscored the tenuous agreements that came out of the three days of separate US-Ukrainian and US-Russian talks in Riyadh.

Washington said it had agreed with the warring parties to implement a pause on attacks on energy infrastructure as well as taking steps to ensure safe navigation for ships in the Black Sea. Those talks were

part of a broader effort toward a limited, 30-day ceasefire that Moscow and Kyiv agreed to in principle last week but has thus far failed to materialise as both sides continue to launch drone and rocket attacks against the other.

While Zelenskyy on Tuesday thanked the US for its efforts to strike an agreement, questions remained over some key details and a comprehensive peace deal to end the three-year war still looked distant.

## Russia links the Black Sea deal to sanctions relief

On Tuesday, the White House said in separate statements that the sides had "agreed to ensure safe navigation, eliminate the use of force, and prevent the use of commercial vessels for military purposes in the Black Sea." Details of the prospective deal were not released, but it appeared to mark another attempt to ensure safe Black Sea shipping after a 2022 agreement that was brokered by the UN and Turkey but halted by Russia the next year.

## The comments underscored the tenuous agreements that came out of the three days of separate US-Ukrainian and US-Russian talks in Riyadh

After the White House issued its statement Tuesday, the Kremlin warned that a potential Black Sea deal could only be implemented after sanctions against the Russian Agricultural Bank and other financial organisations involved in food and fertiliser trade are lifted and their access to the SWIFT system of international payments is ensured.

Zelenskyy on Tuesday evening reacted to those demands, casting them as an example of Moscow "manipulating, twisting agreements and lying" about the terms of the agreement.

"There are absolutely clear statements that have been published by the White House, everyone can see what is stated there," Zelenskyy said. "And there is something that the Kremlin is lying

about again: that supposedly the (cease-fire) in the Black Sea depends on the issue of sanctions."

In an apparent reference to Moscow's demands, the White House said Tuesday the US "will help restore Russia's access to the world market for agricultural and fertiliser exports, lower maritime insurance costs and enhance access to ports and payment systems for such transactions."

## Russia launches drone attack on Zelenskyy's hometown

Kryvyi Rih, Zelenskyy's hometown, came under the "most massive kamikaze drone attack since the beginning of the war" on Tuesday night, the city administration head, Oleksandr Vilkul, wrote on Telegram.

Although no people were killed or injured, civilian infrastructure was widely targeted, Vilkul said, including an administration building, warehouses, an industrial enterprise and a fire station. Multiple fires were sparked across the city, he said.

# France, Indonesia vow to boost safety in Indo-Pacific

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Jakarta

France and Indonesia's top diplomats inked a new maritime security project on Wednesday aiming "to ensure peace and safety" at sea in the Indo-Pacific region.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot's visit to Jakarta, his second stop in his four-day Asia tour after Singapore, comes amid ongoing trade tensions between the European Union and Beijing.

He told reporters on Wednesday that the Indo-Pacific Port Security Project "is close to my heart," promising France's support. Neither he nor his Indonesian counterpart Sugiono shared what the project will entail. Earlier this month, during a discussion of the project at the Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence, Indonesia's naval chief of staff, Admiral Muhammad Ali, said it would address various maritime security challenges, including piracy, terrorism, and illegal activities at sea, and would likely

involve collaboration among countries in the Indo-Pacific.

Sugiono, who like many Indonesians uses a single name, said the "maritime collaboration is important to realise a stable, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific," he said the project will support Indonesia as the world's largest archipelago nation with more than 17,000 islands, with a focus on two Indonesian ports in Jakarta and Surabaya cities "in their sustainability and security." The two diplomats, who signed the project's agreement at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations headquarters in the Indonesian capital, said they also discussed strengthening their strategic partnerships and enhancing cooperation in various fields. Military cooperation between France and Indonesia has grown in recent years.

French air force planes made a stopover in July in Jakarta as part of a visit to Southeast Asia that was meant to display France's commitment to security in the Indo-Pacific region.

# Sri Lanka slams Britain's 'unilateral action'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Colombo

Sri Lanka on Wednesday slammed the British government's "unilateral action" to sanction its three former military commanders, who led the campaign that crushed the LTTE in 2009, saying the move will complicate the national reconciliation process.

A UK foreign office statement Monday said Sri Lanka's three military commanders - former Army Commanders Gen Shavendra Silva, Jagath Jayasuriya and former Navy Commander Wasantha Karannagoda - were among those sanctioned and subjected to UK travel bans and asset freezes.

The UK government also sanctioned Vinyagamurthy Muralidaran, the deputy leader of the LTTE, who later turned a rebel of the group and became a deputy minister in the national parliament.

In a statement on Wednesday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that "such unilateral actions by countries do not assist but serve to complicate the national reconciliation process underway in Sri Lanka."

"The government is in the process of

strengthening domestic mechanisms on accountability and reconciliation and any past human rights violations should be dealt with through domestic accountability mechanisms," the ministry said.

Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath conveyed Sri Lanka's position to British High Commissioner Andrew Patrick, it added.

"I categorically reject the UK government's allegations of widespread human rights violations during the military operations," former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, who is credited for his political leadership to end the LTTE's campaign, said in a statement.

He accused the British politicians of doing vote bank politics on Sri Lanka to win the votes of the Tamil community domiciled in the UK.

He said that the LTTE killed 27,965 Sri Lankan troops and police in their violent campaign, "not to mention the lives of many civilians."

He said in 2021 and 2023, the UK legislated to protect their forces from prosecution by interested parties.

"Hence, I expect the present government to resolutely stand by and defend

former armed forces personnel who face persecution by foreign governments and organizations for doing their duty to safeguard Sri Lanka's national security," Rajapaksa added.

Rights abuses alleged on both government troops and the LTTE during the final battle in 2009 caused four UN rights resolutions, which called for international mechanisms for the prosecution of alleged perpetrators.

Sri Lanka outrightly rejected resolutions and said local mechanisms would be set up. Rights groups charge that only minimal progress has been made despite pledges. The UK government's sanctions on General Silva follow a similar action against him by the US State Department in 2020.

In 2023, Canada sanctioned two former presidents, Mahinda and Gotabaya Rajapaksa. The two Rajapaksa brothers led the military campaign which crushed the LTTE, ending their three decades of armed struggle to create a separate Tamil homeland in the north and east regions.

General Silva and Karannagoda were key commanders in the three-year campaign.

# Syria can return to violence or to peace says UN envoy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ United Nations

Three months following the overthrow of President Bashar Assad, Syria is at a crossroads, the top UN envoy for the country said.

Geir Pedersen told the UN Security Council that Syria can return to violence or start an inclusive transition and end decades of conflict. He said the road back to conflict, fragmentation and violations of Syrian sovereignty by external powers "must not come to pass". The other road, which would restore Syria's sovereignty and regional security, is "viable" but "requires the right Syrian decisions" and international support, Pedersen said.

Syria's civil war had gone on for 13 years when a lightning insurgency led by the Islamist group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, overthrew Assad in December, ending his family's more than 50-year rule.

Former HTS leader Ahmad al-Sharaa was announced as the country's interim president after a meeting of armed groups that took part in the offensive.

Pedersen spoke weeks after clashes between al-Sharaa's security forces and armed groups loyal to Assad spiralled into sectarian revenge attacks that killed hundreds of civilians, most of them Alawites, a minority sect to which Assad belongs. It was the worst violence since December. Pedersen told the council that while the situation was "comparatively calmed" after several days, the UN continues to receive reports "of harassment and intimidation, including with heavy

sectarian overtones".

He said the interim authorities announced an independent investigation. Pedersen said he stressed that it must be transparent, in line with international standards, and its findings made public.

The UN special envoy, who will return to Damascus shortly, highlighted several priority areas for action and attention.

The latest atrocities, he said, "laid bare the urgent need for credible and efficient accountability for crimes" committed over decades. He said the UN and the international community will be watching whether the soon-to-be-announced transitional government and transition-

## Geir Pedersen told the UN Security Council that Syria can return to violence or start an inclusive transition and end decades of conflict

al legislative council reflect Syria's diversity and include both men and women.

He said his team was consulted on a temporary constitution and gave advice on international best practices and norms. "Some of this was taken on board, some was not," he said.

In mid-March, al-Sharaa signed a temporary constitution that leaves the country under Islamist rule while promising to protect the rights of all Syrians for five years during a transitional phase.

"Some Syrians have commended the effort to fill the constitutional vacuum, and noted the incorporation of international human rights norms.

# Wildfires ravage southern South Korea, killing 24 people

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Seoul

Wind-driven wildfires that were among South Korea's worst ever were ravaging the country's southern regions, killing 24 people, destroying more than 200 structures and forcing 27,000 people to evacuate, officials said Wednesday.

The death toll included a pilot who died after a helicopter crashed during efforts to contain wildfires in the southeastern town of Uiseong, one of the areas hardest-hit. The aircraft had no other crew members.

The National Fire Agency said at least 26 other people sustained varying degrees of injuries.

An ancient Buddhist temple, houses, factories and vehicles were among the structures destroyed in the wildfires that have burned 43,330 acres, the government's emergency response centre said.

In a televised address, South Korea's acting President Han Duck-soo said the wildfires that began last Friday were causing worse damage than many other past wildfires.

"Damages are snowballing," Han said. "There are concerns that we'll have wildfire damages that we've never experienced, so we have to concentrate all our capabilities to put out the wildfires in the rest of this week."

President Han Duck-soo said crews were struggling to extinguish the wildfires because strong winds swept the areas overnight.

Han said about 4,650 firefighters, soldiers and other personnel were



The remains of burnt-out pavilions are seen at the Gounsa temple in Uiseong, South Korea

working Wednesday to extinguish the wildfires with the help of about 130 helicopters.

President Han Duck-soo said that "a small amount" of 5-10 millimetres of rain was expected Thursday.

Observers say the ongoing wildfires are the third biggest in South Korea in terms of land burned.

Officials in several southeastern cities and towns had ordered residents to evacuate Tuesday as firefighters struggled to contain multiple blazes

fuelled by dry winds.

