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LOCALISING STRATEGIES, MAKING PRECISION POLICY KEY TO BOOST FAMILY PLANNING IN INDIA P06

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PLAYING IN ALL FORMATS FOR INDIA IS A LUXURY: KULDEEP YADAV P12

PM set to consolidate Global South's voice at Johannesburg G20

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



India, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has increasingly asserted itself on the global stage, and New Delhi's role in the G20 has been particularly prominent.

Thus, his interactions and statements in South Africa will be watched closely, especially when he puts forth India's perspectives on the agenda. Prime Minister Modi's participation in the G20 has consistently focussed on issues relevant to the Global South, bridging the gap between developed and developing economies.

Incidentally, this will be the fourth-consecutive G20 Summit held in the Global South, marked by the event being hosted for the first time by an African nation. New Delhi has championed initiatives related to inclusive growth, digital public infrastructure, climate finance, and multilateral development bank reforms.

India's approach often emphasises human-centric globalisation, seeking to ensure that the benefits of global cooperation reach all segments of society. India's G20 presidency in 2023, culminating in the Delhi Summit, marked a significant chapter in the group's history. One of the most significant changes noticed in the Delhi chapter was the inclusion of the African Union (AU) as a permanent member of the G20.

This was a landmark achievement, strongly championed by India, where New Delhi's advocacy for the AU's full membership addressed a long-standing demand for greater representation of African voices in global governance. **PTI**

CM's noble initiative to spruce up villages with footprints of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Dhuri (Sangrur), November 20



Under the initiatives dedicated to the 350th martyrdom anniversary of the Ninth Guru, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Thursday distributed cheques worth Rs 71 crore for the development of 142 villages and towns in the state that were sanctified by the Guru's divine presence.

Describing this as a humble effort of the Punjab government, the Chief Minister said these initiatives are minor compared to the Guru ji's supreme sacrifice, life, and philosophy, yet represent the government's commitment to duty, reverence, and respect. He added that these grants will be used to strengthen basic infrastructure, improve amenities for devotees, beautify roads leading to sacred sites, and execute essential development works to modernize these villages and towns. Bhagwant Singh Mann termed this initiative a historic step toward preserving the sacred sites associated with the Guru ji, spreading his teachings, and enhancing facilities for devotees.

CM assures fulsome support and cooperation to leading Japanese MNC for investment in state

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Thursday assured fulsome support and cooperation to Japanese multinational company Global Network Japan (GNJ) group for making investments in the state for paddy waste management. A delegation of GNJ group comprising Saito Masahiko, Nobutoki Ito, Takeshi Ishiguro, Hitoshi Konagano, Rohit Bakshi, Manpreet Singh and others called on the Chief Minister here today. **BPE**

In presence of PM and Amit Shah, Nitish Kumar sworn in as Bihar CM for record 10th time

PATNA, NOVEMBER 20



Bihar's longest-serving Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was on Thursday sworn in for a record 10th term at a grand ceremony here, attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and CMs of several NDA-ruled states and senior alliance leaders.

Kumar was administered the oath of office at the Gandhi Maidan, where a massive makeshift stage was erected for the ceremony. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president Jagat Prakash Nadda, both of whom had arrived in Patna on Wednesday night, were among those on the dais.

"Congratulations to Shri Nitish Kumar Ji on taking oath as Bihar's Chief Minister. He is an experienced administrator with a proven track record of good governance for many years. My best wishes to him for his tenure ahead," Modi wrote on X. **PTI**



PAU conducts live screening of PM-Kisan 21st installment release; experts highlight IPM, INM and rabi crop management

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



The live screening of the launch of the 21st installment of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was held on November 19 at Dr Khem Singh Gill Farmers' Service Centre, PAU, in synchronization with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and State Agricultural Universities across the country. The event, telecast from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, was organized at PAU under the chairmanship of Dr TS Dhillon, Additional Director of Extension Education, and co-chaired by Dr GS Makkar, Incharge Plant Clinic. A total of 164 farmers attended the programme, engaging with expert talks on improved practices for the ongoing Rabi season.Dr Dhillon, in his address, appreciated the nationwide initiative of PM-Kisan and highlighted the importance of direct benefit support to small and marginal farmers. He encouraged farmers to stay aligned with PAU's scientific recommendations, particularly in the areas of climate-resilient agriculture, judicious input use, and resource conservation technologies. He emphasized that PAU's extension system is committed to ensuring timely dissemination of information through KVKs, mobile advisories, and digital platforms. Dr Dhillon also urged farmers to adopt integrated crop management, water-saving practices, and diversified cropping systems to enhance farm income and reduce production risks.

Border School honours 30 NGOs for ₹35 lakh aid to 3,200 flood-hit students

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ferozepur, November 20



Government Senior Secondary School, Gatti Rajo Ke, organised a solemn Sukhmani Sahib Paath and religious ceremony with heartfelt participation from the staff, students, and village residents.As the area continues to recover from the severe floods of the past two and a half months, the campaign 'Each One Adopt One', initiated by Dr Satinder Singh, Deputy DEO (Secondary), Ferozepur, along with the school staff, has emerged as a major support system for affected students. Under this initiative, more than 30 social service organisations and donors were honoured with siropao, appreciation certificates, and saplings for providing essential assistance—including fees, uniforms, stationery, bags, medical camps, and relief supplies.Representatives from several organisations, including Give & Grow Foundation's Jasjit Singh Malik, Satnam Sarb Kalyan Trust (Bindra Ji and Amritpal Singh), Hambla Foundation, Ajit Group of Publications, Nishkam Sikh Welfare Council Delhi, Guru Gobind Singh Study Circle, Democratic Teachers Front Ferozepur, Punjab Government Pensioners Association, Harmony Ayurvedic Medical College & Hospital, Rotary Clubs, Ferozepur Foundation, Sarbat Da Bhala Trust, Airtel Bharti Foundation, and NRI donor Jaspreet Kaur, were present. Their collective efforts enabled aid worth Rs 35 lakh to reach 3,200 students across 30 flood-affected schools in the district.
The event witnessed the presence of BSF Deputy Commandant Gurnam Singh, Company Commandant Mahesh Verma, Dr. Roop Singh, BNO Kapil Sanan, Vocational Coordinator Ashwinder Singh, faculty from SBS Nursing College, village sarpanches, school committee members, teachers from neighbouring schools, and a large number of villagers.

Main accused in RSS leader's son murder case arrested



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ferozepur, November 20

A key man allegedly involved in the killing of an RSS leader's son was nabbed after a gunfight in Arifke village here early Thursday, a police officer said.
Naveen Arora, the son of RSS leader Baldev Raj Arora, was shot dead by two motorcycle riders in Ferozepur on November 15. It is unclear whether he was shot at by both or just one of the riders.
Senior Superintendent of Police Bhupinder Singh said the police were tipped off about the movement of one of the main accused in the murder, Gursimran Singh alias Jatin Kali, near Sodhiwala in Arifke village.
Acting on the input, the police cordoned off the area and set up checkpoints."The police team signalled a fast-moving motorcycle to stop near Arifke, but the rider attempted to flee.
A chase followed," the SSP said.
During the pursuit, Gursimran allegedly opened fire at the police party, shattering the front windscreen of a police vehicle, and missing the driver a close range.
The police returned fire and shot the rider in his leg.An injured Gursimran was taken to Civil Hospital for treatment.
The SSP said he used a .32 bore pistol to fire at the police."We are verifying whether this is the same weapon used in the murder of Naveen Arora," he added.On Wednesday, the police arrested two more people, Harsh and Kanav, allegedly involved in Arora's murder.
They were identified as Harsh and Kanav.A hunt is on to nab two more accused in the case.

District-level Padyatra Sardar@150 Unity March to be held on Nov 22

INDER PAL SINGH
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Tarn Taran, November 20



Sardar@150 Unity March in Tarn Taran, scheduled to be held on November 22. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, through MY Bharat, is organising the Viksit Bharat Padyatras a nationwide initiative to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India. This campaign aims to instill the values of unity, civic responsibility, and patriotism among the youth of India, in line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Jan Bhagidari in Rashtranirman.

Ms. Jasleen Kour, Deputy Director, My Bharat said that the campaign was digitally launched on 6th October 2025 by Hon'ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, through the MY Bharat platform.

She said that as part of this initiative, the Sardar@150 Unity March will be conducted in two phases across the country: District-Level Padyatras: from October 31 to November 25, covering all districts in each parliamentary constituency. National-Level March: from 26th November to 6th December 2025, a 152 km national march from Karamsad to the Statue of Unity, Kevadia.

In Tarn Taran, the District-Level Padyatra will be organised on 22nd November 2025 under the Sardar@150 Unity March. The yatra will commence from Youth Hostel , Police line and proceed Chabal Bye Pass →Civil hospital symbolising the spirit of unity, harmony, and people's participation.

The padyatra will witness enthusiastic participation from youth volunteers, NSS units, educational institutions, and community representatives. It aims to promote the ideals of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat, while paying homage to the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who united India as one nation. All youth and citizens are encouraged to register and participate through the MY Bharat portal at https://mybharat.gov.in/pages/unity_march, joining hands in this national celebration of unity and service.

Vet Varsity organises seminar on ' Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji -The Symbol of Tolerance, Justice and Humanity'

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



Guru Gobind Singh Study Circle, under the aegis of the Directorate of Students' Welfare, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana organised a seminar to commemorate the 350th martyrdom year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. The event aimed to honour the life, sacrifice, and universal message of the ninth Sikh Guru, revered worldwide as a symbol of tolerance, justice, and humanity.

About 200 students and faculty members from various colleges of the university attended the seminar. Dr JPS Gill, Vice-Chancellor, praised Team GGSSC for this initiative and highlighted Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's unparalleled courage and commitment to protecting human dignity. He stated, " Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's sacrifice is not just a chapter in history; it is a guiding light for all humanity.

Dr Sarabjeet Singh Renuka delivered the keynote lecture and emphasized the universal nature of the Guru's teachings, underscoring their importance in fostering social harmony and moral courage. Gurmeet Singh, Founder Chairman of the GGSSC, inspired the students to embrace the teachings of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji and appreciated the continued efforts of Vet Varsity in promoting value-based education.

Rayat-Bahra Professional University hosts Lt General Ajay Chandpuria for special student interaction





DALJEET AJNOHA
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Hoshiarpur, November 20

Lt. Gen. Ajay Chandpuria, AVSM, VSM, Commander of 11 Corps Jalandhar, visited Rayat-Bahra Professional University during a special programme.
He motivated the students to contribute actively towards nation-building, national development, and to play a responsible role as youth. Senior Army officers also accompanied him during the event.
The programme began with Vice Chancellor Dr Chander Mohan welcoming the distinguished guests. Group Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Singh presented a brief overview of the achievements of the Rayat-Bahra Group and the University.
Lt. Gen. (Retd.) J.S Dhillon, AVSM, also graced the occasion and inspired the students with his rich experiences. During the interactive session, students enthusiastically asked questions and engaged in meaningful discussions with the Army officers.
The event was conducted by Dean Dr. Kuldeep Walia. Colonel Vishwant Rathour, Major Shantanu Mahapatra, Harinder Jaswal, Kuldeep Rana, Gurpreet Bedi along with faculty members were present.

Woman arrested with 100 gram of heroin in Kapurthala; CIA staff files NDPS case

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Kapurthala, November 20



The Kapurthala CIA staff arrested a woman drug trafficker after recovering 100 grams of heroin from her during a patrol operation near Bhila village, officials said on Thursday.
SP (D) Prabhjot Singh Virk stated that the action was taken by a team led by ASI Sukhchain Singh, who was conducting routine patrolling in the area when the woman was noticed behaving suspiciously.
She was stopped for questioning, following which female police personnel conducted her search.
During the search, the team recovered 100 grams of heroin from her possession, after which she was immediately taken into custody.
The accused has been identified as Sukhwinder Kaur, alias Billo, wife of Sukhwinder Singh and a resident of Boot village.
SP Virk said the woman would be produced before the court, where the police plan to seek her remand for further investigation.
Officials added that her interrogation may provide crucial leads regarding the wider drug supply network operating in the region.
A case under the NDPS Act has been registered at Kotwali police station

SC organisations confront SP Phagwara, alleging one-sided police action in Karwal assault case

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, November 20

Leaders and activists of several Scheduled Caste (SC) organisations including Ambedkar Sena Moolniwasi, Yuva Vikas Morcha, and the Congress SC Wing met Phagwara SP Madhavi Sharma at the local Rest House on Thursday to voice sharp resentment against what they described as "biased and one-sided" police action in the alleged attack on Shiv Sena leader Inderjit Karwal and his son Jimmy Karwal on the evening of November 18.
The representatives said widespread anger had erupted among SC communities in Phagwara, who felt the police were acting selectively.

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Truck overturns near LPU, causes massive traffic snarl on GT Road

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Phagwara, November 20

A truck loaded with iron rods overturned on the flyover near Lovely Professional University (LPU) in Phagwara early Thursday morning, triggering a massive traffic jam on the Grand Trunk (GT) Road. The accident brought vehicular movement between Ludhiana and Jalandhar to a standstill for several hours.

Long queues of stranded vehicles stretched across the highway, forcing many university students to walk nearly two kilometres to reach their classes on time. Office-goers, trapped in the congestion, expressed frustration as they missed important morning schedules. Personnel from the SSF force reached the spot shortly after receiving information about the mishap. They rescued the truck driver, who had been trapped inside the overturned vehicle, and shifted him to the Civil Hospital for treatment. A crane was called in to remove the truck from the roadway, but by the time clearance operations began, traffic had already built up for several kilometres in both directions. The gridlock extended from LPU up to Chakk Hakim in Phagwara, causing severe inconvenience to commuters. Even after nearly four hours, traffic had not been fully restored, leading to increasing resentment among travellers. Students from LPU and neighbouring colleges were forced to get off buses and walk to their campuses, while several private and public transport vehicles remained stuck without any movement.Among those stranded was Kamal Arora, who said he had been on his way to Amritsar to attend his nephew's wedding but had been stuck for over two hours. Similarly, Shashi Kalia, heading to his office for an urgent meeting, reported being trapped in the jam and expressed uncertainty about when he would finally reach his workplace, as traffic showed no signs of easing.

Two-day IDE Capacity Building Workshop kicks off



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Mandi Gobindgarh, November 20

A two-day Capacity Building Workshop on Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE) commenced on Thursday at Desh Bhagat University (DBU), Mandi Gobindgarh. The programme is being jointly organised by the Department of School Education & Literacy, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and the Ministry of Education Innovation Cell (MIC), with support from the Wadhwani Foundation. The programme aims to equip District Education Officers and DIET members with skills in innovation, creativity, design thinking, and entrepreneurship, in alignment with NEP 2020.

Governor summons 16th Punjab Vidhan Sabha

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



The Sixteenth Punjab Legislative Assembly has been summoned by the Governor of Punjab to meet for its 10th (Special) Session on Monday, the November 24at 1.00 PM, at Bhai Jaita Ji Memorial, Sri Anandpur Sahib, District Roopnagar.

Sond urges massive participation for Grand Nagar Kirtan in Khanna today

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20

Cabinet Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond appealed to people to participate in massive numbers in the historic Grand Nagar Kirtan being organised to mark the 350th Martyrdom Anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. The sacred Nagar Kirtan will reach Khanna on November 21, at 3 pm.

In a video message, the Minister urged residents to join the Nagar Kirtan in large numbers, seek the blessings of the Ninth Sikh Guru, and help make the occasion a truly memorable milestone in Punjab's history. He informed that the Nagar Kirtan will enter city via the Bhattian-Khanna service lane and halt at Lalheri Road Chowk for brief duration.

Speaker administers oath to newly-elected MLA Harmeet Singh Sandhu

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan administered the oath of office to newly elected MLA Harmeet Singh Sandhu of AAP from Tarn Taran constituency of Punjab at Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat.

He said that Harmeet Singh Sandhu will leave no stone unturned to fulfill the legitimate demands of his constituency persons.

Harmeet Singh Sandhu took the pledge that he will bear true faith and allegiance to the constitution of India as established by law. He will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India and faithfully discharge the duties entrusted to him. He will leave no stone unturned for the welfare of his constituency.

Speaker extended his best wishes to MLA Harmeet Singh Sandhu who won the bye-election of Tarn Taran constituency recently.

MLA Harmeet Singh Sandhu expressed the gratitude of Guru Sahib Ji and said he will remain grateful to his constituency persons.

He will not let his constituents down and will live up to their expectations.

Finance Dept approves recruitment for 115 posts in Homeopathic Dept: Harpal Cheema

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Announcing a significant decision aimed at bolstering the Homeopathic Department by approving the proposal for the revival and recruitment of various technical and administrative positions, Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Friday said that the Finance Department has approved the revival and subsequent recruitment for a total of 115 posts across different cadres within the department. He said that this move is designed to enhance the department's capacity to deliver quality healthcare services across the state.

Revealing this in press communiqué issued here, the Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema said the recruitment for 115 posts includes 42 posts for Homeopathic Medical Officer (HMO), 72 posts for Dispenser (Homeopathic), and 1 post for and Clerk. He said that the recruitment process for these 115 posts will be implemented in a phased manner, spread over two years.

The Finance Minister, who is also chairman of of cabinet subcommittee formed to address the employees issues, said that this issue was discussed at length during the meeting with the Homeopathic Medical Officers Association.

He said that the Homeopathic department highlighted its operational constraints, noting that despite managing the Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital and various dispensaries at 100 percent capacity, it had only 22 permanent posts filled in the past.

He said that the revival is deemed crucial for the continued efficient functioning and expansion of homeopathic services.

"This initiative marks a decisive step by the Punjab Government towards strengthening its public healthcare infrastructure and creating essential employment opportunities", he added.

Trident Group to invest ₹2,000 crore in state: Sanjeev Arora

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Aiming to build a robust, responsive and forward-looking industrial ecosystem and making the Punjab industrial hub under the visionary leadership of National Convenor of AAP Arvind Kejriwal and Chief Minister Punjab Bhagwant Singh Mann, Cabinet Minister Sanjeev Arora informed that Trident Group whose market cap 18k crore and turnover 10k crore is going to invest Rs. 2000 crore in Punjab. In this regard, he revealed that Rs 1500 crore will be invested in Barnala to expand Terry Towel production and modernisation in paper manufacturing and Rs 500 crore in Mohali for setting up a corporate office and capacity building centre. Mainly, 2000 semi skilled rural women will get employment through this investment.

Addressing the press conference, he added that Punjab government progressive policy interventions and ease of doing business reforms are making the state choicest place for investors. This reflects Punjab government commitment towards industrial friendly policies which are gaining momentum day by day.

Chairman Trident Group and Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha Padma Shri Rajinder Gupta said that we are going to expand Yarn Business and augment our existing textile capabilities to cater to increasing domestic and export demand. Furthermore, he added that modernisation of paper manufacturing is being done by upgrading technology and infrastructure to ensure eco-friendly and efficient production processes.

State govt makes robust arrangements for convenience of devotees during Shaheedi Shatabdi Samagam: Chief Secretary

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh / Sri Anandpur Sahib, November 20



In honour of the unparalleled martyrdom of the Ninth Guru, Dhan Dhan Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, the Punjab government has made solid arrangements to ensure the convenience and security of devotees during the 350th Shaheedi Shatabdi Samagam.

