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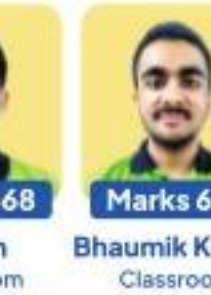
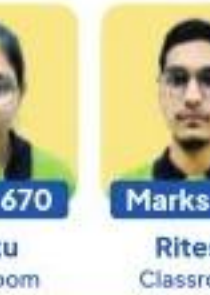
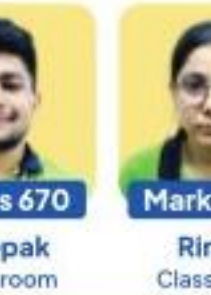
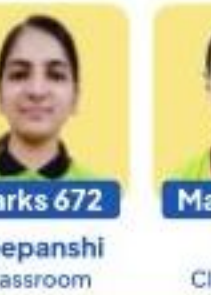
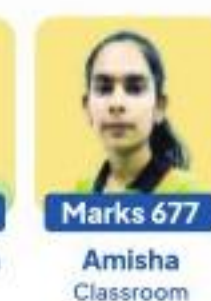
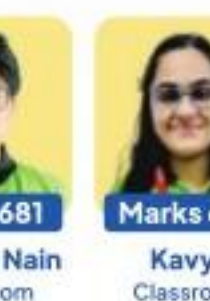


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**DELHI COURT DENIES INTERIM BAIL TO KEJRI, SAYS HE'S FINE** **BACK PAGE**



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FRIDAY | 7 JUNE 2024

## No riders by allies, BJP to keep key ministries, Speaker's post

NDA MPs to elect Modi as leader today | Oath-taking likely on June 9

ADITI TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6**  
Newly elected MPs of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), including the BJP, will meet here on Friday to elect Narendra Modi as their leader, paving the way for his third term and for him to stake claim to form the government.

Ahead of the crucial meeting, the top BJP brass huddled in the national capital for nearly six hours on Thursday to finalise the contours of the new Council of Ministers. BJP chief JP Nadda, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and BJP national general secretaries BL Santosh and Tarun Chugh were among those who attended. Santosh is the pointman between the BJP and the RSS.

The Tribune has learnt that the BJP will retain all top ministries — Defence, Home,



**CALLING THE SHOTS:** TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu during a meeting with his MPs at Undavalli. PTI

### TDP pitches for 3-4 berths, eyes Finance

The N Chandrababu Naidu-led Telugu Desam Party is learnt to have pitched for three or four berths in the Council of Ministers with sources saying it is keen on the Finance portfolio, even Minister of State, and may also seek IT, besides special financial assistance for Andhra where it is keen to develop the capital city of Amravati. The TDP has sought the Speaker's post, but may have to settle for the post of Deputy Speaker. The TDP in NDA 2.0 had one Cabinet (Civil Aviation) and one MoS berth (IT) when it had 16 MPs.

### JD(U) keen on Rlys, spl package for Bihar

The JD(U) is learnt to be seeking three Cabinet positions — Railways, Rural Development and Jal Shakti. A JD(U) source said the NDA convenor's post was also a probable negotiation point, besides a special package for Bihar, caste census and a review of the Agnipath scheme. In NDA 2.0, Nitish Kumar, who along with the BJP had won 39 of Bihar's 40 seats in the 2019 poll, had refused to join the Modi Cabinet as he had been offered one Cabinet position whereas he had asked for four. Later, Nitish had quit the NDA to join the Mahagathbandhan.

### SC directs HP to give 137 cusecs of water to Delhi

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

The Supreme Court today directed the Himachal Government to release 137 cusecs of its surplus water to Hathnikund barrage for its onward supply to Delhi to enable it to deal with peak summer crisis.

Terming it "an existential problem" for Delhi, the top court directed the Haryana Government to facilitate the further release of water received at Hathnikund barrage from Himachal Pradesh for its onward supply to Wazirabad barrage. **INSIDE**

### K'taka minister quits after name surfaces in scam

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Karnataka Scheduled Tribes Welfare Minister B Nagendra resigned today after his name surfaced in a Rs 187-crore illegal money transfer scam.

The matter came to light following the death of Chandrashekharan P, the accounts superintendent of the Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd who died allegedly by suicide on May 26, holding his superiors and the minister responsible for the scam. — TNS

## CISF staffer 'slaps' Kangana at Chandigarh airport, detained

GAURAV KANTHWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MOHALL, JUNE 6

Actor Kangana Ranaut, who recently won the Lok Sabha election from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh on the BJP ticket, alleged she was hit in the face and abused by a woman CISF constable during a security check at the Chandigarh airport on Thursday.

The constable, Kulwinder Kaur, who appeared to be upset with Kangana over her stance on the farmers' protests, has been suspended and an FIR lodged against her, officials said. The CISF has also ordered a court of inquiry into the incident.

A purported video of the constable has gone viral. "Kangana made a statement that farmers were protesting in Delhi because they were

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Attacked actor over her 'remark against farm stir'



Farmers gather at the house of Kulwinder Kaur's brother in Kapurthala.

## Allies want Agnipath 'flaws' removed

AJAY BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Within 24 hours of pledging support to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), two allies have sought a review of the Agnipath scheme under which youth are recruited

in the Indian armed forces.

The Janata Dal (United) and the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), in separate statements, have sought a review of the scheme. On Agnipath, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, in an exclusive interview with The Tribune on May

13, had said, "Any scheme, after it is launched, is open to change to refine it". The Agniveer scheme was good and people would realise it too, Rajnath had stated.

The BJP could not reach the majority mark of 272 seats on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Rahul for JPC probe into market crash, questions role of PM, HM

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6**  
Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah were involved in what he described as the "biggest stock market scam" in which retail investors lost Rs 30 lakh crore, and demanded a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) probe into it.

In his first press conference here after the election results were announced on June 4, Rahul Gandhi said the stock market rose after "fake" exit polls and then crashed the day the Lok Sabha poll votes were counted on June 4. The Congress leader also trained his guns on Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for commenting on the stock market before the results.

"The PM told the country three-four times that the stock market was going to skyrocket. The Home Minister directly said the stock market would skyrocket on June 4, and people should



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi. MUKESH AGGARWAL

**CRIMINAL ACT, INVESTORS LOST ₹30 LAKH CR**

"Somebody made thousands of crores at the cost of Indian investors after PM and Home Minister encouraged people to buy shares. This is a criminal act." **Rahul Gandhi, CONG**

### AAP TO GO SOLO IN DELHI ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Two days after the BJP swept the Lok Sabha elections in Delhi, opposition INDIA bloc crumbled in the Capital with the Aam Aadmi Party deciding to go solo in the 2025 Assembly elections

buy shares. The same message was given by the FM," Gandhi said.

Exit polls released on June 1 projected a thumping win

by the BJP. This gave rise to the hope that the government would be a stable one, and stock prices reached an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

### NEET aspirants call for retest after row over grace marks

AKSHEEV THAKUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Alleging inflation of marks that led to a record 67 candidates bagging the top rank, including six from the same exam centre, several medical aspirants have asked the National Testing Agency (NTA) to reconduct the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test Undergraduate (NEET UG)-2024.

### RECORD 67 STUDENTS GET RANK 1 | NTA DENIES CHARGES

The NTA, however, denied any irregularities and said changes made in NCERT textbooks and grace marks for lost time at examination centres were some of the reasons behind the students scoring high marks.

The NTA had announced the result on June 4, coinciding with the Lok Sabha election results, even though the tentative date for the declaration of the result was June 14.

Soon after the result, medical aspirants raised concerns over a staggering 67 students

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Cobwebs, dust greet visitors at Jang-e-Azadi

Built at ₹315 cr, Kartarpur memorial to freedom fighters lies in neglect

DEEPAK KAL KHAUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**JALANDHAR, JUNE 6**  
Even as the Punjab Government spent a staggering Rs 315 crore on raising the colossal structure of the Jang-e-Azadi memorial at Kartarpur, it seems to be finding it hard to spare money for its monthly maintenance.

The memorial, located on the Jalandhar-Amritsar highway, is a famous stopover for a large number of tourists visiting the holy city. However, many of these visitors are left disappointed because of poor



A broken door and damaged fibre sheets at the entrance of Jang-e-Azadi memorial at Kartarpur in Jalandhar. TRIBUNE PHOTO: SARABJIT SINGH

maintenance of the site. Cobwebs, layers of dust, excreta of stray animals and bird drop-

pings greet visitors at the five galleries inside the memorial. When a team of The Tribune

visited the site, it appeared that the floor had not been swept for days. Items on display had layers of dust. The glass top of the model of the memorial kept in the reception arcade was found broken and miniature pieces inside it had withered. Some table-mounted screens had lost their touch sensitivity.

The laser show at the memorial is no longer in a working condition. Tiles on the upper floors of the building have started falling off. The wall papers in the high

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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LIC/PI/2023-24/13/Eng



Election of Eight Directors by the Delegates of General Body of Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Limited (IFFDC) shall take place 20 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at FMDI, IFFCO Colony, Sector-17B, Gurgaon-122001 (Haryana) as per the following programme:	
1. Number of Vacancies	: Eight (08)
2. Publication of provisional List of Members/Delegates, Eligible to Vote	: 27 <sup>th</sup> May, 2024 (11.00 AM)
3. Time Window for Raising Objection (if any) to the provisional List	: 28 <sup>th</sup> May to 3 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2024 (11.00 AM to 3.00 PM- Everyday)
4. Redressal of Objection to the Provisional List	: 3rd June, 2024 (Monday) (3.00 PM to 5.00 PM)
5. Publication of Final List of Members, Eligible to Vote	: 4 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (at 11.00 AM)
6. Issue and Filing of Nomination Forms	: 5 <sup>th</sup> June-11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (11.00 AM-3.00 PM-Everyday)
7. Publication of List of Nomination Forms Received	: 11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (5.00 PM)
8. Scrutiny of Received Nomination Forms	: 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (11.00 AM-3.00 PM)
9. Publication of List of Valid Nominations	: 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (5.00 PM)
10. Withdrawal of Nomination	: 13 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (11.00 AM-3.00 PM)
11. Publication of final List of Contesting Candidates	: 13 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (5.00 PM)
12. Date of Polling, if Necessary	: 20th June, 2024 (8.00 PM-4.00 PM)
13. Counting of Votes & Declaration of Results	: 20 <sup>th</sup> June, 2024 (Immediate after polling)
14. Election of Chairman and Vice- Chairman	: 21 <sup>st</sup> June, 2024
The Constituencies are as follows: <b>Constituency No.1-</b> Madhya Pradesh, <b>Constituency No.2-</b> Uttar Pradesh-I & Uttarakhand, <b>Constituency No.3-</b> Uttar Pradesh-II, <b>Constituency No.4-</b> Rajasthan-I, <b>Constituency No.5-</b> Rajasthan-II, <b>Constituency No.6-</b> (02 Women Directors) and <b>Constituency No.7-</b> Reserved for SC/ST Category Director.	
sd/- (Hitesh Kumar), IAS Asstt. Returning Officer, IFFDC	



PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR INVITING OBJECTIONS REGARDING REGISTRATION OF THE PROJECT NAMEDLY “4S THE AURRUM” UNDER LICENSE NO. 225 OF 2023 LOCATED AT SECTOR 59 & 63A GURUGRAM BEING DEVELOPED BY M/S 4S DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD.

It is for the information of the general public that M/s 4S Developers Pvt Ltd. has applied for grant of registration of the project admeasuring 5.4295 acres forming part of license no. 225 of 2023 granted by DTCP Haryana on 30.10.2023.

It is further informed that the Director, Town and Country Planning Department has allowed the migration of license from license no. 92 of 2023 dated 21.04.2023 which was granted to M/s 4S Developers Pvt. Ltd., for setting up of Affordable Plotted Colony under DDJAY over the area admeasuring 7.434375 acres in Sector 59 & 63A, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex.

The M/s 4S Developers Pvt. Ltd. had obtained the migration of the said license without any requirement of consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the existing allottees as no third-party rights have been created in respect of earlier license no. 92 of 2023 dated 21.04.2023. That the said license has been migrated to license no. 225 of 2023 dated 30.10.2023 in favour of M/s 4S Developers Pvt. Ltd. i.e. Collaborator/ Developer for an area admeasuring 10.071875 acres for setting up Group Housing Colony and has obtained revised zoning dated 31.10.2023 and building plan vide Memo No ZP-1954/PA(DK)/2024/3200 dated 29.04.2024. Thereafter the promoter have approached the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram for the registration of the project namely “4S THE AURRUM”. M/s 4S Developers Pvt. Ltd. has already submitted an affidavit stating that the promoter has not published advertisement, marketing nor created any sale, booking and not create third party rights in respect of earlier licensed land till date.

If anyone concerned have any objection w.r.t revised zoning and migration of the said license, the details of both the license(s) are available in the office of the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory, Gurugram which can be seen by any concerned on any working day during office hours i.e. 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. upto 17.06.2024 for filing of objections, if any.

Given under the approval of the Authority and its seal.

Sd/-  
Secretary,  
Haryana Real Estate  
Regulatory Authority, Gurugram

Dated: 07.06.2024



PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY FOR SUMMER SEASON



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- Drink sufficient water at frequent intervals, even if you are not thirsty.
- Carry drinking water when traveling.
- Preferably take water, lemon water (Nimbu Pani), Lassi, Chaach, Jaljeera, Aam panna, Coconut Water or other locally available natural drinks.
- Eat seasonal fruits and vegetables with high water content like Watermelon, Muskmelon, Cucumber, Orange, Lettuce etc.

Stay covered:

- Avoid direct exposure to sun.
- Stay indoors in well ventilated and cool places.
- Wear thin loose, cotton garments preferably light coloured.
- Cover your head, use umbrella, hat etc.
- Wear shoes or chappals while going out in the sun
- Keep windows and curtains of your home closed during the day and open them up at night.

Check regularly the vulnerable who are at greater risk:

- Infants and young children
- Pregnant women
- People working outdoors.
- People who have a mental illness.
- People who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure.
- Elderly or sick people living alone.

Don'ts

- Avoid getting out in the sun unless necessary.
- Avoid strenuous activities when outside in the afternoon.
- Avoid alcohol, tea, coffee and carbonated soft drinks or drinks with large amount of sugar as these lead to loss of more body fluids or may cause stomach cramps.
- Do not eat stale food.
- Do not leave children or pets in parked vehicle.

Health & Family Welfare Department,  
U.T., Chandigarh.

# ‘Cong could have made clean sweep with better ticket distribution’

GEETANJALI GAYATRI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6

It takes a lot of nerve to be a woman who stands her ground in Haryana's male-dominated society and more so in a rival party as the state unit of the Congress, but Sirsa's newest Member of Parliament, Kumari Selja, has taken everything in her stride to come out right on top.

Selja won Sirsa with the second highest margin of 2,68,497 votes in Haryana, and is back in the Lok Sabha after more than 10 years. She lost the last two elections and prior served in the Rajya Sabha from 2014 to 2020.

Still, Selja's name was the only one to have come from the Congress party top brass in Delhi. It is said that former Congress president Sonia Gandhi has a soft corner for her. Of the nine seats the Congress contested in Haryana — except for the Kurukshetra seat which was contested by the Congress' Aam Aadmi Party ally — all the remaining names were recommended by the powerful former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Apart from Senior Hooda's son, Deepender Hooda, who won from Rohtak, the influence of the Hoodas is believed to extend to the four other seats won by the party — Sonapat, Hisar and Ambala. It is common knowledge in Haryana that the Hoodas and Kumari Selja belong to different camps in the Congress.

“There have always been factions in the party. I am not going to be shy of admitting that,” she tells The Tribune, as she readies to take oath as a Lok Sabha MP for the fifth time — four terms in the Lok



UNFAIR ASSESSMENT

We lost Bhiwani-Mahendergarh and were crawling in Sonapat and Gurgaon where we fielded candidates whose names we had never heard of. Had general secretary in charge Deepak Banwaria given a fair assessment to the party high command, we could have done better. — Kumari Selja

sabha and one term as Rajya Sabha MP Daughter of Dalbir Singh, a former union minister who contested from Sirsa and the former state unit chief, Selja understands the struggle and the constant tug of war that goes on in politics well.

I learnt my values and principles from him and improvised my learnings to suit the situations I was faced with. Sirsa has always been close to my heart since I contested my first election—the by-election of 1988 after my father, a sitting MP passed away. I was still studying and I took my first step into politics at late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's instance. He wanted me to contest the by-election which I lost. There has been no looking back since then,” she says.

She stops short of commenting about the party fac-

tions coming together for the Assembly elections, that are expected to take place in October. But she isn't afraid of speaking her mind about the ticket-distribution for this election that was said to be managed by Hooda.

“We could have made a clean sweep with better ticket-distribution. We lost Bhiwani-Mahendergarh and we were crawling in Sonapat and Gurgaon where we fielded candidates whose names we had never heard of. The general secretary in charge, Deepak Banwaria, did not give a fair assessment to the party high command or we could have done better,” she says, adding that he was “less than impartial”.

Selja underlines that it was she who suggested MLA

Varun Chaudhry's name from Ambala, a constituency she has represented in the past. “I gave his name, I urged him to contest and I went to campaign for him in Ambala in the middle of my own campaign,” she says, adding that the party's interest comes first and she suggested the candidate who was best suited unlike the selection of candidates from some other seats.

This election, the party's surveys showed the people wanted me to contest from Sirsa and the margin of my win did end up reflecting they chose me. I didn't go into the election with the margin in mind but it was during the campaign that I got a sense of the way the public opened its heart to me,” she said.

“I was keen on contesting the Vidhan Sabha elections

but had maintained that if the party high command wants me to contest the parliamentary elections, I would abide by their decision and I did,” Selja, the Dalit face of the Congress who has also served as Union cabinet minister during the UPA regime, quips.

The newly elected MP was also critical that Deepak Banwaria wrote a “public” letter to say that everyone should campaign for the party. While Banwaria was also referring to the third faction in the Haryana Congress — that of former Union minister Birender Singh who had left the Congress in the 2019 election to join the BJP for which his son, Brijendra, got a ticket to fight from Hisar, and who returned to the Congress on the eve of this poll, even though Brijendra did not

get a ticket from the Congress — Selja wonders if there was any need for Banwaria to go public with his advice.

“Where was the need to go public with the letter? That is what all leaders should do and that is what every leader was doing,” she said.

As it turned out, Birender Singh hardly went into Hooda territory, nor did Hooda return the favour. But Birender Singh, says Selja, campaigned for her, as did Rajya Sabha MP Randeep Singh Surjewala and MLA Kiran Choudhry.

The state unit chief, Uday Bhan, did not visit her constituency even once.

On whether the Congress can come to power in the assembly elections, Selja says the issues that come into play in the state elections are very different from those in the general elections.

“Though Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the failures of the central government we're among the top issues, the state situation, too, had a bearing on the parliamentary polls. The change of the Chief Minister, the confusion about who was in the driver's seat, the break-up of the BJP and the JJP among others also impacted the outcome. However, there are three months still to go for the assembly polls but one thing is evident—the people don't want the BJP because its failures are too glaring. The party, too, will have to introspect and strike a balance while taking everyone along when it comes to the assembly polls,” she signs off

## Assembly elections last chance for INLD to retain party tag, election symbol

PRADEEP SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6

The 2024 Assembly elections will be the last chance for the INLD, the grand old party of Haryana led by former Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala, to retain its recognition as the state party and election symbol.

At the receiving end of the dismal performance in parliamentary and state Assembly elections since 2019, the INLD will have to fulfil the norms under the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968, in the 2024 Assembly elections, failing which it would risk derecognition from the Election Commission.

Under the Order, the party to be recognised as the state party “must return at least one member to the House of the People for every 25 members or any fraction thereof allotted to that state”.

Alternatively, the candi-

GLORIOUS PAST, UNCERTAIN FUTURE

The INLD, earlier known as Haryana Lok Dal (Rashtriya), was recognised as the state party after the 1998 parliamentary elections when it won four Lok Sabha seats. However, in the 2024 Assembly elections, the party will have to fulfil statutory Election Commission norms to retain the state party tag and save its reserved party symbol.



Om Prakash Chautala

dates put up by the party must have secured not less than 8 per cent of the total valid votes polled in the state in the last state Assembly. Besides, candidates of a party securing not less than 6 per cent of the total valid votes polled with at least two elected MLAs can also be considered as a condition for recognition as the state party.

The party securing 3 per cent of the total number of seats or at least three seats in the Assembly, whichever is

more, is also recognised as the state party and allotted a permanent election symbol.

The INLD did not fulfil any of the above conditions in the 2019 Assembly and parliamentary elections and 2024 Lok Sabha poll. The party secured 1.9% and 2.44% votes in the parliamentary and Assembly elections, respectively, in 2019. In the recently concluded parliamentary elections, the party polled 1.74 per cent votes.

However, an amendment to

the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, in 2016 provided relief to the INLD. The amendment allowed a political party to retain the ‘state party’ or ‘national party’ tag even after it loses eligibility in the next Lok Sabha or state Assembly elections.

However, if the party fails to regain eligibility in the subsequent election to the state Assembly or the Lok Sabha, then it will lose its status of the state or national party. The INLD currently falls in this category.

Ram Narain Yadav, a former additional secretary of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha, confirmed that the amendment had come to the rescue of the INLD. “The INLD will have fulfil the statutory conditions for recognition as the state party in the 2024 Assembly elections, failing which the Election Commission may start the derecognition process,” Yadav added.

## With five LS seats in kitty, Cong gears up for Assembly elections

RAVINDER SAINI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, JUNE 6

Having wrested five seats from the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls in the state, the Congress has started gearing up for upcoming Assembly elections.

Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee president Uday Bhan and former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda along with four newly elected Congress MPs today not only pondered over emerging political scenario in the state after the Lok Sabha elections but also decided next course of action to show the door to BJP in the Assembly elec-

PARTY WILL MAKE CLEAN SWEEP

“The Congress has won the first battle. The party will make a clean sweep in the Assembly polls as people have made up their mind to oust the BJP from power. Bhupinder Singh Hooda, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER

tions that are due in October.

“The leaders also discussed weakness and strength of the party witnessed during the Lok Sabha elections. The

newly elected MPs — Deepender Hooda (Rohtak), Varun Choudhary (Ambala), Satyapal Brahmachari (Sonapat) and Jai Prakash (Hisar) also shared their experience and political equations in their respective constituencies with their senior leaders,” sources said. The meeting was held at Hooda's residence in Delhi.

Sources said three of the MPs came to Delhi to meet Hooda to give their feedback about the Lok Sabha elections. State Congress chief whip and Rohtak MLA Bharat Bhushan Batra was also present.

## Nominations invited for Padma awards

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6

The Haryana Government has invited nominations for recommendations of Padma awards. These awards hold significance as they are among the highest civilian honours and will be announced on Republic Day.

In a letter addressed by Chief Secretary TVSN Prasad to Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of the state, it has been specified that recommendations for the Padma awards should be sent to political2.hry@gmail.com or dysecpolitical.cse@hry.gov by August 15.



