

MC TEAMS TO HELP CITIZENS SELF-CERTIFY PROPERTY IDS

These teams will carry out a door-to-door campaign in the designated wards in Karnal. **P2»**



JINDA: DON'T EXTEND TENURE OF GURDWARA AD HOC PANEL

Jagdish Singh Jhinda, former president, HSGMC, has asked the Governor to dissolve the panel. **P3»**



DEEPIKA TOPS IMDB LIST OF MOST VIEWED INDIAN STARS

The Bollywood actress will soon be seen in *Singham Again* and *Kalki 2898 AD*. **P4»**



IN BRIEF

EXPLOSION AT FATEHABAD SHOP



Sirsa: A welding cylinder explosion rocked a scrap shop located on Budhlada Road in Ratia, Fatehabad district, around 10 am on Wednesday, resulting in a fierce fire. The incident left the shop owner, his son, and another individual injured. They were rushed to the Civil Hospital in the city but due to the severity of their injuries, the father and son were referred to the Agroha Referral for further medical attention. The explosion occurred when a welding cylinder, commonly used in welding activities, suddenly ruptured. The fire caused significant damage to the shop. **OC**

HELPLINE

- Police Assistance: 100
- Women Helpline: 1091
- Fire: 101
- Child Helpline: 1098
- Corruption: 1064
- Ambulance: 102/108
- Accident helpline: 1073
- Railway enquiry: 139

Heat driving power demand, higher load makes transformers go kaput

ANIL KAKKAR

SIRSA, MAY 29

After recording a high of 50.3 degrees Celsius (°C) on Tuesday, Sirsa recorded a maximum of 48.7 °C today. With the mercury soaring, a large chunk of population is relying on air conditioners and coolers to beat the heat. As a result, electricity transformers are experiencing double the usual load. Due to this, transformers are breaking down on a daily basis these days in the district. To keep the system running, the Municipal Corporation has been installing new transformers in their place or increasing the capacity of old ones after repairs.

In urban areas alone, eight transformers have already failed, with complaints of fires and other faults. The district now consumes one crore units of electricity daily, with over 40 lakh units consumed in rural areas and 60 lakh units in urban areas. Consequently, transformers in the district need daily upgrade of capacity.

With frequent power outages, residents are especially harried in Kirti



One of the busiest roads in Sirsa, PNB Street, wears a deserted look due to scorching heat.

1 CRORE UNITS CONSUMED DAILY

The district now consumes one crore units of electricity daily, with over 40 lakh units consumed in rural areas and 60 lakh units in urban areas. Consequently, transformers in the district need daily upgrade of capacity.

TRANSFORMER UPGRADE

“63-KV transformers are being upgraded to 100 KV, 100 KV to 200 KV and new transformers are being installed in place of 200 KV transformers.” — ML Sukhija, XEN, DHBVN

Nagar, Preet Nagar, Kalyan Nagar and Agarsen Colony in the city. The supply is

more affected at night. Due to the overload, the fuse of the transformers in

these areas lasts for a short time before burning out due to overheating.

ML Sukhija, XEN, Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Ltd. (DHBVN), Sirsa, stated that capacities of transformers are being increased to handle the higher load in summer. He mentioned that according to demand, 63 KV transformers are being upgraded to 100 KV, 100 KV transformers to 200 KV, and new transformers are being installed in place of 200 KV transformers. Sukhija said the capacity of approximately eight to 10 transformers had already been increased. Notably, with the rising temperatures, there is a daily increase of two to two and a half lakh units of electricity consumption. The district is now consuming one crore units of electricity daily, and the electricity corporation is receiving over 300 complaints daily.

Meanwhile, the sit-in protest by farmers in Jamal village of Nathusari Chopta block in Sirsa, seeking solutions for electricity and water issues, continued for the 21st day on Wednesday. Notably, residents of 110 'dhanis' are protesting, demanding 24-hour electricity and resolution of drinking water issues.



Former Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar interacts with party workers in Karnal on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: VARUN GULATI

Will act against officials involved in bogus voting, says Khattar

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 29

Former Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today said there were some “black sheep” in the administration, who were involved in bogus voting, against whom action would be taken. “There are some black sheep in the administration who were involved in bogus voting. We did not know at that time, but now that we know, action will be taken against them,” said Khattar, while interacting with mediapersons at the party's district office in Sector-9 here.

He asked the party workers to be prepared for the counting of votes on June 4. “On the day of counting, all candi-

dates will remain in their Lok Sabha constituencies. Counting agents are being appointed,” said Khattar.

On being asked about the allegations levelled by the party's candidate from Sonepat Mohan Lal Badoli on party's leaders, Khattar refused to comment and said that Badoli can speak on it.

When asked about the appointment of the state president of the party, he said there was no crisis, the central leadership would appoint the party president in Haryana soon.

Khattar said that he would hold Assembly-wise meetings of the party workers of Karnal Lok Sabha on June 1 and 2.

Kalpna Chawla college set to introduce new courses

PARVEEN ARORA
 TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 29

The Kalpna Chawla Government Medical College (KCGMC) is going to introduce several postgraduate (PG) diploma and degree courses. These are likely to start from the new academic session in August.

The college will offer PG diploma in radiology, respiratory medicine and gynaecology, along with PG courses in skin and pathology. These courses will be launched under the aegis of the National Board of Examination (NBE).

After the approval of the government, the KCGMC authorities have deposited the requisite fees to the regulatory body. The college administration is now eagerly waiting for the final green signal from the NBE.