Chief Secretary KAP Sinha and Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav reviewed the preparations today and instructed officers that no negligence will be tolerated. The Chief Secretary emphasized that all officers must work with a spirit of service and make it their priority to provide complete convenience to the devotees.

The Chief Secretary informed that on November 22, four divine Nagar Kirtans will arrive at Sri Anandpur Sahib, while on November 23, Sri Akhand Path Sahib will commence at Guru Ka Bagh, Budha Dal Cantt. He added that renowned religious personalities and saints from India and abroad will participate in the Sarv Dharam Sammelan scheduled for November 23. On November 24, a special session of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha will be held at Bhai Jaita Ji Memorial, while on November 25, the Bhog ceremony of Sri Akhand Path Sahib will take place. Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann will also attend various religious events.

The Chief Secretary further stated that to facilitate devotees, the government has arranged accommodation for nearly 10,000 devotees in the Tent City.

VB arrests 5 persons in 4 bribery cases during October

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

The Punjab Vigilance Bureau (VB), during its ongoing crusade against corruption in the state, has been able to apprehended 3 employees and 2 private persons red handed while accepting bribes in 4 different trap cases during the month of October.

Disclosing this here on Thursday, an official spokesperson of the state Vigilance Bureau said the VB has put up its best efforts to eradicate corruption amongst public servants and others in every sphere during the period.

He informed that the Bureau had submitted challans pertaining to 13 vigilance cases in various competent courts in the last month. Apart from this, one vigilance enquiry has also been registered to thoroughly probe the corruption case against public servants. He added that 3 criminal cases were also registered against 4 accused besides 2 disproportionate asset cases were also registered against two Government employees. Giving more details, he added that a competent court had decided one bribery case filed and contested by the Vigilance Bureau during the last month, in which one person was convicted and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment and fine of Rs 25,000.

PSIC marks pious event dedicated to 350th martyrdom of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



To mark the supreme sacrifice of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji a significant pious event dedicated to the 350th martyrdom of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, was held under the patronage of Chief information Commissioner Punjab Inderpal Singh Dhanna in Chandigarh where in a significant pictorial brochure depicting the Spiritual Journey of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji was released by Inderpal Singh Dhanna, Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab along with Harpreet Sandhu, Dr Bhupinder Singh Batth and Sandeep Dhaliwal, State Information Commissioners, Punjab.

Special documentary showcasing the life journey of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji was also screened in the Commission, previewed by the Commission officials.

The documentary dedicated to 350th martyrdom year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji has been complied by Harpreet Sandhu, State Information Commissioner Punjab as a noble contribution.

he pictorial brochure and the pious book dedicated to 350th martyrdom year of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji was also presented to the commission officials within to spread the pious message of Ninth Sikh Guru of Universal brotherhood and peace.

Inderpal Singh Dhanna, Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab stated during the pious event that the publication of the pictorial brochure and the book honors the Ninth Sikh Guru's supreme sacrifice and eternal message of peace, sacrifice, and the book authored by Harpreet Sandhu State Information Commissioner, Punjab showcases the visuals of the historical shrines where Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, left his foot prints. The said book has already been released by the Governor of Punjab in Raj Bhawan Chandigarh for the State of Punjab.

The author of the book Harpreet Sandhu, State Information Commissioner, Punjab stated that the book will serve as a true tribute to the unparalleled legacy of the Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji revered as "Hind Di Chadar" for his supreme sacrifice in defense of religious freedom and human dignity.

Fatehgarh Sahib resident caught in Goa with 146 gram of 'charas'

PANAJI/ FATEHGARH SAHIB, NOVEMBER 20

The Goa police have arrested a 25-year-old man from Punjab after he was allegedly found carrying 146.5 grams of a narcotic substance, suspected to be charas, an official said on Thursday. Acting on intelligence, police carried out a raid on Tuesday night near the local chapel in Mandrem, Pernem taluka, a senior official said.

"During the operation, the accused, identified as Akash Adwal, a resident of Fatehgarh Sahib in Punjab, was allegedly found carrying 146.50 grams of a black, sticky substance suspected to be charas, valued at Rs 1.46 lakh," police said. A case was registered against Adwal on Wednesday under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, they said, adding that his activities in Goa are being probed. PTI

350TH MARTYRDOM ANNIVERSARY OF SRI GURU TEGH BAHADUR JI

Nagar Kirtan receives grand welcome in Jammu before moving towards next halt at Pathankot

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Jammu, November 20

The Nagar Kirtan commemorating the 350th Martyrdom Anniversary of Ninth Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji received a spirited Khalsai welcome from the sangat in Jammu before the procession advanced towards next destination at Pathankot. Devotees accompanied the Nagar Kirtan barefoot for long stretches both during last night's reception and at the time of its onward journey today, infusing the city with a deeply spiritual atmosphere. A dedicated stopover was arranged for the Nagar Kirtan at Gurdwara Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Chand Nagar, Jammu.

Sikh youth showcased the martial art Gatka skills as the procession departed from Jammu while the local sangat showered flowers upon the palanquin of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. A large group of devotees also joined the procession heading towards Sri Anandpur Sahib to pay homage during the main events.

As the procession passed through Jammu city, various gurdwaras extended a warm welcome. Singh Sabha Gurdwara Akali Kaur Singh Nagar in Digiana greeted the Nagar Kirtan with full devotion. Rajinder Singh Wazir, Rajinder Singh Raina, Narinder Singh Wazir, Sandeep Singh along with a sizeable gathering were present.

YUDH NASHIAN VIRUDH

On day 264, Punjab Police nab 60 drug smugglers with 750 gm heroin

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Continuing the war against drugs "Yudh Nashian Virudh" waged by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann to eradicate drug menace from state consecutively for the 264th day, Punjab Police conducted raids at 264 locations on Thursday leading to the arrest of 60 drug smugglers after registration of 49 first information reports (FIRs) across the state. With this, the number of total drug smugglers arrested has reached to 37,447 in 264 days. The raids have resulted in recovery of 749 grams heroin, 15,285 intoxicant pills and Rs 3400 drug money from the possession of arrested drug smugglers.

Notably, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann has asked the Commissioners of Police, Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendent of Police to make Punjab drug free state. The Punjab government has also constituted a 5-member Cabinet Sub Committee led by Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema to monitor the war against drugs.

Over 100 Police teams, comprising over 800 police personnel, under the supervision of 47 gazetted officers have conducted 264 raids across the state.

Soft skills take centre stage at PAU's X-Factor workshop

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, advanced its vision of shaping career-ready graduates by hosting a focused workshop on soft skills titled 'The X-Factor of Soft Skills for Employability.' The event was held under the University Counselling and Placement Guidance Cell of the Directorate of Students' Welfare and opened with Vice-Chancellor, Dr Satbir Singh Gosal, addressing the students as the Chief Guest.

Touching upon the reality of the modern job market, Dr Gosal remarked that technical expertise may open the first door, but personal qualities carry a candidate much further. According to him, attributes such as clarity in communication, a positive attitude, a collaborative spirit, adaptability, a strong work ethic, and professional conduct act as the hidden accelerators of growth. When two candidates look identical on paper, the one who speaks with clarity, collaborates with ease and carries quiet confidence usually pulls ahead in the race. He praised the workshop for narrowing the distance between academic learning and workplace expectations.

During the event, Dr Gosal also introduced the PAU Digital Learning Resources initiative, an open-access collection of e-books and digital material covering agriculture and allied sciences as well as personality enhancement and employability skills.

CS directs Engineering Dept to complete pending road repair work by December 15

A.S. PRASHAR
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



A high-level review meeting was held on Thursday under the chairmanship of H. Rajesh Prasad, Chief Secretary, UT Chandigarh, to assess the progress of various ongoing issues of the Chandigarh Administration.

The Chief Secretary directed the Engineering Department to ensure that all pending road repair works across the city are completed by 15.12.2025, emphasizing the need for timely execution and improved public convenience.

The Estate Office was instructed to conduct auctions of vacant residential and commercial properties as per a calibrated schedule. Similarly, the Chandigarh Housing Board was directed to initiate the e-auction process for its properties in a phased and transparent manner.

The Municipal Corporation was advised to augment its revenue by streamlining parking management, ensuring recovery of outstanding property tax, and enhancing the collection of advertisement charges.

The Chief Secretary reiterated that strict compliance with court directions must be ensured by all departments, cautioning that any lapse in this regard will be viewed seriously.

Keeping in view the onset of the winter season, the MC and the Social Welfare Department has been directed to ensure that adequate night shelters are operational for the needy, with proper arrangements for safety and comfort.

Further, the Chief Secretary instructed that the recruitment rules of various departments be expedited and that posts across the Chandigarh Administration be rationalised for improved governance and efficiency.

The meeting was attended by Shri Diprava Lakra, Finance Secretary; Ms. Prerna Puri, Secretary Engineering; Sh. Amit Kumar, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation; Sh. Pushpendra Kumar, IGP; Sh. Saurabh Kumar, CCF, and other senior officers of the Chandigarh Administration.

MC Chandigarh organises 'Swachhata Ki Karyashala' to promote waste segregation and home composting



PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

In a continued effort to strengthen community participation in waste management, the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh on Thursday conducted a Swachhata Ki Karyashala at Government School, Sector 37-B. The workshop aimed to sensitize students on the importance of waste segregation at the source and encourage them to adopt home composting techniques for a cleaner, healthier environment.

During the interactive session, students were educated on the correct methods of segregating wet, dry, and domestic hazardous waste, alongside practical demonstrations on converting kitchen waste into nutrient-rich compost. Officials emphasized how small behavioral changes at the household level can significantly reduce landfill burden and support the city's vision of sustainable waste management.

The workshop witnessed active participation and enthusiasm from students and teachers, who pledged to carry forward the message of Swachhata in their homes and communities. MCC officials highlighted that such educational initiatives play a key role in shaping environmentally responsible citizens and achieving long-term cleanliness goals.

IPC-IPSCON 2025 starts at Panjab University: Innovation, collaboration and empowering young pharmacologists

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



The 55th Annual Conference of the Indian Pharmacological Society (IPC-IPSCON 2025) started on Thursday at Panjab University (PU).

University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (UIPS), Panjab University, is hosting the three day International Conference on Pharmacology on "Empowering Young Minds to Transform Pharmacology for Viksit Bharat,". About 2,000 delegates, including 240 national and 30 international experts from nearly 10 countries are participating in the conference.

Distinguished Professor at the Centre for the Advancement of Medicine, Canada Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla, graced the event as the Chief Guest and delivered the plenary lecture on Beneficial effects of Polyclonal Antibodies. He emphasised the role of friends, who fuel our ideas and nurture meaningful relationships and his deep love for the nation. PU Vice Chancellor Prof. Renu Vig and Dean University Instruction Prof. Yojna Rawat encouraged everyone to strive for excellence and collaborative growth.

The highlight of the inauguration was the conferring of the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. S. K. Kulkarni, Professor Emeritus, Panjab University, for his contributions to the field of neuropsychopharmacology. The Pharma Rattan awards were presented to Prof. P.L Sharma, Prof. Y.K Gupta and late Prof. Manjeet Singh in recognition of their enduring contributions to Pharmacological Sciences. On this occasion, Prof. Nirmal, Prof. Yadav and Prof. Sayid were adorned as IPS Fellows.

Dr. Nicholas Clere (faculty of Health,University of Angers France spoke on the topic of 'Understanding endothelial-to-mesenchymal transition to improve cancer treatment; a major challenge involving the tumor microenvironment'. Dr. S.K. Bandopadhyay delivered Dr. G. Achari Oration and Dr. P.V. Dhiwan delivered Dr. P.L. Sharma oration. Dr. Suresh C. Tyagi from University of Louis Ville, USA, and Dr. Anil Gulati from Pharmazz, USA also addressed sessions.

The first day focused on nurturing future leaders and innovators in pharmacological sciences by offering a comprehensive program featuring workshops, orations, plenary lectures, poster sessions, and industry exhibitions.

Veteran dairy technologist HS Oberoi passes away at 83

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



HS Oberoi, one of India's most respected dairy technologists and a globally recognised authority on cheese, ghee, and butter, has passed away, at 83, his family confirmed. His cremation took place in Chandigarh on Thursday.

Widely hailed as the man who "gave birth to cheese in India," Oberoi dedicated six decades to reshaping the country's dairy processing landscape. His early and defining contributions came from Punjab, where he began his career with Punjab Milkfed. He served in Hoshiarpur as GM, Punjab Milkfed and was also MD at Ludhiana in 1983. He again served as MD, Milkfed at Patiala from 1985-89 . He played a key role in strengthening the cooperative dairy movement and setting new benchmarks for product quality and processing excellence. His work with Milkfed is still remembered for advancing Punjab's reputation as a leader in dairy innovation.

After Milkfed, he worked with Milkfood in Patiala and Modern Dairies. Oberoi shared a warm bond with Amul's Managing Director RS Sodhi, who frequently sought his advice during new product launches. Over an illustrious career, Oberoi contributed to the manufacturing of milk powder for Nestlé, butter for Britannia, cheese for Jubilant Foods and Pizza Hut, and paneer for KFC, among several other collaborations that helped shape India's modern dairy ecosystem.

HS Oberoi is survived by a large community of students, colleagues and admirers who credit him with inspiring, mentoring, and uplifting the field of dairy technology in India.

'Digital fasting' holds the key to a sharper mind: BJP leader Dr Monica B Sood

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Dr Monica B Sood, State Convenor, Intellectual Cell, BJP Chandigarh, has said that 'Digital Fasting', is the key to a sharper, calmer, and more creative mind. Dr Sood introduced the novel concept of 'Digital Fasting' which simply means substantially reducing screen time during her address as Chief Guest at the Annual Sports Day of Stepping Stones School here on Thursday.

Encouraging students to limit social-media consumption to just 30 minutes a day, she said that reduced screen time can significantly improve concentration, memory, sleep quality, and overall mental health. "God has given you one beautiful life. Don't waste it scrolling. Live it. Feel it. Create it," she told the students.

Dr Monica B Sood, who is also CEO of Navjivan Health and Chairperson of National Unity & Security Council (NUSC) is a distinguished alumna of Stepping Stones School, and was invited as the Chief Guest at the school's Annual Sports Day. Principal Anu Kumar and the entire school faculty extended a warm welcome to her, acknowledging her achievements and her deep emotional connection with the institution.

Drawing from her own journey as a student of Stepping Stones School, Dr Sood shared that the institution was the place "where her dreams first started walking."Meanwhile, the Annual Sports Day saw vibrant performances, and spirited participation from students across all grades. Dr Sood praised the dedication of the teachers, the support of parents, and the impressive performances of students who trained tirelessly for the event.

Livasa Hospital Mohali completes over 500 neuro-navigation surgeries

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Livasa Hospital Mohali on Thursday announced successful completion of over 500 neuro-navigation guided surgeries.

While addressing a press conference here today, Dr Vineet Saggar, director neuro & spine surgery highlighted the team's growing expertise with navigation-assisted procedures and its positive impact on surgical accuracy, safety and patient recovery.

He also explained how neuro-navigation works and why it has become an essential tool for modern neurosurgical practice.

He said," Neuro-navigation is an advanced computer-guided system that allows neurosurgeons to visualise the brain and spine with exceptional accuracy during surgery. It is like a GPS for the human nervous system, and it uses MRI/CT-based 3D maps to help surgeons navigate delicate structures with precision.

Dr Saggar further shared that the technology has become indispensable for treating brain tumours, complex spinal disorders, traumatic injuries and other high-risk neurosurgical conditions, enabling smaller incisions, reduced tissue disruption and quicker recovery.

Dr Ajay Singh consultant neurosurgery emphasised that surpassing 500 cases is the result of a deeply coordinated effort across neurosurgery, anaesthesia, radiology, the operating theatre team, nursing units and critical care.

MC Chandigarh and IOCL sign MoU to set up CBG plant at Dadumajra

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

In a major step toward sustainable waste management and clean energy generation, the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a state-of-the-art Segregated Organic Municipal Solid Waste (SOMSW)-based Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant at Dadumajra under the Design–Build– Finance–Operate (DBFO) model.

The MoU, signed at the Municipal Corporation Office, marks a significant push toward scientific waste processing, reducing landfill burden, and promoting renewable energy in the city. The signing ceremony was attended by senior officials from both organizations, including Amit Kumar, Commissioner Himanshu Gupta, Joint Commissioner, C.B. Ojha, Chief Engineer; and Dr. Inderdeep Kaur, Medical Officer of Health from MC Chandigarh as well as Dr. Ajit Thakur, Executive Director, Sh. Alok Kumar, General Manager and Sachin Swami, Manager from IOCL.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, hitherto known as Kawaljeet Kaur W/o Kuldeep Singh R/o House Number 15, Jaspur Alias Gehliwala, Moga, Punjab-142043 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kamaljeet Kaur.

I, Manisha W/o Tirath Ram R/o VPO. Tajpur, District Jalandhar, Punjab-144026 have changed my name from Manisha to Manisha Rani. All concerned please note.

I, SATISH KUMAR son of DHANPAT RAI, residing at Bharwain Road, Mohalla Salwara, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab-146001, have changed the name of my minor son NAVJOT aged 12 years and he shall hereafter be known as NAVJOT KUMAR.

I hitherto known as GURPREET S/o TEJ RAM, residing at House Number B-23, 565/A, Ravi Dass Nagar, District Hoshiarpur, Punjab-146001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as GURPREET LUCKY.

I, Shaganpreet Kaur Brar daughter of Jaspal Singh residence of near Gurudwara Sahib Village Chack Gandha Singh Wala District Shri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name Shaganpreet Kaur

I Sandeep Kaur Kaler W/o Gurdeep Singh Boparai R/o Ghudani Kalan, District Ludhiana have changed my name Sandeep Kaur Kaler to Sandeep Kaur.

I Army No. 15618974L Rank: CQMH, Name: Suresh Kumar, posted at 10 Guards C/o 56 APO, RESIDENT OF Ward No. 8, Dhani Badana Ki, Narda Sikar, Dokan, Rajasthan, 332718, currently posted at 10 Guards C/O 56 APO, That I have changed the name of my daughter from Neetu Kumari to Neetu due.Vide Affidavit Number IN PB94660448337744X, Dated 20 November 2025, before Distt Court Patiala.

I, Gurjeet Singh Bhatti son of Kulwant Singh resident of Guru Gobind Singh Nagar, Abohar Road, Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name Gurjeet Singh.

I, Kanika Kumar Colaco W/o Edward William Colaco R/o 123/3 Tarapore Enclave, Near Tarapore Gate, Patiala Military Station, Patiala 145001, have changed my name from Kanika Kumar to Kanika Kumar Colaco.

I, Vanitaben Ashokbhai Sagathiya is legally wedded Spouse Army No. 14688182M Rank: NK., Name: Sagathiya Ashok Dudabhai, UNIT 10 Guards C/O 56 APO Patiala 910910, RESIDENT OF Ambedkar Nagar, Jasadan, Bhandariya, Rajkot, Gujarat - 360025 That, I have changed my name from Vanita Sagathiya to Vanitaben Ashokbhai Sagathiya.Vide Affidavit Number IN PB2750054751496X, Dated 20 July 2025, before Distt Court Patiala.