At 950, Karnal 3rd in state's sex ratio

47 IMFL, country liquor zones auctioned for ₹207 cr in Y'nagar

**PARVEEN ARORA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**KARNAL, JUNE 6**  
With the cumulative birth of 950 girls against 1,000 boys in the first five months of this year, Karnal has significantly improved its ranking in Haryana's sex ratio chart, moving up from the 16th position last year to the third place.

The officials of the Health Department said Karnal's ranking announced by the department reflecting the ongoing efforts to address gender imbalance in the district. Civil Surgeon Dr Krishan Kumar said Charkhi Dadri led the state with a sex ratio of 963, followed by Sirsa at 956.

Highlighting the monthly figures that contributed to the district's improved ranking, he said in January, Karnal reported a sex ratio of 927, which increased to 940 in February and surged to an impressive 1,025 in March. Although April saw a slight dip to 905, the ratio increased again to 947 in May.

Dr Kumar credited the dedicated efforts of the staff



**CHARKHI DADRI TOPS, SIRSA SECOND**

- Civil Surgeon Dr Krishan Kumar said Charkhi Dadri led the state with a sex ratio of 963, followed by Sirsa at 956.
- Highlighting the monthly figures that contributed to the district's improved ranking,

he said in January, Karnal reported a sex ratio of 927, which increased to 940 in February and surged to an impressive 1,025 in March. April saw a slight dip to 905. It rose again to 947 in May.

members led by Deputy Civil Surgeon Dr Sheenu Chaudhary for this success.

"We are hopeful it will further improve in the coming months," he added.

He highlighted the steps being taken by the staff members to improve the

sex ratio and said, "We conduct regular meetings of medical officers and senior medical officers to review the village-wise sex ratio of the district. It helps in identifying the villages where the sex ratio is low."

Dr Kumar said after identifying these villages, they scrutinised the reasons behind the fall in sex ratio and work on strategies to improve it.

"Our focus is on the early registration of antenatal cases and tracking all medical termination of pregnancy cases in both private and government institutions. We also monitor all ultrasound centres," said Dr Kumar. He highlighted the support from DC Uttam Singh in implementing the PCPNDT Act.

Dr Chaudhary appreciated the efforts made by the staff members and emphasised the importance of combined efforts in monitoring and enforcing regulations to prevent prenatal sex determination. "We are working to achieve the top ranking across the state," she added.



**SHIV KUMAR SHARMA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**YAMUNANAGAR, JUNE 6**  
In a major boost to the government revenue, the local administration has auctioned 47 liquor zones of Indian made foreign liquor (IMFL) and country liquor for Rs 207 crore in Yamunanagar.

There are a total 56 liquor zones of IMFL and country liquor in Yamunanagar district. The rest nine zones will be auctioned in the office of Excise Department in Jagadhri on June 7. The department has fixed a reserve price of Rs 230.12 crore for all 56 liquor zones in the district.

"Our district has 56 liquor zones of IMFL and country liquor. The department has fixed a reserve price of Rs 230.12 crore for these 56 liquor zones. Out of these, 47 liquor zones have been auctioned for Rs 207 crore in the first and second rounds of auction held on June 1 and June 5 here, respectively," said Yamunanagar Deputy

The liquor zones were auctioned under the supervision of City Magistrate Piyush Gupta at the Mini-Secretariat in Jagadhri.

Excise and Taxation Commissioner Krishan Kumar.

He said the first and second rounds of auction of liquor zones were held under the chairmanship of City Magistrate Piyush Gupta at the Mini-Secretariat in Jagadhri. He added that the department would auction the rest nine zones on Friday.

He further said the IMFL zone included two liquor vends of IMFL. However, the country liquor zone included two liquor vends and some sub-liquor vends.

As per available information, the state government has granted permission to open three wholesale shops/godowns of IMFL (L-I licence) and four wholesale godowns of country liquor (L-13 licence) in the district. "The quota of country liquor has been fixed for 18 lakh proof litres of IMFL for the district. The government has also fixed a quota of 54 lakh proof litres of country liquor for the district," said Kumar.

Last year, there were 52 zones of IMFL and country liquor in the district and a target of Rs 212 crore as revenue was fixed from the auction of the said zones.

Ensure family pension for widowed daughter: HC

CM reviews projects of several departments

**SAURABH MALIK**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6**  
The Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled that a woman is entitled to family pension even if she is widowed or divorced after her father's death.

Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi also emphasised that the family pension's function was to ensure subsistence of a widowed or divorced daughter. Denying benefit on the grounds that the employee died before the daughter was divorced or became a widow was arbitrary and illegal.

**SUSTENANCE MUST**

"The intention was to ensure that widowed or divorced daughters were maintained through family pension. It was, as such, required to be granted regardless of whether the daughter was widowed or divorced after her father's demise or at the time of death. Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi

The ruling came after Justice Sethi's Bench was told that the petitioner-daughter was not being granted family pension even though she was eligible for it after she became a widow.

The Bench was also told that the petitioner was paid family pension keeping in view the service rendered by her father till she married in 1996. She applied for the restoration of family pension following her husband's demise in September 2017 as she had no other source of income.

Opposing the prayer, the counsel for the respondents submitted that widowed or divorced daughters were indeed entitled to the grant of the family pension in accordance with the instructions issued by the Haryana Government. But the daughter "should be a widow or divorced at the time of her father's death". The benefit could not be extended to the petitioner as her husband died much after

her father's death.

Justice Sethi asserted that the family pension was to be paid to ensure that a widow or a divorced daughter was able to sustain herself. Justifiable reason was not cited for distinguishing between a daughter already divorced at the time of her father's death, or subsequently. The primary issue was whether divorced or widowed daughters were entitled to family pension for their sustenance.

Justice Sethi asserted: "Even if a daughter gets divorce after her father's

death or becomes widow after her father's death, she is entitled to be maintained. The classification being raised to decline the benefit that the petitioner's father had died before she became widow cannot be a ground to deny the benefit of family pension."

Before parting with the order, Justice Sethi directed the respondents to restore the family pension to the petitioner from the date of her husband's death. Directions were also issued to pay arrears. For the purpose, the Bench set an eight-week deadline.

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6**  
The state government has taken a significant decision to remove the age limit cap for the Mukhyamantri Kisan Evam Khetihar Mazdoor Jeevan Suraksha Yojana for farmers, agriculture labourers and market yard labourers.

Now, children younger than 10 years and persons older than 65 years will also be eligible for benefits. Under this scheme, financial assistance ranging from Rs 37,500 to Rs 5 lakh is provided to farmers, agricul-

ture labourers, and market yard labourers in case of death or disability while operating agricultural machinery.

The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini today to review the projects of the Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Haryana State Agriculture Marketing Board.

He directed officers to complete all projects within the specified time frame without any delays at any level. —TNS

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# Jailed candidates can take oath after winning Lok Sabha elections

SAURABH MALIK  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6  
Jailed candidates can take oath after winning the parliamentary elections, but only with the permission of the court concerned. The issue has surfaced as two candidates, currently behind bars, including “Waris Punjab De” head Amritpal Singh, emerged victorious in the recently concluded elections.

Article 99 of the Constitution requires every Member of Parliament to take an oath or affirmation before taking the seat. The provision does not explicitly disqualify imprisoned individuals from taking the oath.

Additional Solicitor-General of India and an expert on constitutional and electoral affairs Satya Pal Jain asserts permission becomes mandatory, when the candidate concerned is in judicial custody. “Any person in jail and elected

NO TIME FRAME

Neither the Constitution nor any law prescribes a specific time frame for taking oath. But attending parliamentary sessions requires judicial permission post-oath. Satya Pal Jain says the Constitution stipulates that a seat can be declared vacant, if a member does not attend a session for 60 days. As such, nod from the Speaker becomes must

to Parliament has to seek the court's permission,” he says.

Elaborating on the procedure, Jain says the oath can be administered to the candidates on the floor of the House or in the chamber, depending upon the discretion of the Speaker or the pro-tem Speaker as the case may be.

Punjab and Haryana High Court's former Judge, Justice Mahesh Grover, says Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act makes it clear that individuals convicted of certain offences are disqualified from contesting elections. But, if a candidate is already in jail and is subsequently elected, the Act does

not explicitly prevent him from taking oath or attending parliamentary sessions.

The Supreme Court of India has addressed related issues in various rulings. In the Lily Thomas versus the Union of India case, the court ruled that MPs and MLAs convicted of crimes attracting a minimum two-year imprisonment would be immediately disqualified from holding their seats. But the ruling applies only after conviction and not during pre-trial detention or before conviction.

Referring to “Lok Prahari” versus the Union of India” case, Additional Solicitor-General of India and

Haryana's former Advocate-General Mohan Jain says the Allahabad High Court had ruled that a person under lawful detention, who is yet to be convicted, does not lose his fundamental rights, including the right to represent his constituency.

An individual remains an MP unless disqualified, once the oath is taken, Jain adds. Attending parliamentary proceedings, again, will require permission from the judiciary. Courts may allow temporary release for attending sessions, considering the nature of the charges.

“While constitutional and statutory provisions do not outright prohibit jailed winners from taking the oath or attending Parliament, practical implementation hinges on judicial discretion. Courts balance the rights of the individual with public interest and the gravity of the charges,” Justice Grover says.

# Tough for Amritpal to walk free even if NSA revoked

Khadoor Sahib MP-elect's detention ends on July 23 | Faces 12 other FIRs

JUPINDERJIT SINGH & PAWAN K JAISWAR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 6

Newly elected MP and National Security Act (NSA) detainee Amritpal Singh can be released from the Dibrugarh jail only if the state government and the Centre recommend his release.

The detention of Khalistani leader Amritpal is till July 23, but the two governments have to decide his fate in less than two weeks because the detention period of his 10 accomplices ends between June 18 and 26.

The detention period began from the day of their arrest under the NSA. While the 10 accomplices were arrested between March 18 and 26, 2023, Amritpal was arrested on April 23. Under the NSA, a person can be detained for 12 months with a periodical review of the case every three months.

The three-month period for Amritpal ends on July 24 and for others between June 18 and 26.

When their one-year detention ended earlier this year,

## FIRS AGAINST AMRITPAL AND ACCOMPLICES

**FEB 2, 2024** – Dibrugarh Assam: Recovery of illegal electronic gadgets from jail  
**MARCH 30, 2023** – Mehtiana (Hoshiarpur): Rash driving  
**MARCH 23** – Bilga (Jalandhar Rural): Forcible entry in a house, snatch motorcycle, shawl, small turban and force family member to help him to cross the Satluj  
**MARCH 21** – Shahkot, Jalandhar Rural: Recovery of car used in escaping  
**MARCH 21** – Shahkot, (Jalandhar Rural): Forcible entry in a house, brandishing weapons, snatch clothes  
**MARCH 20** – Mehatpur (Jalandhar-

Rural): Forcible entry in house, threatening house inmates.

**MARCH 19** – Mehatpur (Jalandhar-Rural): Rash driving and brandishing weapons

**MARCH 19** – Khalkhian (Amritsar-Rural) Breaking police barricades and threatening police

**FEB 2** – Ajnala, (Amritsar) Unlawful assembly, attack police station, damage property, injure cops

**FEB 20** – Bagha Purana, Moga: Provocative speech

**FEB 20** – Amritsar: provocative speech

**FEB 16:** Kidnapping a man, snatching 2 cellphones and ₹2,000 from him



the Punjab Government and the Centre had recommended their extension on the basis of fresh evidence against them. This evidence included some social media posts by their supporters, relatives and even lawyers.

“So far, we have not been informed whether the detention will end at the expiry of three months or will be extended,” said Imaan Khera, advocate of Amritpal and others.

The Punjab Government, meanwhile, is silent on the issue. “These are issues regarding the National

Security Act and the details cannot be shared,” said an official of the State Home Department.

SSP Amritsar-Rural, Satinder Singh, also declined to share any update.

As per the procedure of detention under the NSA, the police station, where the case is registered, recommends the extension of the detention to the SSP, who forwards it to the District Magistrate (DM) with his comments. The state Home Secretary moves it to the Union Home Department. Then, it goes to the Advisory

Board, headed by a former Judge of the High Court, for final recommendation.

Amritpal's release is being debated after he won the Lok Sabha election from Khadoor Sahib. There are questions about how he will take oath as MP as he is in jail.

Even if he is released under NSA charges, he can be re-arrested as 12 FIRs have been lodged against him in the state. He has been booked for alleged attack on Ajnala police station, carrying weapons without licence, inciting violence and sedition among other charges.

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E-auction Notice

E-auction of scrap/unserviceable material lying in various Stores/TRWs under DHBVN is scheduled for 19.06.2024 through M/s MSTC Ltd. Panchkula. For detailed information, all prospective bidders/buyers may please refer the websites i.e. [www.mstcecommerce.com](http://www.mstcecommerce.com) and [www.dhbvn.org.in](http://www.dhbvn.org.in).

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NORTHERN RAILWAY  
E-TENDER NOTICE

For & on behalf of the President of India, Chief Workshop Manager, N. Rly. C&W workshop, Jagadhri Workshop/Yamuna Nagar invites open e-tender for the following work:

1	Name of work	Work of maintenance and housekeeping of Officer's & Sub-Ordinate Rest house for a period of two years at N.Rly., Jagadhri Workshop.
2	Location	Northern Railway, Carriage & Wagon Repair Shop, Jagadhri Workshop, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135002
3	Tender Value	₹ 3851748.40
5	Cost of Tender form	NIL
6	Earnest money amount	₹ 77000
7	Completion period of the work	24 months from the date of issuance of Letter of Acceptance
8	Date & Time for submission of tender form	27.06.2024 till 15.30 hrs.
9	Opening of tender	27.06.2024 till 15.35hrs. Tender opening will be done any time after the tender closing time. The tenderers are not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserves the right to open the tender any time after closing of tender.
10	Website particulars	<a href="http://www.irebs.gov.in">www.irebs.gov.in</a>

No.: 6-S/56/Tender/2023-24/R2 Date: 06.06.2024 1702/2024

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NORTHERN RAILWAY  
Expression of Interest

For and on behalf of the President of India, Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Firozpur Division, Northern Railway invites the Expression of Interest for Operation, Renovation & Maintenance of Mela Waiting Hall at Railway station Sultanpur Lodhi on non-Mela days.

The parties interested are requested to visit the Railway Station/location/area and familiarize themselves with the earning capacity and submit their ideas with detail proposal to this office upto 05.07.2024. Final decision on the ideas submitted by the parties will be taken by the Railway Administration.

For further detail please visit Northern Railway website <https://nr.indianrailways.gov.in/> or the office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager Northern Railway, DRM's office, Firozpur Cantt-152001 on any working day during office hours

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No. NR-FZROCOML(NFR)/4/2024 Date: 05.06.2024 1704/2024

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NORTHERN RAILWAY  
OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. NIT-01-GS-UMB-2024-25 DATED 06.06.2024

Chief Project Manager/Gati Shakti/NR/Ambala on behalf of president of India invited e-tenders from the willing contractors for following work upto 15:00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.

S. No.	Name of work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Date of Closing & Opening
1	Provision of Water Recycling Plant (WRP) of capacity 0.2 MLD for washing lines at Ambala, Bathinda, Nangal Dam, Chandigarh & Kaika Railway Stations.	8,22,62,484/-	5,61,400/-	21 Months	03.07.2024
2	Improvement in wagon maintenance infrastructure by extension and raising of height of existing sickline shed at ROH Depot/Khanalampura	5,45,80,954/-	4,23,000/-	9 Months	03.07.2024

**NOTE** - 1. Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN/GST etc. as per conditions. 2. The required Bid Security will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/ or Payment Gateway payment only well before of closing time & date of tender. 3. Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of works tenders. 4. For detail, please log on IREPS website [www.irebs.gov.in](http://www.irebs.gov.in)

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The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described hereinbelow in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited for an amount detailed below and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. Details are as below:

S. No.	Loan No/Borrower(s), Co-Borrower	Demand Notice Amount	Date of Demand Notice	Secured Asset	Date of Affixation
1.	OKAR1706000005006204, Sanjay Kumar, Mukesh	Rs. 5,26,108/-	22-03-2024	Property House Situated in Village Dilawara Inside Lal Dora Tehsil And District Karnal Haryana-132001	04-06-2024
2.	OKAR1803000005011508, Devi Dayal, Parveen, Om Parkash, Sukhdev Kumar	Rs. 10,56,509/-	22-03-2024	Property House Situated in Village Uplana Inside Abadi Deh Laldora Tehsil Assandh And District Karnal Haryana-132039	04-06-2024
3.	OKAR2170000005037390, & OKAR2109000005039193 Sanjay Kumar, Sayeba, Ramrati, Jawala Singh	Rs. 6,36,474/- & Rs. 5,29,462/-	22-03-2024	House Situated At Vaka Village Kalheri, Under Lal Dora, Tehsil Gharaunda And District Karnal Haryana-132114	04-06-2024
4.	OKAR1711000005009392, & OKAR2070000005049647 Satyawan, Sandeep, Bagvanti	Rs. 6,29,332/-	22-03-2024	Khwat No. 131, Khatroni No. 175, Muraba No. 67, Killa No. 15/4-3 16/1/2-5 16/4/0-10, Muraba No 68 Killa No. 22/2/1-7, VIII - Dharamgarh Teh- Madlauda Distt Panipat Haryana-132103	04-06-2024
5.	OKAR2011000005031410, & OKAR2001000005026770 Jasbir, Krishna	Rs. 4,36,786/-	22-03-2024	House Situated With In Abadi Lal Dora Village Rasoolpur Tehsil Indri Distt Karnal Haryana-132041	04-06-2024

PLACE:- GURGAON, DATE :- 06-06-2024

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## Getting offers from INDIA, NDA: Khalsa

AMRITSAR, JUNE 6  
Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa, who has successfully contested the Lok Sabha poll from Faridkot as an Inde-

pendent, said he was getting offers from the NDA and INDIA bloc. He said he could never make a decision on his own. — TNS

# Out of question, Akalis rules out support to Cong-led INDIA bloc

Will consider supporting NDA, if BJP makes the first move: Gujral

ADITI TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Thursday ruled out supporting the Congress-led INDIA bloc and said there was no question of them joining any grouping having the Congress' presence.

“We can never be part of any bloc or alliance that has participation and presence of the Congress. That's our principled stand on account of Operation Blue Star and later the 1984 Sikh carnage,” veteran Akali Dal leader Naresh Gujral told *The Tribune* today.

Asked if the party was open to supporting the BJP-led NDA, Gujral said, “For that to happen, the BJP has to make the first move. The larger party has to engage the smaller ones. If we receive a call from the BJP, our core committee will



Harsimrat Badal after victory in Lok Sabha poll. FILE

meet and decide. But support for the INDIA bloc is out of question.”

The BJP and SAD contested the 2024 Lok Sabha elections separately, in a first since 1997 when they struck an alliance for the Assembly poll. The two posted a historic win in 1997, bagging 93 of 117 seats, the highest ever in the state.

But in the 18th General Election, the BJP was routed and Akalis were down to just one seat, Bathinda, where party chief's wife and sitting MP Harsimrat Badal won.

The NDA and INDIA bloc have been in touch with allies and Independents since June 4 when the results placed the ruling BJP below the majority

CAN NEVER BE PART OF CONG BLOC

“We can never be part of any bloc or alliance that has participation and presence of the Congress. That's our principled stand on account of Operation Blue Star and later the 1984 Sikh carnage”

Naresh Gujral, SAD LEADER

mark, returning the country to coalition politics after 10 years of single-party majority at the Centre.

Though the NDA government is all set to be formed, with TDP and JD(U) pledging support to Narendra Modi as PM, the BJP may like to keep expanding the electoral basket to gain elbow room for the future.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, JUNE 6

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (Non-political) and Kisan Majdoor Morcha today warned the government against taking strict action against the woman CISF constable Kulwinder Kaur. The constable belongs to Mahiwal village in Kapurthala.

Farm leaders said, “She seemed to be upset with BJP MP-elect Kangana Ranaut over her stance on the farm protests.” They demanded a dope test on Ranaut and warned of an agitation if the accused constable's family was harmed or adverse action taken against the cop.

Punjab Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee general secretary Sarwan Singh Pandher, who has been camping at the Shambhu border, said he had spoken to accused

CISF Constable Kulwinder Kaur's brother. He had confirmed that she was arrested. “We warn the government that if her family members are harassed, we will start a protest”, Pandher said.

Pandher said Kangna Ranaut alleged that she was slapped by the CISF constable. “I want to bring it to everyone's notice that in the recent past, Ranaut spoke against farmers and Punjabi women, who were protesting with farmers,” he said.

The union members said they would take up the issue at a meeting tomorrow and announce their strategy.

Meanwhile, family members of Kulwinder Kaur said they were caught unawares by the incident, but stood by her. Her brother Sher Singh Mahiwal is a secretary of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee.

## Op Blue Star anniv passes off peacefully

AMRITSAR, JUNE 6

The 40th anniversary of the Operation Blue Star went off peacefully on the jampacked Akal Takht campus in Golden Temple here today.

For a change, Sikh hardliners restrained themselves from brandishing swords during the event, unlike earlier occasions. Heavy police force in ‘mufti’ and SGPC task force was there to deal with any untoward incident.

A substantial number of devotees thronged Akal Takht to attend the ‘bhog’ ceremony that began on June 4.

Supporters of the SAD (Amritsar), led by its president Simranjit Singh Maan who lost the Sangrur Lok Sabha seat in recent elections, the Dal Khalsa and other Sikh groups carried the posters of Jamaal Singh Bhindranwale and raised pro-Khalistan slogans, demanding the release of ‘Bandi Singhs’ for a few minutes.

Emotions ran high among the followers after having a glimpse of the bullet-riddled saroop of Sri Guru Granth Sahib which was put on display at a gurdwara. — TNS

# Storm wreaks havoc, ₹15-cr loss to PSPCL

AMAN SOOD  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, JUNE 6

A storm that hit various parts of Punjab on Wednesday night caused losses worth over Rs 15 crore to the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), impacting the power transmission and distribution infrastructure.

As a result, many areas, both rural and urban, remained without power for hours across the state. The supply was, however, restored in majority of the area by Thursday afternoon.

As per sources, major impact of the storm was felt in four of the five distribution zones of the PSPCL i.e. Ludhiana, Patiala, Bathinda and Jalandhar, comprising over 20 districts. “The storm resulted in substantial damage to power supply infrastructure amounting to over Rs 15 crore. In all, about 1,200 distribution transformers, 6,000 electricity poles and 1,000 km conductor lines were damaged,” said the initial assessment report prepared by the PSPCL.

The supply to 350 non-agriculture feeders (domes-



A damaged electricity pole at a village near Samana on Thursday.

MAJOR IMPACT IN 4 DISTRIBUTION ZONES

■ The storm had a major impact in four of the five distribution zones of the PSPCL i.e. Ludhiana, Patiala, Bathinda and Jalandhar, comprising over 20 districts

■ In all, about 1,200 distribution transformers, 6,000 electricity poles & 1,000 km conductor lines were damaged,” said an initial assessment report of the PSPCL

tic supply) out of the 6,000 and 750 agriculture power feeders (farm supply) out of 7,000 was affected due to broken poles etc.

