



Maoist chief Basavaraju, 26 Naxals dead in Bastar encounter

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Narayanpur (Chhattisgarh)

In a major success in the ongoing fight against left wing extremism, topmost leader and the backbone of the Naxal movement, Nambala Keshav Rao alias Basavaraju, and 26 other dreaded Maoists were killed by security forces in a fierce encounter in the dense forests of Abhujmad in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh on Wednesday. Basavaraju carried a reward of ₹one crore on his head in Chhattisgarh. He was believed to be 71 years old.

Hailing the operation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he was proud of the security forces for the "remarkable success", while Union Home Minister Amit Shah termed it a "landmark achievement"

in the battle to eliminate Naxalism. Police said the gunfight took place in dense forests of Abhujmad on the tri-junction of Narayanpur-Bijapur-Dantewada districts.

The operation was launched two days back following intelligence inputs about the presence of Central Committee and Politburo members of the CPI (Maoists) as well as senior Maad Division cadres and PLGA (Peoples' Liberation Guerrilla Army) members.

So far, bodies of 27 Naxalites and a large number of weapons have been recovered from the spot. A member of the District Reserve Guard (DRG), a unit of Chhattisgarh Police, was also killed in the action while some others sustained injuries, police said.

Prime Minister Modi said he was

proud of the security forces who killed 27 Maoists in Chhattisgarh. "Proud of our forces for this remarkable success. Our Government is committed to eliminating

A resident of Jiyannapeta village in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh, Basavaraju held a BTech degree from the Regional Engineering College, Warangal

the menace of Maoism and ensuring a life of peace and progress for our people," he said in a social media post.

The union home minister said this was for the first time in three decades of India's battle against Naxalism that a general sec-

retary-ranked leader has been neutralised by the security forces. "A landmark achievement in the battle to eliminate Naxalism. Today, in an operation in Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, our security forces have neutralised 27 dreaded Maoists, including Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of CPI-Maoist, the topmost leader, and the backbone of the Naxal movement," Shah wrote on social media.

Applauding the "brave security forces and agencies for this major breakthrough", the home minister said he was glad to share that after the completion of Operation Black Forest, 54 Naxalites have been arrested and 84 others have surrendered in Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Maharashtra. "The Modi Government is resolved to eliminate Naxalism before the

31st of March 2026," he said. Basavaraju was in his early 70s, officials said. Hailing from undivided Andhra Pradesh, Basavaraju was the brain behind several major attacks on security forces in Chhattisgarh. He was associated with the banned movement since the 1970s and elevated to the top post in CPI (Maoist) seven years ago, when Naxal activities in their stronghold Bastar region were appearing to be wearing out, officials said.

A resident of Jiyannapeta village in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh, Basavaraju held a BTech degree from the Regional Engineering College, Warangal, and was seen as an enigmatic leader of the outlawed Naxal outfit. Known by the aliases of Prakash, Krishna, Vijay, Umesh and Kamlu, he joined the armed movement as a ground-level organiser. He was

considered to have developed expertise in imparting military training and triggering explosives and landmines. Basavaraju's age and looks are still a matter of speculation, with security agencies suggesting he was around 71 years of age. They have only a bundle of old photos from his youth.

Basavaraju carried a reward of ₹one crore in Chhattisgarh. The Governments of other States, including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana, have also announced rewards, an official said. With the latest action, 200 Naxalites have been killed in separate encounters in Chhattisgarh so far this year. Of them, 183 were eliminated in the Bastar division, which includes districts of Bijapur, Narayanpur, Dantewada and Kondagaon.

Ashoka professor granted interim bail, SIT to probe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Wednesday granted interim bail to Ashoka University professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad, arrested for his social media posts on Operation Sindoor, but refused to stay the investigation against him. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh directed the Haryana DGP to constitute a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by an IG rank officer also including a SP rank woman officer within 24 hours to investigate the case.

The court said the interim bail was granted to the petitioner to facilitate further investigation and directed Mahmudabad to surrender his passport. The SIT, the bench said, should comprise three directly recruited IPS officers — not from Haryana but serving in the State. The bench said aside from the IG rank officer, two others should be police superintendents or above rank officers. The bench, which examined the online

post by the professor, who heads the political science department in the Sonapat-based Ashoka University, questioned his choice of words, saying they were used deliberately to humiliate, insult, or put others in discomfort.

"The choice of words are deliberately made to insult, humiliate or cause discomfort to others. The professor, who is a learned person cannot lack a dictionary...He could have conveyed the very same feelings in a simple language without hurting others. He should have shown respect for the sentiments of others. He could have used a simple and neutral kind of language, respecting others," Justice Kant said.

The bench said though everybody had the right to freedom of expression, Mahmudabad's remarks seemed like "dog whistling," used in legal parlance. "This is what we call it as dog whistling in law. He should have used more respectful and neutral language," the court said.

Storm, rain, power outage exposes Capital preparedness

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

Heavy rain, hail stones and strong winds crippled the Delhi-NCR on Wednesday evening, exposing the Delhi Government's much vaunted preparedness to meet such existency. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a red alert for Delhi-NCR around 8.30 pm, warning of more intense weather activity over the next couple of hour.

A sudden dust storm with heavy rain accompanied a hailstorm hit Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), bringing relief from the heatwave conditions prevalent in the national Capital but also disrupting traffic, leading to water logging and power outages in several areas. Many areas reported disruption in electricity supply at the time filing of this report.

Flight operations were hit at the Delhi airport, while Metro passengers on the Yellow Line were stranded for hours. Hoardings fell and trees were uprooted in many localities, with some areas reporting wind speeds of up to 79 kmph.

An IndiGo flight from Delhi to Srinagar was caught in a sudden hailstorm mid-air



Pedestrians sheltering from rain at a bus stop in New Delhi on Wednesday evening

RANJAN DIMRI

on Wednesday evening, causing visible damage to the aircraft but prompting a swift and controlled response from the crew. The airline confirmed that flight 6E 2142 landed safely in Srinagar following standard operating procedures. The flight, 6E2142,

was nearing Srinagar when it encountered intense weather activity. Hail stones pounded the aircraft as it descended, resulting in what the airline described as "weather-related damage" to the nose of the aircraft.

Airline companies issued advisories,

saying the change in weather might impact flight operations. In a post on X, the Delhi airport said flight operations might be impacted due to the inclement weather, advising passengers to contact the concerned airlines for an updated flight schedule. In separate advisories, Air India and IndiGo advised passengers to check their flight status before reaching the airport.

According to Tata Powers, power disruptions were witnessed in areas across the Capital such as parts of Bawana, Narela, Jahangirpuri, Civil Lines, Shakti Nagar, Model Town, Wazirabad, Dhirpur, Burari. Power lines were damaged by falling trees and branches. "To ensure public safety, electricity supply had to be temporarily suspended in certain areas as a precaution to prevent electrocution," it said.

The storm hit just around 8 pm with sudden gusts of winds, and was followed by rain, thunder and hail. While it caused a disruption in life, it also brought relief for the residents of the region from the intense heat experienced in recent days. Smiles of wind and dust hit several parts of the capital, reducing visibility.

The ByStander



Banu Mushtaq wins Booker for Kannada short story collection

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

Writer, activist and lawyer Banu Mushtaq's short story collection 'Heart Lamp' (Hridaya Deepa) has become the first Kannada title to win the coveted International Booker Prize in London.

Mushtaq described her win as a victory for diversity as she collected the prize on Tuesday night at a ceremony at Tate Modern in London along with her translator Deepa Bhashti, who translated the title from Kannada to English.



The winning collection of 12 short stories chronicles the resilience, resistance, wit, and sisterhood of everyday women in patriarchal communities in southern India, vividly brought to life through a rich tradition of oral storytelling. "This book was born from the belief that no story is ever small, that in the tapestry of human experience every thread holds the weight of the whole," said Mushtaq.

Top five SC judges skip summer vacation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

For the first time, Supreme Court's top five judges will sit on summer vacation. Earlier, two judges sat on the vacation benches. It is expected that during vacation the court will hear Presidential Reference on timeline placed on Governors and the President on giving assent to Bills.

"The first five judges are sitting through the vacation and continuing to work, yet we are blamed for the backlog. In reality, it is the lawyers who are unwilling to work during the vacations," said CJI BR Gavai on Wednesday. He was responding to an advocate seeking to adjourn the case to mid July, after vacation.

CJI Gavai said lawyers don't want to work during vacation but the judiciary is blamed for the backlog of cases. A bench comprising Chief Justice B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih got miffed when a lawyer urged listing of a petition after the summer vacation. Recently, the top court issued a notification on the benches that will function during the upcoming summer vacation, rechristened as "partial court working days", from May 26 to July 13.

Significantly, there will be two to five vacation benches sitting during the partial court working days and even top five judges, including the CJI, will be holding



FILE PHOTO

courts during this period. According to earlier practice, there used to be only two vacation benches during the summer vacation, and senior judges were not supposed to hold courts. The notification outlined the weekly allocation of Justices across benches.

From May 26 to June 1, the CJI, Justices

Suryakant, Vikram Nath J K Maheshwari and B V Nagarathna will be heading the five benches respectively. During this period, the apex court registry will remain open from 10 am to 5 pm for all officers and staff. The registry will be closed on all Saturdays (except July 12), Sundays, and public holidays.

Gandhis ask for time, Swamy gets chargesheet in ED case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Delhi Special court on Wednesday directed Enforcement Directorate to give a copy of its Chargesheet against Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in the National Herald case to Subramanian Swamy. Congress leaders sought more time to study ED's chargesheet and Special Judge Vishal Gogne of the Rouse Avenue Court said that it would hear the National Herald money laundering case on a daily basis from July 2 to 8.

Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for the Gandhis, sought more time to go through the voluminous case record of more than 5,000. They asked that the matter be adjourned to July. However, the Court proceeded to allow the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to make its opening arguments today.

"Learned ASG has advanced opening submissions. The matter shall be taken on a day to day basis from July 2 till July 8 for submissions on behalf of ED and the proposed accused." Appearing for the ED, Additional Solicitor General

(ASG) SV Raju and Advocate Zoheb Hossain sought to establish the proceeds of crime garnered in the case. In addition to Section 3 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Section 411 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which deals with the offence of dishonestly receiving or retaining stolen property, was also applicable to this case, they argued. "Young Indian had no business activity except for continuing for benefit of accused. The shares, assets and rent are the proceeds of crime.

The advertisements and loans have kept out...Once the share has been issued, it is a property. The issuance of shares [of AJL] to Young Indian amounts to an offence of cheating," Hossain said. The Court then asked, "These shares are the derivatives of scheduled offence? Scheduled offence is a trigger for money laundering. It has to be derivative. Not every activity of company may be money laundering. It may be criminal activity." The judge sought clarification on whether the alleged wrongful acts are ascribed to individuals, and whether the Congress party was a victim.

Mane attraction: Lions increase in Gujarat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Ahmedabad

The estimated population of Asiatic lions in Gujarat has increased to 891 from 674 five years ago as per the census conducted this month, officials said on Wednesday. Not only has the count gone up by 217, but the animals were found outside the Gir National Park, their traditional habitat, and spread across 11 districts of Saurashtra including non-forested and coastal areas, the officials said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed happiness at the rise in the population of lions in Gujarat, and said 'Project Lion' has helped create a conducive environment for the big cats and ensured their protection. He was reacting to Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel's social media post that the number of lions has risen to 891 in the State.

Modi said, "It is very encouraging information. It is heartening to note that the efforts under 'Project Lion' are providing them (lions) a conducive environment and ensuring their protection."

"Estimated population of Asiatic lions has increased to 891," Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel told a media briefing on the issue. As per the last census conducted in June 2020, the population of Asiatic lions, a subspecies only found in Gujarat's Gir area, was estimated at 674. As per the



FILE PHOTO

latest count, there are estimated 196 males, 330 females, 140 sub-adults and 225 cubs, said the Gujarat forest department.

As the population of lions is increasing, their spread in Saurashtra region has also expanded. The big cats were earlier confined to the Gir National Park in Junagadh and Amreli districts, but now they have spread to 11 districts, an official said. As many as 384 lions were counted in Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary and 507 were

found outside its limits, said Jaipal Singh, principal chief conservator of forest. The areas outside Gir where lions were spotted included sanctuaries like Pania, Mitiyala, Girnar and Barda. Some animals were seen in non-forested areas and coastal areas too. Seventeen lions were counted in Barda sanctuary, 15 km from Porbandar. The highest number of lions recorded in a single pride was 17 in Bhavnagar district, official said.

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Punjab CM Declares Victory in Punjab’s Water Battle; Vows Reconstitution of BBMB

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/NANGAL

Ending the 20-day sit-in protest at the Nangal Dam, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Wednesday declared a symbolic “victory” over what he termed as the “systematic plunder” of Punjab’s waters by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), and vowed to continue the fight for the state’s rightful share. Mann also announced that the Punjab Government would push for the reconstitution of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) at the upcoming NITI Aayog meeting on May 24, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Mann, addressing a massive rally organized to mark the conclusion of the dharna — observed by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as ‘Fateh Diwas’, lambasted the BBMB, branding it a “white elephant” that had outlived its utility. “Punjab will never accept the BBMB in its current form,” he declared, accusing the Board of acting at the behest of the Centre and the Haryana Government to deprive Punjab of its legitimate water share.

He alleged that Haryana had exhausted its allocated water quota by March, but BBMB officials, under political pressure, orchestrated an “unprecedented move” by having its chairman release water from Nangal to Haryana. “It was effectively the theft of Punjab’s water,” he asserted, stating that Haryana consumed 1.42 lakh cusecs more than its share between September 2024 and May 2025.

Terming BBMB’s functioning as opaque and discriminatory, the Chief Minister said: “They took Rs 32 crore from Punjab for various projects but never returned it. With interest, the amount now exceeds Rs 130 crore. We will stake a legal claim to recover it.”

Mann also targeted the BBMB for failing to fill over 3,000 ponds reserved for Punjab, alleging that it was a deliberate attempt to weaken the state’s influence within the Board. “Efforts are underway to ensure that Punjab’s representation is restored and our rights safeguarded,” he added.

“Efforts will be made to fill these posts at the earliest so that the interests of the state can be safeguarded,” he said, adding that even the township of Nangal, which had been aesthetically designed, has been ruined due to the neglect of the BBMB, which is really deplorable. Highlighting symbolic injustices, Mann pointed out that BBMB headquarters showcased photographs of Haryana and Rajasthan Chief Ministers but not of



Punjab’s. “This kind of systemic exclusion will no longer be tolerated,” he said.

Reviving the long-standing canal dispute, Mann suggested building a Yamuna-Sutlej Link (YSL) canal instead of the controversial Satluj-Yamuna Link (SYL). “The Sutlej is already dry. There is no question of sharing a single drop of water. Instead, water from the Yamuna and Ganga should be supplied to Punjab through YSL,” he proposed.

He also criticized the previous SAD and Congress Governments for failing to protect Punjab’s water interests. “They stood by silently while our waters were looted,” he said.

The dharna, launched by AAP on May 2, protested BBMB’s alleged bias in distributing water. The protest intensified after BBMB’s decision to release an additional 4,500 cusecs to Haryana. Mann claimed that previous governments never objected to such practices, but “those who defend Punjab’s water have now arrived.”

The event saw posters of Mann as ‘Pania Da Rakha’ (saviour of waters) plastered across Nangal town. Senior cabinet ministers including Harjot Bains, Laljit Bhullar, Barinder Goyal, and others were in attendance.

Despite the end of the dharna, AAP leaders vowed to persist with their campaign to renegotiate water-sharing agreements like the Bhakra Nangal Agreement (1966) and Ravi-Beas Agreement (1982). As per these pacts, Punjab is entitled to 57.88 percent of Sutlej water, while Haryana and Rajasthan are allotted 32.31 percent and 9.81 percent respectively. With groundwater levels in Punjab depleting rapidly and large parts of the state categorized as red zones, Mann stressed the need for reviewing all water-sharing agreements every 25 years. “These pacts were inked in a different era and do not reflect the current climatic or hydrological realities,” he said.

He emphasized the state’s renewed focus on canal irrigation to reduce dependency on tube wells. “From now on, villages receiving canal water will get power at night to promote sustainable irrigation,” he said.

Mann accused former Haryana Chief Minister and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar of politicizing the issue. “They turned it into a prestige battle. We have no animosity with Haryana’s people, only with the politics they chose,” he said, referring to Haryana as a “younger brother” who must act responsibly.

“From 1 pm today, water will be released to Haryana as per the state’s allocation and in keeping with the capacity of the infrastructure. But the neighbouring state should make judicious use of the water and not hope for extra water during the current cycle,” he said.

Centre Deploys CISF at Bhakra Dam Amid Punjab-Haryana Water Dispute

The Union Government on Wednesday deployed 296 personnel from the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to take charge of security at the Bhakra Dam, amid ongoing tensions between Punjab and Haryana over river water distribution. The decision, taken by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, comes on the same day the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) concluded its dharna at the Nangal Dam, marking a political sensitive turn in the ongoing standoff.

