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RIVING INNOVATION: STARTUPS SHAPING INDIA'S FUTURE P06

INDIA LIKELY TO SEE SMARTPHONE EXPORTS REACH $20 BILLION THIS FISCAL P11

BCCI TO EVALUATE GAMBHIR'S FUTURE POST CHAMPIONS TROPHY P12

Need to develop earthquake warning systems: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday urged scientists to develop warning systems for earthquakes while noting that advanced weather forecasts have significantly reduced casualties and minimised economic losses caused by cyclones. Addressing a function to celebrate 150 years of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), he also lauded the institution as a symbol of India's scientific journey.

Modi noted how advanced weather forecasting has significantly reduced casualties during cyclones and minimised economic losses, boosting investor confidence and building economic resilience.

The prime minister also launched 'Mission Mausam' for developing cutting-edge weather surveillance technologies and systems, implementing high-resolution atmospheric observations, next-generation radars and satellites, and high-performance computers.

"We have launched 'Mission Mausam' to make India weather ready and climate smart," Modi said.

The celebrations were attended by the World Meteorological Organisation Secretary General Celeste Saulo, Earth Sciences Minister Jitendra Singh, Earth Sciences Secretary M Ravichandran, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra and a host of dignitaries. PTI

Modi greets people on Makar Sankranti, Bihu

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted people on the occasion of Makar Sankranti on Tuesday. The festival marks the beginning of the Sun's 'uttarayana' (northward) journey, considered auspicious in Hindu tradition. Modi wished new energy and enthusiasm to everyone, and also greeted people on Magh Bihu, a harvest festival celebrated in Assam. He said on X, "We celebrate the abundance of nature, the joy of harvest and the spirit of togetherness. May this festival further the spirit of happiness and togetherness."

Our Veterans are heroes, enduring symbols of patriotism: Modi

On Armed Forces Veterans' Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday hailed the brave women and men who dedicated their lives to safeguarding the nation and said our veterans are heroes and enduring symbols of patriotism. "On Armed Forces Veterans Day, we express gratitude to the brave women and men who dedicated their lives to safeguarding our nation. Their sacrifices, courage and unwavering commitment to duty are exemplary," Modi said in a post on X.

National Turmeric Board to ensure better opportunities for innovation, global promotion: PM

The establishment of the National Turmeric Board will ensure better opportunities for innovation, global promotion and value addition in turmeric production, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday. The National Turmeric Board, headquartered in Nizamabad, Telangana, will pay special attention to the welfare of 'Golden Spice' farmers, develop good varieties and focus on its exports.

Both Delhi and J&K close to our hearts: Rajnath Singh

JAMMU, JANUARY 14



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said that the BJP government at the Centre treats Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir equally.

Addressing the ninth Armed Forces Veterans' Day programme at Tanda Artillery Brigade in Akhnoor, the Defence Minister praised Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for his effort to reduce the distance between the hearts of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi and asserted that the BJP government treats Delhi and Kashmir equally.

"Kashmir was treated differently (by previous governments) in the past. As a result, our brothers and sisters in the region could not get connected with Delhi as it should have been. I do not want to go into the past as our government's biggest achievement is that we have been working to bridge 'Dil ki Doori' between Kashmir and the rest of the country.

"I congratulate Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for taking the right steps to help overcome the little bit of gap, which is still there," Union Minister Singh said.

The Defence Minister also extended Makar Sankranti and New Year greetings to the veterans, and said, "The presence of veterans here today proves that we are treating Akhnoor or for that matter Kashmir the same way as Delhi in our hearts."

Lauding veterans and war heroes, the Defence Minister made a special mention of Brigadier Usman, who fought the tribal invaders in 1947 and forced them to withdraw back. He criticised Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) Prime Minister Chaudhary Anwarul Haq for his remarks against India and said that Jammu and Kashmir is incomplete without PoK.

The Union Minister, accompanied by the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), was received by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah and senior officers amid tight security. He inaugurated a heritage museum and hoisted a 108-foot-tall National Flag in Jammu and Kashmir's Akhnoor border area. IANS

How is India managing its Maha Kumbh, the world's largest gathering



NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Maha Kumbh is set to be the world's largest gathering of humanity, with 400 million visitors expected at the six-week event that began on Monday in Prayagraj.

Here is a look at how authorities are managing the mammoth crowds at the festival.

TENT CITY: A temporary city has sprung up across 4,000 hectares (9,990 acres) on the river banks, with 150,000 tents to accommodate devotees and almost an equal number of toilets.

About 69,000 LED and solar lights light up the paths through the settlement, kept clean by 15,000 sanitation workers.

SECURITY: Temporary police stations and checkpoints in Prayagraj include three floating 'water police stations' on the river, while paramilitary troops and bomb disposal squads are also at the ready.

More than 50,000 personnel are on guard to ensure the safety of visitors.

TECHNOLOGY: Authorities are using closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras, drones, and tethered drones to monitor the festival area, along with anti-drone craft to find and remove unauthorised drones.

Also in use are underwater drones that can operate in a depth of 100 metres (3,330 ft), equipped with advanced technology to function in low-light conditions.

FIRE SAFETY: Every tent has been fitted with fire-fighting equipment, while more than 1.3 billion rupees ($15 million) has designated for fire safety in the festival area, with 351 firefighting vehicles and 2,000 trained personnel on hand to immediately stamp out any fires.

LOST-AND-FOUND CENTRES: To help reunite families separated in the crowd, centres with dedicated sections for women and children have been set up, while loudspeakers installed along the river banks will make continuous announcements about those separated. PTI

CM announces setting up of Surjit Patar Centre for ethical AI in Guru Nanak Dev University

N.P.S. CHAMAK
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Amritsar, January 14



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Tuesday announced to set up a state of the art Surjit Patar Centre for ethical Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Guru Nanak Dev University.

Chairing a function to pay homage to the eminent writer here today, the Chief Minister said that this centre will be equipped with the latest ultra modern technology. He assured fulsome support and cooperation to the University for this Noble Cause. Bhagwant Singh Mann also announced to institutionalise an Award in the memory of great writer which will be given to the budding writers to encourage them.

The Chief Minister said that appointments in the universities are being made for the sole purpose of promoting academics in these prestigious institutions. He said that the single point agenda is to ensure that education, and not groupism, gets boost in these premier institutions. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that the great Gurus, saints and martyrs have taught us to fight against tyranny, oppression and injustice. Paying floral tributes to Dr Surjit Patar, The Chief Minister said that passing away of this great son of the soil was a huge and irreparable loss for the Punjabi literature. He said that Dr Surjit Patar was one of the greatest writers of Punjabi Literature and he had a strong personal bond with the late writer, who appreciated him a lot. Bhagwant Singh Mann recalled the enormous contribution of Dr Surjit Patar towards the promotion of Punjabi language, literature and culture, which would always be acknowledged by one and all.

The Chief Minister said that Dr Surjit Patar was one of the most celebrated Punjabi writers who had a deep impact on the psyche of every Punjabi adding that it is a matter of immense pride and satisfaction that if English language had legendary writer Keats then Punjabi language has Dr Surjit Patar. He described Dr Surjit Patar as a 'great writer' who made an outstanding contribution for cementing the bond of communal harmony and brotherhood in the society through his pen.

SC to take up contempt plea against Punjab Chief Secretary, DGP

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



Amid growing concern over the health of farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal — who has been on fast unto death since November 26, 2024 to press for farmers' demands — the Supreme Court will take the matter on Wednesday.

A bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice N Kotiswar Singh is scheduled to take up a petition challenging Punjab and Haryana High Court's order to remove barricades erected by police and a contempt petition against Punjab Chief Secretary and DGP.

It will also take up a plea filed on behalf of Dallewal, seeking a direction to the Centre to implement a proposal, including a legal guarantee of MSP on crops. This proposal was made to protesting farmers in 2021, following the repeal of the farm laws.

The Supreme Court had on January 6 adjourned the hearing after being told that Dallewal has agreed to meet Justice (Retd) Nawab Singh-led High-Powered Committee set up by the top court.

"Let us hope something positive emerges out of it," the bench had said after senior counsel Kapil Sibal informed it on behalf of the Punjab Government that the protesting farmers led by Dallewal have agreed to meet during the day the Justice Nawab Singh committee mandated to find an amicable solution. IANS

Parliamentary panel to summon Zuckerberg over poll claim

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Seeking an apology from social media giant Meta for 'tarnishing' India's image, Bharatiya Janata Party MP Nishikant Dubey, who heads the Parliament's Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology, said on Tuesday that the panel will summon the firm following its chairman's comments that India's ruling dispensation lost the Lok Sabha election last year.

'My committee will summon Meta for this incorrect information. Incorrect information about any democratic country tarnishes its image. This organisation will have to apologise to the Indian Parliament and the people here for this mistake,' Dubey said in a post on X.PTI

With new HQ, Congress leaves behind more than an address

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

If walls could talk, 24 Akbar Road would write itself a book -- of the days of the Raj, of the Burma of the 1960s and mostly of the dramatic ups and downs of the Congress that headquartered itself in its spacious premises 47 years ago. Always more than an address, the Lutyens era bungalow that witnessed many a story and secret cedes its place as a political nerve centre on Wednesday when the opposition party moves to its new office, the Indira Gandhi Bhawan, at Kotla Road a few kilometres away.

The Akbar Road bungalow once housed Sir Reginald Maxwell who was a member of Viceroy Lord Linlithgow's executive council. It was also home to a teen Aung San Suu Kyi in 1961 when her mother was appointed ambassador to India.

Party old-timers and romantics agree that modern amenities and a larger area are the need of the hour but the emotional connect and unfolding of history associated with the 24 Akbar Road address will always stay strong.

On a chilly January morning in 1978, a team of 20 workers from the Indira Gandhi-headed breakaway Congress entered its precincts, the first Congress members to do so. It is another cold January. And then, as now, the Congress is again in the opposition, facing mounting electoral challenges as it did post-Emergency under Indira Gandhi and striving to stage a comeback.

A Type VII bungalow in the heart of Lutyens' Delhi, 24 Akbar Road was then allotted to G Venkatswamy, a Rajya Sabha MP from Andhra Pradesh who chose to side with Indira Gandhi at a time when most Congress leaders had distanced themselves from her for fear of retaliation from the then ruling Janata Party.

"Back then, 24 Akbar Road was called Burma House -- so named by Jawaharlal Nehru in recognition of Daw Khin Kyi's special status," Kidwai says. The house, built by Sir Edwin Lutyens between 1911 and 1925, is regarded as a singularly fine example of a blend of British colonial architecture and the new modernist style. PTI

CM Mann to hoist national flag at Faridkot on Republic Day

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14



The state-level Republic Day celebrations for 2025 will be held in Ludhiana, where Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria will hoist the National Flag on January 26. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann will preside over the flag-hoisting ceremony at Faridkot.

A government spokesperson provided further details, stating that Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan will hoist the National Flag in Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar, and Deputy Speaker Jai Kishan Rori will do so in Rupnagar.

Other ministers will participate in Republic Day ceremonies at various locations: Finance, Planning, and Excise Minister Harpal Singh Cheema in Sangrur. New and Renewable Energy and Printing & Stationery Minister Aman Arora in Jalandhar. Social Justice, Social Security, Women & Child Development Minister Dr. Baljit Kaur in Barnala. NRI Affairs and Administrative Reforms Minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal in Gurdaspur. Health, Family Welfare, and Medical Education Minister Dr. Balbir Singh in Moga. Revenue, Rehabilitation, Disaster Management, Water Supply & Sanitation, and Housing & Urban Development Minister Hardeep Singh Mundian in Bathinda. Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Forest Minister Lal Chand in Sri Muktsar Sahib. Transport and Jails Minister Laljit Singh Bhullar in Fazilka.

School Education, Higher Education, and Technical Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains in Hoshiarpur. Power and Public Works Minister Harbhajan Singh in Ferozepur. Water Resources, Mines & Geology, Soil & Water Conservation Minister Barinder Kumar Goyal in Patiala. Tourism, Cultural Affairs, Investment Promotion, Hospitality, Industry & Commerce, and Rural Development & Panchayats Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond in Amritsar. Local Government and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Dr. Ravjot Singh in Malerkotla. Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian in Tarn Taran. Defence Services Welfare, Freedom Fighters, and Horticulture Minister Mohinder Bhagat in Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.

Speaker, Cabinet Ministers pay obeisance on Mela Maghi

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh/Sri Muktsar Sahab, January 14



Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan accompanied by Cabinet Ministers today paid obeisance at Gurudwara Tutti Gandi Sahib on the occasion of Mela Maghi.

During the Mela a sea of humanity was seen all over the roads leading to the Gurudwara. The ministers who paid obeisance included Speaker Vidhan Sabha Sandhwan, New and Renewable Energy Sources Minister Aman Arora, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian, Social Security, Woman and Child Development and Social Justice Minister Dr Baljeet Kaur and Sangrur MP Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer. They all prayed for the welfare of people at Gurudwara Tutti Gandi Sahib.

Langar is being served 24x7 since yesterday for the devotees at all roads leading to the Gurudwara.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Tripathi, SSP Tushar Gupta and Chairman of District Planning Board Sukhjinder Singh Kauni were also present on the occasion.

On this special day, Harpal Kaur-mother of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann also offered prayers at the Gurudwara.

Adequate security measures were taken by the police for smooth traffic on all the roads as people from all walks of life from far off places coming to pay obeisance. A special horse fair was also organised at Ghora Mandi where horses and different animals, birds and many kinds of dog breed was brought by sellers.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Tripathi, SSP Tushar Gupta and Chairman of District Planning Board Sukhjinder Singh Kauni were also present on the occasion.

Ludhiana admn hires private firm to conduct dog sterilization in Hasanpur

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14

Ludhiana district administration has tied up with a private firm associated with the local Municipal Corporation to conduct sterilization of stray dogs in Hasanpur village on emergency basis. The administration will compensate the company, which is already operating in Ludhiana Corporation area, as per existing terms and conditions. All action is being taken according to the standard operating procedures of Animal Birth Control.

The Municipal Committees under the administration will also issue tenders for the sterilization of stray dogs in the rural areas of district this week.

During a meeting with officials from various departments on Tuesday, Deputy Commissioner Jitendra Jorwal emphasized that the sterilization project aims to control the canine population and reduce the incidence of dog bites. The private firm that is associated with Local Municipal Corporation will start sterilization of stray dogs in Hasanpur village, on immediate basis on Tuesday itself. He added that the BDPO along with Deputy Director Animal Husbandry will be nodal officer of the project and will ensure effective implementation of the project.

Meanwhile, the other Municipal Committees will float tenders this week and the work will be awarded to a suitable firm that can efficiently carry out sterilizations in accordance with the guidelines set by the Animal Welfare Board of India. The selected firm will be required to maintain thorough records of each sterilized dog to ensure transparency in its operations. The said firms would also provide services in rural areas on payment basis.

Jorwal also stated that a committee will be established in each Municipal Committee to oversee the work being carried out by the chosen firm. Additional Deputy Commissioners Amarjit Bains, Rohit Gupta, Chief Minister Field Officer Kritika Goyal, SDMs Jasleen Kaur, Poonampreet Kaur, and others were also present at the meeting.

SSP conducts surprise inspection of Modern Jail, Kapurthala



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, January 14

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kapurthala, Gaurav Tura, conducted a surprise inspection of Modern Jail, Kapurthala, early this morning.

The operation was carried out with a large team comprising two SPs , four DSPs, eight station house officers, three unit in-charges, 150 police personnel, and officials from the prison department.

During the inspection, several prohibited items were discovered inside the jail premises, including One mobile phone, One sharpened iron strip fashioned as a dagger, four knives,Three small metal spikes, One iron pipe approximately 2.5 feet long, and One wooden stick of similar length

Legal action is being initiated against those responsible for the possession of these items, said SSP.

SSP stated that such surprise checks will continue to be conducted regularly to ensure law and order is maintained within the jail premises.

Govt committed to promoting sports, culture: Harbhajan Singh

ASHOK KAURA
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, January 14



Punjab's Power and Public Works Minister Harbhajan Singh reiterated the state government's commitment to promoting sports and culture, citing the impressive performance of Punjab's youth in various sports disciplines.

Speaking at the 30th Annual Baba Shaheedan Sports and Cultural Fair at Village Sanghe Khalsa, near Nurmahal in Jalandhar, Cabinet Minister emphasized that such events are crucial in preserving Punjab's rich cultural heritage. He highlighted the government's initiatives, particularly the "Khedan Watan Punjab Diyan" program, which provides a platform for athletes to showcase their talent and excel in their respective sports.

Cabinet Minister also stressed the importance of sports in maintaining physical and mental fitness, as well as instilling values like teamwork and discipline. He encouraged the youth to participate in at least one sport and praised the development of Village Sanghe Khalsa, assuring that the state government is committed to providing village-level facilities comparable to urban areas.

The Minister lauded MLA Inderjit Kaur Mann for her active role in village development and honored the winning athletes.

MLA Inderjit Kaur Mann welcomed Minister to the event and assured that the government would ensure the provision of basic amenities in her constituency's villages. Other notable attendees included Sarabjit Singh Randhawa, Satinder Singh Sangha, Surjit Singh Randhawa, Pyara Singh Sangha, village panchayat members, officials of the Overseas Committee, and a large number of spectators.

Farmers' meet inconclusive, next round on January 18

PATIALA, JANUARY 14

Talks to forge unity by major farm unions remained inconclusive on Monday. Representatives from three prominent farmers' forums — Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), SKM (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) — deliberated for over two and a half hours during a meeting held at Patran, Patiala district. They agreed to reconvene on January 18 to finalise a common minimum programme.

Prominent farmers' leaders such as Joginder Singh Ugrahan, Balbir Singh Rajewal, Darshan Pal and Kaka Singh Kotra took part in the meeting. The discussions were conducted against the backdrop of rising support for farm leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who has been on a hunger strike for 49 days, demanding a legal guarantee for the MSP for crops.

Addressing the media after the meeting, SKM leader Joginder Singh Ugrahan said, "The meeting was held in a positive atmosphere. We firmly believe that unity among all farm unions is crucial to winning this battle. Public support will follow once we stand united."

Despite Ugrahan's assurances, speculation surfaced after Rajewal left midway through the discussions. AGENCIES

HC issues notice on plea over non-compliance with ban on songs glorifying drugs, violence

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

More than five years after Directors-General of Police in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh were directed to ensure songs glorifying liquor, wine, drugs and violence were not played even in live shows, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has issued a notice of motion on a contempt petition alleging failure to comply with court directions.

The notice was issued for February 7 by Justice Harkesh Manuja to authorities in Punjab on the petition filed by Panditrao Dharenavar.

The petitioner alleged that the high court in its judgment dated July 22, 2019, had directed the authorities to curb the glorification of drugs, violence and alcohol in songs, but the directives remain largely unimplemented.

He added that the judgment had ordered the Directors-General to ensure such content was prohibited after observing that such songs negatively impacted children of impressionable age.

The judgment also mandated that Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police ensure compliance with the directives.

Dharenavar contended that officials, including Punjab's Principal Secretary (Home), the DGP, and local administrators, had failed to act against the promotion of such content. He highlighted that many songs glorifying drugs and violence continued to be uploaded on platforms like YouTube, and some singers even performed such songs during live events.

The petition also drew attention to non-compliance with the court's directions on noise pollution, specifically pointing out that live events frequently exceeded the permissible sound levels of 75 decibels.

Farmer leaders jointly urge PM Modi to hold discussions, save life of Dallewal

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

The farmer leaders have jointly urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to hold discussions, save the life of farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal who was on fast unto death. The coordination meeting of SKM, SKM (NP), and KMM was held at Patran, near Khanauri border of Punjab successfully.

The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere with a deep understanding among the participants regarding the need of larger unity in the context of the series of corporate attacks on agriculture on the behest of the NDA3 Government.

The visit of members of the six member committee along with other SKM leaders on 10th January at Khanauri Border to meet Jagjit Singh Dallewal and also Shambu Border, rescheduling the coordination meeting of both the platforms at Patran and the call to burn the copies of the National Policy Framework on Agricultural Marketing on 13th January have given a bold message of unity to the farmers across the country.

The meeting decided no public criticism will be made against each other by the platforms and kisan organizations and all differences will be discussed within the coordination system.

A coordination meeting is scheduled at 11 am on 18th January 2025 at Patran to discuss future actions jointly and in coordination.

The meeting demanded the Prime Minister to immediately hold discussions with the Kisan organizations on the genuine demands including implementation of the agreement made by NDA2 Government with the SKM dated 9th December 2021and save the life of Jagjit Singh Dallewal who has been on fast unto death struggle for the last 49 days.

MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH PUNJAB TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
Dabwali Road, Bathinda.
(Established by Govt. of Punjab vide Punjab Act No. 5 of 2015)

ਬੋਲੀ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ

ਮਹਾਰਾਜਾ ਰਣਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਟੈਕਨੀਕਲ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਦੇ ਜੀ.ਜੈਡ. ਐਸ.ਸੀ.ਈ.ਟੀ ਕੈਂਪਸ ਵਿਖੇ ਖਾਲੀ ਪਈ ਦੁਕਾਨ, ਕਿਤਾਬਾਂ ਦੀ ਦੁਕਾਨ, ਫੋਟੋ ਸਟੇਟ ਦੀ ਦੁਕਾਨ ਅਤੇ ਕੈਫੇਟੇਰੀਆ ਠੇਕੇ ਤੇ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਮਿਤੀ 21-01-2025 ਦਿਨ ਮੰਗਲਵਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11:00 ਵਜੇ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ ਦੇ ਆਡੀਟੋਰੀਅਮ ਵਿੱਚ ਰੱਖੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਚਾਹਵਾਨ ਸੱਜਣ ਜਿਹੜੇ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਭਾਗ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ, ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਮਿਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ 50,000/- ਰੁਪਏ ਪ੍ਰਤੀ ਦੁਕਾਨ ਅਤੇ 1,00,000/- ਰੁਪਏ ਕੈਫੇਟੇਰੀਆ ਲਈ ਜਮਾਨਤੀ ਰਕਮ ਬਤੌਰ ਡੀ ਡੀ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਐਮ.ਆਰ.ਐਸ.ਪੀ.ਟੀ.ਯੂ, ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਜਮ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਰਵਾ ਕੇ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਭਾਗ ਲੈ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ।

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Third edition of 'Sacred Amritsar' from February 21

AMRITSAR, JANUARY 14

The third edition of 'Sacred Amritsar' will be held in the city from February 21 to February 23. Having become part of the holy city's cultural and arts calendar, Sacred Amritsar would once again bring celebrated names from the field of music, poetry and folk under one roof.

