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SATURDAY | 25 MAY 2024



Officials check poll material at a distribution centre in Rajouri. P71

## Khattar, Maneka, Mehbooba's fate to be sealed today

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, MAY 24**  
Voting is scheduled to take place for 58 seats in the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections tomorrow. Among these seats, 31 are for general category candidates, six for SCs and five for STs.

The polling will take place in eight states and union territories — Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Jammu and Kashmir. Polling for 42 Assembly constituencies in Odisha will also take place simultaneously.

Of these 58 seats, the BJP had won 36 in 2019, while its allies — the JDU, the LJP and the All Jharkhand Students Union — had won eight in Bihar and Jharkhand, taking the NDA's tally

### VOTING FOR 58 SEATS IN PHASE-6

TOTAL VOTERS  
**11.13 CRORE**

MALE	FEMALE
<b>5.84 CR</b>	<b>5.29 CR</b>

to 44. The Congress could not win any of these seats.

Polling in the sixth phase is scheduled to be held for seven seats in Delhi, 10 seats in Haryana, eight seats each in Bihar and West Bengal, four seats in Jharkhand, 14 seats in Uttar Pradesh and six seats in Odisha. Voting will also be held for the Anantnag seat in Jammu and Kashmir.

Of the over 11.13 voters who are eligible to exercise their franchise in the sixth

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## Jharuwale now drug dealers, had vowed to wipe out menace in two months: Modi

Says Congress protected 1984 anti-Sikh rioters, whereas his govt got their files opened

APARNA BANERJI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, MAY 24

"Jharuwale nashe ke wholesale vyapari hain (AAP leadership itself is mired in illicit drug trade)," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at an election rally here this evening as he targeted the ruling party in Punjab.

"They had said they will finish the illicit drug trade within two months after coming to power. Instead of rooting out the menace, their leaders themselves have taken to the trade," said PM Modi as he took a dig at the Aam Aadmi Party, which has 'jharu' (broom) as its poll symbol.

The PM claimed the drug mafia was having a free run while innumerable families



### 'ANTI-KANGANA BARBS INSULT TO HP WOMEN'

MANDI: Accusing the Congress of being 'beti virodhi' (anti-daughters), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday exhorted the people to punish the Congress for making derogatory remarks against actress Kangana Ranaut, which was an insult of not just to Chhoti Kashi (Mandi), but to the entire Himachal Pradesh. **REPORT INSIDE**

<< Prime Minister Narendra Modi with BJP candidate Kangana Ranaut in Mandi on Friday. P71

were suffering. "Why won't those who benefited from the Delhi liquor scam reap similar profits from the illicit drug trade in Punjab? The Congress

imposed Emergency and AAP is going the Congress way... both parties have a common ideology. Any vote for either of these will be a vote against

Punjab," he said. Calling Punjab the face of the country, the PM said the Congress recognised the state only as "a piece of land". "The Congress

allowed Punjab's division to ensure one family stays in power... Kartarpur was gifted

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

EDIT: MODI IN PUNJAB



Detained farmers being taken on a bus from the rally area in Gurdaspur's Dinanagar to Bhaini Mian Khan village, 60 km away. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## Ahead of PM's rallies in Gurdaspur, Jalandhar, cops detain angry farmers

RAVI DHALIWAL & APARNA BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GURDASPUR/JALANDHAR, MAY 24

Hours before PM Narendra Modi was to reach Dinanagar, the Punjab Police cracked down on agitating farmers and arrested more than 50 of them from Paniyar village focal point, just 2 km away from the rally site.

### Crackdown as farm activists vowed to show black flags to Modi

The farmers had announced protests in Gurdaspur and Jalandhar where the PM was to address gatherings in support of BJP candidates. Sources said the police

took the preventive action to avoid the repeat of security lapse during the PM's visit to Ferozepur in January 2022.

In Gurdaspur, the police raided the houses of top farmer union leaders late on Thursday night and in the early hours of Friday. Most of them, however, managed to give cops the slip after they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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### Army Chief retiring in week, govt yet to name successor

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

The Army Chief, General Manoj Pande, will superannuate on May 31, but the government is yet to name his successor. Normally, a successor for the Army Chief is named a couple of weeks in advance.

Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh and Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani are the three seniormost officers. Lt General Dwivedi is the Vice-Chief, Lt General Singh heads the Southern Command and Lt General Subramani the Central Command.

Lt General Dwivedi and Lt General Singh are batchmates but the former is senior as per the commissioning seniority, that is when they passed out from the military academy. — TNS

Today's issue is of 22 pages, including four-page Delhi Tribune.



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PBRERA-SAS79-PI0020

# Fate of 223 LS poll nominees to be sealed today

BJP, Cong locked in direct battle in most seats; outcome likely to set tone for Assembly elections

GEETANJALI GAYATRI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 24

It is BJP versus the Congress in the high-voltage electoral battle for the 10 Lok Sabha constituencies of Haryana, besides the bypoll in the Karnal Assembly segment, which go to the polls tomorrow.

The high-stakes battle will decide the fate of 223 candidates, including top leaders like former CM Manohar Lal Khattar, Union ministers Rao Inderjit Singh and Krishan Pal Gurjar, Congress' Kumari Selja and Deepender Hooda.

The campaign, which saw farmers' protests against BJP candidates, witnessed aggressive touring by Central leaders, especially of the BJP, including PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah while Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and AAP's Arvind Kejriwal and Bhagwant Mann also rallied behind their candidates.

While the BJP, which won all 10 seats in 2019, is seeking a repeat performance, the Congress, banking on anti-incumbency, is hoping to gain ground. The Lok Sabha results assume special importance in the state since the outcome will set



the tone for the Assembly poll scheduled for October. Karnal has emerged as the "most-watched" seat, where Khattar is pitted against first-timer Divyanshu Budhiraja (Congress) and the CM is contesting a bypoll against Congress candidate Trilochan Singh.

In Rohtak, the stakes are high for the BJP. Most of its top leaders held programmes to campaign for MP Arvind Sharma while Rajya Sabha MP Deepender Hooda focused on micro-management to reach out to voters.

Two former Congress

state chiefs—Kumari Selja, the Dalit face of the Congress, and Ashok Tanwar, who joined the BJP just before the poll—are locked in an interesting contest in Sirsa. This is particularly important for the Congress since Selja represents the Hooda detractor camp. A

win could establish a parallel power centre in the state Congress.

In Gurugram, Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh faces Congress candidate Raj Babbar while in Faridabad, the battle between Union minister Krishan Pal Gurjar and Mahendra

Pratap (Congress) was evoked interest.

AAP's Sushil Gupta, the only INDIA bloc candidate in Haryana, is contesting from Kurukshetra. He has a direct fight with BJP's Naveen Jindal, a former Congressman. However, INLD's Abhay Singh Chautala could play a spoiler for him since the Congress and INLD rely heavily on the farmer vote bank.

In Hisar, it is a "family" election, where Power Minister Ranjit Singh, an Independent MLA who joined the BJP ahead of the poll, is pitted against two members of the Chautala clan—JJP's Naina Chautala and INLD's Sunaina Chautala. The Congress has fielded Hooda loyalist Jai Prakash, who was once closely associated with the Chautalas.

The Bhiwani-Mahendragarh seat is witnessing a close contest between Congress' Ahir face, Rao Dan Singh, and Jat leader and sitting MP Dharamvir Singh. While Rahul raised the campaign pitch for Dan Singh, Modi held a rally in support of the BJP candidate.

While the BJP and the Congress are contesting for onepmanship and hoping to set the ball rolling for the Assembly poll, the INLD and JJP are struggling to stay afloat.

# In Rohtak, it is Modi's magic vs Hooda's charisma

RAVINDER SAINI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, MAY 24

Many national and regional issues were raised by BJP and Congress candidates in Rohtak, but at the end of campaigning, the elections have turned into a battleground between "Modi's magic" and "Hooda's charisma".

The BJP leaders sought votes in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi while their counterparts in the Congress party highlighted the development undertaken during its regime led by Bhupinder Hooda.

"It's a contest to elect the Central government, and Modi is our party's face. However, the Congress has made it a state poll by raising issues pertaining to the Hooda regime even after a decade," said Shamsher Kharak, a BJP leader.

The stakes are high for both parties in Rohtak as the outcome is likely to impact the Assembly poll in the state.

The BJP left no stone unturned to retain the seat and roped in star campaigners, including the CMs of

Star campaigners for BJP, none for Cong

Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan, and Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and Rao Inderjit. BJP national president JP Nadda took out a roadshow here to seek votes for Arvind Sharma, locked in a battle with Congress nominee MP Deepender Hooda.

No star campaigner of the Congress had canvassed in Rohtak. Three generations of the Hooda family have roped home in the Lok Sabha poll for nine out of 11 times from here.

"The Congress seems to have advantage of anti-incumbency, adverse effect of farmers and wrestlers' agitations, criticism of Agniveer Scheme, unemployment, etc, especially in rural areas. The BJP is dependent upon Modi's magic and national issues such as the abrogation of Article 370, construction of the Ram Temple, the Uniform Civil Code and women reservation," said a political analyst.

# Ram Rahim's relative joins BJP

PRADEEP SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 24

In the run-up to the elections in Punjab and Haryana, Harminder Singh Jassi, a former three-time MLA and a close relative of jailed Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim, joined the BJP in New Delhi yesterday.

Jassi, who joined the BJP in the presence of Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar, said, "I have been observing his (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) policies for many years now. He has developed the country and improved India's image all over the world. I joined the BJP after being inspired and impressed by the Prime Minister's policies."

Jassi's entry into the BJP and his close ties with the dera (his daughter is married to the Dera chief's son) are likely to give a fillip to the party in the twin states. Haryana will go to the polls tomorrow and



Harminder Singh Jassi joins the BJP in the presence of Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar in New Delhi. PTI

## A 'MESSAGE' TO FOLLOWERS

Though Sirsa-based Dera Sacha Sauda has refrained from supporting any party in the Lok Sabha poll, sources said the joining of a close relative of the dera head would go a long way in giving the 'right message' to followers on the day when PM Narendra Modi addressed his maiden rally in Punjab.

Punjab on June 1.

Though the dera has refrained from supporting any political party in the Lok Sabha poll, sources said that

the joining of a close relative of the dera head would go a long way in giving the 'right message' to the voters on the day when Prime Minister

Narendra Modi addressed his maiden rally in Punjab.

"Several senior leaders from all parties are joining the BJP. The joining of a senior Congress leader like Jassi will definitely give a boost to the party's campaign in Punjab," claimed Vineet Joshi, Punjab media head.

The dera is said to have influence in more than 10 Lok Sabha constituencies in Punjab and Haryana. Headquartered in Sirsa, the dera wields considerable influence over the electorate in at least the Sirsa and Hisar Lok Sabha seats.

However, in Punjab, it has a well-knit network having 84 branches, including the biggest one at Salabatpur in Bathinda. It is said that it wields considerable influence in eight Lok Sabha segments in the Malwa region — Bathinda, Ferozepur, Faridkot, Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Anandpur Sahib, Sangrur and Ludhiana.

# RSS 'helped' BJP micro-manage elections

Rampal's followers may support party candidate in Hisar

DEEPAK DESWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, MAY 24

The BJP left no stone unturned in the last leg of electioneering with the support of the RSS cadre as well as the silent support of the controversial jailed godman, Rampal, in the Hisar Lok Sabha constituency.

Sources revealed that workers of the BJP and the RSS had fanned out across the constituency to persuade voters who were upset with the party though had voted for it in past. The RSS workers were reportedly working in the supervisory role at the block and district levels without coming in limelight, the sources added.

They said micro-management had further broken down from the 'panna' management to house-to-house marking of voters. The ruling 'dique' had taken the support of experts to accomplish the

## 3K PERSONS DEPLOYED ACROSS HISAR

- According to sources, around 3,000 persons from the RSS and other bodies have been deployed across Hisar.
- BJP candidate from the Hisar Lok Sabha seat Ranjit Singh said he had the backing of the RSS in the final phase of electioneering. He said, "RSS ne mera election sambhal liya hai (The RSS has taken care of my elections)."

task. Notably, BJP candidate from the Hisar Lok Sabha seat Ranjit Singh had a difficult phase when party leaders, including former MP Kuldeep Bishnoi and former state minister Capt Abhimanyu, did not show up for campaigning for a long time until the BJP leadership intervened and roped in both leaders.

The sources said the backroom team of the party zeroed in on the families that were feeling alienated on the basis of feedback gathered by another team. Then, the inputs were discussed by the strategists, who found a way out to persuade the disgrun-

ted lot by approaching them through their relatives or by giving assurances if they were upset for some specific reason like any of their 'work' got stuck in the administration or the government where they had expected the support of BJP people.

A management expert of an election management company, which had been assigned the work to supervise five Lok Sabha seats in Haryana, said that the party had outsourced the work of survey and gathering feedback from the ground to them. "The Central leadership assigned specific tasks

to our firm, which took feedback from the ground. The party took our recommendations seriously. For example, we provided inputs that there is need for the visit of Bhajan Lal Sharma in Rohtak and a meeting of Manohar Lal Khattar with the Punjabi community of Hisar. The party acted on the advice," he said. There were also many third-party assignments.

The BJP also got the backing of the followers of controversial 'godman' Rampal. The sources said his supporters had participated in Home Minister Amit Shah's rally in Hisar on May 20.

A 'Seh Zila Sangh Chalak' said the RSS workers had no political role in the elections. "We held drawing room meetings of selected workers and discussed the jobs of various political parties. We don't ask workers to vote for any specific party," he claimed.

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# 6 of family killed in collision

AMBALA, MAY 24

A pall of gloom descended in Ambala after six family members died while their 20 relatives suffered injuries in an accident near Mohra village on Delhi-Ambala National Highway around 1.30 am on Friday.

The victims were on their way in a mini-bus from Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh to Vaishno Devi in Jammu and Kashmir to pay obeisance when the vehicle they were travelling in collided with a truck.

The police have arrested truck driver Ravinder. According to information, there were nearly 30 people in the vehicle. The deceased include Vinod Kumar, Satbir Singh, Manoj Kumar, Mehar Chand, Deepti and Guddi while the injured were identified as Saroj, Kavita, Anuradha, Shivani, Vishal, Naveen, Rekha, Ajay, Narendra Kumar, Upasna, Aniket, Pankaj, Sonia, Riya, Radhika, Mahi, Sumit, Ankit, Vansh and Rajender Singh.

Sharing her account, Shivani said, "We were all excited on our way to pay obeisance at Vaishno Devi with our family members but we ended up here in hospitals."

In his complaint to the police, Rajendra, a resident of UP, said he and his family members

20 injured in mishap on Ambala highway



The ill-fated mini-bus that overturned on NH-44 in Ambala.

had left for the temple in a mini-bus. Around 1.30 am, they had reached near Mohra village. The truck in front of them took a turn without giving an indicator, following which their vehicle collided with it. As a result, the mini-bus overturned and the passengers got crushed under it.

"My brother-in-law Vinod, Manoj Kumar and Guddi (33), cousin Satbir, father-in-law Mehar Chand and granddaughter Deepti (five months old) have lost their lives. After the accident, the truck driver managed to flee the spot, leaving his vehicle behind," he added. A case has been registered under Sections 279, 337 and 304 of the IPC. Mean-

while, SHO Dalip Kumar said, "The truck driver has been arrested. The truck was stationed for nearly three minutes before the accident. Further investigation is on."

PM Narendra Modi shared his condolences on his X — formerly Twitter — account and wrote, "The road accident in Ambala is extremely painful. My deepest condolences to the bereaved families of those who lost their loved ones in this accident. I wish for the speedy recovery of all injured. Under the supervision of the state government, the local administration is engaged in helping the victims in every possible way." — TNS

# Acid test for ex-CM Khattar's popularity

PARVEEN ARORA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 24

The Karnal elections are not just about political power, but a popularity test of two-time Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

Khattar was elected MLA from the Karnal seat in 2014 and 2019. As the party aims to retain its hold on the seat, it faces challenges from sarpanches and farmers, whose discontent may tilt the balance. However, Khattar is determined to secure a maiden victory in the parliamentary elections and is seeking votes based on the work done by his government and the Centre.

The flagship programmes of the government, including property and family IDs, seem to haunt the BJP as people have faced difficulties due to errors in IDs. Sources claim that his inaccessibility may also be an issue.

Ever since the government launched e-tendering in panchayat works, the majority of projects have been halted. Anger also prevails among sarpanches over the 'right to recall'.



Former CM Manohar Lal Khattar

"The government has reduced our powers. We have decided to boycott Khattar. We are asking people not to vote for him," said Bhupinder Singh Laddi, president, Sarpanch Association Nilokheri, while campaigning against Khattar.

Meanwhile, farmers have also called for his defeat. "Khattar stopped farmers from going to Delhi; now, we will stop him from going to Parliament. We are not supporting any particular party. We are supporting the candidate against him," said Jagdeep Singh Aulakh, state core committee member, BKU (Sir Chhotu Ram), while interacting with people at Nissing.

# CM's *maalik* approves all his decisions: PM

# Dharamvira's SOS to Rahul after PM's rally

Ravi Dhaliwal  
Tribune News Service

**GURDASPUR, MAY 24**  
Addressing a rally in Dinanagar in favour of BJP candidates Dinesh Singh Babbu (Gurdaspur), Anita Som Parkash (Hoshiarpur) and Taranjit Singh Sandhu (Amritsar), Prime Minister Narendra Modi said everything was going on according to the script and the BJP would form the government on June 1.

"Do not be mistaken. On June 1, we will form the government yet again," said the PM. He said Gurdaspur and the BJP had a special relationship and added that when he used to be the in-charge of the Punjab BJP, he often visited this parliamentary constituency.

The PM invoked four-time former MP and actor Vinod Khanna. "He worked really hard for the people of this area. He built bridges



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with BJP candidates during a rally in Gurdaspur on Friday. ANI

and also brought in important development projects. Bureaucrats often praised his way of working

when he was a minister in the Vajpayee Cabinet," said Modi.

He, however, did not utter

even a single word on MP Sunny Deol. Party leaders said this was on expected lines as "Deol had done

extensive damage to the party fabric".

He started his speech by remembering the sacrifices made by the Sikh Gurus. The PM said, "I have come here to seek your blessings. Just keep in mind my track record of the last 10 years when you cast your vote. The BJP is a party which has vision and the potential to take India forward. Just see how we are constructing the Jammu-Katra Expressway and modernising the Railways."

Keeping in mind the huge Sikh electorate of this constituency, the PM said, "I was the one who re-opened the file of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and also ensured that the guilty were punished."

Castigating Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, Modi said, "Just see how the Punjab CM rushes to the Tihar Jail to show his report card to his 'maalik' (benefactor). Every

order the Punjab Government passes has the approval of his 'maalik' Arvind Kejriwal. For how long will he continue to run Punjab from Tihar?" thundered Modi much to the delight of the gathering.

He compared Mann with former CM Capt Amarinder Singh by saying, "The Delhi-based Congress high command wanted to run the Punjab Government when Amarinder was the CM. Amarinder, an ex-Army man, declined to obey the orders and consequently resigned."

Modi said the two INDIA bloc parties are trying different ways to fool people. Towards the end of his 30-minute speech, Modi praised Taranjit Singh Sandhu. "I have worked with him for 10 years. He is a capable officer. Hence, do vote for him in the Lok Sabha poll," he said.

# PM makes no move to appease farmers, talks development

The Tribune ANALYSIS

Jupinderjit Singh  
Tribune News Service

**CHANDIGARH, MAY 24**  
On the second day of his rallies in Punjab, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today played the development card to seek the third term for the BJP government from voters.

In line with the party's hardened stand against the protesting farmers, Modi did not try to appease the farmers in his rallies in Dinanagar (Gurdaspur) and later in Jalandhar.

The day witnessed police crackdowns on farm leaders and several BJP candidates attacking farmers in their speeches in the state.

Interestingly, he had a special mention about Congress former CM Capt Amarinder Singh in his speech in Gurdaspur. He had not mentioned him in his Patiala speech yesterday. Modi appreciated the

ex-CM, saying he sacrificed the post of CM because he was not ready to listen to the diktats of the corrupt Congress leadership.

Continuing to underline his connection with Punjab and service to the Sikh community and saluting the Sikhs, Modi dressed for the venue in the rallies.

In the Gurdaspur constituency, where the BJP won five of the last seven elections, he was without turban, but wore it later in Jalandhar, where he invoked Gurdwara Talhan Ji and the Radha Swami sect, which have a number of votes in their kitty.

In Gurdaspur, he avoided the mention of the incumbent BJP MP Sunny Deol, who disappointed the people of the constituency after winning it. Modi mentioned the great work done by the late MP Vinod Khanna, who won the 1998, 1999 and 2004 elections.

Surprisingly, Modi did not indulge in Pakistan bashing

even though the BJP had chosen Dinanagar as the venue for his rally in Gurdaspur. In July 2015, three terrorists from Pakistan laid siege to a police station in the town. They were killed in an eight-hour operation.

Modi again ridiculed the Congress for the Partition, 1984 anti-Sikh riots and for letting the 90,000 Pak prisoners go without taking Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara in exchange. Interestingly, Modi made his speech from a district which was given to Pakistan initially. The town became part of India on August 17 after the intervention by Lord Mountbatten, the last Governor-General of India.

Modi asked people to give him the third term if they wanted infrastructure like the construction of a new Delhi-Katra highway under way currently. The BJP is a party which has vision and the potential to take India forward.

# Kejri in state from May 26

Chandigarh, May 24

AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal will come to Punjab for campaigning on May 26 and stay here till May 30. Though Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann will be the face of the campaign, Arvind will be here to give a final push to the AAP campaign. — TNS

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BSP leaders present a gold crown to party chief Mayawati in Nawanshahr on Thursday. SARABJIT SINGH

# BJP failed to bring *achhe din* for weaker sections: Maya

Deepkamal Kaur  
Tribune News Service

**NAWANSHAHR, MAY 24**  
BSP supremo Mayawati on Friday said it would not be easy for the BJP to return to power in the Centre provided there's free and fair elections and no tampering with the electronic voting machines (EVMs).

Delivering her speech before a massive crowd, she went hammer and tongs against the BJP for failing to bring in "achhe din" for the weaker sections of society. "They kept working only for the corporates and their schemes like 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' remained 'hawa hawai' and paper guarantees," she said.

Mayawati told the party workers that they should not get carried away by the RSS

## GOLD CROWN FOR PARTY SUPREMO

- Mayawati was presented with a gold crown by Nawanshahr MLADr Nachhatar Pal and Punjab in-charge Randhir Beniwal
- Kulwant Kaur, sister of party founder Kanshi Ram, also attended the rally in Nawanshahr
- All the BSP candidates from Punjab, HP and Chandigarh were given two minutes each to deliver their speech

and BJP workers distributing free ration at their places. "The ration dole is actually coming from the taxes paid by the people. The ration is not coming from their personal or party funds. Aap log BJP ya RSS ka namak nhi kha rahe, aap apna namak kha rahe hain. Vote apni party ko hi daliye," she pointed out.

The BSP chief attacked other parties too, including the Congress, for drawing party funds by way of electoral bonds from the industrialists.

"The BSP has never accepted even a penny from the corporates. The only source of income of our party is membership fee," she said.

Mayawati flayed both the Centre and the state government for not taking care of farmers. "Wrong farm policies have forced farmers to protest for their rights throughout the year in Punjab and Haryana. The protests are affecting the business of small and medium traders," she added.

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1	UHBVN	(NIT NO. 409/BID NO. 762/P&D/2023-2024)	EXTENTION OF CLOSING AND OPENING DATE OF BID. DATE OF CLOSING : 06.06.2024 DATE OF OPENING : 10.06.2024	www.uhbvn.org.in	01722570431 cepd@uhbvn.org.in
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14	UHBVN	(NIT NO. 415/BID NO. 768/P&D/2023-2024)	EXTENTION OF CLOSING AND OPENING DATE OF BID. DATE OF CLOSING : 10.06.2024 DATE OF OPENING : 12.06.2024	www.uhbvn.org.in	01722570431 cepd@uhbvn.org.in

## OVER 26,000 DISPLACED KPs TO VOTE TODAY

Jammu: Over 26,000 displaced Kashmiri Pandit (KP) voters are eligible to vote at 34 polling stations in the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections in Anantnag constituency on Saturday. This marks the conclusion of voting in the Union Territory, with polling already completed in the other four constituencies. The newly created Anantnag Rajouri LS seat will cover the districts of Anantnag, Kulgam, Shopian, Rajouri and Poonch.

## CHIRAG PAYS 'COURTESY CALL' ON NITISH

Patna: Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) president Chirag Paswan on Friday paid a "courtesy visit" on fellow NDA partner and Bihar CM Nitish Kumar. Paswan, who has reconciled with the state's longest-serving CM after having fought him bitterly, said, "It was a courtesy meeting in a relaxed atmosphere with just two more phases of LS poll to go. I have campaigned for JD(U) candidates in many seats. I shared my reading of the situation there."

## BJP WANTS TO CHANGE CONSTITUTION: TEJASHWI

Deoghar: Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Friday alleged that the BJP wanted to snatch the rights of deprived communities by changing the Constitution, and asserted that the opposition INDIA bloc would never let that happen. Addressing an election rally in Jharkhand's Deoghar for Congress's Godda candidate Pradeep Yadav, he accused the BJP of spreading "hatred" in the country.

POLL  
SNIPPETS

## 66:34, yawning gender divide among first-time voters in Hry

Out of total 4,20,665 electors, there are only 1,41,278 women voters



## NEW VOTERS

LS seat	Male	Female	TG*	Total
Ambala	21,353	11,011	3	32,367
Kurukshetra	23,928	13,211	3	37,142
Sirsa	29,883	13,660	0	43,543
Hisar	25,642	12,072	1	37,715
Karnal	30,190	15,887	1	46,078
Sonepat	29,478	14,333	4	43,815
Rohtak	25,660	12,622	2	38,284
Bhiwani/Mgarh	27,595	12,447	1	40,043
Gurgaon	39,124	21,130	2	60,256
Faridabad	26,511	14,905	6	41,422
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,79,364</b>	<b>1,41,278</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4,20,665</b>

## 'REGISTER AS MEMBER OF HUSBAND'S FAMILY'

The rural society in Haryana prefers marriage of the young girls than registering them as voters. "Families have a thinking that a young girl — even after attaining the age of adult franchise — should get herself enrolled as voter after marriage — as a member of her husband's family," says Savita, a woman activist in Hisar. Hisar Divisional Commissioner Geeta Bharti had taken serious cognisance of this trend during a review meeting on voter registration about a year ago and issued directions to motivate young women to get enrolled for voting.



ber of her husband's family," says Savita, a woman activist in Hisar.

Gurgaon Lok Sabha constituency has the highest number of first-time voters —

60,256. It includes 39,124 male voters and 21,130 female voters with two third-

gender voters. According to the ECI, Haryana has a total of 2,00,76,768 voters.

## 'Killing field of Bihar' to see direct BJP-Left fight

CONSTITUENCY WATCH  
ARRAHAKSHEEV THAKUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 24  
Arrah in western Bihar, a Lok Sabha constituency weighed down by a violent past mired in caste oppression, is witnessing a straight contest between the BJP and the INDIA bloc. In the early 1990s, Arrah saw conflicts between the ultra-Left CPI-ML-Liberation and the upper caste Bhumihar militia, the Ranvir Sena. Due to the killings, the region was labelled as "Killing field of Bihar". Though the caste violence has eased in Arrah, caste-based politics continues to hold sway.

BJP's sitting MP RK Singh is contesting his third Lok Sabha election from the seat, while for the INDIA bloc, former CPI-ML-LMLA from the Tarari seat Sudama Prasad will enter the electoral battle. This is the only seat where the BJP and the Left are in a straight contest.

The constituency has 20 per cent Yadav, 15 per cent Dalit, 25 per cent upper caste and about 7 per cent Muslim voters. While Singh draws support of upper caste voters, Prasad depends on Yadav, Dalit and Muslim voters.

"RK Singh has carried out development works in the constituency like installing solar lights, improving road connectivity and even some new trains are running through the district. He has the support of upper caste voters. Prasad will be defeated badly," said AP Singh,



BJP sitting MP RK Singh campaigns in Arrah. FILE

## RK SINGH EYES RECORD 3RD CONSECUTIVE WIN

- Only two MPs have been able to post consecutive wins from the Arrah parliamentary constituency so far
- They were: Chandradeo Prasad Verma (as BLD candidate in 1977 and as Jana-

- ta Party candidate in 1980) and RK Singh (BJP candidate in 2014 and 2019)
- If RK Singh manages to win this time, he will become the first MP to have three consecutive terms from Arrah

## VITAL STATS

## TOTAL VOTERS

**21,65,574**

Men **11,16,299** Women **10,49,122**

Others: 153

Total candidates in fray: 14

Voting date: June 1

PEEK INTO PAST  
(2019 LS POLL)

**Winner: RK Singh**

(Bharatiya Janata Party)

**Polled: 5,66,480 votes**

**Nearest rival: Raju Yadav**

(CPHML-Liberation)

**Polled: 4,19,195 votes**

a local businessman in Arrah.

Only two MPs have been able to post consecutive wins from the Arrah, namely Chandradeo Prasad Verma (As BLD candidate in 1977 and as Janata Party candidate in 1980) and RK Singh (on the BJP ticket in 2014 and 2019). If Singh manages to win this time, he will become the first MP to have three consecu-

tive terms from Arrah.

However, Rahul Yadav, a farmer, says, "RK Singh has a clean image, but he is unapproachable. There are several development projects that have not been undertaken. Construction of Veer Kunwar Singh park is now being listed as development work. This is laughable. I will go with the INDIA bloc candidate."