I, Sunil Kumar S/O Raj Kumar R/O H No 86 Khalsa Avenue Near 24 Phatak, Patiala Have Changed My Name To Sunil Kumar Garg.

I Sourav Kumar s/o Kamal Kumar r/o Vill Bhagwala, Tehsil Anandpur Sahib (Rupnagar) have changed my name to Sourav Sharma

I, Anmol Arora S/O Harjit Singh R/O H. No.3 Sant Fateh Singh Nagar Model Town Ludhiana changed my name to Anmol Singh.

I Sushma D/o Ashok Kumar R/o Vill. Kakowal, Near Guru Ravidass Gurudwara, Ludhiana have changed my name to Sushma Rani

I Karamvir Kaur Cheema D/o Ranbir Singh Cheema R/o V.P.O. Ramgarh Sardaran, Teh. Payal, Ludhiana have changed my name to Karamvir Kaur

I Gursher Singh S/o Harlal Singh R/o Uppli Road, Sangrur my father's have known as two names Harlal Singh and Harlal Singh Rohel both names are my father

I Bahadar Singh Tiwana S/o Hamir Singh R/o Bakshiwala Tehsil Sunam district Sangrur have changed my name to Bahadar Khan

I, Harjit Kaur Wife of Amarjeet Singh R/o House No. 4, St. No. 1, General Harbaksh Enclave, Village Karheri, Distt. Patiala have changed my to Harjeet Kaur.

I, Amarjit Singh Son of Harlal Singh R/o House No. 4, St. No. 1, General Harbaksh Enclave, Village Karheri, Distt. Patiala have changed my to Amarjeet Singh

I, Meena Midha W/o Pranum Kumar Midha R/o 114, Sant Nagar, College Road, Ludhiana have changed my name to Meena Kumari.

I, Sanjeev Kumar S/o Ram Parshotam R/o H.No. 73/2 Dharampura Colony Batala. I have changed my name from Sanjeev Kumar to Sanjeev Kumar Singh Bhaskar. Please concerned note.

I Sachin Kumar S/o Sh. Devki Nandan R/o House No. B-1-627, Ward No. 3 Back Side Grain Market, Sahnewal Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana-141120 have changed my name from Sachin Kumar Saraogi to Sachin Kumar.

I, Amrik Singh Pawar S/O Gurcharan Singh R/O Village Kotla Tarkhana,Block Majitha,Distt. Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Amrik Singh Pawar to Amrik Singh. Concerned note.

I,Ajay Kumar Erry S/o Surinder Singh R/o H.no:-126,Ahluwalia Colony,Jamalpur Awana,Ludhiana Punjab Have Changed My Name From Ajay Kumar Erry to Ajay Erry.

I, Pranum Kumar Midha S/o Om Parkash Midha R/o 114, Sant Nagar, College Road, Ludhiana have changed my name to Parnum Kumar Midha.

I, Pardeep Singh Gill s/o Tarlochan Singh R/o village chomon, No 151, Teshil Payal, PO Maloudh, Ludhiana have changed my name Pardeep Singh

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Suman Lata Sharma W/O Ravi Kumar R/O H. No. 186/13 Street no 14 Punjab Bagh Jawaddi, Basant Avenue Ludhiana declare that Suman Lata Sharma and Suman Lata both names are one and same person and belongs to me.

I Sukha Singh alias Sukhdev Singh S/o Bagheal Singh R/o H.No. 2027, Agwar Gujjran, Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana declare that my wife Bhupinder Kaur and my daughter Priya Deep and my son Prabhjot Singh are out of my control. I disowned them from my all moveable and immovable properties. Anybody deals with them at his/her own risk. I, will not be responsible for any act or conduct done by them.

I Pankaj Goyal s/o Shri Pal r/o Ram Nagar Basti Sangrur have lost original Sale Deed No. 3192 dated 19/12/2016 in name of Nidhi w/o Vaneet Gupta has been lost at Sangrur on dated 20/11/2025 time 06:18. Registered LR No. 65015/2025 on dated 20/11/2025 at Police Station PSOC City 1 Sangrur

I Karamvir Singh Nagwanh S/o Harpal Singh Nagwanh R/o H.No. 17/118, St. No. 5, Near Shantu Chakki, Haibowal Kalan, Ludhiana declared that my name wrong written as Karamveer Singh Nagwanh instead of Karamvir Singh Nagwanh in my minor daughter Ashi Nagwanh's 10th certificate.

I, Rohit Gill, son of Rajesh, resident of Ward No. 4, Makhu Tehsil Zira, District Ferozepur, declare that both the names Rohit Gill and Rohit are mine and I wish to be known by both names.Related notes

It is for general information that I, Kuldeep Kaur W/o Ranjit Singh R/o Street No. 3, New Harindra Nagar, Faridkot, Punjab-151203, declare that name of my husband has been wrongly written as RANJIT SINGH BANDESHA in my Passport No. N3425397. The actual name of my husband is RANJIT SINGH respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

I Sukhdev Singh Aadhar card number 9831 3966 9292 son of late Kapur Singh resident of village Uppli tehsil and district Sangrur and I declare that my son Mandeep Singh (unmarried) has fallen into bad company and is out of my control. I disown him from my movable and immovable property. Whoever deals with him will be responsible for himself. I and my family will not be responsible for anything.

I, Dinesh Chandra Tiwari S/O Girja Shankar Tiwari R/O H No.706 Urban Estate Phase 2 Jamalpur Ludhiana declare that Dinesh Chandra Tiwari, Dinesh Chand Tiwari, Dinesh Chander Tiwari and Dinesh Tiwari are one and same person and belongs to me.

ARK Consultants (License No. 43/MC-2) for better Services office of Ark Consultants Showroom No. 6 2nd Floor, Madanpur Chowk Phase 2 Mohali will be operating from Showroom No. 22, 2nd floor Cabin No. 2, Sector 86 Preet City, SAS Nagar Mohali in the future.

I,Rattan Kumar S/o Tola Ram R/O H.no:-1859,Ward No:-43, Islam Ganj, Ludhiana Declare that Rattan Kumar and Rattan both name are same and one Person

I Shobha Rani W/o Manmohan Mehta R/o H.no.-2209/B-2, St.no.-5, Basant Nagar, Bagga Kalan Ludhiana (Punjab) 141008 declare that my son Humesh Mehta and his wife Manisha Mehta are out of my control. So I disinherit my son and his wife from all my movable or immovable property . Whoever deals with them will be responsible for it.There will be no responsibility on my part or on my family.

MORE CLASSIFIED ADVTs ON PAGE-7

ਮੈਂ, ਸ਼ਕੁੰਤਲਾ ਦੇਵੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਬਚਨ ਲਾਲ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰਬਰ 121/6, ਭਾਰਗੋ ਨਗਰ, ਜਲੰਧਰ-1, ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਜਲੰਧਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬ-144003 ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਸੁਰਿਦਰ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਅਤੇ ਉਸਦੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਮਮਤਾ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਨ ਮਰਜੀ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਮੈਂ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੱਲ ਵਾ ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਮੇਰੀ ਜਾਂ ਮੇਰੇ ਪਰਿਵਾਰ ਦੀ ਕੋਈ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਸਬੰਧਿਤ ਨੋਟ ਕਰਨ।

ਮੈਂ, ਸੰਗੀਤਾ ਵਰਮਾ ਪਤਨੀ ਲੇਟ ਰਵਿੰਦਰ ਵਰਮਾ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ: 96, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਪੁਰਾ ਫੈਸਟ, ਜਲੰਧਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਬਿਆਨ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰੇ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਲੜਕੇ ਚੰਦਨ ਵਰਮਾ ਉਰਫ ਪਿੰਕਾ ਅਤੇ ਭਰਤ ਵਰਮਾ ਉਰਫ ਸੰਨੀ ਵਰਮਾ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹਨ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਨ ਮਰਜੀ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਮੈਂ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੱਲ ਵਾ ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਮੇਰੀ ਜਾਂ ਮੇਰੇ ਪਰਿਵਾਰ ਦੀ ਕੋਈ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਸਬੰਧਿਤ ਨੋਟ ਕਰਨ।

EVICTION NOTICE

I, Harvinder Singh s/o Amarjit Singh r/o Sehjra (Barnala) hereby evict my daughter Jasmine Sharma from my movable & immovable property due to her being beyond my control. Anyone who does any kind of transaction with her after today will be responsible for his own profit and loss.

ਮੋਟਰ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਸੂਚਨਾ

ਕਾਰ ਸੀਆਜ਼ ਰਜਿ: ਨੰ. PB11B 0002 ਮਾਡਲ 2015 ਜੋ ਸ੍ਰੀਮਤੀ ਕੈਲਾਸ਼ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਲੇਟ ਹਰੀ ਓਮ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ. 2, ਫਰੈਂਡਜ਼ ਕਾਲੋਨੀ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਹੈ। ਕੈਲਾਸ਼ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਦੀ ਮੌਤ ਮਿਤੀ 03.02.2022 ਨੂੰ ਹੋ ਚੁੱਕੀ ਹੈ। ਹੁਣ ਉਕਤ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਨੂੰ ਮ੍ਰਿਦੁਲਾ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਵਿਨੇ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰ. 4, ਸੈਕਟਰ 69, ਐਸ. ਏ.ਐਸ.ਨਗਰ (ਮੋਹਾਲੀ), ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਨੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਮ ਪਰ ਟ੍ਰਾਂਸਫਰ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਕਾਗਜਾਤ ਇਸ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੇ ਹਨ। ਇਤਰਾਜਕਰਤਾ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਦਾਖਲ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਤਰਾਜ ਨਾ ਆਉਣ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਉਕਤ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਮ੍ਰਿਦੁਲਾ ਬੁਬਲਾਨੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਟ੍ਰਾਂਸਫਰ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ। ਰੀਜਨਲ ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਅਫਸਰ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ

LOST AND FOUND

I Gurpreet Verma S/o Ram Saroop R/o H. no. 4106, Guru Nanak Street, Gill Road, New Shimlapuri, Ludhiana declared that I had lost original sale deed bearing wasika No. 2276, dated 01/05/2006 executed by Tripta Joshi (Widow), Vivek Joshi, Vishal Joshi (Sons)and Poonam D/o Ravi Kumar S/o Mohinder Nath in favour of Chameli Devi W/o Om Parkash. If anybody found plz inform us at Himanshu Jindal 8968105533.

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Two terror suspects linked to ISI arrested after gunfight near Ludhiana; grenades and pistols seized

YOGESH KAPOOR
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



Two suspected terrorists believed to be in contact with Pakistan's ISI were arrested following a fierce exchange of fire with Ludhiana Police near the Ladhowal Toll Plaza on Thursday late evening. Both suspects sustained serious injuries in the encounter and were rushed to a hospital, where one of them remains in critical condition.

Commissioner of Police Ludhiana, Swapan Sharma, briefed the media about the operation. According to officials, the arrested duo is part of a larger terror module, three members of which had already been apprehended by Ludhiana Police earlier.

Police received specific intelligence inputs regarding the movement of the suspects. When the accused noticed police barricades, they opened fire on the security personnel. The police retaliated swiftly, overpowering and injuring both assailants.

A substantial cache of arms and ammunition was recovered from their possession, including two Chinese 86P hand grenades, five sophisticated pistols, and more than 40 live rounds, along with other incriminating material.

Police sources confirmed that the terror module had been operating under the guidance of a Pakistan-based handler and was in constant touch with the three operatives arrested earlier. Those previously arrested were already facing two to three criminal cases.

Officials also revealed that among the three earlier arrested accused, one has direct links to a man named Pawan, brother of Harry, who was involved in the firing incident at Bollywood actor Salman Khan's Mumbai residence. This connection has added a significant angle to the ongoing investigation.

The probe into the module's activities, international links, and potential plans is underway, and more arrests are likely as the investigation progresses.

Ferozepur gives grand welcome to Nagar Kirtan dedicated to 350th martyrdom day of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

HARISH MONGA
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ferozepur, November 20



The Nagar Kirtan taken out by the Punjab government to mark the 350th Martyrdom Day of Hind Di Chadar Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji received an enthusiastic and devotional welcome upon its arrival in Ferozepur. MLA Ferozepur Rural, Rajneesh Kumar Dahiya, along with administrative officials, welcomed the procession at village Golewala.

Later, at 7 Number Chungi Chowk and Gurdwara Saragarhi Sahib, MLA Ferozepur Urban Ranbir Singh Bhullar, accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Deepshikha Sharma and SSP Bhupinder Singh, honoured the Panj Pyare by presenting them with robes of honour.

As the divine Nagar Kirtan reached Gurdwara Saragarhi Sahib, Punjab Police personnel paid a ceremonial salute to Guru Sahib Ji with band tunes. Students of Government Primary School Ferozeshah and Guru Ramdas Public School, Armanpura, also saluted the procession with their school bands.

The Nagar Kirtan then moved onward through Shaheed Udham Singh Chowk and Malwal Road towards Gurdwara Sri Jamni Sahib, Bazidpur.

Speaking on the occasion at Golewala, MLA Rajneesh Kumar Dahiya described the Nagar Kirtan as a commendable initiative of the Punjab Government, undertaken to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. He informed that this grand Nagar Kirtan one of four began this morning from the meditation site of Baba Farid Ji at the historic Qila Mubarak in Faridkot. The yatra will traverse through Ferozepur, Moga, Jagraon, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, and Chamkaur Sahib before reaching Sri Anandpur Sahib on November 22.

MLA Bhullar, who joined the procession at 7 Number Chungi in the Cantonment area, said that these sacred ceremonies will inspire future generations with Guru Ji's timeless message of peace, compassion, and religious freedom. He added that the Punjab government will organise grand religious events at Sri Anandpur Sahib from November 23 to 25.

Cabinet Minister flags off e-vehicles endowed to Vet Varsity

GURKIRPAL SINGH
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



In a step towards promoting environmental sustainability on educational campuses, Gurmeet Singh Khuddian, Punjab Cabinet Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Dairy Development, and Food Processing, Govt of Punjab flagged off two electric vehicles dedicated to routine security patrolling at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana.

The eco-friendly vehicles have been provided by the Vardhman Group, Ludhiana under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative aimed at reducing environmental pollution and supporting green mobility within the university premises.

Amit Dhawan, Head CSR and Administration, Vardhman Special Steels Limited, participated in the event. The Cabinet Minister lauded the Vardhman Group for this meaningful contribution and urged other industrial establishments to initiate similar collaborations. He emphasized that such efforts play an important role in developing clean and green campuses across the state.

Dr Jatinder Paul Singh Gill, Vice-Chancellor expressed gratitude to Sachit Jain, Chairman, Vardhman Special Steels Limited; Soumya Jain, and R.K. Rewari, Executive Directors for extending support under the CSR project 'Prakriti'. He also appreciated the efforts of Dr. Sarvpreet Singh Ghuman, Estate Officer of the University and Dr. Nittin Dev Singh, Incharge, Security Wing for engaging with corporate partners and bringing valuable projects to the university campus.

Parts of stolen tractors of farmers found buried in Nabha EO's official residence

BALINDER SINGH
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Patiala, November 20

Police said they have recovered parts of tractor trolleys, allegedly stolen during farmers' protests eight months ago, from the official residence of the executive officer of Nabha Municipal Council here.

The recovery was made after police excavated the premises under mounting pressure from farmers, who have been holding intense protests for the last two days, demanding it.

Earlier, the farmers had alleged that their tractor trolleys were stolen during the protest at Shambhu and Khanauri border points eight months ago.

According to officials, police dug the premises with the help of a JCB (earth moving machine), and found several trolley components buried in the compound. The Wednesday recovery has triggered further outrage among the farmer groups.

Leaders of the Bhartiya Kisan Union Azad, including its Nabha president Gamdoor Singh, claimed that the trolley parts were buried to destroy evidence.

Executive Officer Gurcharan Singh Gill denied any involvement, stating that although the house is allotted in his name, he does not stay there and commutes from his native village.

He alleged that Nabha Municipal Council president's husband Pankaj Pappu often operated from the premises. Earlier, the municipal council had made Pappu its supervisor, Gill said.

The executive officer said he was ready to cooperate with the police investigation.

Crime Investigating Agency's Patiala Station House Officer (SHO) Davinder Singh confirmed that the excavation of trolley parts from the official residential complex.

Stating that the police have taken possession of the recovered materials, the SHO assured a thorough inquiry and promised strict action against whoever is found guilty.

Pappu has already been booked in the matter, he said. Eight months ago, farmers had alleged that multiple tractor trolleys belonging to them were stolen from the Shambhu and Khanauri border points, where they had camped for nearly 13 months, raising various demands including legal guarantee for the minimum support price of crops.

PAU food and nutrition scholars win top honours at International Conference on Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20

The Department of Food and Nutrition at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) has brought laurels to the institution by securing multiple prestigious awards at the 12th International Conference on 'Agriculture & Veterinary: Transformative Approach, Research & Innovations Forum', jointly organised by Goa College of Agriculture, Goa; University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad; and ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi, held from November 16–18.

Karnika, Ph.D scholar, was conferred the Best Oral Presentation Award for her paper titled "Integrating Nutrigenomics into Precision Nutrition: A Timely Approach to Mitigate Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors," co-authored with Sonika Sharma, Shikha Mahajan, Shaveta Batta and Bishav Mohan. She was also honoured with the Young Fellow Award during the conference. Her major advisor, Dr Sonika Sharma, shared that the nutrigenomics research, a collaborative effort between PAU and DMC&H, Ludhiana, demonstrated that individuals with the high-risk FTO gene variant can significantly reduce their predisposition to obesity and cardiovascular disease through tailored diet and lifestyle interventions, underscoring the promise of precision nutrition in addressing genetic vulnerabilities.

Another Ph.D. scholar, Shrishti Joshi, received the Best Oral Presentation Award for her research titled "Microwave Roasting of Nigella sativa: Enhancing Nutritional and Functional Properties for Food and Nutraceutical Applications," co-authored with Shikha Mahajan, Arashdeep Singh, Sonika Sharma and Surya. She also earned the Young Researcher Award at the event. Her major advisor, Dr Shikha Mahajan, highlighted that the work on Nigella sativa underscores its potential as a powerful functional food ingredient with natural health-promoting properties.

Trader dies in house fire, police say short-circuit likely reason

RAMAN CHAMAK
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Amritsar, November 20

A man, identified as Kiran Ahuja, died in a fire incident that erupted at a residence located in a posh locality on the Race Course road.

The 52-year-old victim was a cosmetics material trader, the police said.

Dilbagh Singh, investigating officer, said that that as per the initial probe, short-circuit is said to be the reason behind the incident. The family members were tight-lipped over the incident while the police have initiated inquest proceedings under Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

According to the police, a fire suddenly erupted in the upper portion of the building which was being used for storage of cosmetic material, some of which was inflammable. As Kiran Ahuja entered the room to save the material and tried to douse the fire, he became unconscious and could not come out. The entire room was engulfed in fire and his body was badly charred and sent for autopsy.