The largest fires were in Andong, the neighbouring counties of Uiseong and Sancheong, and the city of Ulsan, according to South Korea's Interior Ministry.

Earlier on Tuesday, officials had said firefighters had extinguished most of the flames from the largest wildfires in those areas, but wind and dry conditions allowed the blazes to spread again.

But efforts to fight the fires were partially suspended overnight as the

winds strengthened.

The blaze in Uiseong destroyed nearly half of more than 30 structures at Gounsa, a temple which was said to be originally built in the 7th century.

Among the destroyed structures were two state-designated "treasures" a pavilion-shaped structure built on a stream built in 1668 and a Joseon Dynasty structure built in 1904 to mark the longevity of a king.

The temple's another state-designated "treasure", a stone Buddha statue reportedly manufactured in the 8th century, was evacuated to a safe place, according to government and Buddhist officials.

The Justice Ministry said it protectively removed 500 inmates from a detention centre in Cheongsong, another southern town, but no damages were reported to the facility.

The Korea Forest Service said it had raised its wildfire warning to the highest "serious" level nationwide Tuesday, requiring local governments to assign more workers to emergency response, tighten entry restrictions for forests and parks, and recommend that military units withhold live-fire exercises.

The 18 dead include four firefighters and government workers who were killed in Sancheong on Saturday after being trapped by fast-moving flames driven by strong winds, according to officials.

Government officials suspect human error caused several of the fires, possibly due to the use of fire while clearing overgrown grass in family tombs or sparks from welding work.

Jay Bhattacharya confirmed as NIH head

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York

Indian-American scientist Jay Bhattacharya has been confirmed by the US Senate as the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)...

of modern biomedical science fails this basic test," the news portal quoted him as saying. "If confirmed, I will carry out President Trump and (Health and Human Service) Secretary Kennedy's agenda of Making America Healthy Again and committing the NIH to address the dire chronic health needs of the country with gold-standard science and innovation," he said.

During his hearing, Bhattacharya said he understands science and public health have become politicised, and many no longer trust health officials or experts, according to The Hill. The NIH should support science which is "replicable, reproducible, and generalisable," Bhattacharya said. "Unfortunately, much

PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to all that my client Sh. Amit Yadav owner of the PROPERTY NO. A-10, KNOWN AS B-1/10, AREA 50 SQ. YDS., KHASRA NO. 68/7, HASTAL, RAVINDER VIHAR, UTTAM NAGAR, 110059 and Sh. Amit Yadav purchase property from Smt. Geeta vide Notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 04.05.2024 Now Sh. Amit Yadav wants to sell aforesaid property...

AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION

Ch. No. 780 - Dwarika Court Sector-10, Dwarika, New Delhi-75 Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my client Mrs. Harvinder Kaur W/o Sh. Sunder Singh R/o MD-6, First Floor, Pitampura, North West Delhi, Delhi-110034 have disowned/debarred her daughter Anveet Kaur @ Anveet Kaur Ahuja and son in law Harpreet Singh @ Harpreet Singh Ahuja from all her movable & immovable properties and severed all relations with both of them due to their misconduct...

COURT NOTICE

Form No. 77 IN THE COURT OF SH. Rajinder Pal Singh Mahila Court/Mahila FT/Women and Children Special Court, Panipat

PUBLICATION ISSUED TO:

Pooja Maurya W/o Sh. Naveen Kumar D/o Sh. Pramod Kumar Maurya R/o UP Saidpur Village, Rastpur 233221, Uttar Pradesh & Presently at Room No. 5, Thorumalshethally Govt. Primary School, Bangaluru-560067

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF SH. RAVINDER SINGH-1, LD. JUDGE, FAMILY COURT-02, DISTRICT EAST KARKADOOM COURTS, ROOM NO. 45, DELHI

DIKSHANT NARULA VS AMITA SYDNEY J (Ct)3

AMITA SYDNEY W/O SH. DIKSHANT NARULA, D/O SH. MORWAN SYDNEY, R/O H. NO. 99 960, CIVIL LINE, EKTA PURAM, MISSION, MEERUT, UTTAR PRADESH-250003.

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Baba Farid University of Health Sciences

Sadiq Road, Faridkot -151203 Ph. 01639-256232, 256236

VACANCIES

Online applications are invited w.e.f 28-03-2025 to 17-04-2025 from eligible candidates through University website i.e www.bfuhis.ac.in for the recruitment to the posts of Clinical Psychologist (UR-01, SC (M/B) Female-01) on regular basis under Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot.

INDIAN RAILWAYS

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA रेल मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (रेलवे बोर्ड) RAILWAY BOARD

E-TENDER NO. 2025RS19542TC

Principal Executive Director, Railway Stores (S), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for Procurement of 08 Nos Rakes of Flat Multi-Purpose (FMP) Wagons (6 Nos. FMP Car A+39 Nos. FMP-Car B-one rake consists of 45 wagons) type FMPA and FMPB to RDSO Drg No WD-19066-S-02, Alt.8 or latest (Car-A) & WD-19067-S-02, Alt. 9 or latest (Car-B).

Baba Farid University of Health Sciences

Sadiq Road, Faridkot -151203 Ph. 01639-256232, 256236

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tender are invited for the procurements of following items upto 21-04-2025 1) Repair of AC Plant 2 Nos. 190 Ton Carrier Make at GSGMC&H, FDK 2) (CMC) for 1.5 Ton Window & 1.5 Ton & 2 Ton Split Air Conditioners for BFUHS. Approximate 750 No.) 3) Supply & installation of LT Panel, Main Cable & power point in OPD Block at GSGMC&H, FDK 4) (CMC) for 218.50 Ton Ductable HVAC unit for Neurology & Neuro Surgery, 2 no. lecture theatres, Blood Bank & ICCU Medicine at GSGMC&H, Faridkot, (For Three Year) 5) Replacement of car door seat, landing door with panel, header and skill, ARD with batteries for 2no. Lifts make ECE 8 person at BFUHS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Anita Mishra W/O Late. Ram Roop Mishra, R/O A-5, GALI NO-7, CHANCHAL PARK, BAKKARWALA, Bakkarwala, West Delhi Delhi, 110041, have changed the name of my minor daughter namely Gracy Mishra aged 17 years and she shall hereafter be known as GUNJAN MISHRA.

I, Minkee Pandey, W/o No.17021300N Sep Sandeep Pandey, R/o- VIII- Gogahi, PO- Gogaura, PS- Dhansoi, Dist- Buxar, Bihar- 802117, declare that in my husband's service documents my D.O.B. is wrongly written as 26/12/1990, whereas my correct D.O.B. is 28/12/1990, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Shashi Kiran, W/o JC-805529L Sub/Instr(SPL) Avinash Mishra, R/o- 42, Onkardutt Colony, Maheshwar Road- Dhamnod, PO- Dhamnod, Dist- Dhar, M.P-454552, have changed my name from Shashi Kiran to Shashikiran Mishra, vide affidavit dated 26/03/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

I, J, C - 542992L rank - Subedar Sunil Kumar presently residing at WARD NO-04, SANTRIYA PO-KHANPUR, DIST- JHUNJHUNUN, RAJASTHAN - 333516 have changed my daughter's name from KM RITIKA to RITIKA vide Affidavit No. IN-DL49176661237814X dated 12.03.2025 before Notary Public at New Delhi.

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IMF approves loan for Pakistan to address climate change

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Islamabad

The International Monetary Fund approved a loan of \$1.3 Billion for Pakistan to address climate change while also reaching a staff-level agreement on the first review of the already agreed \$7 Billion loan.

Additionally, freeing \$1 Billion for the country under the \$7 Billion bailout programme would bring the total disbursements to \$2 Billion.

"Upon approval (by the IMF board), Pakistan will have access to about \$1 Billion under the EFF, bringing total disbursements under the programme to about \$2 Billion," he added.

"The IMF team has reached a staff-level agreement (SLA) with the Pakistani authorities on the first review of the 37-month extended arrangement under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), and on a new 28-month arrangement under the IMF's (Resilience and Sustainability Trust) with total access over the 28 months of around \$1.3 Billion," Nathan Porter, mission chief to Pakistan, said on Tuesday.

According to Radio Pakistan, the two agreements giving access to about 2 billion dollars is a "testament to Pakistan's significant strides in economic reforms, focusing on tax equity, monetary stability, energy sector transformation, and climate resilience."

The IMF in its statement also appreciated Pakistan for its efforts to bring stability.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to all that my client Ms. Iprat purchasing 2nd floor without roof plot No. 33, Area 60sq Yds. Kh. No. 30/31/22 & 30/29 Village Hastal Vikas Nagar Extn. Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from Sh. Kamal Sharma, S/o. Kamal Sharma & father Yashpal Sharma from Gagan Sharma through notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 05.07.2017, Yashpal Sharma passed away on 07.04.2022. After his death, the said property was inherited by his wife Mrs. Iprat and one of her sons Sh. Kamal Sharma (Subsequently, Jyoti Kohli transferred her share in the aforementioned property in favor of her brother Kamal Sharma through the relinquishment deed number 2025/23/VI/1839 dated 17.01.2025 and Kamal Sharma haven't original survey certificate of Yashpal Sharma. It is intended that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, may be deemed as null and void if any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.

AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION

Ch. No. 780 - Dwarika Court Sector-10, Dwarika, New Delhi-75 Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client, Axis Bank Limited, having its branch at Ground Floor, Tower-1, Axis House, Sector-128, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.), is inclined to grant a loan facility to Mr. Devender Kumar against a freehold residential apartment bearing No. A-202, located on the 24th floor, along with three (3) covered car parking spaces No. A/B1-018, A/B1-019 and A/B3-020, each measuring 34.05 sq. ft. - in Tower-A. The said property has a super area of 3,858 sq. ft. (carpet area: 2,409 sq. ft.) and is part of the group housing building known as "Arya", situated in Sector-62, within the revenue estate of Village Ghata, Tehsil Wazirpur, District Gurugram (Haryana) (hereinafter referred to as the "Said Property").

