



TRUCE TALKS FALTER AS 13 KILLED IN GAZA WORLD



UPSC CHIEF QUILTS 5 YEARS AHEAD OF TERM NATION



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita, Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann and RS MP Sanjay Singh unveil 'Kejriwal's 5 guarantees' in Panchkula. NITIN MITTAL

## AAP vows free power, cash for women in poll-bound Haryana

**5 GUARANTEES** Sunita also promises jobs, mohalla clinics, free education

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**PANCHKULA, JULY 20** Delhi Chief Minister and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita Kejriwal on Saturday launched 'Kejriwal's five guarantees' for poll-bound Haryana, promising free electricity, mohalla clinics in every village and city; Rs 1,000 per month aid to every woman; employment for youth; and better and free education. The Haryana Assembly elections are due later this year.

Besides Sunita Kejriwal, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP MPs Sanjay Singh and Sandeep

### 'HARYANA KA LAL'

Arvind Kejriwal was born and brought up in Haryana. He is 'Haryana ka Lal'. He is known for his people-centric work, both in Delhi and in Punjab. — Sunita Kejriwal, DELHI CM'S WIFE

### WILL DELIVER

Nearly 90% of the households in Punjab do not have to pay electricity bills... Aam Aadmi Party will deliver on its guarantees in Haryana as well. — Bhagwant Mann, PUNJAB CM

Pathak were also present during the launch of the guarantees here. The party's local leaders gathered in a large number and raised pro-party slogans.

Calling Kejriwal 'Haryana ka Lal', Sunita said the AAP supremo had started his

political career from 'zero' and changed the country's political scenario. She said, "Kejriwal is known for his people-centric work, both in Delhi and in Punjab. But he has been thrown behind the bars in a fake case."

Speaking about AAP's

guarantees, she said the party aimed to provide free round-the-clock electricity to all households and would build mohalla clinics in every village and ward. She said if the party was voted to power, the condition of government schools would also be improved and employment provided to unemployed youth.

Haryana AAP chief Sushil Gupta said other parties had failed to provide people with basic amenities in the state. "The BJP-led state government has failed to provide round-the-clock electricity supply. It has not been able to

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## ₹17.5K/ha grant for Punjab farmers not sowing paddy

**CHANDIGARH:** To wean away farmers from water-guzzling paddy in a bid to arrest depleting groundwater, the Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department will provide an incentive of Rs 17,500 per hectare for those shifting to alternative crops. **INSIDE**

## Returning Indians given escort, 1K back from violence-hit B'desh: MEA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 20** A total of 978 Indian nationals have so far returned from Bangladesh, which has been reeling under deadly clashes over a controversial job-quota system. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday said the Indian High Commission in Dhaka had arranged security escorts, where necessary, for the travel of Indian nationals by road to reach designated land ports or border crossing points. The neighbouring country

8K students among 15K nationals in country



Indian students from Bangladesh arrive in Agartala on Saturday. ANI

imposed curfew last night after the spread of violence. Of 978 Indians, 778 opted for

land route, while 200 took flights, the MEA said. There are about 15,000 Indian nationals, including 8,000 students in Bangladesh.

In a statement, the MEA said the High Commission in Dhaka was coordinating with the civil aviation authorities and commercial airlines of Bangladesh to ensure uninterrupted flight services to India from Dhaka and Chittagong.

Indian nationals who want to return are being assisted by the High Commission in Dhaka and also by the Assistant

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## NEET details out, only 3 Hazaribagh centre students score over 650 marks

AKSHEEV THAKUR

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**  
**NEW DELHI, JULY 20** The detailed result of the NEET-UG 2024, which was released by the National Testing Agency on Saturday, showed students who appeared at exam centres in Jharkhand, Bihar, Haryana and Gujarat, which are under the CBI scanner over alleged

### MASTERMIND NABBED

The CBI has arrested Sashikant Paswan, a B.Tech graduate from NIT-Jamshedpur and 'mastermind' in NEET-UG paper leak case, and two MBBS students from Rajasthan who acted as 'paper solvers'

paper leak, barely benefited. As directed by the Supreme Court, the NTA has

published centre-wise results of the medical entrance exam on its website. Only three students have scored more than 650 marks at Oasis School in Hazaribagh where the paper leak is suspected to have taken place as the lock of the trunk containing the question paper was found broken.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## Sonepat Cong MLA Panwar held by ED

**SONEPAT:** Two days after the premises of Haryana Congress MLA Rao Dan Singh were raided in connection with a bank loan fraud case, the ED arrested Sonepat Congress MLA Surender Panwar in alleged illegal mining cases in the early hours on Saturday from Gurugram. He was produced in a court in Ambala, which remanded him in nine-day custody. **INSIDE**

## Panghal trains in the hills for last shot at glory



Amit Panghal at the High-Altitude Training Centre, Shilaroo, Shimla.

SUBHASH RAJTA

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**  
**SHIMLA, JULY 20** His hands are moving back and forth at lightning speed. His footwork seems even quicker. Into the 12th round — each lasting a minute — of intense sparring with different boxers, Amit Panghal shows no sign of fatigue. In the previous round, the diminutive Rohtak boxer had even knocked

down a sparring partner 5 kg heavier than him. As the 12th round ends, with Panghal still looking good for a few more rounds, the big multi-purpose hall of the High Altitude Training Centre in Shilaroo, about 50 km from Shimla, reverberates with thunderous applause and shout-outs.

Panghal's jumbo 14-member support team, comprising coaches, phys-

iotherapists, a masseur, doctor and several sparring partners, has the 'mission accomplished' smile playing on their faces. After all, the main objective of coming to the hills and skipping the training trip to Germany with the other members of the national squad was to take his stamina several notches higher.

In the "Paris-like weather" at Shilaroo, the boxer and the support staff worked tirelessly to make amends for his Tokyo

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

**On the occasion of Guru Purnima**

**Pledge to promote and protect Sanatan Dharma**

अखण्डमण्डलाकारं व्याप्तं येन चराचरम्।  
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# ED arrests Sonapat Cong MLA Panwar, gets nine-day custody

### Action follows raids on premises of M'garh Cong MLA Rao Dan Singh two days ago

GEETANJALI GAYTRI/  
MUKESH TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SONEPAT, JULY 20**  
Two days after Congress MLA Rao Dan Singh was raided in connection with a bank loan fraud case, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the wee hours of Saturday arrested Congress MLA from Sonapat Surender Panwar in an alleged illegal mining case. He was produced in a court in Ambala, which has remanded him in nine-day custody.

Panwar is the fourth Congress MLA to find himself under the ED scanner. Samalkha MLA Dharam Singh Chhoker has been absconding since May in a money-laundering case linked to the alleged defrauding of home buyers, in which his son, Sikander Singh, was arrested by the ED in May.

On Friday, the ED invoked a 2019 CBI FIR against Haryana Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda, even as it took action against M3M, a top realty firm in the state.

All three Congress MLAs — Rao Dan Singh, Chhoker and Panwar — are seen to be loyalists of Hooda.

The ED's investigations come in the run-up to the Assembly elections in October — and in the wake of the recent Lok Sabha elections in



Congress MLA Surender Panwar in ED custody at Ambala.

#### SMACKS OF VENDETTA

“Panwar's arrest is politically motivated. He served people of Sonapat well, which is why he was elected MLA. The BJP government in Haryana is on its way out. Randeep Singh Surjewala, RAJYA SABHA MP

which the BJP lost five seats. On July 16, at a rally in Mahendragarh, Home Minister Amit Shah had targeted the Congress and accused it of widespread corruption when it was in power in the state.

The Haryana Congress, on its X social media handle, said all three MLAs were being targeted by the BJP because they belonged to Backward Castes.

Meanwhile, advocate Mahadev Maharaj Singh, Panwar's counsel, said the court had directed the ED to conduct Panwar's medical check-up daily and give him medicines prescribed by doctors. The court also directed the ED to allow him to meet Panwar daily for half-an-hour at the ED's office in Gurugram.

The ED had conducted raids on the residences and offices of former MLA Dilbag Singh and Panwar on January 4 and took away documents and other records. Nearly 20 locations linked to the two politicians, both in the mining business, and their close aides were raided in Yamunanagar, Sonapat, Mohali, Faridabad, Chandigarh and Karnal.

Sources close to the MLA said Panwar was summoned by the ED, Gurugram, on Friday. He reached the ED office and was grilled for over 14

hours. Later, the team took him to his residence in Sonapat's Sector 15 before proceeding to Ambala, where he was produced in the court of District and Sessions Judge Kanchan Mahi.

Advocate Tarun Mehta of the ED said the sitting Congress MLA had been arrested in a case registered under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), which is based on eight FIRs.

Devender Mann, advocate for the MLA, claimed that it was a political move. The MLA had resigned from the post of director of the company in 2013 and no money had been transacted in his account from the company since.

As per sources, complaints were filed for irregularities and illegal mining in Yamunanagar, Sonapat and other districts in 2013, despite a ban by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), after which the police registered eight mining cases.

Panwar had unsuccessfully contested his first election on INLD ticket in 2014, but won the 2019 election on Congress ticket, defeating former minister Kavita Jain. In 2022, he submitted his resignation from the Vidhan Sabha over threat calls and withdrew it following an assurance that he would be provided with security.

# Panwar part of illegal mining syndicate, claims ED in court

### Says he received proceeds amounting to ₹26 cr

NITISH SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**AMBALA, JULY 20**  
Sonapat MLA Surender Panwar was on Saturday remanded in Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody for nine days in connection with his alleged involvement in illegal mining activities.

Panwar was produced before the court of Special Judge, Ambala (designated special court under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act), where the ED sought his 14-day custody.

The ED submitted that the police had registered eight FIRs from October 2022 to February 2023 in Yamunanagar against Om Guru Screening Plant and others for cheating, fraud, tax crimes and forgery. The ED, in September, had registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) against various entities and individuals under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Information was shared with the Yamunanagar SP regarding rampant illegal mining and an FIR was registered in January against former MLA Dilbag Singh, Rajinder Singh and several others associated with Development Strategies India Private Limited, Delhi Royalty Company, Mubarakpur Royalty Company, JSM Foods Private limited and PS Buildtech, which were allegedly involved in illegal mining.



Congress MLA Surender Panwar after being produced in a court in Ambala on Saturday.

#### NO LOAN AGREEMENT

In his statement to the ED, Panwar said he had given a loan without interest to the companies and had received it back, but there was no loan agreement nor was any interest charged against the loans.

As per the ED, Panwar, his wife and two sons have shareholdings in Development Strategies India Private Limited, which is allegedly a part of the mining syndicate. He and his family hold nearly 32 per cent shareholding in the company. Even in an affidavit filed by Panwar for the 2019 Assembly poll, he declared that he and his wife had 9 per cent shareholding each.

The ED further submitted that his wife and sons submitted in their statements that Panwar looked after business transactions for the family,

too. He was one of the direct beneficiaries of "proceeds" generated by illegal mining. Based on material and finding, it was revealed that Panwar had received proceeds to the tune of nearly Rs 26 crore.

In his statement to the ED, Panwar stated that he had given a loan without interest to all these companies and had received it back, but there was no loan agreement nor was any interest charged against the loans. The ED submitted that it depicted that Panwar was a part of the mining syndicate.

# ED raids during poll time may be coincidence: BJP

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**ROHTAK, JULY 20**  
On being asked about the ED raids at the premises of Congress leaders ahead of the Assembly polls, BJP state in-charge Satish Poonia said the Congress leaders were leveling baseless allegations over the ED's action, as the Central agencies do not take any step without proof. "Such action near the Assembly polls may be a coincidence," he asserted.

"Central agencies take action only after carrying out a long investigation into the matter. Everyone used to call Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal honest, but his real face has come out in front of the public in the liquor scam," said Poonia while talking to media persons after holding a meeting of the party workers and leaders at the BJP state headquarters on Saturday.

Launching a scathing attack on the Congress leaders, he said they were trying to mislead the people by making false statements ahead of the Assembly polls.

# Malicious attempt to intimidate political opponents: Congress

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JULY 20**  
Terming the arrest of Sonapat MLA Surender Panwar as "politically motivated", the Congress, today said that the Bharatiya Janata Party had panicked and was "misusing" the investigative agencies in the face of imminent defeat in the upcoming Haryana Assembly elections.

In a joint statement issued here, Deputy Leader of the Congress Legislature Party, Aftab Ahmed, Chief Whip BB Batra, MLAs Jagbir Malik and Geeta Bhukkal, alleged that the timing of the arrest of MLA Surender Panwar and the raid at the house of Congress MLA Rao Dan Singh proved that this was a "malicious attempt to unnecessarily intimidate political opponents."

"This action against Congress MLAs and leaders in the state at the behest of the BJP central government before the upcoming Assembly elections, proves that the

#### BJP HELPLESS

The action against Congress MLAs and leaders in the state at the behest of the Central government before the upcoming Assembly elections proves that the BJP is completely helpless after the Congress got the full support of public in the Lok Sabha elections. — Congress statement

BJP is completely helpless after the Congress got the full support of the public in the Lok Sabha elections," the statement added.

Expressing faith in the judicial system of the country, they said that the truth of such politically motivated cases would be revealed soon. The statement said that the 'anti-Constitution' and 'anti-democracy' faces of the BJP had been completely exposed in front of the people.

They stated that the count-down of the BJP government in the state had begun.

# Rohtak MP questions timing of ED action

DEEPENDER DESWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**HISAR, JULY 20**  
Raising questions on the timing of the raids conducted by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on a few Congress leaders in the state, Rohtak MP Deepender Hooda said the modus operandi of the agency indicated that it was acting at the behest of the ruling party.