Challans issued to 42 violators dumping waste in open; civic body appeals residents to support authorities

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



Committed to ensure cleanliness across the city, Municipal Corporation (MC) is conducting night patrolling in the city on a regular basis. Tightening noose around violators, hefty challans have been issued to 42 violators who were caught dumping waste in open in the last two days.

Mayor Principal Inderjit Kaur and MC Commissioner Aaditya Dachalwal have directed the civic body teams to keep strict vigil at different points of the city during day and night.

Working on the directions of Zonal Commissioner Jasdev Sekhon, the night patrolling team issued challans to violators on Dugri road, Maratha point near Dugri Canal Bridge, near Krishna Mandir in Model Town extension among other areas.

The civic body officials stated that regular awareness drives are also being conducted in the city, but they are forced to take strict action against the violators as residents have still been dumping waste in the open.

Meanwhile, Mayor Inderjit Kaur and MC Commissioner Dachalwal appealed to the residents to support the authorities in keeping the city clean by not dumping waste in open.

Mayor, MLA kick start project to install sewer and water supply lines in Karamsar colony

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



With an aim to upgrade infrastructure and ensure potable water supply for residents, Mayor Principal Inderjit Kaur and Ludhiana East MLA Daljit Singh Bhola Grewal inaugurated the project to install sewer and water supply lines in Karamsar colony of ward number 13.

The civic body officials have been directed to ensure that there is no compromise with the quality of works and the work should be completed within stipulated time period.

Mayor Principal Inderjit Kaur and MLA Grewal said that the residents have been demanding installation of sewer and water supply lines in the area for a long time, but the previous governments failed to address the issue.

Stating that they have now fulfilled the promise made to the residents, Mayor Inderjit Kaur and MLA Grewal stated that Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann led state government is working to ensure sustainable development across the state.

Mayor Principal Inderjit Kaur and MLA Daljit Grewal said that a large number of development projects worth crores are going on in the city and more such projects would be inaugurated in the coming days.

District-level organ donation campaign launched to mark 350th martyrdom day of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji





PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Hoshiarpur, November 20

To commemorate the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, a district-level campaign promoting organ donation was launched on Thursday in Hoshiarpur. The event was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Ashika Jain, joined by Acting Civil Surgeon Dr Seema Garg.

As a significant gesture of humanity, nine prominent citizens of the district pledged to donate their entire bodies, setting a remarkable example for society. In her address, Deputy Commissioner Jain said, "The sacrifice of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji inspires us towards the highest ideals of humanity, compassion, and selflessness. Organ donation is an act that can save many lives. Through this initiative, we aim to raise awareness and encourage greater community participation."

The campaign, being held from November 19 to 25 is led by the Health Department in collaboration with the Eye Donation Association, Hoshiarpur. Throughout the week, multiple awareness seminars, community programmes, and information camps will be organised across the district to highlight the importance of organ donation and motivate citizens to register.

Dr Seema Garg said special awareness activities are being conducted in all health institutions. *"Our goal is to involve both health staff and the general public in this noble cause.

Material, money and mindset discussed

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Ludhiana, November 20



A panel discussion among leading architects of Ludhiana city took place on Thursday on the topic, "Material, money and mindset" which was organised by Team Design Unfiltered led by Komal Jha.

Panel discussion was moderated by Ar. Sanjay Goel chief architect of Designex Architects, former director of Ludhiana Smart City Ltd and former chairman of Indian Institute of Architects Punjab Chapter. The selection process, the mindset of the client and the pallate of the project were discussed in detail by all panelists.

The panelists were Ar.Vikas Sharma, Ar. Amrita Taneja, Ar. Khushboo Raheja, Ar. Shaweta Khosla, Arvind Gupta, Ar. Yogesh Singla and Ar. Nidhi Raheja.

All panelists discussed their practical professional experience of projects with respect to the topic "Material, money and mindset". The event was attended by many leading architects from Ludhiana city, students from NIF Global and School of Architecture, Ludhiana. Mementos to the panelists were given by Chetan Kajaria, Vice chairman- Kajaria Ceramics Limited.

High Court to hear petition of jailed Lok Sabha member Amritpal Singh today

CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 20



A day after jailed Waris Punjab De activist and Lok Sabha member Amritpal Singh moved a petition to seek his temporary release to attend the Winter Session of Parliament from December 1 to 19, a Division Bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Thursday listed the case for hearing on Friday.

Amritpal Singh, who won the Lok Sabha poll from the Khadoor Sahib constituency in Punjab, has been lodged in Dibrugarh Central Jail in Assam since April 2023, after being arrested under the National Security Act (NSA).In the High Court, Amritpal Singh's counsel told the Bench headed by Chief Justice Sheel Nagu that his earlier plea was disposed of with a liberty to forward a proper representation to Lok Sabha, which "has been made".

The Bench questioned his counsel on the fate of the plea challenging his detention. "He has a NSA detention order against him, what happened to that case? Unless the detention is stayed, how can he join the Parliament?" the Chief Justice asked.

The 32-year-old Sikh radical Amritpal Singh, who claimed that he is inspired by slain Khalistani terrorist Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, has been under detention in Assam since his arrest in April 2023, even as 9 of his other associates were brought back to Punjab this year.

In the plea in the High Court, Amritpal Singh has sought directions to the Union and state authorities to permit his release on parole, or arrange his personal attendance in the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session of Parliament. IANS

bright Punjab Express

Old warhorse

The old warhorse of Bihar, Nitish Kumar has taken over the reins of the state once again after leading his alliance to a landslide victory earlier this month. Nitish Kumar who is also Janata Dal-United president was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar for a record tenth time at a grand ceremony, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah among those who were present at the swearing-in.

Bharatiya Janata Party president Jagat Prakash Nadda and the party's in-charge for the recently held state polls Dharmendra Pradhan were also among those who had flown down to attend the ceremony, where Kumar, along with a 26-member cabinet, was administered the oath of office by Governor Arif Mohammed Khan.

Kumar resigned as chief minister on Wednesday and staked claim to form the new government before Governor Khan. Modi, whose charisma had played a big role in the NDA's massive victory in the assembly polls, regaled the crowds when, towards the end of the ceremony, he rotated his 'gamchha' in his signature style.

A gigantic stage had been set up at the Gandhi Maidan, where the attendees included chief ministers from several states ruled by the NDA, prominent among them being N Chandrababu Naidu (Andhra Pradesh) and Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh), Devendra Fadnavis (Maharashtra), Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam) and Rekha Gupta (Delhi).

Prominent among those who took the oath on the occasion were Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha, the leader and deputy leader, respectively, of the BJP legislative party, both of whom were deputy CMs in the previous NDA government in the state.

They are JD-U national general secretary Ashok Choudhary, one of the most trusted aides of the CM, state BJP president Dilip Jaiswal and Hindustani Awam Morcha chief Santosh Kumar Suman.

Shreyasi Singh, an award-winning shooter who got elected from Jamui for a second consecutive term, was a new entrant into the cabinet. Rama Nishad, wife of former Muzaffarpur MP Ajay Nishad, who had joined the BJP in the thick of elections and got elected from Aurai, has also been inducted into the council of ministers. Another ninth-term MLA Bijendra Prasad Yadav, from the JD-U, was back in the cabinet. In the outgoing government, the BJP had 15 ministers, JD-U 12, including CM Nitish Kumar, Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) had one, and one minister who was an Independent candidate.

SPIRITUAL WORLD



Localising strategies, making precision policy key to boost family planning in India



Localising strategies to adapt to diverse needs and making precision policy is crucial to boost family planning in India, said senior government officials here.

Speaking at a roundtable hosted by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), India senior officials from the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (EAC-PM) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) deliberated to strengthen family planning policies and programmes to align with the changing population profile in the country.

The experts discussed India's evolving demographic landscape, marked by declining fertility rates and a continued need to expand access to quality family planning services.

"India is a diverse country, and this diversity demands precision policy making. Every block, every village, every region is different -- each with its own social realities, needs, and challenges. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. To deliver real impact, we must localise our strategies and design interventions that respond to what is happening on the ground in each pocket of the country. Precision policy making is not just desirable; it is essential for ensuring that programmes reach the people who need them most, in the way they need them," said Dr. Shamika Ravi, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).

"We must remember that family planning is not a woman's programme -- it is a family programme. This is why, alongside saas-bahu sammelans, the Ministry also convenes saas-bahu-pati sammelans to reinforce that husbands and wives must make choices together. When couples share responsibility and decisions, we move closer to what truly matters: healthy mothers, healthy babies, and healthy families. Partnership is at the core of real reproductive choice," added Aradhana Patnaik, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, National Health Mission, MoHFW.

The roundtable comes at a crucial time as India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has fallen to 2.0, below the replacement level of 2.1, and millions of women continue to lack access to the family planning services they seek.

With unmet need standing at 9.4 per cent, this gap affects an estimated 47 million women, underscoring the importance of strengthening access, choice, and quality in family planning.

"India stands at a defining moment in its demographic journey. With current fertility trends, the focus must champion reproductive rights, choice, and the full continuum of reproductive health for all. This roundtable marks an important step toward shaping a future-ready, evidence-driven family planning agenda, one that places people, especially young women and those with unmet needs, at the centre of national policy and socio-economic development," said Andrea M. Wojnar, UNFPA India Representative.

The discussions highlighted that while India has made significant progress, the family planning agenda remains unfinished. Sustaining investments and broadening the definition of reproductive health to include infertility care were pressed upon.

Participants also called for policy developments to guide future family planning strategies and priorities, while strengthening alignment among stakeholders on choice-based principles, irrespective of fertility rates. IANS

NHAI to launch Raajmarg Infra Investment Managers to drive public InvIT Initiative



The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is in the process of establishing Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT) as a Public InvIT (Investment Trust) to strengthen road asset monetisation and expand investment opportunities in the development of National Highway infrastructure, the Ministry of Road and Highways said on Thursday.

As part of this initiative, NHAI has incorporated Raajmarg Infra Investment Managers Private Limited (RIIMPL) as the Investment Manager for the proposed InvIT.

RIIMPL is a collaborative venture with equity participation from leading banks and financial institutions, including State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, NaBFID, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv Ventures Ltd, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, IDBI Bank, IndusInd Bank, and Yes Bank, the ministry stated.

This partnership aims to unlock the monetisation potential of the National Highway assets while creating a high-quality, long-term investment product primarily targeting retail and domestic investors.

"NRVVMK Rajendra Kumar, Member (Finance), NHAI, has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO (Additional Charge) of the Investment Manager company," the ministry said.

"NHAI has established a robust record in asset monetisation. In recent years, we have successfully monetised assets worth Rs 48,995 crore through the Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) model and raised around Rs 43,638 crore across four rounds of Private InvITs, attracting major domestic and international investors," said NHAI Chairman, Santosh Kumar Yadav.

Over the next 3–5 years, around 1,500 km of completed and operational National Highways will be introduced into the Public InvIT, opening substantial investment avenues for the public, he added. I am sure that this initiative will mark a new chapter of public participation in building the National Highway infrastructure in the country, he said further. RIIMPL will focus on establishing robust governance standards, fully aligned with SEBI's InvIT regulations, ensuring transparency, investor protection, as well as best-in-class reporting and compliance frameworks.

The first issuance of InvIT units for retail and public investors is expected to be launched in February 2026. IANS

UNICEF lauds India for 'significant progress' in poverty reduction, investments in children



India has made significant progress in reducing poverty, and the country's flagship programmes have supported investments in children, according to the UNICEF on Thursday.

The UN agency's flagship report, The State of the World's Children 2025, showed that more than 1 in 5 children in low- and middle-income countries, about 400 million globally, are deprived of at least two areas critical for their health, development, and wellbeing.

Globally, millions of children still lack access to basic services such as education, clean water, safe sanitation, housing, health, and nutrition, which deepens inequality, slows growth, and weakens the social fabric that leaves a lifelong impact even across generations.

"India has made significant progress in poverty reduction, and the flagship programmes have supported investments in children, steering India to be on track for SDG 1.2 ahead of the 2030 endline," said Cynthia McCaffrey, UNICEF India Representative.

The report cited flagship programmes like Poshan Abhiyaan, Samagra Shiksha, PM-KISAN, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Swachh Bharat, Jal Jeevan Missions, and world-leading digital public infrastructure, which together converged to deliver nutrition, education, income support, sanitation, and financial inclusion at scale.

India is the most populous country and home to approximately 460 million children under 18 years of age.

According to Niti Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), India helped 248 million citizens, including children, escape multidimensional poverty between 2013-14 and 2022-23, with the national MPI rate dropping from 29.2 per cent to 11.3 per cent.

The country has made a significant increase in social protection coverage from 19 per cent in 2015 to 64.3 per cent, reaching 940 million citizens in 2025, combined with sustained social sector investments, which contribute to this progress in poverty reduction.

"The report reminds us that ending child poverty is achievable with the tools and knowledge we have. There is no greater return on investment than investing in children. India's progress shows that further acceleration of effective programmes can help reach the last mile and India's Vision 2047. Improving children's wellbeing isn't just about resources, it's about the collective will and leadership to prioritise children in every decision we make," said McCaffrey. IANS

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NEWSBRIEFS

₹7.11 cr daylight heist: Karnataka Police launch manhunt; FIR reveals chilling details

BENGALURU: The Karnataka Police have launched a hunt for the robbers involved in the shocking Rs 7.11 crore daylight heist in Bengaluru. The FIR filed in the case reveals chilling details of how the robbers, claiming to be officials from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), threatened the driver at gunpoint, forced the gunmen and another staffer to get down from the vehicle, and carried out the robbery. It has also come to light that the gang took away the DVR from the cash-refill vehicle. The complaint was filed by 47-year-old Vinod Chandrar, Branch Manager of CMS Info System Limited, located in HBR Layout. **IANS**

BJP pushes for 45 seats in AIADMK alliance as TN assembly polls nears

CHENNAI: With just five months left for the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, political parties across the state are gearing up, and the alliance negotiations, candidate selection, and district-level organisational restructuring are all underway. In this backdrop, the BJP -- a key partner in the AIADMK alliance -- has decided to demand a significantly higher number of seats this time. In the 2021 Assembly election, the BJP contested as part of the AIADMK-led coalition. Back then, the AIADMK fielded candidates in 179 seats, while its allies, PMK, contested 23 seats, the BJP 20 seats, the TMC six seats, and six other smaller parties received one seat each. The alliance won 75 seats in total: AIADMK secured 66, the PMK won five, and the BJP won four. **IANS**

Another betrayal: Stalin after Centre rejects TN's plea on paddy moisture norms

CHENNAI, NOVEMBER 20



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday criticised the Union government for rejecting the State's request to relax moisture norms for paddy procurement in the wake of widespread rains.

The State had sought a temporary increase in the permissible moisture content from 17 per cent to 22 per cent to prevent financial loss to farmers whose harvested paddy had been exposed to incessant rainfall over the past weeks.

Calling the Centre's decision "yet another betrayal of Tamil Nadu", Stalin took to social media to question why the Union government, and particularly the Prime Minister, refused to accept a request rooted in the urgent needs of farmers.

"Could the Prime Minister not hear Tamil Nadu's plea to procure paddy with higher moisture content due to heavy rains? Why did he fail to hear the voice of our farmers? Why did he not see their tears?" he wrote.

The Chief Minister recalled that there were several precedents where the Union government had relaxed moisture norms upon request from Tamil Nadu during similar weather-related crises.

"Why has the Union government, which accepted our requests in the past, rejected it this time?" he asked, adding that the refusal came at a time when farmers were struggling without adequate relief measures for rain damage.

Stalin further questioned how the BJP-led Union government expected to support farmers while denying both disaster compensation and flexibility in procurement norms.

He urged the Centre to reconsider its decision and expressed hope that it would act favourably in the interest of the farming community.

Significantly, the rejection of Tamil Nadu's request came just a day after the Prime Minister visited Coimbatore — one of the two cities whose Metro Rail proposals were recently declined by the Centre, a development over which the State and Union governments have been engaged in a political back-and-forth.

To underline the gravity of the crop situation, the Chief Minister pointed out that three central teams had already toured rain-affected districts in late October and collected field samples. Earlier this week, he had written again to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reiterating the State's request and seeking urgent approval. **IANS**

SIR being carried out in dangerous manner in Bengal: Mamata Banerjee to CEC

KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 20

West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, on Thursday wrote to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), Gyanesh Kumar, objecting to Special Intensive Revision (SIR), claiming that the manner in which the exercise is being forced upon the electoral officials and citizens is "unplanned", "chaotic" and "dangerous".

"I have time and again flagged my serious concerns in respect of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and the way it has been thrust upon the people," she said. The Chief Minister said that she is being compelled to write as the situation surrounding the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) has reached a deeply alarming stage.

"The manner in which this exercise is being forced upon officials and citizens is not only unplanned and chaotic, but also dangerous," she said.

The Chief Minister said that the absence of even basic preparedness, adequate planning, or clear communication has crippled the process from day one.

The Chief Minister also requested the CEC to put on hold the SIR exercise in order to avoid more drastic consequences in the future.

"I would request you to kindly intervene decisively to halt the ongoing exercise, stop coercive measures, provide proper training and support, and thoroughly reassess the present methodology and timelines," she said. The Chief Minister said that if this path is not corrected without delay, the consequences for the system, the officials, and the citizens will be irreversible. **IANS**

Security forces foil Maoist plot in Chhattisgarh; 10-kg IED planted on newly-built road neutralised

BIJAPUR, NOVEMBER 20

In a major success against Left Wing Extremism, security personnel from Bhairamgarh Police Station and the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDS) of Bijapur district on Thursday detected and safely destroyed a powerful 10-kilogram Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by Maoists on the Chihka-Uspari road in the Maoist-affected Bastar region.

The operation was conducted in the Uspari village area under Bhairamgarh Police Station area.

A joint team was carrying out routine area domination and search operations when alert jawans spotted an electric wire suspiciously emerging from the ground along the rural road frequently used by villagers and security forces, senior police officials said.

Following Standard Operating Procedures, the team immediately cordoned off the area and conducted a thorough search. Within minutes, they located a steel tiffin box buried beneath the surface.

On careful examination, the container was found to contain a command-initiated IED weighing approximately 10 kg, packed with explosives and connected to an electric detonator circuit designed to be triggered remotely, said the officials.

The Bijapur BDS team was rushed to the spot and, exercising utmost caution, successfully defused and destroyed the deadly device through a controlled explosion at the site itself.

No casualties or damage to property were reported during the neutralisation process. **IANS**

Advocate arrested in connection with suicide of law student in Bengal

KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 20

The police on Thursday said they had arrested an advocate in connection with the suicide of a law student in South 24 Parganas district's Kakdwip town.

According to police sources, advocate Sheikh Manowar Alam was arrested from Hyderabad by officers of the Kakdwip Police Station.

On November 12, the body of a law college student Sonia Haldar was found hanging in the chamber of the said advocate. It was also learnt that the police recovered a love letter and based on that letter, the family of the deceased lodged a complaint at Kakdwip Police Station against the advocate for abetting suicide of the woman.

Following investigation, the Kakdwip police eventually arrested the advocate. It has also been learnt that the advocate was the Vice President of the Trinamool Law Cell of the Kakdwip Court.