The three-day festival is curated by Teamwork Arts. Sanjoy K Roy, managing director, Teamwork Arts, said, "Amritsar has been a hidden gem in terms of its heritage and cultural landscape. To celebrate and to pass on the rich history of this city, we have curated a festival that not only celebrates the tangible and intangible history of the city but also engages audience and citizens in a dialogue around its preservation and continuation."

Highlights of the festival include musical performances, heritage walks through iconic landmarks and insightful sessions featuring Malini Awasthi, folk Queen of India, Yatinder Mishra, Neelam Man Singh and others.

The preview had city-based poet and academician Dr Sarbjot Singh Behal recite his poem 'Children of War', which is dedicated to kids of Gaza. Dr Behal narrated how children, the most innocent victims of a war, are subjected to punishment just because they are born in a certain country. AGENCIES

Leopard found dead in Hoshiarpur

HOSHIARPUR, JANUARY 14

A leopard was found dead after being trapped in a barbed wire fence surrounding a eucalyptus plantation in the Birampur forest area here, police said on Tuesday.

The incident came to light on Monday when Garhshankar Forest Range Officer Rajpal Singh and Forest Guard Ramanpreet Kaur informed police about it, they said.

Police registered a case in connection with the violation of the Wildlife Protection Act, 2022, following a complaint by Singh. Further investigations are underway to determine the circumstances leading to the leopard's death, police said. PTI

National Youth Day celebrated at MLU DAV College

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, January 14



The National Youth Day celebration was held at MLU DAV College, Phagwara by the Red Ribbon Club under the supervision of Principal DAV College Dr. Rajesh Kumar to promote awareness about HIV AIDS and TB. A poster making competition was also organised. Students participated eagerly addition information about Swami Vivekananda and the significance of the day was also furnished by the Principal. Moreover he provided information about the celebration of birthday as a National Youth Day. He expressed his thoughts that Swami Ji made a substantial contribution to raising awareness about mental fortitude as well as about the importance of education to build the nation.



Punjab Government

Empowering the Elderly

Monthly Pension of ₹1500 under Old-age Penssion Scheme

Budget allocation of ₹5924.50 crore under financial assistance schemes for penssions for the elderly, widows, dependent women & children and Persons with Disability

₹4532.60 crore disbursed to 34.09 lakh beneficiaries as pension

"Our elders are our pride and our wealth. Providing them with a dignified life and empowering them economically is our duty. By ensuring monthly pensions, we are fulfilling this responsibility. I envision a Rangla Punjab where every citizen enjoys a life of happiness and fulfillment."

Bhagwant Singh Mann
Chief Minister, Punjab



Join Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's official WhatsApp channel

Scan Here

Department of Information and Public Relations, Punjab

UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria flags off 60 new buses on Makar Sankranti

A.S. PRASHAR
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14



On the auspicious occasion of Makar Sankranti, Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria, flagged off 60 new buses added to the Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU) fleet. He emphasized that launching this initiative on such a significant day makes it even more special. This step is a major milestone in strengthening and modernizing public transport in Chandigarh.

The Governor highlighted CTU's efforts to promote eco-friendly transportation and announced that the administration aims to make the CTU fleet 100% electric by 2026-27. He added that this will not only reduce diesel consumption but also significantly improve air quality. So far, the administration has included 80 electric buses in the fleet, resulting in savings of 29.81 lakh liters of diesel and a reduction of 7,872 metric tons in carbon emissions. Under the PM E-Bus Scheme, 100 more electric buses will soon be added to the fleet.

The 60 new buses come equipped with modern features such as an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), smart card facilities, and integration with the Tri-City Mobile App. These technologies will allow passengers to check live bus locations, schedules, and fare details, making their travel more convenient and efficient.

Addressing CTU employees, the Governor suggested that all employees open their salary accounts in the same bank. He explained that this move would provide employees with better insurance facilities, reduce administrative workload for the department, and enhance their financial security.

With this fleet expansion, CTU now has a total of 684 buses. Among these, 438 buses serve urban and suburban routes, while 220 operate on long-distance routes. The inclusion of these advanced buses will significantly improve the travel experience for passengers.

The Governor also congratulated CTU for receiving national awards, attributing the achievement to the department's efficient management. He urged citizens to make greater use of public transport to contribute to environmental protection and traffic management.

Senior officials from the Chandigarh Administration, including Chief Secretary Rajeev Verma, Transport Secretary Ajay Chagti, and Transport Director Pradyuman Singh, attended the event. The Governor appreciated their efforts in ensuring the success of this initiative.

9th Armed Forces Veterans Day celebrated at Mahila Bhavan, Sector 38

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14



9th Armed Forces Veterans Day was celebrated on Tuesday at Mahila Bhavan, Sector-38 Chandigarh and sacrifices made by veterans were remembered on this day. The celebrations were organised by Zila Sainik Welfare Office, U.T Chandigarh.

Rajeev Verma, Chief Secretary, UT Chandigarh graced the occasion as chief guest and honoured the gallantry awardees of Chandigarh. Nishant Kumar Yadav, Deputy Commissioner-cum-President Zila Sainik Board, Brig BS Dhillon (Retd), Vice President Zila Sainik Board were also present during the occasion.

While addressing the veterans and veer naris, Rajeev Verma stressed on the need to give priority to health and continue to play role model to the young generation for nation building. He highlighted the enhancement of rates of welfare schemes being run by Zila Sainik Welfare Office, U.T Chandigarh and also assured the veterans if they have any suggestion with regards to any welfare point or any grievances, they can submit in writing to the Zila Sainik Welfare Office, U.T Chandigarh so that necessary action/directions are issued.

The Chief Secretary said that Chandigarh Administration is dedicated to assist veterans with all their needs. Chandigarh Administration will be according high priority to the cause of welfare of all Veterans, Veer Naris and the families of ex-servicemen.

Nishant Kumar Yadav, Deputy Commissioner Chandigarh, during his address, thanked the veterans for their courage, sacrifice and dedication to the country. He also paid humble respect to Veer Naris whose family members made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. The nation will remain indebted to the veterans and their family for all the sacrifices that they have made for this country.

The Armed Force Veterans Day is celebrated on 14 January every year as on this day in 1953, our First Indian Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who led the Indian Forces to victory in the 1947 war, formally retired from the service.

Also present during the occasion were Brig RS Chatha, Additional DG Resettlement, Western Zone from HQ Western Command, Chandimandir, Brig BS Dhillon (Retd), Director Rajya Sainik Board, Punjab, Col GS Sharma (Retd), OIC Army Welfare Placement Node, Western Command Chandimandir, Col Bains (Retd), OIC Polyclinic, ECHS Chandigarh and officers of Chandigarh Administration.

9th Armed Forces Veterans Day was celebrated on Tuesday at Mahila Bhavan, Sector-38 Chandigarh and sacrifices made by our Veterans were remembered on this day. The celebrations were organised by Zila Sainik Welfare Office, U.T Chandigarh.

TB awareness rally organised under 100-day intensified TB campaign



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

As part of the 100-day Intensified Tuberculosis (TB) Campaign, the Chandigarh Health Department, in collaboration with the State TB Cell, NSS volunteers from Post Graduate Government College, Sector 11, Chandigarh and students of Government Homeopathic College, Sector 26, Chandigarh successfully organised a TB Awareness Rally on Tuesday.

The event was aimed to raise awareness about TB prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment, in alignment with India's mission to eliminate TB by 2025.

The rally commenced at Government Multi-Specialty Hospital (GMSH), Sector 16, Chandigarh, with over 250 participants. The event was officially inaugurated by Dr Sushil Mahi, Medical Superintendent of GMSH-16, who emphasised the critical importance of early detection and strict adherence to TB treatment protocols. A pledge for a TB-free India was also administered to the attendees.

Participants carried banners and placards with impactful slogans such as "TB Harega, Desh Jeetega" and "Early Diagnosis Saves Lives" as they marched through Post Graduate Government College, Sector 11, Chandigarh towards Plaza, Sector 17, Chandigarh.

The rally engaged with the public by distributing educational pamphlets that highlighted TB symptoms, the availability of free diagnostic and treatment facilities under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP), and the role of nutrition in recovery. Students from Post Graduate Government College also performed a powerful 'Nukkad Natak' during the rally to create awareness about TB and its prevention.

Speaking on the occasion, the State TB Officer Dr Rajesh K Rana stated, "This rally is a significant initiative in raising awareness about TB and addressing the stigma associated with it. With collective efforts from the government, healthcare workers, and the community, we are confident of achieving a TB-free Chandigarh."

The rally concluded at Plaza Sector 17, with participants reaffirming their dedication to advocating for TB elimination and providing continued support to individuals affected by the disease.

Doctors give new lease of life to patients suffering from complex ENT disorders

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14



The ENT Department at Fortis Hospital Mohali has treated several patients suffering from complex ear, nose, and throat (ENT) disorders through the world's most advanced 4th Generation Robot – Da Vinci Xi.

Robot-assisted surgery is considered as the gold standard treatment in complicated infections of the ear, strep throat, sinusitis, and sleep apnea.

The ENT Department headed by Dr Ashok Gupta, Director, ENT and Head & Neck Surgery, Fortis Hospital Mohali, who has conducted more than 1000 cochlear implant surgeries, has launched a one of its kind 'Deafness-Free India' campaign in Himachal Pradesh, and aims to take it to every nook and corner of the country.

Under the campaign, awareness sessions to address deafness and hearing loss will be organised in various cities of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr Gupta has also treated several patients with complex ENT disorders while completely curing them of the infections.

In one such case, a 6-year-old girl had been suffering from bilateral deafness (congenital hearing loss that affects both ears), Tinnitus (ringing in ears) and had discharge from her ear. The patient's parents brought her to Fortis Mohali where Dr Gupta examined her and decided to go in for cochlear implantation surgery.

AGS appoints CP Kaushal as architect for its upcoming state-of-the-art golf range

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Panchkula, January 14



The Amateur Golfers Society (AGS), a registered Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) dedicated to promoting golf, has announced its ambitious plans to develop a state-of-the-art golf range in Panchkula. The facility will be fully residential, for sports enthusiasts passionate about learning golf. AGS has announced that architect and avid golfer CP Kaushal has been entrusted with the design of this upcoming landmark project. Kaushal runs 'The Creators', a respected architecture firm of tricity.

C P Kaushal stated, "It is a matter of honour for me that AGS has entrusted me with designing and establishing the golf range. This golf range will represent a blend of innovation, sustainability, and world-class design. As a golfer myself, I am thrilled to contribute to a project that will shape the future of golf in the Chandigarh capital region." It is worth noting that Kaushal's expertise extends to designing golf courses, including a 9-hole course integrated into a plotted development colony in Ludhiana.

Kaushal further informed that the golf range will have advanced systems for resource conservation such as water and waste management. "The facility will include a 300-meter-long range with a double-deck practice area, allowing up to 40 players to practice long drives simultaneously. Additionally, an elaborate putting and chipping infrastructure, complete with greens and bunkers, will accommodate 50 players at a time. The facility will also provide ample parking for over 100 vehicles," added Kaushal.

Advocate Suresh Gupta, Founder Trustee , Amateur Golfers Society said: "This state-of-the-art facility will not only elevate the standard of golf in the region but also position tricity as a premier destination for golf tourism. The idea is to nurture talented golfing enthusiasts and make the sport accessible to all."

PGI organises two blood donation camps, collects 160 units

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

The Department of Transfusion Medicine at PGIMER, Chandigarh, organised two successful blood donation camps on Tuesday under the guidance of Prof. R.R. Sharma.

The first camp, held at Gurudwara Sahib Bindra Khin in association with the District Youth Club's Coordination Committee and led by Dr Divjot Singh Lamba, collected 104 blood units. Meanwhile, the second camp took place at Gurudwara Kotwali Sahib Morinda, in collaboration with the Blood Donors Council Morinda, led by Dr Ekta Paramjit, and collected 56 blood units.

The department expressed its heartfelt gratitude to the volunteer donors, emphasizing that the donated blood and components will help meet the needs of critically ill patients at the institute.

US and PU faculties explore collaborative research on Gandhian philosophy



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

A group of 13 faculty members from various universities in the United States visited the Department of Gandhian and Peace Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on Tuesday. Faculty members from both sides discussed the possibility of collaborating on the understanding of Gandhian philosophy, initially through a virtual platform. In this regard, they will prepare clips or a small documentary to be screened during the week-long celebration of Gandhi Jayanti.

Professors from various fields also explored the potential for research on different social issues and their peaceful resolution in the current context, with a focus on understanding Indian culture.

Classifieds

NAME CHANGE

I Hithero Known as Navdeep Singh S/o Baljinder Singh R/o #164 Ranjit Vihar Sirhind Road Patiala, Punjab 147004 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nevdeep Rruben Surjan Singh Ehedhi.

I ORSU RAJAMMA (Mother) of No. 15457452F Rank SEP/AA Name ORSU NAGESH presently residing at H.NO. 10-31, SANGEM MANDALAM, P.O. PALLARUGUDA, DISTRICT: WARANGAL, STATE-ANDHRA PRADESH PIN-506330, UNIT 189 MILITARY HOSPITAL PANAGARH PIN NO. 901321 C/o 99 APO, do hereby solemnly That, I have changed my date of birth from 01.01.1979 TO 01.01.1981.

I ORSU LEPAKSHI is legally wedded wife of No. 15457452F Rank SEP/AA Name ORSU NAGESH presently residing at H.NO. 10-31, SANGEM MANDALAM, P.O. PALLARUGUDA, DISTRICT: WARANGAL, STATE-ANDHRA PRADESH PIN-506330, UNIT 189 MILITARY HOSPITAL PANAGARH PIN NO. 901321 C/o 99 APO, That, I have changed my Name from VALLEPU LEPAKSHI TO ORSU LEPAKSHI.

I hitherto known as LUXMI Alias AMANPREET KAUR W/o HARJIT SINGH Residing at H.No.192, Dewatwal, Ludhiana, District Ludhiana, Punjab-141102, India, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as AMANPREET KAUR

I ORSU KOMURUMALLU is father of No. 15457452F Rank SEP/AA Name ORSU NAGESH presently residing at H.NO. 10-31, SANGEM MANDALAM, P.O. PALLARUGUDA, DISTRICT: WARANGAL, STATE-ANDHRA PRADESH PIN-506330, UNIT 189 MILITARY HOSPITAL PANAGARH PIN NO. 901321 C/o 99 APO, That, I have changed my name from ORSU KOMURAMALLU to ORSU KOMURUMALLU AND date of birth from 16.01.1971 TO 01.01.1971.

I, SHANTIDEVI BAIJNATH PRAJAPATI is real Mother of Army No 22051860X Rank SEP Name Prajapati Manojkumar Baijnath permanent resident of Plot No. 65, Amravati Road, Near New Grampanchayat, Palkar Nagar, 8th Mile Dawalameti, Nagpur (Urban), Maharashtra - 440023, India, Unit 401 Field Hospital C/0 56 APO That in my son military part-II order service record my name is wrongly written as Shanti,but my correct name is SHANTIDEVI BAIJNATH PRAJAPATI.

I Jatinder Singh S/o Balwinder Singh R/o H.No-15048, St No-1, Near Miltary Camp, Dholewal, Guru Arjan Dev Nagar, Ludhiana declare that Jatinder is my Given name and Singh is my Surname.

I, Kamal Raj s/o Satish Mitter R/o H No B-4-290, St.no 9, Mohalla Santokh Nagar, New Shivpuri (Ludhiana) have Changed My Minor son name from Kishan to Kishan Verma.

I, INDERPREET KAUR W/O AMRINDER SINGH KAHLON R/O H NO 257, PHASE 2, URBAN ESTATE DUGRI, (LUDHIANA) have changed my name to INDERPREET KAUR KAHLON .

I, Bikramjit Singh s/o Hardial Singh Saini R/o H No 12-C, Moti Nagar (Ludhiana) have Changed My name to Vikramjit Singh.

I, Priya w/o Amit Maggu R/o Street No 01, Indra Colony Samrala Chowk (Ludhiana) have Changed My Minor name from Sidhi Ratri to Sidhi.

I TARUN KUMAR S/O DOGESHWAR SINGH R/O 6805 ST NO 2 NAVEEN NAGAR (Ludhiana) Have CHANGED MY NAME FROM TARUN TO TARUN KUMAR

I Harpreet S/o Ramesh Lal R/o Chandiani Khurd, Balachaur, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar have changed my name to Harpreet Chaudhary

I Neelam Puri W/o Dinesh Narula R/o 34, Near Madan Di Chaki, Ashok Nagar, Ludhiana have changed my name to Neelam Narula

I Kewal Krishan Kaushal S/o Hari Chand Kaushal R/o B-4-2117, Ram Mandir Wali Gali, Near Naghpal Di Hatti, Pratap Bazar, Ludhiana have changed my name to Kewal Krishan S/o Hari Chand

I Geeta Rani Alias Geeta Sharma W/O Dharminder Kumar R/O Haripura Basti Sangrur Is The Same And One Person

I Rajinder Kumar S/O Madan Mohan R/O Near Bus Stand Opp Housing Board Colony Sangrur Have Changed My Name To Rajinder Kumar Aggarwal

I Kamaljeet Kaur Spouse of No.4484446K Rank Hav Name Gurtej Singh presently residing at Vpo Mullowal Teh Dhuri Distt Sangrur have changed my name from Kamaljit Kaur to Kamaljeet Kaur

| Manoj Kumar Goyal S/o Rattan Lal R/o 2416, Balwari School Wali Gali, Giddarbaha, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib have Changed my Name from Manoj Kumar Goyal to Manoj Kumar

I, RAMANDEEP KAUR D/O Ex Hav Ajaib Singh, resident of VPO: Cheema, Tehsil: Sunam, Distt: Sangrur (PB) have changed my name from RAMANDEEP KAUR to AMARJOT KAUR. My correct date of birth is 20/01/1998.

I, Jasbir Kaur, W/O Narinder Kumar, R/O Village Bhatian, Tehsil Nalagarh, District Solan (H.P.) declare that my son correct name is Gurman Chaudhary, as recorded in his birth certificate, Himachali certificate, and family register, but wrongly written as Gurnam Chaudhary in the Aadhaar card. Now I want to get my son's name corrected as Gurman Chaudhary in the Aadhaar card.

I, hitherto known as ANITA D/o KULDEEP KUMAR and W/o KULVIR KAUSHAL R/o Village Babeli, Kapurthala, Punjab -144407, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ANITA KAUSHAL.

I, Angrej Singh S/O Daljit Singh R/O Village Buh, Po. Fattu Dhinga, Distt. Kapurthala, Punjab, India Have Changed My Name From Angrej Singh To Singh Angrej. (Singh Is Surname). All Concerned Please Note.

I, Palvi wife of Brij Mohan Bhardwaj resident of V. Kangniwal, PO Hazara, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Palvi to Palvi Bhardwaj. All concerned please note.

I, hitherto known as Gurusaran Jeet Kaur D/o Ravinder Singh W/o Parvinder Singh R/o House No. 7262, Street No. 4, Bhai Maha Singh Nagar, Daba Lohara Road, Millerganj, Ludhiana, Punjab-141003, India have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kamaljeet Kaur.

I, Jabir Kaur is legally wedded spouse of Service No. 3368431M Rank: : Ex Hav : Name: Plara Singh resident of Village: Nanakpur PO: Bhawanipur Tehsil: Kapurthala District: Kapurthala, Punjab have changed my Name from Jabir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur vide affidavit dated 14 Jan 2025 executed before excutive Magistrate District Courts ,Kapurthala, Punjab.

I, Service No: JC-674973H Rank: Sub/MT Name: Novil S/O Shripal Singh Permanent resident of : Village: Naghla Hukem Singh Post Office: Naghla Hukem Singh Tehsil: Jewar District: G.B Nagar State: UP have changed my daughter's Name from : Vipasa Siwach to Vipasha Siwach vide affidavit dated 14 Jan 2025 executed before Notary Public District: Courts, Kapurthala, Punjab.

I, Angoori Devi Mother of Service No: JC-406904K Rank: Nb Sub Name: Vikram Singh Permanent resident of : Village: Antehri Post Office: Bodla Tehsil: Thaneshar District: Kurukshetra State :Haryana Pin Code: 136132 have changed my Name from Angoori Devi to Anguri Devi vide affidavit dated 14 Jan 2025 executed before Notary Public District: Courts, Kapurthala, Punjab.

I, No: 14850559L, Rank: Hav/SKT, Name: Balram presently serving at 106 (1) Compo PI ASC C/o 56 APO , In my army service records, my mother's name has wrongly been entered as INDERO DEVI whereas her correct name is INDRO DEVI, which is also mentioned in her Aadhar Card. That in my army service record, my mother's name may kindly be changed to INDRO DEVI.

I, Sumittra Devi W/o No : 6643494L Ex. Hony Naib Subedar Late Kuldip Singh Jaswal R/o H. No. 109, Deshmesh Nagar, PO. Dakoha, Distt. Jalandhar (Punjab) have changed my name from Sumittra Devi to *Sumittra Kaur* with date of birth *01-10-1945* for correction of my name and DOB in army service record of my deceased husband.