The move is being viewed as a significant assertion of central authority, effectively removing the Punjab Police from their security role at the dam site. Punjab had increased its police presence at the Nangal Dam earlier this month, after BBMB chairman Manoj Tripathi was gheraoed by protesters during a contentious visit to oversee water release to Haryana.

With a financial sanction of Rs 8.58 crore for the deployment, the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) has been instructed to bear the cost of the CISF personnel — approximately Rs 2.9 lakh per member — and provide necessary infrastructure, including accommodation, communication systems, and transport.

The timing of the deployment has drawn sharp attention, as it coincides with AAP’s celebration over blocking the release of additional water to Haryana, which had already exhausted its share for the depletion period ending May 2025. The water-sharing dispute, currently under judicial scrutiny, saw the Punjab and Haryana High Court recently directing Punjab not to interfere in BBMB’s operations and authorizing the Board to seek central forces if needed.

The latest development signaled the Centre’s firm intervention in managing a politically volatile issue, while sidelining state-level resistance and reinforcing federal control over inter-state river water governance.

Recruitment of 1300 posts of jail warders soon: Haryana CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

After inaugurating the Jail Training Academy in Karnal, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday said that around 1300 posts of jail warders will be filled shortly to further strengthen the state’s judicial and correctional system. Also, medical and paramedical vacancies in the Prison Department, as well as essential staff positions for the newly built Jail Training Academy in Karnal, will also be filled soon, he added.

Addressing the gathering, Saini also announced that new jails will be constructed in Panchkula, Dadri, and Fatehabad, with an investment of approximately Rs 300 crore. Furthermore, a Gaushala will also be started in the premises of the District Jail, Karnal.

He said that Jail Training Academy was set up to provide comprehensive training to prison personnel with a focus on reform, rehabilitation, and modernization. The academy, spread over 6.5 acres and constructed at a cost of Rs 30.29 crore, incorporates energy-efficient and temperature-optimized techniques. Saini said that the new jail training academy marks the beginning of a transformative approach in the correctional system. “This is not just the inauguration of a building, it is a change of perspective, the

beginning of a new vision. Our prisons must become centers of change, revival, and reconstruction, not just punishment,” he said.

Saini said that the newly built academy will offer induction training for new recruits and refresher courses for existing staff, ensuring that prison department officers and officials are trained in modern technologies, human rights, and psychological aspects of inmate reform. With changing times, it is essential to equip our jail employees with not just the tools of discipline, but also the spirit of empathy, justice, and social rehabilitation, he added.

He said in line with the goals of Digital India, Haryana is also moving towards establishing Smart Jails, where modern tools and systems will improve prison management. Earlier, the Chief Minister also visited an exhibition displaying various products created by jail inmates.

Speaking on the occasion, Cooperation and Jail Minister Arvind Sharma praised the progressive initiatives being undertaken by the Prison Department. He said that Haryana’s jails are being modernized and equipped with the latest technology to improve overall management and ensure better rehabilitation outcomes. Highlighting the evolving role of prisons, Sharma said that today, jails are not just centres of confinement, they are spaces for transformation

where inmates leave as reformed and better individuals. He said that inmates are actively contributing to jail revenue through various skill-based programmes initiated within the prison system. Sharma also urged CM Saini to consider starting weekly ‘Gita Shloka’ sessions and to ensure that regular yoga classes are held across all jails in the state.

Additional Chief Secretary, Home and Jails Department, Sumita Misra expressed pride in the establishment of the Jail Training Academy, calling it a prestigious project brought to life through the vision and support of Chief Minister Saini. She highlighted that such a modern and specialized jail training facility is not available in neighbouring states, and may well be the first-of-its-kind in North India. Misra said that the state government is actively investing in advanced technologies to modernize prison department. She stated that over 1,100 CCTV cameras have been installed across various jails in the state, significantly enhancing surveillance and security. She further stated that comprehensive mapping of jails with respective courts has been done, enabling under-trial prisoners to appear in court virtually from within jail premises. This initiative not only reduces logistical costs and saves time, but also strengthens security and ensures smoother judicial processes, she said.

Punjab Empowers Govt School Toppers To Dream Big

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Government school toppers in Punjab are set to swap their classrooms for command centres — at least for a day. In a new initiative titled ‘Ek Din, DC/SSP de Sang’, the Bhagwant Mann-led state government is offering outstanding students a rare opportunity to shadow district administrators and senior police officers, giving them firsthand exposure to governance, leadership, and public service.

Announced by Punjab’s School Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains on Wednesday, the initiative selects six top-performing students from each district — three from Class X and three from Class XII — to spend a day with their respective Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP). The move aims to fuel ambition, foster civic engagement, and instill in these young

minds a deeper understanding of how governance functions on the ground.

“This program is not just a reward for academic excellence, but a step towards shaping future leaders,” said Bains. “By spending a day with top district officials, students will witness how decisions are made, how challenges are tackled, and how officers lead from the front. It’s an experience that could transform their outlook and inspire them to dream beyond conventional boundaries.”

The curated day will include participation in official meetings, visits to cyber cells, attendance at grievance redressal sessions, field inspections of developmental projects, and strategy discussions. Students will also enjoy a shared lunch with the DC and SSP, creating a space for mentorship, open dialogue, and career guidance.

At the end of the day, participants will be awarded a Certificate of Participation, a motivational book or diary, and a group photograph with the officers. Each district will compile student reflections into a “District Merit Booklet”, documenting the initiative’s impact. Schools will further encourage these students to share their learnings with peers, thereby inspiring a broader culture of excellence and ambition.

By opening the doors of power corridors to meritorious students, the Punjab Government is sending a clear message — leadership is not confined to privilege — it is within the reach of every deserving child. “We are building bridges between talent and opportunity,” said Bains, “and reminding every student that their dreams are valid, their voices matter, and their future can be as bold as their aspirations.”

Impose at least 100 percent import duty on Turkiye apples, Himachal CM writes to PM

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Wednesday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to increase the import duty on apples from 50 percent to at least 100 percent to discourage the import of apples from Turkey and to safeguard the interests of the apple growers of Himachal Pradesh. He also urged that quantitative restrictions should be imposed on imported apples.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister said that Himachal Pradesh is known as ‘Apple Bowl’ of the country and is famous for producing delicious varieties of apples. The apple is the prime cash crop of the State and generates an income of about Rs. 4500 crore annually. He said that about 10 lakh mandays are generated due to the apple crop, thereby providing direct and indirect employment to more than 2.50 lakh families.

Sukhu stated that at present, apples are being imported from nearly 31 countries and

about 5.19 lakh metric tonne of fresh apples was imported during the year 2024, an increase of 500 times as compared to 1100 metric tonne imported during the year 1998. He said that the import share from Turkey increased during the year 2020 and recorded the highest increase with 1.29 lakh metric tonne during 2023. He said that a substantial import of 1.17 lakh metric tonne was done from Turkey during 2024, which is 23 percent of the total apple import.

He said that apples from Turkey have been flooding the Indian markets in recent years, which has posed a great threat to the apple growers of the country. “The influx of apples from Turkey has not only undermined the competitiveness of local apple producers but also jeopardizes the livelihoods of small and marginal apple growers of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir,” he said.

Sukhu said that he would also personally take up the issue of enhancing the import duty on apples being procured from Turkey with the Prime Minister during his upcoming visit to Delhi.

Fatehabad, Gurugram & Ambala DC offices receive hoax bomb threat

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH/AMBALA

A hoax bomb threat email was received to blow up the Deputy Commissioner’s office in Gurugram, Fatehabad and Ambala districts of Haryana on Wednesday. Following the threat email, the officials of the district administration and the police department of these districts swung into action and checked their DC offices. However, no bomb or suspicious object was found during the check by the bomb squad.

Talking to The Pioneer over the phone, Fatehabad DSP (Headquarters and Crime) Sanjay Kumar confirmed that an email was received on the government email ID at around 7:00 am on Wednesday, in which a threat was given to blow up the DC office. The Mini Secretariat building was sealed and a search operation was carried out for about an hour. A team of bomb squad and other teams also inspected the office and found nothing there, he added.

A senior administrative officer in Ambala said, “Early in the morning, an e-mail was received in the official mail ID of the Deputy Commissioner, in which a threat was given to blow up the DC office, using an IED containing RDX. Prima facie, it appeared to be a hoax mail, but taking precautionary measures, the matter was handed over to the police department and the office was properly checked. A bomb squad and other teams inspected the office and found nothing. “It was a hoax mail and the office is functioning as it normally does,” he said.

In Gurugram too, information of a bomb threat to blow up the mini-secretariat was received during afternoon hours. This created panic among the officials. The district administration took immediate action and got the entire building evacuated. The dog squad and security personnel arrived at the DC office as soon as the information was received. No bomb was found during the search operation, said the Police official. The police are investigating the matter further.

Himachal Board Class 12 pass percentage rises in revised results after evaluation error correction

PNS ■ SHIMLA

The Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education issued a revised result of its Class 12 exam on Wednesday after correcting an error in the evaluation process of the English paper. The revised results showed that 88.64 per cent of the students who appeared in the exam held in March have passed, a marked improvement from the previous figure of 83.16 per cent. Moreover, 76,315 of the total 86,373 students have now been declared passed, 3,838 placed under the compartment category and 5,868 have failed. The initial results, announced on May 17, had shown 71,591 students as passed, 5,847 under compartment, and 8,581 as failed. The board reevaluated the Class-12 English paper using the correct answer keys following a “human error” in the compilation of marks for the paper, which was cancelled once, officials said. The paper held on March 8 was rescheduled for March 29 after teachers at the Government Senior Secondary School in Chowari in Chamba district mistakenly opened the question paper of Class 12 in place of Class 10, a day before the exam on March 7. After announcing the Class-12 board exam results on May 17, the board received complaints from many students who secured lower marks in English. The matter was brought to the notice of the authorities by the Himachal Pradesh Government Teachers Union (HPGTU) and private school associations, prompting Education Minister Rohit Thakur to ask the board to probe the matter and take appropriate action.

CM Saini meets PM Modi; Congratulates him on success of Operation Sindoor

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and congratulated him on the success of Operation Sindoor and expressed his gratitude to the Army. Later, addressing the media persons at Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi, Saini praised the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, stating that under his guidance, the brave soldiers of the country had successfully destroyed terrorist hideouts on their own land. “Only the Prime Minister could have taken such a historic decision,” he remarked.

Saini condemned the cowardly attack by terrorists in Pahalgam, in which innocent civilians were killed. He said the incident deeply hurt and angered the people of the country, who demanded strong action against terrorism. Responding to the nation’s sentiments, Prime Minister Modi took decisive steps and launched Operation Sindoor, through which our brave soldiers eliminated the terrorists on their own land.

In response to a question, the Chief Minister said, “Operation Sindoor has exposed the true face of Pakistan to the entire world. While Pakistan was attempting to defame India, Prime Minister Modi unmasked its role in promoting terrorism on the global stage. The Prime Minister has sent a strong message that “blood and water cannot flow together.”

Saini said that the Prime Minister has also been briefed on the ongoing development works and schemes in Haryana. He said that



several development projects were launched by the Prime Minister on the occasion of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti and added that whenever the Prime Minister visits Haryana, it brings a renewed sense of energy and enthusiasm among the people.

In response to another question, he said that the police are thoroughly investigating the cases of spying in Haryana. He added that clear instructions have been issued to conduct a comprehensive probe into the individuals involved.

BRIEFS

Haryana govt approves establishment of 12 new Labour Courts: Anil Vij
Chandigarh: Haryana Minister Anil Vij on Wednesday said to ensure the speedy resolution of industrial disputes, the state government has approved the establishment of 12 new Labour Courts across 12 districts. With this addition, the total number of labour courts in Haryana will increase to 26, the transport and labour minister said. The minister had sent a proposal to the chief minister recommending the establishment of labour courts in 12 additional districts -- Panchkula, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Kaithal, Jind, Sirsa, Mahendragarh, Bhiwani, Charkhi Dadri, Fatehabad and Mewat (Nuh). Vij said about Rs 12 crores will be spent on infrastructure, furniture, and vehicles for the establishment of these 12 Labour Courts. At present, nine labour courts are operational across six districts -- one each in Ambala, Panipat, Hisar, and Rohtak; two in Gurugram; and three in Faridabad. One labour court is currently under construction in Bawal, Rewari district. According to the 2025-26 budget speech of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, who also holds the Finance portfolio, approval has already been granted for the establishment of one labour court each in Sonapat, Jhajjar, Palwal, and Rewari. This brings the total to 14 labour courts either operational, under construction, or approved across 10 districts.

Agniveer from Himachal dies in landslide in Kargil
Dharamshala: A 25-year-old Agniveer from Himachal Pradesh died in a landslide while he was on duty in the Drass sector of Kargil, officials said on Wednesday. According to officials, Naveen Kumar (25) was serving with the Jammu and Kashmir Rifles and lost his life in a landslide on May 20. The mortal remains of the deceased soldier are expected to reach his native Halun village in Thural Panchayat of Himachal’s Kangra on Thursday, where his last rites will be conducted with full military honors, they said. Naveen Kumar had joined the Army two years ago through an open rally recruitment under the Agnipath scheme. The news of his death was conveyed to the family on Tuesday evening by another soldier from the area. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri have also expressed profound sorrow over the martyrdom of Agniveer Naveen Kumar. In a statement, Sukhu offered his condolences and prayed for peace for the departed soul, along with strength for the family to bear this irreparable loss.

‘Women for Trees’ campaign launched in Chandigarh
Chandigarh: City Mayor Harpreet Kaur Babla launched Municipal Corporation’s “Women for Trees” campaign—a flagship initiative under the AMRUT Mitra programme initiated by MoHUA. This campaign was officially launched from the Community Centre, Sarangpur in the presence of Amit Kumar, Commissioner. Inspired by the Government of India’s “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” initiative, this gender-inclusive programme aims to strengthen urban green spaces and build climate resilience by actively engaging Self-Help Groups (SHGs), particularly women, in tree plantation and environmental stewardship. The implementation of the campaign is being led by teams from AMRUT and DAY-NULM under the MC Chandigarh, a statement said.
Kataria felicitates meritorious students of Raj Bhavan employees
Chandigarh: In a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria on Wednesday felicitated 16 meritorious students—children of Group ‘B’, ‘C’, and ‘D’ employees of Raj Bhavan—for their exemplary performance in the Class 10 and 12 board examinations of the 2023–24 session. Apart from this, the Governor also felicitated aspiring NEET/JEE students and those enrolled in professional courses (post-Class 12), and postgraduates preparing for competitive exams with award money. Speaking on the occasion, the Governor lauded the students for their hard work and perseverance, and expressed deep appreciation for the dedication and sacrifices of their families. He remarked that the Raj Bhavan is like a family to him, encompassing every employee, from Class IV staff to Class I officers. As the head of this family, he said, he has to ensure that all members receive the support they need, especially in empowering their children to pursue excellence in education and beyond.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Jogender Singh Deshalw S/o Balbir Singh R/o Village Mahawati, Tehsil Samalkha Distt Panipat declared lost my client Sale Deed wasika no. 1829 dated 09.01.2009 which is registered in the office S.R Safidon and lost at Tehsil Safidon and lost date 18.07.2017 if some one found plz contact at my address.