"Based on the complaint lodged by the family members of the deceased law student, an investigation into the matter had started. A search was on to find the accused advocate. He has been arrested from Hyderabad where he had fled after the body of the law student was discovered in his chamber. Further investigation into the matter is on," said a senior officer of Sundarban Police District. **IANS**

My position grown stronger, discussion on leadership change unnecessary: CM Siddaramaiah

CHAMARAJANAGAR (KARNATAKA), NOVEMBER 20

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has stated that his position has only grown stronger, and discussions about a possible leadership change in Karnataka are unnecessary. "There is no such thing as a November revolution within the party," he said.

He made these remarks while speaking to the media in Chamarajanagar on Thursday. It may be noted that the discussion on leadership change has surfaced as the Congress-led government completes two and a half years in the state on Thursday. **IANS**

BBMB organises exhibition of paintings on energy conservation

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has been promoting "Energy Conservation" across the country through its National Awareness Campaign. This campaign has inspired a new wave of enthusiasm and motivation among students through painting competitions organized at various levels.

Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) has been successfully organizing this state-level painting competition for school children of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh since 2005. The 2025 edition of the competition was also conducted with great enthusiasm and zeal on 20 November at the Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector-5, Panchkula.

This year, more than 2.5 million students from Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh showcased their artistic flair and passion by creating paintings on the theme of energy conservation. From this large participation, a total of 300 students from the three states/UTs—Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh—were selected and invited for today's state-level competition. Out of these 300 students, 18 children have further been selected for the national level, who will participate in the National Painting Competition scheduled for 12 December 2025.

On this occasion,i Manoj Tripathi, Chairman, BBMB, graced the event as the Chief Guest. He appreciated the remarkable creative abilities of the young artists and expressed heartfelt gratitude to the children, their parents and teachers for their active participation in this important campaign. He encouraged children to stay away from harmful addictions, embrace art with passion and channel their energy in a positive direction.

DELHI/NCR

Delhi blast: 4 more accused sent to NIA custody for 10 days

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20

A court in Delhi, on Thursday, sent four freshly-arrested accused in the November 10 Delhi blast case to 10 days' custody of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), an official said.

The accused sent to NIA custody by the Special Court here were identified as Dr. Muzammil Shakeel Ganai of Pulwama, Dr. Adeel Ahmed Rather of Anantnag, Mufti Irfan Ahmad Wagay of Shopian, all from Jammu and Kashmir, and Dr. Shaheen Saeed of Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

The four accused are the latest to be apprehended by the NIA, bringing the total number of arrests in the case to six.

During the hearing on Thursday, the federal probe agency had sought 15-days' custody of the four accused but the Special Court allowed only 10 days' custodial interrogation.

"The four accused were taken into custody by NIA in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, on production orders from the District Sessions Judge of the Patiala House Court," the NIA said in a statement. According to the NIA investigation, they had all played a key role in the terror attack that killed several innocent persons and left many others injured, as per the NIA investigation.

Moving expeditiously with its probe in the case, the NIA had earlier arrested two accused -- Amir Rashid Ali, in whose name the car used in the blast was registered, and Jasir Bilal Wani alias Danish, who had provided technical aid to the terrorist involved in the deadly attack, the statement said. **PTI**

Delhi teen accuses teacher of harassment, commits suicide; massive protest outside school

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



A massive protest erupted after a 16-year-old Class 10 student died by suicide at Rajendra Place Metro Station in Delhi, leaving behind a note accusing his teacher of harassment and urging action.

The boy, who left home for school on November 18, while his father was away, was later found dead at the station.

Police recovered his school bag, inside which was a note claiming he had been driven to take this extreme step because of alleged mistreatment at school. The news of his death triggered widespread anger as parents and students gathered outside the school, demanding accountability and strict action against those named in the allegations.

Police have said they are examining the contents of the suicide note as well as the claims outlined in the FIR, and the investigation remains underway.

Parents who arrived at the school said some teachers routinely "misbehave" with students, creating a climate of fear.

A parent told IANS, "My child has also been studying in this school for the last two years. Students here are afraid to talk to their teachers. When my child comes home, and I ask him sometimes why he is afraid, he says that he is afraid of even telling those things to me, as he thinks I'll scold him just like the teachers. Because of some teachers here, there is a lot of fear inside the children and due to fear, they are not able to say anything."

A friend of the deceased student said she last spoke to him on November 16 and that he had repeatedly shared concerns about harassment by a Drama Club teacher, leaving him deeply depressed.

"He told me that he gets insulted a lot, and once, when he cried during the drama practice, the teacher told him that he should not cry because he is a boy and only girls cry. The teacher is very demotivating. He was under a lot of stress," she said.

According to the FIR lodged by his father, the student had been "under severe mental stress" due to continuous harassment by teachers.

The father alleged that his son had repeatedly complained about certain teachers who "scolded, insulted and mentally tormented him over minor issues".

Despite several verbal complaints to school authorities, the alleged behaviour continued, the FIR stated. The family described the boy's final weeks as a period of mounting distress and said their appeals to teachers and the principal had gone unanswered. **PTI**

Delhi HC passes order protecting personality rights of podcaster Raj Shamani

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20

The Delhi High Court has granted an ad-interim protection to YouTube content creator and podcaster Raj Shamani, restraining several online platforms, anonymous entities, and businesses from misusing his name, voice, image, likeness, and trademarked podcast properties for commercial gain.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Manmeet Pritam Singh Arora passed an ex-parte order in a suit filed by Shamani and his company, seeking urgent relief against trademark infringement, copyright violation, impersonation, fake endorsements, AI-generated deepfakes, and unauthorised reproduction of his popular 'Figuring Out' podcast series. **IANS**

₹2.36 cr fine notices issued to construction dust defaulters: Delhi Minister

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said on Thursday that the government has deployed real-time surveillance through the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC)'s portal for dust control, issuing notices for penalties amounting to Rs 2.36 crore to defaulters.

He said over 1,262 construction projects of above 500 sq m area have been inspected for dust pollution since October 15, and with a robust technology deployment, 747 sites have been registered with real-time video fencing and air quality monitoring on the DPCC portal. He said the government is ensuring that every construction and demolition (C&D) site above 500 sqm is registered, monitored, and mandated to meet strict dust mitigation standards. **PTI**

Bomb threat at school in Delhi's Chanakyapuri; declared a 'hoax'

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20

A prominent school in Delhi's Chanakyapuri area received a bomb threat on Thursday morning, prompting immediate evacuation of students and staff, police said. The threat, was later, declared as a hoax. According to police, around 10:45am, the school administration received an email from an unknown sender who claimed to have planted a bomb inside the school. A call was made to the police who then alerted the bomb detection team and bomb disposal squad.

"We received a call about the mail from school authorities who checked their mail in the morning. We have rushed teams and checks are being conducted. Students have been evacuated already. Nothing suspicious has been found yet" said Additional deputy commissioner of police (DCP) (New Delhi) Hukma Ram Sai. **PTI**

Guru Nanak Ayurvedic Medical College & Hospital
Barkandi Road, Sri Muktsar Sahib - 152026 (Pb)
REQUIRED STAFF
ASSOCIATE PROF./PROFESSOR
Agad Tantra, Shalakya Tantra, Panchkarma
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
Samhita Siddhant, Shalya Tantra, Shalakya Tantra, Panchkarma & Kaumarbhritya.
MBA/BCA, DCA, B-Lib., BAMS, MBA, Clerk (B.Sc/BA+Computer Knowledge) DMLT, 10+2 (Med./Com), B-Pharma, B-Pharma (Ayu), BAMS+Dip in Yoga, Naturopaths, MBA-Quality Mgt.., BPEd., BE-Civil, AMO's (BAMS) Staff Nurse, Lab Tech., Dark Room Attdt., ECG Tech., Panchkarma therapist, Physiotherapist (BPT) **Gen. Secretary**
Resume at gnamcmkt@rediffmail.com, Contact No. 9876000107, 62395-49311
Meet personally or visit office from 10 AM to 02:00 PM (Working Day)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Before Sh. Naveen Danics Asstt. Estate Officer U.T., Chandigarh



Subject: Transfer of Ownership in respect of Residential Site No. 125-A, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh (AH 125A30B) to the extent of 100.00% share on the basis of Registered Will of Late Sh. Subhash Chand.
It is notified for the information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office Sh. Subhash Chand is the owner/lessee of Residential Site No. 125A, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh to the extent of 100.00% share.
It has been informed by Shanti Sagar that Sh. Subhash Chand expired on 19/05/2024 and he has/have also intimated the following legal heirs of the deceased owner/lessee:-

Sr. No.	Name of Legal Heir	Relation with deceased
1.	Davinder Kumar	Son
2.	Shanti Sagar	Son
3.	Sanjeev Kumar	Son
4.	Kusum Rani	Wife (Deceased)

Now Shanti Sagar has applied for the Transfer of Ownership in respect of Residential Site No. 125-A, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh, to the basis of Registered Will date 10/02/2020. If anybody has any information about any other legal heir(s) of the deceased other than mentioned above, the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately.
If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she/they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, Failing which the said share in the said property will be mutate accordingly in the name of above said beneficiary/ies and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained at any late stage.
Naveen, Danics Assistant Estate Officers, Exercising the powers of Estate Officers, U.T., Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE
Before Sh. Naveen, Danics, Asstt. Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh.



Subject :- Transfer of Ownership in respect of Residential Site No. 492, Sector 32-A,Chandigarh (RPL 18092) to the extent of 70.00% share on the basis of Intestate Death of Late Sh. Jagdishwar Lal.
It is notified for the information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office Sh. Jagdishwar Lal is the owner of Residential Site No. 492, Sector 32-A, Chandigarh to the extent of 70.00% Share.
It has been informed by Munish Gupta, Mayanka, Shashi Kiran Gupta that Sh. Jagdishwar Lal expired on 30.08.2024 and they have also intimated the following legal heirs of the deceased owner :- (1) Mayanka - Daughter, (2) Shashi Kiran Gupta- Wife, (3) Munish Gupta - Son.
Now, Munish Gupta, Mayanka, Shashi Kiran Gupta have applied for the Transfer of Ownership in respect of Residential Site No. 492, Sector 32-A, Chandigarh to the extent of 70.00% Share held by Late Sh. Jagdishwar Lal in their favour, on the basis of Intestate Death. If anybody has any information about any other legal heir(s) of the deceased other than mentioned above ,the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately.
If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she/they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of above said beneficiaries and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained at any later stage.
Naveen, Danics, Assistant Estate Officer, Exercising the powers of Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE
Before Sh. Naveen, Danics, Assistant Estate Officer (Exercising the powers of the Estate Officer) U.T.Chandigarh.



Subject :- Regarding Transfer of ownership in Respect Residential Site 1157, Sector 15-B, Chandigarh to the extent of 45.00% share on the basis of Family Transfer Deed registered at Sr.No 3228, Book No.1, Vol. No._, Page No._ dated 26/08/2016.
It is notified for the information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office Sh. Kulwant Singh is the owner of Residential Site No. 1157, Sector 15-B Chandigarh to the extent of 45.00% share.
It has been informed by Smt. Yadvinder Chahal that Sh. Kulwant Singh owner of above said property to the extent of 45.00% share had executed Family Transfer Deed to the extent of 45.00% share in favour of Yadvinder Chahal on 26/08/2016 and same has been registered at Sr. No 3228, Book No. 1, Vol.No._ ,Page No._ dated 26/08/2016 in the office of Sub-Registrar, U.T., Chandigarh. Now Yadvinder Chahal has applied for the transfer of 45.00% share of above said property in her favour on the basis of Family Transfer Deed Dated 26/08/2016.
If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicant, he/she/they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary)in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of above said beneficiary and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained at arry later stage.
Naveen, Danics, Assistant Estate Officer, Exercising the powers of Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh

Preparations in full swing for PM Modi's Haryana visit on November 25

RAJENDRA KHATRY
PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 20

The district administration, Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, and the state government plan to celebrate this event in a very special way across approximately 170 acres. Preparations are underway with this in mind.

Extensive preparations are underway for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's arrival at the gathering near Jyotisar Shrine on November 25th, marking the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, according to Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini.

The district administration, Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, and the state government plan to celebrate this event in a very special way across approximately 170 acres. Preparations are underway with this in mind. Hundreds of workers and artisans from Rajasthan to Uttar Pradesh are working day and night.

After the paddy harvest, dozens of farmers from Jyotisar and Indabadi villages are preparing to build a 200-by-700-metre main pandal, a 30-by-60-meter exhibition on the life of Guru Tegh Bahadur and his family, a 100-by-200-meter VIP lodge, a 40-acre parking lot, three helipads, two langar halls, and a VVIP lodge.The administration rented this land for the event immediately after the paddy harvest, paying Rs 61,000 per acre.

It is reported that the agreed amount will be released to the farmers before November 25. The farmers are becoming increasingly worried as they say they will be able to cultivate a second crop after the event, which will yield double the profits, but re-establishing the fields will be a significant challenge.

The Guru Granth Sahib will be displayed on a 10-foot-high stage within the main pandal. A platform will be erected on one side of the main stage for ministers and other VIPs from across the state, while on the other side, a platform will be set up for all 49 members of the HSGMC. Other Sikh leaders and VIPs can also sit there. All preparations are being made in accordance with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) guidelines.

The government will deploy approximately 1,200 Sikh security personnel. Furthermore, the HSGMC will also deploy approximately 500 personnel.

These personnel will be stationed in the main pandal, as well as in the Joda Ghar and parking area.

As per the currently scheduled programme, 350 children from Patiala will first perform kirtan in the main pandal, followed by the lighting of the Guru Granth Sahib. The Prime Minister will then address the gathering.

In preparation for the event, approximately 170 acres of farmland have been transformed into fields. Dozens of machines have leveled them. Even power lines are being removed. Around 40 electric poles are being relocated. Furthermore, discussions are underway to harvest sugarcane crops standing on several acres of land. Farmers say the boundaries of the fields have been demarcated.

According to HSGMC President, Jagdish Singh Jhinda, the Jathedars of all the Akal Takhts (Akal Takhts) - Amritsar Sahib, Damdama Sahib, Patna Sahib, Anandpur Sahib, Harmindra Sahib, and Nanded Sahib - have been invited.

200 doctors, staff of Al Falah University under scanner after Red Fort car blast

FARIDABAD, NOVEMBER 20

More than 200 doctors and staff at Al Falah University here are under the scanner of the investigative agencies following the blast in a car near the Red Fort on November 10, sources said.

Security agencies have been conducting frequent checks at Al Falah University, raising concerns among university students and staff. On Wednesday, several university employees were seen leaving the gates with their belongings packed in vehicles. According to university sources, they are taking leave and returning to their homes.

The investigating agencies are ascertaining the number of individuals who left the university after the blast and are trying to identify them. They suspect a number of these individuals were linked to the terrorists, the sources said.Many people have deleted their mobile data, which will also be investigated, the sources said. PTI

Haryana surpasses major states & ranks fourth in implementation of PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana in country

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Under the vision of Viksit Bharat-2047, the Government of India launched the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana on 1 August 2025 to promote employment generation across the country. Under this scheme, an incentive amount of nearly Rs. 1 lakh crore will be provided to employers and employees for the creation of 3.5 crore new jobs. Due to the fast and effective implementation of the scheme, Haryana has surpassed several larger states and secured the fourth position nationwide.

A meeting to create awareness about the scheme was held today at Panchkula, under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Labour and Youth Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Department, Rajeev Ranjan. The meeting was attended by officers from the Technical Education Department, Higher Education Department, Employment Department,and ITI beneficiaries who are organising job fairs.

Ranjan said that the scheme has two main components. Under the first component, if a new employee is registered with EPFO between August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2027 with a monthly salary of less than Rs. one lakh, the Government of India will provide an additional allowance of up to Rs. 15,000 to the employee's Provident Fund account in two installments. He further said that the second installment will be linked to a financial literacy programme.

To avail the benefits under this scheme, the employees must have completed the literacy module for 12 months in an establishment.

Haryana govt amends online transfer policy for couple case

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

The Haryana Government has issued a notification introducing an amendment to the Model Online Transfer Policy, 2025. The amendment pertains to the "Couple Case" provision aimed at providing due consideration to government employees whose spouses are also serving in government service. A notification in this regard has been issued by Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi.

As per the notification, an employee whose spouse is employed as a regular employee in any Department or Organization of the Haryana Government, or as a regular employee in any other State Government or the Government of India, and is posted in Haryana, Delhi, or Chandigarh, will be eligible for merit points under this provision. A maximum of 5 points may be awarded in such cases.However, these merit points will be granted only to one employee within the couple serving under the Haryana Government.

Farmers to get financial assistance for seed and soil conservation management

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Under the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (Pulses) scheme, the Haryana Government will provide subsidies to farmers in all districts of the state for chickpea and lentil demonstration plots, seed distribution, and plant and soil conservation management. Farmers interested in availing the subsidy can visit the website of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Haryana at https://agriharyana.gov.in/ and apply.

A spokesperson of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare informed that interested farmers may submit their applications as per the schedule of crop sowing and crop timing.

For more information, farmers may contact the office of their Agricultural Development Officer/Block Agriculture Officer/ Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer/Deputy Director Agriculture.

Minister Krishan Lal Panwar helps injured youth after road accident near Dera Bassi

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20



Haryana Development and Panchayat, Mines and Geology Minister Krishan Lal Panwar, today set an example of compassion and humanity when he stopped to help an injured motorcyclist near Dera Bassi. The incident took place on Thursday afternoon when the Minister was travelling from Kurukshetra to Chandigarh. As his convoy reached near Dera Bassi in Punjab, a motorcycle rider collided with a stray animal on the road and was seriously injured. Sh. Panwar immediately brought the injured young man into his own vehicle and took him to a hospital in Zirakpur for medical treatment.The Development and Panchayat Minister directed the doctors to begin treatment immediately. He also informed the victim's family members and the local police administration.

He directed the doctors and medical staff to ensure that no shortcoming occurs in the injured man's treatment. Panwar said that nothing is more important than someone's life.

In such situations, it is everyone's duty to help immediately. Society become stronger only when we prioritise humanity.

His prompt assistance and personal involvement were appreciated by locals present at the spot. After ensuring that the youth was receiving proper care the Minister left for Chandigarh.

Sirsa secures first position in Haryana for administering pledge on 5th Anniversary of Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Under the 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan', Sirsa district has secured the first position in the state for administering the anti-drug pledge across Haryana.

Sharing information in this regard an official spokesperson said that in Sirsa district, 88,200 people have taken the anti-drug pledge through offline mode, while 10,145 people have taken it online by scanning the QR code. Besides this, 1,200 officers and employees, 25,000 women, and more than 62,000 youth actively participated in these activities.

These collective efforts have enabled Sirsa to achieve the top position in the state, which is a matter of pride for the district.

The spokesperson said that all departments of the district, especially the teams from Education, Police, Social Welfare, Women and Child Development, Health, Panchayats, and Sports have worked tirelessly.

HIMACHAL/J&K

QS SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS 2026

Shoolini University emerges as No 1 University in HP and Chandigarh

PUNJAB EXPRESS BUREAU
Chandigarh, November 20

Shoolini University has strengthened its leadership position in Himachal Pradesh and the Chandigarh region by achieving remarkable progress in the QS Sustainability Rankings 2026. The University is now ranked 522nd globally, an improvement of 44 positions from last year, 126th in Asia, and 13th in India making it the highest-ranked university in the region in sustainability.