## In Nuh, vigilantes, groups on social media trying to polarise votes

SUMEDHA SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## GURUGRAM, MAY 24

As Gurgaon and Faridabad get ready to vote tomorrow, cow vigilantes and their rival social media groups have indulged in polarisation of votes.

While candidates of all political parties stayed away from communalising the elections and talked of development and other issues, the groups have through WhatsApp forwards and social media groups targeted communal sentiments, asking voters to keep in mind the Nuh riots and vote accordingly. The vigilante groups in Nuh and Palwal are sending messages, asking people to avenge attack on shobha yatra last year that resulted in death of seven persons. A speech of Bittu Bajrangji, Faridabad-based vigilante, is going viral on the social media groups.

Bajrangji, while attending an

## Messages asking voters to 'keep Nuh riots in mind' doing rounds

apolitical event with the BJP flags, has rendered a hate speech, asking people to vote against 'jihadis'. Bittu was one of the key accused for instigating the riots. He had landed in the shobha yatra with swords and even attacked the police personnel when they seized it. He was arrested and eventually bailed out. Similarly, supporters of Monu Manesar, the celebrated vigilante, who is currently in jail, have been asking people to vote for his sacrifice.

"Monu bhैया went to the jail to save Hindus and cows. His sacrifice can't go waste. Vote to respect his sacrifice and get him out," reads the message. The response to the same from various Meo

groups is identical. The YouTubers and other social media handles are urging the Meos to defeat the BJP in Gurgaon constituency to avenge the Nuh riots. The people are urged to vote keeping in mind the arrests made after the riots, booking Congress MLA Mamman Khan under the UAPA and razing of their houses. As the three Assembly segments in Nuh gear up to vote, various people, including local politicians, have announced cash rewards for panchayats to ensure voting. The rewards announced by various local leaders go as high as Rs 51,000 for 100 per cent voting by villages. The posts make no recommendations for any party but have come under the scanner. Interestingly, over 3,000 weddings are scheduled in the district on May 24 and 25 and the leaders are seen handing over cash garlands as wedding gifts.

## This poll, Hisar women vocal about paani, bijli

DEEPENDER DESWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## HISAR, MAY 24

In this region of Haryana, women are considered "not so assertive" about their political opinion, but during this Lok Sabha elections, they are getting vocal on issues concerning them.

They have been raising demands such as adequate supply of water and electricity, good education and jobs for their children, work and adequate wages in the MGNREGA scheme.

With her face covered in veil, Suman, carrying a "matki" (steel pot), was waiting for her turn to fetch water. A resident of Bawani Khena town under the Hisar Lok Sabha segment, she is upset over an inflated electricity bill of Rs 50,000, and vows to take revenge during the polling day. Another woman Kavita tried to argue that this election was to re-elect PM Narendra Modi.

The conversation between



JJP candidate Naina Chautala interacts with women in Hisar.

Year	Women candidates	Votes secured
2014	Mamta Rani (Rashtrawadi Parivartan Party)	1,195
2009	Bhateri (Independent)	1,157
1996	Vidya Devi (Independent)	1,102
1984	Sumitra Devi (Independent)	3,248
1984	Harbans Kaur (Independent)	775

two women happened as they fetch water from a hand pump for household use in the absence of domestic water supply. Suman rued, "We got an electricity bill of Rs 50,000. We have made several rounds to the department's office to get it correct-

ed, but to no avail. How will we pay this much amount?"

At a public meeting organised by BJP candidate Ranjit Singh in Gangwa village under Nalwa Assembly constituency in Hisar district, a group of women, hailing from weaker sections of society,

TOTAL VOTERS	
Men	11,16,299
Women	10,49,122
Transgender	11

## WOMEN IN FRAY

**Naina Chautala (JJP)**

**Sunaina Chautala (INLD)**

**Poonam Mor (Independent)**

Before Naina and Sunaina of the Chautala clan, former CM Bansi Lal's daughter Sumitra Devi had joined the fray in 1984 General Election as an Independent and secured 3,248 votes. The BJP has fielded Ranjit Singh Chautala, son of Devi Lal, from Hisar.

raised their demand to increase MGNREGA wages.

Santosh and Minakshi, two women from the group, told *The Tribune* they want MGNREGA workers to get work in their respective villages. "We have to visit other villages to get work under the scheme.

With low wages, it becomes difficult for us to visit other villages, sometimes several kilometres away," Santosh said.

Hisar Lok Sabha constituency that witnessed 14 General Election since 1971, including one byelection in 2011, 309 candidates, including five women, had been in the fray. This time, three women candidates are in the fray from this Lok Sabha seat.

Two regional outfits — JJP and INLD — have fielded Naina Chautala and Sunaina Chautala, respectively, from Hisar. Another woman, Poonam Mor, has been contesting as an Independent.

Both Naina and Sunaina said they have been getting significant presence of women in their public meetings, especially in villages. "Women are eager to interact with me on the margins of public meetings. Their main concerns include jobs for their educated children and water supply," Naina said.

## Chacha don't preach: Naina-Sunaina tell Ranjit Chautala to retire

DEEPENDER DESWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## HISAR, MAY 24

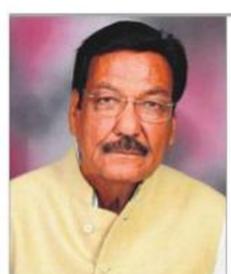
With the two Chautala bahus and their chacha sasur (father-in-law) in fray, it turns out to be a TV soap opera in Hisar Lok Sabha constituency.

The three Chautala family clan — Ranjit Singh (son of former Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal) is a BJP candidate while Chautala bahus — Naina Chautala (wife of Ajay Chautala, grandson of Devi Lal) is in the fray as the JJP candidate while Sunaina Chautala (wife of Ravi Chautala, another grandson of Devi Lal) is the INLD candidate.

While bahus urge their sasur, Ranjit Singh, to retire

from public life as he has crossed 75 years (he is 79), Singh retorted that they (Naina and Sunaina) are like my children and they should have been proud of the fact that he had been active at this age.

During an interaction with *The Tribune*, Naina Chautala, who is badi bahu (elder to Sunaina) said, "Vo 75 saal ke ho gaye. Gadiya bhi 10 saal ke baad gharon me khadi ho jati hai. Chacha ji ko bhi election nahi ladna chahiye tha. Ab lad rahi hai to theek hai. (Chacha ji has crossed 75 and he should get retirement from politics. People retire vehicles after 10 years. Chacha ji should not contest the election but now since he



## NO AGE LIMIT IN POLITICS

"Both of them are like my children. And they should be proud of the fact that I am still active at this age. There is no age limit in politics and I feel I have enough of zeal and enthusiasm for catering to political service remaining in me.

Ranjit Singh, BJP CANDIDATE FROM HISAR

has joined the fray, it's okay," she said.

Chhoti bahu Sunaina Chautala said there should be an age limit on contesting elections. "I will not make any comment on Ranjit Singh. He is our elder. But today's youth want that a person of contemporary gen-

eration should represent them," she said.

Responding to the retirement jibe, Singh stated, "Both of them are like my children. And they should be proud of the fact that I am still active at this age. There is no age limit in politics and I feel I have enough of zeal and

enthusiasm for catering to political service remaining in me," he said.

The political legacy of Devi Lal is also a hot topic among three of them. In fact, among all four main candidates as Congress nominee Jai Prakash also debuted in politics as Devi Lal's pro-

tégé in 1989.

Ranjit Singh, who also served as minister in Haryana under the chief ministership of Devi Lal in 1987, claimed he has remained stuck to the political values of his father.

Naina, however, countered that chacha ji had

joined the Congress when Devi Lal was alive. "How can he claim his legacy as he has been in the Congress during most of his political career and joined the BJP just before this election?" She claimed that her husband Ajay Singh Chautala was the most-loved grandson of Devi Lal ji. Though, she claimed all four main contestants, including Jai Prakash of the Congress, are pupils of the Devi Lal school of politics. It will take a lot of sacrifice and value system for any of them to claim the political legacy of Devi Lal. "I found a dim reflection of grandfather in Dushyant though,"

she said while claiming that Dushyant holds the legacy of Devi Lal.

On the other hand, Sunaina, when asked about the claim of Naina that she would enter Parliament after winning the elections, took a potshot at her. "First, she should think about entering the villages where people are not even letting them enter to seek votes. She claimed that the INLD is the original brand of Devi Lal. "No other party or leader who are not part of the INLD can claim the legacy of Devi Lal. The INLD was founded by Devi Lal and we are still keeping his political values and tradition alive," she claimed.



Sunaina Chautala



Naina Chautala

POLL SNIPPETS

35K SECURITY PERSONNEL DEPLOYED IN ODISHA

Bhubaneswar: Around 35,000 security personnel have been deployed for the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections to be held in Odisha on May 25, a senior police officer said.

PM'S SPEECHES CAUSE FOR CONCERN: PAWAR

Mumbai: The statements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi against the opposition in this poll season are a cause for concern, claimed NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Friday.

HOME GUARD ON ELECTION DUTY DIES

Sultanpur: Pawan Kumar, a Home Guard personnel on poll duty here, has died, the police said on Friday. Kumar's health suddenly deteriorated under suspicious circumstances on Thursday.

Cong's anti-Kangana remarks insult to Chhoti Kashi: Modi

DIPENDER MANTA

MANDI, MAY 24 Accusing the Congress of being 'beti virodhi' (anti-daughters), Prime Minister Narendra Modi today exhorted the people to punish the Congress for making derogatory remarks against actress Kangana Ranaut, which was an insult of not just Choti Kashi (Mandi) but entire Himachal.



LAND OF GODDESSES

Congress ka shahi parivar ghor beti virodhi hai. Poori Congress mahila virodhi hai. Teach a lesson to such people. In a state like HP where people worship Goddess Shikari Mata, Maa Jwala, Bhimakali and Chintpurni, the shahi parivar (royal family) has not even apologised for the derogatory remarks against Kangana.

Narendra Modi, PRIME MINISTER

PM Narendra Modi with former HP CM Jai Ram Thakur and BJP's Mandi candidate Kangana Ranaut in Mandi on Friday. PHOTO: JAI KUMAR

them, he said, "Congress ka shahi parivar ghor beti virodhi hai. Poori Congress mahila virodhi hai (Congress and the royal family is anti-girls)." He

exhorted people to teach a lesson to such people who have no respect for women. Modi said in a state like Himachal where people wor-

ship Goddess Shikari Mata, Maa Jwala, Bhimakali and Chintpurni, the shahi parivar (royal family) has not even apologised for the

derogatory remarks against Kangana. He said Kangana would become the voice of the people of Mandi if she wins. "BJP and NDA are all set

to get a comfortable majority to form the government. However, if Himachal will give four seats to BJP it will be an added advantage

(some pe suhagga)." Himachal is going to hit a hat-trick by ensuring BJP's victory on all four seats like in 2014 and 2019, he added. He said Congress is taking Himachal on the path of destruction. So, people must secure the state's future by ensuring victory of all six BJP candidates in the Assembly bypoll.

Modi said Congress does want the nation to progress as it wants people to continue living in poverty. "Congress wants to revoke Article 370, CAA and is opposed to the Uniform Civil Code. It supports Shariat law as it promotes communalism, casteism and nepotism," he alleged. He said that Congress leaders are cowards as they even hesitate to take the name of Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama whom he has met several times. "Congress is leading the state on the path of disaster so it is essential to free the state from the clutches of Congress," Modi urged while seeking votes for the six BJP candidates in the Assembly bypoll.

Modi govt looted the country like British: Kharge

DEOGHAR (JHARKHAND), MAY 24 Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday accused the Narendra Modi government of looting the country's water, forest and land over the past 10 years as was done by the British.



Heavy security along the national highway around 8 km from the PM's rally venue in Jalandhar on Friday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: SARABJIT SINGH

For PM's rallies, deft handling saves the day for Punjab

Farmers allowed to protest at distance | Security fortified at rally venues

RUCHIKA M KHANNA CHANDIGARH, MAY 24 The Punjab Government's policy to "engage" with the farmer unions protesting against the alleged "unfulfilled promises made by the BJP" during the three rallies of PM Narendra Modi seems to have saved the day for the government. While farmers were allowed to protest... at some distance from the rally venues, the security at rally venues was fortified so that the events were not disrupted.

har and Gurdaspur was announced, followed by strong reactions from farmer unions under the banners of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha and the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (Non-Political), the Central agencies and state government worked in tandem to ensure that the three political functions could be held smoothly, while the farmers were not "restrained" and allowed to exercise their right to protest. After all, this was the first time that the PM was coming to the state after the January 5, 2022, incident, when his cavalcade got stuck en route to Ferozepur for a rally. The

THE BALANCING ACT

- Farmers being AAP's core vote bank, the state government did not want to annoy them, and it was decided to allow them to protest at some distance from rally venues. With 2022 incident of PM's security breach on mind, the state's AAP government did not want to take any chances and thousands of cops were deployed at the three venues, including paramilitary forces

between the BJP and the then Congress government under Charanjit Singh Channi. No wonder, the state government did not want to take any chances. Farmers being AAP's core vote bank, it also did not want to annoy them, and it was decided to allow them to protest at some distance from the rally venues. Smarting from the January 2022 incident, Punjab Chief Secretary Anurag Verma and DGP Gaurav Yadav went on to follow the security protocol, prescribed in the Blue Book, in letter and spirit. Thousands of cops were deployed at the three ven-

ues, including paramilitary forces. "Standard security protocol, which remains unaffected even during elections, was maintained," said a senior official. The partys between the two sides held for over four days before the visit, were successful after the state government allowed the farmers two places in Patiala to protest peacefully. While Chief Secretary Verma coordinated the arrangements from Chandigarh, he deputed Home Secretary Gurkirat Kirpal Singh to be present at the rallies at Patiala yesterday and Jalandhar today.

Farmers' ire may cast shadow on BJP show

NEERAJ MOHAN NEW DELHI, MAY 24 Even as the BJP-led government in Haryana successfully managed to prevent agitating farmers from Punjab from reigniting protests similar to those of 2020-21 around Delhi, the political repercussions of the farmers' agitation in both of these key agrarian states remain significant and cannot be ignored. With all the 10 seats in BJP-ruled Haryana going to the polls on May 25, anger against the BJP is still visible and can be gauged by the protests against the BJP leaders in both the states.



Farmers opposing BJP MP Hans Raj Hans' visit to Bhilewala village of Faridkot rounded up by the police. FILE

GOING AGAINST TIDE

- The impact of the SKM's call to oppose the BJP has been notable in both states. BKU (Charuni) chief Gurnam Charuni openly canvasses for INLD's Abhay Chautala in Kurukshetra. BKU (Sir Chhotu Ram), with strong following in Kamal, has told supporters to vote against the BJP

farmers can significantly affect the BJP's electoral prospects in both states. While the SKM's call to oppose the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections did not receive significant support from Uttar Pradesh, its impact has been notable in Haryana and Punjab. BKU (Charuni) chief Gurnam Charuni was openly canvassing for INLD's Abhay Chautala in Kurukshetra claiming that Abhay was the only politician in the state who resigned as MLA in support of the farmer agitation. Also the BKU (Sir Chhotu Ram) told its supporters to vote against the BJP in Karnal.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a public meeting in Arrah. ANI

Jungle raj will return to Bihar if INDIA bloc wins: Shah

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 24 Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday has warned that if RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav comes back to power as part of the Opposition's INDIA bloc, then jungle raj and the era of abductions and gang wars would return to Bihar. Attacking Lalu Yadav, Shah in a rally in Bihar's Arrah, claimed that the RJD leader neither worked for the welfare of the poor and backward classes nor for his own Yadav community. "People don't want the return of 'jungle raj', gang war and abduction industry in Bihar. Lalu neither worked for the welfare of backward classes nor the people belonging to his own caste Yadav," Shah said. Accusing the former Union Minister and former Chief Minister of Bihar of practising dynastic politics, the Home

Minister further said, "Lalu allowed his two sons to become ministers, sent one daughter to Rajya Sabha and another is contesting Lok Sabha poll. He made his wife the Chief Minister of Bihar... He promotes only his sons and daughters. He can't think for the welfare of people belonging to his own caste." Shah accused the Congress and RJD of "trying to rob reservation from the quotas of SCs, STs and OBCs and give such benefits to Muslims". Shah also said that if CPI-ML (Liberation) candidate wins from Arrah Lok Sabha seat, Naxalism would once again return to Bihar. Union Minister RK Singh is seeking re-election from the Arrah Lok Sabha constituency, while CPI-ML (Liberation) has nominated Sudama Prasad as a 'Mahagathbandhan' candidate. Voting will take place in Arrah on June 1.

Bahubalis hold sway in the land of Buddha

CONSTITUENCY WATCH VAISHALI

AKSHEEV THAKUR NEW DELHI, MAY 24 A cavalcade of over 100 cars and motorbikes carrying RJD flags trundled on the streets of Vaishali amidst hundreds of people who were waiting to meet RJD candidate Vijay Kumar Shukla alias Munna Shukla. A former don-turned-politician, Shukla was acquitted by the court, which gave him the benefit of doubt. Vaishali, synonymous with the birthplace of Lord Mahavira, the last Jain 'Tirthankara' and the place where Lord Buddha gave his



RJD candidate Vijay Kumar Shukla campaigns in Vaishali.

Table with 2 columns: MAY 25 DAY OF POLLING and RESULTS OF LAST ELECTION. Data includes total number of voters (18,69,178), total number of male voters (9,86,919), total number of female voters (8,81,190), and election results for Winner (Veena Devi - LJP) and Runner-up (Raghuvansh Prasad Singh - RJD).

Dinesh Singh, RJD has pinned hopes on the muscle power of Shukla. Veena is from the Rajput community and Shukla, a Bhumihar, both politically dominant castes. While Veena is facing anti-incum-

bency and relying on PM Narendra Modi's popularity, Shukla is using lack of development as a poll issue. "Caste is important in Vaishali. Veena Devi won last time but this time, she is contesting against the

'Taalebaaz' Cong disbanded panel that conducted job exams: PM at Nahan

Why no relief package for HP, Dy CM asks BJP

UNA, MAY 24

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri today said that Central BJP leadership was coming to Himachal Pradesh to seek votes, but they should tell people why they did not give any financial assistance to Himachal Pradesh when it was reeling under natural disaster.

In a press release issued here, Agnihotri said the last year's monsoon brought mayhem in the state, taking precious lives, destroying private and public infrastructure. The Union government did not respond to the hue and cry of the people and the repeated requests by the Congress government in the state on political grounds.

Agnihotri said the state government spent Rs 4,500 crore from its own resources to mitigate the sufferings of the people, restore essential services, build damaged roads and bridges, and construct new houses for families which had lost them.

He said the Chief Minister and other ministers made several requests to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues to give a financial package to the people of the hill state, but all went in vain. He added none of the BJP MPs raised the issue in Parliament in support of the people in distress. — OC

POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX IV (RULE 8(1))
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AMBIKA SHARMA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NAHAN, MAY 24

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that the Congress' alliance with the INDIA bloc reflected its divisive politics driven by extreme casteism, nepotism, communalism, opportunism and selfish motives. He added that "the Congress had pledged to create one lakh jobs in the first Cabinet meeting but failed to do so. The Taalebaaz Congress has even locked the commission that conducted job exams".

Modi addressed his first Vijay Sankalp rally in the state at Nahan. "Today, I'm seeking your blessings for the third time but it is not for myself or my family or my caste but for making a strong India, for making India a developed nation," he said while urging people to make a hat-trick by ensuring the victory of the BJP candidates on all four Lok Sabha seats.

Modi said, "The Congress did not give reservation to the Hattee community of the Trans-Giri region. I granted



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, state BJP president Rajeev Bindal and Shimla candidate Suresh Kashyap at Nahan. TRIBUNE PHOTO: LALIT KUMAR

RECALLS ASSOCIATION WITH LOCAL LEADERS

The Prime Minister began his address by invoking local deities like Goddess Renuka, Lord Parashurama, Chureshwar Mahadev and Mahasu Devta

home," he said, drawing a loud applause from people. The Prime Minister recalled his association with BJP leaders Shyama Sharma, Baldev Bhandari, Chander Mohan and Jagat Singh Negi

CHERISHES MEMORIES OF HIMACHALI CUISINE

Modi recalled having savoured Himachali cuisine like 'patandu' and 'siddu' at Black Mango resort. "I have received a lot of love from people here. Time has changed but not Modi.

My relation with Himachal remains the same," he said. BJP leaders presented him with a traditional loiya worn by the Hattee community, besides a sickle, Himachali cap and a shawl

them reservation to repay the debt I owe to them." He added, "The people of Devbhumi will not waste their vote and will vote for a party that will form government. People have stamped their approval with the slogan Phir Ek Baar Modi Sarkar."

per month to women but didn't fulfil it. The party had also promised to provide financial assistance but nobody got it." He said, "Himachal is a border state, which needs a strong and stable government and people understand the significance of a strong and resilient government. Modi will never let you face adversity."

He cautioned the voters against the INDIA bloc and said, "They are playing games to destroy the nation. Baba Ambedkar gave reservation to SC and ST communities but they want to finish it and give it to the Muslims and indulge in vote jihad. They have done it in West Bengal where OBCs were denied

reservation but was given to the Muslims instead." Modi said that to please their vote bank, the Congress was even opposing the Ram Mandir. He added that a Congress spokesperson had stated that after returning to power, they would once again lock the Ram Mandir and send Bhagwan Ram back to the tent.

Shah's rally in D'sala today

DHARAMSALA, MAY 24

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will address a rally at the police grounds here tomorrow afternoon.

Sources said that the BJP had given a target to its leaders to mobilise at least 20,000 party workers from across Kangra district for the rally. Shah's rally in Dharamsala is going to be the last big event of the BJP in the district before the campaigning ends.

The BJP and its candidate for the Dharamsala byelection Sudhir Sharma will go all out to make the rally a success, as it will set the tempo for his campaign. — TNS

Sudhir, Sukhu trade corruption charges

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA/KULLU, MAY 24

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu during his two-day tour of Dharamsala targeted BJP candidate for the Dharamsala Assembly byelection Sudhir Sharma. Sukhu and Sharma levelled corruption charges against each other as the campaigning intensified for the prestigious seat.

The Chief Minister also met the Dalai Lama this morning to solicit the support of Tibetan voters in the Dharamsala byelection. He addressed an election rally at Passu near Dharamsala in favour of Congress candidate from Dharamsala Davinder Jaggi.

He alleged that Sharma had purchased 82 benami properties in and around Dharamsala in the name of his driver in the past three years. Sukhu alleged Sharma was a member of the land mafia and his driver had spent Rs 10 crore to purchase properties in and around Dharamsala. He claimed that a poor farmer had complained to him that Sharma had forced him to sell his property. "I have ordered an inquiry into the properties purchased by Sudhir Sharma in other parts of Himachal also and soon the facts will be before the people of the state," he said.

Meanwhile, Sharma also levelled corruption charges



Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu being welcomed in a traditional way at Udaipur in Lahaul and Spiti district on Friday.

against Sukhu and said, "I challenge the Chief Minister to prove that I own any property beyond what I have declared in my affidavit and I will transfer it in the name of the government."

He alleged that the Chief Minister gave tax benefit of Rs 250 crore to one industrial unit set up in the border areas of Kangra. "Tax benefits to attract industry are given as per the policy. However, the Chief Minister has benefited a Congress leader from Punjab by giving her the tax rebate benefit of Rs 250 crore. The Chief Minister had Rs 250 crore for one unit of his friend but did not have Rs 30 crore for transferring

land in the name of the Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP)," he added.

Sharma alleged that some close aides of the Chief Minister had bought a piece of land for Rs 2.5 lakh in Hamirpur district but later sold it to the HRTC for Rs 6.5 crore. He also demanded an explanation from the Chief Minister regarding special benefits given to a stone crusher in Hamirpur district, sale of four industrial units in Baddi and the recommendation for the transfer of forestland to an MLA in Dharamsala for setting up a petrol station.

Later at Udaipur in Lahaul and Spiti district, Sukhu alleged that Congress

rebel Ravi Thakur kept instigating other party MLAs to join the BJP by luring them with a Rs 15 crore offer.

Sukhu, while addressing a gathering, alleged that Ravi, who is now the BJP candidate for the Lahaul and Spiti byelection, had betrayed the Congress.

Sukhu said, "My government had celebrated first Himachal Day in the Spiti valley and the Samman Nidhi scheme under which Rs 1,500 per month is given to women was also started for Spiti in May last year. The women of the district were brought under the ambit of the scheme from February 1, 2024."

Sukhu said that the state government had started the process of providing 22,000 jobs in one year. He added, "My government has restored the Old Pension Scheme for its employees, given four per cent DA, increased the diet money of police personnel, given the minimum support price on milk, increased daily wages and made schemes for the welfare of every section of society."

He appealed to voters to support Vikramaditya Singh and Anuradha Rana, Congress candidates from Mandi Lok Sabha seat and Lahaul-Spiti Assembly constituency, to ensure their victory with a huge margin.

CM 'failed' to ensure Mandi's development

MANDI, MAY 24

Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur during a rally held at the Paddal Ground here today lambasted the state government for its lacklustre approach to development issues in Mandi.

He said that since the Congress had assumed power in Himachal Pradesh, development had come to a halt. He criticised the diversion of Rs 1,000 crore earmarked for an airport in Mandi district and Rs 200 crore allocated for the Shivdham project, both sanctioned during the previous BJP government, to projects in other districts.

He accused Congress candidate from Mandi Vikramaditya Singh of remaining silent on Mandi's development issues while seeking public support for the Lok Sabha election.

BJP candidate Kangana Ranaut expressed gratitude to Prime Minister's initiatives for women empowerment. She vowed to prioritise infrastructure development in Mandi, if elected. Kangana, however, refrained from directly attacking the Congress and Vikramaditya, choosing instead to focus on her vision for Mandi's development and her determination to serve the public. — TNS

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
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Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the TATA Capital Housing Finance Limited, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated 12.02.2024 calling upon the borrower(s) 1. Bhavesh Texo Fab Private Limited Through Its Directors (i) Suresh Kumar S/o Shyam Lal Garg (director, Co-borrower & Mortgagor) (ii) Sheetal Garg S/o Shyam Lal Garg (director, Co-borrower & Mortgagor) (iii) Vijay Kumar S/o Laxman Dass (director, Co-borrower) 2. Suman Goyal W/o Vijay Kumar (trustee, Co-borrower & Mortgagor) to pay the amount mentioned in the notice 1,43,07,412.15/- Rounded off to Rs.1,43,07,412.00/- (Rupees One Crore Forty-Three Lakh Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Twelve Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Table with columns: Loan Account No., Name of Obligor(s), Amount & Date of Demand Notice, Possession Date. Includes details for Mr. Harpreet Singh and Mr. Sukhdev Singh.

Table with columns: Loan Account No., Name of Obligor(s), Amount & Date of Demand Notice, Possession Date. Includes details for Mr. Satyaaveer Singh and Mrs. Geeta Chauhan.

NORTHERN RAILWAY Notice Inviting Tenders

Table with columns: Tender No., Name of work, App Cost (Rs.), Cost of Tender Form (Rs.), Date & time for submission of tender, Earnest Money # (Rs.), Completion period, Opening of tender, Website Particulars.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Table with columns: N.I.T. No. & Name of work, Advertised Value (Rs.), Earnest Money (Rs.), Period of Completion, Closing date & time of tender, Opening date & time.

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Table with columns: Catalogue No., Auction Start, Name of work. Includes details for water vending machines, multi-purpose stalls, and catering stalls.

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POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX IV (RULE 8(1))

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized officer of the (HDFC Bank Ltd. under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 19.03.2024 calling upon the borrower (1). Prem Ratan Swami S/o Lakshmi Chand R/o Gurudwara Ke pass 15 Nohar Hanumangarh, Rajasthan . Pin Code: 335523 Ph. No. 8005159611..... Applicant / Co-Borrower (2). Mrs Kamla Devi W/o Prem Ratan Swami R/o Gurudwara Ke pass 15 Nohar Hanumangarh, Rajasthan . Pin Code: 335523. Also at: Mrs Kamla Devi W/o Prem Ratan Swami R/o Property Bearing plot no. 760 & 760-B situated near Araki Bus Stand & Shani Dev Mandir, Aarki Road, Nohar 335523, Distt. Hanumangarh and plot comes under Jogiasan No. 1, Khasra No. 32. (3). Yogesh Swami S/o Prem Ratan Swami R/o Gurudwara Ke pass 15 Nohar Hanumangarh, Rajasthan. Pin Code : 335523..... Co-Applicant / Co-Borrower Naurang Lal S/o Rudha Ram R/o Neemla(14) Ellanabad, Sirsa, Haryana. Pin Code : 125102..... Guarantor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 23,98,777/- (Rs. Twenty-Three Lakh Ninety-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Seven Only) and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Cong-ruled states plan to cut SC, ST quota, claims Anurag

UNA, MAY 24

Union Minister Anurag Thakur today said that the Congress-ruled states had proposed cutting the reservation quota of SCs, STs and OBCs by 5 per cent and questioned whether Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu will also follow the same formula.

The Union Minister addressed a series of election meetings in the Kullu Assembly segment. He said the Chief Minister did not oppose proposals mooted by the governments of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka to reduce the reservation for weaker sections. He added the Congress always opposed Dr BR Ambedkar and put an end to his political career

He alleged that now, the party was bent upon undoing his efforts of uplifting the poor sections of society.

Anurag said that the Congress had proposed religion-based reservation in an effort to appease a section of society.

He added this was an attempt to divide the nation on religious lines.