कावलय नगर निगम सोनोपत

नगर निगम सोनोपत की संवर्धन शाखा के निवेष्टक अन्तर्गत UMSH397 नम्बर सोनोपत/सिन्धु Lal Dora Devi Waza मीनो अर्द्ध, 2 नं. 2 में बिना है। संवर्धन सर्वे अनुसार संवर्धन बिना में कदावाज का नाम धनुं धुशुन, मोहन लाल, श्याम सुन्दर दत्त है। किसी भी संवर्धन दावा का नाम दर्ज न होने / नाम गलत दर्ज होने/पुनर् दिनांक 31.12.21, उपर्युक्त आवेदन द्वारा प्रस्तुत की गयी प्रतीति आई.डी. में नाम सम्बन्ध व नाम दर्ज करने/अन्यत्र दुरुस्ती के लिए संवेद्यता में 636 दिवस 27.11.2014 अन्तर्गत प्रस्तुत किए गए हैं। निवेष्टक अन्तर्गत यदि किसी भी व्यक्ति को इस जायदाद से संबंधित कोई भी अपील हो तो कदावाज प्रत्येक दिवस प्रस्तुत समुचित रूप में बिनापत देने/सिन्धु के 30 दिनों अर्द्ध-अर्द्ध दिवस के रूप में नगर निगम के संवर्धन शाखा में अपील दर्ज करवाये अनुसार संवर्धन शाखा में प्रस्तुत किए गए दस्तावेजों के अन्तर्गत Brj Bhushan, Mohan Lal, Deepesh, Puneet पुत्र Brj Bhushan नाम दर्ज का दिनांक ज्ञात। निवेष्टक द्वारा निगम कावलय/सिन्धु नगर निगम सोनोपत।

COURT NOTICE

Criminal Courts, Ludhiana
IN THE COURT OF
Dr. Jasveer Singh
Judicial Magistrate - Ist Class,
Ludhiana

Next Date, Purpose of case, Orders and Judgments as well as other case information is available on <http://ecourts.gov.in>
PROCLAMATION UNDER SECTION 82 CR.PC
KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED
V/S
RAMESH BISWAKARMA ETC
COMA/43405/2022
CNR No.:PBLD03-062607-2022
U/S:- 138 OF N.I.ACT
POLICE STATION:-
NEXT DATE:-19-07-2025
NOTICE TO:- RAMESH BISWAKARMA R/o GHANJA, GADOL, KUNJHAR, KEONJHAR-758035 (ORISSA)

Whereas it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that You, the accused above named cannot be served in the ordinary way of service. Hence, this proclamation under section 82 CRPC is hereby issued against you with a direction that you should appear personally before the court on 19-07-2025 AT 10.00 a.m. or within 30 days from the date of publication of this proclamation. Take notice that, in default of your part to appear as directed above, the above said case will be heard and determined as per law, in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this FOR DETAILS LOGIN TO <https://highcourthd.gov.in/> https://trsdistrict_notice&district=Ludhiana
Judicial Magistrate - Ist Class
Ludhiana

COURT NOTICE

Form No.55
CRIMINAL COURTS JALANDHAR
IN THE COURT OF
Ms. Renuka Kalra
Judicial Magistrate First Class-18
Jalandhar

Next Date, Purpose of case, Orders and Judgments as well as other case information is available on <http://ecourts.gov.in>
PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
NITUSH FOOTWEAR
V/S
KRUSHI TRADERS
Case No.:-NACT/36176/2023
CNR.No:PBUL03-038581-2023
POLICE STATION/FIR NO. DIVISION 6/2025
NEXT DATE: 03-07-2025
of Detail of offence:-
NOTICE TO:- 1. M/S KRUSHI TRADERS, H.NO.3-4-308/4/1, FIRST FLOOR, PADMAVATHI NILAYAM, NEAR SHANTI NIKETAN SCHOOL, KACHIGUDA, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA-500027, THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR MOHAMMED AZEEM.
2. MOHAMMED AZEEM, PROPRIETOR M/S KRUSHI TRADERS, H.NO.3-4-308/4/1, FIRST FLOOR, PADMAVATHI NILAYAM, NEAR SHANTI NIKETAN SCHOOL, KACHIGUDA, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA-500027, WHEREAS complaint/case has been made before me that KRUSHI TRADERS:- R/O H.NO.3-4-308/4/1, FIRST FLOOR, PADMAVATHI NILAYAM, NEAR SHANTI NIKETAN SCHOOL, KACHIGUDA, HYDERABAD, TELANGANA-500027, THROUGH ITS PROP MOHAMMED AZEEM has committed or is suspected to have committed the offence punishable under section 138, of Negotiable Instruments Act and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said KRUSHI TRADERS cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said KRUSHI TRADERS has absconded (or is concealing himself/herself to avoid the service of the said warrant); Proclamation is hereby made that the said KRUSHI TRADERS is required to appear before this Court (or before me) on 03-07-2025 to answer the said complaint/case. Dated, this day of 20-05-2025.
Judicial Magistrate First Class-18
Jalandhar

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Paramjeet W/o Deep Chand R/o H. No. 286, Joginder Nagar, Jagadhri, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar declare that sale deed no. 3308 dated 22.07.2010 in favour of Deep Chand and sale deed no. 3833 dated 19.07.2017 in favour of Paramjeet has been lost at my home Joginder Nagar on dated 10.07.2024. It has not been mortgage with any Person / Bank / Financial Institution.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Suresh Kumari W/o Tikka Ram Beniwal R/o 369, Sector 18, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar declare that my conveyance deed No. 5576 Dt. 04/09/2019 and Builder Buyer agreement dated 28.02.2013 has been lost at Sector 18 huda Jagadhri on dated 25.02.2025. It has not been mortgage with any Person / Bank / Financial Institution.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Surinder Khetarpal S/o Arjun Dass (partner of Divya Industries, Vide Firm Pancard no. AATFD6245P) R/o C-6, 1008, Sawanpuri, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar declare that Transfer Deed no. 5670 dated 22.09.2016 has been lost at Court Road, Jagadhri on dated 31.03.2025. It has not been mortgage with any Person / Bank / Financial Institution.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instruction of Axis Bank Limited, I hereby informed the general public that Jodh Singh S/o Darshan Singh proprietor Jhohal Collection is absolute owner of Property Two shops measuring 2 Marlas 140 feet having dimension 10 x 59 feet (NDC No. 1010 & 1008) bearing building no. 8-12/1027 and 10/390 bounded as East: Kuldeep Singh, West: Raj Aggarwal, North: Teshil Bazar & Door of the shop, South: Passage Market 12 feet wide & door of the shop situated at Gali D.S.P Wall Tam Tarn, Tehsil & District Tam Tarn. That as per documents Jawinder Singh, Palwinder Singh sons of Rachpal Singh through GPA Rachpal Singh S/o Sohan Singh sold 26.66 sq yards of property to Jodh Singh, Kuldeep Singh sons of Darshan Singh regdt dt: 30.10.2000 as doc no 3751. And also Raj Aggarwal S/o Hari Ram Aggarwal in person and GPA holder of Renu Aggarwal W/o Rajji Aggarwal & Kavita Aggarwal W/o Sanjeev Aggarwal sold 38.88 sq yards of property to Jodh Singh, Kuldeep Singh sons of Darshan Singh vide sale deed regdt dated 08.09.2014 as doc no.2440. Then Kuldeep Singh S/o Darshan Singh transferred his 1/3 share to Jodh Singh S/o Darshan Singh vide transfer deed regdt dated 04.11.2024 as doc no.2024-51681/2493. Now Jodh Singh S/o Darshan Singh is shown as owner of sole property i.e. 65.55 sq yards of property. Jodh Singh S/o Darshan Singh proprietor Jhohal Collection is availing loan from Axis Bank Limited East Mohan Nagar Amritsar. Anybody having claim or claiming any prior rights or interest in any manner in this property or has raised loan by depositing the aforesaid Sale Deed to any person /bank/ corporation/ financial institution may approach the undersigned and may submit objections in writing within 7 days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of the period of this notice, no claim shall be entertained and such claim shall be deemed to be false, false, frivolous, fraudulent and baseless claim shall have no value in the eyes of law. It shall also be deemed that nobody has any objection for mortgaging the aforesaid property with Axis Bank Limited.

Vikas Verma (Advocate)
Room no 264 Basant Avenue
Near 1st M. A. House, Amritsar
Ph: 9815156302

ESTATE OFFICE U.T., CHANDIGARH
PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE SH. NAVEEN, DANICS.
ASSTT. ESTATE OFFICER, U.T., CHANDIGARH.
Subject: Transfer of Ownership in respect of RESIDENTIAL SITE No. 1001-P, SECTOR 37-B, Chandigarh (RPL 17908) to the extent of 100.00% share on the basis of Intestate Death of Late Sh. SURJEET SINGH WAZIR.
It is hereby informed to the general public and all concerned that as per record of this office Sh./M. Sh. SURJEET SINGH WAZIR is the owner/lessee of RESIDENTIAL SITE No. 1001-P, SECTOR 37-B, Chandigarh to the extent of 100.00 % Share.
It has been informed by RANDEEP SINGH WAZIR, JASBIR KAUR WAZIR, GURDEEP SINGH WAZIR that Sh./M. Sh. SURJEET SINGH WAZIR expired on 10/04/2016 and his/her/they has/have also intimated the following legal heirs of the deceased owner/lessee:-

Sr. No.	Name of Legal Heir	Relation with deceased
1.	GURDEEP SINGH WAZIR	SON
2.	RANDEEP SINGH WAZIR	SON
3.	JASBIR KAUR WAZIR	WIFE

Now, RANDEEP SINGH WAZIR, JASBIR KAUR WAZIR, GURDEEP SINGH WAZIR has/have applied for the Transfer of Ownership in respect of RESIDENTIAL SITE No. 1001-P, SECTOR 37-B, Chandigarh, to the extent of 100.00 % Share held by Late Sh. SURJEET SINGH WAZIR in his/her/their favour, on the basis of Intestate Death. If anybody has any information about any other legal heir(s) of the deceased other than mentioned above, the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately. If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, hereby they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of above said beneficiaries and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained at any later stage.

Naveen, DANICS,
Assistant Estate Officer,
Exercising the powers of Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh.

JM FINANCIAL
Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2007PLC74287
Registered Office: 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasahab Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400025
Contact Person: 1. Rabindra Prasad - 9814741973, 2. Vishal Ketele- 9584986653, 3. Jyoti Sawant- 022 - 6224 1676
Website - www.jmfinancialarc.com
E-Auction Sale Notice - Fresh Sale
That Primal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd have assigned a pool of Loan (including below mentioned Loans) together with underlying security interest created thereon along with all the rights, title and interest thereon under Section 5 (1) (b) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT), vide an assignment agreement dated March 29, 2023 (the Assignment Agreement) in favour of JMFINARC (JM) (herein referred as Assignee) acting in its capacity as trustee of JMFINARC - Aranya - Trust. It is to notify that PCFHL is authorized and appointed to act as Service provider / Collection agent to facilitate all operational and procedures processes vide Assignment/ Service Agreement.
Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor under the SARFAESI Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrower(s), offers are invited by the undersigned for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the possession, on 'As Is Where is Basis', 'As Is What is Basis' and 'Whatever is There is Basis', Particulars of which are given below.

Loan Code/ Branch/ Borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address -final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (06-05-2025)
Loan Code No.: 14100002435, Kamal (Branch), Sanjeev Kumar (Borrower), Reeta R (Co-Borrower 1)	Dt: 24-08-2021, Rs. 8,73,312/- (Eight Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Three Hundred Twelve Only)	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Having An Extent: Khawat No.1863 Min, Murabba No.49, Khas No.21/1,8,9,10,13/1, Waka Majua Pundi Kalthai Haryana In- 130026, Boundaries As:- North: Plot of Three Niwas South: Plot Krishanast: Plot of Raj Kumar West: Gali	Rs. 6,40,000/- (Rs. Six Lakh Forty Thousand Only)	Rs. 64,000/- (Rs. Sixty Four Thousand Only)	Rs. 10,47,906/- (Rs. Ten Lakh Forty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Only)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 23-06-2025, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 22-06-2025, BEFORE 04:00 P.M.
For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.jmfinancialarc.com/Home/Assets> for sale OR <https://www.bankauction.in>
STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR
The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from the borrower/guarantor.
Date: May 22, 2025, Place: Haryana
Sd/- (Authorised Officer) (Aranya - Trust)

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, 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 9 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 Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Naveen Naveen/ Usha Rani/ LBDEL00002075979	Flat No-1117-B, 11th Floor, Tower-9, Chinara Homes, Kishanpura, Zirokpur, Punjab/ May 19, 2025	March 25, 2021 Rs. 76,50,029/-	Delhi NCR/ Zirokpur

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 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: May 22, 2025, Place: Zirokpur
Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

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 Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Tarun Kumar/ Nisha/ Raj Kumar/ TBSIR00006869378/ TBSIR00006869379	Property Id 156C250U645 Kotli No 8, Barik No 18, Situated at Patel Nagar Hisar Within M.C. Limits Tehsil and District Hisar Haryana/ 17 May 2025	December 12, 2024 Rs. 43,61,504.10/-	Hisar (Haryana)
2.	Prem Singh/ Santosh Kanwar/ LBHIS00005596154/ LBHIS00006035537	House Built On 1/2 Part Of Plot No. 97, House Of Nagar Nigam Permanent Property Id 111C1384U483 & Id No. P01701060521, Situated At Waka Mahavir, Colony, Tehsil And District Hisar, Haryana- 125001/ 17 May 2025	January 28, 2025 Rs. 17,45,019/-	Hisar (Haryana)

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 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: May 22, 2025
Place: Hisar (Haryana)
Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, 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 Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Samrinder Singh/ Shamma Rani/ LBDS00006990618/ TBDS00006980124	Flat No. C-111, Sixth Floor, Block- C, Land Measuring 0 Kanal 0.75 Marla (Covered Area 1050 Sq. Ft.), Being 3/568 Share of Land Measuring 7 Kanal 2 Marla Comprised in Khawat/ Khatoni No. 260/306, Khadra No. 21/20/2(3-16), 21/1(3-6), As Per Jamabandi Year 2017-2018, Situated at Village Chhajumajra, Hadbasat No. 33, Sukhmani Enclave, Sector-127, Within Limits of M. C. Kharar, Tehsil Kharar, District Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (Mohali), Punjab- 140307, Standing In The Name of Samrinder Singh Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 2023-24/15/18174, Dated 19/02/2024/ May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 31,06,493.78/-	Mohali/ Kangra

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 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: May 22, 2025
Place: Kangra
Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, 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 Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Samrinder Singh/ Shamma Rani/ LBDS00006990618/ TBDS00006980124	Flat No. C-111, Sixth Floor, Block- C, Land Measuring 0 Kanal 0.75 Marla (Covered Area 1050 Sq. Ft.), Being 3/568 Share of Land Measuring 7 Kanal 2 Marla Comprised in Khawat/ Khatoni No. 260/306, Khadra No. 21/20/2(3-16), 21/1(3-6), As Per Jamabandi Year 2017-2018, Situated at Village Chhajumajra, Hadbasat No. 33, Sukhmani Enclave, Sector-127, Within Limits of M. C. Kharar, Tehsil Kharar, District Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (Mohali), Punjab- 140307, Standing In The Name of Samrinder Singh Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 2023-24/15/18174, Dated 19/02/2024/ May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 31,06,493.78/-	Mohali/ Kangra

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 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: May 22, 2025
Place: Kangra
Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

JM FINANCIAL
Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2007PLC74287
Registered Office: 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasahab Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400025
Contact Person: 1. Charanjit Singh - 9893693303, 2. Vishal Ketele- 9584986653, 3. Jyoti Sawant - 022 - 6224 1676
Website - www.jmfinancialarc.com
E-Auction Sale Notice - Fresh Sale
That Primal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd have assigned a pool of Loan (including below mentioned Loans) together with underlying security interest created thereon along with all the rights, title and interest thereon under Section 5 (1) (b) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT), vide an assignment agreement dated March 29, 2023 (the Assignment Agreement) in favour of JMFINARC (JM) (herein referred as Assignee) acting in its capacity as trustee of JMFINARC - Aranya - Trust. It is to notify that PCFHL is authorized and appointed to act as Service provider / Collection agent to facilitate all operational and procedures processes vide Assignment/ Service Agreement.
Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor under the SARFAESI Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrower(s), offers are invited for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the possession, on 'As Is Where is Basis', 'As Is What is Basis' and 'Whatever is There is Basis', Particulars of which are given below.