In the Environmental Impact category, Shoolini achieved an impressive 377th global rank, maintaining a consistent position among the top 500 globally for the past three years. This performance reflects the University's long-term commitment to sustainable development, research excellence, and eco-friendly campus initiatives.

QS Sustainability Rankings 2026 evaluated 2,001 universities globally, including 815 in Asia and 101 in India, highlighting Shoolini University's strong sustainability focus and its standout position in the northern region of India. Prof P K Khosla, Chancellor of Shoolini University, said, "This achievement is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our faculty, students, and staff. Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do—from our research and teaching to campus operations and it's encouraging to see our efforts recognized on a global stage. These rankings inspire us to keep pushing boundaries, innovate further, and prepare our students to make a meaningful impact in the world.

Jammu emerging as trade & logistics hub, claims J&K L-G

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 20



J&K Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha, claimed on Thursday that Jammu is rapidly emerging as a trade and logistics hub connecting Ladakh and the Kashmir valley with the country's trade corridors.

He said that the significant boost in road and rail connectivity in the last five years has unlocked the region's immense potential.

"Storage, multimodal connectivity, logistics capability, and last-mile connectivity have ensured that remote areas remain connected to the mainstream of development.

Penetration of e-commerce and the growing retail sector is also playing a significant role in expanding the footprint of the warehousing and logistics sector," he said while speaking at the Jammu Trade and Logistics Conclave-2025, organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

He called for fulfilling the developmental needs of Jammu and Kashmir through smart logistics infrastructure and improved logistics operations.

"A robust storage, logistics and warehouse ecosystem is the need of the hour to propel our economy towards self-reliance, directly link the producers to consumers and to fulfil the aspiration of our traders, industrialists, farmers, artisans and MSMEs," he said.

He Jammu & Kashmir Logistics Policy 2025 will be unveiled soon, adding that a new policy intervention will introduce a comprehensive framework focusing on multimodal connectivity, development of dry ports and warehousing zones, and promotion of private sector participation.

He observed that, under the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP), 49 major logistics and connectivity projects worth Rs 3,000 crore have already been mapped, supporting real-time coordination and faster execution.

He said the integrated planning approach is helping J& K identify logistics gaps, improve last-mile connectivity to industrial estates, optimise freight movement, and significantly reduce logistics costs and transit times.

He also claimed that a Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Vijaypur, Jammu, will be developed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, under a Build-Develop-Finance-Operate-Transfer (DBFOT) approach. IANS

J&K Police attach property of drug peddler in Jammu

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 20

The police in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday attached the property of a drug peddler in the Narwal area of Jammu city under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

An official statement said that police in the south zone area of Jammu city attached property worth Rs 15 lakh belonging to a drug peddler, Vishal Kumar of Narwal, Jammu.

"In a major action under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, Jammu Police, South Zone, has attached/seized moveable property, i.e., Scorpio S11 bearing registration number JK08G 3535 of Vishal Kumar, valued approximately Rs 15 Lakhs under Section 68(F) of the NDPS Act. The accused Vishal Kumar, son of Ram Singh, resident of Boot Polish Mohalla, Rajiv Nagar, Narwal Distt Jammu, is involved in FIR No. 295/2025 under Sections 8/21/22/25/27A/29 NDPS Act and 111 BNS registered at Police Station Bahu Fort," the statement mentioned.

The attachment of the property was executed by the Investigating Officer, in charge police post Narwal, in accordance with the provisions of the NDPS Act. The order of attachment was issued as part of the proceedings under the said Act.

"The whole operation is conducted under the Supervision of SSP Jammu and the direct guidance of SP City South, SDPO City East and SHO PS Bahu Fort. Jammu Police reiterates its firm commitment towards eradicating the drug menace from society and will continue to take strict action against offenders under the law," the police statement said. IANS

Stalemate over holding panchayat poll continues

SHIMLA, NOVEMBER 20

There seems to be no let-up in the stalemate over holding of elections to the panchayati raj institutions (PRI) as the state government today conveyed to the State Election Commission (SEC) that in the present circumstances it is not possible to withdraw the Disaster Management Act, 2005 in public interest. Responding to the letter written by the SEC to the state government on October 17, it was today conveyed to the SEC that in view of damaged roads, water supply schemes and power line, the current focus of the government is on relief and restoration measures and the entire district administration of the state is involved in restoration of essential services and providing relief to the affected families. As such, it is not in public interest to withdraw the October 8, 2025 order of deferring the PRI polls.It was yesterday that the SEC had written to the state government, terming the decision of not conducting the PRI elections without jurisdiction. "At present, all activities in the state are going on. The district administration is organising melas, educational institutions are functioning normally and all other daily activities are going on uninterrupted," the SEC pointed out.The SEC also pointed out that road connectivity was affected only in some areas of the state, which it would have definitely considered in consultation with the state government while considering the possibility of holding elections in such areas. AGENCIES

Youth killed, 3 injured in midnight shootout in hotel in Una

UNA, NOVEMBER 20

Ashu Puri, a resident of Santoshgarh in this district, was allegedly shot dead by some youths at a hotel in Lalsingi in Una on Wednesday night.

Three other youths were injured in the incident.As per a copy of the FIR, Puri's friends were celebrating his birthday at the hotel, where several other youths were also partying. Around 1 am, the two groups emerged from the hotel and an altercation ensued in the parking lot.Parminder, a resident of Sanoli village, allegedly shot Puri in the head, killing him on the spot.

According to the FIR, a case has been registered against Parminder and his two accomplices, Gurjeet Mann and Purjinder. Superintendent of Police Amit Yadav said the youths involved in the altercation knew each other.

The matter is also being linked to the criminal gangs active in the district and their rivalries. AGENCIES

J&K Police's SIA raids Kashmir Times office in Jammu for 'anti-national activities'

JAMMU, NOVEMBER 20



The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of J&K Police on Thursday carried out a raid at the office of the 'Kashmir Times' in Jammu, alleging that the newspaper has been involved in anti-national activities and spreading disaffection against the country. Official sources said the SIA has filed a First Information Report (FIR) naming Anuradha Bhasin, Editor of Kashmir Times, in connection with these charges.

"The investigation aims to examine her alleged links and activities that threaten the sovereignty of India. The operation underscores the ongoing crackdown on terror networks in Kashmir, with SIA asserting that there must be no misuse to propagate seditious or separatist ideologies," sources added.

The Counter-Intelligence wing and the SIA of J&K Police have been carrying out raids at multiple locations in the union territory since November 10, when a local doctor, Umar Nabi, exploded a car next to the Red Fort in Delhi, killing 13 innocent civilians and injuring many others. IANS

NEWSBRIEFS

Eternally grateful to PM Modi: Former Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina's son amid extradition call after death sentence

NEW DELHI: Amid Dhaka's call for the extradition of ousted Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, her son Sajeeb Wazed on Thursday said he is "eternally grateful" to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for ensuring her safety and "saving my mother's life." This comes after Sheikh Hasina was sentenced to death in absentia by the country's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) in Dhaka for alleged crimes against humanity related to a violent crackdown during student-led protests last year. Bangladesh's interim government has cited the India–Bangladesh Extradition Treaty (2013) to request her return following an arrest warrant issued by the ICT for "crimes against humanity. **IANS**

Two dead following truck crash in Australia

SYDNEY: A woman and a child died after two trucks collided on a highway in the northeastern Australian state of Queensland, police said on Thursday.The Queensland Police Service said in a statement on Thursday that emergency services were called on Wednesday night to reports that two trucks had collided near the town of Canoona, over 550 kilometres northwest of Brisbane, around 10:40 pm local time, Xinhua News Agency reported. Two passengers in one of the trucks, a toddler and a woman in her 20s, died at the scene. The driver of the same vehicle, a man in his 20s, sustained serious injuries and was airlifted to the hospital. A second man, the driver and sole occupant of the other truck, was taken to the hospital with minor injuries. **IANS**

Ruling party urges North Korea to accept Seoul's offer for military talks

SEOUL: The ruling Democratic Party (DP) on Thursday urged North Korea to accept South Korea's proposal for military talks aimed at clarifying the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) to prevent possible clashes near the inter-Korean border. The proposal came as North Korean soldiers -- including those who were armed -- have repeatedly, albeit temporarily, crossed the MDL while working near the border, such as clearing land or laying mines in the buffer zone. **IANS**

Indian, Tanzanian Navy officials discuss maritime security

DAR ES SALAAM: Maritime security topped the agenda at an engagement between Indian and Tanzanian naval officials in a step towards advancing ongoing cooperation, an official said today. "Maiden Edition of Indian Navy-Tanzania People's Defence Force Navy Staff Talks were successfully concluded on 18 Nov, 25 at Dar es Salaam. Co-Chaired by RAdm Srinivas Maddula, ACNS (FCI) & Cmde FJ Mwasikolile, Naval Operations & Training Officer TPDF Navy," said the Indian Navy Spokesperson on X."Talks were dedicated to mapping the future course of bilateral maritime engagements, advancing ongoing cooperation and promoting a coordinated approach to maritime security," he said. **IANS**

Trump signs bill to release Epstein files after US Congress vote

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 20



US President Donald Trump signed the bill to release files related to the investigation into Jeffrey Epstein, the convicted sex offender who died in federal custody in 2019.

In a Truth Social Post, Trump wrote, "I have just signed the bill to release the Epstein Files!

As everyone knows, I asked Speaker of the House Mike Johnson and Senate Majority Leader John Thune to pass this Bill in the House and Senate, respectively. Because of this request, the votes were almost unanimous in favour of passage."

He also added that the Department of Justice has "already turned over close to fifty thousand pages of documents to Congress."

Earlier, the US House of Representatives voted 427-1 on Tuesday to pass the bill, and later the Senate approved it through unanimous consent.

Lawmakers from both parties engaged in sharp debate ahead of the vote, accusing one another of delaying public access to the documents.

Speaker Mike Johnson supported the measure but criticised Democrats for pushing it forward now. "This is a show vote," he told lawmakers.

"They're making a show of it."

He also defended US President Donald Trump, saying, "The president had nothing to do with this, and he had nothing to hide."

Representative Thomas Massie, a Republican sponsor of the bill, urged Trump to direct the Justice Department to release the records immediately rather than wait for the legislative process to conclude.

Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene raised concerns that even with a new law, the Justice Department could keep some material "tied up in the investigation." **IANS**

After Saudi request, Trump says US will push to end the war in Sudan

US President Donald Trump said he will begin working to help end Sudan's civil war after Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman urged him to intervene, signalling a potential deepening of Washington's role in a conflict that has killed at least 150,000 people and pushed the country toward famine. Speaking at the US-Saudi Investment Forum in Washington on Wednesday (local time), Trump said Sudan had not featured in his foreign-policy plans until the crown prince raised the issue during talks at the White House a day earlier.

Power use of data centres in Russia to more than triple this decade: Putin

MOSCOW, NOVEMBER 20



Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that the power consumption of data centres will more than triple in the current decade and the country will build more nuclear power units.

"The most important and fundamental task is to ensure the constant, stable and reliable supply of large volumes of energy to data centres," Putin said at the "AI Journey" conference in Moscow on Wednesday.

"Therefore, plans for their location must be closely aligned with the further development of the entire national energy infrastructure, including advanced, modern and eco-friendly coal-fired power generation, as well as other clean energy sources such as nuclear power," he said. Putin noted that Russia will continue building data centres at existing nuclear power plant sites, reports Xinhua."As for forward-looking initiatives, within less than two decades, we plan to construct 38 nuclear power units, primarily in the Urals, Siberia, and the Russian Far East," he said. "Their combined capacity will be practically equal to our current nuclear power generation capacity."

Putin emphasised in his speech that, by various estimates, the development of AI is likely one of the largest technological undertakings in history."

The primary focus of investments lies in expanding computing power and generating additional gigawatts of energy; this energy is crucial for the reliable operation of the entire growing digital infrastructure," he stated.

Earlier on Tuesday, the Russian President also took part via video link in the keel-laying ceremony for the nuclear-powered icebreaker Stalingrad at the Baltic Shipyard in St. Petersburg, TASS news agency reported.

Speaking at the ceremony, Putin outlined Russia's strategic priorities in the Arctic, emphasising the need to strengthen the country's long-term presence in the region. **IANS**

South Korean President says won't neglect North Korea's advance of nuclear programme

SEOUL, NOVEMBER 20



South Korean President Lee Jae Myung has said he will not neglect efforts by North Korea to advance its nuclear programme, vowing to achieve denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula with a "pragmatic and phased" approach.

In a contribution to Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram that was published Thursday, Lee asked Egypt to support South Korea's plans to denuclearise North Korea and peace initiatives on the Korean Peninsula.

Highlighting Cairo's mediating role in the Israel-Hamas conflict in the Gaza Strip, Lee also expressed hope for expanded cooperation between South Korea and Egypt to promote peace on the Korean Peninsula and in the Middle East, reports Yonhap news agency.

Since taking office in June, Lee has extended an olive branch to resume dialogue with Pyongyang and proposed a three-step road map to halt, reduce and dismantle North Korea's program, though the North remains unresponsive.

"The suspended inter-Korean dialogue and North Korea's evolving nuclear capabilities cannot be left as they are, and I firmly believe we should open a new era of peaceful coexistence and shared growth on the Korean Peninsula," Lee wrote.

"To that end, we will increase exchanges with North Korea in feasible areas, support its efforts to normalise relations with the international community, and plan to pursue denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula through a pragmatic and phased approach," he added.

Marking the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two nations, Lee stressed the importance of deepening cooperation in trade, investment, and cultural exchanges.

He noted the presence of Samsung and LG factories in Egypt producing smartphones and home appliances, as well as Egypt's contracts for South Korea's K-9 self-propelled howitzers, with the first batch expected to be delivered next year.

Lee highlighted the rising popularity of Korean music and dramas in Egypt, saying he was "deeply moved" by the interest in Korean culture in a country rich in its own history and heritage.

He positioned South Korea as a "reliable partner" for Egypt's national development blueprint, Vision 2030, expressing hope for strengthened cooperation across various fields.

"The Republic of Korea, which achieved the 'Miracle of the Han River,' will join the great journey of Egyptians, who achieved the 'Miracle of the Nile River,'" he said, referring to South Korea's official name. **IANS**

Iran's FM says not to accept zero uranium enrichment

TEHRAN, NOVEMBER 20



Iran will not accept any agreement that would lead to zero uranium enrichment in the country as it is considered a "betrayal," Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi has said. "We will in no way accept zero (uranium) enrichment as the issue has turned into (a matter of) national glory and pride," he said in an interview with Iran's Khabar Online news agency published on Wednesday (local time), adding the country has paid numerous costs and made many sacrifices to retain its uranium enrichment.Commenting on Iran's interaction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Araghchi said the country has cooperated with the agency only in relation to those Iranian nuclear facilities that were not bombed by Israel and the United States in June, reports Xinhua news agency.

Over the past months, the United States, joined by some European states, has called on Iran to cease uranium enrichment on its soil. Tehran has repeatedly rejected the demand, stressing its right to uranium enrichment is non-negotiable.

Iran has suspended cooperation with the IAEA since June under a parliamentary law, citing the agency's failure to condemn the Israeli and US attacks on its nuclear sites and concerns about the safety of its facilities and scientists.Additionally, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei has rejected a recent claim by US President Donald Trump that Tehran and Washington were holding nuclear talks. **IANS**

Germany preparing long-range weapons for Ukraine, says Merz

BERLIN, NOVEMBER 20



German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said that Germany is actively working to provide the Ukrainian army with long-range weapon systems.

Speaking at a joint press conference with Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson in Berlin on Wednesday (local time), Merz said Germany and Ukraine are currently advancing projects related to "long-range fire."

"We are doing everything we can to equip the Ukrainian army with weapon systems that have the necessary range," he said, declining to offer further details for tactical reasons.The announcement came as Merz and Kristersson reiterated their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation on security and defence.

In a separate development, the Trump administration has drafted a new 28-point plan and held quiet and deep consultations with Russia in a renewed push to restart peace talks aimed at ending the Ukraine crisis, according to local media reports.

The plan is inspired by US President Donald Trump's push for the deal in Gaza, Xinhua news agency reports, quoting US online media outlet Axios.

According to the report, US Special Envoy to the Middle East Steve Witkoff is leading the effort to craft the plan, which is organised into four broad sections: peace in Ukraine, security guarantees, security in Europe, and future US relations with Russia and Ukraine. **IANS**

Taliban says over 10,000 Afghan refugees forcibly deported from Iran, Pakistan in single day

KABUL, NOVEMBER 20

More than 10,000 Afghan refugees were forcibly deported from Pakistan and Iran in a single day on Wednesday, a top Taliban official stated on Thursday.

Sharing the High Commission for Addressing Migrants' Issues report, Taliban Deputy Spokesperson Hamdullah Fitrat revealed that 1,763 Afghan families, comprising of 10,405 people, returned Afghanistan on Wednesday, the Pajhwok Afghan News reported.

Fitrat said that Afghan refugees returned from Pakistan through Spin Boldak in Kandahar, Bahramcha in Helmand, Islam Qala crossing in Herat, Pul-i-Abresham in Nimroz and the Torkham crossing in Nangarhar.

He stated that 2,222 Afghan refugee families, comprising 13,303 people, were taken to their respective home areas while 1,534 were given humanitarian assistance.As many as 7,326 Afghan refugees were forcibly deported from Iran and Pakistan on Tuesday. **IANS**

Iran denies starting nuclear talks with US

TEHRAN, NOVEMBER 20



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei has rejected a recent claim by US President Donald Trump that Tehran and Washington were holding nuclear talks.

He made the remarks in an address to reporters in Tehran on Wednesday (local time), one day after US President Donald Trump said the United States was talking to Iran and that Tehran wanted "very badly" to make a deal.

In a Tuesday meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the White House, Trump said, "We're talking to them, and we start a process. But it would be a nice thing to have a deal with Iran."

Baghaei stressed, "No negotiation process currently exists between Iran and the United States."

He pointed to the US track record of failing to honour its promises and putting forward "excessive demands," reiterating that there was no logical justification for holding talks with a side that did not see negotiation as a two-way process, took pride in its "wrongful action of military aggression" against Iran and the Iranian people, reports Xinhua news agency.

Regarding a message from Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian to the Saudi crown prince prior to his US visit, Baghaei said it was purely bilateral.

The message expressed Iran's gratitude for the services provided to Iranian pilgrims during last year's Hajj and emphasised the need for continued coordination for this year's pilgrimage. **IANS**

HRW urges Nepal interim govt to probe killings, arson linked to Gen Z protests

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 20



Human Rights Watch (HRW), a US-based advocacy group, has called on Nepal's interim government led by Prime Minister Sushila Karki to investigate the excessive use of force, as well as arson and mob attacks on people and public properties during the September Gen Z protests.

The advocacy group also called on the current administration to investigate the role of those who may have ordered any unlawful acts.

According to the HRW, police in Kathmandu indiscriminately opened fire on protesters multiple times over three hours on September 8 during the Gen Z protests, killing 17 people who had been demonstrating against political corruption and a sweeping social media ban imposed four days earlier.