Speaking to *The Tribune* during his visit to the Narnaud Assembly constituency during the ongoing Haryana Minge Hisaab drive today, Deepender said a similar modus operandi was adopted by the ED during the Rajasthan Assembly elections.

Deepender, who began his political career in 2005 after his father Bhupinder Singh Hooda was elected the CM, said, "The BJP is obviously perturbed by the anti-BJP and pro-Congress sentiments among the people of the state. But they cannot disturb us with such targeted actions against our leaders. People will give the BJP a befitting reply for this misdemeanour and high-headedness."



Congress MP Deepender Singh Hooda attends a meeting at Narnaud in Hisar on Saturday.

Deepender seems to have leaptfrogged as the young face of the Congress leadership in the state with his padyatra. During his two-day tour in Hisar's two Assembly constituencies—Hansi and Narnaud—a number of ticket aspirants kept him

constantly surrounded. The Congress leader said he would visit every Assembly constituency to conduct the padyatra ahead of the elections. "I am overwhelmed with the response of the people. It was evidently clear that people

were upset with the BJP government and eager to overthrow the regime," he told *The Tribune*. The sudden decision of the five-time MP, including four terms in Lok Sabha representing Rohtak constituency, to tour Haryana has

come as a surprise for not only the BJP but many Congress leaders as well.

Dinesh Sheroan, an archaeology activist from Rakhigarhi village, said the Congress MP also visited the archaeological site in Rakhigarhi and interacted with women's self-help groups, which sell hand-made products to visitors at the archaeological site. "We raised the issue of neglect that the world-renowned Rakhigarhi site was facing," he said, adding that the Congress MP had assured them of developing it into an international-level site and also of setting up a research institute if the Congress came to power.

At a press conference, Deepender said the BJP was scared of the questions being raised at the Haryana Maange Hisaab Abhiyan and was misusing government investigation agencies against opposition leaders. He demanded that the BJP government answer the questions being raised by the public instead of using the ED and other central investigation agencies to their benefit.

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR POLICE DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU**  
0191-2561578 (O), 0191-254780 (F),  
E-mail: sspjammu@kpolice.gov.in

**LOOK OUT NOTICE**  
SHO P/S Bahu Fort, Jammu intimated that one unidentified male dead body was found lying at Taxi Stand near Lemon Tree, Railway Head Complex Jammu. To ascertain the actual cause of death inquest proceedings U/S 174 Cr.P.C., was initiated at P/S Gangyal vide DDR No. 19 dated 16.07.2024 and dead body of deceased was shifted to mortuary room of GMCH, Jammu for identification.

As such, for the identification of unidentified male dead body below description roll is required to be published on daily newspapers for identification / Public in general, having any clue related to the unidentified dead body, kindly communicate the same on the below mentioned contact/Telephone numbers.

DESCRIPTION ROLL	PHOTOGRAPH
• Age : 40 years (Approx.)	

**CONTACTS/TELEPHONE NUMBERS:-**

1. DPO, Jammu	: 0191-2547807, 0191-256 1578
2. SSP Jammu Mail I.D	: sspjammu@kpolice.gov.in
3. PCR Jammu	: 0191-2542000
4. SP City South	: 0191-2433778
5. SDPO City East	: 01912474700
6. P/S Bahu Fort	: 0191-2475133

**For Sr. Superintendent of Police, Jammu.**

# With Sunita at forefront, Kejri is the face of AAP poll campaign

### Haryana's AAP hardly has any noteworthy leaders, party banks on Delhi Chief Minister

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JULY 20**  
Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, who is in judicial custody in Tihar jail in the excise policy case, is the face of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) campaign in poll-bound Haryana.

'Haryana ka laal' (son of Haryana) and 'give one chance to Kejriwal' have become common refrains at AAP programmes in the state. In the last few days, AAP launched the poll slogan, 'Badenge Haryana Ka Haal, Lekar Aayenge Kejriwal,' with Kejriwal's face on the posters on July 18 and then announced 'Kejriwal's Five Guarantees' today. It was the Delhi CM's wife

Sunita Kejriwal who launched the guarantees at a function in Panchkula. The guarantees are part of the much-publicised AAP Delhi model that includes free power to domestic households, the opening of mohalla clinics, improving government schools, giving Rs 1,000 per month to women, and providing employment to youth.

At today's function, Sunita Kejriwal has been described as the messenger between AAP leaders and workers, and Arvind Kejriwal. Speaking on the occasion, she said that PM Modi was jealous of Arvind Kejriwal and that her husband had been put in jail in a false ke case. "Modi says Kejriwal is



Sunita Kejriwal, wife of Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, in Panchkula on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: NITIN MITTAL

a thief. If he is a thief, then no one is an honest person." Playing an emotional card, she said, "Modi has put

Haryana's son in jail. Arvind Kejriwal is a lion; he will not bend... Just like Gujarat stands by Modi, Haryana

Don't give even one seat to the BJP." "Kejriwal's name brings trust among people. He is the face of our campaign. Kejriwal's guarantees mean 'pathar ki lakeer' (they are etched in stone)," said AAP's state senior vice president, Anurag Dhanda, when asked. Haryana's AAP has hardly any noteworthy leaders. Though state president Dr Sushil Gupta and senior vice president Anurag Dhanda are prominent leaders of the state unit and have been consistently holding media interactions, the party has more faith in Delhi CM's face for Haryana polls. The party has performed

poorly in the state in the earlier elections. In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the party polled 0.36 per cent of the vote, just ahead of NOTA. In the Vidhan Sabha polls later that year, the AAP contested 46 seats and forfeited deposits on all Assembly segments with a vote percentage of 0.48 per cent. It was less than NOTA, which polled 0.52 per cent. For the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, AAP tied up with Congress as part of the INDIA bloc and was allocated the Kurukshetra seat. AAP's Dr Sushil Gupta lost to the BJP's Naveen Jindal by a margin of 29,021 votes. Overall, AAP secured 3.94 per cent of votes.



# Farmers shunning cultivation of paddy to get 17.5K per hectare

## Move aimed at arresting groundwater depletion in state, says Khudian

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JULY 20**  
The Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department has decided to provide an incentive of Rs 17,500 per hectare to the farmers who wean away from paddy cultivation and shift to alternative crops. The aim is to encourage farmers to shun water-guzzling paddy crop so as to check groundwater depletion in the state.



Women farm labourers transplant paddy in a Ludhiana village. FILE

Revealing this here today in a press communiqué, Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian said Rs 289.87 crore had been allocated for this purpose for 2024-25.

Giving breakup of the revamped Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) for replacing paddy, he said any farmer could avail the benefit on maximum five hectares and the incentive amount would be directly transferred into the bank account of the beneficiary via direct benefit transfer (DBT) in two equal instalments.

The first instalment would be transferred immediately after verification through digital crop survey and Krishi Mapper app, while the second instalment would be paid after the harvesting of the crop.

Khudian said Punjab

### INCENTIVE TO BE PAID IN TWO INSTALMENTS

- The incentive amount will be directly transferred into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries through direct benefit transfer in two equal instalments
- The first instalment will be paid after verification through digital crop survey and Krishi Mapper app, while the second one will be paid after crop harvesting
- Any farmer can avail the benefit on maximum five hectares and the government has allocated ₹289.87 crore for this purpose for 2024-25

played a crucial role in the Green Revolution, which helped the nation become self-sufficient in food security. Cultivation of paddy in Punjab led to over-dependence on tubewell irrigation, causing groundwater depletion. He said Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann-led state government had decided

to implement the revised CDP in all districts of the state and preference would be given to critical and over-exploited blocks of the identified districts.

Special Chief Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, KAP Sinha said the Centre had launched a revamped Crop Diversification Pro-

gramme to encourage farmers to diversify from paddy to alternative crops during kharif season 2024. He said farmer could apply online on the state portal to avail benefits under the scheme. State and district-level committees would be constituted for the effective implementation of the programme, he added.

# State to seek redevelopment package from finance panel

RUCHIKA M KHANNA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JULY 20**  
The Punjab Government will seek a redevelopment package and revenue deficit grant from the 16th Finance Commission, which is expected to arrive here on Sunday evening.

The government will not just be seeking a post-devolution revenue deficit grant, but also make pitch for a package to rebuild the state's ageing road, power and irrigation infrastructure.

The 15th Finance Commission had given Punjab a post-devolution revenue deficit grant of Rs 25,968 crore for five years. The 13th and 14th Finance Commissions had not given that grant to the state.

The state will seek additional funds from the 16th Finance Commission to help it in its fight against narco-terrorism and war against drugs.

A special package for industrial development in border areas will also be sought. Due to the state being located at the International Border with Pakistan, 35 per cent of its police force remains deployed as the second line of defence in border areas. The state government would seek additional funds for the deployment of its police force, said an official source.

With the state having the largest percentage of Dalit population, the government

### OTHER KEY DEMANDS

- A post-devolution revenue deficit grant, besides funds for fight against narco-terrorism and war against drugs
- Package for industrial development in border areas of the state
- Additional funds for deployment of police force as second line of defence in border areas
- Higher devolution of funds for the welfare of Dalits and disaster management

will also seek higher devolution of funds for their welfare. Additional funds for disaster management will also be sought.

The state government is also expected to highlight how its economy is sagging after the GST rollout and the losses caused by the exclusion of cesses and surcharges, after most state taxes were subsumed.

But the commission's visit this time is being met with some scepticism, especially in the wake of the Centre holding back Punjab's Rs 9,770-crore dues following disagreement with the state's Aam Aadmi

Party government on the implementation of various central schemes.

The state government is also apprehensive that it will be under pressure to have a relook at its power subsidy to both agriculture and domestic consumers, before seeking any economic package.

The total power subsidy bill of the state for the ongoing fiscal is Rs 21,909 crore, which the state government will project as its social spending in a welfare state. The government will also maintain that the subsidy to the agricultural sector is being given so that Punjab continues to produce paddy for the nation's food security.

Interestingly, neighbouring Himachal Pradesh decided to do away with power subsidy to taxpayers earlier this month. That was done after the visit of the 16th Finance Commission to the hill state, which had flagged the issue of subsidies being given by states in spite of their poor fiscal health.

The six-member team of the commission, led by its Chairman Arvind Panagariya, is expected to hold discussions with the state government's political and executive functionaries on Monday, besides leaders of Opposition parties. The team will then visit Amritsar for a day and meet representatives of trade and industry.

# Man arrested for killing wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT

FEROZEPUR, JULY 20

The police today claimed to have solved within 48 hours the murder case of a woman whose body was found in a canal yesterday. Woman's husband Jaswant Singh, alias Nikku, has been arrested in connection with the case.

SSP Saumya Mishra said the police registered an FIR following a complaint by deceased Charanjit Kaur's father Major Singh. "In his complaint, Major Singh said his daughter's phone was switched off and he feared that his son-in-law had killed his daughter and thrown her body into the canal," the SSP said.

Charanjit Kaur was married to Jaswant Singh seven years ago and the couple had two children. Jaswant Singh allegedly used to harass and assault her regularly.

Major Singh said Jaswant had taken Charanjit Kaur with him from their house on July 13. Since then, her phone was switched off. When Major Singh reached Ferozepur in search of his daughter, he came to know that Jaswant had killed her and thrown her body into the canal, the SSP said.

The police investigation revealed that Jaswant Singh brutally murdered Charanjit Kaur in the fields and then threw her body into the canal. Jaswant Singh was arrested from Mishriwala village. He would be produced in a court tomorrow, the SSP said.

# 4 get life term for murder

FAZILKA, JULY 20

Five years after the murder of a shopkeeper, the court of Ajitpal Singh, Additional District and Sessions Judge, has sentenced four persons to life imprisonment and two others to three years of jail today.

Suman Kumar (55), who was the owner of a pesticides shop in Jalalabad town, was abducted by four persons — Amandeep Singh, alias Sunny Narang, Davinder Singh, alias Deepu, Sukhpal Singh, alias Pala, all residents of Jalalabad town, and Pargat Singh, alias Pinka, a resident of Jamalgarh village.

The accused killed Suman Kumar and threw his body, along with his car, into a canal. They kept demanding a ransom of Rs 1 crore from Suman Kumar's son, Abhinandan Mutneja. — OC

# High Court seeks info on convicts in jails due to delay in filing appeals

SAURABH MALIK TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JULY 20

A convict in a drug case continued to remain in jail even after virtually completing his 10-year rigorous imprisonment sentence due to delayed filing of an appeal. Expressing shock over the absence of serious efforts in providing him legal assistance for filing the appeal, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has enlarged the scope of the matter before directing the states of Punjab and Haryana, along with UT Chandigarh, to furnish a response on the issue, along with details of other such inmates and steps taken to provide timely legal aid.

Justice Rajesh Bhardwaj said there might be other prisoners lodged in jails across the two states and Chandigarh "who may not be made aware

of their legal right to file appeal by timely challenging their conviction and sentence".

Justice Bhardwaj said challenging the order of sentence and conviction was a convict's legal right and it could not be taken away or curtailed for any reason whatsoever when the government had provided legal aid counsels to visit jail premises and meet the prisoners.

The court has sought details as regards the number of convicts lodged in the jails of Haryana and Punjab, who did not timely file appeals in higher courts. Details of their conviction and sentence awarded by the courts were also called for.

Justice Bhardwaj also asked the authorities concerned to specify the steps taken by the jail authorities to apprise the convicts of their legal right to challenge their conviction and sentence and the reasons behind delay in matters where the appeals were filed late through legal aid.

Justice Bhardwaj further asked for details of procedure and time schedule adopted by the jail authorities to provide timely legal aid to the convicts.