“This meant that power supply was hit in many parts of the state. While in planned colonies and areas, the power was restored within a couple of hours, it took the staff over 8-10 hours to restore power in slums, illegal colonies and areas with undeclared load,” said an official.

“Our officers and field staff worked hard and restored supply to all 250 affected 66 kV grids and substations,” said a senior official.

PSPCL insiders said the supply to the remaining 2 per cent pockets in the state would be restored by late this evening. “By 3 pm, the power supply to a majority of the villages and residential areas was restored,” they claimed.

“Our teams worked hard despite having suffered

losses due to high velocity winds and from a demand of around 2,500 MW due to power snags across the state, we were able to supply 11,300 MW power today,” said Power Minister Harbhajan Singh. “Soon, we will hire more people to meet staff shortage, so that consumers face minimum power snags,” he added.

Similar storms in June 2021 and in May 2023 had caused losses worth crore. A senior PSPCL official said, “Power snags during such storms are bound to happen and our teams always try to restore supply at the earliest in such cases. Until the government ensures strict action in cases of illegal power connections and access load, there is little that we can do to further improve the situation.”

“Illegal advertisement boards fixed on poles and transformers, mushrooming of haphazard colonies and undeclared power load are the primary reasons that delay the restoration work. Staff shortage is another factor. We have outsourced help, but regular staff is always a better option,” he said.



CM: Expedite road projects, ensure quality construction

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JUNE 6  
Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu today reviewed various projects of four-lane and other roads being constructed by the National Highways Authority of India in the state. He directed the departments to expedite the ongoing projects to meet the timelines while ensuring quality in construction works.

Sukhu directed the NHAI authorities to fully develop the Shimla-Matour and Mandi-Pathankot roads into a four-lane to facilitate smooth travel for commuters. "The state government is developing Kangra district as the tourism capital of the state and both the four-lanes would help bolster the tourism activities," he said.

He also stressed on enhancing aesthetic appeal of both the four lanes and emphasised on the construction of tunnels to minimise unnecessary cutting of hills. He further said that construction work of the Shimla-Nauni road segment will commence after the monsoon and is expected to be completed by September, 2026.

Sukhu said that the construction work of Pinjore-Nalagarh-Baddi four lane would be speeded up to benefit the industries in these areas and issued directions to complete this project by the end of 2025. He also reviewed the Shimla bypass project, Shimla-Solan four-lane, widening and strengthening of the Mandi-Hamirpur and Paonta-Shillai roads.

SC tells Himachal to release 137 cusecs of water for Delhi

Directs Haryana to facilitate process to save national capital from crisis

SATYA PRAKASH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Himachal Pradesh Government to release 137 cusecs of its surplus water to Hathnikund barrage for its onward supply to Delhi to enable it to deal with peak summer water crisis.

"Since Himachal Pradesh has no objection and is ready and willing to release the surplus drinking water available with it, we direct that the state shall release 137 cusecs of surplus drinking water available with it from upstream so that the water reaches Hathnikund barrage and reaches Delhi through Wazirabad barrage," a Vacation Bench led by Justice PK Mishra said.

Terming it "an existential problem" for Delhi, the Bench, which also included Justice KV Viswanathan, directed the Haryana Government to facilitate the further release of water received from Himachal to save the national capital from acute water shortage. "Considering the urgency in the matter, we direct Himachal to release the surplus water by tomorrow with prior intimation to the Haryana Government," it said.

The Bench directed the Upper Yamuna River Board to measure the excess water received at Hathnikund barrage from Himachal for its onward supply to Wazirabad with the assistance of Haryana. The top court asked the governments of Delhi, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh to file compliance



'ENSURE THERE'S NO POLITICS'

■ Posting the matter for further hearing on June 10, the SC said there should be no politics over the water crisis in Delhi. It asked the Delhi Government to ensure there was no wastage of water in the national capital

■ "We are conscious of the fact that due to the acute water shortage, there should be no wastage of water by the Delhi Government for which it should adopt the measures suggested by the Upper Yamuna River Board," the Bench said

affidavits by Monday.

Noting that there should be no politics over the water crisis in Delhi, the Bench posted the matter for further hearing on June 10.

It asked the Delhi Government to ensure that there was no wastage of water in the national capital. "We are conscious of the fact that due to the acute water shortage, there should be no wastage of water by the Delhi Government for which it should adopt the measures suggested by the Upper Yamuna River Board," the Bench said.

The order came on a petition filed by the Delhi Gov-

ernment seeking a direction to Haryana to release surplus water provided by Himachal to deal with the water crisis in the national capital after HP Government counsel Vaibhav Srivastava said the state was ready to release 137 cusecs of surplus water.

On June 3, the top court had asked the Centre to convene a meeting of the Upper Yamuna River Board with all the stakeholders on June 5 and inform it of the measures suggested to tackle the situation. On Wednesday, the Bench was apprised of the discussions that took place in the meeting.

On behalf of the Delhi Gov-

ernment, senior counsel AM Singhvi told the Bench that the Himachal Pradesh Government had agreed to release surplus water to Delhi during June and Haryana should simply facilitate its further release for use of Delhi during peak summer. The Board was of the tentative view that Delhi needs approximately 150 cusecs of additional drinking water to deal with the shortage of drinking water in view of the ongoing heatwave condition.

"The Board asked the Delhi Government to send a formal request to Haryana for consideration to release 150 cusecs of additional water on humanitarian grounds up till June 30, 2024, or onset of monsoon, whichever is earlier," Singhvi said, adding the Haryana Government hadn't responded to the request made by the Delhi Government.

However, Haryana Senior Additional Advocate General Lokesh Sinhal disputed the Delhi Government's claim that surplus share of water of Himachal was available. He said the issue was still pending before the Upper Yamuna River Board. He said Haryana was also facing a similar heatwave condition and water crisis.

According to the minutes of the Board's June 5 meeting, Haryana has been releasing 1,050 cusecs of water to Delhi, which was more than the agreed quantity since the supply was in compliance with the February 29, 1996, order, and the same was not disputed by Delhi.

Cong has lost mandate, Sukhu should step down, says Jai Ram

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JUNE 6

Pointing out that the Congress couldn't secure a lead in 61 Assembly segments out of the total 68 constituencies, including that of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur said the Sukhu government has lost the mandate of the people.

"Despite having its government in the state, the Congress lost 61 constituencies. The Chief Minister and most of his ministers failed to get a lead even in their constituencies. In just 15 months, this government has lost the popular mandate. On moral grounds, the CM should resign," said Thakur, who guided political novice Kangana Ranaut to a victory against Vikramaditya Singh of the Congress in the Mandi Parliamentary segment.

"The Mandi election was hyped up a lot and the Congress threw in all its might to win this seat. The CM called me a flop director and made several other comments, but now the results are in front of us. I did the job my central leadership had assigned to me," said Thakur.

The former CM further said Himachal was the only state other than Delhi where the BJP made a clean sweep despite not having its government in the state. "Overall, we secured 56.29 per cent votes, 14.72 per cent more than the Congress. Our biggest win came in Kangra, where we got 61 per cent votes, followed by 58 per cent in Hamirpur; 54 per cent in Shimla and 53 per cent in Mandi. The people of the state have yet again reposed their faith in the lead-



Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur addresses mediapersons in Shimla.

ership of the Prime Minister," said Thakur.

As for the defeat in the bypoll elections, in which the BJP won two seats as opposed to the Congress pocketing four, Thakur refused to see it as the rejection of BJP's 'Operation Lotus' in the state. "It's wrong to assume that Operation Lotus was executed in the state. The Congress MLAs were simmering with anger due to the humiliation they were facing in the party, and they decided to leave the party of their own accord. The mess was created by the Congress, the BJP was not responsible," said Thakur.

Thakur, however, warned that the Congress government was still not out of the troubled waters. "The win in four bypolls is merely a momentary relief for the government; the trouble is not over yet. The High Court has reserved its decision on six Chief Parliamentary Secretaries, and we hope it would be pronounced soon after the courts reopen," said Thakur.

BJP seeks strict action in Kangana slapping case

SHIMLA, JUNE 6

Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur here today reacted to the newly elected MP from Mandi Kangana Ranaut being allegedly slapped by a Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel at Shaheed Bhagat Singh airport, Chandigarh, and demanded a strict legal action against the security staff.

In a statement issued by Thakur, he stated that this incident with the MP was unfortunate. "This type of behaviour with an elected people's representative and common person is not expectable and this matter should be investigated."

Public Works Minister Vikramaditya Singh, who contested election against Ranaut from Mandi, in a Facebook post also termed the incident as unfortunate and said there are polite ways to express grievances, if any. — TNS

Respite from intense heat after widespread rain across state

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JUNE 6

The state received widespread rainfall on Wednesday evening, bringing respite to the people from excessive hot weather conditions. Due to the rainfall and accompanying thunderstorm and hail at some places, the average minimum and maximum temperatures have slipped in the state.

The rain will help check the forest fires in the state. Due to the excessive heat and dry weather conditions, forest fires have been breaking out frequently this summer, causing a

The precipitation will offer fruit and veggie growers some relief

massive loss to ecology and flora and fauna. "We haven't had good rains for a while now. This downpour will check the outbreak of fires," said an official from the Forest Department.

The hot and dry weather conditions have already caused a substantial damage to the fruit and vegetable growers. This precipitation would offer them some relief. As per the weather depart-

ment, there could be some more rain at isolated places in middle and high hills over the next couple of days but thereafter the weather will be generally dry. For the next two days, the weather department has issued a yellow alert for thunderstorm with lightning and gusty winds (30-40 kmph), possibility of hail at isolated places.

Kataula received 36 mm rain, Rajgarh 33mm, Pachhad 32.2mm, Baijnath 32mm, Solan 31.8mm, Chhatrari 29.3mm, Palampur 28.6mm, Kandaghat 27.8mm, Bharmaur 24mm, Jogindarnagar 23mm and Sangraha 22mm.

BRO restores two-way traffic beyond Darcha

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, JUNE 6

The BRO today restored the strategically important Manali-Leh highway for two-way traffic beyond Darcha, ensuring smooth traffic flow to the picturesque Lahaul and Ladakh valleys. The reopening of this vital artery comes as a relief to residents, businessmen and tourists. The road had been restored by the BRO for one-way traffic on May 18. It was blocked to traffic following heavy snowfall in December and traffic remained suspended till May 18 for the civil traffic.

Deputy Commissioner Lahaul and Spiti Rahul Kumar said the movement of vehicles would be allowed depending on the weather conditions. The Deputy Commissioner said that the vehicles movement timing would be restricted from 7 am to 11 am from Darcha towards Sarchu and Leh, while from 2 pm to 5 pm from Sarchu towards Darcha.

HRTC authorities at Keylong in Lahaul and Spiti said the bus service between Delhi and Ladakh via Manali would resume in a few days.

Woman CHO dies by suicide in Mandi

MANDI, JUNE 6

A woman Community Health Officer (CHO) committed suicide by hanging herself at the Health Sub-Centre, Sain, under Sadar police station on Tuesday evening. The police recovered a suicide note from the spot in which the woman did not hold anyone responsible for her death. However, she mentioned the pressure of debt in the suicide note, leading the police to speculate that financial strain may have driven her to take the extreme step.

According to information, 31-year-old was posted as a CHO at the Health Sub-Centre at Sain in Mandi. Yesterday, she performed her duties at the health centre and completed essential tasks. When villagers noticed the half-open door of the health centre and a scooter parked outside, they informed the panchayat pradhan. Upon arrival, the pradhan found the woman CHO hanging inside the room. He informed the police. Mandi ASP Sagar Chander said the suicide note did not blame anyone, but it mentioned the burden of debt. It is reported that her husband is posted as a patwari in Sujampur. — TNS

4 killed, nine injured in Chamba road mishap

OUR CORRESPONDENT

CHAMBA, JUNE 6

Four persons were killed and nine injured when the SUV they were travelling in veered off the road and fell 200 m down on the Rahk-Bindla-Dhanana road under the Bhamour sub-division in Chamba district on Thursday morning, police said.

Among the injured, three have been referred to Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda, while six are under treatment at Jawaharlal Nehru Government Medical College (JNGMC), Chamba.

The deceased have been identified as Sarla Devi (42), wife of Praveesh from Salna village, Sishtha, wife of Bhagat Ram from Bagodi village, Chaman Singh son of Omkar Singh from Pukhred village and Mahender Singh of Mal-

la village in Samra area. Sarla Devi and Sishtha died on the spot, Chaman Singh succumbed to his injuries at Chamba Medical College, while Mahender Singh died while being taken to the RPGMC, Tanda. A total of 13 persons, including the driver, were travelling in the vehicle at the time of the accident.

Chamba SP Abhishek Yadav said the accident occurred around 9 am. The Tata Sumo, bearing registration number HP 01C 0871, was travelling from Samra to Rakh when the driver lost control of the vehicle near Dundai. The vehicle veered off the road and fell nearly 200 m down the road.

Immediate relief of Rs 15,000 has been provided to the families of the deceased, while the critically injured have been given Rs 10,000 and those with minor injuries Rs 5,000 each.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-Tender Notice**  
Sr.DEN-IV/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 **27.06.2024 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 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	Tendering Section	Bidding System	Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
Open	Works	Two Packet System	05.06.2024 12:48 Hrs	13.06.2024	27.06.2024/15:00 Hrs.

**S.N. Tender No.** Details of Tender

S.N.	Tender No.	Up-gradation/Improvement of Goods shed at MCTM (Udhampur) station on JAT-SVDK section under AdEN/MCTM.	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
1	65-2024-25-UHP-DRM-FZR		12,42,18,651.68/-	7,71,100/-	90 Days	12 Months

**Similar Nature of work:-** "Any civil work other than track work".

**Note1.** Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

**Tender Notice No:- 65-2024-25-UHP-DRM-FZR Date: 06.06.2024**

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FATEHGARH SAHIB, PUNJAB (INDIA)  
ESTABLISHED UNDER PUNJAB STATE ACT 20/2008 & APPROVED BY UGC  
**TEACHING & NON-TEACHING OPENINGS**  
Applications were invited from eligible candidates for the Teaching positions of **Assistant Professors (on Contractual Basis)** in various disciplines and some non-teaching positions, through advertisement no. 08/2024, dated 22nd May, 2024. The date of submission of applications is extended to **June 14, 2024 (05:00 pm)**. For details of vacancies qualifications, pay scales and other conditions, visit University Website: **www.sggsu.edu.in**

**Adv. No. 22/2024** **SGPC PROJECT** **REGISTRAR**

**I.K.GUJRAL PUNJAB TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY JALANDHAR**  
(Punjab State Govt. University)  
Jalandhar - Kapurthala Highway, Kapurthala -144603  
Online applications are invited for hiring the **Guest Faculty** (purely on credit/hour basis) for **IKGPTU Kapurthala Campus, Amritsar Campus, Hoshiarpur Campus and Mohali Campus** for the semester commencing from **July 2024 to December 2024** in the various teaching departments.  
Online registration of application will start **w.e.f. 07.06.2024** and end on **28.06.2024**.  
For further details visit University Website: **https://jobs.ptu.ac.in/guest-faculty/**  
**Note: Adv.No. 2024/06/03** **REGISTRAR**

**CSIR-CENTRAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)  
Mahatma Gandhi Avenue, Durgapur - 713 209 (West Bengal)  
**No.: 04/18/2024- Rct. Date: 06.06.2024**  
**Advertisement No. 03/2024**  
**WALK-IN-INTERVIEW**  
**FOR THE POSITION OF PROJECT-JRF / SRF / SENIOR PROJECT ASSOCIATE / PROJECT ASSOCIATES / JUNIOR PROJECT FELLOW / PROJECT ASSISTANT**  
A Walk-in-interview will be conducted at **CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur during 20th - 21st June, 2024** to select around **41 nos.** of candidates for engagement under different Projects as 'Project-JRF/SRF/Project Associates/Sr. Project Associate/Junior Project Fellow / Project Assistant' for **PhD / Masters / Graduate / Diploma** in various Engineering and Science disciplines and to provide an opportunity of working experiences in various R&D projects and to impart skill development. For detail advertisement and other information such as, disciplines & vacancies, consolidated remuneration, eligibility criteria, age, tenure, discipline wise date of Walk-in-Interview, application form etc., the interested candidates may log on to the Institute website: **www.cmeri.res.in** → **Opportunity** → **Career** → **Vacancies** → **Adv. No. 03/2024.**  
**Administrative Officer**  
cmeri.res.in CSIR CMERI CSIRCMERIDP csir\_cmeri csircmeri.blogspot.com

**KHALSA COLLEGE AMRITSAR**  
An Autonomous College  
Online Applications are invited for the Posts of Assistant Professors on three years contract basis (Management Posts):-  
**Agricultural Statistics-1, Horticulture (Floriculture & Landscaping)-1, Statistics-1, History-1, Religious Studies-1, Psychology-1, Geography-1, Fashion Designing-1, Journalism and Media Studies-1, Animation & Photography (Experience in Handling VFX & Video Cameras)-1 & Music (Vocal)-1.** Qualification and salary as per UGC/Pb.Govt./GNDU/DPI norms, Ph.D. Preferred. Reservation exists as per rules. Due representation to disabled persons as per rules. Candidate can apply online at website **khalsacollegecharitablessociety.amritsar.org** by filling in the prescribed proforma and Annexure-IV paying Rs. 1000/- as application fee within 15 days from the date of advertisement.  
**Dr. Mehal Singh, Principal** **S. Rajinder Mohan Singh Chhina**  
**Ph: 0183-5015511** **Hono. Secy, KCCS, Amritsar**

**JAWAHAR NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA**  
Vill. Maseetan, Post office Tibba,  
Distt. Kapurthala (Punjab)-144628  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Sealed Tenders for the session 2024-25 are invited separately from manufacturers/wholesale dealers/distributors/ reputed firms for the purchase of the Dry Ration, Daily need items, Fresh Vegetables & Fruits, Bakery items, Uniform Washing & Ironing, M&R items (Civil & Sanitary), M&R (White wash Items), Tuck Shop, Barber (Hair Cutting) and Medicine. The Tender documents including all terms & conditions for each item can be obtained from the office of the undersigned on any working day w.e.f. 07.06.2024 to 22.06.2024 between 09.00 AM to 04.00 PM on payment of Rs. 200/- (Non-refundable) through Cash/Banker's Cheque/Demand Draft. The tender forms can also be downloaded from the Vidyalaya website link **https://navodaya.gov.in/nvs/nvs-school/Kapurthala/en/home/**. Tender documents, demand draft of tender cost & EM&SD should be reached through registered post on or before 22.06.2024 latest by 03.00PM. Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque should be made in favour of Principal, JNV Maseetan payable at State Bank of India, Kapurthala. Tenders will be opened on 24.06.2024 (Friday) at 11.00 AM in the office of the Principal JNV Maseetan, Kapurthala in the presence of PAC and in presence Tenderers who may be at present. Purchase Advisory Committee has right to cancel/reject any tender documents without assigning any reasons.  
**Sd/- Principal**

**No. SML-NZ-II/(SSF)/2024-603**  
**Office of the DC Shimla-cum-Chairman**  
**International Shimla Summer Festival Committee**  
**Dated: 6th June 2024**  
**NOTICE INVITING QUOTATIONS/RATES**  
Short Term Notice for Tenders/Quotations/Rates are invited from various reputed Contractors/Interested parties for various items etc. to be submitted separately, for International Shimla Summer Festival-2024 to be held from 15.06.2024 to 18.06.2024, as below:-  
1.) Arrangement of Light & Sound, Construction of Stage and seating arrangement etc.  
2.) Providing of Orchestra.  
3.) Printing of Posters, Banners, Flex, invitation cards etc.  
4.) Bids for allotment of space at the Ridge as well as other locations around the Ridge Shimla.  
5.) Engagement of Star Artists for Cultural Nights.  
For complete details of the Notice/Tender including Terms and Conditions which have been invited separately, please visit our website **https://hpshimla.nic.in**. The last date for submission of Tender/Quotation/bids is **13.06.2024 till 10:00 am** in office of AC to DC Shimla and the same shall be opened before the designated committee on same day at **11:00 am**.  
**ADC-cum-Nodal Officer**  
**Shimla Summer Festival Committee**

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE**

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAIL/EMAIL
1	UHBVN	UHT (33 KV) TR-XLPE U/G CABLE OF SIZE S/CX630 S.Q.MM CONFORMING TO NIGAM'S TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION NO. CSC-110/DH/U/P&D/2015-2016 WITH AMENDMENT THEREOF AND AS PER RELEVANT ISS AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.	05.06.2024 27.06.2024	EMO 1.66 LACS	www.uhbvn.org.in TENDER NO. - 01/XEN/P-II/UM/MQ/H/2122 dated 05.06.2024	9988779248 centm@uhbvn.org.in
2	UHBVN	CONDUCTING OF EXPENDITURE AUDIT THROUGH PRIVATE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT AND COST ACCOUNTANT FIRMS FOR THE FY 2023-24	06.06.2024 26.06.2024	EMO 2,00,000/- (50,000/- PER SET OF AUDITEE OFFICES)	www.uhbvn.org.in TENDER NO. - CA WA 2024 25 01	09357189011 chief.auditor@uhbvn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: **www.haryanaprocurment.gov.in** or **www.e-tenders.hry.nic.in**

PRDH/13/2025/60/26486/13/14



## The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

### Economic hurdles

BJP must walk the talk on jobs, inflation

ECONOMIC issues such as unemployment, high inflation and falling income levels played a key role in determining voters' choices in the Lok Sabha elections, according to a post-poll survey conducted by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) and Lokniti. These factors proved crucial as the ruling BJP fell short of securing a majority. At least 30 per cent of the respondents who voted in the General Election said they were worried about inflation, whereas the corresponding figure was 20 per cent in the pre-poll survey. Unemployment was the main worry for 32 per cent of the respondents in the pre-poll survey; this dropped to 27 per cent after the elections, possibly due to the employment-related promises made by various political parties.

What clicked with a significant section of the voters was PM Modi's leadership and the BJP-led government's efforts towards developing the country, besides its governance and welfare schemes. Ironically, the construction of the Ram Mandir was the 'most liked work' of the government, as per the survey, even though the BJP lost the Faizabad seat in Ayodhya district and performed well below the expectations in Uttar Pradesh.

Even as coalition pulls and pressures are set to test Modi's mettle during his third term, the BJP needs to realise that the PM's aura is no longer what it was a decade or even five years ago. The party can't always rely heavily on his mass appeal to win elections. It will have to walk the talk on generating employment opportunities and taming inflation. Making India a developed country (*Viksit Bharat*) by 2047 is too distant a goal. The country's young citizens, in particular, can't wait too long for the fulfilment of guarantees of high-quality education, world-class sports facilities and lucrative employment and entrepreneurial avenues.

### Delhi's water crisis

SC orders smooth flow from HP via Haryana

THE Supreme Court's directive to Haryana to ensure that the additional water Himachal Pradesh has agreed to supply reaches Delhi underscores the issue of water politics in India. Since HP does not share a border with Delhi, the water must be routed through the Wazirabad Barrage in Haryana. Amid a scorching heat-wave, Delhi is grappling with a water crisis. The court's call for an apolitical approach to water distribution highlights the fundamental need for cooperation and rational resource management among states.