INTERLOCKING OF SEVEN LC GATES

E-Tender Notice No. RN-ST-30-2024-25; Date: 24-03-2025. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work. Name of Work: Interlocking of Seven LC gates with TVU more than 20000 in Rangiya Division. Tender Value: ₹4,52,15,824.59; Earnest Money: ₹3,76,100.00. E-tender will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 16-04-2025 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 16-04-2025 at Sr. DSTE/Rangiya's office. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in

DRM (S&T)/Rangiya

Lost and Found

I, Harvinder Singh Dogra S/o Sh. Joginder Singh Dogra R/o B - 56, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092 do hereby solemnly affirm and inform that I am the owner of property No. - B - 56, Measuring area 52.25 Sq. Mtrs. out of Kh. No. 470/23/9, Situated at the abadi of S-Block, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092. I have lost my Original Sale Deed dated 21-05-1971, Vide Registration No. 7953, in Book No. 1, Volume No. 376, on Pages 44 to 46, Dated 21-05-1971 in the office of Sub-Registrar IV Delhi executed by Shri Chetan Lal in favour of S. Joginder Singh in respect of above said Property. All other Previous chain of documents before 1971 related to the above said plot, I have already lodge a Lost Report in the record on dated 24-03-2025. L.R. No. 2697748/2025. I have not mortgage the above said original documents with any Bank or any other financial institution in any manner, and I have not taken any Loan against the above said Property. Harvinder Singh Dogra

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Usha Sharma W/o Mr. Sunil Sharma and Mr. Shivam Sharma S/o Mr. Sunil Sharma who are the owners of the Residential House No. 99, area measuring 172.33 Sq. Yards i.e. 144.08 Sq. Meters, situated at Rajbagh Colony, in the Village Pasonda, Pargana Loni, Tehsil and Dist. Ghazipur, U.P. vide Gift Deed dated 21.05.2024 (Doc No. 6276) executed by Mr. Sunil Sharma S/o Mr. Om Prakash Sharma and same to finance & mortgage by SFG India Credit Co. Ltd. (Formerly Fullerton India Credit Co. Ltd.), Noida. So, to comply the requirements of BANK/NFDC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim right/title/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, ten etc. Lucern Legal LLP B-33, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank Sector 2, Noida, UP-201301 Contact No. 120-4269379

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publically notified that Smt. Vasantha Srinivasan wife of late Shri T.T. Srinivasan R/o SFS Flat No. 180-B Pocket-B 1st floor, Mayur-Vihar Phase-2, Delhi, has lost/misplaced the original NOC for water and electricity of the said premises. An FIR in this regard has been lodged at police station, Crime branch Delhi vide FIR/No. 2680511/2025 dated 18/03/2025. Any person(s) found to have the original documents, File No. F16(147) 87/SFS/TP/II please contact the above address/mobile no. 8130456364 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, person(s) claiming any right/interest can personally inform or write to Dy. Director, SFS Housing Vikas Sector, INA New Delhi 110023

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per the decision of the Full Bench of Hon'ble High court of Punjab and Haryana in CWP No. 22252 of 2016 titled as Rajiv Manchanda Vs. State of Haryana and others, reservation policy dated 04.12.2015 upheld by the Hon'ble High Court in CWP No. 22252 of 2016 titled as Rajiv Manchanda Vs. State of Haryana and others and affidavit filed by the Chief Administrator, HSPV, Panchkula in the Hon'ble High Court in CWP No. 22136 of 2015 titled as Adesh Aggarwal & CWP No. 14164 of 2017 Dalip Singh Vs. State of Haryana, Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran hereby invites applications from landowners (Outsees) whose land was acquired for the development of Sectors post 10.09.1987 in Urban Estate, Sonipat/Gohana i.e. Sector 23, 12, 7 Sonipat and Sector-7, Gohana. In view of the mandate of the Hon'ble High Court in Rajiv Manchanda's case (Supra), a detailed exercise was carried out in all the sectors with respect to the plots available to be offered to outsees in terms of the reservation policy dated 04.12.2015, which had been upheld by the Hon'ble Court in Rajiv Manchanda's case (Supra). The entire details as regards the availability of plots in respective sectors and the plots reserved for the outsees (Subject to their availability in sectors) in terms of policy dated 04.12.2015 was also placed before the Hon'ble Court in the affidavit filed in CWP No. 22136 of 2015 titled as Adesh Aggarwal & CWP No. 14164 of 2017 Dalip Singh Vs. State of Haryana. In view thereof, the last and final advertisement for settling the claims of outsees is being issued in respect of plots available in respective sectors in terms of policy dated 04.12.2015, 11.08.2016 and 08.05.2018. No further advertisement

# Maharashtra emerging as national EV capital: Fadnavis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday said the state is emerging as the “national capital” of electric vehicles (EVs) with major manufacturing plants coming up in Pune and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar.

Speaking during Question Hour in the legislative council, he said the shift to EVs from conventional vehicles will reduce air pollution.

“Maharashtra is becoming national capital of electric vehicles. This is primarily because significant EV manufacturing plants are being established in Pune and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar,” he said.

“The contribution of vehicles (running on petrol or diesel) to air pollution is the highest. A shift towards electric vehicles will help reduce this problem,” the chief minister added. Both private and public transport sectors are increasingly adopt-



Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis

PIONEER PHOTO

ing EVs and more than 2,500 electric buses are being added to the public transport sector in the state in a phased manner, Fadnavis said.

“The number of electric vehicles being registered in the state is steadily rising.

Over 50 per cent of newly registered vehicles are now EVs,” he said.

The government was also building supporting infrastructure including a large-scale EV charging network across the state, the CM said.

# NITI Aayog working to improve India’s penetration into global value chains for MSMEs’ growth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

NITI Aayog is working on a programme to improve India’s penetration into global value chains for growth of domestic micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), CEO of the government think-tank B V R Subrahmanyam said on Wednesday.

Observing that MSMEs are more affected by regulations than large companies, he said the prime minister has taken a major step towards deregulation and a task force under the cabinet secretary is working on it.

Subrahmanyam was addressing a gathering after launching ‘the Digital Excellence for Growth and Enterprise’, or

‘Dx-EDGE’, a platform to empower MSMEs with the tools, knowledge and ecosystem needed to become future-ready, competitive and resilient.

Dx-EDGE is a national initiative spearheaded by CII with the support of NITI Frontier Tech Hub (NITI FTH) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to drive digital transformation across India’s MSMEs.

The NITI Aayog CEO further said it is a fact that some of the big manufacturers have moved to India, and cited the example of mobile phones, terming it as a success story of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) initiatives. The other side of the story is, he said, that 95 per cent of what goes into mobile phone manufactur-

ing is being imported.

“We are working on to get the ecosystem to India. NITI is working on a programme to improve India’s penetration of global value chains. To penetrate into global value chains, you need to have the ecosystem here, which means the intermediate routes. They are not final products. They go into some other product. Bulk of global manufacturing is of intermediate products. And who makes these intermediate products, largely MSMEs,” Subrahmanyam said.

He also said the CII and NITI Frontier Tech Hub Dx-EDGE platform marks a transformative leap in India’s digital journey, designed to empower MSMEs with cutting-edge technology and digital

# Mother Dairy launches high protein milk in Delhi NCR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Mother Dairy on Wednesday launched ‘Promilk’, a protein-rich milk product priced at ₹70 per litre, targeting the country’s protein deficit population in the Delhi-NCR region.

The new cow milk product contains 40 grams of protein per litre, four per cent fat, and 11.5 per cent solids-not-fat (SNF) and is fortified with vitamins A and D.

It will be available in 500 ml and one-litre packaging through offline and online retail outlets starting Thursday.

The company’s Managing Director or Manish Bandish said that the product aims to address nutritional challenges, noting that 70-80 per cent of Indians struggle to meet daily protein requirements, with 93 per cent unaware of their nutritional needs.

“Protein is a vital part of a balanced diet,” Bandish said at the launch event.

Promilk offers 30 per cent more protein than standard milk, providing a convenient nutrition solution, while maintaining familiar taste.

The company’s initial target is 50,000 litres daily and plans to expand beyond Delhi-NCR based on initial market response.

**The new cow milk product will be available in 500 ml and one-litre packaging through offline and online retail outlets starting from 28th of March**

Mother Dairy also intends to introduce additional ‘Pro’ range products like curd and paneer within three months.

A subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board, Mother Dairy collects milk from 10 Lakh farmers across 12 states and operates 40 Lakh retail outlets nationwide.

# Bandhan Bank signs MoU with Indian Air Force

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Kolkata

Private lender Bandhan Bank on Wednesday said it has inked an MoU with the Indian Air Force to provide corporate salary accounts to the defence personnel.

“The ‘Bandhan Bank Shaurya Salary Account’ will have features like zero balance savings account, protection for self and family, and attractive interest rates, the lender said in a statement. “Bandhan Bank, with its pan Indian presence, is deeply committed to support the nation through every initiative. We are excited to strengthen our partnership with the IAF to deliver superior banking experience,” Executive Director and Chief Business Officer Rajinder Babbar said.

The Reserve bank of India (RBI) has appointed Bandhan Bank as an agency bank. The lender has been also authorised by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for collection of taxes, and disbursement of central civil and railway pensions.

# SEBI keeps flexible workspace operator WeWork India’s IPO in abeyance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

SEBI has put the initial public offering (IPO) of premium flexible workspace operator WeWork India Management Limited in “abeyance”, an update with the markets regulator showed on Monday. The Embassy Group-promoted firm, which filed its draft IPO papers on January 31, planned to offer 4.37 crore shares through an Offer for Sale (OFS) route.

Under the OFS, promoter Embassy Buildcon LLP and investor 1 Ariel Way Tenant Limited proposed to offload shares, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). Without specifying reasons, Sebi stated that the “issuance of observations (has been) kept in abeyance,” according to an update on its website.

In its draft papers, the company stated that the object of the offer is to achieve the benefits of listing the equity shares on the stock exchanges. Launched in 2017,

**WeWork India has played a significant role in the growth of the flexible workspace sector in India and has been a key contributor to the evolution of flexible workspace products and services**

WeWork India Management is a leading premium flexible workspace operator in the country. It provides flexible, high-quality workspaces to customers, which include companies of all sizes — large enterprises, small and mid-size businesses, startups, as well as individuals.