Justice Bhardwaj observed the appeal was filed after 894 days' delay. The convict, in Ludhiana Central Jail, had already undergone imprisonment for over eight years, including four years and eight months in custody after conviction.

# 5 Army men injured in Jalandhar mishap

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, JULY 20

Five Army personnel were injured in a collision between an Army truck and a private truck loaded with onions on the Jalandhar-Amritsar national highway near Suchi Pind today. The incident occurred around 6 am. Two soldiers sustained serious injuries in the accident.

According to preliminary reports, both vehicles were headed towards Amritsar when the private truck rear-ended the Army truck near Suchi Pind. The driver of the Army truck lost control of the vehicle that crashed through the divider grills and overturned on the opposite side of the road. The private truck also crashed into the divider.

The Sadak Surakhya Force and officials from the Rama Mandi police station reached the spot and the injured soldiers were taken to a military hospital for treatment. The accident led to a four-hour-long traffic jam on the highway until the situation was restored and the damaged vehicles were towed away. According to the police, two injured are in a serious condition, while the other three have sustained minor injuries.

According to the CCTV footage of the incident, the Army truck was seen attempting to overtake the private truck travelling at a high speed. During the manoeuvre, the latter collided with the Army truck from the rear.

Rama Mandi SHO Gurpreet Singh said the private truck driver fled the spot immediately after the accident and the police were actively tracing his whereabouts. He said once the statements of the Army per-



The Army truck damaged in a collision with an onion-laden truck (below) on the Jalandhar-Amritsar national highway near Suchi Pind in Jalandhar on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

### ARMY TRUCK WAS ON ROUTINE MONTHLY SPEED CHECK

- As per officials at the military hospital, the Army truck involved in the accident belonged to 11 Corps Provost Unit
- The incident occurred around 6.30 am while a routine monthly speed check was being conducted



sonnel were recorded, an FIR would be registered in the case. As per officials at the military hospital, the 2.5-tonne Army truck involved in the accident belonged to 11 Corps Provost Unit. The incident occurred around 6.30 am while a routine monthly speed check was being conducted.

Officials said the driver of the overloaded private truck, which was moving behind

the Army vehicle, lost control on the wheel after a tyre burst and it collided with the military vehicle.

The impact caused the Army truck to veer onto the divider and overturn. As a result, one Junior Commissioned Officer and four soldiers sustained injuries. They were taken to a military hospital for treatment. Their condition is stated to be stable.

**WE ARE HIRING**

- PROJECT INCHARGE (Civil) - 1
- PROJECT INCHARGE - 1
- SITE SUPERVISOR M - 1
- SALES EXECUTIVE M/F - 2

**REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS**  
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**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE**

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/ BMD (APPROX.) in Rupees
1	INFORMATION, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT HARYANA	Request for Proposal (RFP) to assess the reach and impact of pro-active benefit schemes & services of Govt. of Haryana	20.07.2024 26.07.2024	-

WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT: <https://tenders.hry.nic.in>  
NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL: 9416284041 dipfield@gmail.com

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

**pnb Housing** Regd. Office: 8th Floor, Anilkash Bhawan, 22, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110021, Ph: 011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Website: [www.pnbhousing.com](http://www.pnbhousing.com)  
Branch Office: SCO 218-219, 2nd Floor, Sector 12, Part 1, City Centre Huda, Karnal - 132001

**POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)**

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the PNB Housing Finance Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & in compliance of Rule 8(1) of Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notices on the date mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrowers to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s) date of receipt of the said notices.

The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in pursuance of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account.

The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of PNB Housing Finance Ltd. for the amount and interest thereon as per loan agreement. 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.

S. No.	Loan Account No.	Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor	Demand Notice Date	Amount Outstanding	Date of Possession Taken	Description Of The Property Mortgaged
1.	HOU/KAR/1117/449723 B.O.: Karnal	Mr. Ajit Rajpal & Mrs. Jyoti Ajit	14-11-2023	Rs. 20,97,608.95 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eight and Ninety Five Paise Only) Due as On 14.11.2023	17.07.2024 (Physical)	House at Gali No 2, Ward No 15, Abadi Krishanpura, Under MC limit, Panipat, Haryana, Rakha 40 Sq. Yds. Measuring 12 X 30 Ft. Vide Sale No. 6802 dated 02/01/2018 with Sub Joint Registration officer, Panipat in favour of Ajit Singh S/o Sh. Rajpal. Boundaries: North: Street, South: House of Pawan Kumar, West: House of Balbir Singh, East: House of Ramdas

PLACE:- KARNAL, DATE:- 20.07.2024 AUTHORIZED OFFICER, PNB HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

**pnb Housing** Regd. Office: 8th Floor, Anilkash Bhawan, 22, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110021, Ph: 011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Website: [www.pnbhousing.com](http://www.pnbhousing.com)  
Branch Office: SCO 218-219, 2nd Floor, Sector 12, Part 1, City Centre Huda, Karnal - 132001

**APPENDIX JVA - E-AUCTION-PUBLIC SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES**

E-AUCTION-SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISION TO RULE 8(B) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST ENFORCEMENT RULES, 2002

Reg. Off: 8th Floor, Anilkash Bhawan, 22, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110021, Ph: 011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Website: [www.pnbhousing.com](http://www.pnbhousing.com)

Branch Office: SCO 218-219, 2nd Floor, Sector 12, Part 1, City Centre Huda, Karnal - 132001

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) & guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) described in Column no-B mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/Physical Possession of which has been taken (as described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, AS IS WHAT IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" as per the details mentioned below.

Notice is hereby given to borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrower(s)/mortgagor(s) (since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule-8(b) & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 (amended) as on date. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor's website i.e. [www.pnbhousing.com](http://www.pnbhousing.com).

Loan No. Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Legal heirs(A)	Demand Amount & Date (B)	Nature of possession (C)	Description of the Properties mortgaged (D)	Reserve Price (RP) (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	Last Date of Submission of Bid (G)	Bid/Inquiry Rate (H)	Inspection Date & Time (I)	Date of Auction & Time (J)	Know Encumbrances/ Court Case If any (K)
HOU/KAR/1118/483571 Jodinder Raj Mail Smt. Manita W/o Jodinder B.O.: Karnal	29,14,766.05- as on date 17.11.2021	Physical	House No 677, Sector 30, Urban Estate, Kurukshetra, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, Haryana- 136118, Measuring 85 Sq. Meters (101.66 Sq. Yds) in the name of Smt. Manita W/o Jodinder vide title deed Regd. No. 7 222 Dated 15.02.2016. Boundaries: East: Plot Owner Owner: West -Road, North:House No. 678, South: House No. 676	Rs. 45,57,000/-	4,55,700/-	22.08.24	Rs. 10,000/-	13.08.2024 between 10-00 AM to 05-30 PM	23.08.2024 between 12-30 PM to 02-30 PM	"NIL/Not Known"

\*Together with the further interest @18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred upto the date of payment and/or realization thereof. \*\* To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/ claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the Column no.-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser(s)/bidders are requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances.

(1) As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL/authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/ secured assets and status is mentioned in column no-K (2) The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pleading in the proceedings/ orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K. Including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and satisfy themselves in all respects prior to submitting tender/bid application form or making offer(s). The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form. (3) Please note that in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s)/the purchaser is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of (bidder/s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the sale price consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the authorized officer shall forfeit the part payment of sale consideration amount within 15 days from the date of expiry of mandatory period of 15 days mentioned in the sale confirmation letter and the property/secured asset shall be resold as per the provisions of Section 13(4) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Act, 2002 read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. For any assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with Mr. Rahul Dua, Tel Free: 1800 120 8800, E-Mail: [auction@pnbhousing.com](mailto:auction@pnbhousing.com), is authorised Person of PNBHFL or refer to [www.pnbhousing.com](http://www.pnbhousing.com).

PLACE:- Karnal, DATE:- 21.07.2024 SD/- AUTHORIZED OFFICER, PNB HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

PK JAISWAR TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, JULY 20

The police have seized 1 kg ICE, 2.45 kg heroin and 520 gm precursor pseudoephedrine and arrested three persons, including woman drug peddler Daljit Kaur (42), who is a resident of Kot Khalsa. Gurbax, alias Lala (27), and Arshdeep Singh (21), both residents of the Chheharta area, were arrested for drug trafficking two days ago.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said Gurbax was the kingpin of the racket. "Daljit Kaur was arrested by the police with 50 gm heroin on June 16. A disclosure by her led the police



Two drug peddlers arrested by the police in Amritsar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

to Arsheep Singh from whom the police seized 200 gm heroin. Following further investigation, the police arrested Gurbax following an operation under the supervision of Additional Deputy

Commissioner of Police Dr Darpan Ahluwalia. The police seized 1 kg ICE, over 2 gm heroin and 520 gm precursor pseudoephedrine from his possession," the DGP said.

Amritsar Police Commissioner Ranjit Singh Dhillon said Gurbax had five criminal cases against him and he was in and out of the jail in Gurdaspur and Amritsar. He was out on bail since March this year. He said his links were also traced and raids were being conducted to arrest them too.

Arshdeep, who faces a case under the NDPS Act, was out on bail since March last year. He said Gurbax was sourcing precursor chemical and adulterated crude heroin to increase its effect, besides manufacturing crystal ICE, a party drug. He used to earn a commission of Rs 50,000 per consignment.



Govt. of Haryana



# Mahra Haryana

# Non-Stop Haryana

## We Haryanvis

### Now sell our crops at MSP

Farmers have received ₹ 1.12 lakh crores directly in their bank accounts

Payment to farmers within 72 hours of crop sold

Disbursement of ₹33.26 crores under Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana for Vegetables and Fruits

₹5693 crores transferred directly to the accounts of 19.95 lakh farmers under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

₹12,750 crores disbursed as immediate relief for damaged crops

*Increase in MSP and assured Procurement on MSP will continue...*



Sukhu: Govt to upgrade Balaknath Temple infra

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

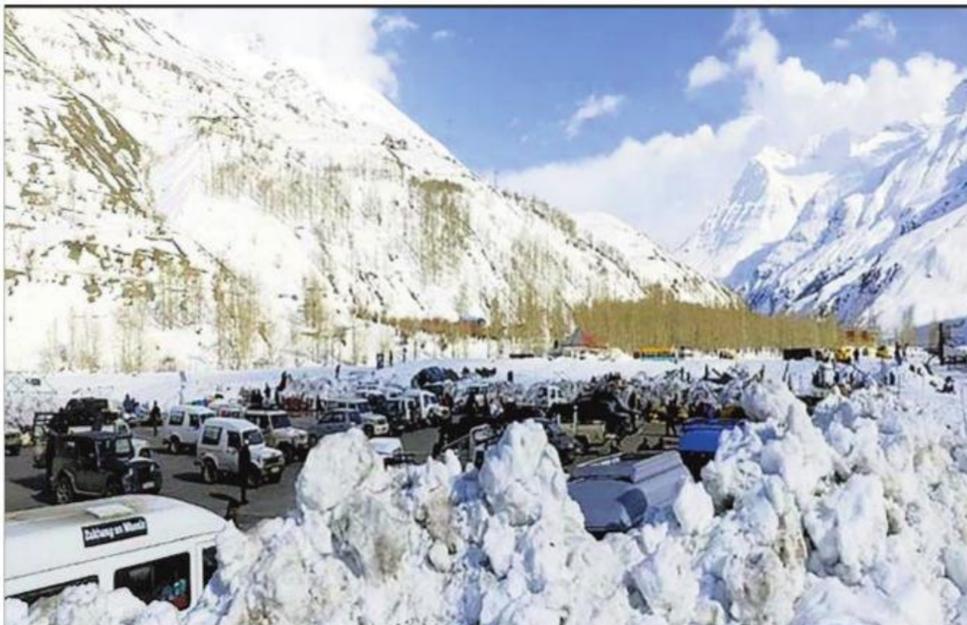
SHIMLA, JULY 20 Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said that the state government had decided to enhance and upgrade infrastructure at Baba Balaknath Temple at Deothsidh in Hamirpur, including set up a ropeway at a cost of Rs 65 crore. He said that the temple had been recognised as one of the most sacred and ancient pilgrimage places and its infrastructure upgrade would boost religious tourism in the area. "To ease congestion and ensure smooth and safe movement of pilgrims, the state government has approved the installation of a ropeway at the temple," he added. Sukhu said that the ropeway would be constructed at a cost of Rs 65 crore and it would connect the taxi parking area to the temple. "The temple located at the hilltop witnesses major congestion, particularly during Navra-

tras and other auspicious days, often resulting in inconvenience to pilgrims. The ropeway will help mitigate this problem and facilitate visitors," he added. The Chief Minister said that the development of the ropeway would significantly enhance the experiences of the pilgrims, who would be ensured of safety and easy accessibility to the temple. "At present, there is one road connecting the taxi parking area to the temple but the ropeway will provide pilgrims with an alternative to reach the shrine," he added. This project is also expected to create employment and self-employment opportunities for local people, thereby bolstering the local economy. He said the temple was an important shrine that attracted thousands of pilgrims from across north India. "This temple serves as a spiritual centre and also as a hub of cultural and natural exploration in Himachal," he added.