Loan Code/ Branch/ Borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address -final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (06-05-2025)
Loan Code No.: 29000000615, Amritsar (Branch), Amjeet Singh (Borrower), Jasbir Kaur (Co-Borrower 1)	Dt: 27-05-2021, Rs. 6,98,446/- (Rs. Six Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Four Hundred Forty Six Only)	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Having An Extent: Plot No 1 Min Khadra No 32/14 Min Vakkia Rakha Bhanwar Suburban Abadi Satham Nagar Near Petrol Pump Amritsar Punjab In- 143001 Boundaries As:- North: Ext. House South: Mr. Happy Estate: Road West: Open Plot	Rs. 7,40,000/- (Rs. Seven Lakh Forty Thousand Only)	Rs. 74,000/- (Rs. Seventy Four Thousand Only)	Rs. 11,39,449/- (Rs. Eleven Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Forty Nine Only)
Loan Code No.: 1350006974, Chandigarh- Sector 22 (Branch), Gaurav Sharma (Borrower), Anuradha Sharma (Co-Borrower 1)	Dt: 27-05-2021, Rs. 958,983/- (Rs. Six Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three Only)	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Having An Extent:- F1 No 424, F F Golden Palm, Derabassi, Distt Mohali, Mohali Punjab In 140507 Boundaries As:- North: Plot No. 425 South: Plot No- 423 East: Street West: Plot No. 343	Rs. 17,60,000/- (Rs. Seventeen Lakh Sixty Thousand Only)	Rs. 1,76,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Only)	Rs. 12,82,723/- (Rs. Twelve Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Three Only)
Loan Code No.: 16-17-05-2021 Rs. 16,45,368/- (Rs. Sixteen Lakh Forty Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Eight Only)	Dt: 16-05-2021 Rs. 16,45,368/- (Rs. Sixteen Lakh Forty Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Eight Only)	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Having An Extent:- Plot No-1 Min Khadra No-25/22/1 Vakkia Rakha Bhanwar Sub- Urban Abadi Sahibzade Fatah Singh Colony Amritsar Punjab- 143001 Boundaries As:- North: Ext. House South: Ext. Property Estate: others Property West: Road	Rs. 7,70,000/- (Rs. Seven Lakh Seventy Thousand Only)	Rs. 77,000/- (Rs. Seventy Seven Thousand Only)	Rs. 21,97,284/- (Rs. Twenty one Lakh Ninety Seven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four Only)
Loan Code No.: 14-03-2018 Rs. 92,36,892/- (Rs. Ninety Two Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Two Only)	Dt: 14-03-2018 Rs. 92,36,892/- (Rs. Ninety Two Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Two Only)	All The Piece And Parcel of The Property Having An Extent:- M C No. 29- 22/25 Cable Wall Street N.P.C. Transcon Sherru Chhabra Ludhiana Punjab In- 141003	Rs. 87,70,000/- (Rs. Eighty Seven Lakh Seventy Thousand Only)	Rs. 8,77,000/- (Rs. Eight Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand Only)	Rs. 27,16,871/- (Rs. Two Crore Seventy Six Lakh Eight Hundred Eighty One Only)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 23-06-2025, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 22-06-2025, BEFORE 04:00 P.M.
For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.jmfinancialarc.com/Home/Assets> for sale OR <https://www.bankauction.in>
STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR
The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from the borrower/guarantor.
Date: May 22, 2025, Place: Punjab
Sd/- (Authorised Officer) (Aranya - Trust)

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 Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Vinod Kumar Dogra/ Luxami Alias Luxmi/ LBZM000004383189	Duplex House No. 52, Measuring 0 Kanal 3 Marle 3 Sorsai (100 Sq. Yards) Being 30/1106 Share of Property Measuring 61 Kanal 14 Marla Comprised In Khawat/ Khata No. 5956/610, Khadra No. 46/62/2 (4-6), 7/7-11, 14/1(0-19), 13/7-10, 4/7(18-0), 9(8-0), 10(8-0), 11/2(3-12), 12(8-0), 20/2(5-16), As Per Jamabandi Year 2012-2013, Situated At Mannat Enclave, Village Bhabat/234, Sub-tehsil Zirokpur, Tehsil Derabassi, District S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali), Punjab- 140603, Standing In The Name of Luxmi Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 13/2017-18/11/2221, Dated 08/03/2018 / May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 25,08,080.64/-	Mohali
2.	Indejeet Singh/ Dajit Kaur/ LBAMT00005695024	House Measuring 299 Sq. Yards, Comprised In Khadra No. 16/24/3 Min, Situated At Village Meerakot Khurd, Tehsil & District Amritsar, Punjab - 143001, Standing In The Name of Dajit Kaur Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 2021-22/197/1381, Dated 01/09/2021/ May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 20,16,370.12/-	Amritsar
3.	Danish Kalio/ Kiran Kumari/ LBAMT0000612025/ LBAMT00006254541	Plot No. 218-E, Measuring 84 Sq. Yards, Comprised In Khadra No. 72/20, 72/21, 72/22, 72/28, 72/29 Min., Khata Khatoni No. 101/171, 505/837, As Per Jamabandi Year 2017-2018, Situated At Village Muradpura, Hadbasat No. 342, Abad Thakur Ji Green, Tehsil and District Amritsar, Punjab- 143001, Standing In The Name of Kiran Kumari Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 2021-22/93/1/4549, Dated 06/07/2021 / May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 26,58,011.02/-	Amritsar
4.	Chetan Sharma/ Kavita Sharma/ LBAMT00005642794/ LBAMT00006144771/ LBAMT00006176371	House Court Plot Private No. 06, Khadra No. 25/9, 10 All Min., Khawat Khatoni No. 1557/181, As Per Jamabandi Year 2014-2015, Situated At Village Naushahra, Abadi S.g. Villas, Tehsil And District Amritsar, Punjab- 143001/ May 17, 2025	March 30, 2024 Rs. 31,22,677/-	Amritsar
5.	Lalit Shad / Rashmi Shad / TBAMT00006565255/ TBAMT00006565256/ LBAMT0000635388	Plot Private No. 184-A Min & 184 Min, 185-A Min, Measuring 125 Sq. Yards, Comprised In Minjumla Khadra No. 1961, 1954, 1970, 1959, Situated At Sultanwadi Suburban Taraf Mahal-1, Abadi Kanwar Avenue, Block-D, Tehsil And District Amritsar, Punjab- 143001, Standing In The Name of Lalit Shad & Rashmi Shad Vide Sale Deed Wasika No. 2021-22/89/1/4648, Dated 03/09/2021 / May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 31,09,891.04/-	Amritsar
6.	Om Parkash/ Raj Kumar/ Alka Rani/ LBCHD00000221708/ LBCHD000004789442	Flat No. 221-B, Second Floor, (2 BHK), Measuring 0 Bigha 0 Biswa 10 Biswasi Being 1/186 Share of Property No. 1674/699(4-13), Khawat No. 64, Khatoni No. 64, Hadbasat No. 183, Situated At Omega City, Village Khanpur, Tehsil Kharar, District Sahibzada Ajeet Singh Nagar, Mohali, Punjab- 140301/ May 17, 2025	May 09, 2024 Rs. 9,00,834/-	Panchkula/ Mohali
7.	Ritu Taneja / TBPNC00006863197	Commercial Unit No. 145, Second Floor, Block-B, Mohali Citi Centre 2, Situated At Block F, Aerocity, District S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali, Punjab- 140308/ May 17, 2025	January 30, 2025 Rs. 27,89,033.92/-	Mohali
8.	Ayush Sandhu / Geeta Sandhu / TBDS00006			

Editor's TAKE

Heat crisis deepens as summer peaks early

The unprecedented heat has gripped the capital and the worst part — the monsoon is still weeks away

Delhi is in a heat emergency. The threat is not just what the thermometer shows — it's in the air we breathe, the infrastructure we rely on, and the fragile lives caught in between. Delhi finds itself teetering on the edge of a climate emergency. With daytime temperatures already breaching unbearable levels and heat indices — the "feels like" temperature — soaring towards a blistering 50°C, the capital is caught in an escalating crisis. A new report by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), titled "How Extreme Heat is Impacting India," paints a stark picture of what's driving this relentless heat. Delhi now ranks among the top 10 most heat-vulnerable regions in the country. The report highlights a dramatic increase in very warm nights — indicating that nights are no longer bringing respite from daytime heat. This disturbing trend, combined with the city's dense infrastructure, is fueling what's known as the urban heat island effect, where tightly packed buildings and roads absorb and trap heat, pushing local temperatures higher than in surrounding rural areas.

To make matters worse, relative humidity in Delhi has climbed nearly 9 per cent in the past ten years. When humidity rises, the body's natural cooling mechanism — sweat evaporation — slows down, making it harder to cope and significantly increasing the "feels like" temperature. Compounding the crisis is the shrinking diurnal temperature range: the difference between day and night temperatures is narrowing, which means the city simply doesn't cool down enough after sunset.

More buildings, more energy use, more vehicles — all these lead to the heat load. While no one is entirely safe, the burden falls heaviest on the most vulnerable. Children, the elderly, and those who work outdoors — are at serious risk. Residents of informal settlements, where homes lack insulation, proper ventilation, or consistent electricity, are also disproportionately affected. Low-income families struggle to afford cooling appliances, while people with heart or respiratory issues face compounding health risks. Despite relatively good access to healthcare and electricity in Delhi, the scale of exposure and intensity of the hazard overwhelms these buffers, especially during prolonged heatwaves.

In these conditions, adaptation is the key for survival. People are urged to stay indoors during peak heat hours. Hydration is crucial — water intake should be frequent, even without thirst, while alcohol, caffeine, and sugary drinks should be avoided. Wearing loose, light-colored cotton clothing helps, as does using fans, wet towels, or mist sprays to cool down. And at the first sign of heat-related illness dizziness, excessive sweating, confusion, or nausea — immediate medical attention can save lives. Meteorologists indicate that some relief may arrive with the pre-monsoon showers expected in late June. The Delhi Government's newly launched Heat Action Plan is a timely and vital step, aiming to reduce both short-term harm and long-term risk. However, implementation and execution are vital. What's clear is that this extreme weather is the new normal, and it demands urgent, systemic change.

Balochistan: The search for nationhood

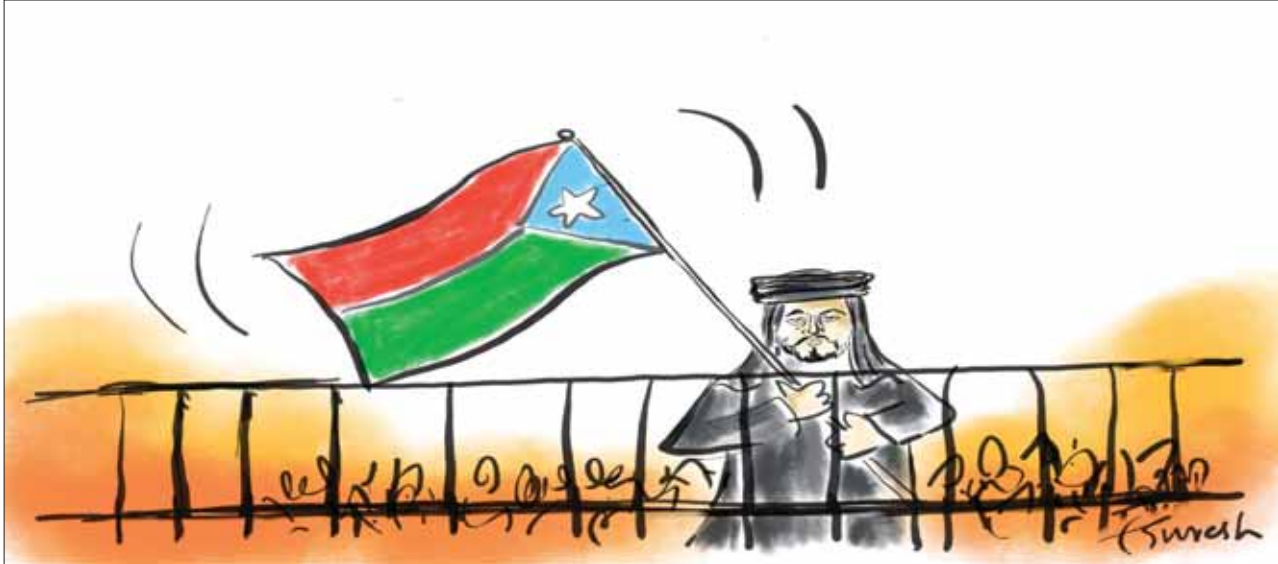
Citing decades of oppression and neglect, Baloch leaders are demanding international recognition for a long-suppressed cause — now thrust into global focus amid rising insurgency and regional turmoil

On May 12, 2025, Baloch nationalist leader Mir Yar Baloch made a historic and audacious move: he declared the Republic of Balochistan as an independent nation. In his impassioned address, he called upon the United Nations and the global community to recognise the new state, free from Pakistani domination. What was once seen as a peripheral movement has now emerged as a central fault line in South Asia's geopolitical landscape. The roots of the Baloch nationalist movement run deep. Balochistan — a region straddling Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan-has a long history of tribal autonomy and cultural uniqueness. Historically ruled by tribal confederacies and princely states such as the Khanate of Kalat, Balochistan fiercely resisted centralised control. During British colonial rule, the region served as a buffer zone against Russian expansion, with Britain exercising indirect rule while allowing internal autonomy. When British India was partitioned in August 1947, Pakistan was born on the 14th, followed by India a day later. But just before these momentous events, on August 12, 1947, the Khan of Kalat declared Balochistan an independent state. Pakistan's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, initially acknowledged Balochistan's separate identity.

However, pressures from global powers and regional considerations led to a shift. On March 27, 1948, Pakistan forcibly annexed Balochistan — a move widely viewed by the Baloch as illegitimate. This annexation marked the beginning of a long and bitter struggle for autonomy and justice. The decades that followed were marked by uprisings and brutal crackdowns. Major rebellions erupted in 1958-59 and again in 1963-69, led by Nawab Nauroz Khan and Sher Muhammad Marri. In 1973, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto dismissed the provincial Government, sparking another wave of insurgency. Inspired by the secession of East Pakistan in 1971, Baloch rebels fought for nearly four years before being crushed by superior military force and lack of internal cohesion.

A pivotal moment came in 2006 with the assassination of Nawab Akbar Bugti, a prominent Baloch leader. His death galvanised insurgent groups like the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), who began targeting Pakistani military installations, infrastructure, and Chinese investments-particularly those associated with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Balochistan's grievances are not merely historical. The region, which comprises 44 per cent of Pakistan's landmass and houses around 15 million people, remains one of the most impoverished and underdeveloped



areas in the country. Despite its rich reserves of natural gas and minerals, its people face chronic unemployment, illiteracy, and political marginalisation. Baloch representation in Pakistan's power structures — military, bureaucracy, and politics remains negligible. For many Baloch, Pakistan is not a nation but an occupying force.

The Tectonic Shift

Tensions escalated sharply after the May 7, 2025 launch of Operation Sindoor by the Indian armed forces. The operation was a direct response to the Pahalgam massacre, where terrorists-allegedly backed by Pakistan's military-attacked Indian tourists in Jammu and Kashmir. The attack was perceived as an affront to India's post-Article 370 peace efforts, prompting calls for decisive action across India.

Operation Sindoor was swift and strategic. As Pakistan reeled from the fallout and turned its focus eastward, the Baloch insurgency surged. On May 11, the BLA launched a coordinated attack across 52 locations, hitting 71 strategic targets in one of the most extensive operations in the movement's history. The very next day, the declaration of independence followed. What had long been simmering beneath the surface exploded into full view.

A Region on the Brink

The emergence of a declared Republic of



RAJIV MALHOTRA

Rural India can lead the biodiversity revolution

SECOND Opinion

With its rich biodiversity, deep-rooted farming traditions, and a population that still lives close to the land, rural India holds the key to reversing India's biodiversity crisis and achieving true sustainable development. As the world observes International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB), the spotlight turns toward the communities that have long lived in harmony with nature and the urgent need to empower them as agents of ecological change.

As we near the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), it becomes increasingly clear that rural India is not only central to India's biodiversity agenda — it could well be the catalyst that tips the scales.

Biodiversity is far more than an environmental concern; it is the foundation of life. It supports our food systems, sustains livelihoods, regulates the climate, purifies water, and provides protection against natural disasters. The rapid loss of species and ecosystems, both globally and in India, is not just a tragedy for nature — it is a threat to human survival and well-being. The KMGBF calls for a global transformation: a new way of living that restores the balance between people and the natural world. In India, this transformation is most possible and most needed-in our villages and agricultural farm-

lands. The legacy of the Green Revolution, while pivotal in addressing food shortages in post-independence India, also set farmers on a path heavily reliant on chemical fertilisers, pesticides, monoculture crops, and genetically modified seeds. Over time, this model has led to soil degradation, declining biodiversity, water stress, and increased input costs — leaving many smallholders vulnerable. As the ecological costs of this type of farming become more evident, the need of the hour is to re-educate and enable farmers helping them reconnect with time-tested traditional methods that work with nature, not against it. Natural farming, agroecology, and organic techniques offer a path toward regeneration. And it's not a case of easier said than done. Rural India is home to nearly two-thirds of the country's population and the majority of its agricultural production. For centuries, Indian farmers and indigenous communities have worked with, rather than against, nature. They've practised traditional farming systems that nurture biodiversity-rotating crops, saving seeds, maintaining mixed farming systems, and using organic inputs long before they were branded as "sustainable." These time-tested approaches offer valuable solutions to today's challenges — if only we can help our farmers remember them and adopt them.

By building on these traditions and expanding nature-friendly practices like agroecology, organic farming, and natural farming, India can move toward a truly sustainable agri-food system-one that supports biodiversity instead



CHANDRAKANT KUMBHANI

of depleting it. And yet, this transition requires more than just technical changes. It demands a shift in how we value and support rural communities. Farmers must be recognised not only as food producers but as stewards of biodiversity. Their knowledge must be respected, their leadership encouraged, and their work made economically viable.

This moment also calls for greater synergy between policy and practice. India's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans have an opportunity to meaningfully integrate the ambitious targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) while aligning with national and state-level development priorities. Government support will continue to play a crucial role-through enabling policies, incentives, training, and infrastructure. Just as vital, however, is the active engagement of civil society. CSR bodies, local institutions, and farmers themselves, who bring invaluable on-ground experience and insight. By working together across sectors, we can co-create solutions that are both locally rooted and globally relevant.