I, Pali alias Satwinder Pal s/o Paramjit R/o Village Chhauni Kalan, PO. Ram Colony Camp, Tehsil and Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name from Pali alias Satwinder Pal to Satwinder Pal

I, Rajinder Bajaj S/o Ved Prakash R/o House No: 4 Bablu Enclave, Jalalabad, District Fazilka have changed my name from Rajinder Bajaj to Rajinder Kumar.

I, Mohit S/o Kamal Kumar R/o H.no 186/27, Kucha no 6, Old Madhopuri (Ludhiana) have changed my daughter name from Bhuvi Bassi to Bhuvi.

I, Mohit S/o Kamal Kumar R/o H.no. 186/27, Kucha No.6, Old Madhopuri (Ludhiana) have changed my nane from Mohit Bassi to Mohit.

I Rani spouse of Satish Dattatrya Patil R/o VPO Erandoli Tehsil Miraj District Sangli (Maharashtra) Pin 416410 have changed my name from Rani to Rani Satish Patil. Vide affidavit dated 11-01-2025. Before District Courts Faridkot.

I, Manisha W/o Mohit R/o 186/27, Kucha No.6, Old Madhopuri (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Manisha Bassi to Manisha.

I Satish Soni S/o Lt. Amar Nath Soni R/o H.no:-58-D, Kitchlu Nagar (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Satish Kumar Soni to Satish Soni.

I, Shikha Goyal D/o Vinod Jindal R/o H.no.289, St.no.6, Kishore Nagar, Near Chandigarh Road, (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Shikha Jindal.

I Inderjit S/o Ram Chand Rana R/o H.no 213/51 A ,New Kundanpuri , Civil Lines (Ludhiana) Have Change Name My Minor Son Krishanlal Rana 27-03-2020 to Lovendeep Rana.

I Satish Dattatrya Patil R/o VPO Erandoli Tehsil Miraj District Sangli (Maharashtra) Pin 416410 have changed my son name from Harsh to Harsh Satish Patil. Vide affidavit dated 11-01-2025. Before District Courts Faridkot.

I Satish Dattatrya Patil R/o VPO Erandoli Tehsil Miraj District Sangli (Maharashtra) Pin 416410 have changed my son name from Rudhra to Rudra Satish Patil. Vide affidavit dated 11-01-2025. Before District Courts Faridkot.

I Amit Kumar S/o Bal Krishan Sharma R/o H.no. Bx 1361, Gali no. 10, Ajit Nagar, Kishanpur, Jalandhar have changed my Name From Amit Kumar to Amit Sharma. All Concerned may please note.

I Surinder Pal Singh S/o Sohan Singh R/o Village Jamitgarh,Tehsil Balachaur (S.B.S.Nagar) Have Changed My Name From Surinder Pal Singh to Surinder Singh.

I,Farases S/o Lal Masih R/o H.no:-62,Passi Nagar,Near Gurudwara Passi Nagar,Pakhowal Road (Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name From Farases to Francis Sahota.

I, Kundan Singh S/o Jangir Singh R/o Karam Patti, Teh Malout (Sri Muktsar Sahib) Have Changed My Name From Kundan Singh Virdi To Kundan Singh

I, Gurjit Singh S/o Joginder Singh R/o. H.no. 1345, M.I.G. Flat, Chandigarh Road (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Gurjit Singh Jassar to Gurjit Singh.

I, Paramjeet Kaur W/o Gurjit Singh R/o H.no. 1345, M.I.G. Flat, Chandigarh Road (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Paramjeet Kaur Jassar to Paramjeet Kaur.

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MORE CLASSIFIED ADVTs ON PAGE-7

Ludhiana admn to launch slum rehabilitation project in Shimlapuri locality

INDERJIT SINGH
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14



Ludhiana district administration is set to launch a slum rehabilitation project in Shimlapuri locality soon. A preliminary survey of Shimlapuri slum has identified 50 families, totalling a population of 400, which includes 300 children.

In the initial phase of the project, the Education Department will offer counselling to slum children to facilitate their admission into appropriate classes based on individual learning assessments. The health teams will conduct screening camps to assess the health of the residents and provide necessary treatment. Additionally, the department will also ensure the enrollment of eligible individuals under the Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (SSBY) scheme.

Additionally, the Social Security Department will assist eligible individuals in enrolling in various pension schemes. The District Bureau of Employment and Entrepreneurship (DBEE) will provide skill training for parents to help them secure respectable livelihoods. The MC Ludhiana will ensure cleanliness besides community sanitary complex in the slum.

During a meeting in his office on Tuesday, Deputy Commissioner Jitendra Jorwal emphasized the importance of education and health as the foundation of any society. He explained that with strong foundations, societal development becomes inevitable. He announced that teams of different departments will begin working in the slum areas starting next week, and they will submit their reports accordingly. Based on these reports, a detailed strategy for the rehabilitation of the slum will be developed.

Jorwal highlighted that this project will serve as a stepping stone to secure a bright future for children in the slum by facilitating their admission into nearby schools after proper educational counselling. A system will be established to ensure that students attend classes regularly. Additionally, he mentioned that the skills of the parents will be assessed, and they will receive training to help them earn a respectable livelihood by making them skilled.

The Deputy Commissioner stated that upon the successful completion of this project, the district administration will focus on rehabilitating more slum areas. He also noted that the Punjab government, led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, is committed to the holistic development of the community, and every effort will be made to support the people in this endeavour.

State Police organise langar to mark Maghi festival



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

In a heartwarming display of community service on the occasion of the Maghi Festival, Punjab Police Sewa Committee organized a langar (community kitchen) outside Punjab Police Headquarters (PPHQ) here on Tuesday.

The Maghi festival commemorates the martyrdom of 40 Sikh warriors who fought alongside 10th Sikh Guru Sri Guru Gobind Singh.

During the occasion, Ardas was performed for Sarbat Da Bhala (Well-being for all), seeking the well-being and prosperity of all humanity.

Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav accompanied by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Headquarters Sukhchain Singh Gill joined the Ardas, underscoring the importance of community service and interfaith harmony. Later, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) SS Srivastava also attended the event.

The langar was organized as part of the philosophy "Kirat Karo, Naam Japo, Vand Chhako" (Work hard, pray, and share with others) of the first Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji. This philosophy emphasizes the importance of selfless service and community welfare.

DGP appreciated the efforts of the Punjab Police Sewa Committee and encouraged them to continue organizing such socio-religious initiatives, which foster a sense of communal harmony and social responsibility.

Ludhiana Police issue various orders to gold loan companies, banks and financial institutions

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14

In order to avoid theft, robbery and dacoity incidents, Jaskiranjit Singh Teja, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Rural-cum-Headquarters, Ludhiana, on Tuesday issued various orders to be complied with by gold loan companies, banks and financial institutions in the district. Chief among the orders are:

1. While exercising the powers of Executive Magistrate under Section 163 of BNSS 2023 hereby direct that all gold loan companies, banks and other financial institutions falling within the Jurisdiction of Police Commissionerate Ludhiana shall abide by the following directions to avoid any untoward incident.

2. All owners/management of gold loan companies, micro finance companies and other financial institutions shall put good quality Day and Night CCTV cameras to cover the road in front of the branch, all entry and exit points, reception desk and all other vital points inside the branch with DVR/NVR storage of up to 30 days with UPS/Power backup.

3. Management shall be responsible to install the DVR/NVR and its UPS, in a inconspicuous place not easily identifiable by visitors (preferable in strong room), to prevent any damage to the same by miscreants. There must be a provision of remote recording and storage of footage, maybe at a regional office or headquarter of company, for any eventuality.

4. Management shall be responsible to install and ensure smooth functioning of burglar alarms in the branches. The burglary alarm should be separately operateable by branch manager, cashier and any other official of the branch from their seats. The alarm must be: a) Linked to their respective head offices. Head offices must in turn have an effective and prompt communication system where in call message can be immediately dispatched to Ludhiana Police Commissionerate Control Room (Phone No. 78370-18500, 0161-2414932, 0161-2414933) and text messages can be automatically and immediately dispatched to concerned SHO, ACP, ADCP, Jt. CP and CP in case of any emergency for immediate necessary counter action. b) Connected to a BSNL landline phone with an auto dialer in the branch. As soon as the alarm goes off, a teleprompter should automatically inform Police Control Room (Phone No. 78370-18500, 0161-2414932, 0161-2414933) regarding the suspicious activity in branch in a pre-recorded message. c) Able to give out loud sound alarm/hooter which should be audible to neighboring area u pto 100 mts. so that any police patrol in the vicinity can immediately respond and the civilians in the neighborhood can be cautioned. d) Also be able to operate automatically in case of forceful opening or any damage to vault / strong room/ currency chest.

Also be able to operate automatically in case of forceful opening or any damage to vault/ strong room/ currency chest.

Braving cold, devotees converge at Golden Temple, other gurdwaras to mark 'Maghi'



CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 14

Braving cold, tens of thousands of devotees converged at the Golden Temple in Amritsar and other gurudwaras across Punjab to pay obeisance and for a holy dip in the 'sarovar' to mark Maghi or Makar Sankranti on Tuesday.

Makar Sankranti, a major harvest festival celebrated in various parts of the country, also marks the beginning of warmer and longer days compared to the nights.

Devotees in the Golden Temple started assembling much before sunrise and some preferred to stay overnight on the temple premises to take holy dip early in the morning.

"January 14 is the first day of the traditional Punjabi month of Maghi and devotees feel blessed to have started it by taking a dip in the holy sarovar," a temple priest told IANS.

Langars (community kitchens) were organised to mark the day. Though Maghi is celebrated with fervour in Muktsar district, many consider that taking the holy dip in the Golden Temple sarovar is also significant.

In Muktsar, people gather on the occasion to commemorate the martyrdom of the 40 Sikhs ('chalis mukte') who had once deserted the 10th Sikh master, Guru Gobind Singh, at Anandpur Sahib, but later rejoined and died while fighting the Mughals in 1705.

Sikhs make a pilgrimage to the battle site and take a dip in the sacred water tanks of Muktsar town. IANS

Jalandhar Commissionerate Police arrests one with 45 kg poppy husk

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Jalandhar, January 14



Jalandhar Commissionerate Police led by Commissioner of Police Swapan Sharma claimed on Tuesday to have arrested a drug smuggler and recovered 45 kg poppy husk from him.

Divulging more details, the Commissioner of Police said that the CIA staff police team arrested two accused, Manjit Singh alias Mani, village Umrewal near Mata Da Mandir PS Mehatpur Jalandhar and Jugraj Singh alias Joga, village Daulewal Moga with 1.25 kg heroin and 5.58 kg Opium.

He said that during investigation it came into light that the kingpin of the gang involved in drug trade was Inderjit Singh alias Labu, village Dolewal, PS Kot Ise Khan, Moga.

Swapan Sharma said that meanwhile the police nabbed his driver identified as Parkash Singh alias Pasha, Ward No 2 Ambedkar Nagar, Giddderbaha, Muktsar with 45 kg of poppy husk.

The Commissioner of Police said that an FIR under Sections 21, 18, 29-61-85 of NDPS Act, with Section 15-61-85 NDPS Act later added, was registered against the accused.

He said that further investigation into the case is going on and details will be shared later. Sharma said that no previous criminal record of the accused had been traced so far.

Govt invites applications for post of PPSC chief

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 14

The state government has invited applications from distinguished individuals with impeccable integrity, high calibre and administrative experience to fill the vacant post of the Chairman of the Punjab Public Service Commission, Patiala.

An official spokesperson said as per the eligibility criteria, the applicants must have held office for at least 10 years under the Government of India or the state government. Additionally, they should be less than 62 years of age.

Applicants can submit their bio-data to the Secretary Personnel, Government of Punjab. The deadline for submission of applications is 5 pm on March 15. AGENCIES

Rotaract Club celebrates Lohri with physically challenged kids

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14



Members of the Rotaract Club visited Teri Oat Viklang Sanstha celebrated Lohri festival with physically challenged kids of the NGO.

The students collected funds from their pocket money and got various sweets, popcorns and other eatables for the children of the NGO.

They lit lohri bonfire, danced with these children and were happy to see the smiles on the innocent faces of the children of the NGO. The bonfire had not only given them peripheral warmth but also filled their hearts from inside. These initiatives inculcate the sense of gratitude and belongingness to the society among the students. The students got to see the real world challenges faced by these children and also contribute in reducing their own mental stress.

Head of the Rotaract Club Dr Aanchal Arora assured Iqbal Kaur, founder of Teri Oat NGO, to pay more such visits to them. Principal Dr Kamaljit Grewal appreciated the efforts of the students and teachers of the club to organise such substantial events.

Eye screening camp organised for bus drivers at bus stand in Ferozepur

HARISH MONGA
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ferozepur, January 14



In a groundbreaking effort to enhance road safety, Mayank Foundation, in collaboration with a local eye hospital, successfully conducted an eye screening camp for bus drivers at the Ferozepur Bus Stand. This initiative, aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of those responsible for public transport, witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local bus driver community.

A dedicated medical team, Dr Ashwani Kalia, screened 86 bus drivers during the event. The results revealed that 16 drivers required corrective spectacles to improve their vision, directly contributing to safer driving conditions. This initiative underscores the Foundation's commitment to reducing accidents caused by impaired vision and promoting a safety culture on the roads.

Amit Kumar, GM Roadways, and Station Supervisor Nirdosh Kumar were present at the event and encouraged drivers to prioritize their health by undergoing regular eye screenings. They lauded the Mayank Foundation for its proactive approach toward road safety, emphasizing the pivotal role drivers play in ensuring safe public travel.

Rajiv Setia, Secretary of the Mayank Foundation, expressed the organization's commitment to making eye screening camps for drivers a regular feature.

DC Office Employees' Association organises Sukhmani Sahib Paath

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14

The DC Office Employees' Association on Tuesday celebrated Makar Sankranti/ Maghi with deep devotion and religious fervour at the Mini Secretariat. Deputy Commissioner Jitendra Jorwal joined the staff of the DC office to offer prayers and seek blessings from the Almighty.

A Sukhmani Sahib Paath and Ardas were organised to invoke Sarbat Da Bhalla (Blessings for Everyone). Staff from various departments and branches actively participated in this religious event. Later, langar was also served to the people there.

In his address, the Deputy Commissioner encouraged the employees to perform their duties with dedication, sincerity, honesty, and professionalism, emphasizing the importance of serving the community effectively.

5th day of NSS Special Annual Camp at PAU highlights 'Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan'

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, January 14



The fifth day of the NSS Special Annual Camp at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana, was marked by a mass rally promoting the 'Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan' (Drug-Free India Campaign).

Under the guidance of Dr Nirmal Jaura, Director of Students' Welfare, and inspired by the camp's theme, 'Arise, Awake and Realize the Power You Hold,' around 500 NSS volunteers walked to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug addiction and the need for a healthy, drug-free society.

The rally, flagged off by Governor of Punjab Gulab Chand Kataria, began at the Open Air Theatre and proceeded through Gate No 1 to Gate No 2. Addressing the gathering, the Governor emphasized the critical role of youth in eradicating social evils like drug addiction. Dr Satbir Singh Gosal, Vice Chancellor of PAU, inspired students to lead by example as change-makers in society. Dr Harmeet Saralch, NSS Coordinator, appreciated the volunteers' enthusiastic participation and commitment to creating a drug-free community.

Dr Virendra Kumar, Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, and Ravneet Singh Bittu, Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industry, along with senior university officials, further supported the event.

Dr K S Suri, Joint Director of Students' Welfare, and NSS programme officers, including Dr Divya Utreja, Dr Kamalpreet Kaur, Dr Manjot Kaur, Dr Dilpreet Singh, and Dr Sanjay Satpute, played an active role in motivating and guiding the volunteers.

Reward of ₹25,000 for information on use of China Dor: DC Panchal

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, January 14

Deputy Commissioner Kapurthala, Amit Kumar Panchal, announced a reward of up to ₹25,000 for individuals providing information on the use, sale, or storage of China Dor. The initiative, launched under the Punjab Pollution Control Board's directives, aims to curb the harmful effects of synthetic nylon strings, commonly known as China Dor.

DC Panchal highlighted that the manufacturing, sale, purchase, or storage of synthetic, nylon, or coated kite strings is strictly prohibited across Punjab. Violators of the Environment Protection Act, 1986, or its related provisions, face penalties ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15 lakh.

To report incidents, a toll-free helpline has been set up at 1800-180-2810, ensuring complete anonymity for informants. "The name of the person providing information will be kept confidential," said Panchal, emphasizing the seriousness of the matter.

Citing the dangers of China Dor, including injuries to humans and animals and its environmental impact, the Deputy Commissioner urged citizens to completely refrain from its usage.

One held for selling banned kite string

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Bilga, January 14

The Bilga police have arrested a villager for selling banned Chinese string.

Investigating Officer (IO) Vijay Kumar said the accused had been identified as Parmindar Singh alias Pinka a resident of Mao Sahib village.

IO said the police were on patrolling duty and reached Mao Sahib village and noticed a man standing in front of Harsh Kariana Store who was selling kites and string and arrested him and recovered 12 spools of banned string. IO said a case under section 223(disobedience to order duly promulgated by a public servant) of the BNS and released the accused on bail as the crime is bailable. In another incident, the Mehatpur police have arrested a thief and booked another on the charge of stealing garlic bags and a motorcycle.

Investigating Officer (IO)Balkar Singh said the accused has been identified as Sandeep Singh alias Soni a resident of Rai Pur Arian village.

Surjit Singh a resident of Raipur Gujran village complained to the police that the accused barged into his house on November 7, 2024, and stole his motorcycle ((PB-08-CY 5115) and two garlic bags lying nearby.

IO said a case under section 331(4) (lurking house-trespass) and 305 (theft in dwelling house) of the BNS has been registered against the accused and his accomplice Buta Singh a resident of Chhohale village.

bright Punjab Express

Trust deficit

Despite a series moved by India and China to cool off the situation at the Line of Actual Control in the north, a yawning trust deficit remains between the two sides. This has been brought by none other than the army chief General Upendra Dwivedi when he emphasised that a "degree of standoff" remains along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in the sensitive Ladakh sector following developments that took place after the border row erupted in April 2020. He went on to emphasise that the two sides must reach a broader understanding on how to calm the situation down and restore the trust, because the situation was "stable but sensitive. He also ruled out any plans to cut troop levels along the disputed mountain frontier during the current winter.

"As far as the standoff is concerned, we have to see what all has changed after April 2020. Both sides have doctored the terrain (through deployments and construction), carried out billeting construction and there has been stocking and deployment. This means there is a degree of standoff," Dwivedi said at his annual media briefing ahead of the upcoming Army Day.

Dwivedi's comments, in response to a question on the situation along the LAC, came two-and-a-half months after the Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) resumed their patrolling activities in Depsang and Demchok in Ladakh after a gap of almost four-and-a-half years.

The disengagement in the two areas began on October 23, 2024, two days after India and China announced a breakthrough in negotiations to resolve their stand-off in Depsang and Demchok, the last two flashpoints in Ladakh where the two armies were eyeball-to-eyeball since April 2020.

The trust between the two countries must have a new definition after the changed scenario on both sides of the LAC following the developments that took place after April 2020, the army chief said.

"There is a requirement for us to sit together and come to a broader understanding on how we want to kind of calm the situation down and restore the trust. So, we are now looking forward to the next meeting of the Special Representatives on the border issue and the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China border affairs, and we will move forward based on their guidance... India has adequate strategic patience," Dwivedi said.

The Special Representatives on the border issue — India's national security adviser Ajit Doval and China's foreign minister Wang Yi — met in Beijing on December 18, 2024, for their first formal talks in nearly five years. The 32nd meeting of the WMCC was held in Delhi on December 5.

Corps commanders along the entire stretch of the LAC, from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh, have been delegated powers to resolve "trivial issues and minor frictions" so they don't snowball into bigger issues. The verification of patrolling in Depsang and Demchok has thus far been completed twice and both sides are satisfied.

India and China earlier disengaged from Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso, Gogra (PP-17A) and Hot Springs (PP-15), areas where so-called buffer zones were created to temporarily restrict the patrolling activities of both armies. The zones of separation were aimed at eliminating the possibility of violent face-offs. The lifting of the moratorium on patrolling these areas by both sides will depend on the outcome of further talks.

He also made it clear that there is no such thing as a buffer zone. Troop deployment along the LAC is directly dependent on the trust factor between the two armies. The deployment and infrastructure development are dependent on the capability on the other side, and not on the presence of troops there.

"As of today, the capability on the other side entails that we should continue to maintain this kind of troop level. We have two types of deployment --- summer and winter. In the winter strategy, we are not looking at any reduction of troops. When it comes to the summer strategy, we will carry out a review based on how many negotiations, conferences and meetings have taken place, and the indications and assurances coming from there," he said.

SPIRITUAL WORLD



Cooperatives: The Key to a Sustainable and Inclusive Global Future

MURLIDHAR MOHOL

The recent International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Global Cooperative Conference 2024 in New Delhi was more than but a spectacle of global gathering of leaders from over 100 countries; it was a testament to the growing importance of cooperatives in shaping a sustainable and equitable future. During the event, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the United Nations' International Year of Cooperatives 2025 (IYC 2025), a significant global initiative aimed at bringing the spotlighton the critical role cooperatives play in advancing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year will mark as a turning point in global economic and social discourse, where cooperatives will increasingly be recognised not merely as tools of local development but as nodal players in the global economic development.

The Cooperatives Model: Rooted in Community, Poised for Global Impact

At the heart of the cooperative model lies a simple yet powerful concept: people working together for mutual benefit. Cooperatives emphasise collective ownership, shared responsibility, and democratic decision-making. These principles have led to remarkable successes across the world, from agriculture to healthcare, from financial services to energy production.