Tourist rush in Lahaul, locals want influx of vehicles capped, carrying-capacity assessed

PRATIBHA CHAUHAN

SHIMLA, JULY 20 Residents and tourism stakeholders of the Lahaul valley are struggling to cope with the influx of almost 10,000 vehicles every day during the peak summer season in the absence of a Tourism Master Plan and basic facilities even two years after the opening of the Rohtang tunnel. The locals fear that they will lose their heritage, cultural identity and the fragile Himalayan ecology due to the sudden tourism boom after the opening of the Rohtang tunnel. They are now demanding a carrying-capacity study or assessment for allowing the growth of sustainable tourism in the valley. "On an average, over 10,000 vehicles entered the Lahaul valley every day during the peak summer season from May 1 to July 15 this year but we do not have infrastructure like parking spaces, waste management, water supply, public toilets and other facilities to cope with this sudden rush," says Tenzin Karpa, president of the Lahaul Hoteliers Association. Karpa says that there is an urgent need to cap the number of vehicles entering Lahaul daily and simulta-



10K VEHICLES ENTERED VALLEY EVERY DAY

- As many as 1.32 lakh people had visited Lahaul in 2019 and in 2022, two years after inauguration of the Rohtang tunnel, the tourist count surged to over eight lakh. On an average, over 10,000 vehicles entered the Lahaul valley every day during the peak summer season from May 1 to July 15. A total of 55,606 tourist vehicles crossed the Atal Tunnel in one week between May 12 and 18 this year. Around 25.76 lakh vehicles had passed through the tunnel from January 2022 to December 2023.

<< Tourist vehicles parked at the north portal of the Atal Tunnel in Lahaul & Spiti district.

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CORRIGENDUM. Tender called vide this office letter No. ED/II, TA, TENDER/24-25-1746-47 dated 19.06.2024 for the works appearing at Sr. No. 3, 4 of tender notice the eligible class of contractors may now be read as per detail mentioned below.

INSTITUTE FOR AUTOPARTS & HAND TOOLS TECHNOLOGY. Eligible Candidates are invited for a Walk-in Interview on 25/07/2024 between 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM in the Institute for the following Vacancies:

Ojha given additional charge of Director General, CID. Shimla: Sanjeev Ranjan Ojha, Director General, Prisons and Correctional Services, was today given the additional charge of the post of Director General (DG), CID, Himachal Pradesh. TNS

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB Recruitment Notice Reference No. 05/C-PYTE/2024. Applications are invited for the following contractual posts from female candidates at C-PYTE Camp Kapurthala for training of girls for recruitment into Armed Forces Para Military Forces and Police, working under the Department of Employment Generation, Skill Development and Training, Punjab.

Miyar valley to get BSNL's 4G services

MANDI, JULY 20 Aimed at strengthening telecommunication infrastructure, the BSNL has initiated efforts to introduce 4G services in the remote Miyar valley of tribal Lahaul-Spiti district. When introduced, the move will solve the long-standing connectivity problems faced by residents and students in the region. Lahaul-Spiti MLA Anuradha Rana said that the BSNL had started laying the optical fibre cable, which is crucial for enabling high-speed Internet services. Efforts were underway to erect BSNL towers strategically across the Miyar valley to ensure comprehensive coverage. "It is expected that within two months, the Miyar valley will be seamlessly integrated with BSNL's 4G network," said Anuradha. The residents of Lahaul-Spiti have often struggled with inadequate communication facilities. This has hindered students' online education and made it difficult for residents to stay connected with their families during crucial times. — TNS



Trekkers rescued from the Pin Parvati Pass in the Spiti valley. TRIBUNE PHOTO

US citizen, 17 other trekkers rescued from Pin Parvati Pass in Spiti valley

MANDI, JULY 20 The Kaza administration rescued 18 stranded trekkers, including one US citizen, from the Pin Parvati Pass in the Spiti valley of Lahaul and Spiti yesterday. The police received information that 18 trekkers were stranded 12 km from Mudh village towards the Pin Parvati Pass in Spiti. A rescue team, including personnel of the police, ITBP and the local administration, was dispatched immediately. "The team successfully located 18 trekkers near the Tenma Top, 18 km from Mudh village. The group consisted of one guide, nine tourists and nine porters. Due to fatigue, five tourists, four porters and the lone guide preferred to stay at the Tanma camping site. The rescue team escorted the remaining four tourists and four porters to Kaza," said a police officer. He added, "Among the stranded people, Richard Oman, a US citizen, was not feeling well and was admitted to the Civil Hospital, Kaza. All trekkers were rescued safely and the overall situation remains peaceful," he added. — TNS

MeT Dept forecasts very heavy rainfall on July 22, 23

SHIMLA, JULY 20 The Meteorological Department today issued an orange warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall accompanied with thunderstorms and lightning at isolated areas in Himachal Pradesh on July 22 and 23. It also forecast heavy rain in Kangra and Mandi on July 22 and in Mandi, Shimla and Sirmour on July 23. The department issued a yellow alert for heavy rains in Una, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Chamba, Kullu, Shimla, Solan and Sirmour districts on July 22 and in Kinnaur, Solan, Kullu, Kangra, Chamba, Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Una districts on July 23. Similarly, a yellow warning was also issued for 11 districts with the exception of Lahaul



A student walks in the rain in Dharamsala on Saturday. PHOTO: KAMALJEET

Prez, PM urged for probe into Agniveer's death

HAMIRPUR, JULY 20 The parents of Agniveer Nikhil Dhadwal, who died in Kashmir earlier this week, have urged President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to order an inquiry into their son's death. Nikhil, who was posted in the Tanda area of Kashmir's Akhnour, died on Thursday. He was from the first batch of Agniveers and had completed two years in the Army. His father Daler Singh, a taxi driver, said that he was informed on phone that his son had sustained serious injury and later died. He urged the President and the Prime Minister to get an inquiry conducted into the cause of death. Nikhil's brother Akhil has also urged the government to probe the case. — PTI

HARYANA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD. MEGA OPEN e-AUCTION. Golden Opportunity. To Own Commercial Site In Mandis on freehold basis. 23-07-2024, 24-07-2024, 25-07-2024, 26-07-2024. PORTAL FOR USER REGISTRATION & e-AUCTION. www.hsamb.org.in or hsamb.procure247.com. For more details/information click on web sites mentioned above & contact concerned Secretary Market Committee. C-6, Sector-6, Mandi Bhawan, Panchkula, Ph.: 0172-2560056, 2560229, 2560124. समृद्ध किसान हमारी पहचान

# Destination Uttarakhand

STRENGTHENING RURAL ECONOMY, PROMOTING LOCAL PRODUCE



Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are committed to the holistic development of our state, leveraging its natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and immense potential. Through sustainable policies and strategic initiatives, we aim to foster economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for all our citizens. Our goal is to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where tradition meets innovation, and every individual can thrive in a conducive environment for prosperity and well-being."

**Pushkar Singh Dhama**  
Chief Minister

## Uttarakhand's 'organic' tale of success

UOCB has played a vital part in the organic cultivation movement in India, setting up vast supply chains and developing the 'Organic Uttarakhand' brand

Formed on May 19, 2003, under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, the Uttarakhand Organic Commodity Board (UOCB) functions as the nodal agency for boosting organic farming in Uttarakhand. UOCB's mission is to help Uttarakhand develop as the organic capital of India, acquiring sustainable rural growth via organic agriculture methods.

The board's measures span farming and allied sectors, including horticulture, medicinal aromatic plants and herbs, and animal husbandry. UOCB is divided into four key wings: the Technical Cell, the Training Cell, the Certification Cell, and the Marketing Cell. The Technical Cell recognises groups inclined to embrace organic agriculture, forms farmer groups and creates cultivation techniques. The Training Cell furnishes farmers with the required aptitudes via demonstrations, training sessions, and different academic materials. The Certification Cell encourages organic certification for farms and stores, while the Marketing Cell promotes organic produce to B2B customers via exhibits and panels.

In recent years, UOCB's endeavours have demonstrated noteworthy outcomes. In 2019, farmers under UOCB's direction partook in 35 fairs and exhibits, yielding ₹28 lakh in sales and building a market worth ₹210 lakh. By 2020-21, despite the problems posed by the pandemic, farmers still partook in 11 fairs, achieving ₹8 lakh in sales and yielding a market worth ₹85 lakh.

UOCB has played a vital part in the organic cultivation movement in India, setting up vast supply chains and developing the 'Organic Uttarakhand' brand. Their offerings contain different grains and cereals like Dehraduni Basmati Rice, Pusa-1 Basmati, Red Rice, and wheat. The spice range includes bay leaf, black jeera, coriander, ginger, and turmeric. The pulses range includes black chickpeas, black gram, kidney beans, and lentils, along with millets such as barnyard millet and finger millet. Further, they offer apple juice, detergent powder, groundnut, herb oils, honey, mustard oil, soapnut, sugar, temperate fruits, and fresh vegetables.

Driven by the vision of PM Narendra Modi, the Uttarakhand government led by CM Pushkar Singh Dhama has undertaken various initiatives that promote and market the hill state's well-crafted products. A significant step in this direction is the formation of 'House of Himalayas', a flagship brand created to bring Uttarakhand's high-quality, genuine products to both domestic and global markets

## House of Himalayas Boosting rural economy of Uttarakhand



CM Pushkar Singh Dhama presenting 'House of Himalayas' brand products to PM Narendra Modi at GIS 2023, Dehradun

Nestled in the lap of the Himalayas, Uttarakhand is well-known for its beautiful landscapes, along with its rich treasure trove of organic and traditionally prepared products. Identifying the untouched potential of these products and the demand to strengthen rural livelihoods, the Uttarakhand government has been working actively by undertaking several schemes.

of Himalayas is to improve the business opportunities of these unique products, which include goods made by Self-Help Groups (SHGs), crafters, individual entrepreneurs, and community-based societies.

The state boasts of a wide range of organic products that are nutritionally rich and have very little chemical impact. While a few private players exist, the majority of these products have not tapped into a broader consumer base. Therefore, House of Himalayas seeks to close this gap by offering a robust platform that ensures quality assurance, provides expert business guidance, and implements effective marketing strategies.

**ABOUT 'HOUSE OF HIMALAYAS'**  
On December 8, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi founded 'House of Himalayas' during the Global Investor Summit of Uttarakhand, marking it as an unparalleled initiative. This initiative sought to capsule various small-scale brands and products under one strong, cohesive identity. The purpose of House

**KEY DIFFERENTIATORS OF HOUSE OF HIMALAYAS**  
**Superior Quality:** House of Himalayas

distinguishes itself with products that are known for their uncompromising quality and premium craftsmanship, which sets them apart from mass-generated alternatives.

**Authenticity Assured:** Focused on traditional methods and authentic experiences, the products under this initiative go through rigorous quality controls and hold certifications verifying their exceptional quality.

**Community Commitment:** Choosing House of Himalayas means supporting the local communities through meaningful social initiatives, and promoting positive change with every purchase.

**Open Sourcing:** The initiative prioritises complete transparency when it comes to sourcing materials and production processes, thus ensuring consumer trust.

**Sustainability Focus:** With sustainable sourcing and production practices, the brand caters to buyers who appreciate ethical consumption.

**Holistic Brand Experience:** A holistic experience is offered by enclosing compelling storytelling, educational insights, and immersive programmes that enhance every consumer journey.

**CM PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMA'S E-COMMERCE PUSH**  
Yet another noteworthy action was taken to increase the visibility and accessibility of the state's products on July 5, 2024. The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhama, in association with Amazon India, initiated House of Himalayas into the e-commerce giant's platform. This initiative is aimed at

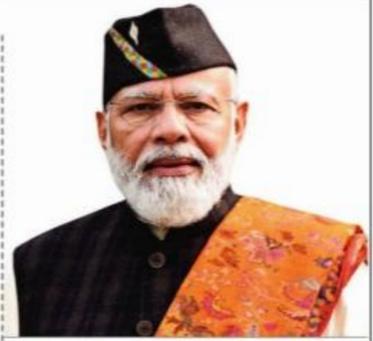


CM Pushkar Singh Dhama with Radhika Jha, secretary, rural development, and other officials, signing an MoU with an e-commerce platform for House of Himalayas

The launch of 'House of Himalayas' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrated a noteworthy milestone in Uttarakhand's journey towards economic autonomy and rural advancement. At the Global Investor Summit, the Prime Minister

making the state's products available to a more expansive consumer base, both within India and the global markets.

At the launch event, held at the secretariat, CM Dhama bought local



I congratulate the Uttarakhand government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand's commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state's dedication to inclusive development and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead.

**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

products, representing the state's loyalty to sustaining its own. He stressed that the primary objective of House of Himalayas is to take Uttarakhand's local products to an international level. The CM emphasised that most of the processing and production of these products is carried out by self-help groups, thereby strengthening the livelihood of women and rural communities.

Radhika Jha, secretary, rural development, highlighted the strategic categorisation of products under House of Himalayas. These comprise GI-tagged products, organic and food products, and scented products, each undergoing category-wise branding to improve their market presence.

## A step to promote local handloom & handicraft

The craftsmanship of Uttarakhand, embedded in age-old practices, has been a significant basis of livelihood for regional people for years

In the domain of conventional craftsmanship, Uttarakhand's handloom sarees maintain a unique position alongside well-known products from other states. The craftsmanship of Uttarakhand, embedded in age-old practices, has been a significant basis of livelihood for regional residents for years. Realising the prospect of this domain for further job prospects and financial evolution, the Uttarakhand government founded the Uttarakhand Handloom & Handicraft Development Council (UHHDC).

A registered society set up by the government, the UHHDC functions as the apex body for the overall growth of handlooms and handicrafts in the state. Its task is to encourage, direct, and manage the state's craftspeople, enabling sustainable work via the promotion of handicrafts. Under the reputed label 'Himadri', UHHDC has emerged as a hallmark of quality and genuineness for craft products stemming from Uttarakhand. The 'Himadri' label promises that buyers acquire authentic, handcrafted products,

while also assuring appropriate revenue for the crafters' hard work and talent.