Anurag counted various development schemes and projects initiated by the Narendra Modi government during the past 10 years. — OC

First Barsi notice for Fardar Bir Devinder Singh (Former Deputy Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha) 1949-2023. In his memory, please join us for Bhog & Kirtan on Sunday, 26 May 2024, 12.00 pm to 1.30 pm followed by Guru ka Langar at Gurudwara Moti Bagh Sahib, Patiala.

# In Anantnag, candidates call for huge turnout

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, MAY 24  
As the crucial South Kashmir constituency of Anantnag-Rajouri prepares for polls on Saturday, political leaders are urging residents to vote in large numbers. While each party seeks support for their respective candidates, the primary call is for a high voter turnout.

The constituency has seen a series of militant attacks in Poonch and Rajouri districts. Two militant attacks were reported last week, in which a BJP sarpanch of Shopian was killed and two tourists in Pahalgam were injured.

This marks the conclusion of voting in the Union Territory, with polling already completed in the other four constituencies. Spread over 18 Assembly segments—11 in Kashmir's Anantnag, Kulgam and Shopian districts and seven in Jammu's Poonch and Rajouri districts—the constituency is home to three major ethnic groups: Kashmiris, Gujjars and Paharis.

Nearly 50 per cent voters are Kashmiri Muslims, while 28.5 per cent are Paharis and 21.5 per cent are Gujjars and Bakerwals. Kashmiris had been boycotting polls in the past, but this time, political parties are expecting a good turnout.

The Gujjars and Bakerwals belong to the same ethnic group, with Bakerwals being pastoral nomads who travel across the region with their



CRPF personnel test a drone for aerial surveillance on the eve of the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections in Rajouri on Friday. PTI

livestock, while Gujjars get settled and raise cattle. The Gujjar-Bakerwal community was officially recognised under the Scheduled Tribes in 1991.

The Paharis are a distinct social and linguistic group. On February 22, the Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir was granted the Scheduled Tribes (ST) status, despite strong opposition from the Gujjars. The BJP expects that Paharis will repay the gesture by voting for BJP-

backed Apni Party candidate Zafar Iqbal Manhas.

PDP president and candidate from the constituency Mehbooba Mufti, a Kashmiri, hopes to garner support in the Pir Panjal region and South Kashmir. She said South Kashmir is her maternal home as she has been a native of Bijbehara town. She referred her opponent from National Conference, Mian Altaf, as an outsider in the constituency.

Altaf, a Gujjar spiritual leader, is banking on his party's traditional stronghold in Anantnag and Kulgam districts. He is also expecting support from a large number of Gujjar voters from Pir Panjal region. The CPM and Congress have lent their support to the constituency.

Charging Mehbooba Mufti of describing Mian Altaf as an outsider, former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said, "Mehbooba is from Bijbehara in Anantnag.

Doesn't Mian Sahab have relatives in Rajouri or Koker-nag? When I was contesting my second Parliament election from Srinagar, Mehbooba was my rival candidate. How were you considered a local then? Even late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed Sahab contested from RS Pora or Uttar Pradesh," Omar said.

Abdullah has asked voters to exercise their franchise and support National Conference's Mian Altaf.

## Sat phones, drones in place for poll

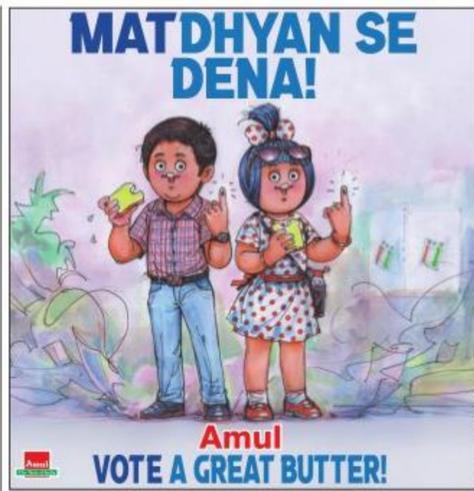
ANANTNAG/RAJOURI, MAY 24

With the threat of cross-border shelling in some border areas and satellite phones and special runners in place to deal with contingencies, all is in readiness for elections in the controversially redrawn Anantnag-Rajouri constituency from where PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti is contesting.

Nothing is being left to chance, said officials. Multi-layer security arrangements have been put in place in the constituency spread across 18 assembly segments in Anantnag, Kulgam and Shopian in south Kashmir and Rajouri and Poonch districts south of Pir Panjal to ensure free, fair and peaceful polling.

The Election Commission has set up 2,338 polling stations in the parliamentary constituency, which has more than 18.36 lakh voters. Four election staff, including the presiding officer, will be stationed in every polling booth. In all, more than 9,000 polling staffers, including reserves, are being deployed and have left for their stations.

With 19 border polling stations along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri and Poonch, a contingency plan has been worked out to deal with cross-border shelling. —PTI



## Mirwaiz placed under house arrest again

SRINAGAR, MAY 24

Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was once again placed under house arrest and prevented from addressing the Friday congregation at the historic Jamia mosque, according to

the mosque's managing body, Anjuman Aiqaf Jamia Masjid. They reported that Mirwaiz had been barred from delivering sermons at the mosque since May 3. The Anjuman condemned the repeated detention of Mirwaiz. —OC

## Jharuwale now drug dealers, had vowed..

FROM PAGE 1

to Pakistan. India had more than 90,000 Pakistani soldiers in its captivity, who could have been easily exchanged for Kartarpur," he said.

"Modi Modi" chants rent the air when the PM arrived on the stage and also as his helicopter flew away. The protesting farmers who attempted to reach the rally venue were stopped about 5 km away. The packed venue had a large number of women supporters, all dressed in saffron sarees that were provided by a local councillor.

Speaking in defence of the media (without naming Ajit Group's Managing Editor Barjinder Singh Hamdard against whom an FIR had been lodged over alleged misappropriation of funds), the PM said, "They are register-

ing cases against media house that don't give in to their pressure. This is their real face... The state BJP chief has vowed that the BJP won't allow AAP's excesses against the media."

Earlier in Gurdaspur, the PM attacked the Congress over the 1984-anti Sikh riots, alleging that while it allowed the "massacre of Sikhs" and its governments at the Centre protected the rioters, he ensured the guilty were punished. "They fuelled separatism in Punjab. Then they got the massacre of Sikhs done in Delhi. Till the time the Congress remained in power at the Centre, it used to protect the rioters... It was Modi who got files of the anti-Sikh riots opened. It was Modi who ensured punishment to the guilty," he said.

## Search op launched in Samba after 'suspicious movement'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, MAY 24  
A search operation was launched on Friday in Samba district along international border (IB) after reports of suspicious movement in the area.

Security forces, including the police and the Border Security Force (BSF), held searches in many villages after locals reported that

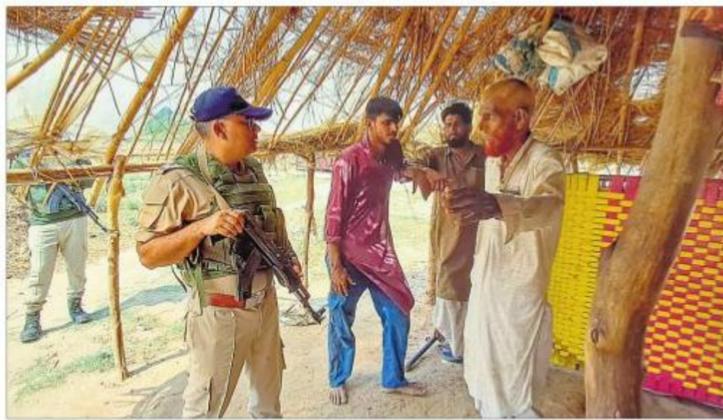
some suspicious men were seen near Bein-Lalchak area.

An official said drones were also used for surveillance of the area during the search operation to detect their movement. Personnel of the security forces conducted house-to-house verification and checked identification documents of people living close to the border.

The operation continued till

evening in many villages, including Manguchek, Sadechek, Regal and Chahwal. Locals have reported several instances of suspicious movement in Samba and Kathua districts.

It is believed that some ultras operating in Rajouri and Poonch might have slipped across the border from Samba and Kathua and then trekked to the twin districts.



Security forces conduct a search operation in a Samba village. FILE

## Ahead of PM's rallies in Gurdaspur, Jalandhar, cops detain farmers

were reportedly tipped-off by their sources.

A police officer said, "The union leaders have a lot of sources in the department. Anybody owning even an acre of land is a sympathiser of protesting farmers and their movement. They pass on information about any possible action against them. No wonder most leaders managed to make good their escape."

The sources said another factor that worked in their favour was the presence of deras on the outskirts of villages. "Inmates of these deras immediately inform the farmers living in nearby villages about the movement of the police," said another senior officer.

DIG (Border) Rakesh Kaushal said the police had been trying to negotiate with the farmers since yesterday, but they kept insisting that they would show black flags to the PM. The farmers thus arrived at Paniyar focal point from various directions on Friday morning where they were detained and taken to an undisclosed location.

The sources said on Thursday evening, some farmers purchased 400 metre of black cloth from a shop in the main market. The CID got wind of this development, following which it was decided to stop them in their tracks.

In another development, the police rounded up about two dozen farmers who arrived at Gurdaspur railway station from Amritsar. They were taken to the

nearby Government Railways Police (GRP) police station and were released only after the PM's rally was over.

In Jalandhar, former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi reached Akalpur village to express solidarity with detained farmer union leader Paramjit Singh Pamma.

"I will not question the police. I will question Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann as to why he had ordered the detention of farmers. It is clear that he is hand in glove with the BJP," he alleged.

In another related development, farmers aligned with the Kirti Kisan Union held a massive gathering at Jeevan Nangal village near Nakodar.

The BSF was deployed to avert any untoward incident. Trouble also simmered at Phagwara where activists of the BKU (Doaba) held a protest near an eatery on the Phagwara-Jalandhar National Highway. The activists, led by BKU (D) president Manjit Singh Rai, first assembled at the grain market on the Phagwara-Hoshiarpur road and then drove for about 14 km before being stopped.

The Jalandhar police said while scores of leaders were let off on the condition that they won't go to the PM's rally, many others remained under house arrest.

A jatha of 100 Kirti Kisan Union members was detained at Nawanshahr. Traffic disruptions were seen on the Jalandhar-Amritsar, Jalandhar-Nakodar-Moga and Jalandhar-Phagwara highways.

## Khattar, Maneka, Mehbooba's fate to be sealed today

phase, 5.84 crore are male, 5.29 crore female and 5,120 third gender voters. There are over 8.93 lakh registered voters above the age of 85, 23,659 above the age of 100 and 9.58 lakh voters with disabilities, who have been provided the option to vote from home.

A total of 184 observers—66 general observers, 35 police observers and 83 expenditure observers—have reached their constituencies ahead of the polling. A total of 2,222 flying squads, 2,295 static surveillance teams, 819 video surveillance teams and 569

video viewing teams are keeping a round-the-clock vigil to deal with any form of voter inducement.

Besides, 257 international border check-posts and 927 inter-state border check-posts are keeping a strict watch on any illicit flow of liquor, drugs,

cash and freebies.

Tomorrow's polling will see some high-profile contestants in key battles. Among them are former Union Minister and BJP leader Maneka Gandhi, who is contesting from Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh, ex-Haryana CM Manohar Lal

Khattar, who is contesting his first Lok Sabha election from Karnal, Congress leader Deepender Hooda from Rohtak, former J&K Chief Minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti from Anantnag and Cabinet Minister and BJP leader Rao Inderjit Singh from Gurgaon,

against whom the Congress has pitted actor Raj Babbar.

Delhi will see Congress leader and former president of the JNU Students' Union Kanhaiya Kumar locking horns with sitting North East Delhi MP and BJP leader Manoj Tiwari.

### हरियाणा के विद्यार्थियों के लिए पुरस्कार जीतने का सुनहरा अवसर

**अपने माता-पिता/दादा-दादी/सगे-संबंधियों को वोट डालने के लिए प्रेरित करें**

**वोट डालने उपरान्त उनके साथ नीली स्याही लगी अंगुली के साथ सेल्फी अपलोड करें**

**जिला स्तर पर निकाले जाएंगे ड्रॉ विजेताओं को मिलेंगे नकद पुरस्कार**

**प्रथम**

**₹10,000**

**द्वितीय**

**₹5,000**

**तृतीय**

**₹2,500**

**इसके अतिरिक्त जिला स्तर पर सबसे अधिक सेल्फी अपलोड करने वाले स्कूल को ₹25,000 नकद पुरस्कार**

**सेल्फी लेकर पुरस्कार पाएं, लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाएं**

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## The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Modi in Punjab

Amid farmers' protests, PM plays Sikh card

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi addressed three election rallies in Punjab in two days against the backdrop of farmers' protests. His visit to the state came more than two years after the Ferozpur fiasco of January 2022, when a road blockade by protesters had forced him to turn back without addressing a rally in the run-up to the Punjab Assembly elections. The PM has had a troubled relationship with the state's farming community ever since the Centre enacted three contentious farm laws in September 2020. The legislation had triggered a year-long agitation by farmers of Punjab and other states at Delhi's borders, where they braved the elements with remarkable resilience. What peeved the protesters was the apparent indifference and apathy of the powers that be. It was only in November 2021 that the Modi government finally relented and decided to repeal the laws.

However, even this historic climbdown has failed to placate the state's farmers, whose main demand is a legal guarantee for the procurement of all crops at the minimum support price (MSP). The ruthless scuttling of the Dilli Chalo march in February further widened the trust deficit. Talks on the MSP issue have proved inconclusive, even as BJP candidates have been facing stiff opposition in many villages, where the saffron party is being accused of betraying farmers.

Amid such bitter resistance, PM Modi chose to play the Sikh card in Punjab, patting himself on the back for the opening of the Kartarpur Sahib corridor in 2019. He added that had he been the PM in 1971, he would have taken Kartarpur Sahib from Pakistan before releasing their 90,000-odd soldiers in the wake of the Bangladesh war. He also lauded his government for reopening files of cases related to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. But his outreach to Sikhs may cut no ice with the irate farmers, who are in no mood to forgive the BJP for the humiliation and vilification suffered by them, especially during the 2020-21 stir.

## Two-state advocacy

Three European countries recognise Palestine

A coordinated move by Ireland, Norway and Spain to recognise the Palestinian state may be largely symbolic, but it reflects growing public outrage in Europe over the devastation and civilian death toll in Gaza, as well as Israel's deepening isolation. This decision followed discussions among several European nations, rooted in the belief that a fresh thrust for a two-state solution is essential. The diplomatic move in favour of Palestinian statehood signals a significant shift in Europe against Israel's excesses in Gaza, widely condemned as genocidal. Notably, Norway, a key player in the Oslo Accords of 1993, has emphasised that recognising Palestine is crucial for peace in West Asia, asserting that a two-state solution is in Israel's best interest. Ireland and Spain have echoed this sentiment, underscoring the need to break the cycle of violence that has worsened since the October 7 attack by Hamas and the subsequent Israeli counter-assaults. Hopefully, it will inspire other Western countries to follow suit and step up international pressure for a ceasefire and meaningful negotiations. Salman Rushdie has also pitched into the already muddled debate.

India has maintained a consistent policy, advocating for direct negotiations to establish a sovereign, independent Palestine coexisting peacefully with Israel. It has reiterated its long-standing support for a two-state solution, though Prime Minister Modi's tweet condemning the initial Hamas attack was interpreted by some observers as a shift in its stance.

Meanwhile, the International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants against the Israeli PM and Defence Minister and three Hamas leaders for alleged war crimes. With the International Court of Justice hearing South Africa's appeal to stop Israel's attacks in Rafah, the global clamour for accountability and justice is growing.

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1924

## Gandhi on the policy of Swarajists

THE important statements issued by Mahatma Gandhi as well as CR Das and Motilal Nehru regarding their discussions on the policy of Swarajists does not, we are happy to say, create any embarrassing situation in the country as was expected from the misstatements published by certain correspondents. All that they show is that Gandhi does not approve of the policy of what is called "obstruction" adopted by Swarajists in the Councils. Mahatmaji considers that Council entry is inconsistent with non-cooperation as he conceives it, but Das and Nehru naturally are not convinced of the inconsistency of their Council policy with the Congress principle. On this point, however, both parties have agreed to differ and for all practical purposes it is useless to discuss the question further and reopen fruitless controversies. Mahatmaji realises the fact that the Swarajists' work in the Councils is a settled fact and the rest of the Congressmen should maintain strict neutrality in the matter and give full freedom to Swarajists to try their own plans. If they succeed in utilising the Councils for Congress' ends, Mahatmaji will join them. Otherwise, he expects the former to adopt the original programme. The Delhi and Coochabar resolutions have allowed Swarajists a chance of trying the method of Council entry, and this position should not be disturbed. This result of the Juhu conversations might well have been disclosed at once without keeping it a secret and thus rousing public curiosity and suspicions. There is nothing strange in such honest difference of opinion on public policy and its application.

## Global headwinds bring India, US closer

Washington seems to have grudgingly accepted New Delhi's strategic autonomy

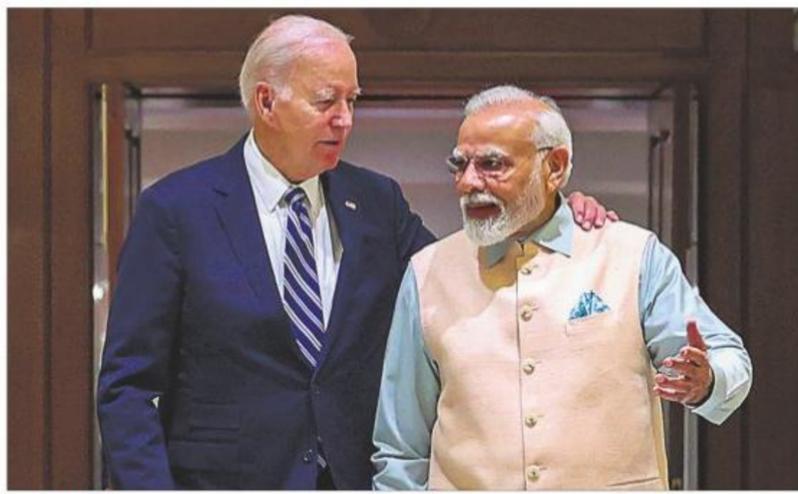
GEN DEEPAK KAPOOR (RETD)  
FORMER CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin's recent visit to China underlines the depth of the gradually developing close relationship between Moscow and Beijing. This embrace has geopolitical ramifications both at the regional and global levels. From the Indian perspective, in view of the ongoing Chinese expansionism in the Himalayas, any Russian support to this adventurism would be detrimental to India's security interests. Against this backdrop, there is a need to examine the possible trajectory of Indo-US defence cooperation after the elections in both countries.

As far as the Indian elections are concerned, the indications are that the present dispensation is likely to retain power. In such an eventuality, it would be fair to assume that the current stance of New Delhi on India-US ties would continue, leading to a steady growth in the relationship.

In the US elections—polling is due in November—it is too early to hazard a guess as to whether Joe Biden or Donald Trump will win, especially amid the latter's legal troubles. In case of a Biden victory, the current set of US policies is likely to be followed through in relations with India. However, if Trump wins, some changes can be expected. The quid-pro-quo approach vis-a-vis European members of NATO that Trump followed during his presidency could well be adopted by him while dealing with India.

Irrespective of who becomes the US President, the competi-



IMPETUS: The 2+2 dialogue between Quad partners is indicative of the growing Indo-US convergence. PTI

tiveness between an aggressive and expansionist China and the US is likely to grow, accentuating the geopolitical divide at the global level.

In the regional sphere, the Indian growth story and Chinese aggressiveness have resulted in a confrontational situation, which has defied resolution despite 21 rounds of military-level talks. At the political level, too, no headway appears to have been made.

India is the only nation in the region which has physically resisted Chinese attempts at grabbing territory along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). In the Ladakh sector, China has steadfastly refused to withdraw from several areas it occupied, resulting in an eyeball-to-eyeball deployment. Further, Sino-Pakistan collusion has raised the possibility of a two-front threat to India in the sensitive J&K region.

The commonality of perceived threats is a driver of closer Indo-US ties. It has taken the US considerable time to grudgingly accept the Indian stance of 'strategic autonomy' in view of the coinciding national interests. The grant of Tier-1 status to

## Defence trade between the US and India has increased substantially in the past 15 years.

India in 2018, the signing of four key foundational agreements (the Communications Interoperability and Security Memorandum of Agreement, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement, the General Security of Military Information Agreement and the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement) and the commencement of the 2+2 dialogue between Quad partners is indicative of the growing Indo-US convergence.

Over the past 25 years, China's defence budget has offi-

cially been 3-4 times larger than that of India. Unofficially, its budget could roughly be one-and-a-half times the official figures. This has created a huge military capability gap between the two, which is partially offset by excellent and superior fighting ability of our soldiers. So, India has to tread carefully while dealing with the Chinese. Thus, in the Quad deliberations, India has steered clear of security issues in view of the Chinese sensitivities. This aspect has been well understood by India's Quad partners.

Defence trade between the US and India has increased substantially in the past 15 years. In 2020, the US Congress authorised \$25 billion worth of defence sales to India up to 2025-26. New Delhi is keen on joint research and production with transfer of technology (TOT) in defence equipment. However, an agreement on this issue is yet to materialise.

It needs to be appreciated that technologically, the US is far ahead of India in advanced defence weaponry. Hence, any agreement in this field will entail the US sharing high-end

technology details with India. Up to what extent the US would be willing to part with such sensitive knowhow and at what price remain in the realm of negotiations.

Prolonged Indian dependence on Russia for defence equipment for modernisation is gradually reducing. However, the pace of this reduction is likely to remain slow as the Indian economy can hardly afford huge defence budgets to quickly shift to Western/Made-in-India weaponry for modernisation. Limitation of resources, therefore, is likely to delay our defence modernisation. A liberal US approach on TOT would help in a quicker transition.

Another factor that is likely to prolong the shift to Western/Made-in-India weaponry is the timeframe for its introduction, trials of the equipment in multifarious terrains and weather conditions, acceptance by the Services after due changes/modifications and finally, mass production for absorption by the Services. There is hardly much latitude in shortening this cycle, which is likely to be 15-20 years, depending on the size of the order and the manufacturing capability. In some cases, work has already commenced in the past few years.

The conflict in Ukraine has brought Russia and China much closer, with Moscow gradually delinking from Europe and depending increasingly on Beijing. This bear hug, coupled with the Chinese muscle-flexing in South and East China Seas and the Pacific and Indian Oceans, is a cause for concern, thus enhancing the need for strategic convergence between the US and India. While occasional pin-pricks between the two may continue regarding issues like human rights, treatment of minorities and continuation of ties with Russia, geopolitical compulsions at the global level are likely to bring them closer in the long run.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The only thing that will redeem mankind is cooperation. —Bertrand Russell

## A narrow escape in anti-insurgency op

MP NATHANAEL

BACK in November 1974, as a Deputy Superintendent of Police, I was commanding a company of the Central Reserve Police Force in Tamenglong district of Manipur. Around midnight, my Commanding Officer (CO), Surjeet Singh Gill, told me on the phone that I was to lead an operation in Old Tamenglong village, a few kilometres away. Since I was short of personnel, additional troops were sent from the battalion headquarters, along with a detailed plan of operations.

Around 2 am, two platoons commanded by sub-inspectors arrived from the headquarters, which was about a kilometre away. While the two platoons were to plug likely escape routes, I had to lead a platoon to raid the hideout of insurgents on the periphery of the village at the break of dawn.

Having briefed all three platoons, we left for Old Tamenglong village. We had to cover the distance stealthily, avoiding the crushing of leaves lest the dogs should bark and reveal our movements, alerting the insurgents. While it was still dark, we were in our respective positions. At dawn, I advanced towards the village, with my men following me. Soon, we were near the hideout. I spotted an insurgent in a clearing. No sooner had he seen me, he fired with his Chinese SLRs (self-loading rifle). All hell broke loose. Amidst a heavy exchange of fire, I sustained bullet injuries in the legs and fell on the ground, though I continued to fire till I ran out of bullets. While I lay on the ground, firing, the insurgents continued to spray bullets from behind a wall of boulders on my right. It was just providence that I was not hit, though I could see dust flying around whenever the bullets hit the ground.

Having exhausted the bullets, I rolled back to a safer place behind a boulder, where a constable had taken position with a mortar. I directed another constable to lob grenades at the hideout. With grenades exploding, the firing ceased. The hideout was immediately cordoned off by my men and the insurgents came out with their hands raised. Their hands were tied and I was shifted to a cot.

A little later, my CO arrived with reinforcements, took stock of the situation and evacuated me to the district hospital. A huge haul of sophisticated weapons, such as Chinese SLRs, carbines and pistols, along with hundreds of rounds, were recovered. The self-styled CO of 1st Naga Battalion and four others were arrested; a corporal died in the encounter.

It was a successful operation, no doubt, but the escape of a few insurgents upset me. Having got wind of our men positioned on probable escape routes, they took a detour and fled. Since then, I have often pondered how they managed to escape. Had we arrested them, we would have had a good number of insurgents in our custody.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Agnipath scheme ill-conceived

Apropos of 'Reviewing Agnipath'; the scheme for the recruitment of soldiers in the armed forces is ill-conceived. Four years of service cannot generate the comradeship and a feeling of sacrifice for the nation in the minds of Agniveers. Pay, perks, retirement benefits and status are some aspects of the matter that need to be looked into. It is concerning that 75 per cent of the recruits will be left vulnerable to exploitation at the hands of big corporates once their service ends. Such a significant scheme that has ramifications for national security must not be implemented in haste.

WG CDR JS MINHAS (RETD), MOHALI

## Opportunities await Agniveers

With reference to the editorial 'Reviewing Agnipath'; the aim of the scheme is to keep the security forces young and sturdy. After their professional training, the Agniveers will be able to handle complex situations in conflict and cyber security and tackle various other threats. Their technological know-how and the experience of serving in the armed forces will help the Agniveers develop skills to become entrepreneurs. Vast opportunities await them in public sector units and the corporate sector. They can also pursue a career in the civil services or some other field.

SUBHASH VAID, NEW DELHI

## Fix justice delivery system

The Pune car crash that claimed two lives throws the spotlight on the broken justice delivery system in the country. It is obvious that if it were not for public outrage over the grant of bail to the teen, the course of the case could have been very different. It is worth noting that the cops took the accused teenager's blood sample only around eight hours after the incident, even though the alcohol level in the blood gets diluted with time. The 17-year-old should be tried as an adult for his reckless act. His parents should also be held accountable for neglect on their part.

SANJAY CHOPRA, MOHALI

## Safety norms go for a toss

The blast at the chemical factory in Thane is reminiscent of the Bhopal gas tragedy. The mishap is a stark reminder of the importance of adhering to the relevant safety norms. The kin of the deceased and those who sustained injuries in the explosion must receive adequate compensation. Industrialists need to start prioritising the safety of their workers and the local residents. A thorough investigation should be conducted, and those behind the lapse must be held accountable. This tragedy should prompt the authorities concerned to take steps to ensure strict enforcement of safety regulations at factories, regular safety audits, proper maintenance of equipment and adequate measures to deal with such emergencies.

NITIKA, CHANDIGARH

## Double standards of parties

Apropos of the article 'Political parties pay lip service to women's safety'; Indian society is patriarchal. Gender-based discrimination is widespread in the country. Despite a lot of progress, women continue to face the threat of violence and sexual harassment. Political parties that are supposed to protect women's rights and ensure their empowerment have failed in their duty. The double standards of political parties towards women's issues have become obvious. There ought to be zero tolerance to crimes against women. Political leaders must reaffirm their commitment to the upliftment of women and ensure that they live with honour and dignity. A change in mindset is the need of the hour.

RAVI SHARMA, DHARIWAL

## Hike stipend of medicos

Most MBBS students in Punjab pay lakhs of rupees as tuition fees and study day and night to become doctors. They also work as interns for a whole year and often have to toil for 12 hours a day, looking after the patients. Yet, most of them just get paid a paltry monthly stipend of around Rs 15,000. Capable doctors are the foundation of the health system. While the state government has invested crores of rupees for the setting up of mohalla clinics and to provide residents with free medicines, the concerns of these young doctors remain unaddressed. These medical students must get paid a respectable stipend.

RAJESH GOYAL, BY MAIL

# The rise of gold and the fall of dollar



**PRITAM SINGH**  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, OXFORD  
BROOKES BUSINESS SCHOOL, UK

**T**HE trend of rising gold prices in the last few months does not reflect the usual market fluctuations of supply and demand conditions for this 'precious' metal. But it signifies not only the uncertain global economic conditions but also, even more importantly, the changing geopolitical world order afflicted by conflicts. The spot gold prices hit a record of \$2,431.29 per ounce on April 12. The rise in gold prices has become linked to three other global changes: the rise in demand for gold reserves by Central banks, the Russia-Ukraine war and the declining reserves of dollar in the foreign currency reserves by Central banks.

When Russia invaded Ukraine over two years ago, the US-led NATO military bloc did not want to participate in a direct military confrontation with Russia because of the potentially dangerous implications for Europe, and most importantly, for Germany, the largest European economy that was

critically dependent on Russian gas supplies for its energy needs. This strategy of avoidance of direct military intervention by the US is also the product of the military and political failures of past US interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Biden administration, in consultation with its key European allies, decided to use the economic weapon of sanctions to cripple Russia economically and, through that, militarily. The US froze Russia's dollar reserves in the hope that — since dollar was the most accepted foreign currency in global trade — Russia will be isolated economically and that this isolation would create adverse domestic economic conditions in Russia and possible domestic unrest, forcing Putin to halt Russian aggression and eventually to surrender to a ceasefire acceptable to the US.