Delhi relies heavily on neighbouring states for its water supply, making it vulnerable to inter-state disputes and inefficiencies in water management. The matter has been contentious for years, reflecting deeper systemic issues in water governance. Haryana has frequently been accused of withholding Delhi's fair share, citing its own water needs and lack of clear mechanisms to measure surplus supplies from HP. These disputes escalate during summers, leading to legal battles. The Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB), meant to mediate in such cases, has been criticised for its ineptitude, highlighting the need for a cooperative, transparent approach to water management. The ongoing crisis not only threatens public health but also highlights the necessity for sustainable and equitable water management practices.

Meanwhile, the Delhi government also needs to fix its inefficiencies, including water wastage — which is reported to be over a shocking 50 per cent due to leakage, theft and the tanker mafia — and crack down on illegal connections. Simultaneously, efforts must be intensified to spur robust inter-state cooperation and effective implementation of agreements facilitated by bodies like the UYRB. This requires an apolitical, collaborative approach to water management that prioritises the needs of all citizens. Sustainable water practices must become the norm to prevent future crises and ensure equitable distribution of this precious resource.

#### ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1924

#### O'Dwyer-Nair case

AFTER a protracted hearing, the O'Dwyer-Nair libel case came to a close on Thursday last. Sir Michael O'Dwyer has won the case and has been awarded damages. No one in India, no one at any rate who followed the latest proceedings in the case, can say that this result was unexpected. It was in fact the very result which the public had been anticipating ever since the Judge had opened his lips in the case. From the first, he had made no secret of his sympathies. He had simply been 'out-O'Dwyering' O'Dwyer. He found nothing wrong in anything that any authority, whether civil or military, had done in the unforgettable days of Martial Law in Punjab and in every single case in which he interrupted a witness or put a question to him, he was defending some authority or some case of official bungling or other. The summing up was entirely worthy of all that the Judge had done before. It was not only a complete whitewashing of Sir O'Dwyer but an equally complete whitewashing of Gen Dyer, who was not before the court and who had not even been produced as a witness and subjected to a cross-examination. Even Sir O'Dwyer has said in his evidence that from Dyer's statement before the Hunter Committee, his conduct was indefensible. The Judge would not allow even this qualified condemnation to pass unchallenged. His own deliberate conclusion, based upon the whole evidence given in the case, he said, was that "Gen Dyer, under grave and exceptional circumstances, had acted rightly and that he was wrongly punished by the Secretary of State for India."

# Oppn parties must keep INDIA intact

The bloc has done well to disprove Modi-Shah's prediction of a runaway victory for the NDA



TRYSTS AND TURNS  
JULIO RIBEIRO

NARENDRA Modi has won his third term as the Prime Minister. It was not the cakewalk that the exit polls had predicted. The BJP managed just 240 seats, well below the half-way mark of 272. It will have to accommodate its partners in the NDA in order to govern. The Telugu Desam Party (TDP), the Janata Dal (United) and others together picked up 50-odd seats; this will pose a problem for Modi in allocating Cabinet portfolios.

The NDA, which includes the parties that had a pre-poll understanding with the BJP, secured more than a hundred seats less than the 400-mark that Modi had set. He is still the most capable political leader in the country, but his authority has diminished. He will have to rethink his strategy of governance, particularly how he treats political opponents and the minorities.

Modi used the 'Hindu majority versus Muslim minority' card to gain electoral victory. It worked in 2014 and 2019. But with this modified mandate, he will have to change his approach. Clearly, it is not a winner anymore. He needs to discipline the fringe elements in the Sangh Parivar who had free rein in the first 10 years of his reign and had tasted blood. Taming them will take some doing. It is not easy to rebottle the genie once it is released.

Modi will have to concentrate on jobs and unemployment. This should be his first and foremost concern in his third term. His meditation at the Vivekananda Rock Memorial must have filled him with thoughts of things to do and also, I hope, things he should not do. All that will need to be revised in the light of the



VALIANT BATTLE: INDIA leaders should not consider this electoral loss as a defeat. PTI

Modi will have to rethink his strategy of governance, particularly how he treats political opponents and the minorities.

harsh message that Indian voters have delivered. He will have to start with the basics — education and health.

Here, he should draw lessons from his opponent, Arvind Kejriwal, and the Aam Aadmi Party. That party has made major strides in both fields. Unless the productivity of our labour force is raised by many notches, we will not be able to match our neighbour to our east, which has stolen a march of 50 years or more on us. For productivity to improve, the levels of education and health of the lowest economic brackets have to be lifted by their bootstraps.

Modi also needs to moderate his dislike for those he calls 'urban Naxals'. Most of them come from affluent families but have developed an outsized concern for the poor and the dispossessed. Last week, I wrote about Alpa Shah and her book on the 16 Bhima Koregaon accused. Two or three of the 'BK 16' were deeply concerned for the tribals. Eight were Dalits fighting for the empowerment of their community. None had shown any violent streak. None had pushed their followers into activities that could be classified as violent. Yet, they had been incarcerated for years under the draconian UAPA. Modi should give the green signal for the release on

bail of those still in jail. That would signal a change of heart that is urgently needed.

With the BJP failing to secure a majority on its own, stability is not assured. Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and Nitish Kumar's JD(U) do not share the BJP's Hindutva ideology. What is needed now is course correction on the lines spelt out by me earlier. That course correction is necessary to retrieve Modi's fast-fading reputation as a 'once-in-a-lifetime' leader with the qualities that befit a statesman.

The INDIA bloc had come together to oust Modi from power. Its members were aware that when he ruled from his vantage position as the elected leader, he was likely to crush them one by one, like he had disposed of the old leaders in his own party and kept upcoming leaders guess-

ing. Modi is a natural-born leader with a sharp instinct for survival. He is not going to allow this 'defeat' to demoralise him.

Modi had declared that INDIA would dissolve into thin air after its defeat in the polls. Taking a cue from his own wisdom, these leaders should think positively. They have fought a valiant battle and should not consider this electoral loss as a defeat. They have disproved Modi's and Shah's prediction of a runaway victory for the NDA as a gross miscalculation. It could even be interpreted as a slap on the face of the two leaders. The BJP enjoys only 37 per cent backing of the Indian people. The NDA collectively is slightly better at 41 per cent. The majority of the Indian electorate is not with Modi and his ideology.

Keeping this in mind, INDIA constituents need to stick together for survival. Sharad Pawar, once Maharashtra's strongman, predicted that smaller parties in INDIA would merge with the Congress. I doubt if that would happen. An up-and-coming leader like Kejriwal has his sights on the PM's chair. There is no chance of his party merging with the Congress, which AAP has already reduced to irrelevance in the national capital territory. Incidentally, AAP's own

performance in these elections was quite miserable.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) was the recipient of much flak, mostly uncalled for but some well-deserved. Its hesitation to rein in the PM, particularly for vituperative remarks bordering on the scandalous, was the real cause of the epithets hurled at the commission. The loss of credibility of the ECI is the biggest negative outcome of this year's Lok Sabha polls. That could have been avoided in the 'Mother of Democracy'.

The exit polls were unanimous in proclaiming the BJP as runaway winner of the Lok Sabha polls. I had calculated that the BJP would win but not with such a wide margin. The less affluent sections of the country's population were solidly behind Modi. The domestic flak, security guards and others of the same economic bracket, hailing from UP, Uttarakhand and Bihar, were solidly pro-Modi.

The BJP had lost traction among those who had benefited the most from its economic policies. I am not referring here to the captains of industry and the businessmen at the top of the corporate ladder, but to their high-salaried employees.

Even the monthly dole of 5 kg of rice or wheat for each 'below poverty line' ration-card holder seemed to have swayed them. The direct transfer of subsidy to individual bank accounts, the pension payments to widows and welfare grants to women for education or their marriage expenses — all these played on the minds of the less fortunate, without whose votes victory was out of the question.

The salaried and, more than them, the intellectual class, which would normally have supported right-wing dispensation, had begun questioning the government's approach to human rights and freedom of speech. Some of the political moves against its adversaries also came up for scrutiny. The BJP lost the votes of these people, but the loss was compensated by the freshly minted votes of the poor.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We are destined to live with coalition governments. — J Jayalalithaa

## With a *namaste*, touch the hearts

RITU KAMRA KUMAR

THE other day, my nephew came home. He had been living in Canada for almost a decade before family commitments made him return to India. He always greets me with a hug, saying 'hello, *maasi*' with a wide smile. But this time, he greeted everyone with a *namaste*. When asked why, he said he missed the warmth of *namaste* abroad and believed that this word expressed reverence for the person he greeted.

I was transported to the times when, as kids, we used to wish our teachers with folded hands and a *namaste*; later, it became 'good morning' and, finally, 'hello ma'am'. Among family and friends, it was 'hello, aunty' or 'morning, uncle'. While I appreciate all these forms of greetings, I think the culture of *namaste* ingrained in the Indian sensibility is more than just a casual greeting. It is a gesture transfixed in the rich tapestry of tradition and imbued with spiritual significance.

*Namaste* transcends a cursory hello; it embodies a connection with oneself, with the others and the universe. *Namaste* finds a mention in the Vedas. It is a combination of two Sanskrit words: *namah*, which means 'bow', and *te*, which means 'to you'. Hence, it translates to 'I bow to you' or 'the divine in me bows to the divine in you.' *Namaskara* is more polite, as *kara* means 'making' or 'doing'. Combined with *namah*, it means 'showing reverence'.

The gesture is also an integral part of Indian classical dance forms, religious rituals, yoga, auspicious ceremonies and spiritual practices.

In 1985, during my sister's marriage, my brother-in-law's paternal uncle instructed the bride and groom to greet each other with folded hands before the '*Jai Mala*' ceremony. Pin-drop silence followed the request. The uncle explained that *namaste* in the '*anjali mudra*' (the prayer pose) was a symbolic gesture; the pressing of palms together in front of the heart, accompanied by a slight bow of the head, had spiritual significance. It was a powerful tool for fostering respect and understanding in a diverse and inter-connected world, a way of creating a spiritual connection between souls, he said. Then, not only the bride and groom but everyone also greeted each other with a *namaste*. The moment was crystallised in many photographs.

As the world has become a global village, the age-old gesture of *namaste* has found a place in the hearts of some political leaders and statesmen. They are using it to bridge the cultural divide. I believe we can't hold love in our hands, but we can make someone feel it in the heart by just folding our hands and saying *namaste*. It is a great way of expressing our love, friendship, gratitude and respect to the people we meet.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

##### BJP's loss in Ayodhya

Apropos of the editorial 'The UP verdict'; the BJP was hopeful that the consecration of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya would significantly improve the electoral fortunes of the party. But much to the shock of the saffron party and political analysts, the BJP lost the Faizabad parliamentary seat in Ayodhya district to the Samajwadi Party (SP). The loss can be attributed to the inconvenience that the locals had to face because of the construction of the temple and preparations for the grand inaugural ceremony. Villagers in Ayodhya were not happy about the acquisition of land around the temple and the airport. Amid all the frenzy, the residents of the district were sidelined.

SUBHASH C TANEJA, GURUGRAM

##### Don't take voters for granted

With reference to the editorial 'The UP verdict'; the much-hyped inauguration of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya by PM Narendra Modi earlier this year was expected to give the BJP an edge in the General Election in UP. But the party failed to reap any electoral dividends from the grand event and the religious fervour surrounding it. Besides, it appears that the pollsters failed to correctly gauge the mood of the voters. The predictions were way off the mark, calling into question the utility of such forecasts and the credibility of the pollsters. The strategy crafted by the SP-Congress combine helped prevent the BJP from crossing the 272-seat mark. This is a reminder that voters cannot be taken for granted.

ROSHAN LAL GOEL, LADWA

##### BJP should change tack

Refer to the editorial 'The UP verdict'; the defeats that the BJP faced in states like UP, Haryana and Maharashtra must compel it to go for course correction. The governing alliance must shift its focus to real issues like inflation, unemployment and national security concerns. The electorate has had enough of the anti-minority rhetoric that pits Hindus and Muslims against each other. Voters yearn for development, job opportunities and healthcare facilities. The saffron party's losses in Faizabad, Amethi and Lakhimpur Kheri should serve as a lesson to parties about the importance of keeping the voters' priorities in mind while campaigning.

WG CDR JS MINHAS (RETD), MOHALI

##### The dilemma of jailed lawmakers

The parents of jailed 'Waris Punjab De' chief Amritpal Singh — Tarsem Singh and Balwinder Kaur — have hailed his win from the Khadoor Sahib parliamentary constituency as the verdict of the people against the government's high-handedness. They are calling for his release from prison. Up there in J&K, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti has asked for the release of Sheikh Abdul Rashid — who is in jail in connection with a terror financing case — following his victory in the Lok Sabha election. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal — who has been in judicial custody — and other AAP leaders tried to game votes with the '*Jai ka jawaab vote se*' campaign. Leaders must stop treating the law of the land as a plaything. Such unreasonable demands for the release of anti-national elements must not be entertained.

RAVINDER KWATRA, KURUKSHETRA

##### Naidu, Nitish should join INDIA

Refer to 'Naidu's comeback'; realising that giving another term with a simple majority to the ruling BJP will only spell trouble and threaten the democratic principles of the country, the electorate has rightly clipped the wings of the saffron party. The BJP now has to depend on the support of N Chandrababu Naidu of the TDP and the JD(U)'s Nitish Kumar to stay in power at the Centre. Naidu and Nitish are seasoned leaders who know how the BJP might treat its allies after forming the government. If the two leaders want to save the country from the clutches of an autocratic regime, they must join hands with the INDIA bloc members and help them form the government.

THARCIOUS S FERNANDO, CHENNAI

##### Kangana's foray into politics

People in Himachal are elated over Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut's foray into politics. Her victory in the Lok Sabha election from Mandi, her hometown, is a reflection of the huge base of fans and supporters that she commands. Kangana won because the people of Mandi reposed their faith in her ability to lead. She has won over people with her acting talent over the years. Now, she is set to impress them as a political leader. The woman who did justice to her role in *Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi* will hopefully also do justice to the post she holds.

VASUDHA PANDE, PAONTA SAHIB (HP)



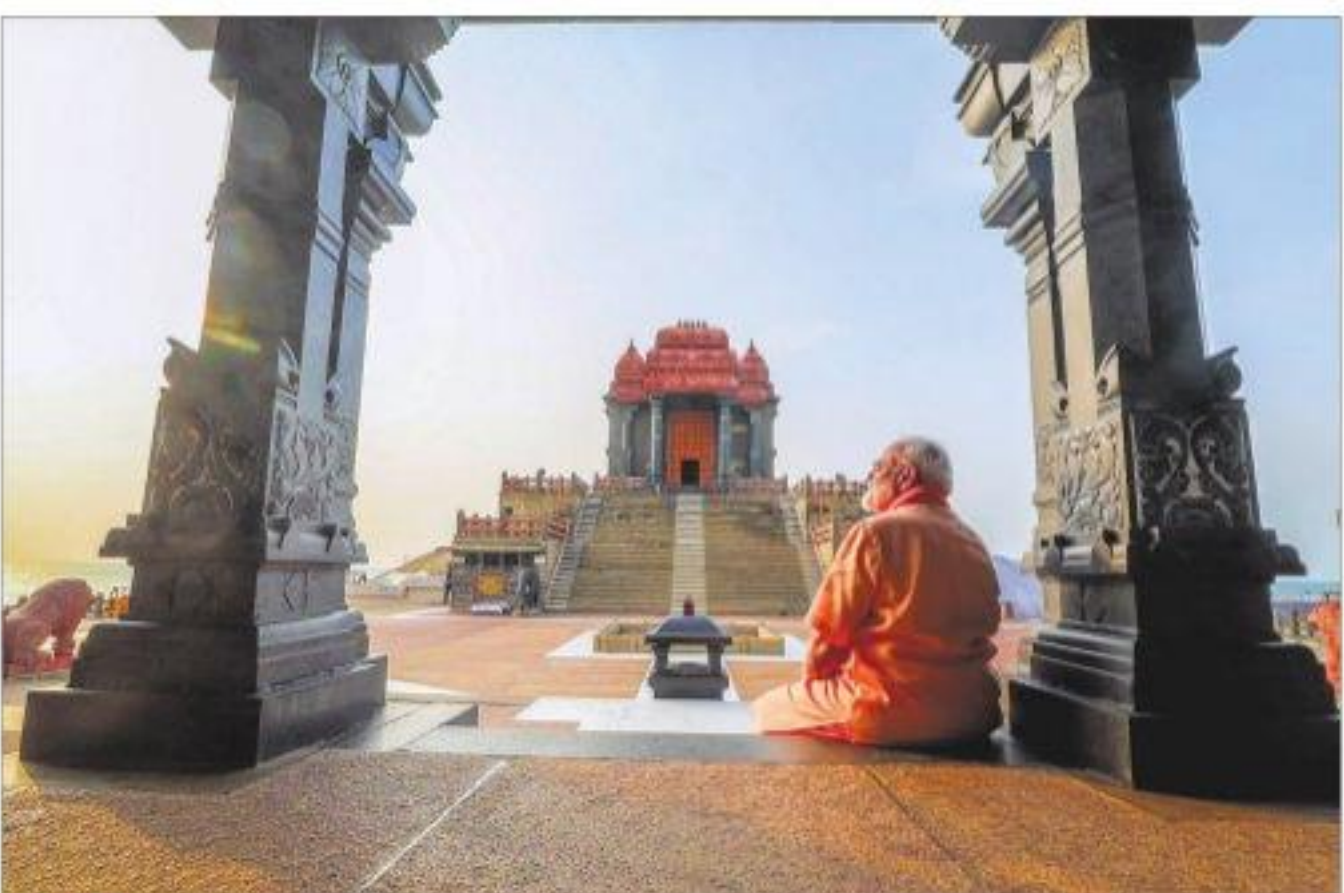
# Tolerance & acceptance count in polarised times



VIVEK KATJU  
FORMER SECRETARY, MINISTRY  
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

AT the conclusion of his much-publicised meditation at the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanniyakumari recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: “Swami Vivekananda, a leader of spiritual renaissance, has been my ideal, my energy and the source of my spirituality.” Modi is only one of the countless Hindus to be inspired by Swamiji since he entered the nation’s consciousness in the 1890s, primarily through his impactful speech on the Hindu faith at the Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893. His message to the Hindus, and the youth in particular, to be strong but also compassionate, is of everlasting significance. The question is whether Modi’s spirituality is on all fours with the ideals that Vivekananda firmly believed in, lived by and espoused. Vivekananda and his companions established the Ramakrishna Mission to spread the ideas and ideals of their masters, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, and Sarada Maa. The mission has carried

forward their spiritual teachings. It is good that the Prime Minister has rejuvenated himself with this spiritualism as he will begin his third term but, for the first time, leading a full-fledged coalition government. The core of Vivekananda’s understanding of the Hindu way of life was expressed by him in his address at the inauguration of the Parliament of Religions. Calling Hinduism the “mother of religions”, he said: “I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration, but we accept all religions as true. I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth... I will quote to you, brethren, a few lines from a hymn which I remember to have repeated from my earliest boyhood, which is everyday repeated by millions of human beings: ‘As the different streams having their sources in different paths which men take through different tendencies, various though they appear, crooked or straight, all lead to Thee’.” He went on to add: “Sectarianism, bigotry and its horrible descendant, fanaticism, have long possessed this beautiful earth. They have filled the earth with violence, drenched it often and often with human blood, destroyed civilisation



MEDITATION: PM Modi visited the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanniyakumari before the counting day. PTI

and sent whole nations to despair. Had it not been for these horrible demons, human society would be far more advanced than it is now.” He concluded with the fervent hope that fanaticism and persecution would end. I have extensively quoted from Swamiji’s address because his message on central Hindu beliefs is particularly relevant to our polarised times. If ‘tolerance’ and ‘accepting all religions as true’ are the essence of the Hindu faith, it logically follows that all Hindus should accept these propositions and live by them without linking them to the beliefs of the adherents of other faiths. And, political leaders who

Vivekananda denounced sectarianism, bigotry and fanaticism. He would be appalled at the utterances of some leaders during the election campaign.

have been inspired by them should demonstrate their commitment to these ideals through the correct implementation of their policies instead of just mouthing slogans. This obviously can never mean that Hindus should meekly accept deliberate contempt or distortion of their great faith. The election campaign of the BJP, in particular, drifted away, in part, from the path of tolerance and acceptance. The political class should carefully consider how to preserve the values of tolerance and acceptance even during an election campaign. A model/moral code of conduct can only be upheld if these values are not aban-

doned during campaigning. Yes, the cut and thrust of arguments and forcefully putting forth views which support a party’s thinking and programmes are part of politics and electioneering. Yes, campaigns can generate heat through criticism and even sarcasm, but should they go beyond all that? Certainly, Swamiji would have been appalled at the utterances of some of the leaders during the campaign. In a recent article, Modi wrote that as he continued with his meditation at the rock memorial, “the heated political debates, the attacks and counter-attacks, the voices and words of accusations, they all vanished into a void”. The point is that all people are not as spiritually evolved as he is. They cannot forget unkind words. The words remain in memory, gnawing away at their emotions and their sense of self-worth. It can even be asserted that historical wrongs cannot be corrected by causing anguish among large sections of people. Other ways to address them have to be found. Swamiji denounced sectarianism, bigotry and fanaticism. These characteristics are not the monopoly of any faith. The Constitution, too, mandates that all Indians will be treated equally. It obliges political leaders to make equality the foundational principle of governance. It is insufficient that all sections of the people be

given equal access to the advantages of economic schemes for they need the assurance of living their lives without fear and with dignity. They should also have a sense of participation in governance. Some of the political utterances during the campaign sailed close to the characteristics that Vivekananda had denounced. There is little doubt that ideological battles will continue in India. The past decade has witnessed Modi and the Sangh Parivar’s attempts at putting their stamp on the country. In his speech to the party’s faithful after the election results, Modi asserted that his campaign to make India great would go on. The Parivar wishes to make India great in keeping with its lore of India’s ancient glory. There has been a concerted attempt to change the public culture of India. Naturally, public culture evolves. The Indo-Persianate culture gave way to one infused with British practices. Now, the Parivar derides all that which emerged during Nehru’s India. These changes really do not matter so long as India’s public culture contains the values which Swami Vivekananda mentioned in his Chicago address. This can only mean that tolerance and acceptance be extended to all faiths and their adherents in India. That was lamentably absent in some of Modi’s campaign speeches.