UHHDC's measures to facilitate Uttarakhand's handloom and handicraft products

their craftsmanship. Himadri showrooms are strategically situated in major places such as Dehradun, Uttarkashi, Haldwani, Haridwar, and Uttarakhand Sadan in New Delhi, assuring overall accessibility to these special products.

In addition to physical showrooms, UHHDC has developed a beneficial collaboration with the well-known e-commerce platform Amazon, extending the reach of Uttarakhand's handicrafts internationally. This alliance has resulted in the flourishing sale of handicraft products worth lakhs of rupees, garnering global praise and honour. Via this endeavour, craftspeople are furnished with a forum to showcase their skill to a global audience, assuring their art is valued and cherished on a multinational level.

As the nodal agency of the government, UHHDC diligently puts up multiple art fairs, exhibits, and promotional occasions throughout the year. These endeavours furnish crafters with a venue to exhibit their dexterities as well as play a vital part in maintaining and elevating Uttarakhand's rich cultural legacy.



PIC: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT



PIC: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT

## Doon Silk: Empowering artisans, reviving tradition

Doon Silk is a label under the Uttarakhand Cooperative Silk Federation (UCRF) and is committed to maintaining and restoring the ancient silk-weaving customs of Uttarakhand

Highlighting the usage of natural fibers, Doon Silk is dedicated to protecting our surroundings and ecosystem while providing magnificent handloom products. The brand's offerings contain silk, wool, cotton, bichhua (nettle), and hemp, all selected for their minimal environmental effect.

Each Doon Silk product is a testament to the talent and artistry of Uttarakhand's farmers, reelers, weavers, craftspeople, and dyers. The label's detailed craftsmanship assures that each article maintains the highest measures of quality, gaining the confidence and respect of buyers globally. By concentrating on handloom methods, Doon Silk maintains conventional techniques as well as furnishes sustainable job prospects to more than 6,000 people in Uttarakhand.

Doon Silk's dedication to purity is depicted in its 100% natural fiber guarantee. This commitment to quality has helped the brand achieve a firm foothold in both national and global markets. With products such as silk sarees, coats, stoles, and shawls, Doon Silk caters to a myriad clientele, assuring that these timeless articles stay available at unbeatable costs.

The global market has especially

#ExploreUttarakhand

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## Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board: Saga of Himalayan sustainability

The Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board stands as a testament to nature's grace and sustainability, presenting a range of bamboo and nettle products that emphasise the best offerings of the Himalayan province. Among their beautiful innovations are bamboo and nettle lamps, carefully prepared by traditional crafters from Uttarakhand. These lamps, featuring tender cuts, splits, and complex weaves, are made using nettle fiber fabric obtained from the Himalayan foothills. The oval lamps emit a gentle, warm glow, effortlessly mixing natural radiance with grace, enriching any indoor area with their light.

Underscoring an eco-friendly and sustainable lifestyle, the board also offers a series of bamboo bottles. Each bottle is enveloped in a high-quality bamboo shell with a long-lasting stainless-steel interior, assuring

**Objectives and Vision**

The primary objective of the ODTP scheme is to boost the traditional and craft industries of Uttarakhand. By identifying and developing local products, the scheme seeks to place these products on the national and international stage, thereby enhancing their marketability and economic value. This initiative aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of sustainable rural development, which emphasises the importance of promoting local products to spur economic growth

durable performance while reducing plastic waste. This sleek product flawlessly illustrates the synergy of fashion and sustainability.

The board's foray into eco-textiles is characterised by the introduction of Himalayan nettle, a unique natural fiber. Flourishing between heights of 1200 to 2900 meters in the temperate and sub-tropical Himalayas, this perennial plant presents manifold opportunities. Conventional apparel made from nettle fiber, which dates back thousands of years, is undergoing a revival. Nettle fiber fabrics, known for their intrinsic thermal characteristics, antimicrobial features, and resistance to wrinkling, redefine convenience and fashion.

The Uttarakhand Bamboo and Fiber Development Board helps the environment and sustainable living as well as empowers crafters and encourages marginal tribal communities through promoting nettle fiber products.

# Bridegrooms Wanted

## IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

Status match for Ad-dharmi SC girl, 1996, 5'-3", Judicial Magistrate, Punjab. Contact: 97799-45700. (CL24035478)

## MAHAJAN

Mahajan girl 1996, 5'-3", B.Tech EPGM Vegetarian Senior Consultant Noida educated family. Parents Govt. 88275-90222. (CL24035671)

Seeking tetotaler, well settled groom, own family business in Chandigarh/Punjab, 8 ft, slim, homely divorcee, 5'-5", 16.04.88 (6:31 am), from high status Pathankot family. BHP. Email: am127654@gmail.com (CL24035029)

Mahajan girl, divorced, issueless, short term, Nutritionist, born 25.02.1990, 5'-11", from Pathankot. Seeks well settled, educated upper caste with a stable job. Contact: 98551-98817. (CL24034941)

MA, B.Ed, LLB General IELTS 6 bands, 1971 born, unmarried US, UK, Canada groom. 85.68-23.425. (CL24037015)

## AGGARWAL

SQM for Bansal Mansa girl, 27.03.1995, 12.40 am, 5', working MNC Chandigarh. 90418-32400. (CL24036787)

23 years, Computer Bachelors Degree placed Mohali Resident of Ganganagar, Ludhiana, M: 94689-22004. (CL24035030)

SM 91 born, never married, Aggarwal girl, MBA, 5'-2", working Chandigarh, prefer working in Chand, Delhi, Noida Gurgaon, Pune, Bombay, Bangalore, Hyderabad, educated high status businessman, upper caste no bar. Mob No.: 70097-41660. (CL24035109)

Match for God girl, Non-Mangalik, B.Tech, 5'-11", 3.7.1997, Chandigarh 6:10 pm, IT Professional 14 LPA. Decent marriage, Panchkula based family - 82838-30490. (CL24035138)

Bansal fair, smart girl MBA, working MNC, 5'-6", Dec 1990, NCR based match preferred. Contact 96193-72215. (CL24035355)

PQM for fair Gupta girl, CA, 5'-8.5", 18.01.1996/ 11.45 pm, Jalandhar, working in MNC. 94638-47170. (CL24035763)

Compatible Post Graduation Doctor, Officer match for Senior PCS Officer tall, smart, 33, Aggarwal girl, posted in Punjab. Educated family. 62830-62003. (CL24036797)

Homey Aggarwal Garg un-married 21.09.1983, 5'-3", vegetarian Graduate slim girl. 62805-02121, 62800-31938. (CL24036965)

Beautiful Bansal girl, 1997, 5', JE Punjab Govt, Mohali. Govt. officer preferred. 94636-53870. (CL24037106)

Singla girl 03.07.1994, 5'-5", M.Com., MBA. Required well-settled or decent package boy. 99888-10727 Ludhiana. (CL24037161)

Ramdasia Sikh girl 10.07.1990, 4'-9", Textile Designer Ludhiana. Hindu, upper caste welcome. 96460-83115. (CL24037169)

Manglik Bansal 8-October-1991, 4'-11", Post-graduate. Preferred Tricity Govt. MNC. 94641-93469. (CL24037171)

Suitable match for beautiful fair slim Aggarwal girl, 07.09.1993, 5'-4", M.Com., MBA, working Bangalore 6.5 lacs, family Panchkula. Caste no bar. 97293-42319. (CL24037189)

Goyal girl settled in UK 27.10.1998, 08:45 a.m. Patiala, 5'-4", M.Sc. Preference will be given to settled in UK or GAZETTED OFFICER. 97819-36421. (CL24037202)

Match for Manglik Jindal girl, 12.10.1997, 10:20 am, Patiala, 5'-3", very fair, B.Com, M.Com, ETT, 98141-94744 (Dhuri). (CL24037211)

Business/working match for Aggarwal girl 29/ 5'-10", Masters Degree from Europe. Upper middle class family. Tricity preferred, decent marriage. 98723-67919. (CL24037214)

Short time divorcee Garg girl, July 1991, 5'-2", MBA, working Bangalore. 78887-04901. (CL24035090)

Jindal Manglik girl 12.12.1998, 5'-11", M.A. B.Ed. 99880-45380. (CL24035300)

Suitable match for beautiful Garg Doctor girl (BIMS) 26 years, 5'-11", doing practice. Preference Doctor boy. Contact and WhatsApp 94173-36590. (CL24035477)

Garg girl B.Tech, 5'-6", 29.01.95, 9:45 p.m. Chandigarh, running own venture. Preference tricity. 98153-60745. (CL24035544)

SM4 Garg girl 28.10.1996, 2:20 pm Sunam, 5'-5", working Accenture Pune 14 LPA. 95309-03964. (CL24035631)

Garg girl 15.10.1987, 11:50 pm, birth Karal, 5'-2", M.Sc., pvt. job. 89507-41785, 90342-59794. (CL24036128)

PQM for Garg girl, 1994, 5'-4", B.Tech. Working MNC Package 46 Lac. Bureau excise. 88376-72257 (Bathinda). (CL24036292)

Garg girl, 29, 5'-3", Punjab Govt. Officer. Preference Punjab Govt. job. 82880-05297, 94653-78697. (CL24036832)

SM4 Singla girl, 1997, 5'-4", Sirdind, B.Tech. Software Developer, package 21 LPA. 84374-65956 only WhatsApp. (CL24036857)

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## ARORA

Match for beautiful girl 1993/ 158 cm, Government employee Hospital Chandigarh, Chandigarh preferred. 95184-21500. (CL24034876)

Arora beautiful girl, 21.11.1994, 4:20 pm, 5'-2", Group-B Central Govt in Chandigarh. 94169-31141. (CL24035373)

Vegetarian match for Arora girl 1986 born, M.Com., 5', Nationalized Bank Chandigarh. WhatsApp: 75080-69561. (CL24036350)

Suitable match for Arora girl, 34, 5'-4", Govt. Bank employee. Preference vegetarian, Govt. employee and Punjab resident. #86993-32680. (CL24034934)

SM4 Arora girl Dec. 97, 5'-0", beautiful, slim, B.Sc., B.Ed., CTET clear. Parents Business. Preferred non-alcoholic, Job/ Business. 83609-29588. (CL24035200)

Status match for Arora Manglik girl, 5'-2", LLM/ 1997 (Khanna), 99143-25906. (CL24036871)

Jalandhar based Hindu professional & business family requires match for beautiful M.A. (Fine Arts) 5'-11", 1994 girl with bit problem in right hand. Mobile: 93570-58694. (CL24036884)

Employed match for Hindu Arora Khatri girl 06.02.1992, 9.30 pm, Nabha, 5'-3", M.Sc. Statistics, Bank employee. 99883-09066. (CL24037177)

## KHATRI

IAS, IPS, professional businessman status match for MD Doctor (Gynaecologist), July 1992, 5'-11", Affluent Punjabi Khatri business family. 98146-43193. (CL24036790)

Suitable match for Ludhiana based Oct. 88 born Canadian PR Khatri girl, MBBS (DEM). Preferred well settled, upper caste boy USA/Canada/India. Marriage bureau excise. 74698-87777, deepakakapuri21@yahoo.com (CL24037228)

Suitable match for well qualified beautiful Khatri girl January 1993 born, 5'-2", share with full detail & recent photograph. Business family required. Contact: 93168-74015. (CL24037238)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri tall, slim, very fair, extremely beautiful girl, 24 years, 5'-6", very sweet nature. Chandigarh based, Masters in English from Punjab University, daughter of well settled industrialist of Tricity. Looking for handsome, qualified, well settled businessman from respectable family of Tricity of Chandigarh, Panchkula & Mohali only. Contact: 98787-11661, 92161-11113. (CL24035243)

Professionally qualified employed for Hindu Khatri 1996/ 5', MBA, MNC employed, Chennai, 14 Lakh. Airforce preferred. 98153-47053. (CL24037261)

SM4 Manglik, Non-Manglik Khatri girl, M.Sc., B.Ed., 5'-11", 09.08.1994, 5:16 am, Chandigarh:- 98889-48620. (CL24035819)

MD Doctor girl pursuing Superspeciality 10.08.1989 Chandigarh, caste no bar. 98055-37606. (CL24036081)

Khatra 24/ 5'-4"/ B.Tech, MS from Canada/ Software Engineer at Canada PR girl. 62325-09744. (CL24036573)

Looking highly income family for Industrialist daughter from Ambala cantt, 24.4.1995 born/ 5'-6" height. Whatsapp 72062-04030. (CL24036803)

Match for Chandigarh born brought up 1988, 5'-3", Post-graduate, groom from Tricity, NCR, Delhi. Upper caste welcome, bureau excise. 79866-59975. (CL24036891)

Professionally qualified, forces background or well settled business family match invited for Khatri Punjabi girl convent educated Post Graduate beautiful, charming, fair and tall, 1992 born, 5'-6". WhatsApp biodata with picture on 98100-90299. (CL24037067)

High status well settled business family of Chandigarh looking alliance for their beautiful daughter October 1994 Chandigarh born, 5'-2", M.Sc in Clinical Psychology from Prestigious University of UK running her own business at Chandigarh. Interested may send detail WhatsApp: 98887-89986. (CL24036816)

Match for Hindu Khatri girl 27/ 5'-3", B.Tech. (CSE) India, Project Management & HR Management, presently on work-permit in Canada seeks Canadian PR/citizen boy. Mb: 94630-00800. (CL24037162)

PQM for 1994/ 5'-4", beautiful, slim, Khatri girl, Nursing Officer PGI Chandigarh, 13 Lakh, status family. WhatsApp only 98151-34936. (CL24037205)

Match for Khatri girl, 31 Years, 5'-7", MCA, Pvt. Job MNC, Mohali. Tricity preferred. Kundli must. 98886-52139. (CL24034951)