American economic and security strategists could not have imagined that weaponising the dollar would backfire. This weaponisation of currency alerted the policy strategists in all countries that had tense relations of one kind or another with the US that they could one day be subjected to dollar sanctions. This fear led the Central banks of several important countries to go on a gold-buying spree and reduce dependence on dollar reserves in their foreign



**DOWNFALL:** Though the dollar remains a strong currency, global trust in it as a reserve currency has suffered a decline. iStock

currency reserves. The World Gold Council's latest report, published in April, points out that in the first quarter of 2024, the demand by Central banks to buy gold reached record highs. Four countries that were especially noted to have led the high demand were: China, India, Turkey and Kazakhstan. No official announcement from any of these countries would suggest that they are buying gold because of their concerns about possible dollar sanctions in future, but it is obvious that substantial gold reserves in an uncertain world ensure not only safety but also a sound investment.

Given the very tense

relations between the US and China especially because of their clashing strategic interests in Taiwan, the Dragon has been the most aggressive buyer of gold of late. China's Central bank (The People's Bank of China) was the largest official sector buyer of gold in 2023.

According to the World Gold Council, China's net purchases of gold were 7.23 million ounces, or 224.9 metric tonnes, the highest ever purchase in a single year since at least 1977. China's continuous 18-month gold-buying spree led to the accumulation of its gold reserves equal to 72.8 million ounces of gold by the end of April. Its value is equal to a staggering

The fetish for gold will vanish if the global community were to fully grasp the shocking level of environmental degradation caused by gold mining.

\$167.96 billion. That it's the demand by Central banks to increase their gold holdings — which has been the prime mover behind gold price rise — is also demonstrated by the fact that the demand for gold for jewellery during this period had decreased as a result of high prices.

The increasing demand for gold reserves by Central banks was accompanied by a decrease in dollar reserves. The dollar had an overwhelming dominance in global currency reserves for several decades after the Second World War. The dollar was considered the safest currency to hold. Even till the 1990s, the share of dollar in official foreign exchange reserves was 70 per cent, according to the International Monetary Fund data. This has now come down to 58 per cent of the global reserves. The attempt by US strategists to weaponise the dollar through sanctions against Russia has certainly created difficulties for some Russian citizens at home or abroad in their foreign exchange transactions, but it has failed to subdue the Russian state, which has managed to bypass these sanctions.

The India-Russia trade in rupees and roubles for the purchase of oil by India from Russia along with some aspects of Russia-China and Russia-Iran trades are some examples of bypassing the dollar. The global confidence in the dollar has been eroded,

which, in turn, has diminished one key aspect of America's source of power in the global political economy.

Though the dollar remains a strong currency, global trust in it as a reserve currency has suffered a decline. The narratives of de-dollarisation or the alternative BRICS currency floated by President Lula of Brazil — and supported enthusiastically by Russia, silently by China and hesitantly by India — along with the trend of increasing gold reserves are reflections of the declining importance of dollar as a global reserve currency and America as the most dominant global economic power.

Such epochal changes do not take place suddenly. There may even be reversals or — if Trump returns to power in the US — an acceleration of decline in America's influence because of his blinkered vision of American isolationism couched as American nationalism.

It is not difficult to imagine that if there were to be peace in the world, gold would lose the importance it has acquired in the commodified world we live in because, as Karl Marx theorised, gold had no use value, it only had exchange value. The fetish for gold will vanish if the global community were to fully grasp the shocking level of environmental degradation caused by gold mining.

# Uttarakhand beset by Char Dham Yatra chaos, forest fires



**RASHME SEHGAL**  
SENIOR JOURNALIST

**T**HE Uttarakhand Government led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami is responsible for plunging the state into one disaster after another. The most recent example is the gross mishandling of the high-profile Char Dham Yatra, considered a big money-spinner. It was inaugurated on May 10, and within its first 14 days has left over 45 pilgrims dead and many injured.

In 2023, the yatra resulted in the death of over 200 pilgrims due to high-altitude sickness, landslides, etc. The administration had a good six months to prepare for the 2024 event since the doors of the four shrines were closed in early November. They could have used this time to introduce basic safety measures such as widening the pathways leading up to the shrines, ensuring basic health facilities and preparing a roadmap for the smooth flow of traffic.

Instead, on the first day

itself at the Yamunotri shrine, with a carrying capacity of around 4,500 people, there were about 45,000 tourists awaiting their turn on a narrow, unsafe pathway, holding on for dear life to a rickety bamboo railing where one false step would have seen them plunging down a deep crevice. The traffic jam to get to Yamunotri was 45 km long and yatis complained that they had to wait 10-12 hours for *darshan*.

The picture was no different in Kedarnath, which on the first day saw a crowd of nearly 80,000 yatis making their way up to the shrine, only to be met by heavy snow and rain; hotels were charging astronomical amounts, which the majority could ill afford. The story in Badrinath was equally chaotic. Pilgrims braved the cold to stand in long queues from 2 am, and when the temple door's finally opened, priority was given to VIP *darshan*. This so incensed the yatis that they broke into protests and anti-government sloganeering.

With social media flooded with videos of serpentine queues and angry devotees, the state government threatened to take legal action against those spreading fake news or videos to defame the yatra. Local residents have taken to social media, demand-



**LAPSE:** The Uttarakhand Government is responsible for the gross mishandling of the Char Dham Yatra. PTI

ing that the administration regulate the flow of pilgrims and vehicles entering Uttarakhand as the present revenue-driven model was creating fresh environmental challenges. Garbage disposal has emerged as one of the biggest challenges since most of this waste ends up polluting the rivers that originate from the higher Himalayas.

The yatra was preceded by forest fires, which burnt down vast tracts of deciduous and oak forests. Forest fires had started simmering across

the state in November 2023. Lack of winter rain and the dry summer spell have seen them spread to practically every forest-covered district from Pauri Garhwal to the Kedarnath and Badrinath valleys to the Kumaon hills, including Nainital, Bhowali and Haldwani, across Bhimtal and Sattal right up to Munsiyari, which lies on the Nepal border. The fire-induced haze was so thick that it led to the cancellation of flights to the Naini-Saini airport in Pithoragarh.

The hill state is facing the double whammy of environmental disasters and climate change.

According to satellite pictures, and confirmed by the Forest Survey of India, 40 per cent of Uttarakhand's once-dense forests have been burnt to cinders and yet we have a state government informing the Supreme Court that only 0.1 per cent of the forest cover has been affected. It was only when these fires reached Nainital that the Indian Air Force was asked to step in and assist in putting out these fires. Dhami and Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal returned to the state after election campaigning in Telangana and Karnataka when senior bureaucrats received a rap on their knuckles from the Supreme Court.

These fires have dried up thousands of springs, which are the only source of drinking water for the local people and have converted this once-beautiful state into a veritable gas chamber, which is impacting the health of its people. The young and elderly are complaining of irritation in the eyes and are being admitted to hospital because they are facing difficulty in breathing.

But the most shocking part of this saga is that the entire burden of controlling these fires has fallen on the shoulders of the understaffed and ill-equipped foresters, who are working 10 to 12 hours at a

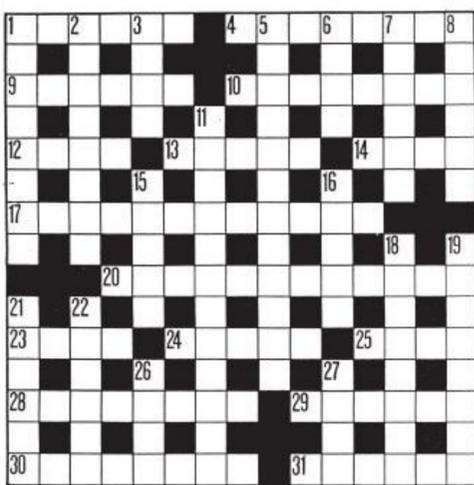
stretch, armed with little more than garden rakes and tree branches to control these fires that are racing across the mountain slopes, devouring everything in their path.

In a clear violation of an apex court order, the state government managed to secure permission from the Environment Ministry to do mining in its rivers as well as earn enormous profits from the sale of dug-up minerals, sands and stones. The rivers are drying up due to deforestation, excessive mining and pollution. During the summer months, they are little more than glorified *mullahs*. But the mining pits dug in these rivers are so deep that several people have drowned in them.

In February last year, the CM went to New Delhi to meet Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav in order to get permission to continue mining in four rivers (Kosi, Gaula, Sarda and Nandaur) for 10 years. After his meeting with Yadav, he wrote on social media: "Under the leadership of the double-engine government, we are always working towards the development and prosperity of the region."

Unfortunately, Uttarakhand is facing the double whammy of climate change and unprecedented environmental disasters.

## QUICK CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- Speak indistinctly (6)
- Limited to a small circle (8)
- Remote technical terminology (6)
- Belonging to earliest times (8)
- Bias in information (4)
- Over-sentimental (5)
- More precisely (4)
- Choleric (2,1,3,6)
- No alternative (7,3,2)
- Eager (4)
- Take great pleasure (5)
- Feigned (4)
- Given to delay (8)
- Wander idly (6)
- Kingdom (8)
- Casual (6)

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

**Across:** 1 Onset, 4 Politic, 8 Yet, 9 Ad nauseam, 10 Protege, 11 Drill, 13 Sponge, 15 Presto, 18 Stern, 19 Restful, 21 En passant, 23 Cog, 24 Finesse, 25 Proud.

**Down:** 1 Olympus, 2 Sotto voce, 3 Trace, 4 Ponder, 5 Launder, 6 Tie, 7 Camel, 12 Ipso facto, 14 Genesis, 16 Obligated, 17 Urbane, 18 Shelf, 20 Set up, 22 Pen.

### DOWN

- Stately and dignified (8)
- Paste of ground almonds (8)
- Weaving machine (4)
- Iron-willed (6-6)
- Domesticated (4)
- Put new life into (6)
- Group of settlers (6)
- Be very expensive (4,3,5)
- General destruction (5)
- Regard as a god (5)
- Forbid (8)
- Sudden rush in panic (8)
- Haphazard (6)
- Stringed instrument (6)
- Sensation (4)
- Become uninteresting (4)

## SU DO KU

9	1				5	4
	7	2			1	3
		3		4	9	
		5	2		6	4
7						6
	8	4		1	5	
	7		9		6	
2	4			3	8	
5	8				7	1

EASY

## YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

1	4	6	8	7	3	5	9	2
8	5	3	1	2	9	4	7	6
9	7	2	5	4	6	3	1	8
5	9	4	2	8	1	7	6	3
6	3	1	7	9	4	8	2	5
7	2	8	3	6	5	9	4	1
3	8	7	9	1	2	6	5	4
4	1	9	6	5	8	2	3	7
2	6	5	4	3	7	1	8	9

## CALENDAR

### MAY 25TH 2024, SATURDAY

- Shaka Samvat 1946
- Jyeshtha Shaka 4
- Jyeshtha Parvishite 12
- Hijari 1445
- Krishna Paksha Tithi 2, up to 6.59 pm
- Siddha Yoga up to 10.06 am
- Jyeshtha Nakshatra up to 10.36 am
- Moon enters Sagittarius sign 10.36 am

## FORECAST

CITY	SATURDAY SUNDAY	
	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	41	31
New Delhi	44	31
Amritsar	44	30
Bathinda	45	31
Jalandhar	44	30
Ludhiana	43	31
Bhivani	45	30
Hisar	45	30
Sirsa	46	33
Dharamsala	34	21
Manali	27	14
Shimla	26	18
Srinagar	32	15
Jammu	43	29
Kargil	27	10
Leh	23	07
Dehradun	37	25
Mussoorie	23	16

TEMPERATURE IN °C

# Brides Wanted

**SAINI**  
**Bride for handsome,** 5'-9", 1995, B.Com, working in MNC Team Leader. 90231-38883. (CL24017588)

**RAJPUT**  
**PQM for Himachal Rajput boy 30,** 5'-9", M.Tech. MNC. 94593-78825. (CL24002760)

**Mumbai based Thakur (Rajput)** Punjabi (Mahajan) boy, veg tectotaler, 5'-9", July 1988, BE (ICT Mumbai), Ph.D Chem. Engg. (USA), working on HIB visa, seeks tall, pleasant, soft-spoken, educated, non-Manglik girl from India/Abroad, willing to settle in USA. Caste no bar. Bureau excuse. WA: 77189-46365. (CL24017921)

**SM4 Rajput, Kachwaha, 30,** 5'-9", handsome boy, owner of South Delhi based Corporate Law House, B.Com, LL.B., LL.M, Ph.D, Father Practicing Chartered Accountant, mother Senior Govt. officer, no siblings, Financially well off family. Contact M: 95601-58500. (CL24017163)

**Match Phagwara based Saini Sikh** boy 93/ 6", B.Arch with good family background. Upper caste no bar. Contact: 99156-05533. (CL24018301)

**Match for Hindu Saini Manglik** boy 1994, 5'-10", B.Tech, working at Unify Healthcare Services Mohali. Salary 52000/- PM. 98786-94538, 87895-80765. (CL24018333)

**SM for handsome Saini boy IT Sales** professional, US MNC/Abroad, Dec 93 born, 6'-1", MBA- Thapar, being back to Ropar. Contact 98146-33821. (CL24018652)

**Suitable match for Saini Sikh** Manglik boy, 6'-2", 1992 born, B.Tech, working as Junior Engineer local Govt. Department of Punjab. Gotra- Dhanraj, Tamber. Seeking equally qualified Govt. employee match. Contact: 95773-00040, 82735-00040. (CL24018735)

**Saini community boy (Manglik),** 16.08.1994, 5'-4", qualification Diploma Engg. Electrical, salary 65000. Father retired from Government service. 82763-34453, 70249-88227. (CL24017411)

**Saini Sikh non-Turban boy Dec.** 1992, 5'-10", B.Tech., England & M.Tech. Canada. Canadian PR. Settled in Chandigarh. Own real estate business at Zirakpur. Upper middle class family. Caste no bar. 98150-27410. (CL24018811)

**Canada settled Saini Sikh family** seeks tall, beautiful educated match for their Canadian citizen boy, 1991, 5'-10", having decent job only. WhatsApp: 84273-26127. (CL24017253)

**Suitable professional qualified** match for Saini boy 30, 6', B.Tech Computer Science working QA consultant, MNC Gurgaon, 25 Lakh PA. Contact: 75086-76975, 99141-71045. (CL24017297)

**Saini handsome cleanshaven divorcee** Canada PR (Edmonton) boy 12.08.1980/ 6'-1", B.Com, seeking educated, tall girl with good values. Preference Doaba. Upper caste no bar. Send biodata with latest photo. WhatsApp: 99151-56950 (Hoshiarpur). (CL24018043)

**Match for Saini boy July 1998,** 5'-8", B.Tech., five figure salary p.m. MNC. Noida. Father Advocate owning 22 acres Agri. Farm own house (Kumkushetra), Grand Father ex army officer. B.Tech. girl preferred. Caste no bar. Mob. 98963-61542, 89507-31631. (CL24018192)

**Suitable match for divorcee Saini** Doctor smart boy 5'-7", settled in USA, permanent Residency. 94174-60892. (CL24018348)

**Match for Saini Sikh boy (turbaned),** March 1991/5'-10", B.Tech., working in Indian Oil Corporation. Father retired Gazetted Officer. Settled in Ropar. 94170-85231. Marriage bureau excuse. (CL24018355)

**Saini boy 16.01.1992, 09:10 pm,** Hoshiarpur, 5'-10", B.Tech., own business, vegetarian family. Contact: 94786-91111. (CL24018375)

**Suitable match for Hindu Saini** boy, (M.Pharm), Pharmacy Officer in Health Department, Punjab (Govt. job), 1992/5'-11". Preferred well qualified General Category. Contact: +91-771-76-66739, +61-420316693. No bureau. (CL24018915)

**AHLUWALIA**  
**Gursikh Ahluwalia 1991, 5'-10",** B.Tech., own work, rural/urban land, same status/ PR Ahluwalia girl preferred. 94179-36377. (CL24018823)

**PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED**  
**Qualified working disabled girl** for Hindu Khatri blind boy, 1983, Government employee 70000 salary. Upper caste preferred. 98782-66690. (CL24017174)

**SOOD**  
**PQM Sood boy, DOB: 27.07.1988,** ToB: 12.03 am, Height: 5'-10", working in Gurgaon, salary 30 LPA, vegetarian & employed preferred. Mob. 94170-97285, vks ood1956@gmail.com (CL24017305)

**Sagittarius girl for Sood boy June** 91, MS Biotechnology from United States, Canadian PR, presently working in India, Research and Development Scientist, 20 Lakh package, 173 cms, family settled Delhi. Mobile: 98681-19171, 99682-09171. (CL24018118)

**Required homely and family** oriented Kanngri-cultured Sood family/Himachali girl for handsome, slim, March 1995 born Sood boy (from Jawalamukhi), height 5'-10", having well established independent business at Shimla. Contact: 98160-34400 (Anil Sood). (CL24018252)

**For Circulation and Advertisement** booking and other related queries please call at following numbers from Monday to Saturday between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.

**Advertisement:**  
**Classified: 0172-2670257, 2670338, 2670258**

**E-mail: classified@tribunemail.com**  
**Display: 0172-2670256, 2670342**  
**E-mail: advt@tribunemail.com**

**Circulation: 0172-2670319, 2670250, 2670442**  
**E-mail: circulation@tribunemail.com**

**Suitable match for Rajput boy** 20.08.92, 5'-9", B.Com., Business Development Manager in Digital Marketing Industry Mohali. Only son. Landlord family. Father Army ret'd. 94647-59519. (CL24017760)

**Kashyap Rajput boy 1993/ 5'-7",** MCA, working as Software Developer good income. Amritsar. 99141-67670, 62800-94457. (CL24018588)

**Kashyap Rajput divorcee boy 5'-11",** 1988, B.Sc., Govt. Regular Employee. Preferred Govt. Employee. No bar. 9878663995 (CL24018593)

**Suitable match for Rajput boy 1992,** 5'-7", Govt. service Punjab Police. Mobile: 94175-50741. (CL24018746)

**TONK-KASHATRIYA**  
**Match for Sikh Tonk-Kashatriya** boy, 30.10.1995, 5'-10", PR Canada, Bramton, working with (Apple). Seeks educated girl. 99999-50311. (CL24018879)

**Tonkashatriya Sikh boy 1990, 5'-6",** M.Com., B.Ed., Teacher, salary 50,000/- required educated, beautiful girl. 99158-83043. (CL24018552)

**Match for Hindu Tonk-Kshatriya** boy, 1994/5'-8", Branch Manager in Bank of Maharashtra. Mob: 94174-13191. (CL24017584)

**Match for Tonk-Kashatriya,** turbaned boy, 5'-7", 05.10.1992, PR Canada, B.Pharmacy, Pharma Tech. from Brampton. Required qualified, suitable match. Upper caste no bar. Boy in India. Contact: 98556-03084 (CL24017613)

**Tonk-Kshatriya boy (18.9.1991),** 5'-9", MBA, B.Com, Soft. Engg. (CHD). Looking for an educated girl. Contact: 96460-46500. (CL24018309)

**Tonk Kshatriya boy, Dec. 1990,** 5'-10", B.Tech., MNC Dasuya/Chandigarh. Upper caste welcome. 88723-75596. (CL24018338)

**Match for Sikh Tonk Kshatriya** Manglik Canada PR boy 10.07.97, 1:17 am, 5'-8", preference beautiful girl Medical Stream. 98724-02818. (CL24018421)

**Sikh Tonk-kashtriya well-to-do** family seeking suitable girl for their handsome son, Nov/91/ 5'-11", Dy.Manager in Govt. Bank. Caste no bar. 98142-21835. (CL24018438)

**SM4 Sikh Tonkashatriya 1990/ 5'-6",** Mohali based handsome boy presently in Canada on work permit. Caste no bar. 92162-24045. (CL24018447)

**KAMBOJ**  
**Sikh boy, tall, handsome, 01/ 1990,** B.Tech, IT job in GGN MNC, 5'-10", 28 acres farming land. Belongs to Hanumanagar. I elder sister (married). Ph: 92617-12500. (CL24017231)

**Kamboj Sikh boy, 1992/ 6', BCA,** living England, own business required IELTS pass/ England living girl. Amritsar. 78148-87831. (CL24017776)

**Kamboj Sikh boy 32/6', B.Tech.,** Engineer IT Company, seeking well educated girl. 88378-90359, 98153-70640. (CL24018520)

**Kamboj Sikh government bank** officer, 31/ 5'-11", turbaned and vegetarian, 13/80 LPA. Caste no bar. 98884-90188. (CL24018201)

**Match for Sikh Kamboj Chandi** Legally divorced issueless boy, 35, 5'-11", +2 pass, living in Canada on work permit. Likely to file PR during this year. 98159-86111, 98889-80806. (CL24018217)

**Working match required for** Kamboj boy, 1991 born/ 5'-9", B.Tech, Pb. Govt. job (regular). Father ret'd. Govt. job. 98557-99118. (CL24018307)

**MISC.**  
**Suitable match for Jammu based** Prajapat (Kumhar) boy, 1993 born, height 178 cms, B.Tech, Manager (Scale 2) Bank of India. Preference for Bank/ Govt. Service. Contact: 94192-33726 (JK), 99155-90170 (CH). (CL24017346)

**28 yrs, Hindu vegetarian Kumhar** boy, 5'-9", B.Tech., job in Company at Mohali. Marriage bureau excuse. Mobile: 62396-57740. (CL24017853)

**Suitable match for handsome Hindu** (Goldsmith) boy 11.03.1996, 5'-7", B.Tech. (BITS), Ludhiana, Consultant in MNC. Marriage bureau excuse. Contact: 81468-39241. (CL24018620)

**Suitable match for Graduate** Himachali Ghirh Choudhary boy, 1989, 5'-6". Own business in Chandigarh, settled Mohali. Contact: 80544-63998. (CL24017407)

**Match for Hindu Prajapat boy, 1996** born, MBA, 5'-7", L.P.A. 12.5 employed in Mohali. Required working girl tricity. Caste no bar. WhatsApp: 9878167572. (CL24017607)

**Kanojia twins boy 18.5.97, 5'-4",** 5'-6", both Government job, wanted Government job girl. Caste no bar. 94632-23309. (CL24018231)

**Hindu Nai handsome boy Aug. 1983,** 5'-7", Bank Manager Chandigarh. Innocent short term divorcee. 90416-02237. (CL24018251)

**MANGLIK**  
**Employed match for Punjabi** handsome Tonk-Kashtriya boy, 30.04.1994, 1:30 p.m. Chandigarh, 5'-6", B.Tech., Sr. Software Engineer at Chandigarh, 20 Lac. Tricity preferred manglik/ non-manglik. Contact after matching kundli. Upper caste welcome. 98720-31995. (CL24018406)

**Required never married match** for Manglik 17.3.1986, 6'-2" Arora, vegetarian, IT from NZ, doing Pharma and Online. Further business intentions. Family support, mutually three years ago online divorced as girl only for permanent residence in Canada after studying. Only son. Considerate to all. Belongs to Shinda but now at Zirakpur. Two plots, flat at Shimla. Pre experience of Pharma business operations Girl only consideration may be housekeeping, self works etc. Caste no bar. No demands. Contact particulars WhatsApp 98160-80902. (CL24018314)

**Suitable match for Wheatish fair** Rajput Rana Manglik boy, 20.03.1992, 5'-5", 7:15 am, Ferozepur, Graduate, working as Agriculture Sales Officer (Indus Bank). Contact: 85678-38258. (CL24017650)

**Manglik Garg boy, 5'-8", 03.10.95,** 11:45 am, Ludhiana, +2, own business at Ludhiana. 98144-30251 (CL24017878)

**Hindu Manglik boy 9 Oct. 1991,** 11:43 am, Nabha, 5'-9", own business, well settled family Mohali. 98884-24799, 99889-13740. (CL24018676)

**Turbaned Sikh Doctor, 35, never** married, working as a family Medicine resident in USA. Healer and perpetual learner, family is well-educated and settled in North America. Seeking a fellow Doctor working in USA/Canada, family oriented with mix of both traditional and modern values who values growth and some shared pursuits. Someone ready for a meaningful connection, built on trust and mutual respect, may contact me at +1-410-399-1189. No marriage bureaus pls. (CL24014761)

**Suitable match for handsome Saini** Sikh unmarried Electronic Engineer in MNC 40' 5'-10", package 36 lakh annual, ur property. 99148-48305. (CL24018736)

**Handsome, upper caste, high** status Doctor's family's boy, 1995, pursuing DM. Preference DM/ Post Graduate Doctor girl. 92555-29018. (CL24017280)

**Wanted Medico match MD/ MS/ DM** for Hindu Khatri boy, MS, MCH NeuroSurgeon, July 1987, 5'-10". Father retired Doctor. Phone: 75890-93838, 94174-38460. (CL24017636)

**H'some 28, 5'-10", MBBS, MD** (Medicine) own hospital affluent family, seeking good match. 94060-65947, 82698-39838. (CL24017974)

**Doctor family 1993, 5'10" DM** Cardiology. 89626-02576. (CL24018004)

**Seeking Medico girl for handsome** doing MD Radiology, Aggarwal boy, 31 yr, 5'-9", 70099-41103. (CL24018054)

**Looking for Suitable Aggarwal MD/ MS** Clinical or non Clinical match for handsome looking, 29 yrs old, 5'-6", MD Radiologist Garg boy. Interested ones contact at 89687-26368. (CL24018276)

**Aggarwal MD Radiology 29/ 5'-9",** Manglik, Panipat. Looking Aggarwal Dr MD/ MS bride. 98121-22446. (CL24018349)

**Suitable match for 30 yrs,** 5'-7", single child cut surd, Jat Sikh boy, doing Mch Urology. Father Laparoscopic Surgeon owning 50 bedded Hospital. Mob. 98780-85821. (CL24018380)

**Beautiful Govt. employed match** for Tonk Kshatriya, 1996, 5'-9", SDO in Pb. Govt, caste no bar, pl. send biodata with photo on WhatsApp: 99141-89911. (CL24018484)

**ATTN: READERS**  
 Readers are requested to write correct Box Number in their letters so as to ensure their delivery to the right advertiser.

**Moreover, Box Number** replies should be sent by ordinary mail only. Registered letters addressed to Box Numbers are not accepted.