“We are going to start three

SPECIALISED TRAINING

The college will offer PG diploma in radiology, respiratory medicine and gynaecology, along with PG courses in skin and pathology. These are likely to start from the new academic session in August.

diploma courses, two PG courses from the new academic session. We are hopeful that the final approval will come soon so that these courses can be started from the new academic session,” said Dr MK Garg, Director, KCGMC.

In addition to this, the KCGMC is also going to give a boost to its paediatric department by introducing two MD seats. The approval from this course has been given by the National Medical Commission (NMC) and it will start

from the new academic session, the Director added.

The Director further stated that they were going to send a proposal to the government for the approval of the MD courses in ENT, eye and psychiatry. Currently, the KCGMC offers a variety of MD courses including physiology (3), biochemistry (4), anatomy (4), microbiology (4), pharmacology (2) and forensic medicine (2), he said.

Besides, it offers post MBBS Diplomate of National Board (DNB) (PG courses) in anaesthesia (4), general medicine (4), general surgery (4), gynaecology (2), orthopaedics (2), and post diploma DNB courses in anaesthesia (4), gynaecology (2) and orthopaedics (2), said Dr Garg.

Pollution control board seals Y'nagar factory

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
 TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

YAMUNANAGAR, MAY 29

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB), Yamunanagar, has sealed Ready Mix Concrete Plant, situated at Khajuri village of the district.

The plant was being run without obtaining the consent to establish (CTE) and consent to operate (CTO) from the HSPCB.

The plant makes a mixture of sand, 'bajri' and cement to make concrete roads and buildings.

Abhijeet Singh Tanwar, Assistant Environment Engineer of the HSPCB, Yamunanagar, said a field officer had visited this plant on February 27.

He said the plant was found operating illegally without obtaining the CTE and the CTO from the board in violation of Section 25/26 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and Sections 21/22 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

“A show-cause notice for closure was issued to the unit by Virender Singh Punia, Regional Officer of the HSPCB, Yamunanagar, on March 15, 2024, but the unit has not submitted a reply,” said AEE Abhijeet Singh Tanwar.

“Keeping in view the above facts and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 33-A of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and 31-A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, it is hereby ordered to close down the operation of the said unit by sealing its plant/machinery along with disconnection of the electricity supply and water supply of the said unit,” reads the order passed by P Raghavendra Rao, Chairman, HSPCB, recently.

Scaling HEIGHTS

Reena Bhatti, a resident of Balak village in Hisar district, has brought laurels to the state by scaling the world's highest peak, Mt Everest, and the world's fourth highest peak, Mt Lhotse, in just 20 hours and 50 minutes.

Talking to *The Tribune* from Kathmandu, Reena said, “Scaling Mount Everest was a dream come true. I had tried to scale it last year also, but had to return due to limited oxygen stock.”

CM Nayab Singh Saini wrote on his X handle, “Heartiest congratulations to Reena for making the country proud by hoisting the Tricolour on the two peaks.” (SUNIT DHAWAN)



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20 KMC teams to go door to door to help citizens self-certify property IDs

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 29
The Karnal Municipal Corporation (KMC) has constituted 20 teams to aid citizens in self-certifying their property IDs within its jurisdiction. These team members will carry out a door-to-door drive in the designated wards to get all properties self-certified.

Giving details, Deputy Municipal Commissioner Ashok Kumar said each team has been directed to self-certify a minimum of 50 properties daily and employees have been asked to prioritise this task.

He also urged residents of the city to cooperate with the municipal corporation employees to self-certify their property IDs.

"So far, 27,989 property IDs have been self-certified and the remaining would be done at the earliest," he added.

Kumar said that self-certification of all property IDs was



TEAMS TO CERTIFY 50 PROPERTIES A DAY

“Each team has been directed to self-certify a minimum of 50 properties daily. So far, 27,989 property IDs have been self-certified and the remaining would be done at the earliest.”

Ashok Kumar, DEPUTY MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
Karnal civic body's office.

necessary and also in the best interest of citizens. After a property ID is self-certified, only the owner can access the data of the property as it becomes locked. Therefore, decreasing the risk of anybody tampering or viewing it.

"Citizens can self-certify their property IDs on their own by visiting the online NDC portal (property.ubharyana.gov.in). If a person is

already registered on the site, they can press the okay button, or click on new registration and enter their details, for a new applicant. After that, log in with your registered mobile number and search for the property ID in the search bar. Then go to the description of the property and check it, and click on either yes or no. After reading it carefully, if all the data is

correct, select yes. Select all the information and enter the family identification card or Aadhaar Number and submit, after which the property ID will be self-certified," he said.

He also said that if there was any error in the property ID data, the property owner could file a complaint along with necessary documents such as the property's registry and Aadhaar Card Number.

Siphoning of funds: Seven suspects in 2-day police remand

KAITHAL, MAY 29

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Kaithal, produced the arrested seven persons — three officials of the Panchayati Raj Department and four contractors — in the court for their alleged involvement in the embezzlement of crores worth of sanitation, which has granted them a two-day police remand. The police will try to recover the money and also investigate the involvement of other suspects in the two days, said a spokesperson.

The suspects are Naveen Kumar (then SDO, now XEN), Jasbir Singh (JE), Kulwant Singh (accountant), and four contractors — Dilbag Dhull, Rajesh Garg, Anil Garg and Abhay Singh.

They were arrested after an inquiry by the ACB on the complaint of Kaithal MLA Lila Ram, who alleged that in May 2021, Kaithal

district received a grant of Rs 31.64 crore for the creation of capital assets for developmental works in 151 villages. Out of the total grant, 50 per cent was allocated for sanitation work. He alleged that the officials with the help of contractors embezzled 15.82 crore by producing fake bills, vouchers, and other documents.