# South Africa learning to keep up with a changing world



GURJIT SINGH  
FORMER AMBASSADOR  
TO AFRICAN UNION

THE ruling African National Congress (ANC) has recorded its worst poll performance since the end of apartheid in South Africa three decades ago. It has bagged barely 40 per cent of the votes in the recent elections, even as former President Jacob Zuma’s newly founded uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) Party secured a vote share of 15 per cent. South Africa went to the polls on May 29. Voting was held for the formation of Parliament and state Assemblies. The new Parliament will elect the President. Observers have viewed the poll outcome as a sign of the diminishing value of the single-party system. A transition to a coalition government was anticipated, but the scale of the ANC’s decline is huge. Will this lead to a more mature polity? Or, like in other African countries, will election outcomes widen fissures? Kenyan President William Ruto, who led the African Union (AU) observer mission, suggested a coalition

based on agreement. Since the end of apartheid in 1994, the ANC has had a majority in both Houses of Parliament. The party’s vote share had been in excess of 60 per cent, except in 2019, when it dipped to 57.5 per cent. Though the ANC still has the largest vote share, it lacks a majority to form the government. It is holding talks with other parties over stitching together a ruling coalition. A 14-day window for government formation is open. While the White-dominated Democratic Alliance (DA) has improved its vote share from 20.77 per cent to 21.69 per cent, the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has seen its share decline from 10.8 per cent to 9.46 per cent. The good performance delivered by Zuma’s MK is the major reason why the ANC has lost ground, mainly in KwaZulu-Natal. With Cyril Ramaphosa as the President, South Africa tried to play a larger role on the world stage. A stable nation would be able to continue to do so. A coalition government, however, would need to harmonise the nuances of foreign policy. The MK and the EFF are unlikely to have major differences with the existing foreign policy. Their domestic demands may be stronger. A coalition



HELM: During Cyril Ramaphosa’s presidency, South Africa tried to play a larger role on the world stage. REUTERS

including the DA will lead to a balancing act in foreign policy and perhaps push South Africa to a less strident anti-West position. The DA is a centre-right party with an anti-corruption and economic reform agenda, which is preferred by investors. In the past five years, the salient features of South Africa’s policy have included a closer engagement with China and, consequently, with Russia. It has distanced itself somewhat from the Western bloc. After initial criticism of the Russian action against Ukraine, not only did South Africa abstain from voting on UN resolutions pertaining to the conflict,

India sees South Africa as an important partner in the BRICS and G20 forums and hopes to strengthen the bilateral ties.

but it also led an African peace initiative to visit both warring countries. This is not in consonance with the position held by the US-led West on Ukraine. Between 2019 and 2021, South Africa held a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council and chaired the AU. The challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and the civil war in Ethiopia during that period showed the limitations of South African influence. During its BRICS chairmanship in 2023, South Africa played a role that was aligned with China’s push for rapid expansion of the grouping. It is uncertain if the new members — Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, the

UAE, Iran and Egypt — are beholden to South Africa in any way. If South Africa was trying to project itself as a leader of the Global South, it failed as it couldn’t persuade Argentina and Indonesia to join the bloc. South Africa, which will take over as the G20 president in 2025, will become the fourth country in a row from the South (after Indonesia, India and Brazil) to chair the multilateral body before the US assumes its presidency in 2026. It remains to be seen whether South Africa will play the role of a Global South leader or a Chinese-influenced president. South Africa has been taking the lead in the World Trade Organisation in conjunction with India in regard to issues of importance in the countries of the Global South. On the West Asian crisis, it has stepped out of the crease to attack Israel through the International Court of Justice, invoking the Genocide Convention. South Africa is learning to cope with a changing world. Some analysts, who are sceptical of Ramaphosa’s foreign policy, blame him for a decline in the nation’s global moral standing. Some believe that he focuses on international crises as it diverts attention from domestic issues. The huge blow to the ANC may see Ramaphosa lose his presidency unless the coalition

partners value his potential for stability. A coalition government will test South Africa’s ability to push a stronger foreign policy agenda. Even if Ramaphosa survives the electoral disappointment, the churn in the ANC will continue. He will need to project a stronger voice for the Global South. Domestic politics and foreign policy are interrelated. What happens domestically impacts a country’s global stature. Arina Muresan of South Africa’s Institute for Global Dialogue stated that in a coalition, the partners’ oversight over policy would increase through Parliament. The DA is an investor-friendly party. It will not hedge relations with China and Russia if the business makes progress, but it will seek adjustments with the West and Israel. The DA has questioned the anti-Israel economic policy. Evidently, the coalition partners will need a common minimum programme. This will be a new experience for South Africa. For India, what matters is that a stable South Africa plays an important role in the next troika of the G20 presidency, including Brazil and the US. India sees South Africa as an important partner in the BRICS and G20 forums and hopes to strengthen the bilateral relationship.

QUICK CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1 Ability to stand a test (5)  
4 Underhand (7)  
8 Cushion against pressure (3)  
9 Fundamentally (2,7)  
10 Terse (7)  
11 Italian city (5)  
13 New recruit (6)  
15 Open up for discussion (6)  
18 Divide into parts (5)  
19 Filled to bursting (7)  
21 A little at a time (2,7)  
23 Soft sound of a dove (3)  
24 Regret for wrong done (7)  
25 Deep chasm (5)

Yesterday's solution

Across: 1 Malefactor, 8 Cupid, 9 Parable, 10 Abandon, 11 Extol, 12 Fathom, 14 Kowtow, 17 Lease, 19 Unleash, 21 Embargo, 22 Tramp, 23 Manifestly.

Down: 2 Asphalt, 3 Ended, 4 Append, 5 Torpedo, 6 Rebut, 7 Fellowship, 8 Chapfallen, 13 Overrun, 15 Travail, 16 Cut off, 18 Album, 20 Lotus.

DOWN

1 Generally liked (7)  
2 Traditionalists (3,6)  
3 Simulate (5)  
4 Saturate (6)  
5 Caller (7)  
6 Acknowledge (3)  
7 Lustre (5)  
12 The genuine article (4,5)  
14 Whole number (7)  
16 Repulsive (7)  
17 Become monarch (6)  
18 Restrained (5)  
20 Perplexed (2,3)  
22 Only faintly visible (3)

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EASY

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

JUNE 7, 2024, FRIDAY

■ Shaka Samvat 1946  
■ Jyeshtha Shaka 17  
■ Jyeshtha Parvishite 25  
■ Hijari 1445  
■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 1, up to 4.46 pm  
■ Shoolo Yoga up to 8.04 pm  
■ Mrigshikhra Nakshatra up to 7.43 pm  
■ Moon enters Gemini sign 7.56 am

FORECAST

SUNSET: 19:22 HRS  
SUNRISE: 05:21 HRS

FRIDAY SATURDAY

CITY

MAX

MIN

Chandigarh 42 24  
New Delhi 43 28  
Amritsar 41 24  
Bathinda 41 25  
Jalandhar 41 24  
Ludhiana 42 24  
Bhiani 43 27  
Hisar 44 25  
Sirsa 45 28  
Dharamsala 27 15  
Manali 27 11  
Shimla 29 14  
Srinagar 27 12  
Jammu 42 25  
Kargil 24 08  
Leh 16 02  
Dehradun 40 24  
Mussoorie 29 11

TEMPERATURE IN °C



# Furore after Omar describes Rashid's LS poll victory as 'win of separatism'

'Extremely' disappointed with remarks, says PDP | Voters the masters in democracy: Apni Party

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**SRINAGAR, JUNE 6** Former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president today kicked off a political storm when he quoted a news report that described his rival Engineer Rashid's victory from the Baramulla constituency as a win that "will empower secessionists" and give Kashmir's "defeated Islamist movement a renewed sense of hope". PDP leader Waheed ur Rehman Parra was the first politician to criticise Omar's interpretation. Parra said he was "extremely disappointed with Omar Abdullah's regressive stance, echoing the divisive politics of 1987, and dubbing a democratic expression as an Islamist wave". "Omar's family's history with the Muslim Conference clashes with the calls for exclusion of the PDP, Er Rashid, and



Jailed leader Engineer Rashid defeated NC vice-chief Omar Abdullah by over 2 lakh votes in the Baramulla Lok Sabha seat. FILE PHOTO

## ACKNOWLEDGE THE MANDATE

“A more prudent approach, akin to Mehbooba Mufti's plea for Engineer Rashid's release, would have been an acknowledgment of the mandate. Waheed Parra, PDP LEADER

JEI, and will put Kashmir into a perpetual conflict with the state. A more prudent approach, akin to Mehbooba Mufti's plea for Er Rashid's

release, would have been acknowledgment of mandate," the PDP leader—who was also the party's Srinagar candidate and lost to NC—said.

Responding to Parra's remarks, Omar said: "I spent my entire campaign talking about Rashid's release and unlike his campaign, I talked about the release of the 1000s detained since 2019."

Omar said the articles he had shared on X were not his views but they were a point of view. "I may agree with parts, disagree with parts but they are an opinion. As for Rashid's release, it's a matter for the courts to decide. I didn't agree with Rashid's detention in the first place and I don't agree with it now but that's neither here nor there because it shouldn't be just about one man but about the 1000s in jail, including the anonymous ones outside J&K," Omar added.

Rejecting Omar's assertion, Parra said while the PDP endorsed his plea for the release of all political prisoners, "we must at least find consensus on the return of one such

prisoner, Er Rashid, who was also your Assembly colleague".

The PDP leader added that if a mandate was misconstrued as militancy, it would inevitably sow confusion and backlash against the mainstream political forces in J&K. Later, other NC leaders also joined the debate, asking Parra: "If the state allowed you to walk out on bail on the exact same charges, it should also allow Abdul Rashid Sheikh to come out who faces the same charges."

NC's spokesperson Ifra Jan said: "Your cook continues to be in jail but finds no mention in your speeches." Apni Party leader Hassan Mir said: "The NC has survived always because of its stance against Delhi, which it always played as a buffer. Engineer Rashid won because of sympathy as a victim. There is no separatism element in his win. The people are the masters."

## Court seeks NIA response on jailed leader's interim bail plea

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

A Delhi court on Thursday directed the NIA to respond by tomorrow to an application filed by Engineer Rashid, arrested in a 2016 terror funding case, seeking interim bail to take oath as an MP after the recently concluded General Election. Former J&K MLA Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, defeated former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 Lok Sabha poll from Baramulla. He moved the court seeking interim bail, or custody parole in the alternative, to take oath and perform his parliamentary functions. The application was moved before Additional Sessions Judge Chanderjit Singh on June 4, and had directed the NIA to file its response by today. However, the agency on Thursday sought more time to file the reply. Rashid has been in jail since 2019 after he was charged by the NIA under the UAPA in the alleged terror funding case. — PTI



DPAP leaders with Er Rashid's son Abrar at Mawar in Kupwara.

## 'Always backed him': DPAP leaders visit Rashid's house

SRINAGAR, JUNE 6

Leaders of Ghulam Nabi Azad-led Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) today visited the house of Engineer Rashid, the MP elect from the Baramulla constituency. Party leaders, including Taj Mohiuddin, Shoaib Lone and Salman Nizami, visited the jailed leader's family, extended their wishes and pledged to continue fighting for the release of Engineer Rasheed, who is still lodged in Tharjail. "We had officially extended our support to Engineer

Rashid. Ghulam Nabi Azad, our chairman, had also asked our workers and leaders to support him to ensure his victory. We are grateful that the people supported him and he won. Now, we must fight for his release," Mohiuddin said. Shoaib Lone, who was campaigning for Engineer Rashid, said: "We were not expecting such a response as we had no financial backup. But the people have proved that humanity is still alive by voting in largenumbers and defeating a former Chief Minister." — OC

## 89 of 100 Lok Sabha candidates lost security deposit in 5 J&K seats

SRINAGAR, JUNE 6

Nearly 90 per cent of the candidates vying for the five Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir lost their security deposits, unable to garner one-sixth of the votes polled in their respective constituencies. The voters gave a decisive mandate to the eventual winners on all but one Lok Sabha constituency in the Union Territory, the Election Commission data revealed. Of the 100 candidates in fray, 89 lost their security deposits, the data showed. Sheikh Abdul Rashid, an Independent contender who defeated political heavyweights — former CM Omar Abdullah and Peoples Conference chief Sajad Gani Lone — in Baramulla Lok Sabha seat, was the sole win-

ning candidate who secured less than 50 per cent of the total votes polled, with a vote share of 45.70 per cent.

Baramulla is the only constituency in Jammu and Kashmir where the third placed candidate — Sajad Gani Lone — was able to save his security deposit.

Lone had polled 16.76 per cent votes against the requirement of 16.34 per cent for saving the security deposit. While NC leader Aga Ruhullah Mehdi got the high-est percentage of votes at 52.85, BJP's Jugal Kishore who made a hat-trick win from Jammu garnered 52.80 per cent of the votes.

In Udhampur, BJP leader and Union Minister Jitendra Singh, who also won for the third time in a row, got 51.28 per cent votes while NC's

Mian Altaf Ahmad, who defeated former CM Mehbooba Mufti from Anantnag, secured 50.85 per cent votes.

Ghulam Nabi Azad's DPAP was routed at the hustings as all three of its candidates lost their security deposit. In fact, none of his party candidates managed to secure even four per cent of the votes.

Ghulam Mohammad Saroori, who contested from Udhampur Lok Sabha seat, received 3.56 per cent of the votes, while Mohammad Saleem Parray got 2.49 per cent votes in Anantnag-Rajouri and Aamir Bhat 2.24 per cent votes in Srinagar.

There were seven women in the fray in these five constituencies and only PDP president Mehbooba Mufti managed to save her security deposit. — PTI

## Sinha destroyed BJP in UP home turf: Omar

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JUNE 6

Former CM and NC leader Omar Abdullah today hit out at Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, saying he had destroyed the BJP in his home constituency of Ghazipur.

"What Sinha has done to J&K wasn't enough for him, he's also gone and destroyed the BJP in his home constituency of Ghazipur," Omar wrote on X, while responding to a tweet of journalist Piyush Rai. Rai had said that Sinha was evading media scrutiny amid the poll debacle for the BJP in Uttar Pradesh.

Meanwhile, BJP's J&K chief Ravinder Raina on Thursday countered Omar's remarks by saying that Sinha had worked hard for the progress of Jammu and Kash-



## L-G worked hard for progress of J&K: BJP

mir. He said: "While political remarks are meant for politics, but Omar Abdullah knows it well that PM Narendra Modi has built a new and happy J&K where everyone has been given their rights. This effort has resulted in record polling (in the Lok Sabha polls). L-G Manoj Sinha has worked hard to make J&K a prosperous region."

## After poll debacle, Sajad Lone takes a break to 'step back, pause, reflect'

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JUNE 6

Days after defeat from the Baramulla Lok Sabha seat, Peoples Conference chief Sajad Lone today said he would be taking a break to "step back, pause and reflect". "I will be away for a few days. Taking a break to step back, pause and reflect," he said. Initially, the contest was between former CM Omar Abdullah and Sajad Lone in Baramulla. However, Engineer Rashid emerged as the dark horse in the poll race. Rashid, a two-time former MLA from the Langate Assembly seat in Kupwara, has been in jail for the past five years on the charges of terror funding under the UAPA. He secured 4,72,481 votes,

## SETBACK WILL STRENGTHEN RESOLVE

“If at all, this setback should invigorate us further, strengthen our commitment and resolve towards realising our collective goal. Sajad Lone, PEOPLES CONFERENCE CHIEF



defeating his closest competitor Omar Abdullah by a margin of 2,04,142 votes. Abdullah received a total of 2,68,339 votes, while Lone came in third with 1,73,239 votes.

"Winning and losing is the part of life. A setback, yes, but should it allow us to lose sight of our larger goal — the empowerment of our people, their dignity, development and making their voices heard — No! Elections were merely a vehicle towards this larger goal, never an end in themselves," Lone said. "If at all, this setback should invigorate us further,

strengthen our commitment, conviction and resolve towards realising our collective goal," Lone, who had extensively campaigned during the past two months, said.

He added: "I would once again like to thank each of my supporters who stood by me, believed in me and strengthened my convictions. I am also indebted to our Pandit and Sikh brothers for extending their support. They remain an integral part of our larger dream for a peaceful, prosperous and empowered Kashmir."

## NDA partners want Agnipath 'flaws' removed

its own in the Lok Sabha poll. The JD (U), which has 12 seats, and the LJP which has five, are crucial partners. JD (U) spokesperson KC Tyagi told *The Tribune*, "We are seeking a review of the scheme, but haven't called for scrapping it. A feedback regarding the scheme, announced in June 2022, has been received from the ground. We have demanded that the shortcomings be removed." LJP chief Chirag Paswan

told a news channel that he was in favour of a review of the Agnipath scheme. Asked about the JD (U) pushing for a review of the scheme, Paswan said, "The Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) has said the platform (NDA) is open to discussions. I believe the scheme is for the youth of our country. A review must be done."

Yesterday, JD (U) chief and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Paswan were in the national capital and

attended an NDA meeting where their parties expressed faith in Modi's leadership.

The Agnipath scheme, its recruitment formula and the future of the youth in it were raised during campaigning for the Lok Sabha poll with the Congress even promising to scrap it.

In December last year, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, chaired by BJP MP Jual Oram, had recommended that the families of Agniveers

(troops recruited under the scheme) who die in the line of duty should be provided the same benefits as given to the families of regular soldiers.

The present rules do not have a provision for pension to the families of Agniveers dying in the line of duty. In case a regular soldier gets martyred, his family — wife or parents — gets a pension for life.

The Agnipath scheme entails the recruitment of youth in the armed forces for a period of four years.

## CISF staffer 'slaps' Kangana at Chandigarh airport, detained

paid Rs 100/200. My mother was one of the protesters," she said in the purported video. Airport DSP Kuljinder Singh said a complaint and a report citing a "slapping incident" had been received. Sources said Kulwinder had been detained.

The 35-year-old constable hails from Mahiwal village in Sultanpur Lodhi and was posted at the Chandigarh airport for the past two years. Her husband is also in the CISF. Her brother Shera Singh is a leader of the

Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee in Kapurthala. According to him, the incident took place around 3.30 pm when Kangana arrived at the airport to board a flight to Delhi. A heated exchange took place between the two after his sister told Kangana to keep her phone and handbag in the tray for a security check. Kulwinder then questioned the actor over her remark on women participating in the farmers' protest, he said. Meanwhile, her family

reportedly threatened to protest any action against her. Later in a video, Kangana alleged, "When I completed the security check, a woman security staffer came towards me, hit me and started abusing me. When I asked why she did it, she said she supports the farmers."

Kangana made another seemingly controversial comment in the video, saying, "I am safe, but my concern is how to handle this shocking rise in terror and violence in Punjab?"

Congress leader Vikramaditya Singh, who lost the Mandi Lok Sabha election to the actor, criticised the incident, saying there were other saner ways to express one's feelings. "Terming the incident a serious matter, National Commission for Women chairperson Rekha Sharma called for serious action and said the panel had taken up the matter with the CISF. Those responsible for security at the airport were breaching security, she said in a post on X. (With PTI inputs)

## Cobwebs, dust greet...

domes have started coming off. There is no fuel replenishment for the flame burning inside the 45-m tall Shaheed-e-Minar.

The staff at the memorial said they had not been paid for the past six to 10 months. The employees had held a dharna and even kept the gates of the memorial closed for a few days in protest but it was opened on the intervention of the district administration. Eventually, the staff strength, which was 40 till about a year ago, has dropped to 12. It now has just one safai karamchari to maintain all structures on 25 acres. Among the rest are a few gardeners, security and ticketing staff and guides in the galleries for the visitors.

The CEO of the project and Deputy Commissioner of Jalandhar, Himanshu Aggarwal, said, "I joined in Jalandhar in the midst of the LS poll. I could not find time to pay attention to the memorial. Now that I am free from elec-

tion work, I will look into the problems at the site".

The downfall of the memorial started last year when the Vigilance Bureau started an inquiry into allegations of misappropriation of funds in the project against Ajit Group managing editor Barjinder S Hamdard, IAS officer and former CEO Vinay Bublani, Ludhiana-based Deepak Builders and engineers of the PWD.

While the previous SAD and Congress governments had funded the project, the AAP government got the inquiry conducted into it.

The five galleries at the Jang-e-Azadi memorial are based on historical events, including the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, cellular jail, bombing of the Central Legislative Assembly by Bhagat Singh, his hanging, the Ghadar Movement, Kuka Movement, etc. The scenes are depicted in the form of short films, visual effects, huge sculptures and text written on walls and screens.

## Rahul for IPC...

all-time high on June 3, the day before the counting day. Then on June 4, when the actual results were announced and the BJP failed to secure a simple majority, the market crashed.

The estimated loss of about Rs 30 lakh crore dealt a devastating blow to investors, especially the small ones, Gandhi said. The Congress leader said both Modi and Shah knew it would not be possible for the BJP to form the government on its own. The internal survey of the BJP projected 220 seats for it. Despite knowing the ground situation, they advised people to invest in stocks on the promise of a stable government. "What is the connection between the BJP, the fake exit pollsters and the dubious foreign investors who invested one day before the exit polls were announced and made huge profits (by selling the stocks when the prices skyrocketed following the exit polls) at the cost of five crore families who invest in stocks?" Gandhi asked.

## No riders by allies, BJP to keep key...

External Affairs, Finance and Infrastructure, key to India's growth as the world's third largest economy, a key Modi promise.

The BJP will also keep the Lok Sabha Speaker's post with top sources saying none of the NDA allies had placed any pre-conditions.

"The NDA is based on trust. All allies trust that the PM will do what is best for the country. For us, power is a medium to serve the nation," a senior minister said, adding that what was due to allies would go to them.

The sources also cited Modi 2.0 in which major allies were given ministerial roles even though the BJP had full majority (303 MPs) on its own and did not need to keep allies in the Council of Ministers.

TDP leaders were part of the Modi Cabinet until 2018 when Naidu quit protesting denial of special status to Andhra Pradesh. The TDP had one Cabinet (Civil Avia-

tion) and one MoS (IT) berth at that time.

Likewise, JD (U) chief Nitish Kumar was offered one Cabinet post like all other allies but he had refused to join the government because he wanted four.

The situation today is different with the N Chandrababu Naidu-led TDP and the Nitish Kumar-led JD (U) in pole positions in the NDA.

With the BJP restricted to 240 MPs — below the 272 majority mark in the Lok Sabha — the TDP with 16 and the JD(U) with 12 MPs are critical to the stability of the new dispensation.

The JD (U) is learnt to have asked for three Cabinet berths — Railways, Jal Shakti and Rural Development, a common minimum programme for the alliance, NDA convener's post and a special financial package for Bihar.

The TDP, meanwhile, is keen on three to four berths in the Union Council of Min-

isters, with sources saying it wanted Finance but might settle for the MoS, Finance.

BJP negotiators are engaged with key allies on non-negotiables with top sources saying both Naidu and Nitish have "placed their trust in the PM, who will finalise the portfolios".

The Lok Sabha Deputy Speaker's position is on the table for friendly parties. Importantly in the outgoing LS, there was no Deputy Speaker. The BJP had wanted to give it to the BJD, but the BJD had not zeroed in on any leader. BJP sources also said all alliance partners would be part of Modi 3.0 Council of Ministers.

From the JD(U), former party president Lalan Singh and Devesh Chandra Thakur, a first-time MP from Sitamarhi and former Bihar Speaker, are among the frontrunners for Cabinet posts. Modi is likely to take oath as the PM for the third time on June 9.