It leases primarily Grade A office space from leading developers across Tier 1 cities and design, build, and operates them as flexible workspaces. WeWork India has played a significant role in the growth of the flexible workspace sector in India and has been a key contributor to the evolution of flexible workspace products and services. JM Financial, ICICI Securities, Jefferies India, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company and 360 ONE WAM are responsible for managing the public issue.



# Sensex falls by 728 points

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Stock markets snapped the seven-day winning run on Wednesday with benchmark Sensex tanking 728 points due to profit-taking in banking and IT shares ahead of monthly expiry of derivatives contracts.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined by 728.69 points or 0.93 per cent to settle at 77,288.50 as 25 of its components closed in the red. During the day, it slumped 822.97 points or 1.05 per cent to 77,194.22. The NSE Nifty dropped 181.80 points or 0.77 per cent to 23,486.85.

In the past seven trading days, the BSE benchmark index jumped 4,188.28 points or 5.67 per cent.

The Nifty surged 1,271.45 points or 5.67 per cent during the same period.

From the Sensex pack, NTPC, Tech Mahindra, Zomato, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finance, Infosys, Maruti, State Bank of India, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Reliance Industries, Hindustan Unilever, and HDFC Bank were the losers.

IndusInd Bank, HCL Tech, Titan, Mahindra and Mahindra and Power Grid were the gainers.

“The market experienced profit-booking after the recent gains, on the back of next week’s US tariff announcements. The sectors with higher exposure to the US market, like pharma and IT, have witnessed some selling pressure,” Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

Among Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo

and Hong Kong settled in the positive territory while Shanghai ended lower.

European markets were trading lower. US markets ended higher on Tuesday.

“Markets declined after a brief pause amid mixed cues. Following an initial uptick, Nifty remained range-bound in the first half, but profit-booking in select heavyweights dragged the index lower as the session progressed. Participants are booking profits ahead of the March derivatives contract expiry, while concerns over tariff discussions continue to weigh on sentiment,” Ajit Mishra SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. The BSE smallcap gauge declined 1.45 per cent and midcap dipped 0.67 per cent.

Among BSE sectoral indices, oil and gas dropped the most by 1.52 per cent, followed by realty (1.37 per cent), utilities (1.32 per cent), energy (1.29 per cent), bankex (1.08 per cent), BSE Focused IT (1.12 per cent), IT (1.11 per cent) and teck (0.77 per cent).

Capital Goods emerged as the only gainer. As many as 3,115 stocks declined while 919 advanced and 109 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹5,371.57 Crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.58 per cent to USD 73.44 a barrel. The BSE benchmark gained 32.81 points or 0.04 per cent to settle at 78,017.19 on Tuesday. The Nifty eked out gains of 10.30 points or 0.04 per cent to 23,668.65.

# India’s exports bound to grow despite global uncertainties, says DGFT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

India’s exports are bound to grow in the coming years despite uncertainties over global trade and tariff, a senior government official said on Wednesday. Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Santosh Kumar Sarangi said that exporters should tread the path pragmatically and wisely to navigate the current global trade contours.

He also said that the current scenario presents a “golden” opportunity for India to do a variety of things which will propel exports and increase manufacturing competitiveness.

Despite the “uncertainties relating to trade and tariff, our exports are bound to grow in future years,” he said at the SourceX India 2025 show. It was organised by the Federation of Indian Export

Organisations (FIEO). US President Donald Trump has imposed reciprocal tariffs or import duties on countries like China and has pledged to impose these levies on India also on April 2.

Certain exporters have raised concerns that imposition of duties by the US on sectors like engineering and pharma will hurt shipments to America, which is the largest trading partner of India.

Sarangi said that in the current year, India’s exports in goods and services will cross \$800 Billion. Last year it was \$778 Billion.

“While we see a temporary blip in exports (in the recent) months, in the longer run, our exporting communities have been giving us an impression that the number of order enquiries which they are receiving is fairly positive and that gives me the confidence that our exports will

Viksit Bharat goal.

“With Dx-EDGE, we are building an exciting ecosystem-led approach to empower MSMEs to embrace technology, strengthen resilience and thrive in an increasingly digital world. This initiative is a key pillar of NITI Frontier Tech Hub’s vision to accelerate India’s transformation into a frontier tech nation, ensuring that no enterprise is left behind in the digital revolution,” she said.

T G Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE, noted that more and more youth are entering the workforce and underlined the need to create jobs. Underlining India’s strength in STEM education, he said that India has delivered engineering and management education to the world.

## IN BRIEF

### VC DR KARAMJEET SINGH INAUGURATED WORKSHOP ON SKILL BASED TRAINING OF YOUTH ON VERMICOMPOSTING

Amritsar: Dr Karamjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Nanak Dev University inaugurated the five days workshop on skill based training of Youth on Vermicomposting, Apiculture and Fish Farming held at Guru Granth Sahib Bhawan of the University. This workshop is being organised by the Department of Zoology under Environment Education Program of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change, GOI and implemented by Punjab State Council for Science and Technology, State Nodal Agency.



### DELHI COLLEGES, SHINE AT HSBC’S INDIA BUSINESS CASE PROGRAMME



Teams from these colleges will head to Hong Kong to participate in a programme. A uniquely designed programme focusing on career preparedness of undergraduate students. The programme sees participation from nearly 8,000 students. The 11th edition of HSBC’s career readiness initiative, The India Business Case Programme, concluded in March 2025.

### GRAPHISADS ENTERS LANDMARK AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN, MONETIZE 100+ PUBLIC UTILITIES IN NDMC ARE

New Delhi: Graphisads Ltd, one of India’s leading outdoor media owners and advertising agencies, has entered into an agreement with the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to operate, maintain and generate advertising revenue from 100+ public utilities located in the NDMC area.



### ARYANS GROUP ANNOUNCES ₹40 CRORE AID FOR SOCIAL INITIATIVES, CANCER HOSPITAL

New Delhi: Aryans Group of Companies has pledged ₹40 Crore in financial assistance to various organisations, including ₹15 Crore for defense research, ₹20 Crore for the Nirmala Gajanan Foundation, and ₹5 Crore for the Sahyadri Devrai Foundation. The company also announced plans to establish a cancer hospital in Pune.

### GNDU TO ESTABLISH SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN COLLABORATION WITH NSDC



Amritsar: Guru Nanak Dev University set to establish a Skill Development Centre under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India. This follows a visit by Dr Sandeep Singh Kaura, Adviser to the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for the Skill India International Mission, who met with Vice-Chancellor Dr Karamjeet Singh and other officials.

# Wipro bags 500 million pound deal from UK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

IT services company Wipro on Wednesday announced that it has clinched a 500-million pound (\$644.7 Million), 10-year strategic deal from British insurer Phoenix Group.

Announcing the blockbuster deal, Wipro said the project is designed to deliver life and pension business administration for the ReAssure business and accelerate Phoenix Group’s operational transformation.

As per the contours of the deal, Wipro’s existing FCA-regulated entity Wipro Financial Outsourcing Services Limited (WFOSL) will deliver comprehensive life and pension administration services

to Phoenix Group’s ReAssure customers. As part of the “transformational” initiative, a number of Phoenix employees will transition to Wipro, the release said but did not divulge the exact numbers.

“Wipro Limited, a leading technology services and consulting company, today announced that it has won a £500 million, 10-year strategic deal with Phoenix Group, the UK’s largest long-term savings and retirement business,” the release said.

These services will cover policy administration, claim processing, customer service support, data management and reporting, compliance and regulatory support, as well as platform technologies. “Wipro’s expertise in technology and

service makes them ideally placed to help us deliver outstanding service and value for our ReAssure customers on their journey to and through retirement. We are delighted to have them join us as one of our ecosystem of strategic partners for this phase of our transformation journey,” Andy Briggs, Phoenix Group CEO, noted.

Omkar Nisal, CEO — Europe, Wipro Limited, and Non-Executive Chairman of WFOSL, said the “landmark deal” further underscores the company’s commitment to helping financial institutions deliver exceptional client experiences and further cements its position as a key player in the Life and Pension Third Party Administration (TPA) provider sector in the UK.

## Nigeria's World Cup qualifying hopes dealt major late blow

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Cairo

Nigeria conceded a last-minute goal in a major blow to its World Cup qualifying hopes, when Egypt and Morocco all but booked their places at next year's tournament. Zizo's goal was enough for unbeaten Egypt's 1-0 win over Sierra Leone in Cairo on Tuesday, while Morocco looks assured of qualifying with a nine-point lead over its rivals after a 2-0 win over Tanzania.

Real Madrid's Brahim Diaz scored a penalty after Nayef Aguerd broke the deadlock on a rebound for Morocco's fifth win from five games in Group E.

### Nigeria's nightmare

Zimbabwe's Tawanda Chirewa scored in the final minute to silence the home fans in Uyo, Nigeria as the visitors claimed a 1-1 draw.

Nigeria star Victor Osimhen put the Super Eagles on course to claim just their second win in Group C after Friday's 2-0 victory over Rwanda had rekindled Nigeria's qualification hopes.

But the 21-year-old Chirewa, a late substitute, equalized in the 90th to earn Zimbabwe's draw. Meanwhile, South Africa defeated Benin 2-0 to consolidate the top spot. Bafana Bafana leads with 13 points from six rounds, five clear of Rwanda (which drew with Lesotho 1-1) and Benin. Nigeria stayed fourth in the group with seven points.

Only the nine group winners secure automatic qualification. The four best-placed runners-up will compete to be the African contender in FIFA's six-country playoff for the last two qualification spots at the World Cup next year in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

### Algeria makes a statement

Wolfsburg forward Mohammed Amoura scored a hat trick as Algeria defeated Mozambique 5-1 to open a three-point lead over the visitors in Group G. Guinea's qualification

hopes are all but over after a 1-0 loss to Uganda, the team's third defeat leaving it eight points behind Algeria in fifth.

Cape Verde remained top of Group D with a 2-1 win in Angola, though Cameroon responded with Vincent Aboubakar scoring twice in a 3-1 win over Libya. Cape Verde stayed a point ahead of Cameroon.