In India, cooperatives have been instrumental in rural development. The success of Amul and similar cooperatives is a testament to the potential of cooperative models to drive both economic development and social justice.Further, dairies like Amul support women-led development in rural areas by empowering women who are engaged with milk producing societies for their business activities. Through its cooperative model, such cooperatives offer leadership roles, skill development, and financial support, enabling women to gain economic independence, further strengthening their role in the community and economy.

India's Leadership in Promoting the Cooperative Model

India has long recognised the value of cooperatives as a tool for economic transformation and social progress. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modipresence at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference highlighted India's deep-rooted commitment to the cooperative movement. His address during the launch of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025 underscored the role of cooperatives in building a self-reliant, prosperous nation. The Prime Minister's speech also spotlighted the cooperative sector's ability to empower marginalised communities, particularly in rural India, where cooperatives remain the backbone of sectors such as agriculture and dairy farming. Under Shri Narendra Modi's dynamic leadership, the Indian government has made significant strides in enhancing the cooperative sector. The steps taken by the Government to promote co-operatives reflect the recognition that co-operatives are not merely a relic of the past but are an important link in contemporary economic and social development.

The Vision of 'Sahkar se Samriddhi': Theroadmap for Cooperatives Revival

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership and Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah's guidance has played a critical role in reshaping India's cooperative landscape. Under their direction, India is moving toward a modernised cooperative framework that aligns with the demands of a digital economy. Their vision of leveraging technology to expand the reach and effectiveness of cooperatives is especially crucial in an increasingly digital world. The future of cooperatives lies in their ability to evolve with changing times, integrating modern tools to improve efficiency and sustainability.

A Global Agenda: Cooperatives and the SDGs

As nations grapple with economic inequality, climate change, and social unrest, cooperatives offer an alternative model for growth—one that is inclusive, democratic, and resilient.The cooperative model's emphasis on solidarity, mutual support, and democratic participation positions it uniquely to address key global problems. By providing a framework that prioritises people over profits, cooperatives ensure that the benefits of economic activity are more widely distributed, empowering the underserved and helping bridge societal gaps. By linking the cooperative movement with the Sustainable Development Goals, India has established itself as a global advocate for sustainable and inclusive development.In short, cooperatives are key to achieving an inclusive and sustainable global economy.

The Road Ahead: A Cooperative Future

Cooperatives are not just an economic tool, but they are a powerful means of achieving social justice, economic equity, and environmental sustainability.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the guidance of Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, the vision of 'Sahkar se Samriddhi' can build a better future for our country of 140 crores people. By promoting cooperatives as vehicles for social and economic development, we can create a world where prosperity is shared, inequalities are reduced, and communities are empowered. It's time to recognise that the future of our global economy depends on cooperation and that cooperatives hold the key to building a fairer, more sustainable world for all.

The author is Union Minister of State for Cooperation and Civil Aviation

Driving innovation: Startups shaping India's future



Madhav Singhania*

As we celebrate National Startup Day on January 16, it is a moment to reflect on the remarkable journey of India's startup ecosystem and its contribution to the nation's growth story.

The Indian tech startup landscape continues to flourish, driven by a culture of innovation, favourable government policies, and a rapidly expanding digital consumer base. The narrative of Indian startups has transcended beyond the bustling metropolises to embrace the untapped potential of Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. These emerging hubs are expected to drive a significant surge in innovation this year, reinforcing the transformative power of Bharat. Today, 45% of all startups in India originate from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, with over 56,000 startups recognized in locations such as Jaipur, Ahmedabad, and Indore, according to a DPIIT report. The government's ambitious goal of nurturing one startup in every district by 2025 exemplifies the commitment to decentralizing entrepreneurship.

India's startup ecosystem is now the third largest in the world, boasts over 100 unicorns valued at $340 billion. In 2023, startups raised $24 billion, reflecting strong investor confidence. With over 90,000 DPIIT-recognized startups in 2024, India is driving innovation across diverse sectors.

The supportive role of the government cannot be overstated. Positive policies, subsidies, and schemes are being actively rolled out across diverse sectors, including DefenseTech, Renewable Energy, SpaceTech, BioTech, FinTech, Pharma, and Healthcare. This broad spectrum of initiatives fosters a fertile ground for startups to access capital and seize growth opportunities. The Digital India initiative has accelerated the adoption of technology and internet penetration, creating a conducive environment for startups to thrive. Moreover, the Startup India Initiative provides a single-window platform to simplify access to government services and support.

The ripple effects of this ecosystem extend far beyond innovation. A CII-McKinsey study predicts that Indian startups will generate 50 million jobs by 2030, underscoring their pivotal role in economic growth and social transformation.

In this regard, CII Northern Region actively nurtures start-ups through mentorship, incubation, and investor connect programs. It fosters industry partnerships to drive innovation and supports growth via its Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Startups. This Centre advocates the impact created by startups, positioning them as an enabling catalyst for growth. By investing in new startups and promoting their development, the Centre helps unlock their potential to drive the economy forward.

While India's startup ecosystem is thriving, challenges like limited access to funding, regulatory complexities, and workforce skills persist, especially in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Strengthening investor networks, simplifying regulations, and creating localized incubation hubs are key to overcoming these barriers. Improved industry-academia collaboration and a focus on research and development can further drive innovation and build a more inclusive, resilient ecosystem. Additionally, the corporates can also play a major role by adopting and mentoring start-ups through various exchange programs.

As the ecosystem continues to evolve, its expansion into new sectors and contributions to GDP growth remain promising.

India stands at the cusp of a startup revolution. By embracing innovation, channelling investments into niche areas, and empowering entrepreneurs, we have the opportunity to shape the future of India's economy. As we honour the spirit of startups during National Startup Week, let us recommit ourselves to building a robust, inclusive, and sustainable startup ecosystem that truly embodies the aspirations of New India.

**Chairman, CII Northern Region and Deputy Managing Director and CEO, JK Cement Limited*

PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana: Centre notifies new norms to boost rooftop solar plants

In an effort to boost the installation of rooftop solar plants, the Centre on Tuesday notified new scheme guidelines under the PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has notified new norms for implementation of the 'Payment Security Mechanism' Component and 'Central Financial Assistance' component for RESCO models/utility-led aggregation models.

The scheme offers two alternative implementation models for the installation of rooftop solar plants for consumers.

These are the RESCO (renewable energy service company) model, where third-party entities invest in rooftop solar installations, allowing consumers to pay only for the electricity consumed without bearing the upfront costs; and the utility-led aggregation (ULA) model, where discoms or state designated entities will install rooftop solar projects on behalf of individual residential sector households.



Under this scheme component, a Rs 100 crore corpus fund has been earmarked for payment security mechanism (PSM) for de-risking investments in RESCO-based grid-connected rooftop solar models in the residential sector, which may be supplemented through other grants, funds and sources after due approval of the Ministry.

"These guidelines are in addition to the existing mode of implementation undertaken by consumers (capex mode) through the national portal (www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in/), and these alternative models will supplement the national portal-based implementation of the scheme," the ministry said.

The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana aims to supply solar power to one crore households by March 2027.

Since its launch in February 2024 with an allocated budget of Rs 75,021 crore, the scheme with 685,763 installations reached 86 per cent of what was installed a decade before that.

The key demand came from the 3-5 kW load segment at 77 per cent installations, while 14 per cent was in the segment higher than 5 kW. Gujarat showed the highest installations followed by Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Kerala.

More than 1.45 crore registrations have been done so far under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, according to government data last month. The scheme offers a subsidy of up to 40 per cent to households, making renewable energy more affordable and accessible. **IANS**

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed in the articles published in these columns are the personal opinions of the authors. The facts and opinions appearing in the articles do not reflect the views of Bright Punjab Express and Bright Punjab Express does not assume any responsibility or liability for the same.

NEWSBRIEFS

Man killed by drunk newphew in Barabanki

BARABANKI: A 65-year-old man was beaten to death with sticks by his nephew in a drunken brawl in a village here, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place on Monday night when the deceased, identified as Rampal Tiwari (65), was drinking with his 35-year-old nephew, Malkhan Tiwari. An argument broke out and soon escalated. During this, Malkkhan lost his temper and attacked Rampal with sticks. Rampal collapsed at the spot and was critically injured. He was rushed to the Suratganj government hospital with the help of his family and locals, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. Upon receiving the information, police from Mohammdpur Khala station arrived at the hospital and sent the body for postmortem examination. PTI

Two injured in leopard attack in Bhind district

BHIND: Two persons were injured when a leopard attacked a group of boys while they were playing cricket in Madhya Pradesh's Bhind district on Tuesday, police said. The attack took place in Pandari village under Daboh police station limits in the afternoon, an official said. Daboh police station in-charge Rajesh Sharma said children were playing cricket when their ball went into a farm, and a leopard attacked a 15-year-old boy when he went to retrieve the ball. After the boy, Rohit Kushwaha, started screaming, Jaswant Parihar (40) arrived to rescue him, he said, adding that the duo sustained injuries and were undergoing treatment at a government health centre in Daboh. PTI

Statistical tools, quantitative techniques play significant role in effective governance: Prez Murmu

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday said that statistical tools and quantitative techniques play a significant role in effective governance by providing empirical foundation for policy decisions. The governments rely on national statistical systems to collect data on health, education, population size and employment among others, which form the basis for policy-making, she said addressing the probationers of the Indian Statistical Service (ISS), who had called on the president at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here.

Murmu said statistics were used even in ancient civilisations, when the rulers used basic census data for taxation purposes. "Statistical analysis is a tool to bring in transparency and accountability in governance. Statistics is not only the backbone of efficient governance but also a tool for socio-economic development," the president said. Murmu said it is their duty to collect accurate data, which can be the foundation for sound and objective decisions. "Government needs data to formulate, implement and monitor policies as well as for policy review and impact assessment.

The citizens need data for impartial understanding and assessment of government schemes and programmes. Your job requires high proficiency in statistical methods, which you would use to provide solutions to data and information needs of the country," she said. The president urged them to be sensitive towards the needs of common people, especially the poor and underprivileged, while collecting data. "Every bit of data that you collect will be processed, analysed and ultimately used for addressing the needs of the people and helping them achieve their dreams.

The development of various sections of the society will lead to greater prosperity of the country," Murmu said. For example, authentic data in the fields of health and education will serve as the basis for monitoring literacy rates, school enrolment ratios, health infrastructure and prevalence of diseases, she said. Murmu said the ISS officers are responsible for preparing national accounts, Consumer Price Index, Index of Industrial Production and other such important indices for measuring various aspects of the health of the economy.

"You will also develop and analyse various social statistics on population, human development, employment and social justice, multi-domain statistics on poverty and persons with disabilities, and indicators related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," she said.

These authentic data act as key instruments for measuring economic development and making effective policies, the president said. "Statistics are like diagnostic tools for policy makers. The accuracy of diagnostic data is critical for effective intervention," Murmu said. The president also emphasised on the urgent need to learn and utilise latest and advanced technologies. PTI

NIA arrests man for mob attack on BJP leader in West Bengal

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested a man in connection with a mob attack on BJP leader Priyangu Pandey in West Bengal. Md Amir alias Sonu, who was absconding, had a non-bailable warrant issued against him, the NIA said in a statement issued on Tuesday. Amir from North 24 Pargana district was arrested from Bhatpara on Monday, it said.

Pandey and his entourage were attacked near gate number 3 of Anglo-Indian Jute Mill staff quarter Bhatpara on August 28, last year. Two people, including the driver, suffered gunshot injuries. The NIA, which took over the investigation and re-registered the case in October 2024, will continue its investigation in the case, the statement said. PTI

UCC to be implemented during auspicious phase that begins with Makar Sankranti: Dhami

DEHRADUN, JANUARY 14

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Tuesday said the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) will be implemented in the state during the auspicious phase that begins with Makar Sankranti. However, he did not specify a date saying it will be announced within this month as the training of personnel to implement the law on ground is in the final stages.

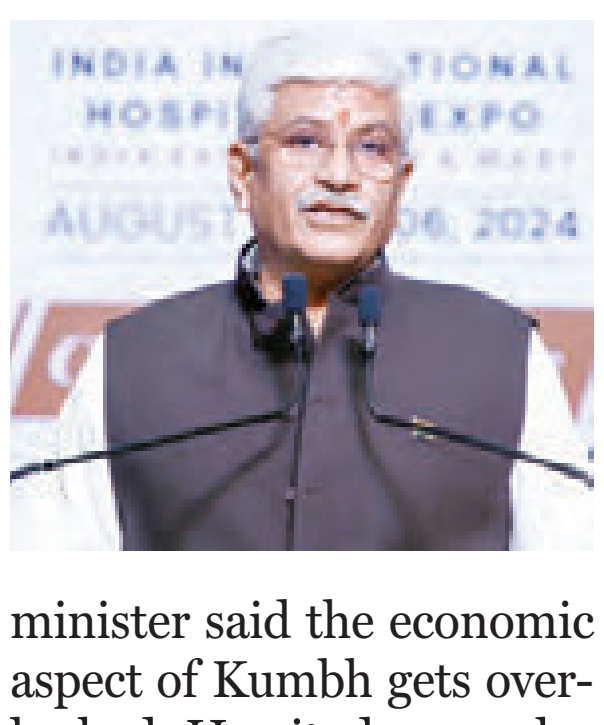
"Uttarayani festival which is being celebrated all over the country today by different names like Makar Sankranti, Lohri, Pongal or Bihu marks the beginning of the auspicious phase when all good things can be done. Implementation of the UCC is also an auspicious thing. It will be done this month during Uttarayani," Dhami said. "Training of personnel to implement the law on ground is in its final stages. You will s+oon get the good news," he told reporters on the sidelines of a campaign meeting held in Cantt area here in view of the forthcoming urban local body polls to be held in the state on January 23.



Introducing a UCC was a major pre-poll promise made by Dhami before the 2022 assembly polls, which the BJP won to storm to power in the state for a second consecutive term, a feat achieved by no party in the state since it was formed in 2000. PTI

All world tourism together cannot match Maha Kumbh: Union Culture Minister

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



All the tourism in the world together cannot match the numbers of those attending the Maha Kumbh, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said on Tuesday. Speaking at an event organised by Panchjanya, a magazine associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Chouhan also said the sun of India's good fortune will rise again as the Ram temple has been built again.

Asked about the ongoing Maha Kumbh, the culture minister said the economic aspect of Kumbh gets overlooked. He cited examples of the heavy tourist flow at other religious destinations in the country.

"We talk about the religious and social aspects of the Kumbh but perhaps no one has imagined the economic aspect of the Kumbh," Shekhawat said. He quoted figures that say four crore tourists visit France, 4.5 crore tourists visit Thailand, 2-2.5 crore tourists visit Dubai but only 1.30 crore tourists visit India.

"But they don't see that 45 crore people are participating in the Kumbh alone. Tourism of the whole world put together cannot match the Maha Kumbh," the culture minister said.He said if the religious places are taken into consideration, 4.5 crore people visit every year to visit Mahakal in Ujjain, they are also tourists but were never formalised and counted that economy. "If 45 crore people are coming to the Kumbh, imagine how big is its contribution to the economy. We never tried to highlight this at the global stage. This time, we are expecting that 15-20 lakh international visitors will participate in Kumbh," he said.

Shekhawat said Kumbh is an opportunity for the world to see the grandness of India. The minister also said while the people of India were never far from their cultural roots, earlier regimes did not take pride in it. PTI

CMD, NHPC's Vision for 2025: Year of growth, innovation and sustainable progress

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

During a special cultural programme organized at NHPC Corporate Office, Faridabad on Tuesday. R.K. Chaudhary, CMD, NHPC, outlined his vision of NHPC for the year 2025. R.P. Goyal, Director (Finance), Uttam Lal, Director (Personnel), Sanjay Kumar Singh, Director (Projects) and Santosh Kumar, CVO were present on the occasion along with other senior officers and employees. In his address, Chaudhary emphasized the importance of collective effort, skill development and timely execution of key projects to drive NHPC's growth for the year 2025.

R.K. Chaudhary began his address by extending warm wishes for the New Year 2025 and expressing his gratitude to all NHPC employees for their continuous commitment and hard work. He highlighted that the New Year is not only a time to reflect on past achievements but also an opportunity to set fresh goals and take bold steps toward achieving them.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Original Sale Deed No. 3545 Dated 27/12/2001 Executed ByJagdish Chandra in favour of Prem Sagar_ Shop No.28, measuring 14'x 9' Feet Situated within the municipal limits of Railway Road, Zira, Tehsil Zira and District Ferozpur currently owned by Mr. Gulzar Singh S/o Gurcharan Singh, is lost and not mortgaged with any Bank or Financial Institution. In this regard DDR No. LR N: 557798/2025 Date: 14/01/2025 has been got registered. Anybody having objection regarding mortgage of property with SMFG India HFCL Bathinda, may respond or raise objection within 03 Days, to Sh. R.P. Singh, Advocate, Mob. No. 75080-11581.

DELHI/NCR

Delhi HC seeks CAG reply after PIL seeks making reports public

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Delhi HC seeks CAG reply after PIL seeks making reports public New Delhi, Jan 14 (PTI) The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the stand of comptroller and auditor general of India (CAG) on a PIL seeking its 14 reports on city administration to be made public.

A bench of Justices Yashwant Varma and Harish Vaidyanathan Shankar asked CAG to explain why its report could not be made public, and posted the hearing on January 24. Brij Mohan, a retired civil servant, who filed the PIL said the voters in Delhi must be aware of the state of affairs in the capital and its financial health before they cast their votes in the upcoming assembly polls. The CAG's reports were critical of some of the AAP-led government's policies, including its now-scrapped excise policy for reportedly causing losses to the exchequer. The PIL said the reports, which relate to several issues ranging from excise policy to pollution, had a direct impact on governance in Delhi.

"The general elections are due in early 2025 in Delhi, and political parties are making all sorts of promises to voters in Delhi. It is absolutely essential that financial health of Delhi should be known to public before Delhi goes to polls," it said. The deadlock in making the CAG's reports public appears to be arising from the situation and that Delhi government, for whatever reason, is not inclined to make the reports public, whereas the public interest demands that the reports should come in public domain before elections are held in Delhi, argued the PIL. PTI

Kejriwal accuses BJP of buying votes; 'King of lies': Manoj Tiwari

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday accused the BJP of attempting to buy votes by distributing money, gold chains, and other articles. The BJP, however, dismissed the allegations, calling them fabricated and a reflection of Kejriwal's desperation. Addressing a press conference, Kejriwal alleged that BJP workers are distributing jackets, shoes, sarees, money and even gold chains to lure voters.

"I appeal to the people of Delhi not to vote for anyone, including AAP candidates, if they are offering money or goods during the polls," he said. The AAP chief also claimed that the party's popularity is on the rise and predicted a full majority for the party. "With time, AAP's graph is soaring. Delhi is not for sale. Show these dishonest and criminal people that neither Delhi nor its democracy can be bought," the former Delhi chief minister added.

BJP MP Manoj Tiwari dismissed Kejriwal's allegations, labelling him as a "king of lies". Tiwari accused Kejriwal of making baseless claims and suggested his comments indicate frustration. "Kejriwal's fabricated stories that the BJP is distributing goods clearly show his desperation. His choice of words makes him a subject of ridicule," Tiwari said. The BJP leader accused AAP leaders of corruption, alleging their involvement in scandals related to liquor policies, education and hawala operations. PTI

Delhi polls: CM Atishi files nomination from Kalkaji constituency

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Chief Minister Atishi filed her nomination for the upcoming Delhi assembly polls from Kalkaji constituency on Tuesday.

She filed her nomination papers at the district magistrate's (DM) office in Lajpat Nagar. Atishi was supposed to file her papers on Monday following a roadshow. However, there was a delay due to the roadshow and she could not make it to the DM's office before the 3 pm deadline, according to an AAP leader. Atishi is pitted against the BJP's Ramesh Singh Bidhuri and the Congress' Alka Lamba. A seasoned politician and former MP, Bidhuri won Tughlakabad assembly seat in 2003, 2008 and 2013. Lamba was with the AAP for almost five years and joined the Congress in 2019.

Speaking to reporters after filing her nomination, Atishi criticised Delhi Police for filing an FIR in connection with the use of government vehicles for election campaigning when no action has been taken against BJP leader Parvesh Verma who "openly distributed" cash and blankets among voters. "The entire country saw (BJP candidate from New Delhi seat) Parvesh Verma distributing cash. Even women came forward and said they were given Rs 1,100 to press the button against the lotus (BJP's poll symbol) on the EVM," the chief minister said. However, no action has been taken against him. This clearly shows that "something is amiss", she added.

Delhi Police has registered an FIR against a Public Works Department (PWD) official for carrying election-related material in a government vehicle pertaining to Atishi. Kalkaji constituency has a total of 1,94,515 voters -- 1,06,893 male, 87,617 female and 5 transgender. The 70-member Delhi Assembly goes to polls on February 5. The results will be announced on February 8. PTI

Classifieds

NAME CHANGE

I, No. 04466157M, Ex Naik Nachhattar Singh R/o Village Kotali, P.O. Kulara, Tehsil Samana (Patiala) that my wife have changed her name from Sukhdev Kaur to Sukhdevi Kaur.

I, PUNITA RANI Wife of Rishi Anand, R/o H.No. 79, DhilwaKapurthala declare that my previous name is PUNITA RANI MAINI D/o NIRDOSH KUMAR. After my marriage my name has been changed as PUNITA RANI wife of RISHI ANAND. All Concerned please noted.

I Usha Rani w/o Late Rajiv Kumar Sharma H No 46 Sector 44 A Army Flats Chandigarh have changed my name to Usha Sharma

I Ram Parkash Sandhu S/O Amar Chand R/O Vpo Mander (Nawanshahr) Have Changed My Name To Ram Parkash.