As the 2030 deadline looms, the need for action is urgent. But there is still time to rewrite the story. The International Day for Biological Diversity reminds us to recognise that India's future lies not in distant boardrooms or global summits-but in its villages, fields, and forests. Here, harmony with nature is a way of life-waiting to be recognised, revitalised, and scaled for a better tomorrow.

(The writer is COO, Community Development, Ambuja Foundation. Views are personal)

Letters to the Editor

The new wave of Corona virus

The latest wave of Coronavirus disease or COVID-19 has hit many countries in Southeast Asia, with the spread of new Omicron sub variants like JN.1., India, too has reported 164 fresh cases of Covid 19, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Delhi and Rajasthan. To review the current COVID-19 situation and the rise in number of cases, the chairperson-ship of the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) has held a meeting with experts from the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Emergency Medical Relief (EMR) division, Disaster Management Cell, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Central Government hospitals. Maharashtra has 56 active cases. Two Covid-19 related deaths have been reported, one 59 year old cancer patient and a 14 year old girl with Kidney disease. Kerala has reported 69 new cases. Tamil Nadu has 34 new cases. There are currently 257 active cases in India, a major spike observed last week. As of May 19, 2025, India has reported 257 active cases of Covid 19 cases. Both Singapore and Hong Kong are on high alert regarding the rise of covid cases. However, the symptoms have been 'mild' and not fatal, health authorities are taking extra precautions. Hospital arrangements and other precautionary measures are being taken by the health authorities. Experts have advised the citizens to wear masks and maintain social distance to prevent the mutation of this variant.

BHAGWAN THADANI | MUMBAI

Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar is no more

Senior astrophysicist Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar passed away at his residence in Pune on May 20th, 2025. Dr Narlikar was not only a scientist but also a science writer and a pioneer of science fiction. He authored several books and articles in Marathi and English on scientific topics. To popularise science among the masses, he utilised television programs, article series, and lectures. He made significant contributions to astronomy, cosmology, and science outreach. He pursued higher education at Cambridge University. There, under the guidance of renowned astrophysicist Sir Fred Hoyle, he completed his PHD Together they proposed the Hoyle — Narlikar theory of gravitation, which is considered an alternative to the Big Bang theory.

In 1988, he established the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in Pune and served as its director until 2003. Dr Narlikar's dedication to science communication is evident in his writings, TV appearances, and lectures aimed at igniting scientific curiosity among the public.

He was honored with numerous prestigious awards such as: Padma Bhushan (1965) Padma Vibhushan (2004), UNESCO's Kalinga Prize (1996). Through his work, Dr Narlikar inspired generations to develop an interest in astronomy. With his passing, it feels as if a star from the universe has fallen.

DATTAPRASAD SHIRODKAR | MUMBAI

Healthy living is a fundamental right!

Yet in our country, it often feels like a privilege reserved for those who can afford it. Access to quality fitness programme, preventive care, and balanced nutrition remains out of reach for many.

It's time we change that. We must make affordable, high-quality wellness options a part of everyday life for every Indian. At the same time, we face a growing mental health crisis that is dangerously overlooked — chronic loneliness among young urban Indians. Many young people are silently struggling surrounded by people but disconnected within.

This includes regular medical check-ups, mental wellness support, physical fitness, and nutritional balance. A crucial first step is to normalise conversations around mental health. Concerns about loneliness, anxiety, and depression should not be dismissed as mood swings. We must recognise the deeper emotional wounds our society often ignores — anxiety, grief, conditional love, feelings of insignificance, shame, and broken relationships.

These unspoken burdens often lead to depression, which is a prolonged state of despair, hopelessness, and emotional exhaustion. Being excessively self-critical, and enduring toxic work environments are all triggers of emotional stress. It's time we see mental health as integral to overall well-being. Only then can we build a society where healthy living is truly a right for all.

CK SUBRAMANIAM | MUMBAI

THE INDO-BANGLADESH RELATIONS ARE WILTING AWAY



The once-warm relationship between India and Bangladesh now shivers under the shadow of trade tensions. India has boldly restricted \$770 million of Bangladesh's imports, 42 per cent of its total exports, in response to Bangladesh's restrictive policies, including bans on Indian rice, yam, and consumer goods, coupled with stringent border inspections. Bangladesh's policies stem from political motives. Post-regime change, hardline forces have fueled anti-India sentiments, straining trade. Last year's \$660 million in readymade garments will now enter only through

Kolkata and Nhava Sheva ports, closing northeastern land routes. Bangladesh's economy, reliant on \$45 billion in textile exports, faces challenges as its LDC status ends, threatening tariff-free access. India, which offered zero tariffs, now demands a review.

By limiting import routes while granting transshipment exemptions to Nepal and Bhutan, India strengthens regional diplomacy. Bangladesh must now choose between cooperation or confrontation. India's move is a masterstroke on the diplomatic chessboard.

RK JAIN ARJEET | BARWANI

Please send your letter to the letterstopioneer@gmail.com. In not more than 400 words. We appreciate your feedback.

India’s semifinal victory in the fight against terrorism

The message of Operation Sindoor was clear: the path to a secure, developed, and globally respected India — Viksit Bharat — demands continued resolve, multidimensional preparedness, and an unflinching stand against terrorism in all its forms

FIRST
Column

In a bold reaffirmation of India’s commitment to counter cross-border terrorism, Prime Minister Narendra Modi established a ‘new normal’ through Operation Sindoor as a strong response to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. This operation, which featured deep and precise strikes on terror camps located not only in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) but also well within Pakistan’s heartland, was unprecedented. It showcased India’s strong willpower, operational maturity, and ability to deliver high-precision strikes with minimal collateral damage. India’s air defence capabilities were proven effective in neutralising advanced and coordinated drone threats. The successful hits on strategic air bases of Pakistan underscored India’s operational readiness and deterrent strength.

Yet, as PM Modi remarked, “We will keep taking decisive steps,” which subtly foreshadowed that a full-scale final confrontation is inevitable. Although the exact timeline remains uncertain, decisive engagement appears to be a necessary milestone toward realising the vision of Viksit Bharat — a developed, secure, and globally respected India. Therefore, India needs a multidimensional and proactive strategy to prepare for the final stage of this prolonged conflict.

Diplomatic Front

Despite the operational success, the global diplomatic response did not meet our expectations. China, predictably, stood by its long-time ally Pakistan. The United States, while posturing as the champion of global peace, took a balanced, almost ambivalent stance, attempting to preserve its strategic interests on both sides. The European Union, meanwhile, continued to misinterpret the conflict through a limited prism of the Kashmir issue, failing to grasp the larger menace posed by Pakistan, which is the epicentre of terrorism the world over.

The short-duration conflict has made it amply clear that India was not just fighting Pakistan; rather, it appears to be a broader coalition of actors who perceive India’s growing assertiveness as a threat to their geopolitical agendas. This apprehension reached new heights after Operation Sindoor, where India’s swift, coordinated and targeted strike incapacitated multiple Pakistani military installations, including airbases, radars, drone depots, and air defence systems.

Western powers must reassess their assumptions. While China continues to back Pakistan both economically and militarily, India remains the most stable and democratic partner capable of upholding a rules-based global order in the Indo-Pacific region. The United States, in particular, must recognise that strengthening India is strategically aligned with its interest in counterbalancing Chinese expansionism. However, the American response so far indicates a hesitancy to decisively back India — opting instead



to maintain a superficial equilibrium between India and Pakistan. This approach is neither sustainable nor strategic. More importantly, India has to make efforts to shift the prevailing global narrative. The world must be reminded that the Indo-Pak conflict is not simply a territorial dispute over Kashmir — it is fundamentally a battle against state-sponsored terrorism. Pakistan remains a breeding ground for radical Islamic ideologies that have manifested in

global tragedies such as the 9/11 attacks, London bombings, Madrid train attacks, and the Charlie Hebdo massacre. These events are enough evidence that the terror ecosystem nurtured by Pakistan’s military intelligence, especially the ISI, has global ramifications.



ASHOK KUMAR

India must proactively convey to the West that Kashmir has been an integral part of the Indian civilisation for thousands of years. Unlike Pakistan, which was founded on a rigid two-nation theory, India is a vibrant, pluralistic, and multi-polar democracy that cannot be confined within communal or sectarian boundaries.

WESTERN POWERS MUST REASSESS THEIR ASSUMPTIONS. WHILE CHINA CONTINUES TO BACK PAKISTAN BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND MILITARILY, INDIA REMAINS THE MOST STABLE AND DEMOCRATIC PARTNER CAPABLE OF UPHOLDING A RULES-BASED GLOBAL ORDER IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

This historical and cultural context must be highlighted consistently in global forums to counter Pakistan’s manipulative propaganda. We need to actively counter-propaganda to reshape the Western perspective on the Kashmir issue.

External Security/Military Front

In the aftermath of the Pahalgam incident and the latest escalation with Pakistan, there is no scope for complacency. The emerging battlefield is not limited to traditional warfare — technological superiority is now decisive. China’s rapid advances in military tech, artificial intelligence, and unmanned systems must alert us to the urgency of preparedness. There is no room for laxity. Constant feedback loops from ground-level intelligence, robust cybersecurity infrastructure, and rapid response mechanisms must become the norm.

To effectively counter the growing China-Turkey-Pakistan nexus, India must ensure that it retains a decisive edge in armaments and warfare doctrine. Superior technology, robust logistics, and interoperability across forces are non-negotiable. This preparation must take place with the knowledge that while Pakistan appears on the back foot, its backing from China gives it a dangerous strategic cushion.

The Border Security Force (BSF) currently fulfils its peacetime mandate well, leveraging its familiarity with the terrain and local intelligence.

However, it must now evolve into a battle-ready force capable of handling wartime contingencies. This includes enhanced access to artillery support, drone and counter-drone technology, as well as electronic warfare capabilities. Training modules should be updated, and regular joint exercises with the Indian Army must become a routine to ensure coordination during high-stress scenarios.

Internal Security Front

Internal security presents equally pressing challenges. One of the most serious is illegal immigration, particularly from Bangladesh. In 2016, then Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju stated that “as per available inputs, there are around 20 million illegal Bangladeshi migrants staying in India.” This mass influx not only strains local resources but has also begun altering demographic compositions in sensitive border states — posing both security and social threat. Implementing the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is imperative. However, it must be done transparently and fairly, shielded from political agendas and vote-bank compulsions. Handling illegal immigration with an iron hand is the need of the hour so that demographic changes can be stopped.

To maintain national harmony, India has to take strong steps against anti-national elements who are out to exploit societal divisions. India is under constant assault from psychological and information warfare, much of it orchestrated by hostile actors across the border. These campaigns are designed to sow discord, spread fake narratives, and erode the nation’s trust in its institutions. Social media has emerged as the frontline for such attacks and combating them requires a blend of technological vigilance and legal framework. We must consistently reinforce values of unity, national pride and patriotism. Fake news, hate speech and misinformation must be countered strongly.

In Conclusion

As India stands at a pivotal moment in its security journey, Operation Sindoor must be recognised not as a finale, but as a resounding declaration of intent. It represents India’s capability, resolve, and strategic acumen. However, the road to a decisive final confrontation will demand far more — visionary diplomacy, state-of-the-art military readiness, iron-clad internal unity, and above all, an unflinching political will. This is no longer just a regional struggle — it is a defining moment for India’s role as a global power. The semifinal has been decisively won. Now, the time has come to prepare — strategically, diplomatically, and militarily — for the final. Victory will pave the way for a truly Viksit Bharat.

(The writer is a retired DGP, Uttarakhand. He is currently serving as Vice Chancellor of Haryana Sports University. Views expressed are personal)

Be part of the plan: India’s bold vision for biodiversity conservation

As we approach the International Day for Biological Diversity on May 22, the 2025 theme, “Be Part of the Plan,” resonates deeply with India’s ongoing efforts to safeguard its extraordinary natural heritage. As one of the world’s 17 mega-diverse countries, India is home to over 45,000 plant species and 91,000 animal species, many of which are endemic. This rich biodiversity underpins our ecological stability, cultural identity, and economic prosperity. Drawing from my experience as PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden of Haryana and former IUCN Country Representative, I am proud to share how India aligns with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to lead global conservation efforts.

Adopted at COP15 under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the GBF sets four global goals and 23 targets to be met by 2030. India played a pivotal role in shaping this framework and is now integrating it into our National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). Our priorities — sustainable agriculture, water security, climate resilience, and disaster risk reduction — are seamlessly woven into this plan, with a strong focus on the 30x30 target (protecting 30% of terrestrial and marine areas), equitable genetic resource access, and enhanced biodiversity financing.

A Unified Conservation Strategy

India’s strength lies in its “whole-of-Government and whole-of-society” approach. We are converging sectoral schemes like MGNREGA, the National Mission for Clean Ganga, Jal Shakti Abhiyan, the National Bamboo Mission, and PM Kusum with biodiversity goals. In Haryana, the Aravalli Green Wall Project is a testament to this synergy. By uniting the Forest Department, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj Institutions, and corporate social responsibility (CSR) support, we are restoring degraded Aravalli landscapes with native flora, enhancing water recharge, and boosting carbon sequestration.

Preserving Agro-Biodiversity and Empowering Communities

Our agricultural legacy, with over 160 cultivated species and thousands of climate-resilient landraces, is a treasure we are determined to protect. Through the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, and Plant Genetic Resources Conservation, we are safeguarding indigenous varieties and traditional farming systems. State Biodiversity Boards and over 2.7 lakh Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs)



at the Panchayat level are documenting this knowledge in People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs). With over 2.9 lakh PBRs, India leads the world in community-based biodiversity documentation.

In states like Maharashtra, Kerala, and Odisha, BMCs are driving conservation reserves, sacred grove restoration, and marine biodiversity monitoring by local fisherfolk and coastal communities. This grassroots momentum embodies the spirit of “Be Part of the Plan.”

Restoring Ecosystems for a Sustainable Future

To meet the GBF’s Target 2—restoring 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030 — India is scaling up forest landscape restoration, wetland rejuvenation, and coral reef revival. The Namami Gange Programme is a global benchmark, integrating

fish diversity monitoring, turtle nesting conservation, and riverine ecosystem restoration. The National Wetland Mission and MISHTI scheme for mangrove plantations further protect ecologically sensitive habitats, ensuring community participation and climate resilience.

Reviving Wildlife and Engaging Youth

Our flagship species recovery programs — Project Tiger, cheetah reintroduction in Kuno National Park, vulture conservation in Pinjore (Haryana), and blackbuck protection in Gujarat and Haryana — demonstrate targeted action. The expansion of Protected Areas, Eco-Sensitive Zones, and Conservation Reserves balances conservation with community livelihoods.



VIVEK SAXENA

The youth are our future stewards, and the National Green Corps (NGC) Eco-Clubs, active in over 1 lakh schools, are proof of this. These clubs lead plantation drives, cleanliness campaigns, and biodiversity documentation. Digital platforms like iNaturalist India and the India Biodiversity Portal empower citizens to contribute to science and climate action.

Innovative Financing and Global Leadership

India is pioneering biodiversity financing with Green Bonds, Payment for Ecosystem Services, and CSR partnerships. The National CAMPA Authority directs funds toward restoring degraded ecosystems, while the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) mechanism ensures communities benefit from biological resource use. Globally, India leads the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and shares expertise in community forestry, medicinal plant conservation, and biodiversity law with Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Call to Collective Action

“Be Part of the Plan” is more than a slogan — it is a responsibility. Whether you are a policy-maker crafting biodiversity-friendly laws, a student planting trees, a farmer cultivating indigenous seeds, or a forest officer patrolling a sanctuary, every action counts. As India links biodiversity conservation with climate action, health, and sustainable development, we set a global example. This International Day for Biological Diversity is a moment to commit — a collective pledge to protect our planet’s living legacy. Will you join us?

(The writer is IFS, is the PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden of Haryana and a former IUCN Country Representative. Views expressed are personal)

How terror stilled the dreams of Kashmiri women

Pahalgam, often called “the valley of shepherds,” rests gently in the cradle of the Himalayas. With its snow-fed Lidder River, dense pine forests, and sprawling meadows, it’s easy to see why this corner of Kashmir is called “paradise on Earth.” Each spring, travelers from across the world arrive to ride ponies into the hills, sip hot kahwa by the riverside, and breathe in the crisp mountain air. It is a place where time slows down and serenity fills every breath.

This year, the arrival of spring brought more than blooming flowers — it brought hope. After years of pandemic lockdowns and political tensions, Kashmir’s tourist season was finally stirring back to life. Markets began buzzing again, homestays reopened their doors, and visitors started returning.

For many local women, this revival wasn’t just economic — it was deeply personal. Tourism had become a path to independence. Women were stepping out of their homes and into new roles: hosting travelers in homestays, selling traditional crafts, running food stalls, leading nature walks, and offering embroidery workshops to curious tourists. Slowly, silently, they were stitching together lives of dignity.