The ACB has registered a case against 15 people under Sections 409, 420, 467, 468, and 120B of the IPC, along with sections 13 (1) (a), 13 (1) (b), and 13 (2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The investigation revealed that between February, 2021 and March, 2021 the department floated tenders for sanitation work in 151 villages. The suspects carried out only 30 per cent of the work but showed 100 per cent completion. — TNS

CAMPUS NOTES



COMBINED ANNUAL NCC TRAINING CAMP

Yamunanagar: A 10-day combined annual training camp of 14 Haryana Battalion of National Cadet Corps begun at Saraswati Public School, Jagadhri. Nearly 500 cadets will be participating and the camp, involving rigorous training sessions and activities to enhance physical and mental capabilities of the cadets. The camp will emphasise on the core values of NCC such as leadership, teamwork and service to the nation. Cadets would participate in various drills, physical fitness programmes and educational sessions which promote a sense of brotherhood and discipline.

MDU BEGINS PUBLIC HEALTH COURSE

Rohtak: Bachelors of Public Health (BPH), a four-year honours degree with research course, is being introduced at Maharshi Dayanand University's (MDU) Institute of Public Health Sciences from the 2024-25 session. Director Munish Garg said the professional course, started under the provisions of the National Education Policy-2020 and National Medical Commission, will provide great career opportunities to students. He said 60 seats are available in the course and admission would be based on the NEET-2024 exam merit list. Eligible students can apply on the university's website till June 28. Vice-Chancellor Rajbir Singh said the course would play an important role in tackling the problems related to public health in society.

Twin cities' municipal corporation gears up to beat the heat

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

YAMUNANAGAR, MAY 29
In a noble initiative, the Municipal Corporation, Yamunanagar-Jagadhri (MCYJ) has decided to organise 'chabeel' — a roadside service offering sweetened drinks to commuters — in the twin cities to offer people some respite from the scorching heat.

The officials of the MCYJ will also make arrangements for potable water at all community centres and public places here. Besides, they have requested all shopkeepers to keep water campers filled with cold drinking water outside their shops in the bazaars for public.

Apart from this, arrangements will also be made to sit under shady trees in public parks.

Deputy Municipal Commissioner Vijay Pal Yadav held a meeting with officials of the MCYJ and instructed them to make arrangements which would help provide relief to people from the heat. "In the meeting we have taken a number of decisions in the interest of public to beat the heat. These include



People partake of chabeel outside the jail in Jagadhri; and (right) Deputy Municipal Commissioner Vijay Pal Yadav chairs a meeting with MC officials.

organising chabeels and keeping potable water at community centres and public places," said Yadav. He said instructions had been issued to irrigate trees, plants and flowers in the parks daily. He further said that he had also asked officials con-

cerned to make adequate sitting arrangements in all public parks, so that people could sit under the shade of trees to escape the sun.

"We will also start water fogging and sprinkling on roads in the twin cities very soon. This initiative will help relieve

commuters from the heat, air pollution and will provide water to plants and trees on roadsides," said Yadav.

He added they had also urged shopkeepers to keep campers and pitchers filled with cold drinking water outside their shops, so that peo-

STEPS PROPOSED BY MCYJ

- Arrange potable water at all community centres in the cities
- Shopkeepers requested to keep water campers outside their shops
- Begin water fogging and sprinkling of roads
- Distribute chabeel at public places
- Make seating arrangements in parks under trees



ple could quench their thirst. "People should avoid leaving their houses during the day. Try to go out for any work in the morning and evening," advised Yadav.

"We are also requesting people to keep water in clay pots for birds on the rooftops

of their houses," he added.

A chabeel was also held by jail authorities outside the jail in Jagadhri. "A chabeel was held outside the jail to serve people in the scorching heat," said Yamunanagar District Jail Superintendent Vishal Chhibber.

Bus brakes fail, close shave for passengers

KURUKSHETRA, MAY 29

The passengers on a Haryana Roadways bus had a narrow escape as the bus went off road and hit a car and garage shed after its breaks failed on Wednesday morning.

According to sources, the bus was on its way from Pipli to Chandigarh. Near Rattangarh village of Shahabad it went off road and rammmed into a car parked outside a garage and then got stuck in dense undergrowth. There were around 45 passengers in the bus and a couple of them suffered minor injuries.

Bus driver Dharamvir said, "Around 6.40 am, we left from Kurukshetra. As we approached Shahabad, there was a car in front of the bus and when I tried to apply the break, it did not work. To save the car, I steered the bus

towards the empty area but it hit a car and garage shed. A couple of passengers suffered minor injuries and all the others were sent in another bus." Two passengers were sent to LNJP Hospital, Kurukshetra for treatment.

This was the second accident involving a Haryana Roadways bus in Kurukshetra over the past few days.

Last Wednesday, a roadways bus driver was killed, while nearly 15 passengers were injured when a bus from Gurugram depot rammmed into the rear of a truck on a flyover. The roadways bus was on its way from Gurugram to Chandigarh, when on a flyover near Samani village, the bus met with an accident after rammming into a truck, went off the flyover and got stuck in the flyover's railing. — TNS

Woman duped of ₹10.1L

YAMUNANAGAR, MAY 29

The police have registered a case of cheating against five persons after a woman alleged that she was duped of Rs 10.1 lakh. On the complaint of Ranjeet Kaur of Jammu Colony in Yamunanagar, a case was registered against five persons — Gurdeep Singh, Kuldeep Singh Koda, Dr Reet Koda, Ritika and Sweta — all residents of Chandigarh under Sections 406, 420 of the IPC and 10 and 24 of the Immigration Act at Gandhi Nagar police station, yesterday.