I Esha W/o Amit Sharma R/o H.no. Bx 1361, Gali no. 10, Ajit Nagar, Kishanpura, Jalandhar have changed my Name From Esha to Esha Sharma. All Concerned may please note.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bikar Singh s/o Mohan Singh R/o Boothgarh Ludhiana declare that my son Hardeep Singh is out of my control so I disown him from my moveable and immoveable properties anybody deal with him at their own risk.

I, JASPREET SINGH S/o HARJINDER SINGH R/o H.no:-3165, Sector 32-A, Chandigarh road (Ludhiana) and presently residing at 204-1201 Lackner Place, Kitchener, Ontario, N2A0L4, Canada, Declare thta change my name from JASPREET SINGH to JASPREET SINGH PRUTHI.

I, hitherto known as MILAKH RAJ son of JAMNA DASS residing at ADARH NAGAR, KOTLI ROAD, SRI MUKTSAR SAHIB 152026, PUNJAB have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MILKH RAJ . It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I Jadav Bhavana Mother of Army No - 14950818X Rank- SEP, Name- Bamaniya Sandip Harsukhbhai R/O VPO Rampara Tehsil-Veraval Dist- Gir Somnath State - Gujarat Pin- 362268 have changed my name from JADAV BHAVANA to Jadav Bhavna Bhikhabhai and in my son's Army service record my date of birth is 01/01/1970 which is wrong. Correct date of birth is 01/06/1978. Please enter it correctly in my son's Army service record.

I Mohinder Kashyal S/o Megh Raj R/o Village Bhat Majra, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Haryana 136128 Now Resident at Via San Marko 135 /B, Castions 33080 ZOPPOLA (PU) Italy declare that My daughter Neha Kashyal is out of my control, So I Disown her from all my Movable/ Immovable Properties, Anybody dealing with her at their's own Risk , I and my family members will not be responsible for her any act.

ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਰਾਜ ਕਰਨ ਬਿੰਦ ਦੀ ਮੌਤ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਨਾਂ ਤੇ ਰਜਿਸਟਰ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਪੀਬੀ 65 ਬੀਡੀ 0350 ਬੁਲਟ ਅਤੇ ਪੀਬੀ 11 ਸੀਐਮ0955 ਇਨੋਵਾ ਨੂੰ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਮੁਸਕਾਨ ਦੀਪ ਨੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਕਰਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਅਰਜੀ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਹੈ ਅਰਜੀ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ ਮੁਸਕਾਨ ਦੀਪ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੀਗਲੀ ਵਾਰਸ ਹੈ ਅਗਰ ਉਕਤ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਅੰਦਰ ਸੰਬੰਧਿਤ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ ਨਹੀਂ ਤਾਂ ਨਾਮ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

AUCTION NOTICE

School of Eminence, Baddowal Ludhiana This announcement is for general public that in this institution auction of unsafe building (19 rooms) is to be held at 10:00 AM on 31st January 2025.With this notice, all the bidders are invited to participate: Conditions of auction will be discussed on the spot .Contact no- 9559362380

LOST AND FOUND

I, Monika Khosla W/o Balram Sareen R/o Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur, Punjab declare that I have lost my Sale Deed Vide Deed No. 2196, Dated 04-07-2011, original sale deed Vide Deed No. 162, Dated 12-04-2016, Sale Deed No. 2018-19/146/1/2627 Dated 08-02-2019 & Sale Deed No. 2020-21/146/1/676 Dated 06-07-2020. That I tried a lot /to find the said documents but I could not find it. That If anyone finds my documents then contact me. M: 70099-20460.

ਮੋਟਰ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਸੂਚਨਾ

ਵਹੀਕਲ ਹੋਂਡਾ ਐਕਟੀਵਾ ਜਿਸਦਾ ਰਜਿਨੰ. PB11CX 9607 ਜੋਂ ਕਿ ਸੰਗਾਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਖਸ਼ੀਸ਼ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀ ਪਿੰਡ ਸ਼ੇਖੁਪੁਰਾ ਕੰਬੋਆਂ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਏ. ਦਫਤਰ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਵਿਖੇ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਹਨ। ਜਿਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ 22/03/2022 ਨੂੰ ਮੌਤ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਹੈ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੌਤ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਚਰਨਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਪਤਨੀ ਸ਼ੰਗਾਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀ ਪਿੰਡ ਸ਼ੇਖੁਪੁਰਾ ਕੰਬੋਆਂ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਨੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਤਬਦੀਲ ਕਰਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਪੇਪਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੇ ਹਨ। ਜੇਕਰ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਦੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਤੋਂ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ-ਅੰਦਰ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਹਾਜਰ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਆਪਣਾ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰੇ। ਵਲੋ ਰਿਜਨਲ ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।

LOST AND FOUND

To whomsoever it may concern This is to notify that we, Neha Gaur and Rahul Gaur are owners of Flat no 104, Savoye D, La Parisian, Sector 66-B, Mohali and have lost a payment receipt of the amount paid to the builder by us Details-Receipt No- 10810, dated 25 Sep 2024, Amount 577084. If found, please return it to the owners Mobile: 8588818000

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sale Deed No.4 Dated 01/04/2009 executed by Ravdeep Singhinfavour of Sukhwantjeet Kaur _ House measuring 16 Marlas 05 Sarsai which includes:
House measuring 07 Marlas 02 Sarsai which is 149/5679 share of 13 Kanals 16 Marlas comprising in Khasra No. 20//13/1(5-16), 18(8-0) bearing Khewat No. 152 Min Khatauni No. 180 (Now Khewat No. 186 Khatauni No. 213 and Khewat No. 187 and Khatauni No. 214 as per Jamanbandi for the year 2022-23) House measuring 09 Marlas 03 Sarsai which is 149/5679 share of 17 Kanals 15 Marlas comprising in Khasra No. 20//3/1(0-11), 9(8-0), 22(4-17), 23(4-7) bearing Khewat No. 152 Min Khatauni No. 180 as per Jamabandi for the year 2007-08 (Now Khewat No. 188 Khatauni No. 215 and Khewat No. 189 Khatauni No. 216 as per Jamabandi for the year 2022-23)within the revenue limits of Naseerpur Jania Tehsil Dharamkot District Moga currently owned by Nachhatar Singh S/o Sardara Singh, is lost and not mortgaged with any Bank or Financial Institution. In this regard DDR No. LR N: 557693/2025 Date: 13/01/2025 has been got registered. Anybody having objection regarding mortgage of property with SMFG India HFCL Bathinda, may respond or raise objection within 03 Days, to Sh. R.P. Singh, Advocate, Mob. No. 75080-11581.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Original Sale Deed No. 1417 Dated 06/07/2011 executed by Avtaar Singh in favour of Gurmeet Singh and Original Sale Deed No. 155 Dated 16.04.2012 executed by Gurmeet singh in favour of Jagjit Singh and Amritpal Singh _ Construted Kothimeasuring 00 Kanals 6,1/2 Marlas which is 13/320 share of 28 Kanals00 Marlas comprising in Khasra No. 150//2(28-0) Khewat No. 688 Khatauni No. 823 as per Jamabandi for the year 2019-20 within the revenue limits of Village Malout Tehsil Malout District Shri MuktsharSahib currently owned by Mrs. Jaspal Kaur W/o Parwinder Singh,is lost and not mortgaged with any Bank or Financial Institution. In this regard DDR No. LR N: 557709/2025 Date: 14/01/2025 has been got registered. Anybody having objection regarding mortgage of property with SMFG India HFCL Bathinda, may respond or raise objection within 03Days, to Sh. R.P. Singh, Advocate, Mob. No. 75080-11581.

ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ

ਬਾ-ਅਦਾਲਤ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਰਣਵੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸਬ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ।

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ:- ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ: ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲੱਭੂ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲਾਲ ਚੰਦ, ਵਾਸੀ ਕੋਠੀ ਨੰਬਰ 30, ਗਲੀ ਨੰ:-1, ਨਜ਼ਦੀਕ ਡੀ.ਸੀ. ਰਿਹਾਇਸ਼ ਨਿਊ ਹਰਿੰਦਰਾ ਨਗਰ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਦੇ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਦੀ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਖਾਨਗੀ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਰਜਿਸਟਰੇਸ਼ਨ ਐਕਟ 1908 ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 40/41 ਅਧੀਨ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕਰਨ ਬਾਰੇ। ਮਿਤੀ 03-02-2022 ਨੂੰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ: ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲੱਭੂ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲਾਲ ਚੰਦ, ਵਾਸੀ ਕੋਠੀ ਨੰਬਰ 30, ਗਲੀ ਨੰ:-1, ਨਜ਼ਦੀਕ ਡੀ.ਸੀ. ਰਿਹਾਇਸ਼ ਨਿਊ ਹਰਿੰਦਰਾ ਨਗਰ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਦੇ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਨੇ ਇੱਕ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਖਾਨਗੀ ਬਹੱਕ ਵਿਕਰਮਜੀਤ ਬਾਂਸਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਵਾਸੀ ਕੋਠੀ ਨੰ:30, ਗਲੀ ਨੰ:1, ਨਿਊ ਕੈਂਟ ਰੋਡ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਲਖਵਾਈ ਸੀ। ਉਕਤ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਇਸ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵਿਖੇ ਮਿਤੀ 12-12-2024 ਨੂੰ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੈ। ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੰਤੋਖ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਦੀ ਮੌਤ ਮਿਤੀ 23-10-2022 ਨੂੰ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਇਤਿਹਾਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਹਰ ਆਮ ਅਤੇ ਖਾਸ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅਗਰ ਇਹ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਖਾਨਗੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ: ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲੱਭੂ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਵ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਲਾਲ ਚੰਦ, ਵਾਸੀ ਕੋਠੀ ਨੰਬਰ 30, ਗਲੀ ਨੰ:-1, ਨਜ਼ਦੀਕ ਡੀ.ਸੀ. ਰਿਹਾਇਸ਼ ਨਿਊ ਹਰਿੰਦਰਾ ਨਗਰ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਦੇ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ ਨੇ ਇੱਕ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਖਾਨਗੀ ਬਹੱਕ ਵਿਕਰਮਜੀਤ ਬਾਂਸਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਵਾਸੀ ਕੋਠੀ ਨੰ:30, ਗਲੀ ਨੰ:1, ਨਿਊ ਕੈਂਟ ਰੋਡ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ, ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਆਪਣੇ ਉਜਰ ਅਸਾਲਤਨ ਜਾਂ ਵਕਾਲਤਨ ਇਸ ਇਸਤਿਹਾਰ ਦੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਤੋਂ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਅੰਦਰ ਇਸ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਬਾਅਦ ਗੁਜਰਨੇ ਮਿਆਦ ਕਿਸੇ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਉਜਰ ਕਾਬਲੇ ਸਮਾਇਤ ਨਾ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਵਸੀਅਤ ਨੂੰ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਰਜਿਸਟਰੇਸ਼ਨ ਐਕਟ 1908 ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 40/41 ਅਧੀਨ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਅਗਲੇਰੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਅਮਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਲਿਆਂਦੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।ਇਹ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਅੱਜ ਮਿਤੀ 14-01-2025 ਨੂੰ ਮੇਰੇ ਦਸਤਖਤਾ ਅਤੇ ਮੋਹਰ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਨਾਲ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਇਆ।

ਨੰਬਰ:- 06/RC. ਸਬ-ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ
ਮਿਤੀ:-14/01/2025 ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ।

ਗਰੇਟਰ ਮੋਹਾਲੀ ਏਰੀਆ ਡਵੈਲਪਮੈਂਟ ਅਥਾਰਿਟੀ ਪੁੱਡਾ ਭਵਨ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 62, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ।

(ਜਨਤਕ ਸੂਚਨਾ)

ਸਿੰਗਲ ਵਿੰਡੋ ਡਾਇਰੀ ਨੂੰ 419802 ਮਿਤੀ 10.10.2024 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਬਿਨੈਕਾਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਪਲਾਟ ਨੰ: 818, ਬਲਾਕ-ਏ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 66-ਬੀਟਾ, ਸਾਈਜ 100 ਵਰਗ ਗਜ, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਦੇ ਅਲਾਟੀ ਸ੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਸੁੰਦਰੀ ਦੇਵੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਕੇਦਾਰ ਨਾਥ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ. B-X1/2052, Near LBS College, Street No. 12. Barnala, Punjab 148101 ਨੇ ਉਕਤ ਪਲਾਟ ਦਾ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸ਼ਾਮ ਲਾਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਹਰੀ ਰਾਮ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ 133, ਨਰੂਲਾ ਕਲੌਨੀ, ਲੋਅਰ ਮਾਲ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣਾ ਮੁਖਤਿਆਰੇ ਆਮ ਨਿਯੁਕਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਮੁਖਤਿਆਰ ਨਾਮਾ ਆਮ ਅਲਾਟੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਸਰੀ, ਬੀ.ਸੀ., ਕੈਨੇਡਾ ਵਿਖੇ ਮਿਤੀ 23.11.2024 ਨੂੰ ਬਣੀ ਹੈਜੋ ਕਿ ਵਾ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੇ ਵਿੱਤੀ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੰ 2504 ਮਿਤੀ 03.01.2025 ਨੂੰ ਇੰਬੋਸ ਹਈ ਹੈ।
ਹੁਣ ਇਸ ਮੁਖਤਿਆਰੇ ਆਮ ਦੇ ਆਧਾਰ ਤੇ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸ਼ਾਮ ਲਾਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਹਰੀ ਰਾਮ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ 133, ਨਰੂਲਾ ਕਲੌਨੀ, ਲੋਅਰ ਮਾਲ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਨੇ ਪਲਾਟ ਨੰ: 818, ਬਲਾਕ-ਏ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 66-ਬੀਟਾ, ਸਾਈਜ 100 ਵਰਗ ਗਜ, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਨੂੰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅੰਕੁਰ ਗੋਇਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਮੋਹਨ ਲਾਲ ਗੋਇਲ ਅਤੇ ਸ੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਅੰਜਲੀ ਗੋਇਲ ਪਤਨੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਟੇਕ ਚੰਦ ਗੋਇਲ ਵਾਸੀਆਨ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ 427, ਸੈਕਟਰ 64, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਵੇਚਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਵੇਚਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਦੇਣ ਤੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾ ਸਭ ਆਮ ਅਤੇ ਖਾਸ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਇਸ ਮੁਖਤਿਆਰੇ ਆਮ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਇਸ ਵਿਗਿਆਪਨ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ-ਅੰਦਰ ਆਪਣਾ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਸੁਪਰਡੰਟ, ਮਿਲਖ ਦਫਤਰ (ਪ), ਗਮਾਡਾ, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਪਾਸ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਦੇ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਨਿਸਚਿਤ ਮਿਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਏ ਇਤਰਾਜਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਕੋਈ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ ਅਤੇ ਉਕਤ ਮੁਖਤਿਆਰ ਨਾਮੇ ਦੇ ਆਧਾਰ ਤੇ ਨੇ ਪਲਾਟ ਨੰ: 818, ਬਲਾਕ-ਏ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 66-ਬੀਟਾ, ਸਾਈਜ 100 ਵਰਗ ਗਜ, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਨੂੰ ਵੇਚਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਉਕਤ ਬਿਨੈਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਨਾਂ ਤੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਸੁਪਰਡੰਟ (ਪ), ਗਮਾਡਾ,
ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ.ਨਗਰ।

ਬਾ-ਅਦਾਲਤ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ-ਕਮ-ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ ਦਰਜਾ ਦੋਮ, ਗੜ੍ਹਸ਼ੰਕਰ।

ਅਨੁਵਾਨ ਮੁਕੱਦਮਾ ਇੰਤਕਾਲ ਨੰਬਰ 7350 ਬੈ ਪਿੰਡ ਮਾਇਲੀ/333 ਤਹਿ: ਗੜ੍ਹਸ਼ੰਕਰ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਹੁਸ਼ਿਆਰਪੁਰ ਵਸੀਕਾ ਨੰਬਰ 2962 ਮਿਤੀ: 14/1/1985 ਵਲੋਂ ਸੰਤੂ- ਉਜਾਗਰ- ਮਨਸਾ ਪੁੱਤਰਾਨ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਖੇਰੂ ਵਾ ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਸੰਤੋ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਖੇਰੂ ਵਾ ਸ਼੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਕ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਨਾ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਭਗਤੂ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਖੇਰੂ ਬਨਾਮ ਸੁਖਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ- ਜਗਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰਾਨ ਜੋਗਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗਣੇਸ਼ਾ ਬਹਿੱਸਾ ਬਰਾਬਰ।

ਨੋਟਿਸ ਬਨਾਮ

1) ਕ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਨਾ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਭਗਤੂ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ
2) ਬੂਟਾ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੰਤੂ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ
3) ਵਿਦਿਆ ਦੇਵੀ ਵਿਧਵਾ ਮਨਸ਼ਾ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਰਾਮ
4) ਪਵਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮਨਸ਼ਾ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਰਾਮ
5) ਅਵਤਾਰ ਚੰਦ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮਨਸ਼ਾ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਰਾਮ
6) ਸੰਤੋ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਖੇਰੂ
7) ਚੈਨ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੰਤੂ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ
8) ਸੰਤੋਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰੀ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਸੰਤੂ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੁਨਸ਼ੀ
9) ਜਨਰਲ ਪਬਲਿਕ

ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨਾ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਬਰੂਏ ਵਸੀਕਾ ਨੰਬਰ 2962 ਮਿਤੀ: 14/1/1985 ਪਿੰਡ ਮਾਇਲੀ ਹਦਬਸਤ ਨੰਬਰ 333 ਤਹਿ: ਗੜ੍ਹਸ਼ੰਕਰ ਇੰਤਕਾਲ ਨੰਬਰ 7350 ਬੈ ਦਰਜ ਹੋਕਰ ਫੈਸਲੇ ਹਿੱਤ ਇਸ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ, ਇਸ ਇੰਤਕਾਲ ਦਾ ਫੈਸਲਾ ਹੋਣ ਜਾਣ ਤੇ ਅਗਰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਧਿਰ ਜਾਂ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ
ਅਸਾਲਤਨ ਜਾਂ ਵਕਾਲਤਨ ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ 15 ਦਿਨ ਉਕਤ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਜਰ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, ਬਾਅਦ ਗੁਜਰਨੇ ਮਿਆਦ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਕਾਬਿਲੇ ਗੌਰ ਨਹੀ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਨੰਬਰ 1290/ਦ.ਕ. ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ ਕਮ
ਮਿਤੀ 13-01-25 A.C.II ਗ੍ਰੇਡ
ਗੜ੍ਹਸ਼ੰਕਰ

Haryana's budget will reflect experiences, suggestions of youth power: CM Saini

RAJENDRA KHATRY
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14



Haryana Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini said that the upcoming state budget will prioritise the prosperity of every citizen and the welfare of all communities. He said that suggestions are being sought from every section and individual of the state for the budget. The experiences and excellent suggestions of the youth will also be reflected in Haryana's budget.

The Chief Minister said this while presiding over a pre-budget consultation meeting with youth at Kurukshetra University on Monday. Sports Minister Gaurav Gautam also remained present in the meeting. Former Minister of State, Subhash Sudha, OSD to Chief Minister, Dr. Raj Nehru, Vice Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Professor Somnath Sachdeva, and other officers were also present. The Chief Minister extended greetings and best wishes for the Lohri and Makar Sankranti festivals to the people of Haryana. He said that the state government's vision for the upcoming budget is to meet the expectations and hopes of every Haryanvi and bring prosperity to the general public.

CM Nayab Saini said that today, youth from Super 100, startups, and young entrepreneurs have given valuable suggestions for the budget. He emphasized that the suggestions received from youth in the previous budget were included, and this time, a portal has been launched to get suggestions from the general public. Anyone can provide suggestions on any field or topic through this portal, he said..

The Chief Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked to strengthen the youth power of the country through programmes like startups. Such programmes are helping youth move forward rapidly in every field worldwide.

He assured that the upcoming budget would focus on benefiting youth, ensuring that youth power contributes to the state's development.

Chief Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Rajesh Khullar said that Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini has initiated a new approach for this year's budget. For the first time, citizens from Haryana, as well as others, can submit their suggestions online for the upcoming budget. He appealed to the youth to carefully listen to the Chief Minister's speech on the budget during the budget session. Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Anurag Rastogi said that the present state government has included 407 suggestions from the general public in the budgets over the past five years.

CM meets Japanese delegation

Haryana Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini met with a Japanese delegation today to discuss various projects being set up in the State. The Japanese delegation included Chairman, Fumio Sashida, Kazunobu Miyake, General Manager, ATL, Guan Zemin, and Sumit. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Arun Gupta, Advisor, Foreign Cooperation Department, Pawan Choudhary were also present during the meeting. The Chief Minister said that Foreign Department has been established to attract and assist foreign investors. Many major companies are interested in setting up projects in Haryana. The government has provided robust infrastructure and connectivity, making regions like Gurugram and the NCR a hub for reputed companies looking to invest. He emphasised that all necessary facilities for starting projects are now available under one roof, making Haryana the top choice for investors.

Set aside differences of region, language to realise dream of developed India: Fadnavis

PANIPAT, JANUARY 14

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis Tuesday stressed the need to set aside differences on the lines of region, caste and language and unite under the Indian tricolour to realise the dream of a developed nation by 2047.

Addressing the 'Shaurya Divas' event here to commemorate the valour of the Marathas at the Battle of Panipat of 1761, Fadnavis said the Marathas were on a winning streak against Ahmed Shah Abdali but had to face defeat as local kings could not unite to fight for Hindavi Swaraj established by Chhatrapati Shivaji.