**SM for Punjabi boy born Jan.** 92/5'-11", 18 LPA, works in Pvt Company in Bangalore. 99060-06574. (CL24018120)

**Ramdasia Sikh, 6', 89 born, B.Tech** IT, studying in Canada Jan 23 intake. Seeks partner with M.Tech/ B.Tech/ BDS/ B.Sc. Nursing. 79733-04698. (CL24018152)

**PQMA Ramdasia Sikh cleanshaven** fair boy, 1984, 5'-8", B.E. (PEC), Software Engineer, MNC Gurgaon, 20 Lakh annually. Father-mother retired Govt. service. Family settled Mohali. 98888-74004, 70092-88337. (CL24018373)

**Suitable match for Mazbi Sikh, MA** boy 28/5'-9", Government job at Mohali, preferred Govt. job girl at Mohali/ Chandigarh. Contact: 98766-61064. (CL24018558)

**Ramdasia Sikh handsome boy 1991/** 5'-11", Excise & Taxation Inspector Punjab wanted Govt. employ. Prefer teaching line beautiful girl. 94633-30904. (CL24018661)

**Suitable match for Ramdasia** vegetarian boy September 1989, 5'-11", Software Engineer Manager Bangalore, status family Chandigarh. Caste no bar. 84278-39159. (CL24018728)

**29, 5'-11", B.Tech., PCS officer** SDM, caste no bar. 80105-82127. (CL24017982)

**SM4 29/ 6'-0", IIT Delhi (B.Tech +** M.Tech), working at MNC (50 LPA). 97795-96903. (CL24017345)

**Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikh,** 1993/ 5'-9", IT, Canadian PR boy. Preferred PR/ work permit Canadian beautiful IT/ CSE/ Nursing girl. 95017-11559. (CL24016810)

**Ravidasia Vaishno boy 30, 5'-9",** Double Degree Holder, Canada work permit. Preferred beautiful, well educated. Good family's girl. 94175-29522. (CL24017321)

**Seeks beautiful girl for Ramdasia** PR Canada boy 5'-4", B.Tech. 08.11.1995. 95692-21211. (CL24017740)

**Govt. employee match for Sinter** (Barary) boy 31, 6'-0", B.Com & Inter CA, Internal Auditor PSPCL, Jalandhar 10 Lac annual. Contact: 9878022164. (CL24017840)

**Suitable qualified match for New** Zealand citizen, SC, Engineer boy, 30, 5'-7", Well-settled family. 9988096793. (CL24018208)

**Suitable match for smart 31/5'-11",** Ramdasia Sikh boy, working as Scale-2 Officer at SBI. Cont: 94632-03358. (CL24018215)

**Ramdasia Sikh PR USA 28/ 5'-10",** Mechanical Engineer, own business, requires B.Tech., M.Tech. I.T. girl interested on tour, visitor visa, study basis. WhatsApp only 95921-88759. (CL24018261)

**Suitable match Canadian citizen** handsome S.C boy 1990 born, 5'-10", B.Tech. Job Realtor own House, whole family settled in Canada. Medical field preferred. Mobile: 75890-67451. (CL24018294)

**Adharmi boy (SC) 26.06.1993, 5'-5",** B.Tech. Mechanical, private job. Preferred Mohali, Chandigarh. 96460-75275. (CL24018341)

**Unmarried match for divorcee** Ravidasia boy, September 1980, M.Tech, Ph.D., Regular Faculty Government Engineering Institute, Chandigarh. 8146885092. (CL24018362)

**Ramdasia Radha Soami boy,** B.Tech., 1994/ 5'-8", job MNC, handsome package. Required qualified girl. 94788-16628. (CL24018462)

**SMF Ramdasia Sikh Anrithdri** (Weaver) boy, 10/ 1989, 5'-8", M.Tech. (ECE), MA Religious Studies, MA Phil. Working as Research Associate (Sikh Research Inst. USA) Online job. Required well educated, working girl. Parents ret'd. officers. Doaba preferred. No brokers. Phone: 94647-92673. (CL24018643)

**Match for Ravidasia boy, 1992,** 5'-6", B.Sc. Merchant Navy officer. Required well educated, fair, beautiful girl. Near Doaba region. 9872541524. WhatsApp: 8968349485. (CL24018657)

**Suitable Govt. job match for** handsome SC boy 1993/ 5'-11", JE Irrigation, well settled Patiala based family. Father Ret'd. Naib Tehsildar. 85688-92252. 94663-30458. (CL24018771)

**Chandigarh based well settled** family SC, Adhmi, Doaba Boy, 27, 5'-10", B.Tech, MBA. Having own business and house. Father ret'd. Bank service, Mother Govt teacher. WhatsApp: 88474-60063. (CL24017598)

**Suitable match for Ramdasia boy,** convent educated, June 1992/ 6'-1", very fair colour, practising in High Court Chandigarh. Upper middle class family. Settled in Mohali. Father running Coaching Institute. Mother House Wife. Contact: 98140-05465. (CL24017632)

**Ravidasia, Hindu, Punjabi boy,** 1995, 6', B.Tech., MBA, job in Gurgaon, tectotaler. Mother father Govt. job in Mohali. 98550-89898. (CL24017644)

**Looking for a suitable life partner** for well educated, Nov. 1998, 5ft 11 inch, Hotel Management, Ramdasia Sikh boy, who is interested in settling abroad. Half of Expenses bear by us. 84275-70915, 98784-84810. (CL24017673)

**Permanent resident (Schedule** Caste) boy 1988/ 5'-8", working as Project Manager in Auckland (New Zealand). Looking for well cultured and educated girl from equal status family. Calling number 88550-94772. WhatsApp the details. 79018-43035. (CL24017953)

**Match for Mazhi Sikh boy 5'-8"/** 1989, Computer Graduate, working with USA Company at Mohali. Contact: 79861-32399. (CL24017986)

**Ad dharmi boy 1994, 5'-8", B.Tech.** from PEC Chandigarh, Currently working as officer/ Industry Inspector in Dept. under Labour Ministry Govt of India, Currently posted in Delhi NCR, family settled in Mohali. Looking for working girl. Contact: 98550-92817, 99140-42963. (CL24018001)

**Match Manglik Balmiki boy, 33 yrs,** 5'-9", LL.B. Notary office at Tehsil, owner of Transport business of gas tankers in Indian Oil Company. Father ret'd from Govt College. Mother housewife, own house in new locality educated family. WhatsApp 98552-16071. (CL24018032)

**Suitable match for SC (Valmiki)** handsome, BSC (IT) boy, 1991/ 5'-8", running own business, preparing PNC. based Punjab (Amritsar), Contact No.: 88475-00131, 78889-01539. (CL24018047)

**SM for Punjabi boy born Jan.** 92/5'-11", 18 LPA, works in Pvt Company in Bangalore. 99060-06574. (CL24018120)

**Ramdasia Sikh, 6', 89 born, B.Tech** IT, studying in Canada Jan 23 intake. Seeks partner with M.Tech/ B.Tech/ BDS/ B.Sc. Nursing. 79733-04698. (CL24018152)

**PQMA Ramdasia Sikh cleanshaven** fair boy, 1984, 5'-8", B.E. (PEC), Software Engineer, MNC Gurgaon, 20 Lakh annually. Father-mother retired Govt. service. Family settled Mohali. 98888-74004, 70092-88337. (CL24018373)

**Suitable match for Mazbi Sikh, MA** boy 28/5'-9", Government job at Mohali, preferred Govt. job girl at Mohali/ Chandigarh. Contact: 98766-61064. (CL24018558)

**Ramdasia Sikh handsome boy 1991/** 5'-11", Excise & Taxation Inspector Punjab wanted Govt. employ. Prefer teaching line beautiful girl. 94633-30904. (CL24018661)

**Suitable match for Ramdasia** vegetarian boy September 1989, 5'-11", Software Engineer Manager Bangalore, status family Chandigarh. Caste no bar. 84278-39159. (CL24018728)

**29, 5'-11", B.Tech., PCS officer** SDM, caste no bar. 80105-82127. (CL24017982)

**SM4 29/ 6'-0", IIT Delhi (B.Tech +** M.Tech), working at MNC (50 LPA). 97795-96903. (CL24017345)

**Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikh,** 1



DIVORCEE

Match for Hindu Arora boy, short divorce. Sept 1988, 5'-7". B.Tech. from IIT. Working in MNC in Bangalore. Package 75 Lakhs. Contact: 98722-92902. (CL24003413)

Proposals invited for Ludhiana GED issueless divorcee, highly qualified boy 37.5-10", Bank Officer, Income 20 lac per annum. 98760-64341, 94782-60094. (CL24017826)

Match for Sikh Tonk Kashtriya boy, 1983, very short term divorced, B.Tech, working in MNC. Contact: 82880-63015. (CL24018081)

Match for businessman handsome Arora boy, B.Tech, 6', 15.07.1990, Panchkula, 5:05 am. Required beautiful girl above 5'-4", no demand. Girl only main consideration. Upper caste no bar. 70874-27368. (CL24018483)

Match for Hindu Prajapati boy divorcee, 40, 5'-9", University Professor, upper caste no bar. 70095-96632. (CL24018519)

Punjabi Hindu Arora handsome, vegetarian, teetotaler, Manglik legally divorced boy (short marriage), issueless, 5'-5", 16 June 1982, 1.15 pm, Jalandhar, B.Tech, Engineer in France. Good package. Bureau excise. WhatsApp: 9988098786. (CL24012767)

Well-educated vastly travelled 50 years young tall handsome gentleman from Chandigarh based status Hindu Arora family, having own house, rental income and consultancy business, into spirituality meditation leading high life looking for likeminded educated independent companion. WhatsApp: 90415-54918. (CL24018581)

Saraswat handsome Brahmin, divorcee issueless, 1985/5'-9", B.Tech, Software Engineer America, Urban/Rural properties, 98149-61573. (CL24017798)

Agarwal, Issueless divorced boy, Jun 88, 5'-10", working in USA, Bureau excise. 74285-00745 (CL24017454)

Rajput Hindu, B.Tech, Pune, 17 LPA. 62398-08687. (CL24018641)

Hindu Khatri divorcee boy 28.09.1986, 01:39 pm, Ludhiana, 5'-8", MBA, package 11 Lacs. 62800-11948. (CL24018655)

Match for issueless divorcee Rajput boy, 28 April 1979, 5'-7", BCA, working in newspaper industry, caste no bar early marriage, 62849-27878. (CL24018886)

Seeking a suitable match for a Senior Executive Director, age 36, height 5'-10", Hindu Brahmin, vegetarian, teetotaler, Radha Soami family. Fair, handsome, smart, good looking. Interested families, please contact: +1-781-330-6675, +91-8421100090 (WhatsApp), k.p.l.i.s.h.@g.m.a.i.l.c.o.m (CL24013364)

Match for Sharma boy 1993/5'-8", working in MNC. Father Retd. Gazetted Officer. 82880-68539. (CL24015090)

Brahmin boy, US Citizen, B.Tech, height 5'-4", DoB 14.03.1996. Need: Vegetarian Brahmin/Khatri girl, B.Sc, B.Tech, Nursing in India or studying in USA. Canada. Mob. +19733930100. (CL24016855)

Seeking non working girl for 5'-8" boy, 1988, B.Sc. Radiology, own X-Ray centre associated with Radiologist Middle class, Hoshiarpur, 99155-43007, only humble family. (CL24017166)

Looking for slim beautiful working girl, Punjabi Verma boy Divorcee, separated after 24 days, 31 Dec 1985, 16:44, Ambala, 5'-10", MBA, HOD Admin MNC (Gurgaon), Pkg 28 lac, Father retired Class one officer. 83970-53127, 94160-46403. (CL24017194)

Seeking Alliance Well-settled, divorcee Khatri Malhotra boy, 1st December 1989, 5'-5", own Kothi Chandigarh, Professionally Software Engineer annual income 30 lacs, Upper caste no bar. Contact No 97798-81070. (CL24017230)

Gurgaon based Agarwal family seeks suitable qualified match for their son, Aug '85, 5'-10", fair, issueless divorcee, B.Tech and MBA, working as Senior Manager in top MNC Gurgaon, 45 LPA. All upper caste acceptable. Contact: 93191-56590. (CL24017338)

Match for issueless divorcee, 78 koms, 5'-6", MBBS MD Govt. job. Looks much younger, simple and early marriage. Contact 98160-87711. (CL24017365)

Suitable match for short time divorcee, Bhardwaj - Brahmin boy 05.05.1986, 6'-0", graduate. Own business, residence Ludhiana. Caste no bar. 93575-87401. (CL24017466)

Match for B.Tech. handsome Agarwal divorcee boy, 28.9.88, 175 cm, working in New Zealand, has PR and own house in New Zealand. Caste no bar. 90347-60103. (CL24017469)

Brahmin boy, teetotaler, issueless, B.A, 87/ 5'-10", MNC. Caste no bar. Simple marriage. No demand. 88470-46879. (CL24017758)

MBBS financially sound Sikh Tonk Kashtriya issueless divorcee, 5'-7.5", May 74. Seeks Sikh/Hindu issueless good looking girl. Caste no bar. Father IAS ret'd. 94177-01440. (CL24017915)

Medico/ Non-Medico match for Jain divorcee boy 27.1.83, 5'-6", MCH Plastic Surgery, working Amritsar. Father Doctor. Caste no bar. 98143-55774. (CL24018265)

Seeking working beautiful girl for issueless legally divorced Hindu Arora boy 6', 10.10.1987, working as ASM in MNC, package 25 LPA. Contact: 98032-98037. (CL24018344)

Punjab based Aggarwal reputed business family settled in Bangalore, seeks good match for innocent divorcee handsome qualified 93/5'-11" boy. Upper caste no bar. (W) 98960-1750. (CL24018350)

SM4 issueless legally separated CMA, CS, Ludhiana Khatri, September 1986, 5'-11", working as Senior Manager in Gurgaon, 22 LPA. Preferred educated, homely girl. 99140-09483. (CL24018405)

Suitable match for divorcee Brahmin boy MBA, born 1988/ 5'-8", well settled business. 90505-79690. (CL24018457)

61 years old, divorcee, Indian, American citizen from Dhuri (Punjab) (son of Shri Mahashya Partiya Pa). Looking for nice caring companion. Caste no bar. No demands. 98722-13780, 97795-86043. (CL24018489)

Aggarwal issueless divorcee boy (few days after marriage), 27.10.88, 10:10 p.m. Govt. job Civil Hospital Ferozpur, annual salary 6 lacs. Agriculture income 3 lacs. 62845-51146. (CL24018583)

Homely/ working Sikh or Hindu match for issueless Arora Gursikh 42/ 5'-10", CA, private job, Khanna. 94632-45928. (CL24018759)

SM4 Brahmin divorcee issueless boy 36/ 6'-1", B.Tech from Thapar University. Self business Finance, earning 70-80k per month. Father Retired SDO. Upper caste welcome. 98554-33497. (CL24018762)

BRAHMIN

PQSM4 Nov. 1995, 6'-1", Brahmin, Gotra-Yashisht, Marine Engineer (Merchant Navy), living in tricity. WhatsApp bio-data on 84274-69592. (CL24012426)

New-Zealand PR, well-settled, handsome Saraswat Brahmin boy, 89 Born, 5'-9", own business in NZ. Looking for a beautiful, tall and well educated girl. Contact on WhatsApp number - 96539-46607. (CL24018239)

Match for Punjabi, Saraswat Brahmin, 10.02.94, 03:00 pm, Karnal, 5'-11", B.Tech, landlord. 98962-36467. (CL24018470)

Seeking a life partner for a smart USA PR boy, born October '86, 5'-8" tall, working as an IT consultant in Boston. Caste no bar. Punjabi based family. Contact: +1-781-330-6675, +91-8421100090 (WhatsApp), k.p.l.i.s.h.@g.m.a.i.l.c.o.m (CL24013364)

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Brahmin boy, teetotaler, issueless, B.A, 87/ 5'-10", MNC. Caste no bar. Simple marriage. No demand. 88470-46879. (CL24017758)

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Seeking working beautiful girl for issueless legally divorced Hindu Arora boy 6', 10.10.1987, working as ASM in MNC, package 25 LPA. Contact: 98032-98037. (CL24018344)

Match for November 91, Patiala born, Pune settled, 6 feet boy, B.Tech, working IT MNC handsome package. Contact: 98781-07447. (CL24017989)

SM4 Handsome, soft spoken teetotaler Brahmin 5'-7", B.Tech, 38, Bank officer, divorcee. Qualified Tricity girl preferred. Aggarwal & Khatri welcome. 82643-5057. (CL24018012)

Vegetarian tall, handsome boy, team lead Software Engineer 22 April 92, morning 10.14 Jalandhar, 60 lacs. 98779-40188. (CL24018065)

Caste no bar, 5'-9", home in Patiala, BCA, IT Company employee, working from home, pure veg, no smoking, no drinking, Kundli 08.04.1992, 11:15 am, Rajpura, Punjab. 78146-63624 WhatsApp. (CL24018088)

Match for Chandigarh born 5'-6", 4:02 pm, 22.12.92, Punjabi Brahmin Bhardwaj Digital Marketing Manager earning 65k preferred Chandigarh or Tricity working girl. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp 98158-83630. (CL24018114)

Suitable match for handsome Sharma boy 5'-10", 19.02.1993, Amritsar, B.Tech. (Electronic & Communication) from PTU. Government Job at Ludhiana. Contact-99880-18822. (CL24018196)

Suitable match for vegetarian Manglik Saraswat Brahmin 6', 29.11.1989, 9:35 p.m., New Delhi, B.Tech. (CSE), Master from USA. Canadian PR. Working as Senior Business Intelligence Engineer in Amazon, USA on I-40 visa. Contact: 98726-94646. (CL24018256)

Brahmin Gotra Prabhakar Manglik vegetarian only son 29.08.1994, Birth (3:10 pm Ludhiana), 6', B.Com, own business, seeks well educated beautiful homely girl. Mobile: 99150-40112. (CL24018271)

Suitable match for teetotaler Gaur Brahmin boy 6'-00", 22.06.1994, 11:26 pm, Chandigarh, BHM from Punjab University Patiala, Wears specs, son of prosperous business family, own house. Contact 94652-19131, 92179-04647. (CL24018305)

Suitable match for Gaur Brahmin boy 27/ 6", B.Tech. CS, working in MNC Gurugram. Contact: 78884-90733. (CL24018500)

Brahmin boy 29, 5'-5", MCA, working Multinational Company, Parents Government employees. Upper caste welcome. 98558-99914. (CL24018533)

Brahmin boy 1985 Amritsar, 5'-9", MBA, Central Govt. Job Mohali required educated, employed girl. 78887-87364. (CL24018546)

Unmarried Saraswat Brahmin, pure vegetarian handsome boy, Post-graduation. Australian Citizen, 42/ 5'-9". Required well-educated cultured girl. Early and simple marriage. Please don't contact divorcee and marriage bureau. Only WhatsApp call: 98784-72239, +61493839 803. (CL24018554)

Match for Brahmin boy 28, 5'-8", Canadian Lawyer from Chandigarh highly qualified girl BDS/ M.Sc Nursing. 98888-90677. (CL24018569)

Brahmin boy 14-12-1995, 10:30 pm, B.Tech, working in MNC, Package 25 Lacs. 98723-56958. (CL24018618)

SM for Brahmin divorcee boy 5'-3", Sep. 92, working as Graphic Designer on contract in Haryana Public Health short marriage contact 98147-27456. (CL24018649)

JE PSPCL, need well qualified girl 98159-37650, 83605-56562 (Sunam). (CL24018692)

Bhardwaj Brahmin boy Aug 1994, 5'-10", Govt. Employee Chandigarh, looking tricity tall, beautiful girl. 94637-95391. (CL24018730)

Unmarried/divorced match for Executive Director, age 36, height 5'-10", Brahmin, vegetarian, teetotaler, fair, handsome. Radha Soami family. 97799-55688. (CL24017312)

Saraswat Brahmin handsome boy, B.Tech. Computer Science, 5'-9", 18.8.1994, 8:15 pm, Chandigarh, Working Senior Engineer Walmark Labs Bangalore, 40 Lakh package. Preferred Good looking working girl, IT sector preferably Bangalore. WhatsApp: 78886-65085. (CL24018745)

Match for Brahmin Boy, Vegetarian/Handsomeness 5'-10" Working in Govt. Bank. Settled at Patiala. Preferred Good Looking & Krishna Devotee Girl. Contact: 9812502518 (CL24018849)

Saraswat Brahmin boy June-1993, 5'-9", convent educated B.Com. (Hons) SD Chandigarh and MBA Nima Nima University Ahmedabad working as Manager Business Analyst in US-MNC Gurugram package 26-Family settled Zirkapur-Chandigarh. Preference Engineer/ CA/ MBA working IT/ Corporate or Equivalent. 95018-18769, 98150-94490. (CL24018870)

Suitable match for Brahmin Himachali boy Distt. Kangra, height 5'-8", BE Electrical, working as Lead Engineer in Singapore, legally divorced, 1985 born. Mobile No. 94181-08199. (CL24009655)

Hindu Brahmin pure vegetarian Patiala boy, 12th Aug. 1988 (10:58 am), 5'-11", M.Tech., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, reputed Institute, package 12 Lakh, having 6 acres agriculture land. Mob. 94175-44339, 99882-23420. (CL24009737)

Sarswat Brahmin boy USA citizen, August 1995, Height 6', B.Tech., working MNC. WhatsApp: 408-839-0412, Messages 82488-11728. (CL24012513)

Manglik Sarswat Brahmin boy, CA, B.Com. (Hons), 1996, 5'-7", working in Central SpI at Gurgaon, annual income 12 Lacs, pure vegetarian. Ludhiana based family. 83609-37332. Bureau excise. (CL24017154)

Gour Brahmin boy 96 born, 5'-9", Software Developer, Mohali. Tricity preferred. Contact: 99141-15800. (CL24017187)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin, B.Tech., 1.1.1997 (8:30 p.m. Patiala), 5'-11", Merchant Navy Officer. Caste no bar. 76965-55106. (CL24017269)

Beautiful, well educated girl for New Zealand citizen Brahmin boy DoB 1.8.1988, time 1:00 pm, Moga, MBA, NZ. Keen to move Australia. 62392-91108, 84376-72930, 79861-54534. (CL24017295)

Suitable match for Punjabi Saraswat Brahmin, B.Tech. MBA, 5'-10", 6:10.92, 6:53 am, Chandigarh, working Infosys. Chandigarh based Status family. Upper caste welcome. Contact 98788-21244. (CL24017299)

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Wanted match for Himachali Brahmin boy Manglik, 19 June 1995, 5'-7", B.Tech., working at Bangalore. Contact: 94181-66721. (CL24017330)

SM4 Punjabi Saraswat Brahmin boy, 5'-9", 1996 born, Software Engineer, MNC Gurgaon. 99153-92355. (CL24017368)

Saraswat Brahmin boy 14.5.85, 12:25 pm, 5'-6", birth Patankot, MBA, Gamments business. Upper caste welcome. Mob. 99889-37637, 78372-75585. (CL24017461)

Suitable match for Saraswat Brahmin (Anshik Manglik) boy, 5'-10", April 1995, B.Tech, job in MNC. Jalandhar based family. Contact: 98760-87412. (CL24017563)

1989 born Brahmin HP Govt Emp. boy match for B.Sc./ M.Sc./ B.Ed./ Nursing/ M.Tech. 98056-19731. (CL24017566)

Saraswat Brahmin boy, few days divorcee. Oct 90/ 5'-10", M.Com., working private bank as DM in Patiala, 94640-43143. (CL24017578)

SM4 Gaur Brahmin boy 23.10.1992 born, 5'-6" Chandigarh, SSE (Northern Railway). Brahmin working girl from Tricity preferred. 98146-71156. (CL24017633)

Brahmin boy, 22.10.1993, 5'-8", M.Tech., Canadian citizen. Required educated girl. 94175-16865, 94630-70265. (CL24017661)

BAMS Sharma Government Doctor boy, 05.10.1993, 5'-7", Preferred Government Service or BAMS beautiful girl. Contact: 98887-03690, 98888-91373. (CL24017662)

Status match for Canadian PR, Saraswat Brahmin boy 1995, 5'-11", B.Tech from Punjab, Master from Canada, working Operational Manager in Montreal. 9878011149. (CL24017665)

Suitable match for Brahmin handsome Australia PR boy, 6'-0", 12.3.1996, 1:30 pm, Jalandhar born. Well settled businessman family in Jalandhar, well educated beautiful homely match preferred. Marriage bureau excise. Contact: 98727-48833. (CL24017682)

Suitable match for 18.1.1989 born, 5'-7" Graduate self employed Brahmin boy. Mob. 7018281517. (CL24017686)

Saraswat Brahmin Manglik boy, 09.06.1987, 6:10 am, Chandigarh, 5'-10", 12th own settled business Yamunanagar. 81682-93874. (CL24017694)

Brahmin (Kanav) Manglik boy, 31.10.89, 7:42 am Nangal Dam, 6', MBA, job in Bajaj Finance & Business. 98141-91770. (CL24017697)

Brahman 1993, 5'-8", Australia (PR) Melbourne, well settled. Require smart educated girl. Upper caste welcome. 79737-67435. (CL24017698)

Saraswat Brahmin boy Feb. 1993 born, 5'-6", working in IT Company, 14 LPA. Preferred girl working in Gurugram/ Noida. 97295-30135. (CL24017700)

SM for Saraswat Brahmin handsome boy, 6.11.92, 5'-8", 1:05 pm, Mansa, Govt. Service Bathinda. Required beautiful well educated. Govt. service girl. 97800-91950. (CL24017701)

Widower Professor Brahmin boy, Sep 84, 6', Patiala, handsome salary. Widow preferred. Contact: 94170-84332, 98884-51772. (CL24017719)

SM4 Computer Engineer handsome Gaur Brahmin boy 30 years, working in MNC Noida, 22 lacs per annum. Preferred working suitable girl. Mob. 90533-09456. (CL24017723)

Saraswat Brahmin boy July 1993, Manglik 5'-8", 28 LPA, Own house, Ambala, Own place Zirkapur. 94666-58775, 90340-66629. (CL24017754)

Match for Brahmin boy 22.12.91, 8:02 am (Sunam), 5'-9", B.Tech., job IT company 14 lakh. Residence Rajpura. 94176-00678. (CL24017844)

Suitable match for Brahmin boy 23.1.1998, 9:30 am, 5'-8", Graduate, Doaba preferred. 90564-7093. (CL24017176)

Saraswat Brahmin Sr. Software Engineer 09.09.1992, 10:50 Kapurthala, salary 35 lpa. 94634-86312, 94631-76736. (CL24017947)

Suitable match for Himachali Brahmin handsome boy having handsome salary, 01.01.92, 4:30 am, 5'-9", Merchant Navy Officer (Engineer). Parents Class I Officer. Preferred Govt. employee/ Doctor/ Army Officer/ banking/ M.Sc./ B.Sc. (Upper caste also). 86269-43862, 94184-53262. (CL24018781)

Brahmin Australia citizen handsome boy, DoB 1984, Timing 04:32 am, working in Govt. Sector, having own house, family well-settled. Contact: 98158-91331. (CL24018847)

Match for Jalandhar based Bhardwaj Brahmin Newzealand PR, educated divorcee boy, 36, 5'-5", + 64220170907, 98551-94793. (CL24018869)

Seeking suitable match for 1985 born, issueless divorcee Brahmin boy 5'-7", working in MNC as Manager Medical writer, purely vegetarian, handsome package. 78144-09886. (CL24018889)

Match for handsome Brahmin boy 12.07.1989, 12:50 pm, Sirhind,

Matrimonials

SIKH KHATRI

Suitable match for Sikh Khatri... B.Tech working in IT company Chandigarh, 50000+ per month. Religion no bar. 81469-9739 (CL24018385)

Suitable match for Sikh Khatri boy, 1994 Born, 5'-7", Officer in Private sector company Mohali Contact- 99150-12207. (CL24018629)

Suitable match for Sikh Khatri Amritdhari boy 32, 5'-11", Patiala, B.Tech., own business, good income. 77101-79535. (CL24018669)

Canada PR Khatri Sikh boy, 13.10.1999, 6'-1", need a beautiful girl with high qualifications. Preferred BDS & IT Sector. Do not call agents, marriage bureaus. 98147-00875. (CL24018835)

New Zealand PR Khatri Sethi Gursikh boy 33' 6", B.Tech. Wanted Gursikh educated girl pure veg. family. Marriage bureau excuse. 98558-08822, 99149-02288. (CL24017221)

Simple homely girl for Gursikh Khatri (Khuakhri) well settled boy. Dec. 2001, 6'-1", Diploma in bakery/confectionery. Doing flourishing business in Mohali (with father). Own Shop, Kotli. 98722-41749. (CL24017277)

Match for non-trimmer, non-drinker Khatri boy, Oct.98/ 5'-7", B.Sc., Diploma in Fitness Sciences, Free Lancer Fitness Trainer, Gurgaon (1 Lakh plus per month). 98142-11232. (CL24017372)

Suitable match for Gursikh Khatri boy, Dec. 87, 5'-11", working as Branch Manager in NBFC. Contact: 7031066667. (CL24017647)

Professionally qualified match for handsome Sikh Khatri boy, NT/ND, 5'-11", 1992, B.Tech., MBA, working in MNC, currently in Canada, package CAD \$ 92,000/annum. 98727-66995. (CL24017690)

Match for smart Sikh Canada PR boy, 34, 5'-11", MBA, working in Canada Bank. Parents retired officers (Mohali settled). Elder brother married Senior position MNC Mumbai. Girl main consideration. Simple early marriage. 98883-11567. (CL24017799)

Sikh Khatri boy from Rajpura May 1989 born, 5'-11", fair, handsome MBA in Marketing, working with MNC as Marketing Manager, handsome salary, looking for suitable educated match. 099889-34808, 98186-55985. (CL24018245)

Match for Sikh Khatri boy 29/5-10", Govt. job, Own kotli, Mohali. 98149-26433. (CL24018444)

Sikh handsome boy 24/5-9", Canada PR. Required beautiful Australian PR girl. 79730-30176. (CL24018648)

SIKH ARORA

Hindu, Punjabi boy Roorkee, 29 years, 5'-6", fair, handsome, Athletic well-built, from very affluent business family. No dowry. Contact: 76687-74192, vrs11995@gmail.com. (CL24017344)

Suitable match (preferably employed) for tricity based Gursikh (Non-trimmer, Non-drinker) Arora boy, June 1995, 5'-7", Senior Software Engineer in MNC. Contact: 95012-44221. Marriage Bureau excuse. (CL24018705)

Suitable match for handsome Arora Sikh boy 30, 5'-8", B.A. well flourished Business in IDH Market Amritsar. 95019 62046 (CL24017727)

Arora Amritdhari Sikh boy June 1996, 5'-7", B.Tech. Mech., own good business Ludhiana. 98888-19100. (CL24018210)

Arora Sikh boy 1992, 5'-8", Canada work permit, job in IT Company. Prefer Sikh educated girl. 89687-33555. (CL24018371)

Arora Sikh boy Nov. 1991/ 5'-4", B.Tech., Software Engineer affluant, land/land family, Karnal. 98133-43400. (CL24018460)

Alliance invited from beautiful working girl for Arora Sikh cuntsud boy (33 yrs., 5'-8"), Engineer well settled in Mumbai own business (family in Mohali). +9179866-28283. (CL24018454)

SIKH KHATRI/ARORA

Wanted Canada settled/ PR, educated girl for Sikh Arora cuntsud handsome boy, 25/ 5'-11", M.Com., doing MBA. Sister married, Canada settled. Contact: 98760-83869. (CL24018689)

Suitable match for Sikh Arora boy, U.P. based, 13.2.1996, 5'-8", MBA, Affluent Business family, WhatsApp: 74598-12662. (CL24017270)

Professionally qualified girl for son MBA, December 89, 5'-10", ND-NT, vegetarian, normal built, banker, 11 lacs CTC. 93552-71838. (CL24017316)

Suitable match for Arora Sikh boy, 1992/ 5'-6", B.Tech. Senior Software Engineer. MNC, Chandigarh. Package 18 LPA. 94649-44850. (CL24017846)

Working match for ND-NT Khatri boy, 01.03.1994, 5'-7", CS Analyst job MNC Gurgaon, 12 LPA. 98120-90700. (CL24017319)

Arora Sikh clean shaven December 1991 born, 5'-6", B.Tech. (Civil), MBA, working MNC in Gurgaon, annual package 22 lacs. Well placed family. Contact: 98766-84170. (CL24017605)

Handsome boy, MCA, 5'-6", 40, Govt. service, never married 6 Lacs per annum, having Canada Visa. 98761-11829. (CL24017667)