### Sudan's missed chance

Sudan lost control of Group B with David Sebit scoring in stoppage time to earn South Sudan a 1-1 draw.

It allowed both Congo and Senegal to take advantage, which they did with 2-0 wins over Mauritania and Togo, respectively.

Congo moved top of Group B on 13 points, one ahead of unbeaten Senegal and Sudan. Sudan dropped to third on goal difference.

### Black Stars twinkling

Ghana moved atop Group I by scoring a total of eight goals in back-to-back wins over Chad and Madagascar, helping ease the disappointment of failing to qualify for the Africa Cup of Nations in November.

Otto Addo's team eased to a 5-0 rout of Chad in Accra on Friday, then enjoyed a 3-0 win over Madagascar on Monday to seize control of the group.

Comoros, the surprise early leader, stayed three points behind Ghana on Tuesday with a 1-0 win over Chad.

### Elephants hold on

Ivory Coast needed goalkeeper Yahia Fofana at his best as it held on for a 1-0 win over Gambia on Monday to stay a point above Gabon atop Group F.

Sébastien Haller's early goal was enough for the Elephants to win in Abidjan, keeping the team top after Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang had scored twice for Gabon to beat Kenya 2-1.

Ivory Coast, the reigning Africa Cup champion, had previously beaten Burundi 1-0 in Morocco on Friday, while Gabon had a 3-0 win over the Seychelles on Thursday.

Tunisia consolidated top spot in Group H on Monday with two late goals to beat Malawi 2-0.

## Olympic venue plans in place for Brisbane 2032

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Brisbane

Ready. Set. Wait. It'll be another year or two before construction begins on the main Olympic stadium for the Brisbane 2032 Olympics.

### And this is racing mode.

It's taken almost four years since the International Olympic Committee awarded the 2032 Summer Games to Brisbane to finalize a cohesive venue plan, and now the countdown is serious for the 7.1 billion Australian dollars (US\$4.4 billion) construction program. Stephen Conry, chairman of the Brisbane 2032 independent infrastructure coordination authority, on Wednesday said "the likely date or year for shovels in the ground for the (main) stadium would be 2026, '27" after the design and approvals phase.

"There's a lot of work to be done when you start spending billions of dollars on infrastructure and development," added Conry, who led the 100-day review of all venue options and reported back to the state government this month.

"We have over seven years, plenty of time to build a stadium. We'll have it ready in 2031 and for a period longer than is required for preparation for the Games," Conry joined Andrew Liveris, the president of the Brisbane 2032 organizing committee, in pitching the Olympic construction and legacy plan to the Infrastructure Association of Queensland on Wednesday, a day after state Premier David Crisafulli unveiled the latest concepts. A new 60,000-seat stadium built in inner-city parkland, a sailing venue on the Whitsunday islands near the Great Barrier Reef and a crocodile-inhabited rowing venue in Rockhampton on Queensland's central coast are part of the program that Crisafulli launched with

a theme that seemed universal among politicians and citizens: just get on with it. The original bid idea floated by then-Queensland premier Annastacia Palaszczuk to renovate a 130-year-old cricket stadium known as the Gabba to become the centerpiece of the Olympics was scrapped by her successor Steven Miles a year ago. Miles lost government last year to Crisafulli, who broke an election promise of no new stadiums but said it was in the best interests of the public.

Rather than shrink the scale, his government expanded it to cities and sites up and down the Queensland coast, factoring in international tourist destinations and relatively lesser-known regions. Some of them — the rowing for instance — may ultimately be rejected by international sports federations. But it's on the drawing board. The state government also aims to bring in private-sector funding for an indoor arena that will be outside the Olympic scope but could possibly become a venue for events in 2032. There's also the inclusion of a 25,000-seat aquatic center that will become home to a national academy is also in the Victoria Park precinct, and has been positively received by the swimming community.

"We are a gold medal factory," Liveris said of Australia's consistently strong national swimming program.

"For goodness sake, let's give our swimmers, young generation, the next generation, a chance to make us proud on the world stage as they did in Paris and same with our Paralympians."

Critics have said the new main stadium will decrease green space in the city and add to traffic congestion, and have questioned the budget for a stadium at Victoria Park that was initially proposed in 2023 at a cost of A\$3.4 billion but has already risen to almost A\$3.8 billion.

## Winner team of FIFA World Cup to earn \$125 million

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Zurich

The winner of FIFA's first 32-team Club World Cup in the United States could earn \$125 Million as details of a \$1 Billion prize money fund were finally published Wednesday. FIFA said it allocated \$525 Million in guaranteed fees for teams taking part in the June 14-July 13 tournament, ranging from \$38.19 Million to the top-ranked European team — likely Real Madrid — to \$3.58 million for the Oceania representative Auckland City.

A further \$475 Million is earned by results in the 63 games, with \$2 Million paid for winning group stage games, \$7.5 Million for playing in the round of 16 and \$40 Million to the team that wins the final at MetLife Stadium near New York.

The golden trophy has been sitting in the Oval Office at the White House this month after FIFA President Gianni Infantino delivered it to President Donald Trump. The prize fund was delayed until a global broadcast deal was belatedly agreed in December with streaming service DAZN, which then got a major investment from a state-backed sports agency in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia also was confirmed in December by FIFA as host of the men's 2034 World Cup. Each of the 12 European teams in the Club World Cup lineup will be paid at least \$12.81

Million as an entry fee.

Payments will be decided by "a ranking based on sporting and commercial criteria," FIFA said without providing details. Manchester City, Bayern Munich, Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea also qualified by either winning a Champions League title from 2021 to 2024, or having consistent results in the competition over those four seasons.

Countries were capped at two entries, unless they had three Champions League winners. Salzburg of Austria qualified as the final European team, despite never advancing beyond the round of 16, because higher-ranked clubs like Liverpool and Barcelona were blocked by the country cap.

The six South American teams each will get a \$15.21 Million entry fee.

Teams from Africa, Asia and the CONCACAF region of North America — including Lionel Messi's Inter Miami, despite not winning the MLS Cup title last season — each will get \$9.55 Million for playing.

Leon of Mexico is currently contesting its removal from the competition by FIFA because it is in shared ownership with Pachuca which also qualified.

FIFA aims to pay \$250 million to clubs worldwide who did not qualify for the tournament.

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I Smt. Lalita Kumari** W/o Dharam Pal R/o 83, Indra Colony, Jandli, Ambala City, Distt. Ambala have changed my Name from Lalita To Lalita Kumari.

**I Chetna** W/o Rishabh Nagpal R/o 55A, Shastri Colony, Ambala Cantt. have changed my Daughter Name from Meera To Meera Nagpal.

**I Parveen Jain** S/o Naresh Kumar Jain R/o 134, Chabildas Wali Gali, Gandhi Chowk, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Parveen Kumar Jain to Parveen Jain for future.

**I Gurdeep Singh** S/o Baktra Ram R/o Village Ajrawar, Tehsil Pehowa, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Gurdeep Singh to Gurdit Singh.

**I Prmila** W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Village Ajrawar, Tehsil Pehowa, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Prmila to Pramla Devi.

**I Gulshan Kumar** Bhutani S/o Sant Lal R/o H No. 377 Sector 14, Rohtak - 124001, declare that I have changed my name from Gulshan Kumar to Gulshan Kumar Bhutani for all future purposes.

**I Maninder Kaur** W/o Daljeet Singh, 84, Vikas Nagar, Baltana, SAS Nagar, have changed name to Maninder Kaur.

**I Harleen Kaur** Sodhi D/o Palinder Pal Singh Sodhi R/o #2579 Sector 19-C, Chandigarh have changed my name to Harleen Kaur

**I Jaswant Singh,** VPO Shamsapur Singha, Fatehgarh Sahib, declare that my daughter's name is Jasmeen and her surname is Kaur.

**I Saroj Devi** W/O Anil Kumar R/O Vpo Ghuskani Teh & Distt Bhiwani Haryana 127031 Have Changed My Name From Saroj To Saroj Devi For All Future Purposes

**I Renu Sharma** W/O Shri Ram R/O House No. 613, Khai Wali Street, Mani Ram Teja Ram, Kath Mandi, Sirsa Distt & Tehsil Sirsa (Hry.) Have Changed My Name Renu Bala To Renu Sharma. Please Call And Know Me As Renu Sharma In Future.

**I Dayal Kaur** W/O Ex No. 13729741, Rank- Rfn, Name Late Gurmit Singh, Postal Address Of Vill- Lehrian, Nurpur Bedi, Anandpur Sahib, Rupnagar, Punjab, Declared That In My Husband Army Record My Name Mentioned As Dayalo And Dob 07-05-1951, Whereas My Correct Name Is Dayal Kaur And Dob Is 16-05-1958.

**I Sumit** S/O Om Parkash R/O Near Nankiana Chowk, Sangrur Distt Sangrur Have Changed My Name To Sumit Kumar.

**I Anand Singh** S/O Bachai Singh R/O #284, Opp Ats Valley School Simran City Dera Bassi Distt Sas Nagar Have Changed My Name From Anand Singh To Aan Singh

**I Sonia Garg** W/O Sunil Kumar R/O House No.295 Sector 8 Panchkula Haryana Have Changed My Name From Sonia Garg To Sonia.

**I Prateek** S/O Sh. Hanuman Singh R/O House No 135 Hsamb Colony Sector 14 Panchkula Haryana Have Changed My Name From Prateek To Prateek Verma

**I Laveena** W/O Shivam Malhotra R/O H.N.462, Ward 09, Gali Malik Chaman Lal Wali, Gohana, Distt Sonipat, Haryana-131301. Have Changed My Name To Laveena Malhotra Permanently

**I Army No. 17029849w,** Hmt Bharpur S/O Narendar R/O Vill Mitathal, Teh & Distt Bhiwani (Haryana), Declare That My In Army Record My Son Name Is Aksh Which Is Wrong. His Correct Name Is Aksh Siwach, Which Should Corrected In My Army Record.