"Had we been united then, we would have been safe (uss samay bhi agar hum ek hote, toh safe hote)," Fadnavis said, referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'ek hai toh safe hai' slogan during Maharashtra elections last year.

"But, we were not united back then and were not safe and ruled by outsiders," he said.

The Maharashtra chief minister said, "Just as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj brought us together under the saffron flag, similarly the need of the hour now is to unite under the saffron flag and the Tricolour." He said lessons should be learnt from the Battle of Panipat, identify the enemies of the nation and unite as Indians to realise Prime Minister Modi's dream of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. Fadnavis said the Marathas were defeated in the Battle of Panipat in 1761, but Mahadji Shinde returned a decade later to win Delhi and establish the supremacy of the Maratha empire.

He recalled that the Hindavi Swaraj established by Chhatrapati Shivaji was further nurtured by his son Chhatrapati Sambhaji. Under the Peshwas, the Hindavi Swaraj expanded from Cuttack in present-day Odisha to Attock in Afghanistan to protect religion, nation and culture, Fadnavis said. IANS

Gurugram court awards 20-yrs' RI to man for minor's rape

GURUGRAM, JANUARY 14

A trial court on Tuesday awarded 20 years imprisonment to a man for raping a minor, police said. Additional session judge Ashwani Kumar on Tuesday sentenced Mohammad Taj alias Rahul to 20 years rigorous imprisonment and imposed a Rs 40,000 fine on him.

"On the basis of the chargesheet filed by Gurugram Police in the court with the evidence and witnesses, the court of additional session judge Ashwani Kumar sentenced the accused to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 40,000 on him," said a Gurugram police spokesperson.

The police received a complaint on February 2021, alleging the rape of a minor girl after the accused lured her. It registered an FIR under relevant sections of the Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act and arrested the accused on February 19, 2021. He was identified as a resident of Bicchor Village in Nuh district.

The man was sent to judicial custody after being produced in a city court, which conducted the trial of the case.

Following his arrest, the police probed the case and collected all the necessary evidence and witnesses against the accused and placed all the material in court, the police said. PTI

Two from Haryana booked for raping woman in Kasauli hotel

SHIMLA, JANUARY 14



Himachal Pradesh Police has filed an FIR against two men from Haryana for allegedly raping a married woman in a hotel in Kasauli, officials said on Tuesday.

The accused, Mohan lal Badoli and Jai Bhagwan alias Rocky, also made videos of the act and threatened to kill the victim if she disclosed the incident to anyone, they said.

The FIR was registered in Kasauli in Solan district on December 13, 2024. A copy of the FIR was doing the rounds on social media on Tuesday.

According to the FIR, the woman was staying in a hotel in Kasauli with her boss and friend when she and her friend met the two accused on July 3, 2023. While Badoli introduced himself as a political leader, Rocky introduced himself as a singer. Later, the woman and her friend went into a room with the two accused, who promised to help the complainant get a government job and a chance to feature in a music video, the FIR said. The accused forced the complainant to drink liquor. After she refused, they raped her. They also clicked pictures and recorded videos of the act and threatened to kill the woman if she disclosed the incident to anyone, it added.

The complainant further alleged that two months ago, she was called to Rocky's house in Panchkula where the accused threatened to implicate her in a false case, police said.

Based on the woman's complaint, police said, a case has been registered against Badoli and Rocky under sections 376 D (gang rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) on December 13, 2024. PTI

Two unidentified bike-borne assailants open fire outside house in Gurugram

GURUGRAM, JANUARY 14



Two unidentified men wearing helmets and riding a motorcycle opened fire outside a locked house in the Ashok Vihar Phase -3 area of Gurugram in the early morning hours of Tuesday and swiftly fled the scene, the police said.

The incident created panic among the residents of the area.

The house was newly constructed and the 'Grah Pravesh' ceremony was scheduled on Wednesday.

It is being said that at the time of the incident, no one was injured in the incident. A police officer privy to the matter said more than two dozen rounds of bullets were fired outside the three-storey house.

Police have recovered several empty shells from the scene.

The police officers have also questioned the complainant for clues.

The house belongs to Ram Niwas, a resident of the Prem Nagar area of Gurugram.

He was a building material supplier.

Ram Niwas told the police that before this incident, he had not even received any threatening calls from anyone, and was also surprised by this incident.

The source said that after firing, the accused threw a slip with the name of the Kaushal gang group inside the house. PTI

HIMACHAL/J&K

Devotees take dip in rivers in Himachal to mark Makar Sankranti

SHIMLA/MANALI, JANUARY 14



Devotees across Himachal Pradesh on Tuesday took a dip in rivers braving cold weather to mark the auspicious Makar Sankranti festival.

A huge gathering was seen at Tattapani, around 52 km from the state capital, and Manikaran, home to a Sikh shrine in Kullu district, for a holy dip in the Sutlej and Parvati rivers, respectively. Both Tattapani and Manikaran, known for hot springs with high sulphur concentration, witnessed a majority of devotees mainly from Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi.

"Like in previous years, this time too we are expecting over 20,000 devotees on Makar Sankranti," a priest at Tattapani told IANS over the phone. Likewise, the devotees took a holy bath in the Vashist temple, located on the outskirts of the popular tourist resort Manali. The temple is situated on the left bank of the Beas River, also known for its hot springs.

Makar Sankranti, a major harvest festival celebrated in various parts of the country, also marks the beginning of warmer and longer days compared to the nights. Holding community kitchens to mark the occasions is common among the people. The natural and prominent hot springs, which disappeared after the construction of the 800 MW Koldam hydroelectric power project executed by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) along the Satluj in Tattapani, have been restored.

Shimla-based Durga Devi Bihari Lal Brochan Lal Charitable Trust has been holding the traditional 'khichdi bhandara' on Makar Sankranti at Tattapani for 96 years.

"The 'khichdi bhandara' is a humble offering to the community, where everyone comes together as one family to share a warm 'khichdi with ghee'," said trust chairman Ramesh Chand Sood.

In 2020, the 'khichdi', weighing 1,995 kg, was prepared jointly by the state Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation and the trust in a single utensil to mark Makar Sankranti and entered the Guinness World Records. IANS

Soldiers protecting borders guarantee security, development: LG Sinha

JAMMU, JANUARY 14



Soldiers protecting the borders guarantee the security and development of the nation, Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday, as he paid tributes to ex-servicemen for their contribution.

Attending the ninth Armed Forces Veterans Day at Akhnoor, which was presided over by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the Lt Governor said it is the collective responsibility of the society to take concrete measures for welfare of soldiers and veterans.

"I bow my head in gratitude to all the veterans, valiant jawans, brave women and families of our Armed Forces' bravehearts. We will forever remain indebted to our veterans who have protected the nation from the enemies and continue to contribute to the nation's growth and development," Sinha said.

"Soldiers protecting the borders guarantee the security and development of the nation," he said. Sinha said the Akhnoor bears the indelible footprints of the "valour and saga of courage of our veterans".

He said the 108-ft high national flag and Akhnoor Heritage Museum dedicated to the nation by the defence minister will inspire future generations and "keep reminding us of the selfless devotion and sacrifices of our brave soldiers and their families for the motherland". "A martyr's house is a sacred temple. This feeling and respect should be there in the minds of common man. The administration and society can express their gratitude to those who sacrificed everything for the country by fulfilling their responsibilities and ensuring that they live a life of comfort and dignity," Sinha said. The Lt Governor highlighted various welfare programmes for the education of the children of veterans.

He also also paid homage to the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, Field Marshal K M Cariappa. IANS

Skiing introduced at Guldanda to boost winter tourism in Bhaderwah



BHADERWAH, JANUARY 14

In an attempt to attract more tourists, authorities in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district have introduced skiing activities in the snow-covered Guldanda meadow in the picturesque Bhaderwah sub-division, officials said on Tuesday.

Skiing, which is a major attraction for tourists, especially adventure lovers, was introduced by the tourism department in collaboration with the Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA), they said.

A skiing training programme is underway, attracting both tourists and local youth in large numbers on the breathtaking slopes of Guldanda meadow located on the Bhadarwah-Pathankot highway at a height of 10,000 ft above sea level.

"As part of tourism promotion, the tourism department introduced snow skiing at Guldanda and the response of local youth and visitors is heartwarming. The introduction of skiing has added to the attraction of Guldanda and it will surely act as a trump card to draw adventure lovers, which will boost tourism prospects in this part of the Union Territory," training programme coordinator Aniza Mushtaq said.

Experts and skiing instructors also said the Guldanda slopes between the Ashapati and Kailash glaciers are apt for adventure sports.

"Guldanda has got all the ingredients of a ski resort as it has got both types of slopes for beginners and professionals," Manzoor Ahmed Lone, skiing instructor from Gulmarg, said.

With its snow-clad landscapes and breathtaking vistas, he said Guldanda offers immense potential to become a hub for winter sports and a favourite place for adventure enthusiasts.

"I have been training both locals and tourists since the last five days. if projected properly, Guldanda can emerge as the next big thing in snow sports of Jammu and Kashmir," he said. A significant number of the participants were local youth, many of them women, underscoring their growing interest and participation in winter sports. IANS

HRTC orders probe into staff's suicide after video claiming 'harassment' goes viral

SHIMLA, JANUARY 14

The Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) on Tuesday ordered an inquiry into the circumstances leading to the suicide of a driver after a video went viral in which the latter levelled serious allegations against the local unit management, officials said.

Sanjay Kumar, who worked as a driver in the Dharampur unit of HRTC, allegedly committed suicide by consuming a poisonous substance recently.

On Monday, a purported video recorded before his death went viral in which Kumar could be heard alleging misconduct and harassment by the local unit.

In the video, Kumar claimed a senior official withheld his salary for the past four months and also harassed him.



Taking note of the video, the HRTC management has now ordered an inquiry into the alleged circumstances leading to Kumar talking the extreme step.

The probe will be conducted by the divisional manager, Mandi, who will submit a report within seven days. The corporation also attached HRTC Dharampur regional manager Vinod Kumar to the divisional office of HRTC Mandi. Regional manager of Sarkaghat, Mehar Chand, has been given additional charge of Dharampur until further orders.

The inquiry would examine and verify the authenticity of the allegations levelled in the video, investigate the role and conduct of the local unit management, identify lapses (if any), and record statements of the witnesses, family members, and Kumar's colleagues, HRTC managing director Rohan Chand Thakur said.

Immediate steps must be taken to prevent tampering with evidence or influencing the inquiry process, the probe order said.

Meanwhile, leader of opposition in the state assembly, Jai Ram Thakur, told reporters it is unfortunate that employees are being harassed to a limit that they are forced to commit suicide, as he demanded an inquiry into the matter. PTI

NEWSBRIEFS

Ethiopia repatriates 164 citizens from Lebanon

ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopia has repatriated 164 citizens from Beirut, capital of Lebanon, due to the security situation in the Middle Eastern country, the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has said. Teyiba Hassen, Director-General of the Refugees and Returnees Service, and foreign ministry officials welcomed the returnees at Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, according to an Ethiopian foreign ministry statement. The government has been making efforts to repatriate citizens from various countries facing security problems, the statement quoted Hassen as saying on the occasion."The Refugees and Returnees Service in collaboration with pertinent bodies will continue repatriating citizens who are living abroad in difficult conditions," she said.In October 2024, the Ethiopian government repatriated 51 nationals from Lebanon. **IANS**

Lebanon's new PM vows to start new chapter

BEIRUT: Lebanon's newly-appointed Prime Minister Nawaf Salam vowed on Tuesday to start a new chapter in the country, local TV channel Al Jadeed reported. "The time has come to start a new chapter rooted in justice, security, progress, and opportunities so that Lebanon becomes a country of freedom and equal citizenship," Salam said in his first remarks as Prime Minister at Baabda Palace in capital Beirut. The Prime Minister-designate highlighted the dire need for reconstruction efforts after the nearly 14-month deadly conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, which devastated civilian homes and infrastructures. **IANS**

Starlink service may be available in South Korea as early as April

SEOUL: US space firm SpaceX's Starlink satellite internet service is expected to become available in South Korea as early as April, industry sources said on Tuesday. According to the sources, Seoul's Ministry of Science and ICT plans to devise regulations on Elon Musk-owned Starlink's use of local frequencies later this week, paving the way for approval of its operations by March, reports Yonhap news agency. Following this, South Koreans may be able to use Starlink's service as early as April after the Ministry of Government Legislation and the Office for Government Policy Coordination complete the necessary steps to give a final nod for the business. **IANS**

Australian govt launches first national autism strategy

CANBERRA: The Australian government has launched the first national strategy to improve the lives of people with autism. Amanda Rishworth, the minister for Social Services, on Tuesday unveiled the first National Autism Strategy, promising improved inclusion, support and life outcomes for all autistic Australians, Xinhua news agency reported. The 42.3 million Australian dollar ($26.1 million) plan includes 22 commitments on four key reform areas. Of the funding, 19.9 million Australian dollars over four years will go toward a peer support program that will provide lived-experience knowledge, empathy and culturally tailored advice to autistic people. **IANS**

Zelenskyy, Macron discuss Western troop deployment in Ukraine before German defence chief visits

KYIV, JANUARY 14



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that he has held further discussions with French President Emmanuel Macron about the possibility of Western troops deploying in Ukraine to safeguard any peace deal ending the nearly three-year war with Russia.

Zelenskyy's disclosure came before an official visit to Kyiv on Tuesday by German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius. He arrived in Kyiv on an unannounced visit following a meeting in Warsaw on Monday with his counterparts from France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Poland.

Germany and the four other countries are Europe's five top military spenders.

Pistorius told German news agency dpa that his visit to Kyiv aims to underscore Germany's strong support for Ukraine at a time when US President-elect Donald Trump's term beginning next week looks set to bring deep changes to Washington's policy on the war.

Pistorius said that his visit "is a signal that Germany, as the biggest NATO country in Europe, stands by Ukraine - not alone, but with the group of five and many other allies." Trump has criticised the cost of the war for US taxpayers through major military aid packages for Ukraine, and vowed to bring the conflict to a swift end. He also has made it clear that he wants to shift more of the Ukraine burden onto Europe.

Macron prompted an outcry from other leaders, and he appeared isolated on the European stage, after his remarks almost a year ago floated the possibility of putting Western troops in Ukraine.

Zelenskyy has said that Ukraine needs security guarantees to bolster any peace agreement - an issue he said late Monday that he discussed with the French leader.

"As one of these guarantees, we discussed the French initiative to deploy military contingents in Ukraine," Zelenskyy said. "We considered practical steps for its implementation, possible expansion and involvement of other countries in this process." Potentially sending European troops as peacekeepers to Ukraine is fraught with risk. Such a move may not deter Russia from attacking Ukraine again in the future, which is the fear of Ukrainian officials, and could drag European countries into a direct confrontation with Moscow. That, in turn, could pull NATO - including the United States - into a conflict.

Russia's bigger army has largely pinned Ukrainian forces on the defensive along the around 1,000-kilometre front line. Ukraine's defenses are creaking in the eastern Donetsk region amid a Russian onslaught.

Ukraine has built up a domestic arsenal of long-range drones and missiles that it uses to hit targets on Russian soil far behind the front line.

The targets are usually infrastructure that supports the Russian war effort, such as arms depots, oil refineries and manufacturing plants. **IANS**

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake arrives in Beijing on 4-day visit to China

BEIJING/COLOMBO, JANUARY 14



Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake arrived here on Tuesday on a four-day visit during which he is scheduled to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders on deepening bilateral ties.

Upon his arrival, the President was accorded a ceremonial welcome by the Chinese military, and he was formally received by China's Deputy Foreign Minister Chen Xiaodong, according to a press release issued by Disanayake's office in Colombo.

This is Disanayake's second overseas visit - the first being to India - since assuming office in September last year.

During his China visit, Dissanayake will hold bilateral talks with President Xi on areas of mutual interest and will also meet Chinese Premier Li Qiang, and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China Zhao Leji. Several Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation between Sri Lanka and China are expected to be signed during the visit, the Presidential office press release said on Tuesday.

During this state visit, Dissanayake is scheduled to participate in several key engagements and undertake field visits focused on technological and agricultural development, as well as initiatives aimed at poverty alleviation.

The visit also includes high-level business meetings and discussions, it said.

"The visit to the People's Republic of China will further strengthen the longstanding ties between the two countries," the Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry said earlier.

A host of issues, including permitting Chinese research vessels, regarded as spy ships by India; Sri Lanka's debt commitments to China, stated to be Colombo's largest creditor and expansion of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) investments are expected to figure in Dissanayake's talks with Xi.

Sri Lanka expects the visit to result in the digitisation of Sri Lanka's two state TV channels - Rupavahini and ITN.

Sri Lanka would also seek Chinese assistance to complete the central expressway, which has been stalled for over a decade, the media division of the Sri Lanka President's Office here said in a press release earlier.

The talks would also cover the Chinese industrial zone around the southern port of Hambantota. **IANS**

Significant progress made in talks over Israel-Hamas ceasefire and hostage release, officials say

CAIRO, JANUARY14



US and Arab mediators made significant progress overnight toward brokering a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war and the release of scores of hostages held in the Gaza Strip, but a deal hasn't been reached yet, officials said on Monday.

Four officials acknowledged that progress has been made and said the coming days would be critical for ending more than 15 months of fighting that has destabilised the Middle East.

A US official briefed on the negotiations said all sides are "closer than we've ever been but it could still fall apart".

Two other officials, including one associated with Hamas, said there were still a number of hurdles. On several occasions over the past year, US leaders have said they were on the verge of reaching a deal, only to have talks stall.

Another person familiar with the talks said there had been a breakthrough overnight and there was a proposed deal on the table. Israeli and Hamas negotiators will take it to their leaders for final approval, the person said.

The person said mediators from Qatar had put renewed pressure on Hamas to accept the agreement, while US President-elect Donald Trump's envoy, Steve Witkoff, was pressing the Israelis.

The person said the mediators had handed the draft deal to each side and the next 24 hours would be pivotal.

An Egyptian official said there had been good progress overnight but it would likely take a few more days, and the sides were aiming for a deal before Trump's inauguration on January 20.

A Hamas official said a number of contentious issues still need to be resolved, including an Israeli commitment to ending the war and details about the withdrawal of Israeli troops and the exchange of hostages for Palestinian prisoners.

The Qatari palace said the emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, met with Hamas' delegation in Doha as well as with Witkoff and Brett McGurk, President Joe Biden's top Middle East adviser. Al Thani also spoke by phone with Biden, who stressed the urgent need for a deal.

The Biden administration, along with Egypt and Qatar, has spent more than a year trying to broker an agreement to end the deadliest war ever fought between Israelis and Palestinians and secure the release of scores of hostages captured in Hamas' attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023, which triggered the conflict.

But the sides have been divided over the details of the planned exchange of hostages for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, as well as the nature of the ceasefire itself. Hamas has said it won't release the remaining captives without an end to the war, while Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to continue the campaign until "total victory" over the militant group.**IANS**

North Korea fires multiple short-range ballistic missiles ahead of Trump inauguration

SEOUL, JANUARY 14



North Korea launched multiple short-range ballistic missiles toward the East Sea on Tuesday, South Korea's military said, in a provocation staged just days before US President-elect Donald Trump takes office.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said it detected the launches at about 9:30 a.m. from the Ganggye area in the North's Jagang Province and they flew about 250 kilometres before splashing into the sea. It did not specify the number of missiles fired.

Tuesday's launches marked the recalcitrant regime's second provocation this year, after it fired what it claimed to be a hypersonic intermediate-range ballistic missile on January 6.

Given the flight distance of short-range ballistic missiles, they are usually seen as targeting South Korea.

North Korea also fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles on November 5 last year, just hours ahead of the US presidential election.

In a year-end party meeting, North Korea declared it would carry out the 'toughest' counteraction strategy toward the United States, claiming military cooperation among South Korea, the US and Japan has expanded into a "military bloc for aggression."

The JCS condemned the latest launch as a 'blatant' provocation that threatens peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, and vowed to maintain a firm readiness posture against the possibility of North Korea making a 'wrong judgment.' **IANS**

Former Bangladesh premier Khaleda Zia's BNP demands election by July-August

DHAKA, JANUARY 14



Former prime minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on Tuesday demanded that the general election be held by July-August this year, refuting interim government chief adviser Muhammad Yunus's stance to stage it by the year-end or mid-2026.

"There is no reason to delay the election that much," said BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir after an overnight meeting of the party's standing committee that was chaired virtually by acting BNP chairperson Tarique Rahman from London.

Alamgir said the standing committee held a lengthy discussion on Yunus's planned election deadline but came up with a conclusion that the polls should not be delayed for so long as voters list updating should not take more than a month and other related tasks would take one to two months at most.

"We believe, as the Election Commission has already been formed and there is relative stability in governance, there is no reason to delay the national election further. Delays only deepen the political and economic crises," he said. **IANS**

Interpol cracks down on illegal mining in West Africa as police make 200 arrests

PARIS, JANUARY 14

Interpol said on Tuesday a major operation targeting illegal gold mining in West Africa has resulted in 200 arrests and the seizure of harmful chemicals, explosives and drugs.

The operation spanned Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea and Senegal, exposing extensive networks behind the illicit practice, which causes widespread environmental damage and poses serious health risks.

Highlighting the grim toll on miners, authorities uncovered large quantities of painkillers used to counter the harsh effects of toxic chemicals employed in gold extraction. Substances like mercury and cyanide, commonly used in small-scale mining, pose severe risks, with prolonged exposure leading to irreversible health damage. Interpol, the France-based global policing agency with 195 member countries, coordinated the operation from July to October 2024 in cooperation with the UK Home Office. **IANS**

Kate Middleton visits her cancer treatment hospital in London

LONDON, JANUARY 14



Kate Middleton, Britain's Princess of Wales, on Tuesday paid a visit to the Royal Marsden Hospital in London to thank National Health Service (NHS) staff who cared for her during her cancer treatment over the past year.