Then came April 22, 2025. On that day, in broad daylight, five armed militants attacked a group of people in Pahalgam, opening fire with chilling precision. It was sudden, merciless. Twenty-six people lost their lives, and more than twenty others were injured. It was the deadliest terror attack India had witnessed in recent years, and its impact reverberated far beyond the blood-stained valley.

National headlines captured the horror of the moment — but what happened in the days that followed, especially to the women of Kashmir, was barely mentioned. Tourists began cancelling in droves. According to a recent LocalCircles survey, more than 62 families across India abandoned their travel plans to Kashmir. Travel agencies were flooded with calls for refunds. Hotels and guesthouses stood empty. The laughter, the click of cameras, the joyful hum of a region trying to heal — all of it vanished overnight. And once again, silence returned to the valley. But this silence was not just the absence of visitors. For countless women, it meant the loss of their only source of income. It meant doors closing — on opportunity, on movement, on possibility. Rubeena, who runs a modest kahwa stall near Aru Valley, spoke through tears: “We had just started recovering from COVID-19. April was supposed to be our busiest time. And now, we are back to nothing.”

In Anantnag, artisan Shabnam echoed the pain: “We had tourists who returned every year, who remembered our names. Now, they’re afraid to come. And just like that, we are invisible again.”

Studies in recent years have shown that tourism in Kashmir offered women more than jobs — it gave



them confidence, skills, and a space in the public sphere. In a place long scarred by conflict, these acts — selling tea, guiding a walk, teaching embroidery — were radical steps forward.

Every kahwa poured, every shawl stitched, was a quiet act of resilience.

Now, with fear in the air again, families are reluctant to let women step outside. Daughters are told to stay home. Homestays once proudly run by women stand deserted. Kahwa stalls are shuttered. Craft workshops lie still. The energy that was just beginning to return has gone cold again.

And this is where the true damage of terror lies — not just in lives lost, but in dreams interrupted. In the retreat of women from the spaces they had only just begun to inhabit. In the silence that replaces the sound of ambition. Kashmir’s instability doesn’t just make headlines; it crushes livelihoods. And while the world debates security and geopolitics, it is the women — without safety nets or alternative employment — who bear the brunt of the fall-out. Every cycle of violence sets them back years. When we speak of Kashmir, let us not reduce it to borders and political disputes.

Let us also see the human cost — especially for those whose stories rarely reach the surface. It’s not just about danger. It’s about lost dignity, interrupted growth, and deferred dreams. Pahalgam has always symbolised peace. But if we allow violence to keep defining this region, we are not just losing a tourist destination — we are losing the women who dared to hope. We are letting fear win over freedom, silence over voice, and darkness over the promise of spring. And that, truly, would be the greatest loss of all.

(The writer is an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Views expressed are personal)



TRIPTI SHINGHAL SOMANI

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ritika D/o Sh. Ram zuari jangra r/o 2837/79, vishnu garden, near Gautam hospital Gurugram hereby declare that in my mark sheet my name is written as Ritika Jangra and in my aadhar card it is Ritika. I have changed my name from Ritika Jangra to Ritika . In future I should be known as Ritika for all purposes.

I, Lachhmi Devi W/o Mitthan Lal R/o 43/27, Raghuvir Savrup Colony Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Lachhmi Devi To Luxmi Devi.

I, hitherto Known as Ajay son of Sukha Masih residing at Village Faizulla Chak, PO Naushera Majja Singh District Gurdaspur-143518 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as Ajay Masih

I, hitherto Known as Achla Sharma wife of Ashok Sharma residing at H.No.125, Gali Ashoka Chips District Gurdaspur-143521 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as Achla Kumari Sharma

I, hitherto known as Gaurav Son of Tek Singh resuiding at 31, 2, Batala Road (Near Mata Mandir) New Preet Nagar, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as Gaurav Rawat

I, Rajinder Singh Gill son of Sardara Singh residing at H.No.298, Aabadi Dashmesh Nagar, Near Power House, Fatehgarh Churian District Gurdaspur-143602 declare that name of my of mine has been wrongly written as Rajinder Singh in my minor son's namely Karanbir Singh Aged 17 years in his Matriculation Certificate The actual name of mine is Rajinder Singh Gill which may be amended accordingly.

I, Komalpreet Kaur W/o Sukhpreet Singh R/o 186 Deep Enclave FGC Road Near Royal Nursery Amritsar have changed my name to Nancy

I, hitherto known as Handa Ruchika Vijay daughter of Vijay Kumar Handa wife of Ramesh Kumar residing at 327, Misra Mohla, Chakri Bazar, Batala, Gurdaspur-143505 Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ruchi Malhotra.

I, Jasbir Singh Virk S/o Balkar Singh Virk R/o VPO Mudhal Block Verka District Amritsar have changed my name from Jasbir Singh Virk to Jasbir Singh

I, Varinder Kumar S/o Bhagwan Dass Arorar R/o 242-A/13, Near Gopal Masjid, Sharifpura, Amritsar-143001 Punjab have changed my name from Varinder Kumar to Varinder Kumar Arora

I, Ajaib Singh Brar S/o Buta Singh R/o Village Madahar Kalan PO Bariwala District Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name from Ajaib Singh Brar to Ajaib Singh

I, Baljit Kaur Brar W/o Ajaib Singh R/o Village Madahar Kalan PO Bariwala District Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name from Baljit Kaur Brar to Baljit Kaur

I, Mrigveni Wife of Rahul Kumar Resident of Gali No. 3, Amar Avenue, Near Prem Nagar, PO Fatahpur, Amritsar 143009, have changed my given name Mrigveni to Sur Name Sunder and Given name Mrigveni

I Nikhita D/o Sh. Subash Chander Tuli W/o Sh. Jitin Jagota R/o House No. 1304, Mohala Ram Nagar, Near Railway Road, VTC Jagraon, PO Jagraon, Sub Distt. Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana, Punjab 142026 has name change after marriage from Nikhita to Nikhita Jagota.

I, Ramandeep Kaur Khosa D/o Gurjeet Singh R/o Vill Kot karor Khurd ,PO Kot karor Kalan District Ferozepur have changed my name from Ramandeep Kaur Khosa to Ramandeep Kaur

I, No 15455664N NK (DH) Rahul Kumar R/o D-89 Kante Sahab Ka Bagh Shabdpratap Ashram Grid Gwalior 474012 Now At 415 Fd Hosp c/o 56 Apo have declare that in my service record my wife's name wrongly entered as Priyanka Chauhan but correct name of my wife is Priyanka Sisodiya Vide Affidavit no.IN-UP47417575523809X dt.18.03.2025

I, Yusaf Masih S/o Maneer R/o F 13/156 Nehru Colony Gopal Nagar, Majitha Road Amritsar have Changed my name Yusaf Masih to Yusaf

I, Sukhmandeep Singh S/o Harjit Singh R/o Village Ramana Chak PO Tarpai, Block Majitha District Amritsar Pin 143601 have declare that Sukhmaneeep is my Given name and Singh is my Surname

I, Surpreet Singh Son of Kawaljit Singh R/o Village Tarsikka Patti Mangat Distt. Amritsar Punjab. have declare that Singh is my Surname and Surpreet is my given name.

I, Gurpreet Singh S/o Dalbir Singh R/o Vill. Sagarpur, PO Choudhriwal Tehsil Batala District Gurdaspur have declare that Gurpreet is my Given name and Singh is my Surname.

I, Doulat Rajput S/o Lajja Shankar # 1509/1, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor Daughter from Gunjan to Gunjan Rajput.

I, Shivaji Kundalik Nale is legally Father of Service No. 16135540P Rank: Sapper Name: Nale Saudagar Shivaji Unit: 21 ENGR REGT C/o 56 APO, Residing at Village Venegaon, Post Venegaon, Taluk Madha, Distt. Solapur (State) Maharashtra, Pin-413211, have changed my name from Shivaji Nale to Shivaji Kundalik Nale.

I, Rajesh Kumari Mother of Army No. 4496339P, Rank SEP. Yogesh R/o Rishi colony, Kami Road, Near Sugar Mill Sonipat (HR) 131001, P.O Sonipat inform that in my Son Service record my name wrongly written as Rajesh Devi. But my actual Or correct name is Rajesh Kumari.

I Suman Parnami W/o Amit Parnami R/o #391, Ganpati Enclave, Bathinda known as both name Suman Bala and Suman Parnami. Please note.

I, Tania W/o Sourabh Walia R/o Flat No.903, Block O, 66 Feet Road, Near Urban Estate, Jalandhar Heights 2, Pholriwala, Po. Garha, Distt.Jalandhar, Punjab-144022 have changed my name to Tania Walia.

I, Gurwinder Singh S/o Surjeet Singh R/o Village Fatehpur Bhangwan, Po. Poonian, Tehsil Shahkot, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have added my surname as Gurwinder Singh Jammu (Surname as Jammu)

I Tamanna W/O Mohit Aggarwal R/O H.No.501/39 AZ, St.No.1/1 Shastri Nagar Jagraon (Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name To Tamanna Aggarwal After Marriage.

I Bhajno W/O Balwinder Lal R/O Vpo. Hardo Khanpur District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Bhajan Kaur.

I Balwinder Lal S/O Sant Ram R/O Vpo. Hardo Khanpur District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Balwinder Lal.

I Jagrup Singh S/O Fauja Singh R/O Vpo. Lehli Kalan District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Jagroop Singh.

I Paramjit W/O Gurdarshan Singh R/O H.No.217, Dayal Colony Vpo. Bajwara Kalan Distt. Hoshiarpur (Punjab) Have Changed My Name From Paramjit To Paramjit Kaur.

I Arshdeep Kaur W/O Parmjit Singh R/O Vpo. Gobindpur Khun Khun, Hoshiarpur, Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Arshdeep And My Surname As Kaur.

I Davinder Kumar S/O Satpal R/O Vill. Butgarh P.O. Ram Colony Camp Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Davinder And My Surname As Kumar.

I Rajinder Kaur W/O Sandeep Singh R/O Vpo. Ajjowal, Hoshiarpur, Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Rajinder And My Surname As Kaur.

I Saram Pal S/O Kashmir Lal R/O Vpo. Nanda Chaur District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Suram Pal To Saram Pal.

I Talwinder Singh S/O Ranjit Singh R/O Guru Nanak Nagar Phagwara District Kapurthala Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Talwinder And My Surname As Singh.

I, Gurprit Kaur W/O Amarjit R/O Village Bal Hukmi, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar Have Changed My Name From Gurpreet Kaur To Gurprit Kaur. All Concerned Please Note.

I, Kulwant Kaur W/o Harbhajan Singh Vill.Morthali, Pehowa have changed my given name Kulwant Surname Kaur

I, Harbhajan Singh S/o Dargah Singh Vill.Morthali, Pehowa have changed my given name Harbhajan Surname Singh

I, Rinku S/o Nar Singh Vill.Bodhni, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have changed my given name Rinku Surname Rinku

I, Shivani Batra W/o Harish Kumar R/o Ward No. 16, House No. 116, Gurunanak Colony, Pehowa District Kurukshetra have changed my name Shivani.

I, Karan Singh S/O Davinder Singh R/O Village Mangna, PO.Thana, Tehsil Pehowa, Kurukshetra Haryana Changed Given name Karan Surname Singh.

I, Sheetal Saini W/o Surender Kumar Vill.Jalbehra, Kurukshetra have changed my Minor Daughter Name Anaya to given name Anaya Surname Saini

I, Palwinder Singh S/O Gurwinder Singh R/O Village- Amipur, Post Office-Bhopar Saidan, Gurdaspur-143520 Punjab. Declare That My Given Name As Palwinder And My Surname As Singh

I, Shanta Is Legally Mother Of Desai Atish Vasant Of Presently Resident At, Vill.- Ibrahimpur, Po- Ibrahimpur, Teh- Chhandagad Distt- Kolhapur, State Maharashtra, Pin-416509. Have Changed My Name From Shanta To Shanta Vasant Desai And My Dob From 01-07-1962 To 10-05-1955. Vide Affidavit No-IN-Pb37035858612941x Dated 21-05-2025 Before Notary Public District Court Gurdaspur Punjab.

I, No. 15780327H Rank HAV Name Om Kumar Pundhir presently residing at Vill – Girdharpur, Dist – Hathras, State – Uttar Pradesh, have changed name my daughter from Deekha Pundhir to Diksha Pundhir vide Affidavit No IN-PB36927702364267X Dated 21-05-2025 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

I, Bhumika D/O Sh Sohan Lal, R/O Vill Malethi, PO Navgaon, Teh Kandaghat, Distt. Solan, HP has changed her name From Bhumika to Bhumika Gandhi.

I, Vina Sharma W/O Sh Kamal Kant R/O Vill Nom Chat PO Sarsu, Teh Narag, Distt. Sirmaur, HP has changed her name From Vina Sharma to Beena Devi.

I, Seema W/O Sh Lachhman Dass R/o Derakothi, Lower Mall Kasauli, Distt Solan HP have changed her name From Seema to Fula Devi.

I, Babita D/o Sh Vijay Kumar R/O Near Power House Saproon, Teh & Distt Solan HP have changed her name From Babita to Babita Devi.

I, Laxmi Devi W/o Sh Badri Ram R/o Vill Jadli, PO. Patta Brawri, Teh & Distt. Solan HP have changed her name Laxmi Devi to Lakshmi Devi.

I, Bhavika Khanna D/O Rajesh Khanna Resident Of # 1712 A/2 Old H.No. 1798/4 F Pucca Bagh Rupnagar, Tehsil And District Rupnagar (Punjab) Have Changed My Name From Bhavika Khanna To Bhavica Khanna.

I Kamla (Existing Name) Widow Daughter Of No. 13945466 Ex Sepoy Mohinder Singh S/O Sadhu Ram Ahlawat R/O Vpo Behlba, Tehsil Meham, Distt. Rohtak (Haryana) Declare That I Have Changed My Name In My Father Army Records / Disch. Book From Kamla (Existing Name) To Pinki (New Name) My Correct/Actual Dob Is 20.09.1980 Instead Of 20.01.1980 As Per My Aadhaar Card / Pan Card. In Future I Shall May Be Known/ Written/Called As Pinki (Dob : 20.09.1980) For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated May 2025 Before Ist Class Magistrate, Meham (Rohtak) .

I Ritika (Existing Name) Daughter Of No. 13957915f Ex Rect Surinder Kumar S/O Sukhbir Singh R/O Vpo Morkheri, Tehsil Sampla, Distt. Rohtak (Haryana) Declare That I Have Changed My Name In My Father Army Records / Disch. Book From Ritika (Existing Name) To Ritika Sangwan (New Name) As Per My Aadhaar Card / Pan Card. In Future I Shall May Be Known/ Written/Called As Ritika Sangwan For All Work Purposes, That My Father Name Surinder Kumar (As Per Records Office) And Surender Kumar (As Per My Aadhar Card/Matric Certificate) Both The Name Are Pertaining To One And Same Person. Vide Affidavit Dated May 2025 Before Ist Class Magistrate (Rohtak) .

I, Santhashamma Is Mother Of Army No: 15333665f Rank: Hav Name- Kishore Babu Katta Presently Residing At 163 Br Coy, 16 Engr Br Regt (Pms), Chandimandir Cantt Panchkula, Haryana Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Santhashamma To Katta Santhosham And Also Correct My Date Of Birth From 01/07/1964 To 01/01/1961

I, Pateliya Jashodaben Bhimsing Is Legally Wedded Spouse Of Army No: 15805407n Rank- Nk Name- Patel Arunkumar Chiman Bhai Presently Posted At Unit: 142 Ad Regt (Sp) Permanent Address: 51-K, Ambavadi Faliyu, Ved, Ved, Dahod, Dhanpur, Gujarat, 389382 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Pateliya Jashodaben Bhimsing To Patel Jashodaben Arunkumar. Vide Affidavit No:48AA901731, Dated: 21/05/2025

I, Army No: 15805407n Rank- Nk Name- Patel Arunkumar Chiman Bhai Presently Posted At Unit: 142 Ad Regt (Sp) Permanent Address: 51-K, Ambavadi Faliyu, Ved, Ved, Dahod, Dhanpur, Gujarat, 389382 Declare That I Have Changed My Son's Name From Patel Keshv To Patel Keshav Arunkumar. Vide Affidavit No:48AA901730, Dated: 21/05/2025

I, No.15626997f Nk Pawan Kumar Resident Of Village Gehlab, Post - Gehlab, Tehsil- Hathin, District- Palwal, State- Haryana, Pin -121103, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Jaggo Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098667966374x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, No.Jc-406454x Sub Ashok Kumar Resident Of Village- Chhapra, Post - Gudha, Tehsil- Ladwa, District- Kurukshetra, State- Haryana, Pin -136132, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Mahindero Devi Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098291191229x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Army No: 15805407n Rank- Nk Name- Patel Arunkumar Chiman Bhai Presently Posted At Unit: 142 Ad Regt (Sp) Permanent Address: 51-K, Ambavadi Faliyu, Ved, Ved, Dahod, Dhanpur, Gujarat, 389382 Declare That I Have Changed My Son's Name From Patel Keshv To Patel Keshav Arunkumar. Vide Affidavit No:48AA901730, Dated: 21/05/2025

I, No.15626997f Nk Pawan Kumar Resident Of Village Gehlab, Post - Gehlab, Tehsil- Hathin, District- Palwal, State- Haryana, Pin -121103, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Jaggo Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098667966374x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, No.Jc-406454x Sub Ashok Kumar Resident Of Village- Chhapra, Post - Gudha, Tehsil- Ladwa, District- Kurukshetra, State- Haryana, Pin -136132, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Mahindero Devi Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098291191229x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, No.Jc-406454x Sub Ashok Kumar Resident Of Village- Chhapra, Post - Gudha, Tehsil- Ladwa, District- Kurukshetra, State- Haryana, Pin -136132, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Mahindero Devi Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098291191229x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, No.Jc-406454x Sub Ashok Kumar Resident Of Village- Chhapra, Post - Gudha, Tehsil- Ladwa, District- Kurukshetra, State- Haryana, Pin -136132, Have Changed My Mother Name From Jagwati Devi To Mahindero Devi Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37098291191229x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Yugant Son Of No. Jc-491766k Sub Brajbir Singh Chahar Resident Of Vpo-Akola, Teh & Dist -Agra (Up) Pin-283102, Have Changed My Name From Yugant To Yugant Chahar Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb32496138002934x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Shekhavat Jitendra Nathusingh Resident Of Village- Isanpur, Post- Isanpur, Tehsil- Ahmedabad, District- Ahmedabad, State- Gujarat Pin-382443, Have Changed My Name From Shekhavat Jitendra Nathusingh To Sekhavat Jitendra Nathusingh Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb37037315634077x Dated 21 May 2025 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Aman Turan S/O Jaipal R/O Village Shamgarh Tehsil Nilokheri District Karnal (Haryana) Have Changed My Name From Aman To Aman Turan. In Future I Should Be Known As Aman Turan.