The rights body stated that the unrest sparked a second day of violence on September 9, yet security forces appeared to fail to act when groups of people, some apparently not linked to the Gen Z protest, set fire to prominent government buildings; assaulted politicians, journalists, and others; and attacked schools, businesses, and media companies. **IANS**

Cyclone warning issued for Australia's Northern Territory

CANBERRA, NOVEMBER 20



A cyclone warning has been issued for Australia's Northern Territory (NT) after Tropical Cyclone Fina intensified to a Category 2 storm ahead of making possible landfall on Friday or Saturday.

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) said on Thursday morning that Tropical Cyclone Fina grew in strength to Category 2 overnight after initially being declared as a Category 1 storm on Wednesday.

It said that the slow-moving cyclone was over the Arafura Sea about 415 km northeast of the NT capital of Darwin as of 6:30 a.m. local time, but was expected to turn to the south, then southwest towards the coast later on Thursday.A cyclone warning has been issued by the BoM for the Cobourg Peninsula, the northernmost point of the mainland NT, and island communities off the NT's northern coast.

It said that the area could experience destructive wind gusts of up to 155 km per hour from Friday as well as heavy rainfall that could lead to flash flooding, which could extend to Darwin later on Saturday.

The BoM said it is possible that the cyclone could increase in strength to Category 3 on Friday or Saturday as it nears land.

Northern Territory Emergency Services (NTES) has advised people in the Cobourg Peninsula area to immediately commence preparations and people in Darwin and the Tiwi Islands north of the city to consider what action they will need to take if the threat increases, Xinhua news agency reported. **IANS**

lifestyle



Huma:
I don't take the pressure of other people's thoughts and ideas

Actress Huma Qureshi, whose latest release is "Maharani 4", has said that she has learnt to shut out the noise around her and focus on what really matters to her as an artiste.

Asked how she handles the pressure of external expectations versus her personal vision, Huma told IANS: "I don't. I don't take the pressure of other people's thoughts and ideas."

"I think my job is to fulfill my own future, my own destiny and to work towards my own life and characters. I don't take the pressure of other people's expectations. That's really their problem," she added.

The actress had also spoken about her understanding of success, recognition, and failure, which she says has not dramatically transformed over the years but has steadily grown into something healthier and more grounded.

"It's not transformed. I think it's become better. I've connected with myself more as an artist and as a person, as a woman," Huma said.

She added: "I think I'm just able to function without any of the baggage. I'm just able to enjoy my work and have fun and really. I mean, I can't complain," added the actress.

Directed by Puneet Prakash, produced by Kangra Talkies Pvt. Ltd., and created by Subhash Kapoor, Maharani 4, stars Huma Qureshi, Shweta Basu Prasad, Vipin Sharma, Amit Sial, Vineet Kumar, Shardul Bhardwaj, Kani Kusruti, and Pramod Pathak.

"Maharani 4" will stream from November 7 on Sony LIV.

She was also seen in the third season of "Delhi Crime", which is directed by Tanuj Chopra. Huma stars alongside names such as Shefali Shah, Rasika Dugal, Rajesh Tailang, Jaya Bhattacharya, and Anuraag Arora. The cast also includes Sayani Gupta, Mita Vasisht, Kelly Dorji, and Anshumaan Pushkar.

Huma will next be seen in Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups, a period gangster film, directed by Geetu Mohandas. The film also features Yash, Nayanthara, Kiara Advani, Tara Sutaria, Rukmini Vasanth, Akshay Oberoi and Sudev Nair. **IANS**



Priyanka, Parineeti and Kareena congratulate Sonam on her second pregnancy

Bollywood celebrities such as Priyanka Chopra, Parineeti Chopra, and Kareena Kapoor, among others, have congratulated Sonam Kapoor on her second pregnancy.

On Thursday, the 'Neerja' star announced the happy news via a post on her Instagram handle. Posting her stylish photos, Sonam flaunted her baby bump alongside the caption, "Mother." Several Bollywood celebrities and industry friends flocked to the comment section to share their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for Sonam Kapoor on her second pregnancy.

Kareena commented, "Sona and Anand," followed by red heart emojis. Priyanka extended her wishes, writing, "Congratulations." Parineeti Chopra commented, "Congrats mamacitaaa." Bhumi Pednekkar wished the new mommy, writing, "Congratulations."

Notably, for her pregnancy announcement, Sonam Kapoor drew inspiration from Princess Diana, donning a bold hot-pink wool suit with oversized, softly curved padded shoulders. **IANS**

Shehnaaz Gill: 'Bigg Boss' was a platform where my life changed

Actress-singer Shehnaaz Gill, who has often credited her time on Bigg Boss 13 for giving her career a push upwards, has talked about expectations, success and how she views her own journey.

Asked Shehnaaz, who is currently basking in the success of her maiden production "Ikk Kudi", if there's any pressure on her shoulders considering the volume of love that comes her way, the actress, who enjoys a following of a whopping 19 million on Instagram, told IANS: "You should take pressure. Sometimes good things happen. If people have pressure, life can go well."

Talking about her film "Ikk Kudi", it tells the tale of a woman from a family of broken hearts who starts doubting her arranged marriage match and embarks on a quest to uncover her fiance's mysterious past.

Shehnaaz began her modelling career with the 2015 music video Shiv Di Kitaab. In 2017, she made her acting debut in the Punjabi film Sat Shri Akaal England.

However, it was her stint in the 13th season of Bigg Boss that brought her into the spotlight, eventually helping her land a film with Bollywood superstar Salman Khan, along with several other projects.

Shehnaaz doesn't mince her words when she credits the controversial reality show for her success.

"I will never say that I have achieved something. But I can say that Bigg Boss has given me a lot. It was a platform where my life changed," she added.

The actress' filmography also includes names such as 'Kala Shah Kala', 'Daaka', 'Honsla Rakh', 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan', and 'Thank You for Coming' to her credit.

Shehnaaz has appeared in several music videos titled-- 'Maar Kar Gayi', 'Pindaan Diyaan Kudiyaan', 'Je Haan Ni Karni', 'Putt Sardaran De', 'Lakh Laanhta', 'Viah Da Chaa', 'Jatt Jaan Vaarda', 'Gusse Ho Ke Nahiyo Sarna', 'Jatti Hadd Sekhdi', 'Gunday Ik Vaar Fer', 'Peg Paun Wele', 'Gedi Route', 'Shona Shona', and 'Habit'. She also has 'Sab First Class' in the pipeline. **IANS**





Ektaa calls brother Tusshar her 'guide and support' in a heartfelt birthday post



Producer Ektaa Kapoor took to social media to celebrate her brother Tusshar Kapoor's birthday with a heartfelt message.

In her post, she described him as her "guide and support," highlighting the special bond they share. Taking to her Instagram handle, Ektaa posted a heartwarming video featuring their cherished memories. She captioned it, "Happy birthday to the best boy, I know! You are my guide, you're my support ! May you get everything you want in life! Loveeeeee uuuuuuuuuuuu." The doting sister added the track 'Rabba Mere Rabba' from Tusshar's debut film "Mujhe Kucch Kehna Hai" as background score for the video.

The video montage showcases Ektaa Kapoor's heartwarming moments with her brother Tusshar Kapoor over the years. It captures their family outings, gatherings, and candid family photos, including special moments shared with his son, Laksshya Kapoor. The compilation beautifully reflects the close bond and cherished memories they have created together. Tusshar Kapoor turned 48th on November 20. He made his acting debut in 2001 with "Mujhe Kucch Kehna Hai" opposite Kareena Kapoor, a film that became a blockbuster and earned him the Filmfare Award for Best Male Debut. His initial projects, including "Kyaa Dil Ne Kahaa", "Jeena Sirf Mere Liye," and "Kuch To Hai," failed to make a mark. **IANS**

Kalyani Priyadarshan's next, a women-centric film, goes on floors

Actress Kalyani Priyadarshan, who is basking in the success of her latest release, 'Lokah', has now begun work on her next project which sources close to the unit say is a women-centric film.

The film, which is being directed by debutant director Thiraviyam S. N., is being produced by well known production house Potential Studios. The film, which went on floors recently, is the production house's seventh venture following six consecutive critically acclaimed and commercially successful films such as 'Maya', 'Maanagaram', 'Monster', 'Taanakkaran', 'Irugapatru', and 'Black'.

The yet-to-be-titled film features Kalyani Priyadarshan in the lead role. The fact that Kalyani, who has just delivered a pan-Indian blockbuster, has teamed up with a production house with a reputation for delivering hits has triggered huge expectations from this film.

Apart from Kalyani Priyadarshan, the film will also star Devadarshini and Vinoth Kishan of 'Naan Mahaan Alla' fame in pivotal roles.

Sources close to the unit say that the team intends to shoot the entire film in a single stretch.

"The team has begun shooting the film in Chennai, where a major portion is to be shot. If possible, they might shoot the entire film in Chennai," the source adds.

The film boasts of a strong technical team. Pravin Bhasker and Sree Kumar have written the screenplay and dialogues along with the director of the film.

Music for the film has been composed by one of Tamil industry's fastest rising music directors Justin Prabhakaran. Cinematography for the film will be handled by well known cinematographer Gokul Benoy. Aral R. Thangam has been roped in to serve as the editor of this film for which Mayapandi has been appointed as the production designer. Costumes for the film are to be designed by Inaz Farhan and Sher Ali.

The film is being produced by S.R. Prakash Babu, S.R. Prabu, P. Gopinath, and Thangaprabaharan R under the Potential Studios banner.



NEWSBRIEFS

RS MP Dr Ashok Kumar Mittal announces Student Entrepreneurship push

CHANDIGARH: Dr Ashok Kumar Mittal, AAP RS MP and LPU Founder-Chancellor, announced a Rs 25 lakh Entrepreneurship Competition at the 68th Association of Schools for the Indian School Certificate (ASISC) Conference, offering Rs 5 lakh and mentorship to each of the top five student teams. Speaking to the gathering, Dr. Mittal said that Entrepreneurship today is a mindset, not a profession. It must begin in classrooms, as confidence, curiosity and the freedom to try. **BPE**

Jindal Stainless targets training and upskilling 5 lakh+ MSMEs by 2030

HISAR: India's stainless steel industry, poised to grow 8-9% YoY over the next few years, stands at the threshold of a major transformation driven by accelerated demand and rapid innovation. As the sector evolves, the need for a skilled, future-ready workforce has never been more crucial. Aligned with national initiatives like Make in India and Skill India, Jindal Stainless, India's largest stainless steel producer, is leading this transformation through its Stainless Academy. The initiative empowers students, young professionals, and MSMEs (including fabricators) at the grassroots level with category awareness and future-ready skills, strengthening the value chain and driving sustainable growth across the industry. **BPE**

Edelweiss Life reports its highest-ever claim settlement ratio

CHANDIGARH: Edelweiss Life Insurance reported its highest-ever Claim Settlement Ratio of 99.29% in FY25. The claim settlement ratio measures the percentage of death claims paid out versus total claims received, serving as a key indicator of an insurer's reliability and commitment to policyholders. Sumit Rai, MD & CEO, Edelweiss Life Insurance said, "Our moment of truth is when families need us most. Over the years, we have continuously refined our processes, simplified claim procedures, and equipped our teams to provide compassionate guidance during what can be an overwhelming time." **BPE**

Cadila Pharmaceuticals launches Rosmi F tablet

CHANDIGARH: Cadila Pharmaceuticals launched Rosmi F, a fixed-dose combination of Rosuvastatin and Fenofibrate. This innovative therapy has been introduced to address the unmet clinical need in patients suffering from mixed dyslipidemia, a condition marked by elevated low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol and triglyceride levels that significantly increase cardiovascular risk. In view of the rising incidence of lifestyle-related disorders such as diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular diseases, Rosmi F provides a comprehensive lipid management solution that targets multiple lipid parameters simultaneously. BPE

Axis Mutual Fund launches Axis Multi-Asset Active FoF

LUDHIANA: Axis Mutual Fund, one of India's leading asset management companies, announced the launch of the Axis Multi-Asset Active Fund of Fund (FoF), an open-ended fund of funds scheme investing in units of equity-oriented and debt-oriented mutual fund schemes and commodity-based ETFs. The New Fund Offer (NFO) will open for subscription on November 21, and close on December 5. Speaking on the launch, B Gopkumar, MD & CEO, Axis AMC, said, "Axis Mutual Fund remains committed to democratizing investments through innovative solutions that empower investors to make informed decisions." BPE

GE Aerospace to invest USD 14 million to expand Pune Manufacturing Capability

LUDHIANA: GE Aerospace has announced a USD 14 million investment to expand capacity at the company's Pune manufacturing facility as the site completes a decade of successful operations. This investment builds upon the USD 30 million announced last year. The new investment will strengthen the site's capabilities through upgraded manufacturing processes and automation, including enhancements that support advanced engine components. "Our team in Pune has built strong capabilities, and with the support of a country-wide network of suppliers, has delivered components for some of our most advanced commercial jet engines, with safety and quality at the forefront," said Vishwajit Singh, Managing Director of the Pune facility, GE Aerospace. **BPE**

FM Sitharaman holds consultations across sectors in run-up to Budget 2026-27

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday held consultations here with representatives of trade unions and labour organisations as part of the groundwork in the run-up to the Union Budget 2026-27, which will be presented on February 1.

The meeting is part of the ministry's annual stakeholder engagement process, where labour bodies present their concerns on wages, social security, employment generation, and worker welfare ahead of the Budget.

Similar pre-budget discussions have been held with representatives of other sectors as well in recent days, such as banking, hospitality, IT and start-ups, according to officials. Intensive discussions have also been held on pushing growth and creating more jobs and incomes in the agriculture, MSME and manufacturing sectors.

The session with labour unions was also attended by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, senior officials from the Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and the Chief Economic Adviser.

On Wednesday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held pre-budget consultations with top leaders of the IT sector, as the industry is facing global uncertainties in the US, its largest market, due to visa restrictions and the increase in H-1B visa costs as part of Trump's America First policy.

The discussions also centred around building computing capacities in India, to scaling up skilling initiatives with dramatic change that is sweeping across the IT sector due to the AI wave.

The meeting was attended by industry honchos, including Preeti Lobana, Vice President and Country Manager at Google India; Rajesh Varrie, President – Operations, Chairman and Managing Director of Cognizant India; Sindhu Gangadharan, Chairperson of industry body Nasscom, and Managing Director of SAP Labs India, among others.

The Finance Ministry's consultations with CEOs of startups took place on Tuesday. Aman Gupta, co-founder of BoAt, said in a post on LinkedIn that he shared his thoughts on ESOP taxation reform and how simplifying it can unlock wealth creation at every level for team members and future builders.

"For the first time, startups were invited to this platform, and it truly felt like a big moment for the ecosystem. Grateful to represent our founder community," he remarked. **IANS**

Core sector growth stays flat in October

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



The combined Index of Eight Core Industries remained unchanged at 162.4 in October this year as compared to the index in the same month last year.

The production of fertiliser, steel, cement and petroleum refinery products recorded positive growth during the month, according to a statement issued by the Commerce and Industry Ministry on Thursday.

Steel production increased by 6.7 per cent in October compared to the same month of the previous year on the back of increased demand from big-ticket infrastructure projects being carried out by the government.

The cumulative growth of steel during April to October, 2025-26, increased by a robust 10.3 per cent over the same period of the previous year.

Cement production increased by 5.3 per cent in October this year compared to the same month last year as demand in large infrastructure and construction projects picked up.

Its cumulative index increased by 7.3 per cent during April to October 2025-26 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

Fertiliser production rose by 7.4 per cent in October compared with the same month of the previous year. Its cumulative index increased by 0.7 per cent during April to October, 2025-26, over the corresponding period of the previous year.

Petroleum refinery products such as petrol, diesel and LPG increased by 4.6 per cent in October over the same month of the previous year. However, crude oil production fell by 1.2 per cent during the month while natural gas output declined by 5 per cent. Coal production declined by 8.5 per cent during the month.

Electricity generation declined by 7.6 per cent in October this year compared with the same month last year. Its cumulative index fell by 0.1 per cent during April to October, 2025-26, over the corresponding period of the previous year.

The final growth rate of the index of eight core industries for September this year has been revised upwards to 3.3 per cent from 3 per cent earlier. The cumulative growth rate of ICI during April to October, 2025-26 is 2.5 per cent compared to the corresponding period of last year.

The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) measures the combined and individual performance of the production of eight core industries, viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilisers, Steel, Cement and Electricity. The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 per cent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). **IANS**

Google announces anti-scam tools, AI safety efforts for kids, elderly users in India

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



Technology major Google on Thursday outlined a broad safety-first road map for India that puts children, teenagers and older adults at the centre of its Artificial Intelligence (AI) protection efforts.

The US tech giant unveiled on-device real-time anti-scam tools, text watermarking and digital-literacy programmes to make AI safer and more inclusive for users.

Scam Detection, powered by Gemini Nano, will be rolled out on Pixel phones to analyse calls in real time and flag potential scams entirely on-device, without recording audio, transcripts or sharing data with Google, the release by the firm said.

The Scam Detection feature is off by default, applies only to calls from unknown numbers (not saved contacts), emits a beep to notify participants, and can be turned off by the user, it added.

Google also said it is broadening the availability of SynthID Detector and releasing the SynthID text watermarking tool as an open-source component of its Responsible GenAI Toolkit. The watermarking technology helps partners identify AI-generated images and audio.

It also announced a grant of $2 lakh to CyberPeace Foundation in India to support capacity building and deliver AI-driven cyber-defence tools to fight fraud and scams, create safer digital learning environments for children and teens, and strengthen responsible governance aligned with the IndiaAI Mission.

The US company also announced $1 million to five leading think tanks and universities across APAC (Asia-Pacific) to conduct essential research and foster meaningful dialogue on the opportunities and challenges of AI.

"In India, where the digital economy is booming, we are building AI systems that are designed to keep user trust intact as India transitions to AI," said Evan Kotsovinos, Vice President, Privacy, Safety and Security, Google. "We are taking a 360-degree approach to safety, combining on-product and on-Cloud protections, digital literacy to empower users with knowledge and awareness," said Preeti Lobana, Country Manager, Google India. **IANS**

India has the potential to reach $500 billion electronics output by 2030

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20

India's electronics sector could scale up to $500 billion in production and exports by 2030 as the country's expanding global footprint is being strengthened by new free trade agreements (FTAs), investor-friendly reforms and a rising shift toward manufacturing-led growth.

According to industry associations, India is increasingly positioning itself for deeper integration into global value chains as companies ramp up investments and diversify their supply bases. Their outlook comes at a time when India has already undergone a massive transformation over the last decade.

Once heavily dependent on imported electronic goods, the country has now emerged as a major hub for electronics and mobile manufacturing. Meanwhile, the Indian government has begun working with smartphone companies to shape the next phase of the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme The aim is to increase the share of locally made components in smartphones and key electronics to 35–40 per cent over the next few years.