**I Rajeev Shrama** S/O Ramesh Sharma R/O H No 1985 B-2, Saini Mohalla, Pinjore, Panchkula 134102 Have Changed My Minor Daughter Name From Vanya To Vanya Sharma Please Correct In Her School Records.

**I Army No. 17029849w,** Hmt Bharpur S/O Narendar R/O Vill Mitathal, Teh & Distt Bhiwani (Haryana), Declare That My In Army Record My Son Name Is Rudra Which Is Wrong. His Correct Name Is Rudra Siwach, Which Should Corrected In My Army Record.

**I Gulshan Rai** S/O Ram Chand R/O # Vpo Kаланar W/o Jagadhri Distt Yamunanagar. That My Daughter Namely Shikha Chanana Residing In Usa And In Her Passport My Name Mentioned As Gulshan Chanana. I Declare That The Name Of Gulshan Chanana & Gulshan Rai Pertains To One And Same Person.

**I Ramesh Kumar** W/O Gulshan Rai R/O # Vpo Kаланar W/o Jagadhri Distt Yamunanagar. That My Daughter Namely Shikha Chanana Residing In Usa And In Her Passport My Name Mentioned As Ramesh Rani, I Declare That The Name Of Ramesh Kumar & Ramesh Rani Pertains To One And Same Person.

**I Shiv Khurana** S/O Shri Ram R/O Jalalabad Road, Near Shiv Chand Pump, Sri Muktsar Sahib Have State That My Father Late Shri Ram's Name Wrongly Spell As Shiri Ram In My Some Documents. As Well As His Correct Name Is Shri Ram.

**I Narender Kaur** (date of birth is 29/10/1981) W/o Karamveer Singh R/O Village Kallahri, PO- Tigri, District-Kurukshetra, (Haryana)-136135, India Have changed my name from Narender Kaur to Narender Kaur due to wrong name record in Army service record of my Husband .

**I Muneera AJ** W/o Rank HAV Nizam EK R/O Sa-Ahar Manzil, Kochukarikkakam, Thennoor, Daivapura, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695563, declare that my date of birth in my husband service documents wrongly recorded as 25/04/1989. My correct DOB is 28/11/1988

**I Balkisa Beevi** J M/O Rank HAV Nizam E K R/O Sa-Ahar Manzil, Kochukarikkakam, Thennoor, Daivapura, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695563, declare that my date of birth in my son service documents wrongly recorded as 01/07/1961 . My correct Date of Birth is 21/05/1961.

**I, Ellias Kunju** K F/O Rank Hav Nizam E K R/O Sa-Ahar Manzil, Kochukarikkakam, Thennoor, Daivapura, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695563 declare that my date of birth in my son service documents wrongly recorded as 01/07/1951 . My correct DOB is 05/04/1952.

**I, Ushakumari** M/O Rank NK Sree Kumar S R/O Sreekrishna Bhavanam, Padinjatta Kizhaku Sooranadu North, Sooranadu South, Kollam, Kerala-690522 declare that my date of birth in my son service documents wrongly recorded as 01/07/1964. My correct Date of Birth is 01/01/1964.

**I, Sreedharan Pillai** F/O Rank NK Sree Kumar S R/O Sreekrishna Bhavanam, Padinjatta Kizhaku Sooranadu North, Sooranadu South, Kollam, Kerala-690522 declare that my date of birth in my son service documents wrongly recorded as 01/07/1954. My correct DOB is 01/01/1955.

**I, Chandrika Devi** F/O Rank HAV Raja Raman Kumar R/O Ward NO.05, Post-Samda, Maheshpur, Saharsa, Bihar-852201 declare that my date of birth in my son service documents wrongly recorded as 01/07/1969. My correct DOB is 01/01/1968.

**I Jagannath** Dagdujee Chabukswar legally father of Chabukswar Vikas Jagannath Resident of Village-Mukundwadi, Post Mukundwadi, Tehsil-Aurangabad, District-Maharashtra Pincode- 431001 have changed my name from Jagannath Chbukswar to Jagannath Dagdujee Chabukswar and DOB from 09-06-1966 to 01-01-1970 due to wrong name recorded in my son's service record vide affidavit no. IN-PB20148985509029X before Notary Public Gurdaspur dated 26/03/2025

**I, Champabai** Jagannath Chabukswar legally mother of Chabukswar Vikas Jagannath Resident of Village-Mukundwadi, Post Mukundwadi, Tehsil-Aurangabad, District-Maharashtra Pincode- 431001 have changed my name from Champabai Jagannath Chabukswar and DOB from 02-07-1974 to 01-01-1974 due to wrong name recorded in my son's service record vide affidavit no. IN-PB20150692059143X before Notary Public Gurdaspur dated 26/03/2025

**I Renu Sehgal** Wife Of Lalitesh Kumar Sehgal Resident Of 2285, Sector 17 Huda Jagadhri Distt. Yamuna Nagar Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Renu Sehgal To Renu Shahi.

**I Lalitesh Kumar** Sehgal Son Of Shri Baldev Raj Resident Of 2285, Sector 17 Huda Jagadhri Distt. Yamuna Nagar Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Lalitesh Kumar Sehgal To Lalitesh Kumar.

**I Pankaj Kumar** S/O Surinder Singh R/O H.No.1129, Near Pehli Patshahi Gurdwara, Lamba Pind, Po. Chogitti, Jalandhar, Punjab-144009 have changed the name of my minor daughter Parnita aged 16 years and she shall hereafter be known as Parnita Chani.

**I, No 15428267L** Hav/NA Syam Sasankan resident of Syam Nivas Aypalloor, Kottarakkara kizhakketheruvu kottarakkara Kollam Kerala is hereby declare that as per service record my father name erroneously recorded as Saranya Syam, whereas his correct name is Saranya S Pillai vide affidavit attested by Executive Magistrate on 26.03.2025.

**I, Son Bti** m/o L/Nk Jayesh Kumar Pal R/O Saraiya, Sikandarpur, Mainpuri UP have changed my name from Sonwati Devi to Son Bti.

## Classifieds

**I Gurpreet Singh** S/O Gurnam Singh R/o Baba Moti Shah, Tibber Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab) have changed my name from Gurpreet Singh to Singh Gurpreet. In future Singh is my Surname and Gurpreet is my given name. Concerned note.

**I Rashpal** W/o David Singh R/O Vill. Kalar P.O: Gujjarpura Teh. Batala Distt. Gurdaspur declare that I have Changed my name from Rashpal To Rashpal Kaur. Concerned note.

**I Vimal Kumar** Agnihotri S/o Sandesh Kumar Agnihotri R/O House no 3224, Sector 23-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Vimal Kumar Agnihotri to Vimal Agnihotri.

**I Rajeev Kumar** S/o Sh. Prem Singh Thakur R/O House no 803, 8th floor, Gh-5, Sector 31, Panchkula Haryana have changed my name from Rajeev Kumar to Rajeev Thakur.

**I, Hasid Khan** S/o Chhota Khan R/O H.No. 195-F, Ranjit Nagar, Seona Road, Patiala have changed my name from Hasid Khan to Hamid Khan.

**I, Bhavya** D/o Sh. Krishan Mehta R/O H.No. 202-B Block, Sirsa (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Bhavya to Bhavya Mehta, in future my name is to be called as Bhavya Mehta.

**I, Namita Khunger** W/o Sh. Ashwani Kumar R/o #128 Part-1, Near Shri Luxmi Narayan Mandir, Sector-20, HUDA, Sirsa (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Namita Khunger to Namita.

**I, Bikram Kumar** S/o Jaswinder Pal R/O Vill. Rongla, P.O. Sidhuwal Tehsil & Distt. Patiala have changed my name from Bikram Kumar to Bikram Sharma.

**I, Ramesh Kumar** Singla S/O Ram Niwas R/O 812 E, Gali Number 3, Kirti Nagar, Begu Road, Sirsa Have Changed My Name To Ramesh Kumar.

**I, Gori** W/o Baljinder Singh R/O Vill.Zulmat Tehsil Pehowa Distt.Kurukshetra have changed my name Gori to Simranjeet Kaur.

**I, Ashish Kumar** Lall S/O Sunil Kumar R/O Bharat Nagar, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, my name is wrongly written as Ashish Kumar in my driving licence but as per all my documents my correct name is Ashish Kumar Lall.

**I, Gurmit Singh** s/o Baldev Singh R/O Saraswati Khera, Bhatt Majra, Pehowa Kurukshetra have changed my given name Gurmit Surname Singh

**I, Kuljit Kaur** W/O Harjeet Singh Vpo- Chak Sharif, Distt-Gurdaspur. Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Navjot Singh To Singh Navjot. His Given Name Is Navjot And Surname Is Singh.

**I, No 3983459F** Ex Sep Jai Chand resident of Village - Chuhan, PO - Gharota, Tehsil and Distt Pathankot (Punjab), have changed name of my wife from Sarshita Kumari to Sharishita Kumari vide Affidavit No. IN-PB20188662208833X Dated 26-03-2025 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot (Punjab).

**I Sonia** w/o Nayak Rupender Kumar service no.14852024w rank r/o village Bithawadha tehsil Budhana district Muzaffarnagar (251309) UP hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sonia Chaudhary to Sonia. In future I should be known and identified by the name Sonia for all purposes and my date of birth should be considered as 24.09.1989 Via District Court Panipat.

**I Renu Sehgal** Wife Of Lalitesh Kumar Sehgal Resident Of 2285, Sector 17 Huda Jagadhri Distt. Yamuna Nagar Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Renu Sehgal To Renu Shahi.

**I Lalitesh Kumar** Sehgal Son Of Shri Baldev Raj Resident Of 2285, Sector 17 Huda Jagadhri Distt. Yamuna Nagar Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Lalitesh Kumar Sehgal To Lalitesh Kumar.

**I, Pankaj Kumar** S/O Surinder Singh R/O H.No.1129, Near Pehli Patshahi Gurdwara, Lamba Pind, Po. Chogitti, Jalandhar, Punjab-144009 have changed the name of my minor daughter Parnita aged 16 years and she shall hereafter be known as Parnita Chani.