## NEET aspirants call...

getting a perfect score of 720 out of 720. They also pointed out the same sequence of roll numbers of some of the top rank holders. A majority of these candidates are from same examination centres in different states — Rajasthan (11), Tamil Nadu (8), Maharashtra (7), Haryana (6) and then four each from Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

In 2019 and 2020, there was one topper each. There were three toppers in 2021, one in 2022, and two last year. Scorecards of students getting 718 and 719 marks were circulated on social media, which educationists claim is impossible to achieve when each NEET question carries four marks and one mark each is given for negative marking. If a student omits a question four marks get deducted and if an answer is wrong five marks are reduced. So a student can either score 716 or 715.

In its defence, the NTA said candidates who experienced time loss during the exami-

nation had been granted grace marks. At several centres there was a delay in distribution of question papers, which resulted in loss of time of candidates.

The NTA, in a statement, said it received a few representations from candidates raising concerns over loss of time during the exam held on May 5 and hence grace marks were given. "Such cases/representations were considered by the NTA and the normalisation formula, which has been devised and adopted by the apex court in a judgement from 2018, to address the loss of time faced by candidates. The loss of time was ascertained and such candidates were compensated with grace marks. So their marks can be 718 or 719 too," the NTA said.

Although the agency dismissed the paper leak claims, the Bihar police arrested 13 persons in connection with it in May. A criminal case was filed against three individuals in Gujarat's Godhra district.



## NORTHERN RAILWAY

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EAFFZR-SLR24-23	24.06.24 at 11:00 Hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 12426/F1, 14036/F2, 14036/R1, 12752/F1, 11450/F1, 22430/F1, 12550/F1, 20986/F1, 14036/F1, 22462/F1, 14682/F1, 16788/F1, 19804/F1, 12920/F1, 12446/F1, 12014/F1
EAFFZR-SLR24-24	26.06.2024	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 12422/F1, 12032/F1, 22402/F1, 22942/F1, 12414/F1, 12266/F1, 14034/F1, 12030/F1, 22486/F1

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(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Sh. Avtar Singh Barda  
Additional District and  
Sessions Judge- 4, Patiala  
Shivani Kashyap  
Versus  
Babloo  
MACP-258-2023  
CNR No.  
PBPT01-009600-2023  
Next Date: 07.08.2024

Publication issued to:  
Babloo S/o Nattahoo R/o Mohalla Mangal Wala Narauli, Sambhal Uttar Pradesh- 202414, (Driver of the offending Vehicle Container bearing No-UP-21BN-9665

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 07.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to:  
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=patiala

Dated, this day of 29.05.2024.

Sd/- Additional District and Sessions Judge-4,  
CL24019938 Patiala

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Inderbir Singh S/o S. Bahwinder Singh R/o H.No. 56-C/75, Garden Colony, Jalandhar, have changed my name from Inderbir Singh to Inderbir Singh. (CL24021677)

I, Kuldeep Singh Layal S/o Gordial Singh R/o HIG 1517, Sector-70, Mohali, Tehsil & District SAS Nagar, Punjab, have changed my name to Kuldeep Singh. (CL24021683)

I, Ashwani Kumar s/o Shri Satish Kumar R/o Flat No. 3164, Pink Rose Enclave, Sector 49D, Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter name from Ridhima to Ridhii Agarwal. (CL24021857)

I, Sukhwinder Singh Nagpal S/o Balwinder Singh R/o House #653, Street #4, near Water Tank, Preet Nagar, Dugri, Ludhiana have changed my name from Sukhwinder Singh to Sukhwinder Singh Nagpal. (CL24021903)

I, Surjeet Singh Bhatia s/o Bhagwan Singh Bhatia R/o H.No. 659, Phase 2, Mohali have changed my name Surjit Singh Bhatia. (CL24021797)

I, Rakesh Kumar s/o Dayal Chand r/o Village Nichli Sandoli PO, Haripur Sandoli, Tehsil Baddi, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh have changed my name to Rakesh Kumar Agrawal. (CL24021919)

COURT NOTICE

Substituted Service U/S 5, Rule 20 CPC

In the Court of  
LD. Civil Judge-cum-JMFC,  
Court No. II, Solan District Solan HP.

In ref. Suit for Recovery Regd No. 94/2015 Case No. 129/01 of 2015

Fixed for 28.06.2024  
Tapan Pharma Pet Versus  
Lancer Pharmaceuticals Pvt. & Ors.

Tapan Pharma Pet a unit of Goyal Automobiles, registered office at Sushant Katheri Bypass, Near Solan, Tehsil and District Solan HP, through its managing partner Sh. Tapan Goyal. Plaintiff

1. Lancer Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. Plot No. 475-476, Village Kaluhand, near Barotiwala, District Solan HP through its Director/authorized signatory, 2. Mr. Umesh Bhasin Managing Director cum authorised signatory of Lancer Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. Corporate Office SCO No. 912, 2nd Floor, NAC Manimajra, Chandigarh U.T., also R/o House No. 2046, Sector 21-C, Chandigarh 160022, 3. Mr. Chetan Bhasin Director of Lancer Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. R/o House No. 2046, Sector 21-C, Chandigarh, 160022. Defendants

Notice to: 1. Lancer Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. Plot No. 475-476, Village Kaluhand, near Barotiwala, District Solan HP through its Director/authorized signatory, 2. Mr. Umesh Bhasin Managing Director cum authorised signatory of Lancer Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. Corporate Office SCO No. 912, 2nd Floor, NAC Manimajra, Chandigarh U.T., also R/o House No. 2046, Sector 21-C, Chandigarh 160022, 3. Mr. Chetan Bhasin Director of Lancer Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. R/o House No. 2046, Sector 21-C, Chandigarh, 160022.

Whereas in the above noted case it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that above named defendants are avoiding the service of summons and cannot be served in the ordinary way. Hence this proclamation is hereby issued by this Court on 28.06.2024 at 10:00 am to defend the case personally or through an authorized agent of pleader failing to which exparte proceedings will be taken against them.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 22nd day of May, 2024.

Sd/- Civil Judge-cum-JMFC  
Court No. II, Solan,  
District Solan HP.

COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
MR. NITESH KOCCHAR, FLAT NO.14-A, DREAM HOMES KISHANPURA ROAD, DHAKOLI, ZIRAKPUR, PUNJAB.

For details logon to:  
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=patiala

Dated, this day of 30.05.2024.

Sd/-  
Addl. Principal Judge  
Family Court,  
CL24021260 Patiala

COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

IN THE COURT OF  
Dr. Aman Indar Singh, Addl. Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.), Chandigarh

D.B. CORP LTD.  
Vs.  
M/S ADS WORLD

RECOVERY OF RS. 1,43,148/-  
CNR No. CHCH02-000908-2019  
Next Date: 11.07.2024

PUBLICATION ISSUED TO:

1. M/S ADS WORLD THROUGH MR. NITESH KOCCHAR, FLAT NO.14-A, DREAM HOMES KISHANPURA ROAD, DHAKOLI, ZIRAKPUR, PUNJAB.

2. SH. NITESH KOCCHAR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF M/s ADS WORLD, FLAT NO. 14-A, DREAM HOMES KISHANPURA ROAD, DHAKOLI, ZIRAKPUR, PUNJAB.

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The Tribune

Classified

THE RIGHT CHOICE

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The Tribune

Classified

THE RIGHT CHOICE

Women lawmakers down from 78 to 74

NEERAJ MOHAN  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BJP has 31, Cong 14, Trinamool Congress 11

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Having nearly 50 per cent share in population, the strength of women MPs in the newly elected 543-member Lok Sabha has declined to 74 from 78 in the previous House, a fall of 13.62 per cent.

According to the Election Commission data, a total 797 women contested the election but only 74 of them emerged victorious. West Bengal, which has the only woman Chief Minister in the country, elected the highest 11 women MPs, all of them from the Trinamool Congress.

Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, having 80 and 48 seats, respectively, have elect-

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-CUM-CHAIRMAN "MAA SHOOLINI" COMMITTEE, SOLAN DISTRICT SOLAN HIMACHAL PRADESH.

No. SLN/DC/SFC/2024-711      Solan, the 5th June, 2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from the interested parties/agencies for providing of Souvenir/Invitation Cards/Duty Cards/ Coupons etc. during Maa Shoolini Mela-2024 which is to be held w.e.f. 21.06.2024 to 23.06.2024 so as to reach in the office of undersigned on or before 15.06.2024 at 11.00 AM. The bids will be opened in the presence of the parties at 12:30 AM on the same day in the office chamber of the undersigned.

The details and specifications are available in the office of the undersigned and can be obtained on any working day during the office hours. The above mentioned details and specifications are also available on [www.hpsolan.gov.in](http://www.hpsolan.gov.in).

Sd/- Ajay Kumar Yadav, IAS  
Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-Mela Officer, Maa Shoolini Mela-24, Solan, District, Solan (HP).

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-CUM-CHAIRMAN "MAA SHOOLINI" COMMITTEE, SOLAN DISTRICT SOLAN HIMACHAL PRADESH.

No. SLN/DC/SFC/2024-712      Dated Solan 5th June, 2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed bids are invited from the Firms/ person's etc. having experience in catering line, for serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner to the Guest and duty staff during Maa Shoolini Mela-2024 being celebrated w.e.f. 21st June, 2024 to 23rd June, 2024 in two envelop system clearly marked on the Top of each envelop the "Technical Bid" and "Financial Bid" and both sealed envelopes (Technical Bid and Financial Bid) should then be put in a single large envelope, which should bear the name and address of the Bidder and should be superscribed as "Tender for serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner during Maa Shoolini Mela-2024." Bid should reach in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Solan on or before 18.06.2024 till 11.00 AM. The bids will be opened on 18.06.2024 at 12.00 PM at DC Office Conference Hall Solan in the presence of bidders who so wish to be present and tender committee. The Tender forms can be obtained from the office of undersigned on a cash payment of Rs. 500/- up to 15.06.2024 till 5.00 PM. The details and specifications are available on the office website [www.hpsolan.gov.in](http://www.hpsolan.gov.in).

Sd/- Ajay Kumar Yadav, IAS  
Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-Mela Officer, Maa Shoolini Mela-24, Solan, District, Solan (HP).

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-CUM-CHAIRMAN "MAA SHOOLINI" COMMITTEE, SOLAN DISTRICT SOLAN HIMACHAL PRADESH

No. SLN/DC/SFC/2024-710      Dated Solan 5th June, 2024

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tender are invited from Interested firms/parties/ Companies/Individuals/Societies for Installation of LED screens video wall as backdrop (300-400 sq. feet) & LED screen 8 feet X 10 feet (Approx), having day and night visibility at various location of Solan city for live telecast of ShobhaYatra and cultural programme to facilitate the general public during Maa Shoolini Mela-2024. Interested Firms/persons are requested to offer the rates for 3 days Maa Shoolini Mela-2024 being celebrated w.e.f. 21.06.2024 to 24.06.2024 at Solan Town. The Bid in this regard should reach in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Solan on or before 15th June, 2024 up to 11:00 AM in clearly marked on the top of envelope "Bid for Installation of LED screen video wall and live coverage during the Maa Shoolini Mela-2024". The bids will be open on same day at 12.00 P.M. in the conference hall of DC office Solan, Solan in the presence of the bidders who so wish to present and the tender committee. The Tender forms can be obtained from the office of undersigned on a cash payment of Rs. 1000/- up to 14.06.2024 till 5.00 PM or tender document can be downloaded from the website of D.C. Office Solan (<https://hpsolan.nic.in/>)

Sd/- Ajay Kumar Yadav, IAS  
Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-Mela Officer, Maa Shoolini Mela-24, Solan, District, Solan (HP).

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-CUM-CHAIRMAN "MAA SHOOLINI" COMMITTEE, SOLAN, DISTRICT SOLAN H.P.

No. NZR/SLN/SFC/2024-714      Dated 5th June, 2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from Short Documentations/ Small Videos/Photo Albums and Teaser regarding "Maa Shoolini Mela-2024" which to be held w.e.f. 21.06.2024 to 23.06.2024 so as to reach in the office of undersigned on or before 18.06.2023 at 11:00 AM. The bids will be opened in the presence of the parties at 03:30 PM on the same day in the office chamber of the undersigned. Financial bids will be opened only for the bidders, whose technical bids have been found to be acceptable. The Tenderers/parties shall furnish a FDR/DD of Rs. 15,000/- duly pledged in the name of Deputy Commissioner-cum-Chairman, Shoolini Mela Committee, Solan on account of earnest money deposit. The tender received without EMD shall be rejected straight away.

The tender form along with the tender documents are available in the office of the undersigned and can be obtained on any working day during office hours. The specification of the system is also available on [www.hpsolan.gov.in](http://www.hpsolan.gov.in).

Sd/- Ajay Kumar Yadav, IAS  
Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-Mela Officer, Maa Shoolini Mela-24, Solan, District, Solan (HP).

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAIL/ EMAIL
1	HARYANA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PARTICIPATION IN E-BIDDING PROCESS ON STAR AGRI BAZAAR AND NEML PORTAL ON 14TH JUNE 2024 FOR SUPPLY OF MILLETS (BASCHIKKI) TO HAUL SPECIFIED DELIVERY POINTS WITHIN THE STATE OF HARYANA.	CLOSING DATE 14.06.2024	10000/- AS PER CONTRACT NOTE	<a href="http://www.haic.co.in">http://www.haic.co.in</a>	0172-2561305 haicpk@gmail.com
2	HARYANA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PARTICIPATION IN E-BIDDING PROCESS ON STAR AGRI BAZAAR AND NEML PORTAL ON 14TH JUNE 2024 FOR SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO HAUL SPECIFIED DELIVERY POINTS WITHIN THE STATE OF HARYANA.	CLOSING DATE 14.06.2024	10000/- AS PER CONTRACT NOTE	<a href="http://www.haic.co.in">http://www.haic.co.in</a>	0172-2561305 haicpk@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

PRDH13/2025/60/26485/V314

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) in Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1	PWD B&R NARNAUL	APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT FOR LAYOUT DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR CONSULTANCY FOR CONDUCT FIELD SURVEY, PREPARE CONCEPT PLAN WITH DESIGN BRIEF, PREPARE REPORT ON SITE EVALUATION TO PROVIDE A SITE PLAN, TO A SUITABLE SCALE, SHOWING BOUNDARIES, PREPARE DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS FOR THE RELEVANT CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, PREPARE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN WITH REFERENCES OF CIVIL WORK WITH THE PROVISION OF ICONIC STRUCTURE, MUSEUM / ART GALLERY / INTERPRETATION CENTRE, AMPHITHEATRE WITH WATER BODY, LIGHT & SOUND SHOW, LAND SCAPING EMPHASIS ON FREE ACCESS, PUBLIC AMENITY, E.I. SERVICES, HWAC, PH. FIRE FIGHTING ART WORK, ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS & NOCs FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENT 'SWATANTRATA KAUDGHOSH' WAR MEMORIAL AS PER SITE LOCATED AT NARNAUL, IN MAHENDERGARH DISTRICT, HARYANA. (RE-INVITED)	05.06.2024 26.06.2024	EMD 2 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01282251267 pwd-eeepd-narnaul@hry.nic.in
2	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	SUPPLY ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 06 NO. VT PUMPS OF 10 CS CAPACITY ALONGWITH 50 HP MOTOR STAR DELTA TYPE STARTER 03 NO. TRANSFORMER ETC. FOR KOTLA AND POSSAR PUMP HOUSES UNDER YWS CIRCLE FARIDABAD.	06.06.2024 20.06.2024	EMD 288000/-	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	0172-2582542 xenproc@gmail.com
3	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA FARIDABAD	REPLACEMENT OF OLD PUMPS WITH 04 NO. 32 CS. VT AXIAL FLOW PUMPS ALONGWITH 150 HP MOTOR AND SUITABLE STARTER PANEL (ATS) AND 01 NO. LTDB OF 1600 AMP. WITH APFC AND OTHER ALLIED ACCESSORIES ALONGWITH EOT CRANE AT CHAVANSA PUMP HOUSE.	06.06.2024 17.06.2024	EMD 4.71 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9991116944 xen-wsmfbd.ir@gmail.com
4	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA KARNAL	SUPPLY, ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 2 NOS. V.T. PUMPS HAVING DISCHARGE 10 CS EACH AND 1 NO. VT. PUMP HAVING DISCHARGE 5 CS ALONG WITH ALLIED ACCESSORIES FOR PERMANENT PUMP HOUSE AT RD 39800/L OF INDRA DRAIN FOR VILLAGE BANSAL, PEONT, KATLAHERI AND JUNDLA.	05.06.2024 12.06.2024	EMD 1.46 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9991831221 xen-wsmfbd.ir@gmail.com
5	PWD B&R NARNAUL	CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL HANGER AT AIRSTRIP BACHHOD (NARNAUL) IN MAHENDERGARH DISTRICT.	06.06.2024 26.06.2024	506.14 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01282251267 pwd-eeepd-narnaul@hry.nic.in
6	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA SONPAT	SPECIAL REPAIR OF ELECTRIC MOTOR AND 6 X 6 CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS IN MECH WS SUB DIVN SONPAT BEFORE START OF MONSOON 2024-25 + 2 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 14.06.2024	25.1 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8571804626 xenwsvivsrpt@rediffmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

PRDH11/2025/180/26489/V314

Military reforms, China threat to test new regime

AJAY BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

As the contours of the new government will emerge on Tuesday, a series of key tasks would need attention in the Ministry of Defence.

These would include taking forward the military's structural reforms, reducing import of weapons and continuing with policy to tackle China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

The new government faces the pending military reforms — creating theatre commands or having an integrated force with all elements such as cyber, space, land, air and sea. These have been given a final shape and a formal proposal from the Department of Military Affairs would be sent to the government for approval.

The proposal is in three demarcated timelines till 2047 by incorporating changes in technology, addressing the changing nature of warfare and integrating the abilities of the three armed forces. This is a task laid out by Narendra Modi government when the Post of Chief of Defence Staff was created in January 2020, now things have reached a decisive stage.

Another issue for the new government is tackling the dichotomy between the export of military equipment and India's continued run as the largest importer of weapons in the world. In the previous fiscal, India's exports of military equipment stood at Rs 21,083 crore. However, despite locally made warships, fighter jet Tejas, nuclear submarine INS Arihant, missiles like Akash and BrahMos, New Delhi keeps on emerging as the top global importers of weapons.



Continuing with policy to tackle China along the LAC among key issues. FILE

Sweden-based Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in its report on March 10 this year said India maintained its position as the world's top arms importer. The SIPRI tracks arms sales globally and produces an annual report. India imported 9.8 per cent of all global arms between 2019-2023, it said.

Another pressing issue is China. Four years ago in April 2020, Beijing amassed troops, hundreds of guns, tanks, missiles and long range artillery on its side of LAC in Eastern Ladakh.

After April 2020, the Narendra Modi government ramped up troop numbers, added equipment and moved elements to send a message across the LAC. Since then the two sides are locked in a military stand off. The situation has somewhat improved but restoration of status as in April 2020 has not been achieved.

After 21 rounds of military commander-level talks there has been partial success. And importantly all agreements on maintaining peace and tranquility along the LAC were disregarded by China. Within the security establishment, it is an accepted fact that new agreements are needed.



Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar accompanied by Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu with President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi on Thursday.

EC gives list of Lok Sabha poll winners to President

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu on Thursday handed over a copy of the notification containing names of elected MPs of the 18th Lok Sabha to President Droupadi Murmu.

Earlier, the poll panel announced that the model code of conduct (MCC) had been lifted with immediate effect as the Lok Sabha elections had concluded. The MCC had come into effect on March 16. — TNS

Centre reviews preparedness to tackle heatwave

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

The Health Ministry on Thursday held a meeting with states to review their preparedness of heatwave conditions and measures to prevent hospital fires during summer season.

As per the long-range outlook forecast by the IMD, most parts of the country, except in southern peninsular zone, were likely to see above-normal monthly maximum temperatures in June.

It was informed in the meeting that the highest-level officials of all state and UTs were monitoring the situation stringently, as per a communiqué issued by the Health Ministry. "States like MP have undertaken mock drills on fire safety accidents in all hospitals," it said. — TNS





“हरियाणा अंत्योदय परिवार परिवहन योजना (HAPPY) से लाखों परिवारों को सीधे लाभ पहुँचाने का यह एक महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय है। यह योजना गरीब परिवारों को मुफ्त यात्रा उपलब्ध करने के साथ ही उन्हें आवागमन में सहूलियत प्रदान कर रही है।”

-नायब सिंह



**Haryana Government is providing**  
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**to poor families in Government buses**

**Haryana Antyodaya Parivar**  
**Parivahan Yojana** **HAPPY.**



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**in the State starts from today**

For new cards distribution

**State Level Function**

Chief Guest

**Sh. Nayab Singh**

Chief Minister, Haryana

**Date - June 7, 2024 | Time - 3 PM**

**Venue - Mangal Sen Auditorium, Near Bus Stand, Karnal**



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KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA

SECTOR 29-B (OCF) CHANDIGARH – 160030

Vidyalaya is inviting quotations for running of Vidyalaya Wet Canteen for the Year 2024-25. The interested and willing parties may contact in the Vidyalaya Office with application on Letter Pad with complete Address, Contact Number, FSSAI Certificate, Experience and PAN/TIN Number etc. on any working day between **09.00 A.M. to 01.00 P.M. up to 14.06.2024** and get quotation letter and terms & conditions for contract for running Wet Canteen from the office. Sealed Quotation along with signed copy of terms & conditions should reach in office up to **24.06.2024**.

DI-3385

PRINCIPAL

सं ए-46011/1/2016-स्था.

भारत सरकार

वस्त्र मंत्रालय

Applications are invited for filling up of the post of Secretary, Textiles Committee, Mumbai, Group 'A' (Non-Ministerial) in Pay Level-13 [Pay Band-4 of Rs. 37400-67000 plus Grade Pay of Rs. 8700] on deputation (including short-term contract) on tenure basis.

For details of eligibility conditions for the post and application proforma, please visit <http://texmin.nic.in>. The applications in the prescribed format, complete in all respects along with the required documents may be sent through proper channel, so as to reach Smt. Jayashree Sivakumar, Under Secretary, Room No. 336-A, Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110011 within 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News.

CBC 411011/1/0003/2425

**HARYANA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

Mini Secretariat, 2nd Floor, Sector-1, Panchkula.

E-mail: [hrrapkl-hry@gov.in](mailto:hrrapkl-hry@gov.in), [officer.rera.hry@gmail.com](mailto:officer.rera.hry@gmail.com)

Website: [www.haryanarera.gov.in](http://www.haryanarera.gov.in)

**APPOINTMENT OF ADJUDICATING OFFICER**

Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Panchkula (HRERA Panchkula) intends to fill up one post of Adjudicating Officer to perform the functions under Section-71 of the Real Estate (Regulation & Development) Act, 2016. The applicant should be a serving District Judge/ Additional District Judge or has been a District Judge/ Additional District Judge, and should not have crossed 65 years of age on the date of this advertisement in the case of retired person. The remuneration shall be paid on the basis of last pay drawn minus pension. The panel of eligible candidates will be sent to Government for consideration and selection. The application along with detailed bio data and supporting documents, addressed to the Executive Director of the Authority may be submitted in person or through post at the Authority's office by 5 P.M. on or before 28.06.2024. Applications received after the last date or incomplete applications are liable to be rejected.