Arora Sikh boy B.Tech. CSE, MBA (IIM), convent educated, Sept. 87, 4'-11", HR Head, Bangalore, package 50 LPA. Hindu families also welcome. 96461-44332, mails.harsimran@gmail.com. (CL24017785)

SM4 Khatri Sikh boy, BE, MBA (IIM), 5'-10", Oct. 1994, Senior Business Analyst in MNC, 20+ LPA, bearded trimmed. Caste no bar. Preferred professionally qualified employed girl. 95018-06666. (CL24017820)

Suitable match for well settled Canadian citizen Gursikh boy 33/ 5'-8", honest, handsome, polite, turbaned, non-trimmer, non-drinker, B.Sc. Computer Science. Managing family business of Restaurants in Manitoba. Caste no bar. Please WhatsApp details and photograph. +12049973064, 99150-93064, personalsbj@gmail.com. (CL24018035)

MAHAJAN

Suitable match for Mahajan boy, 28/ 6'-00", B.Pharm, Medicine business in Amritsar. Mobile No. 94787-56256. (CL24017353)

Medico/Teaching Profession match for smart Mahajan boy 5'-7", M.Sc. (Phy. Hons.), 30.8.96, Pathankot, working Excise & Taxation Inspector Punjab Govt. well settled educated family, working girl preferred, upper caste preferred. 98882-42768. (CL24017460)

JAIN

Garg well established Businessman boy, high income, M.Com, 20,09.93, 1:27 pm, Sunam, 5'-7", required smart and educated girl. 94171-23941. (CL24018263)

AGGARWAL

SM for Garg boy 5'-5", 11,09.89, Bathinda, Stationary Gift Store in Bathinda. 98888-54451, 92161-30667. (CL24017146)

Status match for 1992, 5'-11", Software Engineer. Chandigarh status business family, handsome package, only son, own residential and commercial properties. Upper caste welcome. 94789-20344. (CL24018055)

High Status Panipat Singla fair boy 1991, MCA, 5'-10", pure-veg, Need educated homely girl. Vinayak 94168-72792, 98121-76200. (CL24018326)

Seeking beautiful, educated girl for Goyal boy, 01.01.1996, Bank Officer, 5'-8", Hindu, reitoped family. 98104-43258, aatpoo1986@gmail.com. (CL24018900)

Bansal boy, fair, B.Com, 5'-8", 23 April 1991, 7:10, Iron Steel Business, Mandi, Gobindgarh, 20 LPA. 98153-49290. (CL24016932)

Employed Eng match for Garg boy, 09.11.96, Sangrur, 1:12 am, 5'-6", working in Gurgaon, package 24 L. Father Retired XEN, Mother deceased. Sister married, both Gazetted Officers at Patiala. Early marriage. Contact: 96461-33505. (CL24016941)

Handsome Garg boy 5'-11", 27.09.1993, 9:23 am Chandigarh, B.Tech, working Noida MNC, 8.5 LPA. Rental income, Industrial factory in Chandigarh and Agricultural land. Faridabad/ NCR preferred. 89685-44805/ 98768-50057. (CL24017165)

Looking beautiful girl for handsome boy, D.O.B. 1999, Height: 6'-1", B.Tech., Gotra Singla, working in Amazon, 25+ LPA. Contact: 91489-77552. (CL24017168)

Match for Garg, fair, handsome, 30, 6", B.Tech., Chandigarh employed boy, 45 Lac. 98155-98925. (CL24017245)

Match4 Goyt. employed SDO, 89 born, 5'-8", caste no bar. 94644-82966. (CL24017248)

MBA, 31, Bank Manager, Salary 15 lacs, Vegetarian, Amritsar, Upper caste welcome. M: 76963-64296. (CL24017427)

Mittal, own business, Moga, Ph. 94, 5'-6", Seeking educated, beautiful girl. 98786-60199. (CL24017574)

Suitable match for Jaipur based well settled, reputed family, Punjabi Goyal boy, 34 years, 6", MBA + CA Inter, working MNC Gurgaon, 16 LPA, good family income and properties. Caste no bar. Phone/WhatsApp: 93145-25201. (CL24017577)

Advocate, Garg boy, 27.10.1995, 06:10 pm, Kotkapura, 5'-11", B.Com, LL.B., Own practice along with elder brother, well settled, vegetarian family, 99887-11315 (Brother). (CL24017580)

Bansal boy 1991 Born Business 10 lacs/year Bathinda Distt. 99144-76475. (CL24017589)

Bansal boy 1997 Born B.Tech CS 48 lacs/year Working Bangalore. 97810-09374. (CL24017591)

CA Garg, 5'-6", 13.11.88, 07:31 AM, Chandigarh, Caste no bar. 98884-70527, 98889-72264. (CL24017908)

Suitable working matches for Garg boy 22nd June 1992. Time: 17:14, Moga. Height 5'-7", fair complexion. Permanent Ph. Govt. job. Early simple marriage. No demand. 99151-41847, 97790-92661. (CL24017634)

Wanted a beautiful homely girl for Shah boy in Ludhiana, Age 30, B.Com, Yarn Agent. Contact: 79862-07328. (CL24017967)

Suitable match for Garg 1990, 5'-6", Post Graduate, Business family, income 40 lacs. 98724-52820. (CL24017975)

Mittal, own businesses, Ambala, Panchkula, 1997, 5'-8", seeking educated beautiful girl. 73800-00038. (CL24018008)

Manglik match for very smart Jain boy (Garg), 5'-11", 1.05.96 (6:47 p.m.) Ludhiana, MBA from Narsee Monjee, Ludhiana based well settled, status family, preferred business family. Converse only on WhatsApp: 98141-30751. (CL24018014)

Match for 1988 born, fair, Baniya boy, 6 feet, M.Sc. Food Science, working at PAU, Ldh. 98556-04314. (CL24018061)

Suitable match for B.Tech., Govt job boy, 01.01.1995, Chandigarh, Mohali. 94165-75432. (CL24018072)

Gupta 32/ 5'-2"/ 80L Computer Engineer in Europe. Father Retd. IRS officer. Reputed family. 95692-39531. (CL24018167)

CA Aggarwal boy 1996 manglik 6'-1" good practice Gobindgarh. High figures income. Required chartered accountant girl. 95926-21717. (CL24018172)

Bansal slim 30/ 5'-8", B.Tech. PU, MBA- NMIMS Mumbai, working in Startup as COO. Handsome package, family settled in Panchkula. WhatsApp: 98774-21923. (CL24018174)

Suitable match for Mittal boy, 28.12.1996, 1:15 pm, Narwana (Jind), 5'-8", B.Tech., Central Govt. Job, Preferred Govt. Job girl. Contact: 94674-15155. (CL24018238)

IPS Gursikh Khatri handsome boy March 1990, 5'-10", B.Tech. NT. Seek status DR, CA girl. 78143-73526. (CL24018719)

IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

Govt. Officer Scientist Pay-level 12, handsome Bansal boy, 33 years, M.Tech, 5'-11", pure vegetarian non-drinker, non-smoker. 98779-49213. (CL24017626)

H'some 29, 5'-10", B.Tech., IPS Officer, 20 LPA, reputed family, seeking good match. 94060-65947, 82698-39838. (CL24017971)

28, 5'-10", IRS Officer, Income Tax req. b/ful match caste no bar. 80105-82127. (CL24018000)

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MAHAJAN

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CA Garg, 5'-6", 13.11.88, 07:31 AM, Chandigarh,

SITUATION VACANT

Jesus Saviour's School, Shamsar Nagar, Sirhind Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab). Affiliated to CBSE. Requires well qualified & experienced B.Ed. Teachers. PGTs- (Maths, Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics, Business Studies, Accountancy, Hindi, Social Studies, English & Physical Education).

Lady Doctor (RMO) Required: For Pinegrove School, Dharampur, Distt. Solan, HP. A fully residential Co-educational Boarding School, in District Solan, HP.

DBB DAV Centenary Public School, Ferozpur Cantt. staff recruitment for Session 2024-25. Applications are invited up to 25.5.2024 to 05.06.24 from DAV CBT qualified candidates with provisional eligibility card for the following posts:

MBBS, MD, MS, DNB, DCH, DGO Engineering Admission Guidance in top Colleges of India Suaykshid Education Consultancy, 89798-87039. (CL24018449)

ASTROLOGY Free Sewa- Free Samadhan, hand/ snap reading specialist, solve all problems. Contact: 3254/ 45-D, Chandigarh. 094170-85066. (CL24012638)

CAR FOR SALE Honda Amaze Pride 2018 first owner 40000 KM Mob: 99147-25557. (CL24016746)

VEHICLE FOR SALE Prof Dr Mercedes E200 CGA Petrol 2011 UP16 Regd complete service record only 41000 Km Contact/WA 98102-73584 brokers excuse (CL24018133)

DRIVING Full Time Driver required in Mohali. Salary Rs 18000. Phone 98770-43584. (CL24012892)

PROPERTY FOR SALE Chandigarh, 2 kanal well built duplex corner house in Sector 18-B, East Facing. Owner 98780-68071. (CL24017834)

CHANDIGARH 90 yards double storey house in Commercial/ Residential area Ambala Cantt, suitable for Bank, Hospital. 93505-67603. (CL24017981)

MOHALI Independent kothi corner new brand 4 bedrooms attached bathroom 150 yard Sector 127, Mohali. Owner: 99159-59921. (CL24017902)

PLOT FOR SALE Plot 100 & 118 yard Gated society (near Over bridge) Kharar Mohali. Preet Properties: 95924-44269. (CL24017901)

LAND WANTED Wanted Land on lease for HPCL Petrol Pump in all Punjab Urban Areas and National Highways. 9587413000 (CL24018575)

SALE/PURCHASE Sale new dining table six chairs, double bed box, steel almira. Maya Garden City, Zirakpur. Contact 98720-03980. (CL24017679)

TOILET 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, hall, terrace for rent. Prime location Sector 15 Chandigarh. Small family, Bank employee/ Doctor preferred. Contact: 94178-93258. (CL24017565)

PANCHKULA 1st floor 3 BHK, 2 bath, drawing, dining, dressing, storeroom, car parking. 97804-67565. (CL24017173)

MOHALI 2nd floor, independent two room set furnished, kitchen bathroom, Sector 10, Panchkula. 97815-13646. (CL24018480)

RENT/LEASE First floor one kanal Sector 21D, Chandigarh, two bedrooms, drawing dining, lobby. Contact 81307-77388. (CL24017210)

Newly built showroom for rent in Pinewood Centre, Sector 108, Mohali. Contact owner 98159-51044. (CL24017340)

Semi finished Cabins with Amenities available on rent, The Mall Road, Solan HP. 94780-00187. (CL24017808)

New commercial building in Hoshiarpur, prime location on Pathankot, Chandigarh, Himachal highway, 1 km from Bus Stand, approx 2000 sq. feet ground floor and 2000 first floor, big parking, 44 feet front. Contact: 70426-65353. (CL24018369)

PUBLIC NOTICES I, Binla wife of Amar Chand Bodi R/o Ward No. 1 Seohgar Tehsil and Distt. Kullu have changed my name to Binla Bodi. (CL24018358)

I, Virinder Kumar Son of Giridhari Lal Ahuja Resident of # 1266, Sector 49-B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Virinder Kumar Ahuja. (CL24018677)

I, Hitesh Kumar Son of Anil Kumar Resident of # 2594, Sector 40-C, Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter's name from Anya to Anya Sachdeva. (CL24018696)

I, Pooja w/o Raman Kamboj, resident Village Mirpur (Siras) have changed name to Pooja Kamboj. (CL24018721)

I, Kanta Kumari W/o Ex Army No. JC-522882P Ex Sub Bhagwan Dass R/o Village Haldwari, PO Panjehar, Tehsil Nagrota Bagwan, Distt. Kangra (HP) declare that my name in my husband Army service record have wrongly entered Kanta Devi whereas my correct name is Kanta Kumari. (CL24018803)

I, Sumit Dahiya s/o Narain Singh Dahiya r/o 477, G/ 31, Ashok Vihar, Mehlauna road, Sonapat have changed my minor daughter's name from Avni to Avni Dahiya for all future purposes. (CL24018903)

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Ashwani Kumar Additional District Judge, Chandigarh Kabita Vs. Ajmer For grant of compensation. CNR No. CHCH01-001160-2021 Next Date: 14.08.2024 Publication issued to: Ajmer :- Vill Dhakoli, SAS Nagar, Mohali, 2ND, address H.No. 12C, D.S.C Dhakoli, SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 14.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=distric\_notice&district=chandigarh Sd/- Additional District Judge CL24018504 Chandigarh.

ਬਾ-ਅਦਾਲਤ ਮੈਂ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਸਿੱਖ ਮਾਨ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਮਾਲ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ-ਕਮ-ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕੁਲੀਕਰ ਦਰਜਾ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ, ਫ਼ਾਸਟ ਟਰੈਕ ਕੋਰਟ, ਸਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਗਰ ਨਿਸਲ ਨੰਬਰ :- 10 ਐਫ.ਟੀ.ਸੀ. ਪਿੰਡ/ਰਕਬਾ :- ਨੂਰਪੁਰ ਕੋਸ ਵਿਸਮ :- ਤਕਸੀਮ ਦਾਇਰ ਨਿਤੀ :- 02.04.2024 ਅਗਲੀ ਪੇਸ਼ੀ ਨਿਤੀ :- 06.6.2024 ਪਬਲੀਕੇਸ਼ਨ 1. ਗੁਰਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਕਲਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਪਿਆਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮਹਿਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪਿੰਡ ਨੂਰਪੁਰ ਤਹਿ ਬੰਗਾ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਗਰ ਹਾਲ ਵਾਸੀ ਕਨੇਡਾ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਅਟਾਰਨੀ ਮੱਖਣ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੇਵਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪਿੰਡ ਡੀਗਰੀਆਂ ਤਹਿ ਬੰਗਾ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਗਰ (ਪਿਠ ਚਿੱਠੀਆਂ) ਬਨਾਮ ਸਿਰਾਗਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਪਿਆਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮੱਖਣ ਸਿੰਘ 2. ਅਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਪਿਆਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ 3. ਜੋਗਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ਼ਰਦੇਵ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਿਸਨ ਸਿੰਘ 4 ਨਭੱਤਰ ਕੋਰ ਵਿਧਵਾ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਜਸਵੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਿਸਨ ਸਿੰਘ 5 ਮਿਦੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਿਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਿਸਨ ਸਿੰਘ 6 ਛਿੱਦੀ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਦਿਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਿਸਨ ਸਿੰਘ 7 ਬਰਿਦਰ ਪਾਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਝਲਮਣ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਿਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ 8 ਦਵਿੰਦਰ ਪਾਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਝਲਮਣ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਿਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਪਿੰਡ ਨੂਰਪੁਰ ਤਹਿ ਬੰਗਾ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਗਰ 9. ਸੰਸਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਪਿਆਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਮਹਿਰਾ ਸਿੰਘ (ਪਿਠ ਉੱਤਰਵਾਦੀਆਂ) ਉਕਤ ਮੁਕੱਦਮੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਪੁਰਾ ਯਕੀਨ ਹੈ ਚੁੱਕਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਮੁਦਾਲਿਓ ਦੀ ਮੁਆਲੀ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੈਨ ਤੇ ਤਾਮੀਲੀ ਰੋਟੀ ਮੁਸਕਿਲ ਹੈ, ਇਸ ਲਈ ਨਿਤੀ 06.06.2024 ਦੀ ਤਾਰੀਖ ਪੇਸ਼ੀ ਨਿਸ਼ਚਿਤ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਇਤਿਹਾਦ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਉੱਤਰਵਾਦੀ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਉਹ ਤਾਰੀਖ ਪੇਸ਼ੀ ਤੇ ਅਸਾਲਤਨ ਜਾਂ ਵਕਾਲਤਨ ਹਾਲ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਆਉਣ। ਹਾਲ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਨਾ ਆਉਣ ਦੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਯਤਨਰਥਾ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਅਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਲਿਆਈ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਨੰਬਰ: 641 /ਗੈਡਰ/ਡੀ ਆਰ.ਓ. ਨਿਤੀ: 13/5/2024 ਅੱਜ ਨਿਤੀ 9/5/2024 ਨੂੰ ਮੇਰੇ ਦਸਤਖਤਾਂ ਤੇ ਮੋਹਰ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਨਾਲ ਇਹ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ ਹੈ। ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਮਾਲ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ-ਕਮ- ਏ.ਸੀ. ਫ਼ਾਸਟ ਕੋਰਟ ਸਹੀਦ ਭਗਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਗਰ. CL24018836

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Meenakshi Gupta Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Phillaur Surjit Singh S/o Lehmer Singh R/o Village Aujla, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar Vs. Avtar Singh S/o Bhajan Singh and Others R/o Village Aujla, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar CNR No. PBJLB0-001106-2019 Next Date:- 16.07.2024 Publication issued to: Res. 4) Davinder Singh S/o Booda Singh R/o Village Aujla, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 16.07.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=distric\_notice&district=jalandhar Dated, this day of 26.04.2024. Sd/- Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division) Phillaur. CL24018866

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Aprajita Joshi Addl. Civil Judge (Senior Division), SBS Nagar Makhn Singh Versus Amarjit Singh CNR No.: PBSB02-000305-2024 Next Date: 30.07.2024 Application for succession Publication issued to: 1. Amarjit Singh s/o Late Darshan Singh, r/o Bharoli, Tehsil Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar presently residing at 10 Gosport Road, UK. 2. Surinder Singh s/o Late Darshan Singh r/o Village Bharoli, Tehsil Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar presently residing at 54 Frances, Havergholse, Lamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31, 3 BU, UK. 3. Daljit Kaur d/o Darshan Singh r/o Village Bharoli, Tehsil Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar presently residing at 38, New Street, Bedworth, CV12 9DL, UK. 4. Jeets Wilson @ Sukhjit Kaur d/o Late Darshan Singh r/o Village Bharoli, Tehsil Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar, presently residing at 141, Walton End, Waverdon Gate, Milton Keynes, MK7, UK. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 30.07.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=distric\_notice&district=sbsnagar Dated, this day of 22.05.2024. Sd/- Addl. Civil Judge (Senior Division), SBS Nagar. CL24018894

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Manisha Jain Principal Judge Family Court, SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr Seema Rani Vs. Sanjeev Kumar Kaler CNR No. PBSB01-002657-2023 Next Date: 19.07.2024 HMA 338/2023 Publication issued to: Sanjeev Kumar Kaler :- Om Parkash Village Saroya, Tehsil Balachaur, Distt. SBS Nagar In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 19.07.2024 at 10.00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=distric\_notice&district=sbsnagar Dated, this day of 21.05.2024. Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr CL24018899

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Harish Anand Principal Judge Family Court, SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr Navjot Rani Vs. General Public CNR No. PBSB01-002998-2023 Next Date: 11.07.2024 Petition u/s 7 Rule 25 Guardian and Wards act GW/68/2023 Publication issued to: Ravi Chopra :- Dharampal Mohalla Massanda Patti, Banga, Tehsil - Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 11.07.2024 at 10.00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=distric\_notice&district=sbsnagar Dated, this day of 21.05.2024. Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr CL24018902

Hands off: SC refuses to direct EC to upload poll data within 48 hours

Says don't want to interrupt poll process, will take up ADR's plea later

SATYA PRAKASH THE TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE NEWDELHI, MAY 24

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to pass orders on a plea seeking directions to the Election Commission to upload voter turnout data within 48 hours of polling for each phase of the Lok Sabha poll, saying a "hands-off approach needs to be adopted" during the elections.

A Vacation Bench led by Justice Dipankar Datta told senior counsel Dushyant Dave, who represented petitioner Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), "Let me tell you, this application will be heard after the elections... In between elections, hands off! We can't interrupt the (electoral) process. We are also responsible citizens. Let the application be heard along with the main writ petition. Let us have some trust in the authorities."

On May 10, the ADR had



HAVE SOME TRUST

"We can't interrupt the (electoral) process. We are also responsible citizens. Let us have some trust in the authorities. This application will be heard after the elections... In between, hands off! Vacation Bench

filed an interim application in a 2019 PIL, seeking directions to the poll panel that "scanned legible copies of Form 17C Part-I (Account of Votes Recorded)" of all polling stations be uploaded immediately after the polls. However, the Bench was not convinced that it should be heard in the midst of elections. The top court's refusal came after senior counsel Maninder Singh pointed out on behalf of

the Election Commission that it was a four-year-old petition in which an interim application had been filed merely on the basis of apprehensions. "Was it permissible for you (ADR) to file an application in connection with a judgment where you are a party? The trust in the election process has to be strengthened, and not punctured. The EC takes steps on its own wherever it thinks fit... It came to the con-

clusion that these applications are merely apprehensions," Singh said. Pointing out that in its April 26 verdict on EVM-VVPAT, the top court had questioned the bona fides of the ADR, Singh urged the Bench to dismiss the plea as such continuous attempts to raise questions over the electoral process could reduce citizens' participation in the democratic exercise. On Wednesday, the poll panel had asserted that there was neither delay nor difference in the percentage of voter turnout and urged the top court to dismiss ADR's plea seeking voter turnout data under Form 17C. "There is no legal mandate to provide Form-17 to any person other than the candidate or his agent. The petitioner is trying to create an entitlement when none exists in the law by way of filing an application in the middle of the election period," the EC had said.

France NRI denies involvement in AAP's pro-Khalistan funding

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE NEWDELHI, MAY 24

Days after his name cropped up as a "reference" in the case of Khalistan funding for AAP, France-based NRI Iqbal Singh Bhatti today landed at the office of Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena to deny he had played any such role. Bhatti, who has been into social service for decades in his adopted country, maintained he was "not connected in any manner to the AAP funding episode". He runs Aurore Dawn, an outfit that helps cremate Indians who die in France. On this visit to India too, he is carrying eight urns containing the ashes of Indians cremated in France.

"I have nothing to do with the funding. The complaint against me is wrong," he told The Tribune. The NRI even produced documents to show he was a social worker and had each time met Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he visited France. He claimed a few weeks ago he, in collaboration with the Overseas Friends of BJP even organised a car rally in favour of PM Modi in Paris. On May 5, the Principal Secretary to the L-G had sent a letter to the Union Home Secretary, which referred to another

Lands at Delhi L-G's office; had organised pro-Modi rally in Paris recently



Iqbal Bhatti in New Delhi with ashes of Indians who died in France.

HONOURED BY INDIA FOR SOCIAL SERVICE

- NRI Iqbal Singh Bhatti's organisation either sends bodies of Indians killed in France back home or performs last rites there itself
- Over the past 20 years, his outfit Aurore Dawn handled 371 bodies, of which 122 were cremated in France
- Bhatti has received seven gold medals, one award from the Indian Government and 11 certificates of honour, including one during Covid from the Indian Embassy

January 2014 letter written by AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal to Bhatti on a decision of the Delhi Government. Bhatti had then been fasting at Jantar Mantar while demanding an SIT probe into the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and release of Sikh, including Davinder Pal Bhullar, languishing in jails for

decades. Kejriwal's letter to Bhatti (The Tribune has a copy) mentioned, "The AAP government has already recommended to the President the release of Bhullar and would be working on other issues, including the formation of an SIT, sympathetically and in a time-bound manner."

Medha Patkar convicted in defamation case, was filed by Delhi L-G 23 years ago

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE NEWDELHI, MAY 24

Terminating reputation as one of the "most valuable assets" which significantly impacts one's standing in society, a Delhi court on Friday convicted activist Medha Patkar in a criminal defamation case lodged against her by Delhi Lt Governor VK Saxena in 2001. "It has been proved beyond reasonable doubt that the accused (Patkar) published the imputations with the intent and knowledge that they would harm the reputation of the complainant and, therefore, committed an offence punishable under Section 500 of the IPC. She is hereby convicted of the same," Metropolitan Magistrate Ravghav Sharma said, convicting the Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) leader of criminal defamation. "It is clear that the accused's actions were deliberate and malicious, aimed at tarnishing the complainant's good name, and have indeed caused substantial harm to his standing

and credit in the eyes of the public. The accused's statements, calling the complainant a coward, not a patriot, and alleging his involvement in hawala transactions, were not only defamatory per se but also crafted to incite negative perceptions," Sharma said, posting the matter for arguments on the quantum of the sentence on May 30 at 2 pm. Saxena had filed the complaint against Patkar's November 2000 statement when he was the president of the National Council of Civil Liberties. The complaint was filed over a defamatory press release issued against him by the NBA activist. Metropolitan Magistrate Sharma said, "...the accusation that the complainant (Saxena) was mortgaging the people of Gujarat and their resources to foreign interests was a direct attack on his integrity and public service." Saxena's testimony, supported by two court witnesses, showed Patkar falsely associated him with activities contrary to his public stance, the court said.

PM admitted liquor scam fake: Kejri on 'thief' remark

NEWDELHI, MAY 24

A day after PM Narendra Modi, in a veiled swipe at Arvind Kejriwal, said an "experienced thief knew how to cover his ground", the Delhi CM retorted saying the PM had "confessed in front of the country that the liquor scam was fake and no proof was found". "Finally, PM Modi has admitted the so-called liquor scam is fake and his ED and CBI have no evidence or recovered any money," Kejriwal said in a dig-

ital message. He was referring to the PM's comments to a TV channel last night where, answering a question on Kejriwal's claim that no money was recovered, Modi said, "An experienced thief knows how to cover the ground. A former government officer also knows how the ED and the CBI function." The AAP chief said the truth was that Modi was making the excuse that Kejriwal was an experienced thief only to "justify his wrong arrest". —TNS

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE For and on behalf of President of India, Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, DMU CAR SHED JALANDHAR CITY invites Single Tender through e-tendering system from OEM I.e. M/s. HYT ENGINEERING CO. PVT. LTD, PUNE (or) Authorized dealer of M/s. HYT ENGINEERING CO. PVT. LTD. - PUNE for the under mentioned work.

# OVERCOMING PANIC ATTACKS

Pandemic saw a steep rise in anxiety and other mental health issues, but awareness about panic attacks or disorders remains low



ISTOCK

RENU SUD SINHA

- Ashima (30) has been having panic attacks for nearly 20 years now.
- Harsimran (20) cleared NEET in her third attempt due to severe exam anxiety.
- Mayank (26) couldn't clear JEE and had to settle for BSc because of anxiety; he hasn't been able to take any entrance test for government exams, and remains without a job.
- Gautam (26) started experiencing panic attacks during his second year of B.Tech "due to the stress of the competitive atmosphere in a prestigious engineering college". He had to take an extra semester to complete his degree.
- Poonima (37) has been facing relationship as well as job-related problems for a long time because of the "fear of the unknown".

ness, numbness or tingling sensation, etc. and the attack can happen suddenly. Many times, these cases are referred to us after cardiology examination and tests," says Dr Sandeep Grover, Professor, Psychiatry, PGIMER, Chandigarh. Panic attacks can occur independently or co-occur with other mental health problems like depression, OCD, personality disorder, etc, he adds.

Most people can experience one or two panic attacks in a lifetime, but when these reoccur, it is called a panic disorder. These can start at any age but diagnosis is usually delayed as symptoms are sudden and short-lived. Factors can be genetic or environmental, or both. External factors can include trauma and abuse (sometimes sexual) often during childhood, says Chandigarh-based psychiatrist Dr Simmi Wariach. People with poor coping skills are more predisposed to panic disorder, a type of anxiety disorder.

The difference between a panic and anxiety attack is that certain stressful situations often trigger anxiety attacks, which build up gradually, with physical symptoms such as a rapid pulse or tightness in stomach. But these symptoms are usually less intense and last longer than a panic attack, which is unexpected and sudden with intense but brief symptoms.

While Dr Grover pegs the age range of patients between 18 and 45, Ludhiana-based psychiatrist Dr Priyanka Kalra sees three to four patients daily, some as young as 10, especially after Covid. "Academic difficulties became pronounced after schools reopened, kids have problems while writing and face exam anxiety. An 11-year-old girl refused to go to school for months. After many sessions, she revealed that a teacher had scolded her in class."

During early teenage years, many can have panic attacks due to over-criticism, peer rejection, bullying, etc. "In older children, particu-



## CALMING EXERCISES

- Belly/deep breathing
- Simple neck, shoulder and back stretches can release tension
- Practice mindfulness using all senses. Imagine yourself in a calm setting like a beach, forest, hills, etc
- Meditation
- Grounding techniques: Called the 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 method, it involves naming 5 things you can see, 4 things you can hear, 3 things you can feel, 2 things you can smell, 1 thing you can taste

larly those studying for competitive exams like NEET, JEE and other entrance tests, exam anxiety has emerged as a major trigger. Some of the older children face body-image and self-esteem issues," says Dr Wariach.

A good orator, Chandigarh-based Harsimran was good in academics as well, scoring above 90 per cent in classes X and XI. The combined stress of the lockdown and preparing for NEET made Class XII a hellish experience. "There was no escape, no school. I would keep crying without reason, wouldn't talk to anyone, had rapid heartbeat, couldn't sleep all night. It has taken me more than three years of counselling,

meditation, yoga and developing coping skills to be stronger mentally. I have finally cleared my NEET with a good rank," says the young girl, who now feels equipped to face the rigours of a medical college.

The incidence of panic attacks is more among the young because their stressors are more. "Tougher competition, unemployment, work stress, social media pressure and dysfunctional coping mechanisms," lists Delhi-based clinical psychologist Ashita Mahendru.

Consequences of untreated panic attacks are life-long. The fear of recurring attacks limits their life choices or results in poor choices. Agoraphobia (fear of public or crowded places) is common. This limits their job options and relationships and even leads to a faulty choice of partners. In the absence of any treatment, substance abuse, stress eating and self-harm are common among patients, adds Mahendru.