It marks the first confirmation of where the 43-year-old senior royal underwent her preventative chemotherapy.

A Kensington Palace spokesperson said Catherine -- Princess of Wales -- wanted to "show her gratitude to the incredible team, but also highlight the world-leading care and treatment" the specialist hospital provides.

In September last year, Kate revealed she had finished chemotherapy for an undisclosed form of cancer following an "incredibly tough" few months.

It came after she confirmed in March 2024 she would be undergoing preventative chemotherapy after tests following abdominal surgery indicated cancer. Last Thursday, she celebrated her 43rd birthday when her husband paid tribute to her as "the most incredible wife and mother".

"The strength you've shown over the last year has been remarkable," he said in a post on X.

Kate's hospital visit this week involved her meeting patients currently undergoing treatment as well as staff working in different roles across the hospital. **PTI**

Los Angeles area remains in extreme fire danger as crews battle enduring blazes

LOS ANGELES, JANUARY 14



More powerful winds were expected to trigger new wildfires that could set back the recent progress made in containing blazes in the Los Angeles area that have destroyed thousands of homes and killed at least 24 people. Much of Los Angeles area to remain under an extreme fire danger warning through Wednesday A large portion of southwest California spanning eight counties around Los Angeles is under a red flag warning for extreme fire danger through Wednesday.

Certain areas of LA and Ventura counties, including valleys, foothills and mountains throughout the Santa Monica and Santa Susana ranges, were in what the National Weather Service calls a "particularly dangerous situation". The Palisades and Eaton fires are burning on the southern side of that area, and hurricane-force winds are forecast to return on Tuesday. The weather service urges residents to "stay aware of your surroundings. Be ready to evacuate. Avoid anything that can spark a fire". Interactive maps show locations of damaged homes LA County Recovers, a government-run programme, posted interactive maps on its website that show homes and other structures that have been damaged. **IANS**

NATO announces new mission to protect undersea cables in Baltic Sea region

BRUSSELS, JANUARY 14



NATO is launching a new mission to protect undersea cables in the Baltic Sea region after a string of incidents that have heightened fears of Russian sabotage and spying in the strategic region, the alliance's leader said on Tuesday.

Secretary-General Mark Rutte said that the mission dubbed Baltic Sentry would include frigates, maritime patrol aircraft and a fleet of naval drones to provide "enhanced surveillance and deterrence." "Across the alliance, we have seen elements of a campaign to destabilise our societies through cyberattacks, assassination attempts and sabotage, including possible sabotage of undersea cables in the Baltic Sea," Rutte told reporters after a meeting in Helsinki with the leaders of Allied Baltic nations.

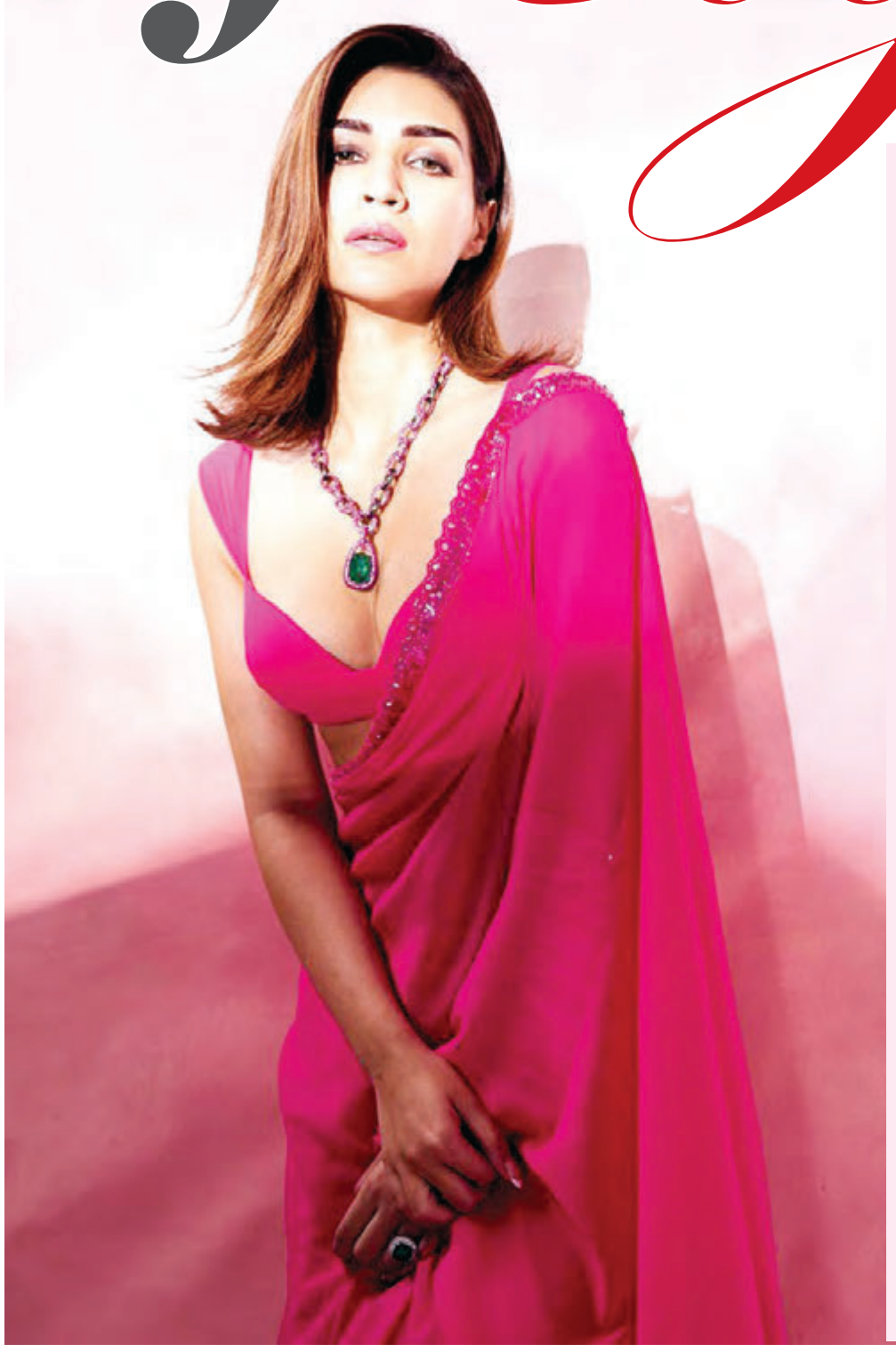
Announcing the new operation, Rutte noted that more than 95 per cent of internet traffic is secured via undersea cables, and 1.3 million kilometres of cables guarantee an estimated USD 10 trillion worth of financial transactions every day.

Even as Rutte was meeting in Helsinki with the leaders of the Baltic nations, there were reports on the Polish state broadcaster TVP World that a ship belonging to Russia's "shadow fleet" was seen circling a natural gas pipeline that runs from Norway to Poland.

The fleet is made up of hundreds of aging tankers of uncertain ownership and safety practices that are dodging sanctions and keeping the oil revenue flowing to Moscow.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, speaking at a later news briefing in Helsinki, said he had not yet received a report on that matter but would inform the public once he learned more. **IANS**

lifestyle



Kriti Sanon shares a wholesome family moment during Lohri celebration

One of the most sought-after Bollywood actresses at the moment, Kriti Sanon recently celebrated Lohri with her family. The 'Luka Chuppi' actress also took to the stories section of her IG handle and dropped a wholesome family moment.

Kriti Sanon posted a video where we can see her father Rahul Sanon lovingly feeding his better half Geeta Sanon. Later on, he also fed both his girls, Kriti and Nupur Sanon.

Meanwhile, a couple of days back, the diva posted a string of throwback pictures from 2024. Her Insta post included the caption, "Still lingering somewhere in December 2024".

Aside from her cinematic projects, Kriti Sanon has also been making headlines for her alleged relationship with businessman Kabir Bahia. The rumored couple have been seen spending time with each other on several occasions. However, these two are yet to make their relationship official.

Recently, some unseen pictures of Kriti Sanon and Kabir Bahia's romantic New Year getaway took social media by storm. In one of the stills, the 'Mimi' actress can be seen standing close to her rumored beau as she rests her head on his shoulder. In another photo, Kriti Sanon and Kabir Bahl are sitting close, along with actor Varun Sharma, as they enjoyed Ustad Rahat Fateh Ali Khan and Mehwish Hayat's concert.

On another front, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari's "Bareilly Ki Barfi", featuring Rajkummar Rao, Kriti Sanon, and Ayushmann Khurrana will be re-released in cinema halls on February 7. Making the announcement, production house, Junglee Pictures wrote on social media, "This Valentine's, celebrate love and friendship and fill mithaas in your life with our barfis! #BareillyKiBarfi re-releasing in cinemas on 7th Feb." Initially released on 18th August 2017, "Bareilly Ki Barfi" turned out to be a commercial success at the box office.

Kriti Sanon's most recent project was the Netflix film "Do Patti" opposite Kajol and Shaheer Sheikh. **IANS**



Parineeti reveals her must-have shoot essential

Parineeti Chopra is busy filming her forthcoming project with Netflix. Piquing the interest of netizens, the diva has been regularly sharing sneak peeks from her shoot diaries on her Instagram stories.

Continuing the trend, Parineeti Chopra recently posted a fresh set of insights into her schedule. She shared a BTS still from the set with the caption "The night shoot hustle continues". The 'Kesari' star further dropped pics of an autorickshaw, along with the night sky. Parineeti Chopra's Instagram stories also included a still from her vanity saying, "Van Ke Andar Se Hi". Meanwhile, her last post was with a hot water bag as she wrote, "Never without my" in the caption.

Prior to this, Parineeti Chopra shared a photograph from the shoot at the Bandra Worli Sea Link in the post captioned, "Second schedule starts. Cute location today".

Going by the sources, the 'Daawat-e-Ishq' actress is shooting for the second schedule of the untitled drama at the moment. Any further details regarding the project's cast and crew have been kept away from the limelight for now.

Apart from her Netflix drama, Parineeti Chopra will also be a part of Anurag Singh's much-anticipated thriller "Sanki". The actress will be seen sharing screen space with Varun Dhawan for the first time in the highly-anticipated flick. The film will share the tale of a police officer who goes into retirement after an accident during a case investigation. After years have passed, he is forced to relive the trauma as he narrates the story to his friend's son.

Furthermore, Parineeti Chopra also has Karan Sharma's "Shiddat 2" in her kitty. Sunny Kaushal, Amyra Dastur, Mohit Raina, Diana Penty, Arjun Singh, and Radhikka Madan will also be seen playing key roles in the movie.

Meanwhile, Parineeti Chopra was last seen in Imtiaz Ali's biographical drama "Chamkila". The movie featured Diljit Dosanjh in the tutorial role. **IANS**

This is how Sara Ali Khan prepared for her role in 'Sky Force'



Sara Ali Khan will next be a part of the much-awaited historical war drama "Sky Force". The actress has been receiving a lot of appreciation for her role ever since the release of the film's trailer.

If the sources are to be believed, the stunner kept herself grounded to connect with her role in the film. A source close to the project revealed, "Sara Ali Khan used to sit quietly on the set and focus on her script and delivery. She consciously avoided distractions on set to remain emotionally grounded for key scenes. Her approach allowed her to fully inhabit the role of a soldier's wife to be able to portray the dealing of hope and uncertainty perfectly together. She would neither use her phone nor anything else that could divert her attention."

Sara Ali Khan will be seen essaying the role of the humble, strong, yet hopeful wife of an army official played by Veer Pahariya in the movie. The project will also feature Akshay Kumar as Wing Commander K.O. Ahuja, and Nimrat Kaur as his wife. Sharad Kelkar, Mohit Chauhan, and Manish Chaudhari will further be a part of the movie's core cast. Bankrolled by Jio Studios in collaboration with Maddock Films and Leo Films UK Production, "Sky Force" will feature music composed by Tanishk Bagchi and Justin Varghese. While A. Sreekar Prasad has performed the editing for the flick, cinematography has been done by Santhana Krishnan Ravichandran.

Apart from "Sky Force", Sara Ali Khan will be seen in Anurag Basu's forthcoming drama "Metro In Dino" where she will share the screen with Aditya Roy Kapur, along with Anupam Kher, Ali Fazal, Kay Kay Menon, Pankaj Tripathi, Konkona Sen Sharma, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Rahul Bose, and Neena Gupta, among others. Over and above this, Sara Ali Khan has reportedly also joined forces with Ayushmann Khurrana for an untitled drama. **IANS**

Nora Fatehi joins forces with Jason Derulo for 'Snake', netizens can't keep calm

The wait is finally over! Nora Fatehi has joined forces with American singer Jason Derulo for the much-anticipated song, "Snake". Making the exciting announcement on social media, Nora Fatehi shared the first look poster of "Snake" on her official Instagram handle, along with a caption that read, "Snake 16.01.25." Meanwhile, the makers have also unveiled the gripping teaser of the track. The captivating visuals of the teaser suggest that 'Snake' will not just be a song, but



a global phenomenon in the making.

Reacting to the post, thrilled fans penned comments such as "The duo world isn't ready for!!", "It will be the bomb of the season.", and "Woww waiting", among others.

If the previews are any hint, "Snake" is expected to be set in a magical and mysterious world. While Nora Fatehi poses in a white dress, with shimmery makeup and braided hairdo, Jason Derulo accompanies her in a rugged denim jacket.

'Snake' will mark Nora Fatehi's entry into the American mainstream music scene. This association will bring together Jason Derulo's signature pop style with Nora Fatehi's Bollywood flair. Nora Fatehi has been regularly pushing boundaries on the professional front. Before 'Snake' she worked with CKay on "It's True".

On another hand, Nora Fatehi recently had to vacate her place due to the raging wildfires in Los Angeles. She took to her Instagram Stories and shared a video narrating her ordeal. **IANS**



Nimrat Kaur surrounds herself with 'most beautiful company' this Lohri

Nimrat Kaur is presently busy shooting in Rajasthan for her upcoming project. The actress celebrated Lohri with the cast of her forthcoming drama and even dropped sneak peeks of the festivities on her official IG.

The 'Airlift' actress looked stunning in a long black dress, paired with a matching jacket. Her latest Instagram post also included the caption, "Lohri, us, the best food and regal views!! There was sarson da saag, revaris and gajjak...and only love, laughter with the most beautiful company on this unforgettable full moon night." She also tagged Sunny Kaushal in the post, adding, "You were missed while you worked!!"

Nimrit Kaur was accompanied by Kabir Bedi, Kunal Roy Kapoor, Mukesh Rishi, Raima Sen, Sandeepa Dhar, and Ashish Verma during the Lohri celebration. Although Sunny Kaushal is also part of the cast, he was not a part of the celebrations.

Along with Nimrat Kaur, actor Kabir Bedi also dropped a couple of pictures on his social media handle. Expressing gratitude for a memorable evening, the veteran actor penned the caption, "Celebrating Lohri in Rajasthan with the brilliant cast of a new film project. Hero Sunny Kaushal was shooting but most of us are in this selfie: Nimrat Kaur, Raima Sen, Kunal Roy Kapoor, Sandeepa Dhar, Ashish Verma, Mukesh Rishi, and my lovely wife Parveen Dusanj, all under a wonderful full moon and delicious winter dishes at a dinner organised by Nimrat at Laxmi Nivas Palace in Bikaner." **PTI**

NEWSBRIEFS

Škoda Auto India to showcase its legacy at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025

CHANDIGARH: Škoda Auto India is gearing up to make an exciting splash at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025, from January 17 to 22 in New Delhi. Showcasing its rich heritage of performance and innovation, Škoda Auto's pavilion will feature an impressive lineup of eight models from its Indian and global portfolio, emphasising the brand's commitment to sustainability and advanced mobility solutions. BPE

Coca-Cola India's signature at Maha Kumbh 2025

CHANDIGARH: Coca-Cola India is set to make a splash at Maha Kumbh 2025, bringing its iconic brands—Coca-Cola, Thums Up, Sprite, Charged, Maaza, Kinley, Limca, Fanta, and Minute Maid—closer to millions of attendees at one of the world's largest cultural gatherings. With Coca-Cola products available every 400 meters, the brand ensures that no visitor is far from hydrating themselves. Greishma Singh, Vice President Marketing, Coca-Cola India and South West Asia. We're delighted to play a part in refreshing millions during one of the country's most iconic cultural celebrations. BPE

TKM announces launch of its 67th Toyota Technical Education Programme

CHANDIGARH: Continuing its commitment to the nation's 'Skill India' and 'Make in India' missions, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today announced the launch of its 67th Toyota Technical Education Program (T-TEP) and the "Scholarship program for Technical Education and Recognition" [STAR] initiative under T-TEP at Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI), Aizwal, Mizoram. BPE

Bank of Baroda launches BoB liquid fixed deposits: Redefining fixed deposits with artial withdrawal flexibility

CHANDIGARH: In today's dynamic financial environment, customers are seeking innovative deposit solutions that blend assured & competitive returns, liquidity and flexibility. To cater to the evolving needs of savers, Bank of Baroda has introduced a unique alternative to the traditional fixed deposit (FD) bob Liquid Fixed Deposits. bob Liquid FD combines the benefits of earning higher returns from Fixed Deposits with the convenience of easy liquidity associated with a Savings Account. BPE

India likely to see smartphone exports reach $20 billion this fiscal

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



The country's smartphone market, which is projected to cross $50 billion in value this year, is likely to see $20 billion worth exports in FY25, riding on 'made in India' Apple iPhones.

In FY24, the country saw smartphone exports surpassing $15 billion (with Apple's share at over $10 billion). This fiscal, according to industry estimates, this figure is likely to cross $20 billion, further driven by iPhone exports.

Driven by the ongoing trend of premiumisation and thrust on local manufacturing, Apple and Samsung are leading the chart. The Indian smartphone market is evolving rapidly, with original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) increasingly focusing on premium launches to strengthen brand equity, showcase technological capabilities and improve profitability.

Owing to the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme, Apple has already reached Rs 1 lakh crore in iPhone exports from India in the calendar year 2024.

Over the past four years, the Apple ecosystem has also generated 1,75,000 new direct jobs, with over 72 per cent of these roles filled by women, as per the government data.

Back in 2014-15, domestic mobile phone production stood at 5.8 crore units, which was increased to 33 crore units in 2023-24, with imports dropping significantly. Exports reached five crore units, and FDI increased by 254 per cent, highlighting the PLI scheme's role in boosting manufacturing and investment.

The electronics sector in the country is projected to create 12 million jobs by 2027 — 3 million direct and 9 million indirect roles.

Direct employment opportunities are likely to include employment for nearly 1 million engineers, 2 million ITI-certified professionals, and 0.2 million specialists in fields like AI, ML and data science, while non-technical roles are expected to contribute 9 million indirect jobs, highlighting the sector's immense potential to fuel economic growth, according to a latest report by TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship.

The electronics industry has an ambitious goal of achieving $500 billion in manufacturing output by 2030. To meet this target, the sector must grow five-fold over the next five years, bridging a $400 billion production gap.

Currently, domestic production stands at $101 billion, with mobile phones contributing 43 per cent, followed by consumer and industrial electronics at 12 per cent each, and electronic components at 11 per cent. IANS

MP receives investment proposals worth over ₹3.75 lakh crore

BHOPAL, JANUARY 14



The Madhya Pradesh government has received investment proposals worth more than Rs 3.75 lakh crore from six Regional Industry Conclaves (RIC), organised between March and December, 2024. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the total investment proposals received from six RICs were expected to generate nearly 85,000 jobs in the state, besides ensuring industrial growth. The state government is now preparing for the 7th Regional Industry Conclave (RIC) in the Shahdol division on Thursday. On Monday, Chief Minister Yadav virtually interacted with a group of industrialists who were supposed to announce investment in the state during Shahdol's RIC. After virtual interaction with industrialists from Rewa airport, the Chief Minister said investment proposals worth Rs 20,000 crore have been received for Shahdol. The total investment is estimated to increase further after the conclave is organised.

After reviewing preparations for RIC, Chief Minister Yadav directed the Shahdol district administration to prepare new entrepreneurs for startups within two days. The Chief Minister also stated that Shahdol is known across the country for its abundant mineral resources. Notably, the first edition of the RIC was organised in Chief Minister Yadav's home district Ujjain on March 1 and 2, 2024. Later, the second edition was held in Jabalpur on July 20 and the third in Gwalior on August 28. The fourth edition of RIC was organised in the Sagar division on September 27, while the fifth edition was held in Rewa on October 23. The sixth edition was organised in Narmadapuram (Hoshangabad) division on December 7, 2024. Subsequently, the state government will kickstart preparation for 'Madhya Pradesh - Global Investors Summit' - 2025' to be held in Bhopal on February 24. Chief Minister Yadav said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Global Investors Meet. Notably, the state government has declared 2025 as the 'Year of Industry and Employment' to promote industrial development in Madhya Pradesh. IANS

It's India's moment in history, well poised to become developed nation by 2047: ITC chief Puri



NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

With transformative reforms of the past decade propelling India to global stage, it is India's moment in history, ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri said, exuding confidence that the country will become a developed nation by 2047 on the back of strong macro fundamentals and purposeful policy interventions.

India has risen from being the 10th largest economy in the world in 2014 to the fifth largest, driven by landmark reforms like GST and an unprecedented infrastructure push.

The decade under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is hailed for landmark reforms, inflation control, financial inclusion and digitisation despite inheriting a weak economy.

"In the new world order, which is characterised by new policies on geo-economics and geo-politics, I think the world is looking towards supply chain diversification, and supply chain resilience.

"Because of the climate emergency, the world is looking at an energy transition. Digital transformation is another area that the world is going through. Food and nutrition security are becoming global concerns. Now in all of these areas, I think India can play a pivotal role because India has the talent, India has the skill," he told PTI in an interview.