**I, No 15428267L** Hav/NA Syam Sasankan resident of Syam Nivas Aypalloor, Kottarakkara kizhakketheruvu kottarakkara Kollam Kerala is hereby declare that as per service record my father name erroneously recorded as Saranya Syam, whereas his correct name is Saranya S Pillai vide affidavit attested by Executive Magistrate on 26.03.2025.

**I, Son Bti** m/o L/Nk Jayesh Kumar Pal R/O Saraiya, Sikandarpur, Mainpuri UP have changed my name from Sonwati Devi to Son Bti.

**I Sukhwinder Kaur** W/O Gulshan Kumar H.No.-433, Village Ramgarh, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar Have Changed My Name Given Name As Sukhwinder & Surname As Kaur.

**I Sandeep Kaur** W/O Bhupinder Kumar R/O Village Parowal, P.O. & Tehsil Garshankar, District Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name Given Name As Sandeep & Surname As Kaur.

**I Sandeep Kaur** W/O Bhupinder Kumar R/O Village Parowal, Tehsil Garshankar, Hoshiarpur Have Changed Minor Daughter's Name Gurleen Kaur To Given Name As Gurleen, Surname As Kaur.

**I Sandeep Kaur** W/O Bhupinder Kumar R/O Village Parowal, Tehsil Garshankar, Hoshiarpur Have Changed Minor Daughter's Name Kuljeet Kaur To Given Name As Kuljeet, Surname As Kaur.

**I Sharda** D/O Lal Bahadur R/O Banga Road Old Civil Hospital Phagwara Distt. Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Sharda To Sharda Sharma.

**I Satwant Kaur** W/O Harminder Singh R/O Mohalla Ramdasspur, P.O. Alawalpur, Jalandhar-L, Jalandhar, Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Satwant And Surname As Kaur.

**I Paramjit Kaur** Sandhi W/O Jasvir Singh R/O Vill. Badala, P.O. Sikri, District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Paramjit Kaur.

**I Ramandip Singh** S/O Avtar Singh R/O Vpo. Bolewal, Tehsil Batala Gurdaspur, Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Ramandip And My Surname As Singh.

**I, Daljit Kaur** W/O Kuldip Singh R/O Vpo. Khun Khun Kahan Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Daljit And My Surname As Kaur.

**I, Kuldip Singh** S/O Jagat Ram R/O Vpo. Khun Khun Kahan Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Kuldip And My Surname As Singh.

**I Mukesh Kumar** S/O Narinder Kumar R/O H.No.-503/26 A-X Street No.-2 Agarwal Colony Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name Mukesh Bansal.

**I, Nirmal** (Aadhaar No. 274371784978) w/o Om Prakash Dhanakar, R/o House No. 1759, Sector-23, Sonipat, declare that all my old documents are in my name Nirmal. But in my Aadhaar card my name is Nirmala Devi. Nirmala Devi and Nirmal are both my names i.e. names of the same woman.

**I, Shruti** D/o Sh. Sunil Kumar R/O H.No. 2919 Urban Estate Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Shruti To Shruti Dhull.

**I No. 2997329L** Ex NK Vinod Kumar S/O Jaipal resident of Village & PO : Gharauthi Tehsil & Distt. Rohtak (Haryana) declare that I have changed my daughter name in my Army Records / Disch. Book from Manesa (existing name) to Manisha (new name) as per my daughter Matric Certificate, Aadhaar / Pan Card. In future My daughter shall may be known/ written/called as Manisha for all work purposes, Vide Affidavit dated 26 March 2025 before Ist Class Magistrate Rohtak

**I, S Lakshmi** (Old Name) Mother Of No 15721942h Rank Naik Name Late Jayamaran S Resident Of 1/219, Vaniyar Patti Thopandi Thulasi (Vill & Post), Katpadi (Taluka), Vellore (District), Tamil Nadu (State), Pin - 632202, Have Changed My Name From S Lakshmi (Old Name) And S Lakshmi (New Name) Vide Affidavit Dated 26 Mar 2025 Sworn Before Notary Public Satpal, Pathakot. Please Correct It.

**I, Sameer Sharma** S/O Sh. Vijay Kumar R/O House No. 82, Sector-11, Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my name from Sameer to Sameer Sharma.

**I, JC-313145H** Rank Sub Name Pandian VM of Unit TB III MEG & CENTRE Bangalore, c/o 56 APO, Pin-560033 have changed my mother name from M Kannappa to Kannammal & Date of birth 01.07.1955 to 08.10.1954.

**I Jarnail Singh** Jhaji S/O Arjan Singh R/O Toosa (Ludhiana) has changed my name to Jarnail Singh.

**I, Rashpal Kaur** W/o Dilbagh Singh R/O Vill: Sudhar Rajputan Distt. Amritsar have changed my name from Rashpal Kaur to Rachhpal Kaur.

**I Bhupinder Kumar** Garg S/O Lachman Dass R/O Giddarbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib-152101 Have Changed My Name To Bhupinder Kumar.

# LSG wary of SRH's ultra-aggressive batting approach

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Hyderabad

Having lost their opening clash, Rishabh Pant's Lucknow Super Giants will be wary of Sunrisers Hyderabad's ultra-aggressive approach with the bat when the two teams face off in the Indian Premier League here on Thursday.

Last year's runner-up SRH picked up from where they had left off in the opening clash to nearly break the record of the highest total in the IPL, handing the Rajasthan Royals a crushing defeat by 44 runs. The huge win also propelled SRH to the top of the points table for having the best net run rate and given their all-round firepower, the Pat Cummins-led side would want to maintain their dominance in the competition.

SRH went hammer and tongs against RR with their new recruit Ishan Kishan smacking a century and the other big guns firing as usual to make 286/6 in their last outing here at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Uppal.

Such batting approach could be terrifying for the opponents and SRH's remark-

able consistency makes them the most feared batting unit in the IPL circuit.

The addition of Kishan to the mix of SRH's premier weapons in Abhishek Sharma, Travis Head and Heinrich Klaasen is another masterstroke. To top it off, Nitish Kumar Reddy too struck his runs at more than 200 against Rajasthan Royals.

Kishan appeared to be a man on a mission as he struck his maiden century in the IPL after being let go by Mumbai Indians, smashing six sixes and 11 fours in his 47-ball 106 net out.

In such circumstances, LSG will be required to have clear bowling plans as the smallest of error is proving costly in the IPL, which has already witnessed a new record being made — 119 sixes have been struck in the first five matches.

On their part, LSG, who lost to Delhi Capitals by one wicket in a thrilling finish showed a similar approach with the bat but they were guilty of losing their way in the middle overs, which proved to be costly. LSG lost six wickets and added only 76 runs in their last eight overs against Delhi Capitals and despite early wickets, they could not withstand the onslaught by the



lower-order as Ashutosh Sharma's 66 not out handed his side a win.

LSG's new skipper Pant had a forgettable game of sorts in his first outing with the team, falling for a six-ball duck during their batting slide and he also missed a regulation stumping when DC needed six off the final over with one wicket in hand.

Nicholas Pooran was magnificent in his strokeplay but the tone was set by Mitchell Marsh — playing in this IPL only as a specialist batter — with his stunning attack on the DC bowlers.

While LSG would feel they did not do too many things wrong in the clash against DC, they would know a better show with the ball will be paramount against SRH who have been severe on all opponents. Apart from their senior spinner Ravi Bishnoi, LSG will also have high hopes from the unheralded duo of Manimaran Siddharth and Digvesh Rathi, who both bowled with control to snaffle a couple of wickets each against DC.

With Shardul Thakur outrunning DC's Mitchell Starc to find swing with the new ball which resulted in a couple of wickets, it was inexplicable why LSG did not turn

to the senior all-rounder who bowled only two overs upfront when the opposition was running away with the games.

On these counts, LSG would be expected to come up with better plans.

**Teams**

**Sunrisers Hyderabad:** Pat Cummins (c), Ishan Kishan (wk), Atharva Taide, Abhinav Manohar, Aniket Verma, Sachin Baby, Heinrich Klaasen, Travis Head, Harshal Patel, Kamindu Mendis, Wiaan Mulder, Abhishek Sharma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Shami, Rahul Chahar, Adam Zampa, Simarjeet Singh, Zeeshan Ansari, Jaydev Unadkat, Eshan Malinga.

**Lucknow Super Giants:** Rishabh Pant (c and wk), David Miller, Aiden Markram, Aryan Juyal (wk), Himmat Singh, Matthew Breetzke, Nicholas Pooran (wk), Mitchell Marsh, Abdul Samad, Shahbaz Ahmed, Yuvraj Chaudhary, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Arshin Kulkarni, Ayush Badoni, Shardul Thakur, Avesh Khan, Akash Deep, Manimaran Siddharth, Digvesh Rathi, Akash Singh, Shamir Joseph, Prince Yadav, Mayank Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi.

## Iyer continues to evolve his game: Williamson

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Ahmedabad

India middle-order mainstay and Punjab Kings' captain Shreyas Iyer continues to "evolve his game" while "adjusting brilliantly" to challenges such as facing short balls, believes New Zealand stalwart Kane Williamson.

Iyer began his captaincy stint for PBKS with a match-winning 97 not out, studded with nine sixes and five fours off 42 balls, against Gujarat Titans in their IPL clash here on Tuesday.

Williamson, a former Gujarat Titans player, heaped praise on the right-handed Iyer for his adaptability.

"What stands out about Shreyas is how he continues to evolve his game," said JioStar expert Williamson.

"For a period, teams targeted him with short balls, but now, he's adjusting brilliantly — getting deeper in his crease, de-weighting his front leg, and dominating the short-pitched deliveries.

"What is most impressive is his ability to shift his weight forward again, making it difficult for bowlers who try the

'one-two' approach — going short, then full. He's now able to access all areas of the ground, which makes him such a formidable batter," Williamson added.

The New Zealand batting great termed Iyer's knock of 97 not out of "highest standard".

**It was a knock of the highest standard. From the very first ball, it was almost a highlight reel—he played the ball exactly where it was meant to be hit**

— KANE WILLIAMSON, CRICKETER

"It was a knock of the highest standard. From the very first ball, it was almost a highlight reel—he played the ball exactly where it was meant to be hit," he said.