Govt. Officer match for beautiful Hindu Khatri Bank Officer 32/ 5'-4", Upper caste welcome. 81466-85299. (CL24036604)

Extremely beautiful Khatri girl, 2000/ 5'-6", Master Degree. Upper caste welcome. Early marriage. Required businessman. 76968-33300, 98153-68333. (CL24034972)

Well qualified handsome Punjabi Khatri boy required for vegetarian Khatri 31 years, 5'-4", working in MNC (USA) fair girl. Working in MNC required only either in USA or India. Marriage bureau excise. 89012-33789. (CL24035251)

Match for Hindu Khatri girl, 5'-2", fair, 13th Feb 1990, Chandigarh, Working MNC Gurugram, 26 L/ annum. Boy working Gurugram preferred. Father businessman, Brother Doctor. Contact: 93160-55865. (CL24035294)

Working MBA beautiful slim Khatri girl, 5'-0", 05 Jan. 1998, 7:25 pm, Pinjore. 74968-26780, 94164-52575. (CL24035545)

Professionally qualified match for Khatri girl, 15.10.92, 5'-5", CS, self employed. 94172-68752 (CL24035603)

Suitable match for Khatri girl 1994 born, 5'-5", Amritsar, B.Tech. Senior Software Engineer MNC Pune 21 LPA. Preferred only Pune and Bangalore. Ph. 97800-32315. (CL24035739)

## SMF unmarried, 1984, fair, beautiful, 5'-2", MBA, convent schooling. Caste no bar. 9872850443. (CL24036538)

Khatri girl, 2.2.1989, 5'-3", 10.50 am, Ludhiana, B.Tech + MBA preferred eligible boy. 98143-24325. (CL24036856)

Khatri beautiful girl 1982, 5'-5", Ambala, never married, MA, B.Ed. Kundli not must. 90340-07751. (CL24036922)

SM4 Khatri girl 5'-0", 25.06.1993, 08:00 am, BP Sahnewal (Ludhiana), B.Tech. CSE, required educated Khatri working boy with family values. 94176-00078, 85280-53720. (CL24037011)

SM4 Non-Manglik 5'-3", 30.06.1990, 10:17 am, Ludhiana, Software Engineer, job at Bengaluru. Handsome package. 97791-50992. (CL24037016)

Khatri Manglik beautiful girl 12.01.1994, 11:50 p.m., Ludhiana, 5'-3", BBA, MBA, B.Ed., Content Creator educational job, seeks only Ludhiana match well settled, marriage bureau excise. 98780-32745. (CL24037055)

Match for beautiful Non-Manglik pure vegetarian girl, 5'-4", 29.03.1992, 11:19 am, Chandigarh, Working teacher convent school. 99154-44724. (CL24037113)

Handsome well settled Khatri Arora match for fair, beautiful, B.Tech, MBA, working TCS, 1995 born, Manglik girl, 5'-3", WhatsApp biodata on 99919-96667. (CL24037143)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri beautiful girl 1997, 5'-4", Post Graduate, 99149-99086 (Khanna). (CL24037163)

Employed vegetarian match for Radhasoani Punjabi Khatri girl 29, 5'-1", B.Sc, B.Ed, PSTET clear (Nabha). 94642-22366. (CL24037174)

SM for Hindu Khatri beautiful girl, 5'-9", PG (M.Sc. Phy, B.Ed), birth 15/09/1994, 11:30 am, Sonapat. Working HDFC Bank. Tricity preferred. 99151-56611, 98771-05470. (CL24037178)

Extremely beautiful Khatri, 20/ 5'-6", Master Degree, upper caste match, industrialist/ businessman only. 98142-15004/ 98884-74887. (CL24037221)

Suitable tricity match Hindu Punjabi Khatri girl, Jan. 1995, 5'-4", M.Sc., Vegetarian, serving in MNC, Chandigarh. 94179-93460. (CL24037229)

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Advt. Manager

## PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

Suitable match for SC beautiful (Deaf & dumb) girl 1996, 5'-4", 10+2 doing IT, father GAZETTED Officer, Panchkula. 78890-64185. (CL24037217)

## SAINI

Beautiful non-working Company Secretary, 1986 Mukerian born girl, Father Doctor, Mother Retired Teacher, Brother unmarried well settled in Bangalore. Contact: 98150-95443. (CL24035022)

Professionally qualified match for Saini Sikh beautiful girl, Dec 1996/ 5'-2", B.Tech, JE Punjab Govt. Govt job/ well settled business preferred. 98558-17700. (CL24036122)

Canada based Saini Sikh girl 1990/ 5'-2", M.Tech, working at Canada Company, seeking equal educated Canada based boy. Marriage bureau excise. Mobile: 98889-85873. (CL24036129)

Wanted highly qualified, well placed match for September 1997 born fair, very beautiful 5 feet 9 inches tall, convent educated, MBA Saini Sikh girl working in Bengaluru. Father retired Class one gazetted officer having urban and rural property. Caste no bar. Please contact on WhatsApp number 92562-90511. (CL24036744)

Saini Sikh girl, 5/8.1992, 5'-4", B.Tech.(CS), Time 11.55 am/ Jalandhar, job IT Bangalore, preference IT (Banagalore, Pune). WhatsApp 94176-51125. (CL24037064)

Suitable match for Saini girl, September 1985 born, 5'-11", Assistant Professor (Regular). Boy should be tetotaler, vegetarian and professionally qualified, preferably from Patiala & Chandigarh region. Upper caste no bar. Contact: 97805-08554. (CL24035311)

Match for M.Com., Manglik Saini girl 5'-2", 18.2.1997, PTE score-64, those wishing to go out can also Contact. Preferred only Saini families. 99153-06797. (CL24035504)

Match for Saini Sikh 29 yr., 5'-7" girl B.Tech. ECE, working Lead Engineer. 94804-70560, bsaini220@gmail.com (CL24035471)

Alliance invited for 1988 born, Chandigarh, 5'-4", beautiful Saini Sikh girl from qualified, status family. She is an Engineer and has good net worth. Seeking smart, educated well settled boy from status family. Upper caste no bar. Bureau excise. Contact: 93470-82391. (CL24035860)

Unmarried Hindu Saini fair girl 184.1993, 5'-3", completing CA final, wanted businessman/ employee. 70078-90800. (CL24036945)

Match for vegetarian Rajput girl, 29, 5'-1", MBA/LLB, HR in company. Tricity preferred. M: 98142-44642. (CL24037061)

Match for beautiful Goldsmith girl, Maths Lecturer, M.Sc. TET, Feb. 1988, 5'-11". Preference Goldsmiths Sikh Khatri/Arora/General. 9872352605. (CL24037044)

Himachali Rajput girl, 5'-1", 13/12/1999, 5:16 pm, Chandigarh, M.Sc., Counselor in Pvt. Medical Hospital. Preferred Tricity only. 95308-92641. (CL24037101)

Rajput 1967/ 5'-3", fair, slim never married Science Teacher in Govt. School, wanted unmarried life partner pref. Punjab. 98103-23960, 98104-98825. (CL24037193)

Most adjustable, intelligent beautiful girl, 5'-3", Qualified HTE, CTET and D.Ed. presently working as teacher in Army school Ambala. Preferred Ambala, Mohali, Chandigarh. 94184-43149. (CL24037258)

## CHRISTIAN

Christian girl 1991/5'-7", M.Sc. (IT), B.Ed., Inspector, Punjab Police, seeks Govt. employee match. 77107-46081. (CL24036933)

Match for Christian unmarried girl MA, B.Ed., August 1984, 5'-3", Regular Govt. teacher. 98883-36806. (CL24037107)

## DEFENCE

Ramgaria Tech girl July 1991, 5'-7", Double M.Sich LT. Commander Indian Navy contact Defence Officer- 96532-02836. (CL24037057)

## MUSLIM

Muslim girl, 1994, 5'-11", Regular Govt. employee, Chandigarh. Father retired gazetted officer. Contact: 70093-87277. (CL24033696)

Ansari Sunni Muslim girl 27, 5'-11", MCA, Sunni Muslim boy from Tricity. Contact: 76967-22498. (CL24036863)

PQM Sunni Muslim girl 84 born, 5'-2", B.Sc., B.Ed., PGDCA, regular job Teacher APS, early & simple marriage. 98761-73637. (CL24036979)

## JAT

SM for Hindu Jat girl, October 1992, 5'-4", B.Tech., presently working. Mobile: 94162-70513, 99966-11722. (CL24037075)

## RAJPUT

Kashyap Rajput Manglik girl 1992, 5'-2", M.Tech, pursuing Ph.D., Lecturer in Haryana Govt., Parents retired. Govt. employee preferred. Upper caste welcome. Contact: 87086-62405. (CL24036174)

Suitable match for Himachali Rajput girl, height- 5'-4" born 15 Jan. 1999, homely girl. 62806-02869. (CL24034881)

Suitable match for working Rajput Himachali girl, 26 June 1992, 09:05 am, M.Sc., 5'-6". Contact: 95010-09924, 70871-26765. (CL24035080)

Beautiful Rajput, Jawal girl, 27 yrs, H. 5'-4", Mohali, B.Tech. Food Tech. & MBA, Wkg auditor Gurgaon, 96545-70426. (CL24035250)

Hindu Rajput girl 1996/ 5'-7", Government Officer in Himachal, seeks Government Officer. 99887-04677. (CL24035690)

Match for fair complexion Thakur Rajput girl, 28 years, 5'-4", B.A. NTT, Teacher, Tricity, preferably Govt. job. 98885-01266. (CL24036142)

Required highly rich Industrialist/ business family for smart educated Rajput girl 1996, Manglik, 5'-5", Chandigarh. Khatri Aggarwal welcome. 86993-72414. (CL24036205)

SM4 Goldsmith girl 16.1.1992 born, 5'-4", B.Ed., P.T.E.T., C.T.E.T. M: 98157-65177. (CL24036408)

Kashyap Rajput girl 17 August 1991, 10:45 pm, 5', Phagwara, B.Tech., working MNC (Noida), now studying M.Tech. (Australia). Looking for a well-educated boy from Australia. 97793-33846 Ludhiana. (CL24037158)

Match for Gaur/ Kahar/ Nishad (Gora Kashyap), 5'-4", 28.06.1988, MBA girl, Govt. job at Panchkula. All OBC & upper caste no bar. Preferred Tricity/ nearby. 99880-02979. (CL24037236)

Jalandhar based Himachali Rajput girl, M.Sc. (Botany), Silver Medalist, B.Ed., August 1982, 5'-3", Brothers-Colonel, Lt Colonel. Bhabhis-Dentist, Lt Colonel. 95306-44198. (CL24034946)

Match for Mehra fair girl, 1995/ 5'-11", B.Tech. Computer Science, Associate Project Manager, Mohali. Contact: 90415-05576, 94173-81305. (CL24035437)

Kashyap Rajput Mehra manglik 04.12.1989, 08:45 pm, 5'-4", M.A., Ambala, WhatsApp: 85720-00303, 98966-33444. (CL24035453)

Suitable match for beautiful Kashyap Rajput girl Oct.2005/ 5', +2, IELTS cleared (6 bands), Canada preferred. 94168-05851. (CL24035506)

Rajput beautiful girl 20 September 1992, 10:40 pm, 5'-3", B.Tech, CSE, job in C.U. Preferred tricity. Mobile: 9501020885. (CL24036303)

Suitable match for Rajput Kaushal unmarried girl, Oct. 84/ 5'-11", Graduate, Ph. Govt. Job, Patiala based family. Govt. employee preferred. Contact: 98887-04084. (CL24036807)

Suitable match for Kashyap Rajput girl 1985,



Matrimonials

NRI

Professionally qualified match for Aggarwal beautiful Australian citizen girl...

Suitable match for Ravindras Australia PR, innocent, Issueless, divorced girl...

Engineer/ Doctor for beautiful Ramdasia Sikh girl 1991/ 5'-8", B.Tech- IIT, MS (USA), working as Engineer...

Doctor/ Highly Professionally Qualified match for Beautiful Jat Sikh 32 years Doctorate girl Ph.D Microbiology...

NRI highly professionally qualified suitable match for Chandigarh convent educated vegetarian Sikh fair and beautiful girl 86 born, 5'-4", MBA INSEAD AND WHARTON...

Only America (preferably California) settled Doctor/ Engineer/ CA for Aggarwal girl doing Podiatry Medicine Degree from California...

SM for beautiful, fair and slim 1988 born girl, 4'-11", MBA, Canadian PR. Govt. job in Canada...

Jat Sikh Ghuman girl 26/ 5'-3", B.Tech. (IT) from India, Post-Graduate Diplomas from Canada...

Mazbi Sikh beautiful girl 09.06.1996/ 5'-3", Masters in Landscape Architecture working as Landscape Architect in AECOM company...

Majhi Sikh girl 91, 5'-4", MBA, Canada PR need PR Boy. Caste No Bar. Bureau Excuse...

SM for Divan Sikh girl 4.1.2000, 5'-3", work visa NZ wanted NZ PR boy preference Distt. Ropar/Mohali SAS Nagar WhatsApp: 94177-66040...

SM4 Saini girl 86/5'7", well-educated family living in Australia, caste no bar WhatsApp: 9694995896...

Arora Sikh issueless divorcee girl 1989/ 5'-4", Good job in IT sector in Canada. Groom wanted in Canada...

US based match Hindu Khatri girl December 1992, 5'-4", Data Scientist HIB Visa, 79019-12553...

Well settled, educated match sought for very beautiful, educated, working, Canadian citizen Jat Sikh widow, 51 years (looks younger), 5'-2", Two kids, elder son working, daughter pursuing professional education...