I, Poonam W/O Ravish Kumar R/O Village Munak Tehsil Ballah District Karnal (Haryana) Have Changed My Name From Poonam Devi To Poonam.

I Dheeraj S/O Harish Kumar And Kiran; Resident Of H. No. 272, Village Ganjo Garhi Karnal, Haryana (India); Indian Passport N. R9462463 & Date Of Birth 02/11/2000, I Have Changed My Name To Dheeraj And Surname Dheeraj. Please All Friends And Relatives Now Note My Name As Dheeraj Dheeraj.

I, Harish Dogra S/o Inder Singh R/o H.No. 383/5 Gill Colony Dera Bassi Teh- Dera Bassi Distt. SAS Nagar, Mohali have changed my daughter name from Baby of Nirmala to Nirvi Dogra.

I Harish Kumar Nagpal S/O Subhash Nagpal R/O Sikh Mohalla, Gidderbaha, Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib, Have Changed My Name From Harish Kumar Nagpal To Harish Nagpal.

I Ravinder Paul Sharma S/O Kewal Krishan R/O Ghor Mohalla Jhatra Road Zira Has Changed My Name To Ravinder Paul.

I Jagsir Chand S/o Mohan lal Vpo Bhadaur Tehsil Tapa, District Barnala have changed my name Jageeer Chand.

I Manish Kumar S/o Jageeer Chand Vpo Bhadaur Tehsil Tapa, District Barnala have changed my name Munish Kumar.

I, Neerkamal Singh S/O Balwinder Singh R/O Vpo Chakdana Teh Nawanshahr District Sbs Nagar Have Changem My Name Singh As Surname Neerkamal As Given Name.

I, Gurpiar Singh Brar S/o Baldev Singh R/o Chandbhan (Faridkot) have changed my name to Gurpiar Singh.

I, Meenakshi Pathania W/O Sh. Sandeep Singh R/O Village Madhopur Cantt. Tehsil And District Pathankot, Punjab Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Meenakshi Pathania To Meenakshi Sambyal.

I, Hardeep Singh S/o Jagjit Singh R/o Lalru Mandi, tehsil Derabassi, District S.A.S Nagar, Punjab, has changed my name from Hardeep to Hardeep Singh. Please all Noted

I, Achharu Singh S/o Geena Ram R/o VPO Jarg, District Ludhiana (Punjab) have changed my name to Achhru Singh.

I, Harwinder Singh S/o Achhru Singh R/o VPO Jarg, District Ludhiana (Punjab) have changed my name to Harvinder Singh.

I, Vijay S/o Kashmiri Lal R/o Back Side A.S. Girls College, Amloh Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have channed my name to Vijay Kumar.

I, Khushal Singh Bachhal S/o Kishan Singh R/o H.No.86, Opp. New Grain Market, Sunder Nagar, Samrala Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Khushal Singh.

I, Bhupinder Kaur Rangi W/o Banbir Singh R/o Azad Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Bhupinder Kaur.

I, Gurnam Kaur Bachhal W/o Khushal Singh R/o H.No.86, Opp. New Grain Market, Sunder Nagar, Samrala Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Gurnam Kaur.

I, Sukhwinder Singh Sran S/o Achhar Singh R/o Vpo. Sanher Teh-Zira (Ferozepur) have changed my name to Sukhwinder Singh.

I Tanvi D/o Deepak Sharma R/o 1348-49/85, Near Shani Dev Mandir, Baldev Nagar, Ambala, Haryana - 134007, have changed my name to Tanvi Sharma.

I Bagg Singh S/o Nikku Ram R/o Vill- Shahjahanpur, (Tehsil) Sultanpur Lodhi, Distt- Kapurthala, Punjab - 144629, have changed my name to Bagga Ram.

I Mohammad Saif Mirza S/o Shahid Mirza R/o 23, Maharaja Enclave, Sullar, Patiala (Pb.) have changed my name to Mohd Saif Mirza.

I, Md Ismail is Father Army No. 15780000K Rank Hav (OCC) Name Shaik Usman of Unit 408 Gun Msl Regt, C/o 56 APO residing at 3-94, Waghapur, Waghapur, VTC Waghapur, Po. Waghapur, Sub District Boath, District Adilabad, State Telangana Pin-504308 Declare That my Name Ismail Wrongly Mentioned in my Son Army Service Records but My correct Name is Md Ismail.

I Army No. 15329698P Rank Hav Name Pujari Appalasuri Naidu of Unit 22 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Residing of 3-1-6, Laxmudu Peta, Amadalavalasa, Srikakulam State Andhra Pradesh PIN 532185 have change my Name in all documents From Appalasuri Naidu Pujari to Pujari Appalasuri Naidu Vide Affidavit Dated 30 April 2025 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Lakshmi Prasanna N Legally Wife Of Army No: 16117120m Rank Hav Name Mopidevi Kalyana Rao Presently Of Unit 22 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Residing At 4-192, Ramanagar Bapatia, Adivi, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522101 Declare That My Name Lakshmi Prasanna Nadakuditi Wrongly Mentioned In My Husband Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Lakshmi Prasanna N.

I, Rimpy Choudhary Wife of Army No. JC-490985X, Rank Sub, Name Amol Kumar, Presently Residence at Village Chhilora, Post Abdullapur, District Meerut, Uttar Pradesh PIN 250001, have changed my Name from Rampy Chaudhary to Rimpy Choudhary, vide affidavit no.IN-PB36790800474230X,Dated 21 May 2025 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Army No. JC-490985X, Rank Sub, Name Amol Kumar, Presently Residence at Village Chhilora, Post Abdullapur, District Meerut, Uttar Pradesh PIN 250001, have changed my Name from Narendra Pal Singh to Narendra Singh, vide affidavit no. IN-PB3679121999202X, Dated 21 May 2025 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Narendra Singh Father of Army No. JC-490985X, Rank Sub, Name Amol Kumar, Presently Residence at Village Chhilora, Post Abdullapur, District Meerut, Uttar Pradesh PIN 250001, have changed my Name from Narendra Pal Singh to Narendra Singh, vide affidavit no. IN-PB3679121999202X, Dated 21 May 2025 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Mahi Chaudhary Daughter of Army No. JC-490985X, Rank Sub, Name Amol Kumar, Presently Residence at Village Chhilora, Post Abdullapur, District Meerut, Uttar Pradesh PIN 250001, have changed my Name from KM Mahi to Mahi Chaudhary, vide affidavit no.IN-PB36790931851334X, Dated 21 May 2025 before at Notary Ferozepur.



Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini Visits M3M Foundation's iMpower Academy for Skills in Panipat

Gurgaon: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini visited the iMpower Academy for Skills, operated by the M3M Foundation, at Pattikalyana, Samalkha (Panipat). The visit, which coincided with the inauguration of the Rishikulam Wellness Center by Shri Madhav Sewa Trust, marked a significant endorsement of the Foundation's mission to build a self-reliant and skilled generation. The Chief Minister was welcomed in the presence of Pawan Jindal, President, Shri Madhav Sewa Trust; Basant Bansal, Chairman, M3M Group; and Payal Kanodia, Chairperson & Trustee, M3M Foundation. The Rishikulam Wellness Center, an initiative by Shri Madhav Sewa Trust, is a commendable step toward advancing holistic healthcare and community well-being in the region. In his address, CM Saini stated “Vocational and technical education is the backbone of a strong workforce. Initiatives like iMpower not only uplift underprivileged youth but also ensure they are prepared to contribute meaningfully to the economy. I commend M3M Foundation for building such a powerful model, and I see great potential in replicating it across Haryana”.



Bhakra Beas Management Board, Chandigarh

Chandigarh: Chairman, BBMB, Sh. Manoj Tripathi inaugurated multiple physiotherapy equipments i.e. Short Wave Diathermy, Intellect Mobile Combo Unit and Intellect Mobile Laser, which have been setup at BBMB Dispensary situated in Sector 35, Chandigarh. Physiotherapist described the high-end features of these equipments and their benefits. The newly set up machines use various methods of therapies viz. deep heating, electromagnetic waves, light energy, electric impulses and are capable of assisting in pain relief, muscle recovery, repair of injured tissues, increasing blood circulation and reducing inflammation. On this occasion, Chairman, BBMB, appreciated the efforts made in procuring these machines and congratulated the dispensary staff & other seniors officers present there. He called this upgradation in dispensary, a welcome step in direction of better health care and wellness of BBMB employees.



Marathon on 38th Foundation Day of SJVN at Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station

Jhakri: A marathon was organized on May 21, 2025 today to commemorate the 38th Foundation Day of SJVN at Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station. The marathon began from the Satadri campus and concludes in the Satadri campus itself through various places of the NJHPS campus. The competition was divided into four categories according to the age group- first category- 35 years of age, second category- 35 to 45 years, third category- 45 to 55 years and fourth category- for the age group of over 55 years. The inauguration of the marathon was sent to the participants by showing the flag by the project chief Mr. Ashutosh Bahuguna. Along with inspiring people towards health and happiness and prosperity, it also became a symbol of marathon, continuous advancement of SJVN and unique development saga. To make the foundation day more memorable and enthusiastic, various cultural, sports and inspiring programs will be organized in a phased manner by May 24. The winning participants were honored at Satadri's auditorium at the closing ceremony of the marathon. The prize distribution project was done by Mr. Ashutosh Bahuguna, who gave the enthusiasm and dedication of the participants.



A Blood Donation Camp was organized by Bohti Devi Foundation, Jagadhri, which was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by Mrs. Meenakshi ji. Shri Meenakshi Ji told that blood donation is considered the biggest donation in the whole world because it is blood donation that not only saves the life of a needy person but also fills happiness in the life of that family by saving a life. She also said that there should be no confusion about blood donation; it does not cause any weakness. Rather, a person feels more refreshed than before. Certificates were also distributed to the blood donors after donating blood.

I, Army No. 16127769y Rank Spr Name Siva Ramanakunta Ramanjaneya Reddy Of Unit 5 Engineer Regiment, C/O 56 Apo, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Bandalakunta Sri Charan Kumar Reddy To Bandalakunta Poorvik Reddy Vide Affidavit Notary Ferozepur.

I Sukhwinder Kaur W/o Gurdawar Singh Vill. Sunnerwala, Distt. Kapurthala (Punjab) also known as Sukhwindr Kaur. These Both Names are Mine One & Same Person.

India-US may announce interim trade agreement before July 8

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

India and the US may announce an interim trade agreement before July 8, with New Delhi seeking full exemption from the additional 26 per cent tariff on domestic goods, an official said.

The US on April 2 imposed an additional 26 per cent reciprocal tariff on Indian goods, but suspended it for 90 days till July 9. However, the 10 per cent baseline tariff imposed by America remains in place. The government official said India's endeavour to protect its sensitive sectors may entail some quota or minimum import price (MIP). Such sectors include agri goods and dairy.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal was there in Washington earlier this week to give an impetus to the trade talks. He held meetings with US Trade Representative (USTR) Jamieson Greer and US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick.

"Talks are moving positively. Before July



8, we are looking at concluding an interim deal before the first tranche. It will include goods, non-tariff barriers, some

areas of services also like digital. We are trying that the 26 per cent additional duty and the 10 per cent baseline tariff should

not be there for India," the official said, adding that India is seeking concessions for its labour-intensive sectors such as textiles and leather.

At present, the Trump administration requires approval from the US Congress to bring tariffs below the MFN (most favoured nation) rates.

But the administration has the authority to remove the reciprocal tariffs imposed on a number of countries, including India. India may look at certain commitments from the US on the duty concessions for its labour-intensive sector in the first tranche of the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTAs). Both countries have fixed a deadline to conclude the first phase of the pact by fall (September-October) of this year to more than double bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030.

The minister-level meetings were followed by the deliberations between chief negotiators of the two countries, which will continue until May 22.

Officials from New Delhi and

Washington are looking to take advantage of the 90-day tariff pause window to advance the talks.

The US has suspended the additional 26 per cent tariffs on India till July 9. It was announced on April 2 to bridge the widening trade deficit.

To boost bilateral trade, India is seeking duty concessions for labour-intensive sectors like textiles, gems and jewellery, leather goods, garments, plastics, chemicals, shrimp, oil seeds, chemicals, grapes and bananas in the proposed pact with America.

On the other hand, the US wants duty concessions in sectors like certain industrial goods, automobiles (electric vehicles in particular), wines, petrochemical products, dairy, agriculture items such as apples, tree nuts and GM (genetically modified) crops.

While the import of GM crops from the US continues to remain a non-starter due to regulatory norms in India, New Delhi is open to import non-GM products like

Alpha alpha hay (a kind of cattle feed).

The US has on multiple occasions raised concerns over certain non-tariff barriers being faced by American goods in the Indian markets.

Whether another round of talks will happen on the proposed pact between the two countries, the official said, "We are trying to finalise things as early as possible."

The US remained India's largest trading partner for the fourth consecutive year in 2024-25, with bilateral trade valued at \$131.84 billion. The US accounts for about 18 per cent of India's total goods exports, 6.22 per cent in imports and 10.73 per cent in the country's total merchandise trade.

With America, India had a trade surplus (the difference between imports and exports) of \$41.18 billion in goods in 2024-25. It was \$35.32 billion in 2023-24, \$27.7 billion in 2022-23, \$32.85 billion in 2021-22 and \$22.73 billion in 2020-21. The US has raised concerns over this widening trade deficit.

India, EU looking for early harvest trade agreement: Official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Negotiations for a proposed trade pact between India and the 27-nation European Union are progressing at a faster pace and both the sides are looking at concluding the talks for an early harvest trade agreement by July this year, a government official said on Wednesday.

The early harvest or an interim trade agreement would include issues such as intellectual property rights (IPRs), government procurement, tariff and non-tariff barriers, the official said.

An Indian official team from the commerce ministry is visiting Brussels this week for the next round of negotiations on the trade agreement with the European Union (EU).

This visit comes in the backdrop of recently-concluded eleventh round of talks between chief negotiators of both the sides on May 16 here in the national capital.

"We are looking for an early harvest. We are trying to do it as early as possible. Targeting by July for early harvest," the official added. The two sides have agreed to conclude the agreement in two phases on account of the uncertain global trade environment, particularly due to the US tariff actions under President Donald Trump.

India has followed the practice of negotiating trade pacts in two phases with Australia.

The early harvest pact would lead to a full fledged free trade agreement.

Besides demanding significant duty cuts in automobiles and medical devices, the EU wants tax reduction in products like wines, spirits, meat, poultry and a strong intellectual property regime.

Indian goods' exports to the EU, such as ready-made garments, pharmaceuticals, steel, petroleum products, and electrical machinery, can become more competitive if the pact gets concluded successfully.

In June 2022, India and the 27-nation EU bloc resumed negotiations for a comprehensive free trade agreement, an investment protection agreement and a pact on geographical indications (GIs) after a gap of over eight years.

It stalled in 2013 due to differences over the level of opening up of the markets. On February 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the European Commission President agreed to seal a much-awaited free trade deal by the end of this year.