Executive Director  
For Chairman, HRERA, Panchkula

PRDH/2216/11/172/2025/26474/C/3/14

**HARYANA VIDHAN SABHA SECRETARIAT CHANDIGARH**

(Advertisement No. 2/2024)

Applications are invited on prescribed format for the following posts in Haryana Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Chandigarh. The posts may increase or decrease due to administrative reasons:-

Sr. No.	Name of Post	Number of Post
1.	Deputy Secretary	One
2.	Public Relations Officer	One
3.	Law Officer	One
4.	Telephone Attendant	One
5.	Bills Messenger	One
6.	Frash	One

The applications must reach on or before **30.06.2024** to Secretary, Haryana Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, Chandigarh along with prescribed fee by registered post or in person at the counter only. Applications submitted by other than prescribed mode or incomplete shall not be entertained and will liable to be rejected without any notice/reason. Age of applicant shall not be less than 18 years or more than 42 years on the last date prescribed for submission of application. Upper age limit is relaxable in case of candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Ex-Servicemen as per the Rules/Government instructions. Requisite qualification/experience, other conditions and prescribed format may be downloaded from official website: [www.haryanaassembly.gov.in](http://www.haryanaassembly.gov.in).

DR. SATISH KUMAR,  
SECRETARY

PRDH/1122/11/10/2025/26490/31/4

**ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, PATIALA**

TARAPORE ENCLAVE, SANGRUR ROAD, PATIALA-147001(Punjab)  
(Co-educational, Private Unaided, CBSE Affiliated Institution)  
[www.apspatiala.com](http://www.apspatiala.com), Telephone No : 0175-2200340, 8288010227

Applications are invited for selection/panel for the following posts.

Teaching Posts(Adhoc)

Category	Subject	Eligibility
PGT (Adhoc)	English & Fine Arts / Painting	Post Graduation in concerned subject with minimum 50% marks & B.Ed also with minimum 50% marks
TGT (Adhoc)	Sanskrit & Hindi	Graduation in Sanskrit / Hindi (concerned subject) as a subject in all the three years of Graduation with minimum 50% marks & B.Ed also with minimum 50% marks
Computer Teacher	Computer & AI	BCA or Graduation in Computer Science or BE/B.Tech (Computer Science/IT) or Graduation in any subject and A level course from DOEACC, Ministry of Info & Communication & Technology, GOI with minimum 50% marks. Preference will be given to B Ed & AI qualified candidate

Non Teaching / Adm Staff Posts (Adhoc)

Category	Eligibility
Science Lab Attendant (Adhoc)	10+2 with Science and Computer 10+2 with Science and Computer literate.

Note : # Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview. # Age as on 01 Apr 2024 should be below 40 years for fresh candidates and for experienced candidates below the age of 57 years including ex-servicemen(minimum 5 years of teaching experience in the last 10 years in a CBSE recognized school). # No application other than uploaded on school website shall be accepted. # Fluency in English and computer literacy are mandatory. # The school reserves the right to fill any or none of the posts given above. # Salary as per school rules # Incomplete application forms and not as per format, will not be considered. No application will be accepted via email.

Candidates have to download the application form given on school website [www.apspatiala.com](http://www.apspatiala.com) and submit duly completed in all respects along with attested copies of all testimonials (Academic & experience) etc to APS, Patiala by hand or by registered post along with DD of Rs 100/- only in favour of **Army Public School, Patiala** payable at Patiala by 18 Jun 2024(1400 hrs).

(Principal)

**ICAR CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR COTTON RESEARCH**

REGIONAL STATION, SIRSA – 125055 (HARYANA)

F. No. Rectt./2024-25/SRF, YP-II & YP-I Date: 05.06.2024

**WRITTEN TEST BASED WALK-IN INTERVIEW**

The eligible candidates are invited to appear for a Written Test based Walk-in Interview on 20.06.2024 at 09:00 a.m. for the Temporary Position of (contractual) SRF(02 Nos.) (Rs. 31,000/- per month), YP-II (02) (Rs. 42,000/- per month), YP-I (03 Nos.) (Rs. 30,000/- per month) and Project Associate (02 Nos.) (Rs. 25,000/- per month). For details, please visit our website [www.cicr.org.in](http://www.cicr.org.in)

Sd/- Head of Station

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager(Chg., Northern Railway, Ambala Cantt, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites bid through E-Auction for which detail is as under-

S N	Category & Details	E-Catalogue No.	Name of Station	Date & Time for E-auction
1	Contract for commercial advertisement through Unipoles/Hoardings at 81 sites of 55 locations.	UMBLC -Gate 012024	CDG, SASN, LLKN, FGSB, NGWN Section	18-06-2024 at 10:00 hrs
2	Contract for commercial advertisement contract through Unipoles/Hoardings at 122 sites.	UMBLC -Gate-02-24	CDG, SIR, RPAS, SRE, DUI, PTA, BTI, GDB Section	19-06-2024 at 15:00 hrs
3	Contract for Parcel Packing at 1 station.	UMBTWn00 PS0424	Ambala Cantt Railway Station	19-06-2024 at 10:00 hrs

For participation in E-Auction process or for any other information related to E-Auction process, visit [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in). 1862486/2024/OIo DCM2/JMBNR 1699/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**कार्यालय : नगर परिषद, अम्बाला सदर निविदा सूचना**

क्रमांक MCAS/2024/1221 दिनांक 05.06.2024

नगर परिषद, अम्बाला सदर क्षेत्र से आवारा श्वानों को पकड़ने व नसबन्दी के टोकाकरण का ठेका 1 वर्ष के लिये दिया जाना है। इच्छुक फर्मों से न्यूनतम दूरी के आधार पर ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा जमा करवाने व पूर्ण विवरण प्राप्त करने के लिये वेबसाइट [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) पर लॉगिन कर सकते हैं।

Sr. No.	Detail	Bid Document Fee	E-Tender Fee	Earnest Money	Tender Download Start	Tender Download Closing	Tender Opening
1	आवारा श्वानों को पकड़ने व नसबन्दी के टोकाकरण का ठेका	1000/-	1180/-	100000/-	05.06.2024 03.00 PM	25.06.2024 4.00 PM	26.06.2024 11:00 AM

नोट :- ठेके से संबंधित ज्यादा जानकारी के लिये किसी भी कार्यदिवस में आकर नगर परिषद, अम्बाला सदर की सपाईं शाखा में सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं। कार्यकारी अधिकारी, नगर परिषद, अम्बाला सदर।

PRDH/1078/11/468/2/025/26469/C/31/4

**Walk-in Interview office of Chairman, Haryana Real Estate Appellate Tribunal, Sector 17-A, Chandigarh**

Following posts are required to be filled in the office purely on contractual basis for a period of one year at first instance:-

1. Law Researcher One Post  
2. Personal Assistant One Post

Post of Law Researcher

The post of Law Researcher shall be filled up initially for period of one year and may be extended till his/her services are required by the Hon'ble Tribunal after reviewing the performance. Persons having minimum qualification with LL.B and sufficient experience in legal field are invited for walk-in interview for filling up the said post purely on contractual basis for a period of one year from the date they assume the charge as such. The pay and emoluments of the incumbent will be fixed as consolidated Rs. 50,000/- per month.

Post of Personal Assistant

The post of Personal Assistant shall filled up on re-employment basis amongst the persons who are retired as personal assistant from the State Government of Haryana, initially for the period of one year and may be extended up to the age of 65 years as per the rules. The pay and emoluments of incumbent will be paid as per Haryana Govt. Rules in FPL-06 or last pay drawn(-)pension. The candidate should not be more than 63 years old as on the day appearing for Interview. It is made clear that such engagement will be purely on contractual basis in nature and can be terminated at any time without assigning any reason or prior notice and the persons so engaged shall have no right to claim any benefit of such engagement for any purpose in the office.

Interested candidates may visit the office of Haryana Real Estate Appellate Tribunal SCO No. 50-51, 3rd Floor Sector 17-A, Chandigarh on 13.06.2024 at 12.15 PM for walk-in Interview along with application and complete Bio-data at the time of interview and all testimonials duly attested.

Sd/- Officer on Special Duty  
Haryana Real Estate Appellate Tribunal, SCO No. 50-51, 4th Floor, Sector 17-A, Chandigarh.

PRDH/2216/11/172/2025/26473C/31/4

**JAWAHAR NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA FAROUR, DISTT. FATEHGARH SAHIB (PUNJAB)**

TELEPHONE - 01628-292881 (EMAIL: [jnvfarour@gmail.com](mailto:jnvfarour@gmail.com))

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Tenders are invited from registered manufacturers/wholesalers/dealers/distributors/Firms for the purchase of **Dry Ration, Daily Use Items, Fresh Vegetables & Fruits, Bakery Items, Stationery Items, Stitching of students Uniforms, Washing & Ironing of Uniform, Laboratory Equipments, Running of Tuck Shop, Services of Barber, Shoes & Chappals, Uniform Items, Bedding Items & Sports Items for the session 2024-25** for JNV, Farour, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab). The Tender Forms along with terms & conditions can be obtained from Vidyalaya office on any working day from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. by paying Rs. 300/- (Non-Refundable) in cash. Tender Forms with full details can be downloaded from Vidyalaya Website: (<https://navodaya.gov.in/nvs/nvs-school/fatehgarhsahib/en/home/index.html>). The downloaded Tender Form should accompanied with a demand draft of Rs. 300/- each for separate store items along with separate demand draft for EMD in favour of Principal, JNV, Farour, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab) payable at State Bank of India, Khamano, Distt, Fatehgarh Sahib (Pb.), IFSC Code - SBIN0050598. The EMD and Tender Form Cost (of downloaded tender form) must be in the form of Demand Draft only. Tender Forms will be issued on submission of application along with GST Certificate and photocopy of PAN Card. In online cases, the aforesaid documents should be appended along with tender form. Discrepancies, if any noticed at the time of opening of tender leads to rejection of tender form. The Tender Forms will be issued up to **29.06.2024 up to 01.00 p.m.** The last date for the receipt of sealed tenders will be **29.06.2024 up to 4.00 p.m.** through **Registered Post only**. The Tenders will be opened in the presence of Vidyalaya Purchase Advisory Committee on **01.07.2024 from 11.00 a.m.** onwards in the office of the Principal, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Farour, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab). Interested tenderers or their authorized representatives may remain present at the time of opening of tenders. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject the tender at any stage. No tender will be received by hand or through courier.

Di-3379

Sd/- PRINCIPAL

# 40 killed in Israel's 'targeted' strike on UN school in Gaza

CAIRO/JERUSALEM, JUNE 6

Israel hit a Gaza school on Thursday with what it described as a targeted airstrike on up to 30 Hamas fighters inside. A Hamas official said 40 people, including women and children, were killed as they were taking shelter in the UN site.

Video footage showed Palestinians hauling away bodies after the attack, which took place at a sensitive moment in mediated talks on a ceasefire that would involve releasing hostages held by Hamas and some of the Palestinians held in Israeli jails.

The United States issued a joint statement with other countries on Thursday calling on Israel and Hamas to make whatever compromises were necessary to finalise a deal after eight months of war in the Gaza Strip.

Ismail Al-Thawabta, the director of the Hamas-run government media office, rejected Israel's assertion that the UN school in Nuseirat, in central Gaza, had hidden a Hamas command post.

"The occupation uses... false fabricated stories to justify the brutal crime it conducted

Palestinians inspect UNRWA school site after the Israeli strike on Thursday. REUTERS

## US IMPOSES SANCTIONS ON PALESTINIAN MILITANT GROUP

The US State Department imposed sanctions on Thursday on the Palestinian militant group, Lion's Den, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the department said. Department spokesperson Matthew Miller cited attacks by the group on Israelis as well as Palestinians in the West Bank since 2022.

against dozens of displaced people," Thawabta said.

Israel's military said its fighter jets had carried out a "precise strike" and circulated satellite photos highlighting two parts of a building where it said the fighters were based. "We're very confident in the intelligence," military spokesper-

son Lt Col Peter Lerner said, accusing Hamas and Islamic Jihad fighters of deliberately using UN facilities as operational bases.

Meanwhile, the Israeli military has warned the government its policy of cutting off funds to the Palestinian Authority could push the occupied West Bank into a

third "intifada", public broadcaster Kan Radio reported on Thursday.

The warning underlined the increasingly dire state of the West Bank economy where thousands of workers have lost their jobs in Israel and public servants have been unpaid or on partial pay for months. — Reuters

## Pakistan elected as UNSC non-permanent member

UNITED NATIONS, JUNE 6

Pakistan, Somalia, Denmark, Greece and Panama on Thursday were elected as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for a two-year term, starting January 1, 2025.

They were elected by a secret ballot in the UN General Assembly. In the two seats for African and Asia-Pacific States, Pakistan got 179 votes and Pak-

istan received 182 votes. Among the Latin American and Caribbean States, Panama got 183 votes, while in the Western European and other States, Denmark got 184 votes and Greece got 182 votes.

"Proud moment as Pakistan receives aresounding 182 votes and is elected to the UNSC," Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif posted on X — PTI

## Ukraine hits Russian oil facilities

KYIV, JUNE 6

In Kyiv's ongoing effort to disrupt the Kremlin's war machine, Ukrainian drones struck an oil refinery and a fuel depot in Russian border regions, officials in the targeted areas said on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy joined world leaders in France on Thursday to commemorate the D-Day invasion and seek more Western help even as his forces battled to stave off a

Russian onslaught near the eastern city of Kharkiv in Europe's biggest conflict since World War II.

Zelenskyy's trip came a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin warned that Russia could provide long-range weapons to other countries so that they could strike Western targets. That threat came after NATO allies said they would allow Ukraine to use weapons they deliver to attack Russian territory. — PTI

## BUSINESS

USD \$	EURO €	POUND £	JPY ¥	YUAN ¥	CAD \$	AUD \$	SGD S	HKD HK\$	BSE	NSE	GOLD	SILVER
₹83.47	₹90.85	₹106.77	₹0.53	₹11.52	₹55.49	₹54.31	₹61.95	₹10.69	692.27	201.05	₹73,420	₹93,000
									75,074.51	22,821.40	(MCX)	(MCX)

# Amid inflation concerns, RBI likely to leave interest rate unchanged

MUMBAI, JUNE 6

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das will announce the next set of monetary policy on Friday morning amid expectations of a status quo on the benchmark interest rates.

The RBI has been holding the key interest rate (repo) at 6.5 per cent since February 2023. Experts are of the opinion that the RBI will maintain the status quo on interest rates as inflation remains a matter of concern, though the European Central Bank and Bank of Canada have started reducing their respective key rates.

Das will announce the decision at 10 am after deliberations of the RBI's rate-setting panel — Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) — which started discussions on Wednesday. The MPC may also refrain from rate cuts as economic growth is picking

The RBI has kept the repo rate at 6.5% since February 2023. FILE

## RATE CUT EXPECTED IN Q3: SBI RESEARCH

■ According to an SBI research paper, Prelude to MPC Meeting, the RBI is likely to cut the repo rate in the third quarter of the current fiscal and "such rate cut cycle is likely to be shallow".

■ It said CPI-based retail

inflation is expected to remain close to 5% in May & decline thereafter to 3% in July.

■ Inflation is expected to stay below 5% beginning October till the end of 2024-25, it added.

up, notwithstanding the elevated repo rate of 6.5 per cent prevailing since February 2023, experts said.

According to an SBI

research paper, the central bank needs to continue the current stance of withdrawal of accommodation. The report titled 'Prelude to MPC Meet-

## Delhi court grants bail to Supertech chairman

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to Supertech chairman and promoter RK Arora in a money laundering case.

While granting relief to Arora, Additional Sessions Judge Devender Kumar Jangala noted that there was no likelihood of him evading the trial or influencing the investigation.

Arora was arrested in

June last year. As many as 26 FIRs were registered by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Delhi Police, Haryana Police and Uttar Pradesh Police against Supertech Limited and its group companies, and Arora, for criminal conspiracy, cheating and criminal breach for allegedly cheating at least 670 home buyers of Rs 164 crore. — PTI

## Shareholders approve demerger of ITC Hotels

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Diversified entity ITC on Thursday said that it had received shareholders' approval to demerge ITC Hotels into a separate entity.

In a virtual meeting on Thursday, shareholders approved the resolution for the scheme of arrangement between ITC Ltd and ITC Hotels Ltd, it said in a regulatory filing. The meeting was called pursuant to the

directions of the Kolkata Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal dated April 22.

In July 2023, the ITC had announced it was demerging its hotel business by incorporating as a wholly-owned subsidiary ITC Hotels Ltd. The scheme was approved in August, which will create ITC Hotels Ltd, to handle its hospitality business. — PTI



# Parting without a gift

India play out goalless draw against Kuwait in Chhetri's last international match

**KOLKATA, JUNE 6** The talismanic Sunil Chhetri stirred up emotions in his final international outing but the Indian football team just could not rise to the occasion as it settled for a goalless draw against Kuwait in its crucial World Cup qualifying match here today, critically hurting its chances of going into the next round.

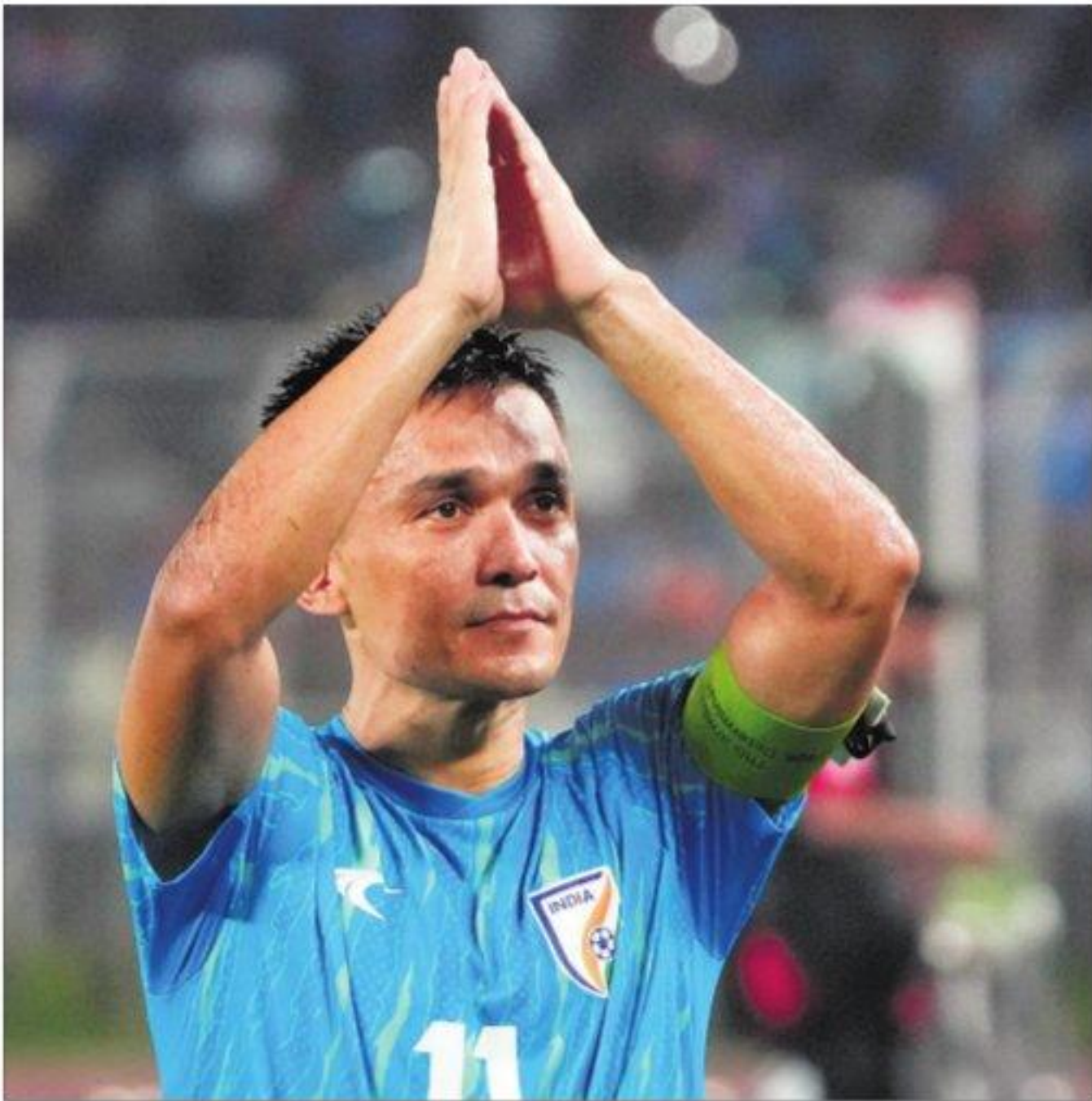
In a country deprived of major footballing success, it was not the best farewell for a man who had created an alternative universe for the spectators of the beautiful game in this part of the world.

An emotional Chhetri was seen sobbing after the end of the match and when he was given a guard of honour by his teammates he buried his face into head coach Igor Stimac's arms while crying.

A win would have virtually sealed India (five points) a berth in the third round of the World Cup Qualifiers for the first time ever but the draw put them in an extremely difficult situation as they play Asian champions Qatar in their last match on June 11.

If India fail to beat Qatar, then Kuwait -- currently on four points -- can make it to the third round of the World Cup qualifiers if they beat Afghanistan on June 11.

"It's been tight against Kuwait in recent times. We didn't open the game enough today, we were not aggressive enough in the middle. It's been happening for too long, not being clinical in front of goal. Today, thank god, Gur-



Sunil Chhetri waves to the fans who came out in big numbers. PTI

preet (in goal) was brilliant. When it matters most he's there. But other players were not there enough today. Rahim Ali makes great runs but goals need to come. He could have scored from the chance he had," Stimac said.

The 39-year-old Chhetri ended his glorious 19-year international career as the fourth most prolific scorer in international football with 94 goals, behind Portugal super-



star Cristiano Ronaldo (128), Iran legend Ali Daei (108) and Argentine wizard Lionel Messi (106).

It's an astounding feat for a player from a country like India and FIFA had acknowledged Chhetri's legendary status when he announced his international retirement on May 16.

Chhetri bid an emotional adieu to the international game in front of a jam-packed 68,000-capacity Salt Lake Stadium, with his parents Kharga and Sushila, wife Sonam Bhattacharya and a host of officials and former players in attendance.

He will, however, continue playing club football for "two more years". He has a contract with the Indian Super League side Bengaluru FC till next year.

Chhetri had scored in his debut match against Pakistan on June 12, 2005, in Quetta in a 1-1 draw. After his 151st match for the country, Chhetri gave a last bow, taking a lap of honour of the packed venue with folded hands as chants of "Sunil, Sunil" echoed the stands.

"For the ones who have followed me in my career; for the ones who have seen me in videos, for the ones who have taken autographs, for the ones who have been my old-time supporters, thanks to everyone. These 19 years would not have been possible without each and every one of you, and I genuinely mean it. For everyone who is here, thank you so much," Chhetri said. — PTI

# Pitch imperfect: 'Unsafe' Nassau track faces criticism

NEW YORK, JUNE 6

Rohit Sharma's bruised bicep is expected to heal before the game against Pakistan on Sunday but the Nassau County ground's track, which is "bordering on dangerous with huge open cracks", has become a concern for stakeholders of the game trying to sell cricket in America through the ongoing T20 World Cup.