Match for a Jat Sikh never married Canadian citizen girl, 5'-6", 31, Bachelors, pursuing CPA, slim, employed. Apply with picture only if you are under 33 years old, never married, Canadian citizens/ PR, professionally employed, independent, well-cultured, with family values, caring, non-drinker, non-smoker, 5'-10" plus tall. Contact: paminderkheema@hotmail.com or WhatsApp +91 90416-57197...

New Zealand PR beautiful Sikh Ramgarhia girl, 38/5'-8", Registered teacher (Auckland). Relocating to Australia soon. Preference at least 6' tall, non-drinker boy. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp: +6423436199, +91-97793-21971, +6423435322...

Seeking professionally qualified, settled, never married boy from educated family, preferably Canadian citizen match for Sikh girl, 35, 153 cm. Girl raised, educated, and settled in Canada. Never married. MN education, healthcare professional, working government job with six figure salary. Family well respected & educated. Message WhatsApp 1-403-849-2431 with biodata & picture. Marriage bureau please excuse. (CL24034857)

Suitable match for Canada PR, Sept. 92 born, 5'-4", unmarried, BDS (Dental Surgeon) from India, Ad-dhami girl. Caste no bar. Marriage bureau excuse. 94174-64126. (CL24034860)

Australian Citizen girl, Government job, 16.3.83/ 5'-9", issueless divorcee. Looking for handsome Australian Citizen boy. Contact 9876224029. (CL24034993)

Canada PR applied Ramgarhia Sikh girl Sohal Gehdu, Sept. 97/ 5'-3", well qualified, residence Aerocity Mohali, business family, seeks Canada PR work permit boy. Preferred tricity. Contact: 98153-60746. (CL24035062)

Professionally qualified well settled USA citizen boy match for Radha Swami SC (Adharmi), BDS girl, 28, 5'-6", USA Masters in Health Care Adm. Working as Dental Assistant in USA. Parents Govt. employees. Contact: 98764-08855. (CL24035179)

Professionally qualified match for 1992, 5'-3", Canadian citizen Arora Sikh girl, working reputed company Calgary. Seeks qualified well settled Sikh preferred Alberta. WhatsApp: 001-825-9457767, 98143-26856. (CL24035190)

Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikh girl, 10.10.93, 5'-3", B.Tech. (CSE), M.Sc. (IT), IT Business Analyst (Canada), presently on work permit Preference IT/ Doctor/ work permit/ PR. Caste no bar. Contact 98558-53416 (Patiala). (CL24035206)

Vegetarian non-smoker non-drinker, well settled educated PR Hindu groom for Aug. 93, 5'-4", Canada PR girl Swamkar. WhatsApp photo + biodata: 75081-68376. (CL24035338)

Suitable match for fair, slim Sikh Khatri girl, 1990 born, 5'-4", BS (Engg.), Senior Manager in MNC, California, parents in India, brother Canada. Looking for a cultured, progressive and well educated match with modern values in US or Canada. WhatsApp 91-80543-32189, +1(416) 357 7542. Brokers excuse. (CL24035340)

Suitable match for Joshi Brahmin girl, 30 yrs, 5'-3", Post Graduate, Canadian PR holder, working in TD Bank, Toronto. Father Senior Executive in PNB. Send bio data with picture on WhatsApp No: 98720-40683. (CL24035561)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri Nri Non Manglik, B.Sc. Management, PGD Management Canada on work permit, 5'-2", 18.02.1994 at 4:32 am. Photo + biodata: 98153-60746. (CL24035740)

Match Canada citizen divorcee Ramdasia Sikh girl, 5'-3", 1991, Software Developer. Boy Canada PR Ontario. Caste no bar. 9877747105. (CL24036255)

Australia PR match for Australia study base Saini Sikh girl 2000/ 5'-3", B.Tech., caste no bar. Doaba 94786-75411. (CL24036452)

Canada Barrister/ Solicitor, extremely beautiful, convent educated, 98/5'-5", renowned motivational celebrity girl. Chandigarh based Sikh Judicial family, Solicit. Elite, professionally qualified. Canada PR/ Citizen match from well settled educated family. WhatsApp biodata picture 79865-59140. Email: har27jy@ gmail. com (CL24036822)

Suitable match for Jatt Sikh girl based in Germany 1994/ 5'-3", Dentist (MDS Germany), seeks equally qualified Jat Sikh tall boy with good values in Australia, Switzerland, UK. rajinder73@web.de +9179 2671499. (CL24036847)

Canadian citizen, Brahmin girl, 35, 5'-4", Canadian University educated professionally employed, beautiful and Sober. Boy should be Canadian immigrant/ citizen professionally qualified and employed from Toronto preferred. Please respond with detail to WhatsApp or call on 00-647-550-3396. (CL24036860)

Divoreed short marriage issueless Saini Sikh Jat Sikh girl 5'-6", 1986, M.Sc. Botany Med. Govt. Science Teacher. Educated family. Govt job & Patiala Tricity preferred. Upper caste no bar. 79865-15980. (CL24036795)

Match for Khatri Arora slim beautiful girl, B.Tech., 1988, 5'-2", MNC Gurgaon PKG 14 lacs. Mobik 70568-00055. (CL24036814)

Beautiful B.Com, 5'-4", 13.01.1990, 18:37, Chandigarh. Preferred Hindu family. Caste no bar. 70099-13618. (CL24036971)

Match for Mahajan manglik 1990, 5'-2", girl Post Graduate, B.Ed, Teacher Divorcee. Slightly Knee problem, having 6 year daughter. Preferred Govt job. 83070-59437. (CL24036991)

Aggarwal divorcee girl 1995, 5'-4", (one daughter 2 1/2 yrs.), M.Sc. Chemistry, B.Ed., IELTS 6.5 band. Brother Canada PR. Caste no bar. 98150-72223. (CL24037109)

Teetotaler, qualified match for Hindu Arora girl 1987, 5'-5", MCA, working MNC handsome package, issueless divorcee (Tricity). Preferred issues IT Guy. Upper caste welcome, dowry seekers, bureau excuse. 98765-70719. (CL24037165)

Match for Patiala beautiful issueless widow-divorcee Jat Sikh girl, born job at Patiala, B.Tech, LL.B, 27.1.86, 5'-4", having decent property, decent additional income. Caste no bar. 84273-98854. (CL24037216)

Prajapat beautiful girl, 13 August 1989, 5'-6", Canadian PR, working as a Manager in Delta, BC. Parents in Philippines. Suitable match contact now. Canadian PR & general category can also preferred. WhatsApp: 00639326545078. (CL24036859)

SM for Canadian PR, Aug. 1990, 5'-4", M.Tech. CSE, Toronto Saini girl, Working in TCS Software as Product Manager, divorcee. Seeking Canadian/ USA citizen/ PR or Indian/ Caste no bar. WhatsApp 98135-67586, +1(437)263-9361. (CL24036866)

Toronto settled Sharma girl 4'-8", Mglk, Govt. job, veg., working in Real Estate. Contact: 86838-75122. (CL24036913)

PQM for Australian Citizen Saini girl, February 86 born, 5'-2", MPA CPA from Australia, working in Bank Chandigarh based family. Goira Maagyan, Lonia. tqbjrl626@gmail.com 4988 5-20447, 0172-4731836. (CL24037006)

Seeking well qualified match for Canadian PR Singla girl, 1994, 5'-5", B.Com, MBA, working in Toronto, preferred well settled PR or citizen boy in Toronto. 98884-98818. (CL24037032)

NRI match for Aggarwal Dentist girl, practicing in California, USA. 1990 born, 5'-5", 94176-85875. (CL24035734)

Match for Sarawat Brahmin girl, 1989 born, Master Degree, PR in Canada. Punjab only Contact 98772-58707. (CL24035361)

For Manglik Brahmin girl 1989 born, 5'-2", 14 LPA in Tricity. 97800-48548. (CL24035432)

Suitable match for Punjabi Sarawat Brahmin girl 5'-5", inch, born 21 August 1998, 5:40 pm Gagra (HP), B.Tech., MBA, working in MNC Gurgaon. 94242-09141. (CL24035766)

Match for beautiful Punjabi Brahmin girl, MCA Software Engineer in MNC Bengaluru, non Manglik, 26 Aug 1994, 5'-5", 10:16 pm, Dasuya, Pb. Bengalaru based Punjabi boy preferred. Contact 78942-47877. (CL24036074)

Wanted status Tricity match for very beautiful Govt Manglik Brahmin girl, 5'-5", 95. WhatsApp 70870-57579. Caste no bar. (CL24036075)

SM for Brahmin girl, 5'-3" (3-7-1988, 00:45 AM) Chandigarh. Working in PGI, Clerical Deptt. on contract basis. Tricity Preferred. 90017-60760. (CL24036127)

Software professional MCA working IT Company Mohali, Dec. 1986, 5'-5", Looking Teetotaler boy. 78140-95985. (CL24036167)

Non-Manglik suitable match for beautiful girl Sasawat Brahman 08.08.1993/ 5'-4", 7:10 pm, Birth place: Una (HP), B.Sc Non-Medical, Diploma in Human Rights from PU, job as Lecturer very reputed College of Engineering near Mohali. Required teetotaler boy and vegetarian family. Preferred in / around Tricity. 99888-86747 (Mohali / Chandigarh). (CL24036377)

Match for Chandigarh resident Sarawat Brahmin Attri girl, 30.7.1992, 6:00 am Sirhind, 5'-4", B.Tech (C.S.), non working. Father retired Revenue Officer Punjab. Only Tricity. 98554-05768. (CL24036754)

Beautiful, only girl child, 5'-4", 13.03.1994, BDS, MBA, convent educated from Shama family educated in Corporate Office at Chandigarh. Father retired Sr. Class-I Officer, Mother Govt. Lecturer. For suitable match caste no bar. 98156-13342. (CL24036869)

Manglik match for 81 born, 5'-3", Advocate (never married). Early marriage. Send biodata with latest Pic. WhatsApp No. 84374-36025. (CL24036907)

Himachali match for Software Engineer girl 29/ 5'-2", drawing 25 LPA. WhatsApp 94185-36711. (CL24037021)

Chandigarh match for BDS MBA girl 1992, 5'-5", Preference Doctor. Govt officials Contact- 99156-13989. (CL24037199)

Canada PR Brahmin Manglik girl 1993, 5'-4", Toronto settled. Seeks Canada PR Manglik boy. 62837-41272. (CL24037204)

Suitable match for Canada PR Sarawat Brahmin girl, 27.06.1993, Patiala, 5'-4". Required well settled Brahmin boy. Preferred Punjab 94642-87088, 70096-32958. (CL24037208)

Suitable match for Punjabi Sarawat Brahmin, Anshik Manglik, fair 4 July 1999, 1:40 pm, Chandigarh, 5'-3", homely girl, +2, N.T.T. Preferred Tricity. 94631-78580. (CL24037225)

Suitable match for Manglik Gaur Brahmin girl, 11.10.1995, 10:50 am, 5', BDS, Tricity preferred. 85580-99426. (CL24037252)

Jalandhar based Sarawat Brahmin high status business family extremely beautiful fair, slim Doctor girl, BDS & Masters Clinical Research, 5'-4", 27 Dec. 1985, working in MNC, only high class may contact: 98152-03200. (CL24035274)

CA girl, working in Mohali, 5'-4", 22.01.1992 at 09:50 pm, Patiala, 88606-03918. (CL24035292)

Hisar based Brahmin family looking suitable match for their daughter 25.7.95, 5'-5", fair, beautiful, PG in Fashion Designing good income. 98120-37032. (CL24035421)

Professionally qualified match for 1975/5'-7", BAMS Doctor unmarried girl. Prefer NRI. WhatsApp: 9815087722. (CL24035532)

Match for Brahmin beautiful girl, few days marriage, legally divorced, 29 years, MBA, 5'-11", Govt/ MNC preferred. Contact 94178-02721. (CL24035675)

Match for 90 born Brahmin issueless divorcee girl M.Tech/ 5'-2", working MNC Mumbai @ 17 LPA. WhatsApp: 98774-27851. (CL24036187)

Suitable well settled MNC match for Brahmin girl 1994/ 5'-7", B.Tech. (CSE), MNC job - 89688-71064. (CL24036448)

Match for working Punjabi Brahmin girl, 91 born, Chandigarh, issueless Divorcee. Tricity only. 79861-57759. (CL24036862)

Suitable match for Sarawat Brahmin girl, 5'-11", 30.7.1986, 2:15 PM, M.Phil Bio-Technology, B.Ed. Assistant Professor Government Post Graduation College Himachal from well settled family. Contact: 98163-11192, 8219106109. (CL24036460)

Professionally qualified/ well settled teetotaler match for beautiful Gaur Brahmin girl 1998/ 5'-2", B.Tech(CS), pursuing MBA. Working Mohali. 94671-60016, 79883-07571. (CL24036656)

Beautiful Brahmin girl, born 28th Aug. 1992, 10:44 pm in Patiala. Scale- 2 Officer in Govt. Bank, 5'-4", having decent property, decent additional income. Caste no bar. 84273-98854. (CL24037216)

Pure vegetarian, teetotaler, match preferably Govt. service or handsome package for beautiful Punjabi Brahmin girl 27, 5'-4", B.Tech. pursuing MBA parents Govt. service. WhatsApp: 74047-87899. (CL24036861)

Non-Manglik match for smart good looking Brahmin girl, 27, 5'-3", well educated. Govt job officer grade. Ludhiana preferred. WhatsApp: 628058568. (CL24036868)