Ranjeet claimed that she met Kuldeep Singh, Reet, Ritika and Sweta at their office in Chandigarh in February 2022. They promised to send her to Canada on a work visa at a cost of Rs 20 lakh. She said she gave them a total of Rs 10.1 lakh through installments.

"Neither have they sent me to Canada, nor have they returned my money. When I call them demanding my money, they threaten me of dire consequences," alleged the complainant. — TNS

207 students set to receive free coaching in Sirsa district

MISSION BUNIYAAD

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SIRSA, MAY 29

The result for the examination of Mission Buniyaad was announced on Tuesday and 207 students from the district were selected. They are set to receive free coaching from the Education Department for the next two years. Five centres have been set up in the district to provide coaching to these students, where they will prepare for competitive exams in various subjects.

Out of the 247 children who took the 'Mission Buniyaad Level-III Exam' from the district, the results for 207 were announced on Tuesday, while 40 candidates still await their results. After passing the exam, the students will receive all educational facilities for free, including transportation. They will also be provided facilities for online education. Experts from the Vikalp Foundation Institute in Kurukshetra will conduct four-hour classes for the students daily, with a special focus on increasing their interest in sciences. Additionally, students will be given a travel allowance of Rs 4 per kilometre. They will also receive

FIVE CENTRES IN DISTRICT

- Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Sirsa
- Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Dabwali
- Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Nathusari Chopta
- PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Odhan
- Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Ellenabad

textbooks, notebooks and other stationery items for free.

Mission Buniyaad is a foundational programme initiated by the Department of School Education, Haryana and Vikalp Foundation to empower and train students from government schools.

The main objective of the programme is to foster an interest for sciences among students and to lay the foundation for a scientific outlook.

Under this programme, students are prepared for scholarship competitions such as National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) and Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY). The NTSE exam is a scholarship examination, and students who pass it are eligible for scholarships up to the PhD level. Students who clear the KVPY exam are eligible for admission into institutions such as the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bangalore and the Indian Insti-

tutes of Science Education and Research (IISER).

Dr Mukesh Kumar, Nodal Officer for Sirsa's Mission Buniyaad said, "Students studying in Class VIII in government schools can apply for the exam. Those who pass levels I, II and III exams of the programme become a part of it, and these students complete Class IX and X at Buniyaad centres which have been established in various districts. A total of 103 centres have been set up across the state, with 5 centres in the district."

The five centres are Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Sirsa, Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Nathusari Chopta, PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Odhan and Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, Ellenabad.

Karnal all set for counting on June 4

KARNAL, MAY 29

The district administration has geared up for the process of counting of votes on June 4 for the Lok Sabha elections. It has selected the counting staff through randomisation.

"The district administration is fully prepared for the counting process. We are closely monitoring all the necessary arrangements. All AROs have been instructed to make arrangements for

counting the votes of their respective Assembly segments," said Uttam Singh, Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer.

The counting of Nilokheri, Assandh, Gharaunda and Indri Assembly segments will take place at SD school, while the counting of Karnal Assembly for the Lok Sabha and Kamal Assembly by-elections will take place at DAV School, he added.

Each counting centre will

have 14 tables and three counting staff members will be available at each table, including a micro-observer, counting supervisor, and counting assistant. Additionally, 20 per cent extra staff has also been kept in reserve.

In terms of security, the EVM machines, along with the VVPATs, have been kept in the strongroom, he said. CCTV surveillance is being conducted round the clock. — TNS

WHAT OUR READERS SAY

Is a civic issue bothering you? Are you agitated over the lack of concern? Is there something heartening that you feel needs to be highlighted? Or a picture which in your opinion ought to be seen by many, and not just you?

The Tribune invites its readers to have their say. Please email at: haryanacity@tribunemail.com

POWER CUTS TROUBLE TWIN CITIES' RESIDENTS

POWER cuts are being imposed in the urban and rural areas of Yamunanagar district every day. At times, even inverters run out of power because of the long duration of the cuts. The Haryana Government should pay attention and resolve this problem at the earliest.
MANGA RAM, JAGADHRI

DEFUNCT TRAFFIC LIGHTS CAUSE CHAOS IN K'SHETRA

THE traffic lights at the Pipli chowk in Kurukshetra are not working and it has become a cause for concern for commuters. In the absence of functional lights, traffic snarls have become commonplace at the spot. The administration should get these lights repaired as soon as possible.
RAJAN KUMAR, KURUKSHETRA

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Thieves on prowl; cash, jewellery worth ₹80L stolen from 4 Gurugram houses

OUR CORRESPONDENT

GURUGRAM, MAY 29 Unidentified suspects broke into four houses in different areas of the city stealing cash, gold jewellery and other valuables worth over Rs 80 lakh. Four FIRs were registered at different police stations.

The first incident took place at a doctor's house in the Sector 4 area on Monday night when the family members were sleeping. According to the complaint filed by Dr Vikas Kapoor, the incident took place when his parents were out of station while he and his family were asleep on the ground floor. "Our maid was also sleeping in another room. It was around 5.30 am on Tuesday



WILL ARREST CULPRITS SOON

“Apart from the teams of the police stations concerned, our crime unit of Sector 17 is also investigating these cases. The thieves will be arrested soon.” — Varun Dahiya, ACP CRIME

when my wife got up to send the children to school, she found that the door of the room was locked from outside. After waking up the maid, the door of the room was opened. When I went to the first floor of the house, I found that the cupboard was broken and Rs 40 lakh and jewellery worth Rs 20 lakh were stolen,” Kapoor said in his complaint. Following the complaint a case was registered at

the Sector 9-A police station on Tuesday.