"Anything outside off stump, he looked to access the offside, and he even struck sixes over cover against some of the best seamers in the world. Then, to take on Rashid Khan as well — that's one of the toughest challenges in the game.

"As a leader, to step in at Number 3, set the tone, and take on the opposition's

biggest threats was remarkable. That innings was truly out of this world," Williamson added.

The Kiwi batter also praised Shashank Singh for his whirlwind knock of 44 not out off only 16 balls, which pushed PBKS' total beyond the reach of the Titans.

"Shashank is coming off an outstanding breakout season last year. He's incredibly still at the crease, has beautiful hands, and doesn't move excessively, yet he possesses so many scoring options," he said.

"He has the time to adjust to short-pitched deliveries — whether ramping it over the keeper or pulling off a length — but he can also hold his position and play powerful straight drives.

"The way he comes in during the death overs, with little time to settle, and takes on bowlers with confidence is exceptional. Whether it's Rashid Khan missing his length slightly and Shashank slapping it back over square — that's an incredibly difficult shot against someone of Rashid's calibre. It just speaks to the quality of the player," he added.

## Maradona's ex-bodyguard arrested

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Buenos Aires

Former bodyguard of the late Diego Maradona was arrested for allegedly withholding information and telling lies during his testimony at the trial of the soccer great's medical team.

Seven healthcare professionals are on trial at an Argentine court accused of negligence in Maradona's death in a house outside Buenos Aires on November 25, 2020.

On Tuesday, following a request from the prosecutor's office, the criminal court in the Buenos Aires suburb of San Isidro ordered Julio César Coria to be investigated for false testimony. He was arrested and remained in custody Tuesday afternoon.

Coria was one of the people who attempted to resuscitate Maradona.

According to the prosecution, the accused professionals didn't provide adequate medical care.

Coria testified in court on Tuesday that when he entered Maradona's room, he saw

nurse Gisela Madrid and psychiatrist Agustina Cosachov, both defendants in the case, performing CPR.

He added that Cosachov gave Maradona "mouth-to-mouth resuscitation" for a while. The trial prosecutor, Patricio Ferrari, warned the witness of contradictions in his statement.

The prosecution warned Coria that he lied when he denied in court having spoken with another of the defendants, neurosurgeon Leopoldo Luque.

"There are countless chats between Luque and Coria, which demonstrate a cordial and almost friendly relationship, and the witness denied having had any conversation," Ferrari said.

Luque, Maradona's personal physician for the last four years of his life, performed surgery to remove a blood clot from the former footballer's brain just weeks before his death.

The 28-year-old daughter of Maradona, Jana, testified Tuesday that Luque and Coria suggested "home hospitalisation" when the clinic authorities recommended that Maradona remain hospitalised.

## Rauf returns to Pakistan ODI squad vs NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Karachi

Pakistan pacer Haris Rauf has joined the ODI squad in New Zealand after initially being dropped from the format for a three-match series against the Black Caps.

Haris and Shaheen Shah Afridi were named in the T20I squad but sidelined for the ODI series because of sloppy outing in the Champions Trophy where hosts Pakistan ended without a win.

But Haris emerged as Pakistan's leading wicket-taker — with seven scalps — in the just-concluded T20I series that the Kiwis won 4-1 as the team management had to rethink their decision.

Haris Rauf and Shaheen were dropped from the ODI squad because of poor form in the Champions Trophy in which hosts Pakistan ended without a win.

## Salman Ali Agha not disheartened despite 1-4 defeat in New Zealand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Karachi

Pakistan's T20 captain, Salman Ali Agha, is not disheartened by the 1-4 defeat in the just-concluded series in New Zealand and believes that the new faces tried out in the matches will eventually come through.

"Look the conditions in New Zealand are normally challenging with the bounce, pace and movement in the pitches, so for players coming to play here for the first time it is always going to be difficult," he said after New Zealand won the fifth and final game in Wellington on Wednesday by eight wickets.

Salman, who is captaining the side in preparation for this year's Asia Cup and next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, said the new players should settle down by then.

"It was not easy for them to bat in these conditions. There are some silver linings from the series and some concerns as well but we have to address them before we go into the Asia Cup later this year," he said.

Salman, who was in good form in the

series and scored a half century on Wednesday, said that it was necessary for players to understand that with aggression and intent they also have to use their minds.

"We didn't play sensible cricket in the series most of the time and got out to bad shots. But with more exposure these new young players will learn and we have to be patient."

Pakistani selectors experimented by including plenty of youngsters in the T20 squad while dropping experienced batters like Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan.

Mohammad Haris, Hasan Nawaz, Irfan Khan Niazi, Abdul Samad, Omair bin Yousuf (who played on Wednesday), Jahandad Khan and Sufiyan Muqem were the relatively new faces in the squad. Muqem, a left-arm wrist spinner, played in his only game on Wednesday and ended with impressive figures of 2-0-6-2 despite a batting onslaught from Tim Seifert who scored 97 from just 38 balls with 10 sixes.

Pakistan's next T20 assignment is a home series against Bangladesh in April-May after the Pakistan Super League.

## Iyer asked me not to worry about his century: Shashank

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Ahmedabad

Punjab Kings batter Shashank Singh's boundary-hitting spree in the final over of the Indian Premier League (IPL) match against Gujarat Titans left his captain Shreyas Iyer stranded on unbeaten 97 but the latter was not worried about his personal landmark.

Iyer missed his maiden IPL ton by a mere three runs but his 42-ball knock, which featured nine sixes and five fours, powered PBKS to a massive 243 for 5 and helped them win their season opener by 11 runs.

Shashank, who hit five of his six fours in the final over off Mohammed Siraj and took a double to collect 23 runs against the India pacer, said PBKS captain Iyer didn't ask him to rotate the strike.

"I didn't see the scoreboard, to be very honest. But after the first ball I hit (for a four), I saw the scoreboard and Shreyas was on 97," Shashank,

who scored a 16-ball 44 not out, told the media after the match on Tuesday.

"I didn't say anything, he only came and told me 'Shashank don't worry about my hundred', because obviously I was going to say to him that should I give you a single or something.

"It takes a lot of heart and courage to say because obviously hundreds don't come easily in T20s especially in IPL," he added.

Shashank said Iyer's message was to keep attacking the bowler.

"Shreyas told me 'Shashank go and just (try and) hit every ball for a boundary for a four or a six'. That gave me even more confidence, obviously, it's a team game at the end of the day we all know," he said.

"But then at those situations it's difficult to be that selfless. But Shreyas was one. I know him since past 10-15 years. He is the same and he told me just to be calm, to play

cricketing shots what I usually play, to maintain my balance and I think we had a good finish," added Shashank.

Meanwhile, Gujarat Titans spinner R Sai Kishore, who returned with figures of 4-0-30-3, said his side thought they were ahead in the game.

Chasing 244, GT remained in the hunt but were eventually overpowered by the mammoth target, finishing at 232 for five in their stipulated 20 overs.

"We were also surprised, to be honest. We thought we were on course. We thought we were ahead of the game, we thought so," Sai Kishore said.

"But in that situation, I think no matter what planning you do, if you are able to be fully zoned in in the present moment, that is the difference and these games happen," Sai Kishore rued that GT failed to hit more boundaries during the course of the innings.

## Brilliant to see fearlessness of young Indian players: Stoinis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis has been left supremely impressed by the quality of youngsters in the Punjab Kings squad as well as the Indian T20 set up on the sidelines of the IPL.

After the retirement of stalwarts Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja, the depth of Indian cricket has ensured that T20 team has built on the success of the 2024 T20 World Cup courtesy the likes of Tilak Varma and Abhishek Sharma.

At Punjab Kings camp, rookies like opener Priyansh Arya have already made a mark even though it is early days in the IPL.

"There's great depth here (in Indian cricket). There always has been. And I think they're getting the chance to show their skills on a world stage," Stoinis said. "They are super confident. They've had almost the advantage of growing up with IPL, being under pressure from early stages in their career. It's brilliant to see how fearless they are with their cricket and especially (while playing for) Indian cricket (team)."

"Some of the youngsters in the Punjab Kings camp who have never really played the IPL are very impressive," said the 35-year-old. Stoinis returns to the franchise after almost a decade and is excited to work compatriot and head coach Ricky Ponting.

"A lot of Aussie boys here, which is nice for me. So it does feel at home," he said referring to the likes of Glenn Maxwell, Aaron Hardie and Josh Inglis.



"It was my second year in the IPL that I moved to here. So yeah, it's all familiar. I love the IPL.

"It's a mainstay in the calendar. It's something we all look forward to and personally I look forward to.

It's exciting to have the opportunity to bring some success to this franchise," said the Perth based cricketer.

**All phases of Kohli's career has served a purpose**

Stoinis' connection with Virat Kohli goes back to their U-19 days when the Indian led his team to the World Cup title in 2008.

Stoinis said he remains in touch with the Indian superstar and has enjoyed tracking his remarkable career.

"We have known each other for a long time. We into such a good team to then leading the team and almost changing the whole culture of Indian cricket and inspiring a lot of the young cricketers around India and around the world.

"And then a whole new phase of the fitness side of things as well that he inspired in the Indian set-up to now mentoring the new kids on the block. And he's got his family now as well.

"I think all of those phases have served a purpose, not only for himself, but as a mentor for the wider public and the cricket community. So always hats off to him, to be honest," added Stoinis.

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"Invitation of Bids for Auction of Coal Mines / Blocks for Sale of Coal"

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 4(1) and 4 (2) of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and Section 11A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Rules made thereunder, the Government of India has directed the Nominated Authority to undertake the auction of 25 Coal mines / blocks under 22nd Tranche of Auction under CM (SP) Act, 2015 and 12 Tranche of Auction under MMDR Act, 1957 and 3 coal mines/blocks under Second Attempt of 21th Tranche of Auction under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and Second Attempt of 21st Tranche of Auction under MMDR Act, 1957, The Tender process has been launched on 27th March, 2025. Tender Document and other details can be accessed on <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/coalblock/index.jsp>.

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