"I would often have nausea and diarrhoea during childhood as my mother used to get angry often and the fear of her beatings would trigger these reactions," says Delhi-based Ashima. "I had no support system. My father was mostly absent. I wasn't allowed to go anywhere but school. The only friend I could share my feelings with was in a similar situation. So, I thought this was normal. When it would become too much, I would shut down completely, keep crying, sleep for 12-13 hours, not speak to anyone. By Class XI, these symptoms turned into extreme back pain and swelling. I started drinking alcohol, freely available at home. I wanted to study psychology but was forced to opt for engineering. I agreed because it meant moving to Chennai, the only way to escape home. There, too, my mother found a way to control by limiting my finances. Even now, financial insecurity remains a trigger," says Ashima, who started therapy only in 2020, as "it was costly and my moth-

er refused to give me money initially".

While a dysfunctional family (her parents are separated now) triggered mental health issues for Ashima, for Bengaluru-based Poonima, repeated sexual assaults since she was five and a closed family atmosphere were the reasons behind her panic attacks which started when she was 13. "I blamed myself, had no confidence, couldn't share with anyone, as I had no friends. All these piled-up feelings would cause choking sensations, unknown fears as if someone is always in the room with me," recalls Poonima, who is now quite vocal about her mental health issues. Despite undergoing therapy, a toxic boss or a failed relationship can still trigger attacks.

Good in studies and sports, for Delhi-based Mayank, it was the fear of losing at games that started his downfall. "The situation slowly worsened to 10 to 12 panic attacks a day, affecting everything. My father was a teacher in a small town of Uttarakhand. My parents thought it was 'devta's curse'. After Class XII, I came to Delhi to prepare for IIT. Pressure during coaching led to substance abuse and self-harm. My family still doesn't know about my mental health or that I've been in therapy for two years now," adds Mayank.

Gautam was also diagnosed with mixed anxiety-depressive disorder and has been in therapy since 2019. "I prioritise my mental health now. I follow a good diet and sleep hygiene," says the entrepreneur, who is setting up his own business now.

Experts say that 15-20 continuous sessions of cognitive behaviour therapy (weekly or biweekly), beta-blockers, anti-anxiety and anti-depression medicines in more serious patients, and consistent follow-up have given good results. A healthy lifestyle is a must. Panic attacks may still happen in extreme stressful situations but, as Poonima says, "Therapy equips us to better handle these."

## Diet to reduce disease risk

New ICMR guidelines on non-communicable diseases focus on food groups

RENU SUD SINHA

ELEVEN-YEAR old Raghav is pre-diabetic. Born through IVF, he is an over-pampered child, who has become insulin-resistant due to over-eating. He is part of the rising childhood obesity cases that are driving the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in India where, ironically, undernutrition and anaemia also remain public health issues.

Unhealthy diet is responsible for 56.4 per cent of NCDs that include heart diseases, cancers, diabetes and hypertension. Rising consumption of processed food has emerged as a significant factor behind these NCDs.

The National Institute of Nutrition, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has recently released Dietary Guidelines for Indians 2024, focusing on food groups rather than nutrients. Reiterating that a balanced diet and physical activity can substantially reduce heart diseases, hypertension and check Type 2 diabetes by at least 80 per cent, these guidelines provide comprehensive and practical recommendations.

Mohali-based nutritionist Neelu Malhotra says that since the first set of guidelines were published in 1998, there is hardly any difference in recommendations, "but revisions are necessary because of misconceptions fuelled by social media".

The guidelines recommend an ideal plate of 2,000 calories a day (1,200 in case of diet restriction), but consumption should be strictly based on individual requirements



### MENU THAT CAN BE HELPFUL

- Eat 60-70 gm cereal per meal. One roti is roughly 30 gm (6 tsp) flour; 30 gm of cereal/millets (raw) amounts to 90 gm (approx) in cooked form and has 100 calories.
- 30 gm (6 tsp) of raw daal is equal to one cooked bowl (100 cal) of boiled daal. Kids need only 15 gm (3 tsp) a day (quantity may vary in case of deficiencies).
- In the absence of green leafy vegetables

in summers, use a lot of fresh coriander/mint leaves or as *chutney*; don't throw away beetroot leaves. You can also use dry *methi* leaves.

- Starchy fruits and root vegetables are carbohydrates and should be considered as cereals in the diet.
- Keep portion control in mind, particularly while eating fruits. Avoid juices.

and parameters, including weight, age, gender, activity level, etc. It should have various food groups, including vegetables (400 gm, also green leafy and root vegetables), fruits (100 gm), cereals (250 gm), pulses, eggs and meat (85 gm), nuts and seeds (35 gm), fats and oil (27 gm) and milk/curd/*paneer* (300 ml).

Despite cereals/millets being the mainstay of Indian diets, fibre remains low in our diets as we eat more refined food. The rising cost of pulses and meat has limited their availability for many. Malhotra recommends unpolished cereals, millets and whole grains like barley and *ragi*, as wheat

has less fibre than other cereals.

The 17 guidelines have addressed detailed diet requirements for various groups, including infants, pregnant and lactating women and the elderly. The 148-page booklet is available on the ICMR website. It contains advisories on limiting intake of high fat, sugar, salt and processed foods, exclusive breast feeding for first six months and only home-cooked food for infants, reading food labels, etc. This handbook also has diet charts, healthy recipes, appropriate cooking methods and information on cookware and even on measuring *katoris* and spoons.

## TACKLING THE HEAT

AS temperatures hover between 40°C and 45°C and the IMD predicts hotter days ahead, Dr Ravindra Khaiwal, Professor, Community Medicine and Public Health, PGI, Chandigarh, who has created, 'VAAYU', a comic on 'Climate Change & Heatwaves' for kids, gives some practical tips and preventive measures to avoid heat stroke/exhaustion and what to do in case it happens.

### SYMPTOMS

- Headache
- Dizziness/fainting
- Very high body temperature (104°C to 106°C)
- Extreme sweating (in exhaustion)
- Hot dry skin/No sweating (in case of heatstroke)
- Seizures
- Cramps
- Red rashes
- Nausea/vomiting
- Rapid breathing and pulse

### THOSE AT RISK

- Labourers, delivery persons, elderly, children, sports persons, farmers, rickshaw-pullers, etc
- People with respiratory issues, heart problems, hypertension, mental health patients, kidney disorders

### PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- Avoid going out between noon and 4 pm
- If you have to go, wear loose, light-coloured cotton clothes
- Take frequent breaks
- Keep yourself hydrated. Sip water frequently
- Use an umbrella or keep the head covered



- Avoid cooking during peak hours
- Limit physical activity to early morning or late evening
- Have traditional drinks like *chhachh*, *nimbu paani*, *sattu*, *kokum sherbat*, etc
- Avoid tea, coffee, sugary and fizzy drinks
- Have light or steamed food

### WHAT TO DO

- Bring the person in shade immediately
- Loosen clothes
- If he/she is alert, give water or ORS
- Lay down the person with feet elevated, but on a side in case of vomiting
- Sponge with cool tap water and apply wet cloth in armpits, on head, legs, ankles and on thighs
- Don't ignore or delay, call an ambulance or take the person to hospital at once

RATINGS: ★★★★★EXCELLENT | ★★★★VERY GOOD | ★★★GOOD | ★★AVERAGE | ★POOR

# Miller delivers another *Mad Max* winner

**FILM** *Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga*

**DIRECTOR** George Miller

**CAST** Anya Taylor-Joy, Chris Hemsworth, Tom Burke, Ayla Browne, George Shevtsov, Lachy Hulme, John Howard, Angus Sampson, Charlee Fraser, Elsa Pataky, Nathan Jones, Josh Helman

**RATING** ★★★★★



The film has great action, a beautifully imagined script, superb actors, enthralling drama and mind-boggling CGI.

**JOHNSON THOMAS**

This George Miller epic, fifth in his *Mad Max* series, coming after the exceptional *Fury Road*, is a treat to watch. It's a prequel which outlines Furiosa's origins and the reasons for her rage. Set in a futuristic dystopia, this action flick may not top *Fury Road*, but it sure does stay in contention as the next best thing. *Furiosa* is truly a badass female revenge story — a battle so savage and brutal that the only person she can trust is herself.

This film has a glut of gravity-defying chases, high-flying stunts, deeply felt pathos and reverberating energy that draws you in completely, as the characters and the filmmakers push the limits of what can be actualised in a frame. The future here is anchored around the past.

There are hints of Biblical iconography, Arthurian legend, eastern and western mythology lending weight to an entrancing story that manages to surprise, despite the bleak future we know it is hurtling towards. This film can definitely be counted as one of the best prequels ever made.

*Fury Road* was spread over a few days but *Furiosa* expands over a 15-

year period. We first see Furiosa (Ayla Browne) as a young girl in a lush-green oasis. She is the progeny of peace-loving, post-apocalyptic survivors who have found green wealth by nurturing nature while all that surrounds them are vast wastelands, with inventive tribes using 'guzzolene' as the currency for food and water. So, when a biker horde finds the little girl holding what looks like an apple, they waste little time in capturing her for proof that there exists a hidden realm filled with homegrown food — wealth that can make renegade savages like Dementus (Chris Hemsworth), their crazily funny warlord, more powerful than even he imagined. Since Furiosa refuses to talk and

her abductors have all been killed brutally by her mother, Dementus' only hope is to keep the girl alive and get someone to make her reveal the location of her tribe.

Miller's follow-up to *Fury Road* goes back in time to showcase power centres like Dementus and Immortan Joe and his Citadel, where an army of white-painted suicide warriors control the production of guzzolene. We see Dementus trade off the little girl for the control of fuel production. And later, Furiosa escapes captivity, pretends to be a boy and survives in the Citadel till she manages to make herself indispensable to Praetorian Jack (Tom Burke). That section though is a tad unconvincing. Probably, the only weak link in an

otherwise sumptuous spread of blisteringly brutal and, sometimes even funny, savagery.

The narrative, split into five involving chapters, gets into action right from the very beginning. The most eye-popping action though comes when Praetorian Jack does the *Fury Road* run to collect petrol from the refinery and Furiosa and Immortan Joe's suicidal warriors help him survive what seems like a suicide mission — an all-out attack by the treacherous Dementus and his savage biker gang who suddenly stopped the regular run of food and water rations that were promised to Immortan Joe.

George Miller's masterful craftsmanship leaves the audience literally

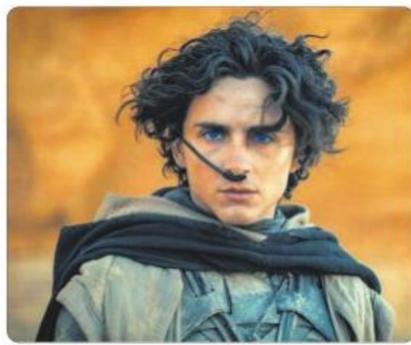
eating out of his hands. The narrative is expansive and full of action set pieces, each one outclassing the other in style, scale and spectacle. This is a sort of road movie with much of the action coming at a furious pace.

The casting and all the tech specs are perfectly aligned to captivate and entertain. All the actors embody their respective characters and lend personality and fortitude when called for. Ayla Browne, Anya Taylor Joy and Chris Hemsworth are just some of the exceptional talents on display here. As a viewer, you get drawn in completely, totally ensnared in what happens on screen. Such intimacy in cinema is a rare occurrence. There's never a dull moment here.

George Miller's creation of a world we may never have imagined is so specific and detailed that it's hard to believe that it doesn't really exist. The characters fit into that desolate dystopian world beautifully. The action set pieces are so seamlessly woven into the story that you never feel that it is forced or unnecessary. The characters are all well-rounded, and the performers do wonderfully well to execute them with perfection. This film has great action, a beautifully imagined script, superb actors, enthralling drama, mind-boggling CGI, cinematography, sound and music. The editing allows for unrelenting pace, the costumes, prosthetics, styling, art and production design are all exceptional.

This is definitely an experience to die for — one in which George Miller reiterates his unparalleled 'genius action filmmaker' credentials!

**WHAT'S STREAMING**



**DUNE PART TWO**

JIOCINEMA

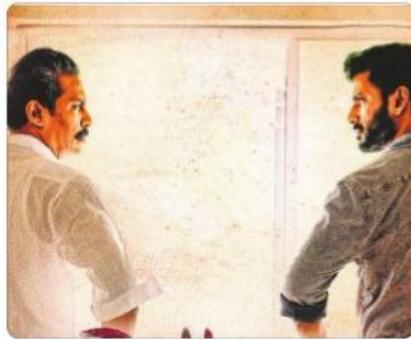
The science fiction franchise's second part hit the theatres two months ago and is now available for digital audiences. The film features Timothée Chalamet and Zendaya as they reprise their roles from part one. It also welcomes the new cast members, Austin Butler and Florence Pugh.



**THE BEACH BOYS**

DISNEY+HOTSTAR

The nostalgic documentary, written by Mark Monroe, aims to celebrate the band that revolutionised pop music. Directed by Frank Marshall and Thom Zimny, it features rare footage. It also traces how Brian Wilson, Mike Love, Al Jardine, David Marks and Bruce Johnston created the iconic 'California Sound'.



**RATHNAM**

PRIME VIDEO

The Tamil action drama revolves around Rathnam, portrayed by Vishal, who is a passionate young man wrestling with a tumultuous past. He saves a girl, Malliga, played by Priya Bhavani Shankar, from a bunch of hooligans. Circumstances force him to continue to save her.



**JURASSIC WORLD: CHAOS THEORY**

NETFLIX

A sequel of *Jurassic World: Camp Cretaceous*, the animated series picks up the story six years after events of the previous one. Members of the group, the 'Nublar Six', come together only to find themselves catapulted into an adventure to unravel a conspiracy that threatens dinosaurs and humankind alike.



Manoj Bajpayee's 100th film does no justice to his talent and ability.

## Bhaiyya Ji, why this?

**FILM** *Bhaiyya Ji*

**DIRECTOR** Apoorv Singh Karki

**CAST** Manoj Bajpayee, Vipin Sharma, Jatin Goswami, Suvinder Vicky, Zoya Hussain, Akash Makhija, Anrendra Sharma and Bhageerathi Bai Kadam

**RATING** ★

**PARBINA RASHID**

Bollywood is not ready to let go of its *Animal*' instinct. If anything, it has found its template in the 2023 Ranbir Kapoor-starrer. We thought we had seen the 'wildest' side of the industry with Sandeep Reddy Vanga's offering, but director Apoorv Singh Karki proves us wrong. So, what we witness in between a computer-generated crowd refusing to partake of the food left outside for a departed soul to finally eating it is — violence, violence and violence.

The story is based on a simple premise. Ram Charan aka Bhaiyya Ji's (Manoj Bajpayee) younger brother from another mother (literally) is killed outside the New Delhi railway station by Chandra Bhan Singh's (Suvinder Vicky) son Abhimanyu (Jatin Goswami) and his friends in a spat over *paranathas*. The murder forces Bhaiyya Ji out of his retired Robin-hood mode. The director is kind enough to fill us in on his background with the help of a voice-over from Bhaiyya Ji himself.

As the middle-aged 'Family Man' transforms from a meek would-be groom to a monster-on-the-loose, so does his fiancée Mitali (Zoya Hussain). To save her man, she joins him on the battleground, shooting any and everybody that comes within her eye-line. A voice informs us that she has been a national-level shooter. Don't believe? Footage from her target practice is juxtaposed with the scenes when she goes pumping bullets at the enemy.

Karki does not leave anything to chance. He heavily depends on Sandeep Chowta's deafening background score, over-the-top dialogues and suggestive songs to convey what he wants to. And, when the plot thick-

ens and the violence becomes too much to handle, Karki, who has co-written the story with Deepak Kingrani, takes the easy way out. He simply makes everything fall into place by concocting co-incidences.

Bhaiyya Ji, after being informed about his brother's accident, finds the 'real' cause of death as he finds the right cop (Vipin Sharma) who thinks nothing of giving out sensitive information, a priest in the rival camp identifies Bhaiyya Ji just by listening to a voice on the speaker phone even though Bhaiyya Ji's area of operation is Bihar and the villain and his bratish son are thorough-bred Delhites. Everything moves in one direction to make Bhaiyya Ji extract his pound of flesh.

But despite everything happening to facilitate our hero, he takes an agonising 135 minutes to say, 'mission accomplished'. They jump, crawl, shoot and slit (throats), and we wince till numbness takes over.

There are some funny moments too. Like the priest boasting how Bhaiyya Ji once pursued an enemy who unfortunately went into coma after being shot. Bhaiyya Ji footed the hospital bill for 10 long years for the man to come out of it and when he did, he shot him dead. Such dedication! Only if the same dedication was shown on the script! What can one say about an entire village marching to the enemy den in the national capital wielding sticks and machetes? In fact, they transport themselves from Bihar to Delhi and then back as if it's walking distance. Cops remain out of sight amid all the mayhem. Even the politicians decide to give them a free run.

The cinematography, too, seems like having been done by an intern. Be it the action scenes or the blood fest or the explosions, they look like imports from a video game. There is a scene that shows Bhaiyya Ji falling into a river in slow motion. It makes us sad, but not for the apparent reason.

'*Bhaiyya Ji*' happens to be Bajpayee's 100th film and this milestone of this very talented actor is drowned in Bollywood's tried, tested and failed formula. Sad!

## AI-driven, but lacks intelligence

**NETFLIX** *Atlas*

**DIRECTOR** Brad Peyton

**CAST** Jennifer Lopez, Simu Liu, Sterling K Brown, Gregory James Cohan, Mark Strong and Abraham Popoola

**RATING** ★★

**NONIKA SINGH**

AI as a threat to mankind isn't a novel concept. More than one Hollywood actioner has walked this path and often made for reasonable entertainers, if not an in-depth and incisive study. Only, what seemed like sci-fi a few years ago is a tangible possibility today. After all, AI is growing its sharp fangs of intelligence by the minute. Yet, Jennifer Lopez-starrer *Atlas* does not feel fantastically intelligent or even futuristically interesting.

To be honest and fair, it begins well. Harlan, we learn, is the first AI terrorist the world has seen. He wants to eliminate humanity and wreaks havoc. Simu Liu as Harlan looks sufficiently menacing and suitably artificial. But before Harlan succeeds in 'mission extermination', he is forced to flee. Only, he fulfils his promise, 'I will finish what I started.'

Twenty-eight years later, another AI terrorist, Casca Decius (Abraham Popoola), is captured on earth. In walks Atlas Shepherd (Jennifer Lopez in the titular role), a top artificial intelligence analyst. She gets into the head of this bot and finds the exact location of Harlan, which is the G 39 Andromeda galaxy.

A combat team with well-synched mech-suits under Colonel Elias Banks (a sprightly Sterling K. Brown) is put in place to get Har-



Jennifer Lopez-starrer does not feel intelligent or interesting.

lan alive. Atlas warns against it. And why should they listen to her? Because she is the ultimate expert on Harlan, reasons for which unfold as we go along in our search for him. The backstory that Atlas and Harlan share has a dash of emotion, a tinge of sibling jealousy and a mother: Lana Parrilla as Val Shepherd is the one who created Harlan. On paper, while this emotive angle might have sounded intriguing, but as it unfurls on our screens, there isn't much to root or feel for.

Besides, despite the lavish scale on which the sci-fi actioner has been mounted, there is nothing spectacular about the so-called spectacles. There is no adrenaline rush either.

As the protagonist Atlas and antagonist Harlan engage in a long duel, we know the final outcome. Once the space ship is ambushed

by Harlan's soldiers and Atlas is left to her own devices and her AI ally Smith, there is little to grab your attention. Special effects don't make the offering any more special than the insipid writing, which lacks even occasional bright sparks. The banter between Atlas and Smith, despite the profound talk about whether AI has a soul and everything is alive, is rather mediocre.

Harlan going rogue has the instilled distrust of AI in Atlas. Yet, she continues to live in an AI-enabled home, even plays chess with simulated versions of an opponent. One could argue that a world without AI is next to impossible even now, let alone in the future. Even Harlan tells Atlas that she has prevailed over him thanks to the ones like him.

Indeed, the makers are not anti-AI, even if one has gone rogue. Atlas' rediscovery of trust (in AI) through her savoury, 'I am computer programme Smith', is supposedly the emotional core of the film. But this attempt at emotional connect is no more than perfunctory. Clearly, this Atlas doesn't move and can easily be shrugged away.

Smith might have offered Atlas 'a lollipop for being a good patient', but there is none for being a good audience. Unless your 'coping mechanism' to suffer a rerun of similar actioners borders on the insanely tolerant spectrum, *Atlas* is barely watchable.

'AI is capable of exponential learning'; unquestionably, but certainly, not our makers obsessing over AI-driven films. Streaming on Netflix, even the two-hour runtime pans out as being rather long.

## Passing the Test

**SHEETAL**

There's a reason sports documentaries are a hit among the fans of the game, for these walk you right into the dressing room where players are discussing strategies. These, however, score a six when they make the game impressive and interesting for non-fans. By the time I finished watching this three-episode documentary on Test cricket, the five-day cricket matches became even more interesting than the bingeable T20.

The series starts with a match between India and Australia during the ICC World Test Championship in England. Indian skipper Virat Kohli can be seen

**PRIME VIDEO** *The Test Season 3*

**DIRECTORS** Sheldon Wynne and Adrian Brown

**FEATURES** Pat Cummins, Usman Khawaja, Nathan Lyon, Alex Carey, Gerard Whateley, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Labuschagne, Justin Langer, David Warner, Steve Smith, Peter Lalor, Travis Head, Ravi Shastri & Harsha Bhogle

**RATING** ★★★★★

hitting the long shots. The focus soon shifts to the Ashes.

As the five-match series begins, on-field emotions like humiliation, triumph, sacrifice, courage and respect come forth. At this bi-annual event, time comes to a standstill.

The second episode takes you to the second Test match at the



The docu-series brings alive the Ashes' series.

Ashes where wicketkeeper Alex Carey is throwing the stumps to dismiss Jonny Bairstow. Australian producers showing it without holding back is a win-win for the series. It also brings back memories of the match between Rajasthan Royals and Punjab Kings (then Kings XI Punjab) when Ashwin, captain of Punjab Kings, pulls a similar

stump out to send Jos Buttler back into the pavilion. Back then, questions were raised about the spirit of the game. Only English cricket lovers present at the matches during the Ashes weren't kind enough, and booing and sloganeering became part of the tour. There's another heartwarming moment when Nathan Lyon

fighters it out in his 100th Test match as he adds runs to the scoreboard while batting with an injured leg.

The 140th series of the Ashes' history gives an impeccable moment, reserved only for the climax. You also get to see another side of these cricketers: as fathers, husbands and sons who face pressure during the matches, nonetheless humans who falter, lose and break at crucial moments. The only complaint: it would have been better to see an interaction with key players of the teams they were playing against. Their point of view would have added more layers to this one-sided narrative.

The must-watch documentary rises above dividing factors like 'teams and countries' and celebrates cricket and the very 'spirit of cricket', in bits and pieces.

# World Court directs Israel to immediately halt Rafah ops

THE HAGUE, MAY 24

Judges at the top United Nations court ordered Israel on Friday to immediately halt its military assault on the southern Gaza city of Rafah, in a landmark emergency ruling in South Africa's case accusing Israel of genocide.

While the International Court of Justice, or World Court, has no means to enforce its orders, the case was a stark sign of Israel's global isolation over its campaign in Gaza, particularly since it began its offensive against Rafah this month against the pleas of its closest ally the United States.

Reading out the ruling, World Court president Nawaf Salam said the situation in the Palestinian enclave had deteriorated since the court last ordered Israel to take steps to improve it, and conditions had been met for a new emergency order.



The ICJ hears a case against Israel at The Hague on Friday. REUTERS

**'WILL CONTINUE FIGHTING TO GET BACK CAPTIVES'**

Jerusalem: Israeli war cabinet minister Benny Gantz said Israel would continue its "just and necessary" war against Hamas to return its hostages and ensure its security after the International Court of Justice ordered it to halt its operation in Rafah.

"The state of Israel shall (...) immediately halt its military offensive, and any other action in the Rafah governorate, which may inflict on the Pales-

tinian group in Gaza conditions of life that could bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part," he said. South Africa hailed the

## BODIES OF THREE MORE HOSTAGES FOUND IN GAZA

The bodies of three more hostages killed on October 7 were recovered overnight from Gaza, Israel's army said on Friday.

The bodies of Hanan Yablunka, Michel Nisenbaum and Orion Hernandez Radoux were found and their families had been notified, the army said.

The announcement comes less than a week after the army said it found the bodies of three other Israeli hostages.

Israel says around 100 hostages are still captive in Gaza. The bodies of at least 39 more were still lying there, while 17 bodies of hostages have been recovered

ruling as groundbreaking. The Palestinian Authority said it represented a global consensus that the war must end. — Reuters



People carry bags after a landslide in Enga Province on Friday. REUTERS

## Papua New Guinea hit by landslide, 100 feared dead

MELBOURNE, MAY 24

More than 100 people are believed to have been killed in a landslide Friday that buried a village in a remote, mountainous part of Papua New Guinea, and an emergency response is underway, officials in the South Pacific island nation said.

The landslide struck Enga province, about 600 kilometers northwest of the capital, Port Moresby, at roughly 3 a.m. Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported. Residents from surrounding areas said boulders

and trees from a collapsed mountainside buried parts of the community.

Residents said estimates of the death toll were above 100, although authorities haven't confirmed that figure. Some villagers and local media reports said the number of people killed might be much higher, though they did not cite sources. The landslide struck Yambali village sits along a road leading from the capital that is now blocked, hampering relief efforts. — AP

## China practises 'occupation' as part of drill around Taiwan

BEIJING/TAIPEI, MAY 24

China's military on Friday tested its ability to "seize power" as the People's Liberation Army said its forces kicked off a second day of large-scale exercises around Taiwan in retaliation to its new President Lai Ching-te's remarks rejecting Beijing's sovereignty claims over the self-ruled island.

Li Xi, the spokesperson for the Eastern Theatre Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), said the combined forces of the army, navy, air force, and rocket forces continued joint drills surrounding Taiwan Island focussing on practicing control and occupation of the area on the concluding day of the two-day drill.



A Chinese warship in the waters around Taiwan on Friday. REUTERS

"Integrated operations inside and outside the island chain are being conducted to test the command's capabilities to jointly take control of the battlefield and launch joint strikes, and to seize control of crucial areas," he said.

Separately, the Chinese

## Kyiv gov't's legitimacy obstacle to talks: Putin

MOSCOW, MAY 24

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy had no legitimacy following the expiry of his five-year term and this would raise a legal obstacle if Russia and Ukraine were to resume peace talks.

With Ukraine still under martial law in the third year of Russia's full-scale invasion, Zelenskyy has not faced elections despite the expiry of his five-year term this week — something he and Ukraine's allies deem to be the right decision to take at a time of war.

Putin is ready to halt the war in Ukraine with a negotiated ceasefire that recognises the



President Vladimir Putin

current battlefield lines, Reuters reported on Friday, citing four Russian sources. At a televised press conference during a visit to Belarus, Putin said the status of Zelenskyy was problematic. "But who to negotiate with? That's not an idle question... Of course we realise the legitimacy of the incumbent head of state is over," he said. — Reuters

## Over 20 arrested for concert attack: Russian spy chief

MOSCOW, MAY 24

Russia has arrested more than 20 people in connection with an attack claimed by Islamic State that killed more than 140 people at a concert hall near Moscow in March, the head of the FSB security service said on Friday.

Alexander Bortnikov repeated Russia's assertion, for which it has not provided evidence, that Ukraine was behind the attack. Kyiv has dismissed the allegation as absurd.