In the second theft, a medical attendant fled after stealing cash, jewellery and other valuables worth Rs 14 lakh from a house in Sector 81. According to the complaint filed by Sujata Anand, she had hired Pintu Kumar as an attendant through the City Home Health Care Service to take care of her husband Anil Kumar. “On Tuesday night, we

were sleeping and the medical attendant was also sleeping in the same room. At 4 am when I woke up I saw that Pintu Kumar was not in the room. Later, I found that he had decamped with Rs 2 lakh cash and jewellery from my house,” Sujata said in her complaint. Following the complaint, an FIR was registered at the Kherki Daula police station on Wednesday. The third theft took place at a locked

house of Utkarsh Mohan, a resident of DLF Phase 4, from where the suspects fled after stealing one LED, clothes, gift items and other valuables worth Rs 10 lakh. An FIR was registered at the Sector 29 police station on Tuesday.

The fourth incident took place in the Palam Vihar area where the thieves fled after stealing gold jewellery and two mobiles from the house of Rajesh Kumar on Tuesday night. An FIR was registered at the Palam Vihar police station.

“Apart from the teams of the police station concerned, our crime unit of Sector 17 is also investigating these cases. The thieves will be arrested soon,” said Varun Dahiya, ACP, crime.



Jagdish Singh Jhinda, former president, Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (HSGMC) (ad-hoc), interacts with mediapersons on Wednesday.

Don't extend tenure of gurdwara ad hoc panel: Jinda to Governor

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 29 Jagdish Singh Jhinda, former president, Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (HSGMC) (ad-hoc), and president of the Haryana Shiromani Panthak Akali Dal, on Wednesday urged the Governor of Haryana not to extend the tenure of the HSGMC's ad-hoc committee, instead dissolve the committee and appoint a receiver after its term ended on May 31.

Besides, he demanded that the elections be held promptly so that the committee's responsibilities were handed over to a committee elected by the Sikh community of

Haryana. While interacting with mediapersons, he said, “I have sent a memorandum to the Governor of Haryana in support of my demands. I requested the Governor not to expand the tenure of the present ad-hoc body and dismiss it after the completion of its time.”

He accused the present body of failing to meet the expectations of the Sikh community and said the current committee was misusing the funds. He said the committee had also failed to uphold the sanctity and dignity of ancient and historic gurdwaras.

“The 18-month term of the HSGMC ad-hoc committee is ending on May 31 and it

should not be extended. Funds being collected at the gurdwaras have been used to promote a political party,” he alleged.

Jhinda highlighted the struggle of the Sikhs of Haryana and said, “We struggled for 22 years for a separate committee for the state, but when the ad-hoc committee was formed, those who opposed the committee took control,” said Jhinda.

He warned that if their demands were not met, they would organise a meeting of the Sikh community in Kurukshetra and announce further course of action. Jhinda said he would soon meet the Governor of Haryana and highlight the issue.



A stray cattle quenches its thirst from a water container in Faridabad.

NGO sets up 50 water spots for animals in Faridabad

HEATWAVE

FARIDABAD, MAY 29 The ongoing heatwave in the region has led to the launch of a drive aimed at providing drinking water to stray cattle and animals in the city and the district.

Ravi Dubey, head of the People for Animals Trust, an NGO, based here, said at least one water tanker had been pressed into service to fill the water containers or pots meant for the animals at various places.

He said this had been done keeping in view the problem faced by the stray animals during the summer. This is to ensure that

no animal dies of heatstroke or falls sick due to shortage of drinking water. The water tanker will be operational almost round the clock, it is said.

The NGO plans to hire more tankers and seek support of individuals and organisations to ensure supply and availability of water in various parts of the city, including the Aravalli forest belt, which has a large number of animals. The water bodies here have dried up, says Dubey.

He said though water was needed for the animals throughout the year, the problem became acute during the summer season. The NGO had sought aid

and support of the residents in this work, he claimed.

There are a total of 50 spots where this facility is being provided, of these, 20 points are located in the Aravalli belt mainly along the road connecting Faridabad and Gurugram, it is reported.

The city and the district has more than 1.15 lakh stray animals including cows, bulls and dogs, says a survey conducted by the NGO last year. It is reported that the sick animals are shifted to the veterinary hospital 'Asha' functional near Saroorpur Mor on Sohna Road here, where there are over 150 animals under care at present. — TNS

Strict protocols for vote count on June 4

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SIRSA, MAY 29 District Election Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner RK Singh on Wednesday gave instructions that only authorised personnel would be allowed to enter the counting hall during the vote counting process on June 4. To ensure that unauthorised individuals did not enter, identification cards had been made mandatory.

Additionally, to prevent any errors at any stage of vote counting and to ensure that the machines for the second round were brought to the table only after the first round results were clear, the entire counting process would be recorded on video. The results of each round would be announced by the respective Assembly Returning Officer (ARO).

The District Election Officer was addressing a training programme for counting teams at the local Panchayat Bhawan auditorium on Wednesday. He stated that the counting teams included the counting supervisor, counting assistant and micro observer. He also mentioned that police verification would be conducted for all officials and staff entering the counting hall. The results of each round would be displayed on a board.

He instructed that a chart should be placed on each table, indicating the machine to be used in each round, so that the counting agents were aware of which machine was coming next, thereby increas-

ing transparency in the counting process.

He also stressed that the staff bringing the EVMs from the strongroom must be fully competent. It was important to ensure that the machines were sent only to their designated tables. Similarly, after counting the votes, the EVMs should be sealed and immediately returned to the strongroom. Singh said all parties' counting agents would be provided with paper and pencils in the counting hall. Bringing any items from outside would not be allowed. No employee or agent would be permitted to carry mobile phones with them. According to the guidelines of the Election Commission of India, no one would be allowed to videotape the EVMs during the counting process.