India opened their campaign with an eight-wicket win in a low-scoring match against Ireland, who were bowled out of 96 in just 16 overs.

Rohit, who scored a half-century in the successful chase, was hit on his right bicep by pacer Josh Little and was forced to retire hurt. The ball that struck him suddenly took off from length on a pitch that offered a great degree of uneven bounce. Rishabh Pant was also hit on his left elbow during his 36 not out.

"Rohit's injury isn't serious. He himself said that it's a bit sore. He should be okay for Pakistan game (on Sunday) as of now. There are two practice sessions before that," a senior BCCI source said.

Injury scare aside, the nature of the pitch, a drop-in one brought from Adelaide specifically for the World Cup, has raised eyebrows. India are scheduled to play two more games at this stadium.

Player of the final from India's 2007 T20 World Cup triumph, Irfan Pathan, didn't mince words as he criticised the pitch, calling it unsafe.

"Look, we definitely want to



## Pant will continue at No. 3: Rathour

India will continue with wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant at No. 3 in the T20 World Cup following his gritty performance against Ireland, said batting coach Vikram Rathour, who also expressed his delight at having a fully-fit Hardik Pandya back in the fold. Both Pant and Pandya, who returned to top-flight cricket in the IPL, are making a comeback to international cricket after a long gap. The duo delivered the goods in India's eight-wicket thrashing of Ireland in their opening game. "Yes, he has been batting really well. In the two games (warm-up and Ireland), he has looked really good," Rathour said. "Yes, at the moment he is our No. 3 and it helps that he is a left-hander," Rathour added. PTI

**T20 Inc and the ICC recognise that the pitches used so far at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium have not played as consistently as we would have all wanted.**  
ICC in a statement

promote cricket in America, but this pitch is not safe for players. If we had a pitch like this in India, a match would never be played there again

for a very long time," he said. Also unimpressed was former England captain Michael Vaughan. "Trying to sell the game in the States is great, love it, but for players to have to play on this sub-standard surface in New York is unacceptable... You work so hard to make it to the WC then have to play on this," he wrote on his X handle.

The Indian team management is unlikely to file any official complaint. But the displeasure is clear about the nature of the track. — PTI

## BRIEFLY

BUDAPEST

### Wrestler Aman enters final of Budapest Ranking Series

Indian wrestler Aman Sehrawat entered the final of the 57kg freestyle category with a 14-4 technical superiority win over over Russian-Belarusian Aryan Tsutryn in the Budapest Ranking Series. Aman, the only Indian male wrestler to qualify for the Paris Olympics, will face World Championships silver medalist Rei Higuchi of Japan for the gold medal. This tournament will help Aman to improve his ranking and get a better a draw at the Paris Olympics.

HELSINGBORG (SWEDEN)

### Diksha stumbles, Shubhankar makes strong start

Diksha Dagar ran into a terrible patch during the middle phase of her round, ending up with a modest 3-over 75 card on the first day of the Scandinavian Open. In the men's section, Shubhankar Sharma, the lone Indian men's player in the field, teed off from the 10th. He had a great start with three birdies in a row from the 10th to the 12th. Three pars later he bogeyed the 16th and was 2-under through seven holes. The Scandinavian Open is a mixed event.

LONDON

### EPL clubs vote to continue using VAR next season

Premier League clubs have voted to continue using VAR next season. At the league's annual general meeting, the 20 teams decided against scrapping video assistant referees for key on-field decisions despite a series of controversies last season. Clubs, however, voted to make improvements "for the benefit of the game and supporters." The league said it wants to reduce delays to games while decisions are being made, with the introduction of semi-automated off-side technology key to that. AGENCIES

## TODAY ON TV

**T20 WORLD CUP**  
CANADA VS IRELAND 8PM  
NZVS AFGHANISTAN 5AM (SAT)  
S LANKA VS BANGLADESH 6AM (SAT)  
**STAR SPORTS**  
**FRENCH OPEN**  
**SONY SPORTS 6PM**

# Another race walker loses Olympics mark

VINAYAK PADMADEO

THE BUSINESS-NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 6

Another race walker who had registered the Paris Olympics qualifying standard in the 20km event has lost his qualifying mark. Suraj Panwar is the latest among three runners who have now lost the qualified status. And what has raised eyebrows is the fact that all three Suraj, Servin Sebastian and Arshpreet Singh competed and breached the qualifying mark at the Indian Open Race Walking Competition that was held in Chandigarh in January this year.

Suraj had clocked 1:19:44 seconds to win silver behind Akshdeep Singh but World Athletics has now erased

## Suraj joins Servin Sebastian and Arshpreet, all of whom made the qualifying mark in Chandigarh

that mark instead his 1:21:52 sec that he had registered at the Borsky Mikulas meet in Slovakia has been shown as his best timing this season. The qualifying standard for Paris Olympics has been set at 1:20:10.

Earlier, Servin and Singh lost their qualified status after their timings were revised due to faulty reading and suspicion of result manipulation in the Chandigarh meet.

Servin had won bronze in 1:20:03, while Arshpreet finished fourth in 1:20:04 second. However after the result was revised, Servin's new

timing was registered as 1:20:29.65, while Arshpreet was pegged at 1:21:04. Both have been dropped from the Road to Paris list.

Interestingly, both Ashkdeep who crossed the finish line at 1:19:38, and Servin went under the National Record of 1:19:55 which was set by Akshdeep at the Indian Open Race Walking competition in Ranchi in 2023.

Unlike in the case of Arshpreet and Servin, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is trying to get Suraj's old timings restored by the World Athletics (WA).

AFI president Adille Sumariwalla said that it was too early to conclude about the latest case.

"We will have to wait for the final list of World Athletics. It is premature to discuss at this point when three weeks are still left," Sumariwalla told *The Tribune* on Thursday.

Each national sports federation can only field a maximum of three athletes in the men's 20km race walk event for the Paris 2024 Olympics. Apart from Akshdeep, Ram Baboo, Paramjeet Singh Bisht and Vikash Singh have so far achieved the qualifying mark. Those who have dropped from the list will now have to compete at the national championships later this month in Panchkula.

# Sarabjot shoots down gold medal in Munich

## WORLD CUP

MUNICH, JUNE 6

Sarabjot Singh today opened India's account at the ISSF World Cup here with a gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event, emerging triumphant in a field that featured a reigning world champion and a four-time Olympian.

The 22-year-old shot a 242.7 in the eight-man final, leaving behind his nearest competitor Bu Shuaihang of China by 0.2 points as Germany's Robin Walter won bronze.

Sarabjot had on Wednesday shot a top score of 588 to qualify for the decider. The final had in its line-up the reigning world champion Bowen Zhang of China and four-time Olympian Yusuf Dikec of Turkey, besides Bu and Walter.

Under the circumstances, Sarabjot delivered a fine pillar-to-post victory for his second individual World Cup medal, after his breakthrough gold last year in Bhopal.

The young Indian was the strongest off the blocks, shooting three high 10s off his first five single shots to take



Sarabjot Singh shot a 242.7 in the final to win gold. FILE

an early lead. His consistent shooting continued and he never gave up the lead until Walter caught up with him at the end of the 14th single shot.

A clutch 10.8 for his 15th looked to have settled the final as Walter wilted with an 8.6. After Zhang bowed out in fifth, Walter upset Dikec for the bronze.

Going into the final two shots, a 1.4 separated Sarabjot from Bu, who was till then enjoying the chase as the pressure told on Sarabjot.

In the end, Sarabjot did well to hold on for a win. — PTI

# IN POLE POSITION FOR NO. 3

PARIS, JUNE 6

Defending champion Iga Swiatek took a big step towards a third successive French Open title by dismantling teary American third seed Coco Gauff 6-2 6-4 in the semifinal today to match her longest winning streak on clay.

Four-time Grand Slam champion Swiatek also extended her dominance over Gauff by sealing an 11th victory in 12 meetings and will head into a Saturday showdown with either 12th seed Jasmine Paolini or 17-year-old Mirra Andreeva.

"It was intense. In the second set it was right because we were breaking each other. I was consistent with my tactics and went for it," Swiatek said.

## Swiatek sets up final date with Paolini

Defeat was a big blow for Gauff, who was beaten by Swiatek in the 2022 final as well as last year's quarter-finals, but she leaves Paris knowing that she will climb to No. 2 in the world rankings on Monday.

"I think she's progressing a lot," Swiatek said of the 20-



Iga Swiatek crushed Coco Gauff, while Jasmine Paolini (below) put out Mirra Andreeva. REUTERS



year-old US Open champion.

## Fearless Paolini

Jasmine Paolini crushed Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva 6-3 6-1 to bulldoze

BRIDGETOWN, JUNE 6

Marcus Stoinis smacked a quick-fire unbeaten half-century and claimed three wickets as Australia began their T20 World Cup campaign with a comprehensive 39-run victory against Oman at the Kensington Oval today.

Stoinis helped Australia recover from a top-order slide with a brutal unbeaten 67-run knock off 36 balls to help them post 164/5 in the company of David Warner (56). He then produced figures of 3-0-19-3 as the 2021 champions grabbed two points.

Oman tried to take the fight to the opposition but their lack of experience showed as they could man-



Marcus Stoinis shone with both bat and ball against Oman. AP/PTI

age only 125/9 in 20 overs. Oman were pegged back when Nathan Ellis (2/28) and Mitchell Starc (2/20) struck once each inside the first three overs.

Stoinis struck on the final ball of the powerplay to deliver a body blow, remov-

ing Oman skipper Aqib Ilyas (18) who looked to counterattack.

**Brief scores: Australia:** 164/5 (Stoinis 67\*, Warner 56; Mehran 2/38); **Oman:** 125/9 (Ayaan 36, Mehran 27; Stoinis 3/19, Starc 2/20, Zampa 2/24). — PTI

# Lonewolf Sen enters last-8

## INDONESIA OPEN

JAKARTA, JUNE 6

Star shuttler Lakshya Sen was the lone bright spot on a grim day for India as he entered the men's singles quarterfinals of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 with a win over Japan's Kenta Nishimoto here today.

Sen hardly batted an eyelid while securing a 21-9 21-15 win over Nishimoto in their pre-quarterfinal.

However, it was curtains for Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand in the women's doubles.

The Indian pair went down to Japan's Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara 21-19 19-21 after an intense Round-of-16 match.

Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa also exited the tournament, bringing an end to India's campaign in the women's doubles. Tanisha and Ashwini were beaten by South Korea's Baek Ha Na and Lee So Hee 21-13 19-21 21-13.

Later in the day, the Indian mixed doubles pair of B Sumeeth Reddy and Sikki Reddy were ousted by China's Zheng Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiong 21-9 21-11 in a lop-sided contest. — PTI



## Court denies bail to Kejriwal, says he's fine

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** The extensive campaigning tours and related events undertaken by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal indicate that he does not appear to be suffering from any serious or "life threatening" ailment, a Delhi court has held while denying him interim bail.

In yet another setback to Kejriwal, the court on Wednesday dismissed his application for interim bail on medical grounds in the money laundering case linked to the alleged excise policy scam, as reported by the PTI.

"The extensive campaigning tours and related meetings or events undertaken by Arvind Kejriwal as highlighted during the course of arguments indicate that he does not appear to be suffering from any serious or 'life threatening' ailment so as to entitle him to the benefit," Special Judge Kaveri Baweja said. The judge also extended Kejriwal's judicial custody till June 19. The court is scheduled to take up on June 7 his application seeking default bail in the case.

In the order, the judge further held that grant of interim bail for conducting tests in



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal

order to determine if high ketone levels or the stated weight loss could have caused Diabetic Ketoacidosis "stands on an even weaker footing than a medical ground".

"Apparently, as per the applicant himself, he seeks interim bail for 'diagnosis' of an anticipated ailment which, cannot be said to be a valid ground for the relief prayed for, particularly when this concern can be addressed while the applicant is in custody... There appears to be no reason as to why such diagnostic tests of the applicant cannot be got conducted while he is in custody," the judge said, directing the jail authorities to take care of his medical needs. — PTI

## Neighbours minus Pak likely to attend Modi's oath-taking; Biden to send NSA

**SANDEEP DIKSHIT**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** Though the date of the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become uncertain due to hard bargaining for Cabinet berths by the BJP's allies, plans remain in place to invite leaders from the neighbourhood, said sources.

PM Modi had a telephonic conversation in this regard with several leaders from the neighbourhood, including Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bhutan Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay and Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, they said. PM Modi has not called up his Pakistan counterpart Shehbaz Sharif so far.

Sources said Sharif would not be able to make it for the ceremony as he was in China for a five-day visit till June 10.

The invite to the neighbourhood is a redux of Modi's first oath-taking ceremony in 2014 which was attended by all SAARC leaders, including then Pakistan PM Nawaz Sharif. Modi's third



### CANADA SEEKS FRESH START; CHINA OBJECTS TO EXCHANGE BETWEEN MODI, TAIWAN PREZ

- Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, with whom India has strained relations over terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar's murder, extended an olive branch in his congratulatory message to PM Modi
- He wrote on X, "Canada stands ready to work with Modi govt to advance the relationship between our nations' peoples — anchored to human rights, diversity, and the rule of law."
- The Chinese foreign ministry, meanwhile, lodged a strong protest with the Government of India over the exchange between PM Modi and Taiwan President Lai Ching-te on X
- "India has made serious political commitments regarding the one-China principle and should be vigilant against the political schemes of Taiwan authorities..." said the Chinese Foreign Ministry

oath-taking ceremony as Prime Minister was to be attended by Hasina, Wickremesinghe, Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Tobgay, and Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, who was the first world leader to call up PM Modi on Wednesday. The Maldives President

Mohamed Muizzu, who has taken a pro-China approach, has also been invited.

On the other hand, US President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin were among the large number of world leaders to call up Modi to congratulate him and his party on their third consecutive victory in

the general elections. Keen to put momentum into ties from the starting block of the new NDA government, Biden will dispatch his National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan who had earlier put off a scheduled visit in April amidst Iran-Israel and the Pannun episode tensions.

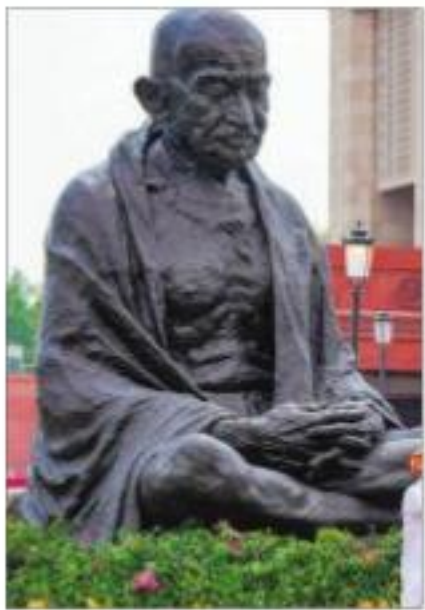
Terming the results as a "historic victory" for the Modi-led NDA, the White House readout on the phone call underlined Sullivan's upcoming travel to New Delhi to "engage the new government on shared US-India priorities, including the trusted and strategic technology partnership".

## Rajkot fire: Gujarat HC asks why civic body chief was not suspended

**AHMEDABAD, JUNE 6** The Gujarat High Court on Thursday came down heavily on the state government over the Rajkot game zone fire that killed 27 persons last month, and sought to know why the then chief of the local civic body was not suspended for not taking action against the facility that was being run without permission.

The high court expressed anger after learning that though a demolition notice was served to the TRP Game Zone, where the devastating fire took place on May 25, by the Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC) in June last year, no action was taken for one year against the facility by the civic body, whose commissioner was Anand Patel at that time.

A Special Bench was hearing a suo motu PIL it had taken up on May 26, a day after the fire accident at TRP Game Zone in Rajkot. Advocate General Kamal Trivedi assured the Bench that action will be taken once the state government-appointed SIT submits its final report. The Bench has scheduled the further hearing on June 13. — PTI



## Gandhi statue shifted from Parl to 'Prema Sthal'

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** Weeks after *The Tribune* had reported that the iconic Mahatma Gandhi's statue, a symbolic spot for political leaders to register their protests in Parliament House complex, may soon be removed, the sculpture along with those of BR Ambedkar and Shivaji have been shifted to what authorities inform "Prema Sthal".

"Due to location at different places in the Parliament Complex, visitors were not able to view these statues conveniently. For this reason, all these statues are being respectfully installed in a grand Prerana Sthal in the Parliament House Complex itself," the Parliament Secretariat said.

Reacting to the development, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said on X, "This is atrocious." — TNS

## 'Merely a squirrel': Shivraj as plum BJP role awaits him

**ADITI TANDON**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** "I am merely a squirrel that plays its role in nature as a seed and spore dispenser," is what veteran Shivraj Singh Chouhan says when asked about signs of his imminent rise in the BJP.

All set for arrival in the capital on Friday amid hectic parleys between the BJP and NDA partners over contours of the new council of ministers, Chouhan, BJP sources say, is in for a plum role.

Though no one is sure yet what that role would be, insiders say Chouhan could fit any position he is given—BJP president, Cabinet minister and even NDA conven-

er. A hunt for the new BJP chief is underway with incumbent JP Nadda's term ending in mid-June. Nadda was given an extension of a year in January 2023. A BJP chief's tenure is three years.

As far as Chouhan goes, the top factor favouring him is his ability to self-efface in both victory and adversity. On Tuesday as he emerged victorious from Madhya Pradesh's Vidisha Lok Sabha seat with one of the highest victory margins of over 8.2 lakh votes in India, the ex-CM credited the win to "Modi magic".

"Contrast this with December 2023 when Chouhan was replaced as Madhya Pradesh CM despite delivering an unexpected



### Could be made BJP chief, Cabinet minister or NDA convener

victory in the state poll. He did not sit at home and sulk. He hit the ground running

with a pledge to make 29 lotuses bloom in the state. He kept his word by winning all 29 parliamentary seats for the BJP this year," a Madhya Pradesh BJP source said, pointing to the RSS' backing for the former CM, who ran the state for 18 years starting 2005, except briefly when the Congress came to power in 2018 till a rebellion by Jyotiraditya Scindia dislodged it.

Chouhan, sources say, not only has the skills to constantly rebrand—becoming a 'gilahri', 'mama', 'sewak' and much else—he also never creates shock negatives. "Even his rivals are on good terms with him," a BJP leader says, adding that the 65-year-

old can adapt to any role.

Moreover, he beat 18-year anti-incumbency to retain Madhya Pradesh in 2023, ensuring a fine blend of welfare and Hindutva. Close to the RSS, Chouhan formed India's first cow cabinet in November 2020 to ensure bovine welfare. He had earlier established the nation's biggest cow sanctuary in MP.

Ahead of the 2023 state elections, when he sensed the ground shifting, Chouhan quickly drafted Laadli Behna Yojana, the first direct cash benefit transfer scheme for women in India, and romped home to a landslide win few had expected. Soon after, he was replaced as CM by newcomer Mohan Yadav.

## Karti granted bail in Chinese visa 'scam'

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6**

A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to Congress leader Karti Chidambaram in a money laundering case linked to the alleged Chinese visa scam.

Special Judge for ED and CBI, Kaveri Baweja, granted the relief to the accused after he appeared before the court

in pursuance to summons issued against him.

The court had issued summons against the accused while taking cognisance of a charge sheet filed by the ED in the case. The judge granted the relief on a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh and one surety of like amount. — PTI

## Saffron-clad MPs face drubbing, BJP's Sakshi Maharaj lone winner

**ANIMESH SINGH**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** The saffron colour, associated with the BJP, will be less visible in the new Lok Sabha as of the five sitting saffron-clad BJP MPs in the outgoing 17th Lok Sabha, only Sakshi Maharaj managed to retain his seat from Unnao in Uttar Pradesh.

Among the other four, Sad-

hvi Niranjana Jyoti lost from Fatehpur in Uttar Pradesh and Sumedhanand Saraswati from Sikar in Rajasthan.

Controversial seer and an accused in the Malegaon blast case Pragna Thakur was denied the ticket by the BJP owing to her controversial utterances against minority communities throughout her tenure as MP. Another MP

from Solapur Mahaswami Jaisiddheshwar Shivacharya, a Lingayat seer from Maharashtra, too was not given the ticket. He had won his first Lok Sabha election in 2019 from Solapur, when he had defeated veteran Congress leader and former Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde. This time Shinde's daughter Pranati Shinde has won from there.

## Rural distress costs BJP dear in LS poll

**NEERAJ MOHAN**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 6** The rural distress coupled with farmers' unrest seems to have played a significant role in the BJP's rout in rural and semi-rural constituencies, preventing the party from getting a simple majority by bringing its tally from 303 to 240.

The decline in the support for the BJP in rural areas can be attributed to several factors — economic strain, failure to double farmers' income, slowdown in agricultural growth despite overall economic gains, etc. An analysis of the Lok Sabha election results reveals that of around 300 rural and semi-rural seats, the BJP-led NDA managed to secure only 221, a notable decline from the 251 seats it won in 2019.

The results indicate a clear shift in rural voter sentiment as the opposition INDIA bloc made the most of the rural distress and managed to capture 157 of these constituencies. This shift suggests a growing dissatisfaction with the cur-



### ANGER OVER PRICING POLICIES, MSP

- The Centre's pricing policies and MSP provisions led to dissatisfaction among farmers. These issues were exacerbated by the handling of farmer protests, particularly in Punjab and Haryana
- The BJP's number came down to 33 from 62 in UP in this election. It lost 11 seats in Rajasthan, five in Haryana and two in Punjab, facing a loss of 47 seats in the four states as compared to 2019

rent government's policies and handling of rural issues — especially the farmers' agitation in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and UP in 2020-21.

There has been dissatisfaction with the government's pricing policies and minimum support price (MSP) provisions. These issues were exacer-

bated by the handling of farmer protests, particularly in regions like Punjab and Haryana.

Besides losing 29 seats in UP alone, as its number came down to 33 from 62, the BJP has lost 11 seats in Rajasthan, five seats in Haryana and two in Punjab, facing straight loss

of 47 seats in these four states as compared to 2019.

In additions to this, failure to open its account in Punjab, the BJP faced debacle in the several farmer-dominated constituencies, including Lakhimpur Kheri, Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Saharanpur of UP; Hisar, Rohtak, Sonapat, Ambala and Sirsa in Haryana and Sikar, Churu, Jhunjhunu and Nagaur in Rajasthan.

As per experts, besides the issues of MSP and loan waiver, the action against Punjab farmers by the Haryana Government united the peasants. The Samyukta Kisan Morcha — an umbrella body of nearly 40 farmer associations — openly gave a call to oppose the BJP in the LS elections.

Devinder Sharma, an agriculture and food policy expert, said the electoral verdict clearly demonstrates that the farmers' anger had translated into votes against the ruling party. In nearly every two constituencies, the BJP faced defeat, highlighting setbacks in 38 farmer-dominated seats.

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