"The investigation is ongoing, but it is already safe to say that Ukrainian military intelligence is directly involved in this attack," state news agency TASS quoted Bortnikov as saying. — Reuters

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
CORRIGENDUM  
Ref: Tender Notice No. 01/2024-2025 dated 05.04.2024  
(i) Tender No. 07234075 due on 03.06.2024 (S.No. 3)  
In reference to above tenders, the due date has been extended from 03.06.2024 to 20.06.2024. All other terms & conditions remain unchanged. The Corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in.  
1565/2024  
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**PUNJAB STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**  
Site No. 126, Sector 69, S.A.S. Nagar - 160069  
Phone No. 0172-2216750, 0172-2216690  
Toll Free: 1968  
E-mail: ms@punjab.gov.in Website: www.punjab.gov.in  
No. PULSA/2024/72-73 Dated, S.A.S. Nagar 24.05.2024

**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**  
Applications are invited for recruitment of 03 posts of Chairpersons and 09 posts of Members in Permanent Lok Adalat (Public Utility Services) established in the State of Punjab. Separate advertisements have been uploaded on the website. For details, please visit the official website of the State Authority i.e. www.punjab.gov.in.  
Last date for submission of application is 28.06.2024.  
• No. of posts of Chairpersons & Members can be increased or decreased at any point of time, depending upon the requirement.  
Sd/- (Manjinder Singh)  
Member Secretary  
DPR/Pb/34123

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-TENDER NOTICE  
Tender Notice No.: 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR-49-2024-25-ADEN-LDH  
Acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 13.06.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.  
Tender Type: Open, Tendering Section: Works, Bidding System: Single Bid System  
Date of Uploading Tenders: 22.05.2024, Bid Starting Date: 30.05.2024, Bid Closing Date/Time: 13.06.2024  
S.No. Tender No. Details of Tender  
1. 49-2024-25-ADEN-LDH Augmentation of freight maintenance facilities at Ludhiana Station in the jurisdiction of ADEN-LDH  
Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion  
20085510.36 60 Days 06 Months  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1560/24

**पुलिस जिला बद्धी**  
"अपील"  
सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 21/05/2024 को पुलिस थाना बद्धी में मुकाम चक्का रोड के पास एक व्यक्ति को लाश मिली है। जिसका हलिया निम्न प्रकार से है।  
नाम : नामालूम  
रंग : साँवला  
कद : 5 फुट 4 इंच  
शरीर पतला व कमजोर, शरीर पर हल्के हरे रंग की कमीज व भूरे रंग का पजामा पहन रखा है।  
उम्र लगभग 45 वर्ष।  
जारीकर्ता/-  
पुलिस अधीक्षक बद्धी,  
पुलिस जिला बद्धी, हि.प्र.,  
दूरभाष : 01795-245800, 244042,  
ई-मेल:-sp-baddi-hp@nic.in  
DI-2677

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
E-Tender Notice  
Sr.DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-13.06.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in  
Tender Type: Open, Tendering Section: Works, Bidding System: Single Bid System  
Date of Uploading Tenders: 22.05.2024, Bid Starting Date: 30.05.2024, Bid Closing Date/Time: 13.06.2024/15:00 Hrs  
S.No. Tender No. Details of Tender  
1. 50-2024-25-ADEN-II-ASR Manual deep screening from Km 0.00 to 2.348, km 45.00 to 60.40 & km 72.00 to 77.886 total = 23.834 km on ASR-KEMK section in the jurisdiction of ADEN-II/ASR.  
Advertised Value Earnest Money Validity of Offer Period of Completion  
Rs.3,55,59,374.11/- Rs.3,27,800/- 60 Days 12 Months  
Similar nature of work:- "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including raising of Track, screening, distressing of track, pre & post work for track maintenance machine like Tamping Machines/Ballast Screening/Regulating Machines and TTR by T-28".  
2. 51-2024-25-ADEN-JUC Construction of 0.80 km (from Km 0.905 to Km 1.700) RCC boundary wall near stations and its approaches and trespassing at various locations as measure to safeguard track and establishment avoiding encroachments on PHR - LNK section under ADEN/JUC.  
Advertised Value Earnest Money Validity of Offer Period of Completion  
Rs.89,16,997.68/- Rs.1,78,300/- 60 Days 06 Months  
Similar nature of work:- "Any civil work other than track work".  
Note:- 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.  
No.: 50-2024-25-ADEN-II-ASR & 51-2024-25-ADEN-JUC Dt.: 22.05.2024 1563/24  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**HARYANA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
C-11, SECTOR-6, PANCHKULA  
Ph-0172-577870-73, Fax No. 2581201  
E-mail: hspcbwatercell@gmail.com  
**NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING**  
It is for the information of concerned that Municipal Council Sirsa has proposed a project regarding implementation of Remediation and Reclamation of Existing Dumpsite and construction, operation and maintenance of Sanitary Landfill at Bakriyanwalli Village, Sirsa, Haryana and going to conduct a Public Hearing for obtaining Environmental Clearance.  
The project proponent mentioned above has applied to the Haryana State Pollution Control Board for conducting the Public Hearing for obtaining Environmental Clearance as per EIA notification dated 14th September, 2006 for the proposed project. Accordingly, the Public Hearing for the above said project has been fixed on 27.06.2024 at 11.00 a.m. at village Bakriyanwali, District Sirsa Haryana.  
Copies of executive summary of the project report and EIA study report, submitted by the project proponent, are available in the Head Office of the Board and on the website of the Board i.e. https://hspcb.org.in/ as well as in the following offices, which can be perused during office hours, on any working day:-  
1. Deputy Commissioner, Sirsa,  
2. Chairman, Zila Parishad, District Sirsa,  
3. Executive Engineer, Municipal Council, Sirsa,  
4. Joint Director, District Industries Centre, District Sirsa,  
5. Regional Officer, Sirsa, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, 3rd Floor, New Bus Stand, Fatehabad,  
Notice is hereby given to all concerned to file suggestions, views, comments and objections, if any, on the above said proposed project, to the Chairman, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, C-11, Sector-6, Panchkula as well as Regional Officer, Sirsa, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, at 3rd Floor, New Bus Stand, Fatehabad i.e. within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Besides, a Public Hearing will also be held on the Date, Time & Venue mentioned above at the proposed site of the project, which can be attended by any person including Environmental Groups, bona fide residents and others, located at the project site/sites of displacement/sites likely to be affected, Oral/Written suggestions, if any can also be made during the Public Hearing.  
No TADA will be admissible for attending the Public Hearing.  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
PRDH/1209/11/135/2025/26393/C/31/4

**BUSINESS**

USD	EURO €	POUND £	JPY ¥	YUAN ¥	CAD C\$	AUD A\$	SGD S\$	HKD HK\$	BSE	NSE	GOLD	SILVER
₹83.09	₹90.22	₹105.95	₹0.52	₹11.47	₹60.86	₹55.13	₹61.59	₹10.63	7.65 75,410.39	10.55 22,957.10	₹72,440 Mumbai	₹92,000 Mumbai

## 'Make in India' Range Rover soon

JLR's Pune plant will be first to roll out luxury brand outside UK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 24

Fifty-four years after it started manufacturing Range Rover in the UK, Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has decided to drive home the British luxury brand along with Range Rover Sport and produce these locally.

India will be the first country to manufacture the two SUVs exclusively outside the Solihull plant in the UK, the home of Range Rover since 1970. The additional production of the SUVs for the Indian market will supplement the global production of Range Rover.

The prices of the two luxury models, which will be produced at JLR's facility in Pune, are expected to come down in the range of 18-22 per cent. Range Rover Velar, Range Rover Evoque, Jaguar P-PACE and



### LOCAL PRODUCTION TO BRING DOWN PRICES

■ Currently priced around ₹3.3 crore, Range Rover, which will be available in the local market by month-end, will cost ₹2.6 crore  
■ Similarly, Range Rover Sport, which currently costs ₹1.9 crore, will be available in the local market in August for ₹1.4 crore

Discovery Sport are already locally manufactured in Pune.

"In our 54-year-long history, we are witnessing an increasing demand for Range Rover across the globe. This is an unprecedented success story and

India is a very important part of it. With local manufacturing, Range Rover will enable the brand to respond to the growing demand across the country," said Geraldine Ingham, Managing Director, Range Rover.

## Coffee exports rise 12% to \$1.28 billion

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

India's coffee exports rose by 12.22 per cent to \$1.28 billion in 2023-24 on higher demand for Robusta coffee in the global markets, according to the commerce ministry data.  
The country exported coffee worth \$1.14 billion in 2022-23. India is Asia's third-largest producer and exporter of coffee. The country grows Arabica and Robusta varieties.  
Arabica coffee beans have less caffeine content than the Robusta. Arabica has sweet and smoother taste, while Robusta is generally more bitter and harsher on the taste buds. — PTI

## Decide Adani coal case at earliest, 21 global organisations urge CJI

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

At least 21 international organisations have written to Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and requested the Supreme Court to speedily resolve the pending case filed by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, investigating Adani Group firms for alleged overvaluation of Indonesian coal imports.

The letter comes after a report by the London-based Financial Times, citing documents from George Soros-backed Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project,

### ADANI PORTS TO JOIN SENSEX FROM JUNE 24

Gautam Adani Group firm Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone will replace IT major Wipro in BSE's benchmark index Sensex from June 24. The changes have been announced by Asia Index, a joint venture between S&P Dow Jones Indices and BSE

alluded to a "fraud" by the Adani Group by selling low-grade coal as high-value fuel in 2013.

Contending that they stand firmly against the continued use of fossil fuels, the organisations said the Financial Times report provided fresh evidence of the passing off of "low-quality coal as far more expensive cleaner fuel" by the Adani Group in transactions with Tamil Nadu's Tangedco.

The 21 organisations that have written to the CJI include Australian Centre for International Justice, Banktrack, Bob Brown Foundation, Culture Unstained, Eko, Extinction Rebellion, etc. — PTI



Workers operate machines at an industrial unit in Ludhiana. FILE

## Labour pangs: Punjab bizmen offer incentives

VIJAY C ROY, SHIVANI BHAKOO & DEEPAKAMAL KAUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 24

Attendance and referral incentives, financial assistance, coolers and cold beverages at workplaces... The Punjab industry is going the extra mile to address the issue of acute labour shortage during the poll season.

In summers, migrants from UP, Bihar and other states usually return to their respective hometown, but it is for the first time, the industry is faced with such a severe labour shortage.

The prolonged 7-phase General Election (from April 19 to June 1) has made migrants extend their stay at their respective hometown. Disruption of train services due to the farm stir has hampered migrants' travel plans.

UCPMA chairman Charanjit Vishkama says fans and coolers are being installed where labourers work. "We are not able to meet the deadline. Our biggest worry is that if the labourers who have gone back home do not return in time, we may lose some potential customers," says Jalandhar-based Narinder S Sagoo, president, Bocal Point Association.

### LS ELECTIONS ADD TO INDUSTRY'S CONCERNS

■ The prolonged 7-phase General Election (from April 19 to June 1) has made migrants extend their stay at their respective hometown. Disruption of train services due to the farm stir has hampered migrants' travel plans  
■ Industries in Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar have cut down the manufacturing activity due to labour shortage and poor retention of workers

the manufacturing activity. In Ludhiana, many units are operating with 40-50 per cent labour force. SC Ralhan, president, Ludhiana Hand Tool Association, says many industrialists are even offering their workforce financial aid to buy plots.

# BCCI wants an Indian as next coach

Need someone with understanding of Indian cricket: Shah denies approaching Aussies

**MUMBAI, MAY 24** BCCI secretary Jay Shah today rejected claims that the board has approached any former Australian cricketer to be India's next head coach and hinted that Rahul Dravid's successor could be an Indian by saying that he should have a "deep understanding" of the game's structure in the country. While Dravid has reportedly told the board that he is not interested in a third stint, former Australian players like Ricky Ponting and Justin Langer have claimed that they have turned down approaches for the high-profile position. "Neither I nor the BCCI have approached any former Australian cricketer with a coaching offer. The reports circulating in certain media sections are completely incorrect," Shah

**“ Finding the right coach for our national team is a meticulous and thorough process. We are focused on identifying individuals who possess a deep understanding of the Indian cricket structure and have risen through the ranks. ”**

Jay Shah, BCCI SECRETARY

said in a statement.

Both Ponting and Langer are involved in the IPL as the head coaches of Delhi Capitals and Lucknow Super Giants, respectively.

World Cup-winning former batting star Gautam Gambhir, who is currently mentoring Kolkata Knight Riders, is speculated to be among the top contenders for the post right now. "Finding the right coach for our national team is a meticulous and thorough process. We are focused on identifying individuals who possess a deep understanding of the

Indian cricket structure and have risen through the ranks," Shah said.

The BCCI secretary also said that having in-depth knowledge of Indian domestic cricket will be one of the important criteria for appointing the next coach. He said the understanding would be crucial to "truly elevate Team India to the next level."

### Can BCCI retain VVS?

**Chennai:** VVS Laxman's reluctance to become the Indian team's head coach is an open secret but with the

former batting stalwart's stint as NCA's Head of Cricket' ending in September this year, it remains to be seen how the BCCI manages to retain him in the set-up.

While Kolkata Knight Riders mentor Gautam Gambhir is believed to be the favourite among available options for the BCCI, it is still not clear whether secretary Shah has spoken to the national team's senior stars about Gambhir's unanimous acceptability.

Laxman seems to be the most obvious successor given that he has been an interim India coach during his nearly three-year stint at NCA (National Cricket Academy).

But he hasn't applied for the post which will be both physically and mentally taxing for the next three and half years. The last date to submit

applications is May 27.

Should he choose to apply, Laxman would be on strong footing owing to the goodwill he enjoys at the BCCI's High Performance Centre as the structural head of country's pathways cricket system (India A, Emerging, U-19, and junior women's cricket).

The BCCI would also want to hold on to the 49-year-old and perhaps also convince him to agree for the top job. "It will be completely up to Jay but he has to convince VVS to be a part of the Indian set-up, at least when they play red ball series," a former BCCI office-bearer said.

"If he is not willing to work full-time, he can always be the consultant when India play marquee red-ball series in Australia this year and England next year." — PTI

# Mixed team compounds joy, Deepika in semifinals

### ARCHERY WORLD CUP

**YECHON (S KOREA), MAY 24**

Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Priyansh advanced to the compound mixed team final, confirming India's second medal, while Deepika Kumari brightened the country's gloomy recurve campaign as she reached her second successive Archery World Cup semifinals after her comeback in the Stage 2 of the event here today.

The compound women's team of Jyothi, Parneet Kaur and Aditi Swami had assured India's first medal by making the final on Wednesday. Young compound archer Prathamesh Fuge is also eyeing a medal as he advanced to the semifinals in the individual category.

The Indian compound mixed team, No. 2 in the world rankings, dropped just two points from 16 arrows to eliminate the host country's duo of Han Seungyeon and Yang Jaewon 158-157 in a tight semifinal.

Jyothi and Priyansh will face USA's Olivia Dean and Sawyer Sullivan in the gold medal match today in a clash of the top-two world ranked nations.

The fourth-seeded Indian duo earlier ousted Vietnam 159-152 in the first Round-of-16 clash, missing the target only once from 16 arrows.

India then thwarted some



Jyothi Surekha Vennam is in her second final of the tournament.



Deepika Kumari secured four back-to-back wins to enter the last-four stage. FILEPHOTOS

only Indian recurve archer in the medal hunt.

Deepika will face home favourite and world No. 2 Lim Sihyeon in Sunday's semifinal, four weeks after the rising South Korean 20-year-old won the Shanghai Stage 1 gold by in a ruthless straight-set victory.

Starting at fourth in the qualifications, Deepika overcame early jitters when she pipped Slovenian teenager Tinkara Kardinar in the shoot-off after being 1-3 down in a dramatic first-round clash.

In other recurve individual results, Bhajan Kaur lost in the first round, while Ankita Bhakat could not cross the second-round hurdle. Veteran Tarundeep Rai and Minal Chauhan suffered first-round exits, while Dhiraj Bommadevara and Pravin Jadhav fell short in the second round. — PTI

strong resistance from fifth seeds Mexico to win 156-155 in an intense quarterfinal.

Former world No. 1 Deepika, who is making a return to the International circuit after embracing motherhood in December 2022, secured four back-to-back wins to enter the last-four stage and remained the

### Stimac hopes fans make Chhetri's farewell a grand affair

**Bhubaneswar:** Indian football team head coach Igor Stimac expects fans from all over the country to throng the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata during the country's World Cup qualification match against Kuwait on June 6, which will also be the last international match for talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri.

The match against Kuwait will mark the end of Chhetri's glittering 19-year international career during which he became India's top goalscorer with 94 strikes. He will leave

the scene as India's most-capped player after competing in 151 matches at the end of his swansong contest. A win against Kuwait will also put India in a strong position to make it to the third round of the World Cup qualifiers for the first time in its history.

"Having in mind the importance of the game — with us being perhaps only a win away from qualifying for the third round for the first time, and it being Sunil Chhetri's farewell game — we expect the Salt Lake Stadium to be packed," Stimac said. — PTI



SRH's Heinrich Klaasen is clean bowled by RR's Sandeep Sharma. PTI

### Triple threat to SRH

**CHENNAI:** Rajasthan Royals restricted Sunrisers Hyderabad to a decent yet manageable 175/9 in the Qualifier 2 of the IPL here today. The Royals' bowling could be segregated into three distinct parts despite Heinrich Klaasen's half-century (50 off 34b) that had four sixes. Trent Boult started the slide in the Powerplays, Sandeep Sharma choked the flow of runs and Avesh Khan was menacing at the death. The problem that SRH batters, including the in-form Travis Head (34 off 28 balls), faced was the lack of pace in the surface that became a hindrance while using it for the traditional T20 ramp scoops. — PTI

### BRIEF SCORES

■ **SRH:** 175/9 in 20 overs (Klaasen 50, Head 34; Boult 3/45, Avesh 3/27) vs **RR**

### BRIEFLY

#### KOBE Rinku finishes 3rd but result yet to be made official

India's Rinku Hooda today finished third in the men's F46 javelin throw event at the World Para Athletics Championship but the result has been put on hold by the organisers after a competitor lodged a protest. Rinku's fourth round throw of 62.77m put him in the third place, but Sri Lanka's Priyantha Herath (64.59m), who finished second, lodged a protest apparently against top-spot holder Guillermo Varona Gonzalez (65.16m) of Cuba.

#### NEW DELHI CBI closes corruption case against ex-IOA chief Batra

After nearly two years of investigation, the CBI has closed a corruption case against former Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and Hockey India president Narinder Dhruv Batra and Hockey India Executive Director Cdr RK Srivastava as it could not find evidence of wrongdoing against them, officials said. The officials said the case arose from a complaint alleging that Batra had got his office in the IOA Bhawan renovated in violation of the norms.

#### DUBAI Fit-again Rauf named in Pak squad, Babar to lead

Having recovered from an injury, experienced pacer Haris Rauf was today named in Pakistan's 15-member squad, which will be led by star batter Babar Azam, for next month's ICC T20 World Cup. Abrar Ahmed, Azam Khan, Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Saim Ayub and Usman Khan will make their maiden appearance in a T20 World Cup. AGENCIES

## Fine start from Sachin, Amit gets bye

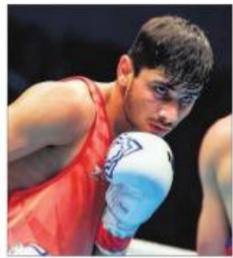
### WORLD QUALIFIERS

**BANGKOK, MAY 24**

National champion Sachin Siwach produced an attacking display to register a dominant win over Alex Mukuka of New Zealand in the opening round of the Boxing World Qualifiers for the Paris Olympics here today.

Siwach, a Strandja Memorial gold medalist, kept the pressure on his opponent throughout the 57kg category bout, ensuring a unanimous 5-0 verdict to give the 10-member Indian contingent a winning start.

Sachin made his intentions clear in the first round



Sachin Siwach outpunched NZ's Alex Mukuka 5-0.

as he went on the offensive and took control of the bout with a couple of left-right combinations.

Mukuka was hoping for a breakthrough in the second,

but his hopes were quickly dashed as the Indian was relentless in his attacks.

With the first two rounds comfortably in his pocket, Sachin ensured that there was no chance of a fightback from his opponent and wrapped up the proceedings.

Amit Panghal (51kg) and Narendra Berwal (+92kg) got a bye in the opening round of their respective weight categories.

India has fielded seven men and three women in what is their last chance to qualify for the Olympics. They will have to at least make it to the semifinals to stand a chance to book their berths. — PTI

## Sindhu suffers meltdown but makes semis

**KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 24**

Double Olympics medallist PV Sindhu took a giant stride towards securing a title at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 after progressing to the semifinals with a hard-fought win over top seed Han Yue of China here today.

World No. 15 Sindhu recovered from a mid-game slump to outfit world No. 6 Han 21-13 14-21 21-12 in a 55-minute quarterfinals battle to avenge her loss to the Chinese in their last meeting at the Asia badminton Championships in Ningbo last month.

Sindhu will now square off against either Indonesia's Putri Kusuma War-



PV Sindhu overcame top seed Han Yue in three games. FILE

dani or Thailand's Busanan Ongbammrungphan in the last-four stage.

In other results, Ashmita Chaliha's fine run ended in the quarterfinals with a 10-

21 15-21 loss to sixth seed Zhang Yi Man of China.

Sindhu gave a good account of herself during the 55-minute match as she broke off from 3-3 in the

opening game to take an 11-5 lead at the break.

The Chinese slowly made her way to 13-16 but Sindhu reeled off the remaining five straight points to take the opening game.

Stung by the reversal, Han zoomed to a 5-0 lead after the change of sides. She continued to dominate and jumped to a massive 15-2 advantage and despite some fightback from the Indian, Han took the match to the decider.

Sindhu regrouped in the third game to open up a massive 11-3 lead at the break, which proved decisive as Han just couldn't bridge the gap. — PTI

## Djoker still without trophy in 2024

**GENEVA, MAY 24**

Novak Djokovic will defend his French Open title in Paris still without a trophy this season after losing in the Geneva Open semifinals.

The 44th-ranked Tomas Machac beat Djokovic 6-4 0-6 6-1 in the last clay-court event to prepare for Roland Garros, where main-draw play starts on Sunday.

Djokovic's record in 2024 dropped to 14-6 overall and 0-3 in semifinals, including at the Australian Open against Jannik Sinner.

"If you play against Novak you just hope and try to play your best and see how it



Novak Djokovic lost in the semis to Tomas Machac. REUTERS

looks," Machac said in an on-court interview. — Reuters

### Are you joking? Zverev on drawing Nadal

**PARIS:** Germany's Alexander Zverev thought his brother was joking when he informed him he was playing 14-time champion Rafa Nadal in the opening round of the French Open. It will be their first meeting since the 2022 semifinal when Zverev retired hurt after suffering a serious ankle injury. "I was on court with (Andrey) Rublev yesterday on Chatrier practising, and then after the practice was over, my brother told me," Zverev, a semifinalist for the last three years, said. "I actually thought he was joking in the beginning. But then, yeah, it is what it is." — REUTERS

## A day to forget for hockey teams

### PRO LEAGUE

**ANTWERP, MAY 24**

Defensive lapses cost the Indian men's hockey team as it went down 1-4 to hosts and world No. 3 Belgium in the European leg of the FIH Pro League here.

The Harmanpreet Singled side had defeated Argentina in the shootout in the opening match.

After a barren first quarter, Belgium took the lead in the 22nd minute through a field goal by skipper Relix Denayer. Four minutes after half-time, the home side doubled its lead through a penalty corner conversion by Alexander Hendrickx.

The Indian defence was caught off-guard by the brisk passing and skilful play of the Belgians as they extended their lead in the 49th minute through another fine field goal by Cedric Charlier.

Young striker Abhishek pulled one back for India from a field effort but Belgium looked too strong as they sealed the affair in the final minute of the game



The men's team lost 1-4 to Belgium. FIH

when Hendrickx sounded the board from a penalty stroke.

The Indian defence looked in disarray from the go as they failed to counter Belgium's attacks with custodian PR Sreejesh cutting a lonely figure at the back.

Harmanpreet was understandably disappointed with the performance. "We did some good things, but the finishing wasn't there. Defensively we need to improve, man-to-man marking needs to get better. Excited to play them again on Saturday,

looking forward to improve game-by-game," he said.

### 2nd straight loss for women

The women's team lost its second game on the trot as Belgium handed the visitors a 0-2 defeat. India, under new coach Harendra Singh and new captain Salima Tete, were earlier thrashed 5-0 by Argentina.

Both goals came from field efforts through Alexia T Serstevens in the 34th minute and Dewaet Louise two minutes later. — PTI

## Xavi saga at Barca takes another turn

**MADRID, MAY 24**

Barcelona sacked manager Xavi Hernandez today, four weeks after confirming their former midfielder would honour the last year of his contract and lead them through next season.

The decision ended months of arguments between Barca and Xavi who made 767 appearances for the club over 17 seasons and helped them win 25 major trophies.

"Today, FC Barcelona President Joan Laporta has informed Xavi Hernandez that he will not be continuing as first team coach in the 2024-25 season," Barcelona said in a statement.

Barcelona will finish second in La Liga, at least nine



Barcelona sacked manager Xavi Hernandez. REUTERS FILE

points behind champions Real Madrid, and Xavi had announced in January that he would resign at the end of this season. After discussions in April at Laporta's home, however, Xavi reversed his decision and agreed to stay on with a series of unspecified conditions set by the club. — Reuters

**“ I shouldn't say this, but how badly Barcelona treats its legends. What a bad streak. With Koeman, with Messi, with Xavi now, how bad. I wish clubs treated their legends well. Xavi is a legend of the club. He won the league last season and football has a short memory. ”**

Quique Sanchez Flores, SEVILLA MANAGER

**TODAY ON TV**  
**HOCKEY PRO LEAGUE**  
**WOMEN: INDIA VS BELGIUM 5:30PM**  
**MEN: INDIA VS BELGIUM 7:45PM**  
**STAR SPORTS**  
**FA CUP**  
**MAN CITY VS MAN UNITED**  
**SONY SPORTS 7:30PM**



Indian students on a flight from Bishkek to New Delhi on Friday. Bishkek medical schools have switched to online classes after India's intervention.

## Flight carrying 150 students from Kyrgyzstan lands in Delhi

The Tribune IMPACT

GET TOUGH WITH TRAVEL AGENTS: HC

SUMEDHA SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GURUGRAM, MAY 24

A flight carrying 150 students escaping mob violence in Kyrgyzstan landed in Delhi on Friday.

Speaking to *The Tribune*, students said though the situation had improved over the last two days, they chose to return as Bishkek medical schools had shifted to the online mode of classes.

"As soon as the online classes were started and we came to know that flights were being arranged, we made a dash for India," said a student from Aligarh. "Our universities made transport arrangements to the airport with minimal charges and teachers and student contractors came to see us off. We generally get flights to India for over Rs 10,000, but the prices have now gone up

Chandigarh: The Punjab and Haryana HC has called for stronger regulatory mechanism to curb the activities of deceitful visa agents after making it clear that they are not only playing with the lives of the victims, but also making a mockery of "simple public aspirations". The assertion came as the HC dismissed the anticipatory bail plea of an accused in a Ludhiana cheating case. Justice Anoop Chitkara attributed visa frauds, among other things, to youth's desperation for overseas opportunities. **TNS**

as high as Rs 28,000. There is a huge rush at airports and boarding is taking hours. We almost missed our flight."

Students claimed they had received written advisories from their universities warning them against giving interviews or posting on social media. They were told such acts would invite strict action and were even made to sign such undertakings.

Following the intervention of the Indian Embassy, the situation in Bishkek improved and many students, after being confined to their apartments since

the May 18 violence, managed to step out.

"The situation in Bishkek is calm. However, upon request of Indian students, the embassy is working with medical universities in the Kyrgyz Republic to arrange for their transport to the nearest international airports. Students should contact their respective medical universities. In case of any problem, the embassy can be contacted at 0555710041 and 0555005538," reads the latest statement issued by the Indian Embassy in Kyrgyzstan on its X handle.

The embassy has till date issued no statement on a video that viral, which showed a student, after dialling one of the helpline numbers, being asked to contact "their contractor".

It was after *The Tribune* highlighted the issue that the Indian Embassy got in touch with contractors and universities and started meeting students. Following pressure from parents in India, online classes were started, allowing students to return home.

When contacted, an admission agent in Bishkek said, "How is it our responsibility? We take care of students admission, visas etc. But when the need arose, we helped them with essentials. Now that we have been asked by the embassy to step in, we are also arranging flights for them. We are admission agents, not students' guardians."

## Vini Mahajan in race for Cabinet Secretary's post

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

Even as Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba's tenure will end in August this year, there are speculations that top bureaucrats Vini Mahajan and TV Somanathan are being considered for the top post.

Mahajan, a secretary in the Union Jal Shakti Ministry, is a 1987-batch Punjab-cadre IAS officer. The former Chief Secretary of

Punjab had worked in the PMO during Manmohan Singh's tenure, which may work in her favour.

Finance Secretary Somanathan is a 1987-batch Tamil Nadu-cadre IAS officer. Gauba, a Jharkhand-cadre 1982-batch IAS officer, will be the longest serving Cabinet Secretary with a five-year tenure. His predecessor Pradeep Kumar Sinha had remained on the post for four years and 79 days.

## MEA show-cause notice to Prajwal on his passport

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

Weeks after JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna, facing sexual harassment charges, fled the country, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) today issued a show-cause notice to the leader asking him why his diplomatic passport should not be cancelled.

The MEA emailed the notice and also dispatched a physical copy at his official address.

This comes after Karnataka Government Chief Minister Siddaramaiah yesterday sent

Prime Minister Narendra Modi another request seeking cancellation of Revanna's diplomatic passport. Sourced said the MEA had received a letter from the Karnataka Government seeking revocation of Revanna's diplomatic passport and the cancellation process has started. This is the second such request made by the Karnataka Government. "A decision on the request is 'in process' but the outcome is not expected immediately," sources said. — **TNS**

## Strong border security must: NSA

NEW DELHI: National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval on Friday emphasised the necessity of strong border security in light of India's projected growth to a USD 10

trillion economy and becoming the world's third-largest economy within the next decade, with a particular focus on technological advancements. **TNS**

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Maximise your earning potential with the **best-in-class** performance accompanied by **enhanced power** and **increased payload** capability.  
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If you did **C1** - you must be riding on it now!

# MRF ZAPPER C1

## LONGER LIFE SCOOTER TYRE

- Suitable for fitment both on the Rear and Front wheel where the size is the same.

GO TO YOUR NEAREST MRF AUTHORISED DEALER AND GET YOUR ZAPPER **C1** TYRE

MRF Zapper C1 is available at all MRF T&S Outlets

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON MRF DEALERSHIP

**HOW TO IDENTIFY FALSE AGENCIES PRETENDING TO BE MRF RECRUITMENT AGENCIES FOR TYRE DEALERSHIP?**  
Any person or institution asking for any kind of payment for an MRF Tyre Dealership is totally false. MRF never asks for any payment for Tyre Dealership. For Dealership Requests, please email to "write2us@mrf tyres.com" or scan the QR Code. Approximate investment required for this prestigious and profitable business - Rs. 45 to 50 lakhs (expenditure to be incurred only after the candidate visits our District Office and is interviewed by our District Manager). The expenditure required is mainly for getting the shop ready for business and for stocking tyres which will happen only 2 or 3 days before inauguration.