Singh also mentioned that the Election Commission of India had appointed Dev Krishna Tiwari as the Counting Observer for the Dabwali and Sirsa Assembly constituencies. Similarly, Biplab Das had been appointed for the Kalanwali and Ellenabad Assembly constituencies and Yogendra Kumar for the Rania Assembly constituency. He added that Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr Vivek Bhatti had been appointed as the nodal officer for all strongrooms to ensure monitoring of CCTV coverage, security arrangements and the safety of EVMs, VVPATs and election documents, in coordination with the ARO concerned and the Duty Magistrate.



AAP workers sit outside a strongroom in Kurukshetra.

View of strongroom locations must be livestreamed: AAP

KURUKSHETRA, MAY 29 The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) state chief and INDIA bloc candidate for the Kurukshetra Lok Sabha seat, Sushil Gupta, today demanded uninterrupted livestreaming of the ballot boxes in the strongrooms.

Sushil Gupta said, “On Tuesday, the livestreaming was interrupted for nearly half an hour in Pehowa and the issue was not resolved

despite repeated requests. Such things raise questions about the transparency of the fair election process. The CCTV cameras also stop functioning due to power cuts and the livestreaming gets affected. An alternative power support should be provided to the strongrooms. We demand that there should be 24-hour uninterrupted

livestreaming.”

Meanwhile, District Election Officer Shantanu Sharma said, “Uninterrupted livestreaming is being ensured. There were two occasions when there were some technical faults and soon the issues were resolved and even the invertors of the strongrooms have been changed to ensure continuous power supply.” — TNS

Heritage walks throw a lifeline to state's forgotten monuments

SUMEDHA SHARMA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GURUGRAM, MAY 28 The popularity of heritage walks in neighbouring Delhi has inspired the Haryana Archaeology Department to open the gates for those interested in looking for Mughal history beyond Agra and Delhi. Started as an experiment, these special walks have become a ray of hope for survival of many such monuments in Haryana.

Situated about 20 miles South of Delhi is the NCR's very own 'Sheesh Mahal'. Lost in the pages of history, the Mughal monument has for almost a century remained forgotten and is in a shambles. Situated in the main market area of Farukh Nagar, a satellite town near Millennium City Gurugram, the monument along with others such as 'Delhi Darwaja' and 'Jama Masjid' faces neglect. Having temporarily served as a school and even municipal office, the building remains as one among many sites in the files



Visitors go for a heritage walk to 'Sheesh Mahal' in Farukh Nagar.

of the Haryana Archaeology Department.

Banking on social media outreach, the heritage walks being organised by local resource persons is now drawing millennial crowd and foreign tourists looking for something different during their golden triangle tour.

“Life of any monument depends on the fact that how many people know, value and appreciate and visit it. Haryana has a vast treasure of heritage monuments, but sadly they have been forgotten with time. We have been working on restoring and reviving these not just physi-

cally but even in the minds of people. The heritage walks were started as an experiment inspired by such activities in Delhi and it has been a great success. People were surprised to find these gems lying neglected in their own area. Places such as Rakhi Garhi have a huge fan follow-

ing for heritage tours and walks,” said the Director of Archaeology and Museums, Haryana, Amit Khatri.

The Department of Archaeology and Museums, Haryana, has been organising weekly heritage awareness programmes in 12 districts of Haryana, including Hisar,



Youngsters and tourists take a heritage walk to Kos Minar in Ambala.

Nuh, Gurugram, Sonapat, Panipat, Kaithal, Rakhi Garhi etc., for the last five months. These programmes include heritage walks, tours, meetings, heritage events, exhibitions, etc., led by local historians and enthusiasts. Participants from different parts of Haryana and Delhi

join these events. Additionally, the local administration, the American Institute of Indian Studies, INTACH, colleges, universities and other organisation are involved in organising these programmes.

“We initially started with tours with 10 persons and

now every weekend we get groups of almost 20 people. More than a history lesson, it's the tales that attract people to these untouched instagramable points. The most successful tours have been that of Rakhi Garhi,” says the coordinator of the initiative, Vinit Bhanwala.

RAKHI GARHI FAVOURITE SPOT

“We initially started with tours with 10 persons and now every weekend we get groups of almost 20 people. More than a history lesson, it's the tales that attract people to these untouched instagramable points. The most successful tours have been that of Rakhi Garhi.” — Vinit Bhanwala, COORDINATOR OF THE INITIATIVE

COMEDY ON THE WAY

The trailer of cross-cultural film *Kudi Haryane Val Di* in Punjabi and *Chori Haryane Aali* in Haryanvi was launched in Mumbai by the lead stars of the film, Ammy Virk and Sonam Bajwa.