The India-EU trade pact negotiations cover 23 policy areas or chapters, including Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Investment, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Remedies, Rules of Origin, Customs and Trade Facilitation, Competition, Trade Defence, Government Procurement, Dispute Settlement, Intellectual Property Rights, Geographical Indications and Sustainable Development.

India's bilateral trade in goods with the EU was \$137.41 billion in 2023-24 (exports worth \$75.92 billion and imports worth \$61.48 billion), making it the largest trading partner for goods.

The EU market accounts for about 17 per cent of India's total exports, while EU's exports to India make up 9 per cent of its total overseas shipments. In addition, the bilateral trade in services, in 2023, between India and the EU was estimated at \$51.45 billion.

Hindustan Zinc offers metal buying through online auctions

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Hindustan Zinc Limited (NSE: HINDZINC), India's only and the world's largest integrated zinc producer, is redefining the metal procurement experience through its transformative Online Price Discovery (OPD) and Digital Pricing Automation platforms. Integrated into the state-of-the-art Vedanta Metal Bazaar, these pioneering digital initiatives aim to bring the seamless, transparent experience of B2C e-commerce to the traditionally complex world of metal procurement. With 100 per cent of its zinc, lead and silver portfolio now available through real-time, transparent online auctions,

Hindustan Zinc is setting a new industry standard by offering customers unparalleled accessibility, flexibility and control while delivering a seamless experience even amid fluctuating commodity prices.

All of Hindustan Zinc's products are now offered through online auctions. The dynamic pricing model enables real-time digital transactions, allowing businesses of all sizes - from MSMEs to large industrial enterprises - to discover market-driven prices for premium-quality zinc and lead. The company's offering includes London Metal Exchange (LME)-registered world-class products such as Special High-Grade (SHG) Zinc, High-Grade (HG) Zinc, Asia's first low-carbon 'green' zinc EcoZen, Prime Western (PW)

Zinc, Continuous Galvanizing Grade (CGG) Zinc, Special High-Grade Jumbo Zinc, High-Grade Jumbo Zinc, Hindustan Zinc Die Casting Alloys 3 and 5, Special High-Grade Lead, as well as London Bullion Market Association (LBMA)-registered silver bars (30 kg and 1 kg) and Silver Powder, among other variants.

Sharing his thoughts, Arun Misra, CEO — Hindustan Zinc, said, "Metals are the core of India's economic progress, enabling industries that shape our nation's future. At Hindustan Zinc, we believe that collaborating with customers and offering them best-in-class services is key to driving this progress. With our pioneering Online Price Discovery and Digital Pricing Automation

platforms we are placing the control directly in the hands of our customers thereby democratizing access to critical resources."

Speaking about the digital experience, Hindustan Zinc's esteemed customer Lalit Shah from Mahaveer Metals said, "Vedanta Metal Bazaar has truly transformed the way we engage with metal procurement. The platform is intuitive, transparent and designed with the customer in mind — from live LME pricing to seamless bidding processes, every aspect empowers businesses like ours to make smarter, faster decisions. What once required cumbersome processes is now available at our fingertips through digital platforms, giving us greater visibility, control and confidence."

VIT-TNMGRMU sign MoU on AI-driven healthcare research

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) and Tamil Nadu MGR Medical University (TNMGRMU) has entered into a partnership to foster collaborative research in the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed to formalise this initiative that includes: cooperation in teaching, joint research, socially conscious product design and technology transfer.

The MoU was signed by GV Selvam, vice-president of VIT and K Narayanasamy, vice chancellor of TNMGRMU in the presence of T Thyagarajan, pro-vice chancellor of VIT Chennai, SP Thyagarajan, advisor to chancellor and K Sivasangeetha, Registrar of TNMGRMU.

The MoU focuses on fostering joint research at national and international levels, PhD supervision, submission of R and D proposals, joint publications, development of new technologies and joint



patent filing. In addition, the agreement promotes clinical validation processes, ethical clearances and other collaborative activities that support translational research and innovation.

Through this partnership, VIT and TNMGRMU aim to significantly raise the bar for collaborative research, and soci-

etal impact in the healthcare sector. Under this collaboration, both institutions will also jointly work to enhance the quality of training and research through initiatives such as: exchange of students pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD programmes; faculty exchange programs, project guidance, to utilise facil-

ities at both the institutions; conduct of co-hosted seminars, workshops, hackathons and conferences periodically from time to time; to share knowledge resources, academic and training materials including access to library and other digital resources of each other within the mutually agreed framework; to conduct certificate and other courses, to provide scholarship/fellowship for scholars/scientists/faculty members involved in research work.

GV Selvam said, "This partnership reflects VIT's commitment to aligning higher education and research with the nation's developmental and public health goals. Bridging engineering and medical research is essential for future-ready healthcare, driving smarter and more accessible innovations."

Emphasising that today's research paves the way for tomorrow's treatments, K Narayanasamy highlighted the need for integrating technology with healthcare to deliver high-quality treatment.

Sensex-Nifty rebounded sharply on Wednesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded sharply on Wednesday, snapping their three-day falling streak on the back of buying in blue-chips HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank and a firm trend in Asian peers. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 410.19 points or 0.51 per cent to settle at 81,596.63. During the day, it surged 835.2 points or 1.02 per cent to 82,021.64. The NSE Nifty climbed 129.55 points or 0.52 per cent to 24,813.45.

Among Sensex firms, Bajaj Finserv, Tata Steel, Sun Pharma, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Bank and a firm trend in Asian peers. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 410.19 points or 0.51 per cent to settle at 81,596.63. During the day, it surged 835.2 points or 1.02 per cent to 82,021.64. The NSE Nifty climbed 129.55 points or 0.52 per cent to 24,813.45.

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Oil prices climb after CNN report that Israel may attack Iran

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Washington

World shares were mixed on Wednesday while oil prices jumped more than 1 per cent after a report by CNN said Israel may be planning an attack on Iranian nuclear facilities. A CNN report cited unnamed intelligence officials saying Israel may be preparing for an attack on Iranian nuclear facilities. Oil prices tend to rise with conflicts that might disrupt oil supplies, and they jumped early Wednesday but lost some of those gains by midday.

US benchmark crude oil gained 93 cents to \$62.96 per barrel while Brent crude, the international standard, rose 90 cents to \$66.27 per barrel.

In talks on the nuclear issue, Iranian officials have warned they could pursue a

nuclear weapon with their stockpile of uranium enriched to near weapons-grade levels. US President Donald Trump has repeatedly threatened to unleash airstrikes targeting Iran's programme if a deal isn't reached. In early European trading, Germany's DAX fell 0.3 per cent to 23,967.81, while the CAC 40 in Paris declined 0.7 per cent to 7,891.05. Britain's FTSE 100 was little changed, at 8,780.46.

The futures for the S and P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were down 0.6 per cent. In Asia, Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei 225 fell 0.6 per cent to 37,298.98.

Gains have been limited by the continuing worries over higher tariffs Trump has imposed on many US trading partners since taking office. Earlier this week, Japanese officials said they were insisting all of his higher tariffs on imports from

Japan be removed as part of talks with Washington. Japan's exports have slowed due to the tariffs, the government reported Wednesday. Exports to the US, Japan's largest single trading partner, fell almost 2 per cent year-on-year in April and the annual rate of growth in its global exports slowed to 2 per cent from 4 per cent in March, preliminary customs data showed.

In a step that further weakened Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's faltering administration, the agriculture minister, Taku Eto, resigned after an outcry over comments he made about not having to buy rice, but getting it for free, at a time when shortfalls in supply have pushed prices of the staple grain sharply higher. In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng picked up 0.6 per cent to 23,827.78, while the Shanghai Composite index edged 0.2 per cent higher to 3,387.57.

SEBI cautions on stock market scams through social media

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Markets regulator SEBI on Wednesday cautioned investors against unsolicited messages from unverified people and asked them to refrain from joining WhatsApp groups or communities. This warning comes amid a rise in cases where entities are using social media platforms to entice and deceive gullible investors in the securities market.

SEBI has observed that such entities use various strategies to gain investors' trust and confidence. Generally, these entities send unsolicited invitations in the form of links to join WhatsApp groups — often under names like "VIP Group" or "Free Trading Courses" — targeting prospective clients.

To appear credible, these entities often create fake profiles that depict them as

experts in the securities market. In many instances, they impersonate SEBI-registered intermediaries, well-known public figures, celebrities, or CEOs/MDs of established organisations.

They exploit investors by showcasing fake testimonials of large profits, supposedly earned by other group members who are actually playing a supporting role in the scam. This misleading portrayal tricks investors into transferring funds to the bank accounts of these entities, lured by false promises of similarly high returns.

Accordingly, SEBI, in a statement, advised investors "to not trust such unsolicited messages from unverified people and refrain from joining such Whatsapp groups/ communities. Investors are advised to deal with only SEBI-registered intermediaries and through authentic trading apps".

Nearly half of consumers polled switching to private labels: EY survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Indian consumers are re-evaluating their retail choices and nearly half of them are switching to private labels, according to an EY report which highlights heightened consumer expectations of value, trust and relevance from their purchase experiences.

According to the latest EY Future Consumer Index (FCI) — India edition, the growing preference for private label products is transforming consumer perceptions, positioning store brands as the favoured alternative to traditional branded options.

The EY Future Consumer Index tracks changing consumer sentiment and behaviours across time horizons and global markets, identifying the new consumer segments that are emerging. The 15th edition of the EY Future Consumer Index surveyed over 1,000 consumers across India, between January 24, 2025, to February 20, 2025. The report said the growing preference for private label products is trans-



forming consumer perceptions, positioning store brands as the favoured alternative to traditional branded options.

It said 52 per cent of consumers are switching to private labels, with 70 per cent agreeing that these brands are increasingly providing better quality products. Around 70 per cent of the consumers

believe that private labels meet their needs just as effectively as branded products, it added.

"Even when brands turn to innovation and 'brand improvements' such as changing ingredients or formulas to create more value, 34 per cent of respondents perceive these efforts as cost-cutting measures

rather than genuine innovation," it said.

Furthermore, 59 per cent of consumers indicated that they only purchase branded products when they are on sale, prioritizing discounts over brand loyalty.

The EY report further said that retailers also appear to be responding to this shift, with 74 per cent of consumers noticing more private label options where they shop and 70 per cent observing more private label items positioned at eye level on store shelves. Additionally, a significant 69 per cent of consumers said that store brands and private labels help them save money. Angshuman Bhattacharya, Partner and National Leader, Consumer Products and Retail Sector, EY-Parthenon said consumer behaviour has traditionally evolved in response to changing economic situations, but the current shifts appear to be more permanent.

Retailers are confidently launching private labels and allocating prime shelf space to them, while technology is enhancing the shopping experience by providing con-

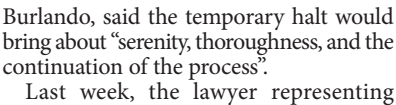
sumers with limitless options and the ability to compare products, he said.

"The rapid growth of private labels is further evidenced by the rising popularity of fresh, new brands among Indian consumers. At the same time, this presents established brands with both the opportunity and the imperative to deepen their connection with consumers and explore innovative ways to stay relevant," Bhattacharya added.

The report also noted that 47 per cent of respondents expressed willingness to return to a branded product if it offers superior taste, quality or performance. Additionally, 44 per cent of consumers indicated they would switch back to branded products for better value for money. The EY report also reveals that artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a key shopping tool, with 62 per cent of respondents making purchase decisions based on AI recommendations. As many as 58 per cent of consumers stated that AI has significantly enhanced their shopping experience.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Buenos Aires

Makintach is one of three judges hearing the case and has denied any wrongdoing, but Ferrari argued that "the situation compromises the prestige of the judiciary". The attorneys representing Maradona's family had joined the prosecutor's request for a suspension. The lawyer for two of the former soccer player's daughters, Fernando



Leopoldo Luque, Maradona's primary physician at the time of his death and one of the main defendants, had requested Makintach's removal from the trial, argu-

Seven healthcare professionals are on trial for failing to provide adequate care and could face a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison.

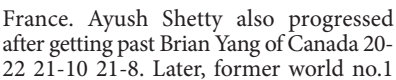
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Madrid

“Because of the injustice and false-

The Brazil forward initially didn't want to continue playing that day.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Kuala Lumpur

Karunakaran also registered an upset by stunning third seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei 21-13 21-14 in just 39 minutes. He will next face Christo Popov of



Srikanth stunned a higher-ranked opponent in sixth seed Lu Guang Zu of China 23-21 13-21 21-11 in a 57-minute show-

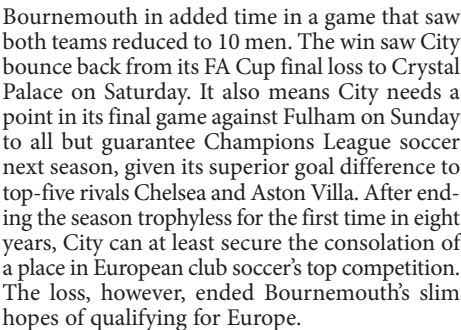
The pairing of Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath was shown the door by Indonesia's Verrell Yustin Mulia and Lisa Ayu Kusumawati 15-21 16-21.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Manchester

We have some players for the academy and we do it. “(We) cannot sustain for the emotion of the club, the soul of the team, create another connection with each other that this season we lost it a bit.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Manchester

Bernardo Silva doubled City's lead in the 38th and substitute Nico Gonzalez added a third in the 89th. Deniel Jebbison pulled one back for



De Bruyne tribute

City also unveiled a mosaic of De Bruyne at the club's academy and named a road on its campus after him. The 33-year-old De Bruyne was part of a period of unprecedented success for City, which saw it win 16 major trophies including six

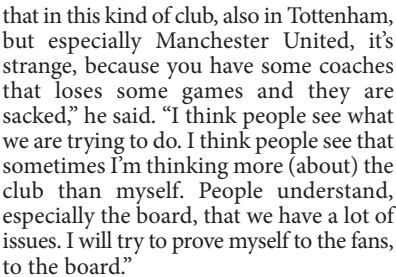
Rodri returns

Palace party

Eddie Nketiah scored twice in a 4-2 win against Wolves. Just days after Palace's win at Wembley secured its first major trophy, the team kept the party going in front of its home fans at Selhurst Park. Wolves went ahead through Emmanuel Agbadou, but two goals from Nketiah in the space of five minutes in the first half put the home side in front. Eberechi Eze — who scored the winning goal in the final — was on target again late on.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA **Bilbao**

And what a trophy does is hopefully accelerate this. I still think there's a lot of work to be done. That's quite obvious with the challenges that we've had this year. But also, there's been some growth that I would like to see through. I'm far from thinking that this job is finished." Tottenham is looking for its first title since 2008, having lost the Champions League final in 2019, but has struggled under Postecoglou this season. It sits in 17th place in the Premier League.



Postecoglou has a history of changing jobs after leading his clubs to a title.

Bilbao (Spain): Manchester United and Tottenham will meet in an all-English final in the Europa League later on Wednesday, with both clubs hoping to end a dismal season on a high note. The trophy will offer some relief for the winner, while the loser is likely to face a fresh wave of criticism. United is unbeaten in the Europa League this season but is down in 16th place in the Premier League, one spot ahead of Tottenham. Tottenham was beaten in the 2019 Champions League final by Liverpool, and has not lifted a trophy since the 2008 English League Cup. United picked up its last silverware in the 2024 FA Cup. There was a rain trouble overnight in the Basque Country city of Bilbao, where more than 50,000 English fans were expected, many of them without tickets. Supporters from both clubs confronted each other on the streets and in bars, with some throwing trash bins, bottles and other objects at each other. There were also Spanish media reports of confrontations in nearby towns and cities, where many of the fans were staying to avoid overpriced accommodation in Bilbao. There were no reports of serious injuries in the confrontations. Tottenham has won all three matches it has played against United this season. It is unbeaten in six straight games against its final rival, with the last five under manager Ange Postecoglou. United and Tottenham have met in just one previous final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Bilabao

"Very good for us," Amorim said. "Of course, they are limited in the minutes for the game but they can help us win the game." Matthijs de Ligt will not be available but traveled to Bilbao to support his teammates. Lisandro Martinez is the only other first-team player not available as he remains out with a serious knee injury. The return of Zirkzee was the biggest surprise as he had initially been ruled out for the season because of a hamstring injury he picked up in April. "Me neither," Amorim said when told nobody expected the forward's return. "They recover quite well. They push, of course, and we have to respect the feeling of the player but we push a little bit, as they wanted to be part of the team. That is a very good sign." Dalot was nursing a calf injury since April, and Yorlano had been out since earlier this month.

United has had a dismal season but is

Tottenham injuries

Tottenham is in 17th place in the Premier League, having lost 21 times — also a club record in the modern era. The Champions League runner-up in 2019, Tottenham is seeking its first trophy since the 2008 English League Cup.