Under Modi, India is poised to become a 21st-century economic powerhouse. With the country enjoying healthy relations with most major economies at a time when ties between Beijing and the West are becoming increasingly frayed, India offers investors and manufacturers looking to reduce supply chain risks an alternative to China.

"So these are huge opportunities for India. So I think it is a great time for India. It's India's moment in history and I think the future of India holds lots of promise," Puri said.

India is predicted to become the third-largest economy by FY28, overtaking both Japan and Germany, with its GDP crossing the USD 5 trillion mark.

On the recent slowdown in the economy, Puri said the journey of economic transformation is never linear.

"I think India is in a very good spot. The macros are very good and it is so because of purposeful policy interventions, most of them over several years taken by the government at the Centre and some of the states also," he said. IANS

Wholesale price inflation rises to 2.37 pc in Dec; all eyes on RBI's rate decision next month

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Wholesale price inflation rose to 2.37 per cent in December 2024, due to spike in prices of non-food articles, manufactured items as well as fuel and power, even though food items saw marginal easing, government data released on Tuesday showed.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) based inflation was 1.89 per cent in November 2024. It was 0.86 per cent in December 2023. In October it was 2.75 per cent.

As per the data, inflation in food items eased marginally to 8.47 per cent in December 2024, as against 8.63 per



cent in November. Cereals, pulses, and wheat saw easing in inflation in December. However, inflation in vegetables continued to remain high at 28.65 per cent, potato at 93.20 per cent, and onion at 16.81 per cent in December.

Non-food articles, like oil seeds, saw spike in inflation in December at 2.46 per cent, as against a deflation of 0.98 per cent in November. The fuel and power category witnessed a deflation of 3.79 per cent in December, against a deflation of 5.83 per cent in November. IANS

3 Indian banks among top 25 global banks by market cap, ICICI standout performer

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

Three Indian banks -- HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and the State Bank of India (SBI) -- ended the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2024 at the 13th, 19th, and 24th spots in the top 25 global banks by market capitalisation, respectively, according to a new report.

While HDFC Bank ended Q4 2024 with $158.5 billion in market cap, ICICI Bank had a market cap of $105.7 billion, and the SBI, $82.9 billion, according to a report by GlobalData, a leading data analytics and research company.

Indian banks demonstrated resilience, with ICICI Bank emerging as a standout



performer, with its market cap growing by 25.8 per cent to $105.7 billion, highlighting the strength of India's expanding digital banking and credit ecosystem.

However, HDFC Bank's market cap recorded a 1.6 per cent increase to $158.5 billion, due to rising competition and cost pressures.

The aggregate market capitalisation of the top 25 global banks increased by 27.1 per cent year-on-year (YoY), reaching $4.6 trillion in the fourth quarter (Q4) ended December 31, compared to the same period ended December 31, 2023.

JPMorgan Chase continues to remain the world's largest bank by market cap, recording an increase of 37.2 per cent to $674.9 billion by the end of Q4 2024.

Goldman Sachs witnessed a stellar 42.9 per cent growth, which propelled it to ninth place in the chart from 13th position in the previous quarter.

Most of the stocks rose in Q4, benefiting from the US Federal Reserve's interest rate cuts, while other regional markets came under pressure amid worries over trade tariffs, according to the report. IANS

Hilton expands footprint in north India with signing of its first Doubletree in Chandigarh

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, January 14

Hilton has announced the signing of its first DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in the Greater Chandigarh region with DoubleTree by Hilton Chandigarh Kakrali, further solidifying its presence in north India. The new property promises to bring DoubleTree by Hilton's warm and hospitable service to the key gateway city, catering to both business and leisure travelers.

Developed in partnership with Mubarakpur Farming Company, the hotel is set to open in 2025 and will be the first branded hotel in the area to offer extensive banqueting facilities, catering to the region's growing demand for weddings and MICE events.

Zubin Saxena, senior vice president and regional head, South Asia, Hilton said, "The signing of DoubleTree by Hilton Chandigarh Kakrali is a pivotal moment in our growth strategy for North India. This marks our entry into the dynamic tri-city region of Chandigarh, Mohali and Panchkula, renowned for its high per-capita income, planned urban development, and strategic importance as a gateway to popular hill stations like Shimla, Kufri, Kasauli, and Chail. With its extensive banqueting facilities, and resort-style design, this property is uniquely positioned to cater to the region's strong demand for weddings, leisure, and corporate travel."

The upcoming DoubleTree by Hilton will feature contemporary accommodations including elegantly designed guest rooms, over 7,500 square feet of versatile meeting and event spaces, and a range of dining options that embody the brand's hallmark of warm and welcoming service.

Mahakumbh 2025: Air India to operate daily Delhi-Prayagraj flights as demand surges

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



National carrier Air India on Tuesday announced daily flights between Delhi and Prayagraj during the Mahakumbh 2025, the world's largest spiritual gathering, as the demand surges at both domestic and international fronts.

To meet the surging travel demand, Air India will operate the route from January 25 to February 28.

"With these flights, Air India brings the only full-service flying option between the two cities for customers, offering them the choice of premium cabins in addition to Economy Class," the airline said in a statement.

From January 25 to January 31, the Air India Delhi-Prayagraj flight will depart from Delhi at 14:10 hours and arrive in Prayagraj at 15:20 hours. The return flight will take off from Prayagraj at 16:00 hours and land in Delhi at 17:10 hours.

From February 1 to February 28, the Air India schedule will be changed, with the flight from Delhi departing at 13:00 hours and arriving in Prayagraj at 14:10 hours.

The return flight will take off from Prayagraj at 14:50 hours and land in Delhi at 16:00 hours, according to the airline.

"With convenient daytime departures in both directions, the flights enable seamless connections via Delhi to customers travelling to and from various parts of India as well as North America, Europe, Australia, and several countries in Southeast Asia," the Air India statement added.

Bookings for the flights are being progressively opened on all channels, including Air India's website, mobile app, and through travel agents. IANS

Sensex, Nifty rebound amid easing inflation, positive global cues

MUMBAI, JANUARY 14



Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty bounced back on Tuesday after declining for the past four sessions on easing retail inflation and a rebound in global markets.

Besides, bargain hunting in energy, banking and metal stocks supported the market sentiment.

However, rising global crude prices and unrelenting selling by foreign investors capped the gains, traders said. The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex rose 169.62 points or 0.22 per cent to settle at 76,499.63. During the day, it surged 505.6 points or 0.66 per cent to 76,835.61.

As many as 2,867 stocks advanced while 1,096 declined and 110 remained unchanged on the BSE. The NSE Nifty climbed 90.10 points or 0.39 per cent to 23,176.05.

The BSE Sensex has plunged 1,869.1 points or 2.39 per cent in the past four trading sessions.

"A rebound in the global market and an ease in domestic CPI inflation provided respite to the broader indices. This may provide some leeway for RBI in its next policy meeting. However, rising oil prices and higher 10-year yields will be watched carefully.

"The IT sector weighed down amid concerns over weak earnings guidance for Q4. The domestic sentiment will be more inclined towards the ongoing earnings season and upcoming union budget, which has a mixed view," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

From the 30-share blue-chip pack, Adani Ports jumped over 5 per cent. NTPC, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finserv, Zomato, Bajaj Finance, Tata Motors, State Bank of India, IndusInd Bank and Maruti were among the other big gainers.

From the 30-share pack, Hindustan Unilever, Titan, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys and UltraTech Cement were the other laggards. HCL Technologies slumped over 8 per cent after its December quarter earnings failed to cheer investors.

IT company HCL Tech on Monday reported a 5.54 per cent uptick in consolidated net profit to Rs 4,591 crore in the December quarter as the CEO expressed optimism for improvement in the demand environment and discretionary spending and raised the revenue growth guidance.

Brokers said overall sentiments turned better after retail inflation dipped to a 4-month low of 5.22 per cent in December, giving headroom to the Reserve Bank to cut the key interest rate in upcoming monetary policy.

The BSE midcap gauge soared 2.13 per cent and smallcap index jumped 1.69 per cent. IANS

SPORTS

STEVE SMITH
"I DON'T READ TOO MUCH INTO STATS AND STUFF, BUT, 10,000 IS A BIT OF A DIFFERENT BEAST."

RIFT IN TEAM

BCCI to evaluate Gambhir's future post Champions Trophy

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14



Gautam Gambhir's position as head coach will be 'revaluated' on the basis of India's Champions Trophy performance next month amid concerns that there is discontent in the dressing room due to his push to end the long-prevalent 'superstar culture' in the team.

Since Gambhir took over in July last year, the Indian team has lost six out of 10 Tests and also a bilateral ODI series in Sri Lanka.

The results have left Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma's international future in significant disarray thanks to their own poor form.

But Gambhir's position has also become slightly shaky. Adding to the drama is his speculated rift with prominent players during the Border-Gavaskar Test series in Australia which India lost 1-3.

"If India doesn't do well in the Champions Trophy, the head coach's position could become untenable. Yes, his contract runs till the 2027 World Cup but the process of evaluation continues.

"Sport is result-oriented and till now, Gambhir hasn't given any tangible results," a senior BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

There has already been a review of the team's performance in Australia by the BCCI. It is understood that Gambhir and senior players aren't on the same page on the issue of team culture.

"Gambhir wants to end the superstar culture that has been prevalent for so many years now. As captain of Kolkata Knight Riders in 2012, he had dropped Brendon McCullum from the playing XI for the IPL final against CSK.

"He has come here to dismantle the superstar culture and that's what has caused discomfort for some playing members," a source, who has seen Gambhir's functioning closely, said.

He cited another instance from his Delhi playing days to explain Gambhir's mindset.

"Once, as Delhi Ranji captain, Gambhir decided that they will play home matches at the Roshanara Ground in Delhi North-West where the pitches were green-top.

"But one huge superstar, who was also out of the Indian team, wanted to play the games at the Jamia Milia Islamia ground, which was closer to his south Delhi residence. Gambhir turned him down. Similarly, in the Indian team, he doesn't want star culture to breed," the person added.

It is learnt that the head coach was not pleased with how some star players gave specific demands about hotels and practice timings during the tour of Australia. But, on the other side, senior players have felt a lack of communication from his end.

Amid this ongoing tussle is the view of the national selection committee, which does not want the head coach to have too much of a say in selection matters. A former selector said Gambhir has shown shades of mercurial former coach Greg Chappell in his approach.

The Australian, who came amid much fanfare, left in chaos after developing differences with senior players over his training methods.

"Either you be like a Ravi Shastri, who would be media-friendly, give those sound bites propping up players making them look like alpha males," said the former selector, who toured a lot during Shastri's tenure as coach.

"Or be like Rahul Dravid, Gary Kirsten or John Wright, who would remain aloof, letting the players hog the limelight.

"The 'Chappell Way' doesn't work in India. Gambhirs or Shastris or Dravids will go but players will stay," he added.

The BCCI brass is also upset with how Gambhir's personal assistant shadowed the team everywhere in Australia.

"Why was his PA sitting in the car specified for national selectors? They can't even discuss things in private with an unknown third person in the car. Why was he allotted space in the BCCI's hospitality box in Adelaide?," an irritated BCCI official said.

"How did he have breakfast in the cordoned off area of a five-star facility which is just earmarked for the team members?" he asked.

With the drama picking pace with every passing day, it would not be wrong to say that it is a very uneasy Indian dressing room that is heading into the Champions Trophy from February 19 to March 9. PTI

Struggling Rohit trains with Mumbai team ahead of Ranji resumption

MUMBAI, JANUARY 14



Embattled India captain Rohit Sharma practised with the Mumbai team here on Tuesday as the side geared up for the resumption of Ranji Trophy from January 23 but there was no clarity on whether he would play for the side in its upcoming fixture.

The 37-year-old, who endured a horror run with the bat in the national team's tour of Australia recently, took part in a morning practice session which lasted a couple of hours at the Wankhede stadium here.

"As is the process and routine owing to the gaps between tournaments, the management speaks with the players about their availability," a Mumbai Cricket Association official told PTI.

"Rohit will also be approached around the time of selection for the Ranji Trophy game against Jammu and Kashmir from January 23," he added when asked about Rohit's availability for the clash.

Rohit batted with Mumbai stalwart and his India teammate Ajinkya Rahane during the session.

His participation in the match may not be clear yet but it is learnt that Rohit will continue to practice with the team.

'As is the process and routine owing to the gaps between tournaments, the management speaks with the players about their availability'

The past few weeks have been tumultuous for Rohit.

He managed just 31 runs across three Tests during his time Down Under and was forced to drop himself from the series-deciding fifth and final Test in Sydney due to his poor form.

Rohit handed over the leadership duties to Jasprit Bumrah in that game, sparking widespread speculations about his future. However, in an interview to the host broadcaster of the series, Rohit asserted that he was not going anywhere.

Despite his future as a red-ball cricketer hanging by a thread, Rohit attended a review meeting on Sunday to assess the team's performance.

He was joined by head coach Gautam Gambhir and BCCI's new secretary Devajit Saikia during the deliberations.

Mumbai will play their match against J&K at the MCA-BKC ground and the game holds significance as far as advancing to the knockouts is concerned. Rohit last played for Mumbai in a Ranji game way back in 2015 against Uttar Pradesh. PTI

10,000-run milestone is different beast and played on my mind during India series: Smith

SYDNEY, JANUARY 14



Star Australian batter Steve Smith has described the elusive 10,000-run mark in Tests as a 'different beast' after falling just one run short of touching it at his home ground of Sydney in the fifth and final game against India during which the milestone weighed heavily on his mind.

Smith needed 38 runs to achieve the landmark but managed 37 during the game that Australia won by six wickets to reclaim the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after more than a decade.

"I don't read too much into stats and stuff, but, 10,000 is a bit of a different beast," Smith told 'SEN 1170 Breakfast'.

'It probably was (on my mind), to be honest. Normally I sort of don't buy into any of that stuff, but pre-game, I was doing lots of media because I was approaching that mark."

The 'number 38' played on his mind in such a way that Smith joked he would forever associate it with Josh Hazlewood, whose jersey number is 38.

"I knew I needed 38, and all I could actually picture trying to sleep at night was the back of Josh Hazlewood's shirt because he's number 38 (laughs). It's strange like that, isn't it?

"It was probably playing on my mind more than any other game that I've played, to be honest.

"But, it is what it is, fortunately, we were able to win that game in the end, so it didn't really matter," he said.

Australia will next tour Sri Lanka for a two-match Test series beginning in Galle on January 29 and Smith hopes to do it on day one of the series itself if Australia get to bat first.

"It would have been great to have been able to do it in Sydney in front of all my friends and family because you're joining a pretty elite group there I suppose, but it wasn't to be.

"As a kid, I never would have dreamt of that, I dreamt to play cricket for Australia and have a career playing for Australia, but to have been able to get to this mark, it's a dream come true in a way," he added. Smith would become the 15th overall and only fourth Australian Test player ever to achieve the landmark. PTI

Bumrah named ICC Men's Player of Month for December

DUBAI, JANUARY 14



India pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah was on Tuesday named ICC Men's Player of the Month for December 2024 after his sensational performance during the recent tour of Australia for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Leading India's attack single-handedly, Bumrah relentlessly kept Australian batsmen under intense pressure, claiming 22 wickets in three Tests in December last year at an outstanding average of 14.22.

He ended with 32 wickets in the five-match series which concluded on January 5. The first match was played in November.

His match-winning contributions included a nine-wicket haul in Brisbane and a five-wicket display in Melbourne as he edged out Australian skipper Pat Cummins and South African Dane Paterson for the award, stated the ICC.

He also reached a significant milestone, becoming the first bowler to take 200 Test wickets at an average below 20.

Bumrah's brilliance was evident from the very start, with a standout performance in Adelaide. His four-wicket haul was instrumental in minimising Australia's lead in the first innings, keeping India within striking distance.

He followed this up with a sensational display in Brisbane, where his six wickets in the first innings dismantled Australia's batting order. Bumrah added three more scalps in the second innings to complete a nine-wicket match haul.

His efforts ensured the rain-affected match ended in a draw, keeping India alive in the series.

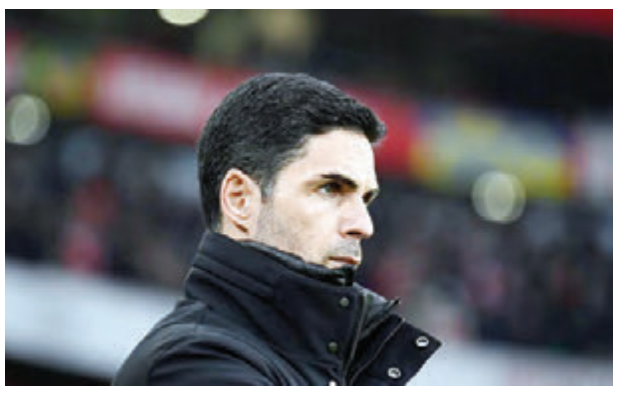
The Boxing Day Test in Melbourne saw Bumrah deliver yet another stellar performance.

He picked up four wickets in the first innings, providing a rare bright spot in an otherwise lacklustre bowling effort by the Indian team.

He then secured a five-wicket haul in the second innings, bowling Australia out for 234. Despite his heroics, India's batting faltered, resulting in a 184-run defeat.

India lost the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 1-3. In a challenging tour for the Indian team, Bumrah emerged as the lone warrior, earning him the Player of the Series Award. PTI

North London Derby is the 'nicest game of the season,' says Mikel Arteta



LONDON, JANUARY 14

Arsenal vs Tottenham Hotspur, one of the fiercest rivalries in English football, will write another chapter when the Gunners host their North London rivals on Thursday (IST).

Arsenal head coach Mikel Arteta went on to label the North London Derby as the 'nicest game of the season' ahead of the much-awaited game.

"It is the nicest game of the season to watch and play because of the atmosphere and what it means to the people - us and everyone that is involved. The atmosphere is something the fans can help with and something we can do by giving them something to feed off. Let's do it," said Arteta in the press conference.

Arsenal's season seems to have gone off the rails, with the Gunners having not won their last three outings, falling eight points behind Liverpool in the league table, trailing Newcastle United 0-2 after the first leg of the Carabao Cup, and having been knocked out of the FA Cup.

Arsenal striker Gabriel Jesus is suspected to have ruptured his anterior cruciate ligament and now faces a long spell on the sidelines after he was stretchered off during Arsenal's loss against Manchester United in the third round of the FA Cup further adding to the Gunners' ongoing injury crisis.

Arteta did not confirm the seriousness of the injury but admitted the club is "very worried' in regards to his injury.

"(It's) not looking good at all, but we need to review with the specialist and will have more information this afternoon. I don't want to confirm anything until we have the final report this afternoon. We were very worried straight after the game and we are very worried today," Arteta added.

The Gunners are already missing the services of Bukayo Saka, who was in top form before his injury, as the English forward is not expected to return to the first team before March. It will be interesting to see if they enter the January transfer market in hopes of bringing some much-needed attacking reinforcements.

The Spaniard confirmed the club is 'actively looking' in the market to try and improve his squad. "My answer doesn't change. We are actively looking into the market to improve the squad. We always have been. It would be naive not too. We are looking and we are trying, so let's see what we can do."

"To recruit a player there are three parties who have to agree to that. The fact I love my players doesn't mean we can't think about improving. We do daily and when the market comes around we have to make sure we have the best resources and capacity to compete the way that we want to," he added. IANS

Newcastle Utd can't take the eye off the ball in 'unforgiving' Premier League, says Howe

NEWCASTLE, JANUARY 14



Newcastle United boss Eddie Howe says his in-form side 'can't take the eye off the ball' as they look to extend their winning run against Wolves in the Premier League on Thursday (IST).

United face Vitor Pereira's men in midweek, looking for a ninth straight win in all competitions, a run that has lifted them to fifth in the Premier League, the semifinals of the Carabao Cup and the fourth round of the FA Cup.

But Howe insists his charges must continue to approach each game in the same manner they have done in their recent run-in and said the visit of Wolves has the makings of a "dangerous game" for the Magpies.

"For me, I know it's boring, but it's game by game and it's trying to keep our focus on what we can affect, which is our next training session, our next game. It's making sure that we're not getting ahead of ourselves in both ways - when we were having a disappointing run, it was about making sure we didn't throw everything out and become despondent, and it's exactly the same when you're winning. IANS

Gabriel Jesus set for long spell on sidelines with ruptured ACL: Report

LONDON, JANUARY 14



Arsenal striker Gabriel Jesus is suspected to have ruptured his anterior cruciate ligament and is now expected to face a long spell on the sidelines.

According to a report by The Athletic, Jesus is set for a long spell out with a suspected ACL rupture. Further specialist reviews on the striker are scheduled to take place on Tuesday to establish the full extent of the injury.

Jesus was stretchered off during Arsenal's loss against Manchester United in the third round of the FA Cup further adding to the Gunners' ongoing injury crisis.

The Brazilian striker was rotated in and out of the Arsenal squad since his previous knee surgery in 2022. Jesus looked to have returned to form in recent games having scored six goals in a span of four games.

Arteta stated the injury of Jesus as a "big worry" for the club. "Big worry, that's my feeling, he is in a lot of pain, touching his knee. It's not looking good. I think it's the other one (knee, compared to his injury in 2022)," Arteta had said after the game.

The Gunners are already missing the services of Bukayo Saka, who was in top form before his injury, as the English forward is not expected to return to the first team before March.

Arsenal's season seems to have gone off the rails with the Gunners having not won their last three outings, fallen eight points behind Liverpool in the league table, trailing Newcastle United 0-2 after the first leg of the Carabao Cup and having been knocked out of the FA Cup.

It will be interesting to see if they enter the January transfer market in hopes of bringing the much-needed attacking reinforcements.

The report further stated that whilst the Gunners are scouring the market in hopes of bringing a striker or wide forward in, they have to manoeuvre with the fine lines of the financial regulations. IANS

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