Tribune Life Style

HARYANA | THURSDAY | 30 MAY 2024

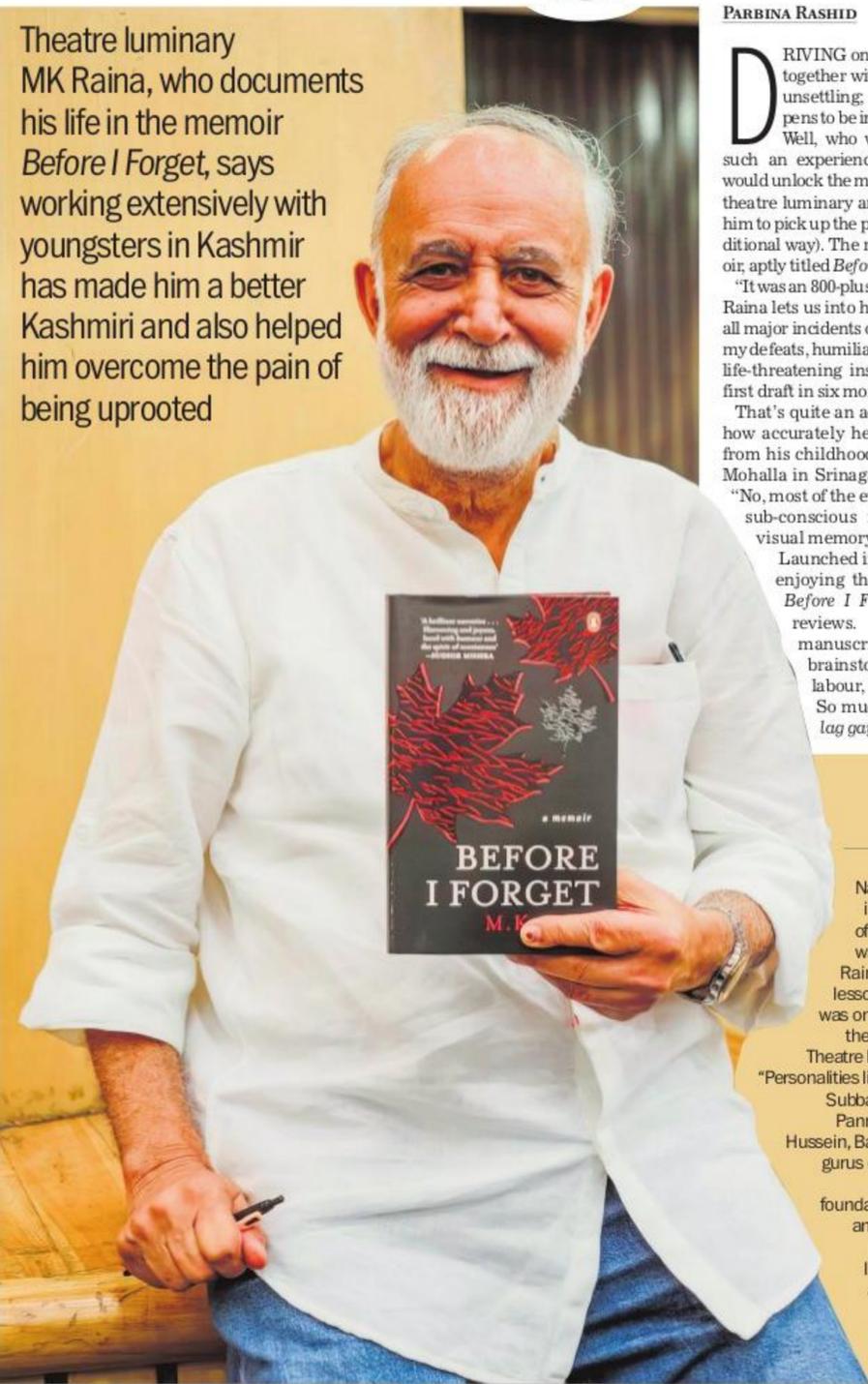
Tough task

Sonakshi Sinha, who has also stepped into the world of business with her nail label, has said being an entrepreneur is a bit more daunting as it doesn't come 'naturally to her'.



Unforgettable!

Theatre luminary MK Raina, who documents his life in the memoir *Before I Forget*, says working extensively with youngsters in Kashmir has made him a better Kashmiri and also helped him overcome the pain of being uprooted



PARBINA RASHID

DRIVING on an empty road for miles together with no soul in sight can be unsettling; more so if the road happens to be in a buzzing city like Noida. Well, who would have thought that such an experience during the pandemic would unlock the memory bank of MK Raina, theatre luminary and film actor, and induce him to pick up the pen (yes, he prefers the traditional way). The result — a 409-page memoir, aptly titled *Before I Forget*.

"It was an 800-plus page book to begin with," Raina lets us into his journey. "I wrote about all major incidents of my life — my struggles, my defeats, humiliations, triumphs and some life-threatening instances. I completed the first draft in six months."

That's quite an achievement considering how accurately he recounts his life, right from his childhood in Sheetal Nath Sathu Mohalla in Srinagar. Did he keep a diary? "No, most of the events are culled from the sub-conscious mind. I have a strong visual memory," he beams.

Launched in Delhi recently, Raina is enjoying the fruit of his labour, as *Before I Forget* is garnering rave reviews. To prune an 800-page manuscript into half took some brainstorming and serious labour, but the journey was fun. So much so that *mujhe chaska lag gaya likhne ka* (I got addicted

to writing), he reveals. This bit of information would surely come as a relief to his friends and well-wishers, who have been encouraging him to share his vast experiences as a theatre activist and actor in the form of a book. "I had dodged them till now, but in my head I always knew that it was a matter of time. I am a storyteller and have so many experiences to share," he tells us.

Did the trigger point have anything to do with the film, *The Kashmir Files*, considering that he too has been a victim of terrorism in the Valley and his family was forced to relocate to Jammu when the mass exodus of Kashmir Pandits took place during the early '90s? The reaction is a throaty laughter. "I fell asleep twice while watching that movie. Would you believe it? It bored me. There was no depth, no shades, only propaganda. And, it didn't start any dialogue on this tragedy, it just pleased the right wing."

As he talks about the right, we can't help but ask — does it make him a leftist? "Not really, I have never been a member of any political party. My association with Safdar Hashmi may have given people the impression that I am a leftist, but no, I choose my own path," he says.