According to the government, 24 electronics component projects approved under the current scheme -- along with new investments expected under ECMS 2.0 -- will play a major role in boosting domestic value addition. Industry executives point out that this momentum is supported by stable policy frameworks, improved infrastructure, and the growing willingness of global brands to manufacture in India. **IANS**

India's valuations offer value compared to Chinese equities: Report

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



India's valuations offer value as compared to Chinese equities as the nation is currently the largest underweight in Global Emerging Market (GEM) portfolios from the Asia region, with only a quarter of tracked funds holding overweight positions, a report said on Thursday.

Despite strong interest in the region's AI supply chain — particularly in Taiwan and South Korea, Asia's equity story is poised for a rotation toward markets offering broader value and earnings visibility, with India standing out prominently. "India is currently the biggest underweight in GEM portfolios; only a quarter of the funds we track are overweight India. And after recent underperformance, we think India's valuations offer value as compared to Chinese equities," HSBC Global Research said in its report.

According to the report, Indian earnings are expected to recover meaningfully, supported by expanding bank margins, easing interest rates, and stronger consumption. Consumer-driven sectors, including autos, are also set to benefit from lower borrowing costs and potential GST adjustments, the report said.

Indonesia is another market expected to gain traction among investors.

Government policy support has increased, and monetary conditions are set to become more accommodative in 2026. The report said that there could be a sharp earnings rebound in the country, with consensus estimates pointing to growth improving from 7 per cent in 2025 to 11 per cent in 2026. **IANS**

Nifty-500 earnings grow 15 pc in Q2, led by oil and gas stocks

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 20

Aggregate earnings of companies in the Nifty-500 universe grew 15 per cent in Q2 FY26, the highest in five quarters, despite geopolitical headwinds and weak consumption trends, a report said on Thursday.

Oil and Gas stocks, led by OMCs, contributed significantly to this surge with their EBITDA and PAT up 48 per cent and 59 per cent, the report from brokerage Motilal Oswal Financial Services (MOFSL) said.

Excluding metals, oil and gas stocks, aggregate earnings of the Nifty 500 universe grew only 9 per cent (on-year).

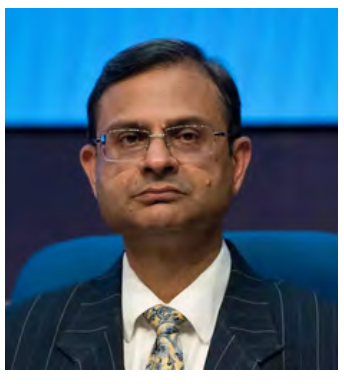
Excluding financial stocks, the Nifty 500 universe reported aggregate earnings up 20 per cent YoY. The sales, EBITDA and adjusted PAT grew to about Rs 35 trillion, Rs 8 trillion, and Rs 4 trillion, respectively, up 8 per cent, 12 per cent and 15 per cent year-on-year.

Corporate earnings were reasonably broad-based as earnings of NBFCs rose 21 per cent; metals gained 18 per cent; cement surged 211 per cent; capital goods grew 30 per cent; telecom moved from loss to profit; retail advanced 32 per cent, and real estate went up 22 per cent.

Cement reported its second strong quarter after weak prior quarters as its sales and EBITDA rose 18 per cent and 49 per cent YoY, respectively, with reported earnings up 3.1 times YoY. Chemicals and consumer durables recorded strong growth on a soft base, while automobiles fell 16 per cent, private banks slipped 3 per cent and media dropped 10 per cent. **IANS**

RBI's foremost priority is to ensure financial stability: Reserve Bank Guv

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 20



Reserve Bank Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Thursday said that the foremost priority of the RBI is to ensure financial stability in the system, and it was working to simplify regulatory requirements where possible while maintaining necessary safeguards and guardrails.

In his address at the VKRV Rao Memorial Lecture in the Delhi School of Economics, Malhotra further stated that the RBI is vigilant, alert to emerging risks and evolving conditions.

"We do realise that short-term growth can be achieved at the cost of financial stability, but financial instability can have much bigger consequences for the long run; they can have much more losses than the gains achieved due to the short term," Malhotra pointed out.

He said while financial stability remains the bedrock, there are other objectives, such as prudential aspects of liquidity and capital requirements to ensure the safety and the soundness of financial operation in the interest of all the stakeholders, which may or may not have financial stability implications.

Secondly, conduct related measures for consumer protection, assistance in law enforcement, for example, money laundering, and that's an issue which has engaged our attention, the RBI Governor observed.

He attributed the recent depreciation in the rupee to the higher demand for the US dollar.

Highlighting that the movement in the rupee is a result of market forces, he said, "We do not target any level. Why is the rupee depreciating? It is because of the demand...It's a financial instrument, and there is a demand for dollars, and if the demand for dollars goes up, the rupee depreciates; if the demand for rupee goes up, the dollar comes down, then it appreciates."

The RBI Governor also underscored that India's foreign exchange reserves are healthy and provide ample protection. He said the Reserve Bank has "very good" buffers of forex reserves and there is no reason to be concerned about the external sector.

In answer to a question on the depreciation of the rupee, Malhotra said the pressure is largely trade-related and influenced by US tariff developments. He expressed confidence that India will secure a good trade deal with the United States, which would ease the pressure on the country's current account balance and the rupee.

"The recent pressure on the rupee may come off when India and the United States agree on a trade deal. We are confident there will be a good trade deal with the US going forward," he said.

On Thursday, the rupee fell by 23 paise to close at 88.71 against the US dollar.

In response to another question on the performance of domestic banks, Malhotra said the outlook for the Indian banking sector is strong. "The way Indian banks are performing, very soon a few of them will be among the top 100 global lenders," he remarked. **IANS**

SPORTS

SITANSHU KOTAK
"IF THERE IS A DOUBT, THEN I AM SURE HE WILL REST FOR ONE MORE GAME BECAUSE IT WON'T HELP THE TEAM OTHERWISE. A PLAYER LIKE SHUBMAN, AND HE'S THE CAPTAIN SO ANY TEAM WOULD MISS HIM."

Gill set to undergo fitness test today but unlikely to play 2nd Test

GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 20



India captain Shubman Gill, who has not trained due to a neck spasm sustained during the first Test against South Africa, will undergo a fitness test on Friday in a last-ditch attempt to be available for the second game, batting coach Sitanshu Kotak has indicated.

Gill developed the spasm on the second day of the opening Test in Kolkata that India lost by 30 runs and hasn't returned to the nets ever since.

While his chances remain slim, the BCCI sports science team is waiting as long as possible before taking a final call. The second and final Test begins on Saturday.

"See, he is definitely recovering really well, because I also met him yesterday," Kotak said ahead of a practice session that Gill skipped.

"Now, the decision will be taken tomorrow evening, because the physios and doctors have to decide whether, even if he is fully recovered, there's a chance of the spasm recurring during the match. That is very important."

"If there is a doubt, then I am sure he will rest for one more game because it won't help the team otherwise. A player like Shubman, and he's the captain so any team would miss him," Kotak added.

While acknowledging the impact of Gill's absence, Kotak expressed confidence in the bench strength.

"But if he is missing out because of injury, we have batters and plenty of good players. They are professionals; they should come and perform for the team," Kotak said.

"We all wish he plays, but if he doesn't, we will definitely have a good replacement and maybe the guy coming in will score a hundred."

In the first Test in Kolkata, Dhruv Jurel batted at No. 4 in the second innings, and Kotak did not rule out that option again, though he stressed that combinations would only be discussed after Gill's fitness test.

"Jurel batted at No. 4, so he is one option. But until we know about Shubman, there is no point discussing who will play," he said.

"Once we know, and once we see the wicket tomorrow, we will think about the best combination."

Kotak summed up the significance of Gill's absence in the first Test with pointed clarity.

"In the last game, nobody discussed much about what our chances would have been had Shubman batted in both innings," he said.

"The second innings may not have even mattered. If in the first innings he had batted and we had one partnership, with a 100-run lead, we would have been fine. That's not an excuse, but a reality that he couldn't bat in two innings."

It is learnt that Gill probably needs 10 days to fully recover and then complete his rehabilitation to be match-ready. But if he plays the Test match, the logical step for the selectors would be to rest him from the three-match ODI series against the Proteas starting November 30 in Ranchi. PTI

Everyone blaming Gambhir, it feels like agenda sometimes: Kotak

GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 20



India's batting coach Sitanshu Kotak is livid with the criticism that has been directed towards head coach Gautam Gambhir after India's defeat to South Africa in the opening Test and he feels some of it is by people with vested interests.

The 30-run defeat in Kolkata was India's fourth Test loss at home in the last one year under Gambhir's stewardship.

"'Gautam Gambhir, Gautam Gambhir' (criticism) is being done. I am saying this because I am a staff and I feel bad. That's not the way," Kotak said on Thursday ahead of the second Test starting on Saturday.

He said the criticism is sometimes agenda-driven.

"Maybe some people individually have agendas. Good luck to them, but it is very bad," the former Saurashtra left hander said.

Gambhir has drawn flak for defending the pitch used for the opening Test in Kolkata where India lost despite being in pursuit of a rather modest 124. The head coach had criticised his batters for not being able to adapt.

The rank turner, on which spinners did the most damage, ensured that the game ended inside three days and Gambhir went on to insist that the surface was exactly what the team management had asked for.

The statement was in complete contrast to skipper Shubman Gill's assertion a few weeks ago that his team was looking towards playing on more sporting surfaces at home.

What surprised Kotak was people not questioning anyone other than Gambhir.

"No one is saying that this batsman did this, this bowler did that, or we can do something different in batting," Kotak said referring to the batting collapse that led to the rather embarrassing loss.

Kotak lauded Gambhir for admitting upfront that he wanted such a wicket and the curator did his best to ensure that team's requests were accommodated.

"See, in the last match wicket, Gautam said that he took all the blame on himself. He said that he took the blame because he felt that he should not put the blame on the curators," he said.

While admitting that South Africa were a better side on the same track that was available for both teams, Kotak also pointed out the aspects in which the hosts came second best.

"When a batsman is going into batting, if we tell him to play aggressive, if we tell him to run fast, that won't be right. So, we talk to the players that you make a plan, take your little time," he explained.

"It's not like if you go around with the first ball, you will get hit. That is also visible. When a person plays aggressive, that is also visible. But, you take your own time.

"Every player has a certain time. He starts feeling comfortable. I feel on such wickets, you rather play busy cricket than defensive cricket with the correct footwork," Kotak, who was a good player of spinners in the domestic circuit, said. Kotak feels a shift in mindset and technique has happened in the last 15 years with more T20s being played. PTI

England desperate to end Ashes drought in Australia when series starts today

PERTH, NOVEMBER 20



The build-up to the Ashes series starting Friday began at the end of July 2023 following one of the more acrimonious test cricket series between England and Australia.

Ben Stokes and his England lineup won that test at The Oval in South London but it wasn't enough to reclaim the Ashes from the Aussies, who won the first two tests and drew the fourth in a five-match series to retain the old urn.

Cue to Perth Stadium, Day 1 of a possible 25 spanning seven weeks and five cities. There are some big questions in play.

Can an aging, understrength Australia continue an unbeaten run in home Ashes tests that dates to the 2010-11 series? Can Stokes inspire an end to that long drought for England?

Can Joe Root, the world's No. 1-ranked test batter, finally post an Ashes century in Australia? Stokes knows the record: 13 losses, two draws and no wins in England's last 15 tests Down Under. He's thinking more about the 2010-11 squad that beat the Australians 3-1.

"I've come here absolutely desperate to get home on that plane in January as one of the lucky few captains from England who have come here and been successful," he said. "A lot has been spoken of about the history and how it has gone for England this is our chance to create our own."

In a bid to break the drought, England is likely to start a pair of express pace bowlers in conditions expected to suit them. Jofra Archer is primed to do well in Australia and 35-year-old Mark Wood recovered from a minor hamstring strain to be including in the 12-man match squad for the first test.

"He's flying," Stokes said of Wood, who took 17 wickets in the last Ashes series in Australia. "He's had all his injury troubles and all that kind of stuff ... but he's been bowling for a long, long time. AP

SQUADS:
Australia: Jack Weatherald, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Steve Smith (captain), Travis Head, Cameron Green, Alex Carey, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Lyon, Brendan Doggett, Scott Boland.
England (from): Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (captain), Jamie Smith, Brydon Carse, Gus Atkinson, Jofra Archer, Mark Wood, Shoaib Bashir.

Playing in all formats for India is a luxury: Kuldeep Yadav

GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 20



India left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav has acknowledged that playing all three formats "is a luxury" but an attacking mindset has kept him relevant in the face of stiff competition.

Kuldeep returned home from Australia mid-way through a five-match T20I series to prepare for the South Africa Tests and made a decent impact in Kolkata, taking four wickets despite the hosts losing by 30 runs.

With 342 wickets across formats, Kuldeep's utility cannot be understated and he wants to continue focusing on match fitness in order to remain relevant in the longest format of the game, if not all.

"Obviously, you want to play in all formats, but if you get a chance to play Test cricket, you enjoy it. Playing in all formats for India is a luxury," Kuldeep said on JioStar's 'Follow The Blues'. "Everyone loves Test cricket. It's a format that everyone enjoys, but it's also very challenging. The next 4-5 years are very important for me in Test cricket, so I will focus on maintaining my fitness and keep performing like this," he added.

Kuldeep added that he has clarity about his role and the support of the team management, which helps him go in matches with an attacking mindset. "I am very clear as an attacking bowler, I know my role over the years. The coach and the captain have given me a lot of clarity and support. I always keep an attacking mindset and bowl accordingly. That's my job; taking wickets. That's how they (coaches) look at me."

India pacer Mohammed Siraj said competing against tough teams like South Africa helps players learn and gain confidence. "When you're playing against a good team, and you're bowling against good batsmen and taking their wickets, you get a lot of confidence. Because when you play against a strong team, you quickly realise where you're making a mistake.

"So, it's good that I'm playing against a team like South Africa. It's a lot of fun," said Siraj. With early sunrise and sunset in the northeast region around this time of the year, the Guwahati Test will see tea being taken before the lunch break to maximise daylight hours and complete the required quota of overs.

It's a routine in day-night Tests, but the BCCI took the decision for a day Test owing to the fast fading light in north-east parts of the country.

South Africa batter Aiden Markram said while it would be an "interesting" departure from the norm, he was not the biggest fan of the concept.

"It's interesting. I'm not the biggest fan of it, to be honest. I think Test cricket should always start at 10 a.m. with lunch followed by tea. But those are the cards you're dealt, and you just get on with it. It'll be something different to experience, but hopefully, it doesn't become a common thing." PTI

If they cut more grass, it will make a difference: Pied Botha

GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 20



South Africa's bowling coach Piet Botha feels the wicket at the Barsapara Stadium will be much better for batting but he is interested in knowing if the Indian curators will be shaving off the liberal covering of grass from the red soil track.

The second and final Test starts here from Saturday with India trailing 0-1 after the defeat on a challenging Eden Gardens pitch in Kolkata.

"As far as the pitch is concerned, obviously I had a look at it this morning, it's still two days to go. So it's difficult to predict if they will actually shave off more grass or not. That will obviously make a difference," Botha said during an interaction with media ahead of the Test.

"But what we have heard is that it seems to be a good batting track up front, and spin comes into picture late. But we'll have to wait and see, maybe it starts earlier, and what the previous Test turned out to be," Botha, who has 217 first-class wickets, said.

Botha believed that with a 9 am start, which is 30 minutes earlier than the standard start time for Test matches in India, the new ball will have a big role due to the underlying moisture.

"The game's starting at 9 o'clock, obviously it will be a little bit cooler. It's quite hot at night, but obviously there will be a bit more moisture, so I think in terms of the first hour, the new ball should play a role. For how long, we are not sure, we'll have to see," he said.

"If the wicket is good to bat on, then batting first is a good option, but if the track is like the one in Kolkata, then it hardly matters," he added. "If the ball starts turning from day one, sometimes it (batting first) doesn't really play a role, because it becomes a low-scoring game, like the last one, and then sort of batting first, second, doesn't play as big a role." PTI

Spain, Belgium, Switzerland seal 2026 World Cup spots

SEVILLE, NOVEMBER 20





Spain secured their place at the 2026 World Cup after a nervy 2-2 draw with Turkey in Seville on Tuesday, finishing unbeaten at the top of Group E despite being given a genuine scare by their resilient visitors.

The European champions took an early lead through Dani Olmo in the fourth minute but Turkey, who needed an almost impossible seven-goal victory to claim the group, managed to equalise through Deniz Gul in the 42nd minute.

Turkey then stunned the home crowd by taking the lead in the 54th minute thanks to a Salih Ozcan strike from the edge of the box.

However, Mikel Oyarzabal levelled the match eight minutes later to avoid what would have been Spain's first home defeat in a qualifier and Turkey had to settle for a place in the playoffs for next year's finals in North America.

"We didn't celebrate as euphorically as we would have liked. We wanted to finish with another win and another clean sheet. It's a bittersweet feeling... But we're happy to have qualified for the World Cup," Olmo told TVE.

"They've created chances and so have we. We could have scored a few more goals. We need to improve on set pieces. We're keen, but first there's the next international break in March. There'll be time to prepare."

Spain began brightly despite the absence of key players such as Lamine Yamal, Rodri, Dani Carvajal, Pedri, and Dean Huijsen.

They took the lead in the fourth minute after Marc Cucurella delivered a low cross from the left flank, which Fabian Ruiz dummied, allowing Olmo to manoeuvre past a defender before driving the ball into the net.

Spain almost added to their advantage with Olmo testing Turkish goalkeeper Altay Bayindir twice in quick succession from the edge of the box.

Turkey, who had barely threatened, woke up in the 42nd minute. Baris Alper Yilmaz outmuscled Aymeric Laporte to flick on a corner, with Gul ghosting past the Spanish defence to slide the ball beyond Unai Simon. It was the first goal Spain had conceded in their World Cup qualifying campaign. AGENCIES

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Shetty sets up Sen clash in quarters

SYDNEY, NOVEMBER 20



Young shuttler Ayush Shetty and former World championships bronze medallist Lakshya Sen advanced in the Australian Open in contrasting fashion to set up an all-Indian quarterfinal clash, while senior pros HS Prannoy and Kidambi Srikanth made early exits, in Sydney, on Thursday.

The top-seeded Indian men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty too made it to the last-eight with an easy 21-18, 21-11 victory against Chinese-Taipei's Su Ching Heng and Wu Guan Xun in 37 minutes.

Shetty, winner of the Yonex US Open Super 300 tournament earlier this year, defeated fourth-seeded Naraoka 21-17, 21-16 in a contest lasting 68 minutes. This was his second win over the World No 9 Japanese this year to set up a quarter-final showdown with compatriot Lakshya Sen, who overcame Chinese-Taipei's Chi Yu Jen 21-17, 13-21, 21-13 in a contest that lasted 63 minutes.

However, Prannoy, who has not advanced beyond the pre-quarterfinals this year, could not keep up with eighth seed and former junior World champion Indonesian Farhan Alwi, losing 19-21, 10-21 in 42 minutes in the US$ 475,000 Super 500 event.

On Wednesday, the 33-year-old Prannoy, an Asian Games bronze-medallist and a 2023 World Championships bronze winner, had been stretched by World No. 85 Yohanes Saut Marcellyno before the Indian won 6-21 21-12 21-17. PTI

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