Political leaning is one thing, but the pain of loss and longing has been a part of his being. Glimpses emerge as he writes, "For fear of being labelled as communal, I used to keep quiet and suffer our tragedy in silence."

Elaborating how in Mumbai some old friends had once accused him of 'behaving like a communal-minded person', he says, "It hurt me deeply because all these years, all I had owned was my belief in a multi-cultural, multi-religious India for which I had joined all the movements and struggles that were in support of communal harmony. I have grown up in a syncretic culture. And as a theatre person, I can't take sides, I can't say that my tragedy is the only tragedy."

Has writing it all down helped him heal? "Working in Kashmir has helped me. This book is just documenting my healing process. Meeting Kashmiri youngsters, folk artistes and people from all walks of life has enriched me. I think I am a better Kashmiri now."

But what about Kashmir, is it any better that what it was once? Raina, who has been visiting his hometown not to reclaim his home but his legacy and heritage, says, "There are cosmetic changes, but the core remains more or less the same. It's just that people don't talk anymore. They simply have become indifferent."

Seems it's time for another *Badshah Lear*. The play, which he produced with the dwindling *Bhand* community of Kashmir, transcended the caste and class divide, and united his audience to feel the pathos of the Kashmir situation. Before we all forget!

DIGNITY OF LABOUR

MK Raina joined the National School of Drama in 1967, when the doyen of Indian theatre, E Alkazi, was at the helm of affairs. Raina recalls one of the first lessons he learnt from Alkazi was on the dignity of labour, as they built up the Meghdoot Theatre brick by brick. He writes, "Personalities like Shivam Karanth, K V Subbanna, Kovalam Narayan Panniker, Giriraj Kishore, MF Hussein, Bala Saraswati — the great gurus of the Indian performing streams — laid in us the foundations for understanding and decoding the multiple plural traditions that are India's cultural treasures and infusing in students the desire to build modern Indian theatre in all its many regions."



Shining stars

Deepika tops IMDb's 100 Most Viewed Indian Stars, SRK is second

Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone, who will be soon seen in *Singham Again* and *Kalki 2898 AD*, has topped the IMDb list of Top 100 Most Viewed Indian Stars of the Last Decade. Following her is the actor opposite whom she made her debut in *Om Shanti Om*, Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan. This list of all top Indian stars is determined by the actual page views of the more than 250 million monthly visitors to IMDb worldwide.

Deepika said, "I'm deeply grateful to be included in a list that captures the sentiment of a global audience. This recognition is truly humbling." The third spot on the list is occupied by Aishwarya Rai Bachchan. Alia Bhatt is on the fourth spot followed by the late actor Irrfan Khan.

Aamir Khan and Salman Khan, too find a place in the top 10. While Aamir is at number six, Salman holds the eighth spot, separated by the late actor Sushant Singh Rajput at number seven.

The list also includes Hrithik Roshan, Akshay Kumar, Katrina Kaif, Amitabh Bachchan, Samantha Ruth Prabhu, Kareena Kapoor, Nayanthara, Ajay Devgn, Triptii Dimri and others. The list has actors from the Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Kannada film industries.

Kamal Haasan is at number 54. — IANS



Honour board

Rani Mukerji feted with Movified Best Actor Award for *Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway*

Rani Mukerji has been awarded the Movified Best Actor Award in the Female Category. The actress was honoured for her work in the critically acclaimed film *Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway*. In the film, inspired by true events, Rani essayed the role of a mother, who fought the legal system of Norway over the custody of her child.

Rani expressed gratitude towards Movified and its owner Neeketa Singh. She said, "Thank you Movified, for honouring me with the Best Actor Female Award for *Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway*. I am so grateful for this recognition and would like to thank my director Ashima Chibber, my producers Nikkhil Advani, Monisha Advani, Madhu Bhojwani, everyone at Zee Studios, and Emmay Entertainment. My wonderful co-stars from Tallinn, Bengal and Mumbai, the Estonian crew, and all the technicians."

The actress also shared that *Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway* held a very special place in her filmography. — IANS



Kulbir Ahlawat and Nandani Sharma

Melody man

Aparshakti Khurana teams up with Savi Kahlon for *Zaroor*

Actor Aparshakti Khurana, who has teamed up with singer Savi Kahlon for the new love ballad *Zaroor*, has shared how the track allowed him to explore new dimensions as an artiste. *Zaroor* is the soulful ballad, penned and composed by Savi and backed by the soothing vocals of Aparshakti. — IANS



Haryanvi flavour

DAKS Music's latest video *Bada Saang*, a Haryanvi song written by Rajesh Majaria, and sung by Raj Marwar and Anjali, was launched in Mohali on May 28. Co-founder of the company Kulbir Ahlawat stars in the music video, along with Nandani Sharma. It has been directed by Aman Jaji.

When the cast was asked about

the inadvertent promotion of gun and drugs through songs nowadays, Kulbir replied, "Our song is quite different; the female lead, in fact, asks Kulbir's character to stay away from them. Nandani nods, "We hope our message reaches out to the audience. Although I do not understand Haryanvi well, I love to work in the industry. I have

previously done a few projects with the same music company."

This was the first song shot abroad by them. The crew worked in Armenia for three-four days, and the whole process took about a month's time. For Kulbir Ahlawat, this was his first on screen, but definitely not the last!

— Bhanuni Saini & Divij Sharma

और सभी न्यूज़ पेपर मैगजीन प्राप्त करने के लिए सर्वप्रथम इस टेलीग्राम ग्रुप को ज्वाइन करें नीचे दिए लकि पर क्लिक करके ज्वाइन टेलीग्राम

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