Match for Hindu Brahmin girl, 33/5'-3", working Software Engineer (Himachal). Father Principal Government School (Himachal). Mother retired Government Lecturer. Seeking Non-Manglik qualified professional, preferably B.Tech/ MBA. Contact: 94180-29184, 94185-29184. (CL24036910)

Manglik Sarawat Brahmin girl, 05.12.1996, 4:05 pm, Ambala, 5', B.Com preferred Ambala. 94168-28865. (CL24036909)

Punjabi Sharma girl 26.06.1993, 07:00 am, Kurukshetra, 5'-4", M.Sc. (Forensic). Preferred Govt employee/ well settled. 96500-06591. (CL24036930)

Sarawat Brahmin beautiful girl (M.A. English, ETT) working as Govt. ETT teacher Nov. 1996, 5'-5", required Govt. job, Teacher/ Doctor/ Engineer. Preferred Dst. Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Marriage bureau excuse. 62805-63569. (CL24036938)

Match for Brahmin beautiful girl 26.08.1998, 5'-11", +2, IIT courses, Radha Swami. 62840-60944. (CL24036947)

Professionally qualified match for beautiful Punjabi Brahmin (Vats) girl, 03.04.93 (02.56 am, Sira), 5'-2", MCA. Working in IT (NIC-Delhi). Pkg- 8 LPA. Reputed family of Sira (Haryana). Contact: 92551-26746, 94163-09606. (CL24036996)

Suitable match for Sharma girl 85 born, 5'-4", BE, MBA, working as consultant. 94192-02385. (CL24037009)

Punjabi vegetarian Brahmin girl, 5'-5", January 1993, M.Pharm (Pharmacology), MS from UK. Kundli must. UK, US settled preferred. 91296-96000. (CL24037056)

Govt. Officer match Assistant Manager SBI beautiful Brahmin girl divorcee April 1989 born/ 5'-7", Solan, Shimla only Himachali, 89880-97522. (CL24037157)

Sarawat Brahmin girl, 06.05.1997, 7:00 pm, Chandigarh, 5', MBA, working MNC Mohali. Upper middle class, reputed family. Tricity preferred. 94637-96642. (CL24037246)

Beautiful, Juha (Hindu) girl, Age- 33, 5'-4", Graduate, Nursery Teacher, Beniticant, Wanted suitable groom: 98726-38352. (CL24035315)

Suitable match for SC widow girl, 5'-5", 03.01.1993, 12th, Hair & Skin Diploma, have a 6 years old daughter. 97796-45738. (CL24035837)

Suitable Match for Bhagat Megh Unmarried Girl 1978 / 5'-11", M.A., B.Ed., Amritsar. Mobile: 99887-58289. (CL24036309)

95 born architect girl, has traveled across the globe. Running her own interior firm. Well established family with high morals and family values, rooted in Indian culture. Match from Tricity only. Contact 83609-80879. (CL24036649)

Only issueless may contact please. Match for May 1983 born, 5'-4", Ramdasia girl, MDS Sydney University, short marriage (issueless divorcee), highly educated family. Father retired Senior PCS Officer Punjab. Two Brothers married and settled abroad. Preference well settled educated boy. 98771-37846, 98728-00007. (CL24036687)

Suitable match for Himachali Chaudhary 5'-4" girl, 24.12.89, 6:24, M.Tech CSE, vegetarian family. Upper caste no bar. Contact: 94176-03747. (CL24036819)

SMF Nai (NP) girl, 1994, 5'-4", Govt Lecturer (contractual). Upper caste no bar. Preference Ludhiana. 94644-17770. (CL24035407)

Suitable match for Nai (NP) girl, May 1997/5'-3", M.Sc., B.Ed., Pvt. School Teacher. Tricity preferred. Contact 90419-98256. (CL24035771)

Match for Himachali Choudhary girl, 1998, 5'-2", M.Sc. B.Ed, Pvt. school teacher. Family permanently settled in Chandigarh. Seeks boy settled in tricity. WhatsApp: 92177-93727. (CL24035834)

Match for Smart, beautiful, Himachali Chaudhary girl 5/ 05.07.1993, 5:30 pm, Chandigarh, M.Com, MA, ETT, CTET Qualified. Teacher Govt. School, Chandigarh (on contract). Contact 94651-24826. (CL24036476)

Match for slim, fair, beautiful Verna girl, 27, 5'-3", B.Sc. Educated family, seeks well settled boy, caste no bar. 94160-68969. (CL24036879)

Well settled, educated match sought for very beautiful, educated, working, Canadian citizen Jat Sikh widow, 51 years (looks younger), 5'-2", Two kids, elder son working, daughter pursuing professional education. Preferred defence/ well placed widower/ divorced around Canada/ USA. Marriage bureau excuse. Contact: indjeet197@yahoo.co.in (CL24037005)

Suitable match for 44 years issueless widow 5'-5". Contact only 50 plus well settled person. Ph: 92533-11808. (CL24034551)

Match for Radha Swami SC widow girl, 1987, 5'-4", Graduate, Professional beautician. Educated family. Caste no bar. 98889-99970. (CL24034952)

SM4 Sarawat Brahmin beautiful 79 born, issueless widow, 5'-4", double PG, regular Govt job. Contact 77103-39901. (CL24037101)

Manglik Mehra Manglik girl, 06.03.1987, 5'-1", M.A., B.Ed., TET. Caste no bar. 99889-83623, 97801-01488. (CL24035379)

Valmiki Manglik girl, 11.06.1993, 5'-3", MBA, job Cashier in HDFC Bank. 98771-62436, 88723-25151. (CL24036873)

Cutsurd Hindu/ Sikh boy required for Sikh Rajput good looking Manglik healthy girl white spot on foot posted past 20 years, 17.10.1993, 7 p.m., Ludhiana, 5'-3", BA, Fashion Designing Diploma, sister married and settled in USA. Contact: 70870-41066. (CL24037164)

Suitable match for 90 born Sikh Labana girl, 5'-4", Qualification BDS & MPH, currently working with Yuvraj Singh foundation. Preferably Sikh Labana boy. Contact +91-98150-68261, 97806-61061. (CL24035848)

Seeking suitable match for Canadian Jat Sikh Sidhu Dce. 83/5'-6", Delhi born, raised in Canada, beautiful, fair, issueless divorcee in medicine. Part-time Nurse in USA. Seeking well educated, Sober, gentle boy. hsk839@hotmail.com (CL24035334)

Suitable Medics/Class/ Officer (Ph. Govt.), match for Jat Sikh beautiful MBBS girl 5'-4", Sept. 1994, serving as Medical Officer in AAM Aashmi Clinic, Amritsar. Majha or Doaba area preferred. Phone: 98721-65098. (CL24036958)

Professionally qualified clean shaven match for beautiful cultured girl. Oct. 89/ 5'-10" from status Jat Sikh family, Canada PR. M.Design working with reputed Tech MNC in Canada. Email: gk23match@gmail.com. (CL24038254)

PCS/ MS/ DM/ MCH/ IAS/ IRS/ MID/ MS/ match for Jat Sikh girl 1992, 5'-8", MD Medicine. Pursuing DM Neurology. 98148-26125, 99146-64567. (CL24034995)

Jatt Sikh Dhalwal girl (Bathinda), 1992, 5'-3", M.A., B.Ed English, Canadian LMA under process, preference Government employee or person with decent Agricultural land. Ph: 98152-68190, 98881-90687. (CL24035435)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl, 1997, 5'-5", B.Tech, working as SDO in Punjab government. Tricity preferred. Father Gazetted Officer, mother Govt. teacher. Brother MBBS intern. 94178-50974, 81948-24446. (CL24035560)

Jat Sikh- 25/ 5'-6", B.Tech MS from Canada PR groom required for girl. 62325-09744. (CL24036565)

PQM for Jat Sikh well qualified, Canada PR girl, born October 1994, height 5'-3", Toronto based boy preferred. Contact/ WhatsApp: 87278-98999. (CL24035566)

Suitable Medical/ IT Professional match for Jat Sikh Canadian Citizen girl 1997/ 5'-3", Registered Nurse (RN) in Canada. One Brother in IT Profession also Canada Citizen. Parents Govt. Service. Marriage bureau excuse. WhatsApp 88473-52807. (CL24036086)

Looking for engineer or well settled boy for 5'-7"/ 09.1994 ENT Dr girl, working in Ludhiana. 87250-63370. (CL24036090)

Jat Sikh Girl, 5'-3", 1995, Working as Licensed Veterinarian in California (From Punjab Amritsar). Prefer Veterinarian, Engineer in US. WhatsAppMsg +163062-80439 Phone Call: 94178-59553. (CL24036280)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh Sandhu girl 1990/ 5'-7", M.Tech, living in Canada on Visitor Visa. Brothers settled in Winnipeg Canada. Only PR and citizen preferred. Tarn Taran. Contact: 99149-98291, WhatsApp: +1204668-83484. (CL24036296)

Jat Sikh Anandhriah Gursikh Girl Canada PR, B.Tech, IT, Girl Canada Airline 1994, 5'-6", Only Jat Sikh Anandhriah boy preferred. IT, B.Tech, Medical Line, CA preference. 62843-98984, 62805-74896. (CL24036458)

Well settled and highly qualified employed Jat Sikh match from Australia/ Europe/ UK for Jat Sikh Sandhu beautiful girl 5'-9", Nov. 95 born, convent educated, Masters in Finance from UNSW Australia, Chief Economist with a reputed company in Sydney, highly paid. Father Class-I Officer (rd) Mother govt. lecturer, small well settled family at Mohali. bssandhu.mohali@gmail.com (CL24036776)

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Chandigarh: Wanted/ Sale/ Purchase. Residential Kanal, Marla houses. Commercial Showrooms, Booths. J.P. Property. 9646-520520. (CL24000081)

One Kanal 400/ 250/ 100 yards etc. New Kothies/ Plots EcoCity/ DLF New Chandigarh. 98787-09884. (CL24023832)

Commercial Shop 1200/ 700/ 600/ 500 square feet Ground Floor (Prime Location) Omaze New Chandigarh with 12% commitment charges till possession then after good appreciation. 98787-09884. (CL24027100)

Panchkula: 4 marla triple storey Sector 19, A-one construction. Contact 98146-10571. DM Associates. (CL24034921)

107, 110 Gaj new kothi starts 98L. Airport Road Sector 123, Mohali. Param Properties 98885-16234. (CL24035043)

Zirakpur- Pre Rented big size showroom, on Chandigarh- Ambala Highway. Royalty Group 93763-00050. (CL24035083)

Corner house 14 marla (plot price) near Lake, Northern Sector Chandigarh (genuine buyers). 98149-67149. (CL24035110)

3 bays showrooms top location (51x105), 3 side open Sector 17, Chandigarh. Contact: Bansal and Co. 45, 46, 47, Sector 17A, Chandigarh. 98149-67149. (CL24035117)

4 kanal modern newly bungalow facing park, North East, Northern Sector, Chandigarh. 98149-67149. (CL24035118)

4 kanal old house (plot price), decent location, posh area, Northern Sector, Chandigarh. 98149-67149. (CL24035119)

1 kanal modern newly built duplex house Northern Sector (near lake), Chandigarh. 98149-67149. (CL24035120)

1 kanal renovated house facing park (ground/first vacant), Northern Sector (going very cheap). 98149-67149. (CL24035121)

Chandigarh 8 Marla house newly built/ old facing park in Sector 38. Contact Harsh Estates 98159-44009 (CL24035136)

Wanted urgently 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 kanal, 14, 10, 8, 5 marla, showroom, booth, industrial shed, hotel. Chandigarh/ Panchkula/ Mohali/ Mullapur (spot payment) Bansal Associates. 98149-67149. (CL24035394)

Chandigarh 8 marla new facing park Sector 20, 38 also 10 marla corner Sector 15. 98151-86915. (CL24036020)

Chandigarh one kanal Sector 8, 11, 16, 18, 19, 21, 33, 34, 35, 36. Gulati Estates 98140-06264. (CL24036053)

Chandigarh more than 14 marla corner, facing park, old, triple storey, Sector 43. 98140-06264, 98151-86915. (CL24036055)

2 Kanal Decent location house Sector 8, Chandigarh, Confirm deal. Contact Anuj Associates 98150-38223. (CL24036104)

Commercial: SCO Site 18'x80' Sector 66 A, Main airport road. Prime location, Developed market (Mohali) 9868799143, 9915534500. (CL24036267)

For sale office space approx 1700 square feet Elante Mall 6th floor. Gudip Singh 98158-76007. (CL24036556)

3 kanal Industrial Area Phase-I, Chandigarh freehold vacant possession. Prime area. Sharan 98728-92299, 98766-60333. (CL24037247)

Chandigarh 5 Marla triple storey, facing park, North East, Sector 22-C. Contact: Garg 98146-10571 DM Associates. (CL24034968)

CHANDIGARH

Chandigarh:- North facing 5 marla triple storey house on B-Road in Sector 46, excellent location. 98146-01271. (CL24036872)

Chandigarh:- Residential 4 kanal plot in Sector 28 & commercial SCO area 372 sqyards in Sector 34-A. Royal Real Estate: 98766-35100. (CL24036895)

Chandigarh 10 marla good location house in Sector 15, 21, 27 & 33 for sale, new and old liveable options available. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035150)

Chandigarh 1 kanal plot (joda) for sale in Sector 21, maximum cheque preferred. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035153)

Chandigarh 10 marla brand new house with lift, ultra modern amenities, ample parking in Sector 15, 21 for sale. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035154)

10 Marla newly built triple storey facing park Sector 34, old double storey Sector 15. Avin Properties 98151-25155. (CL24035238)

Booth for sale in Sector 37, Uttam Estates 98888-82100. (CL24035519)

Duplex Villa twelve marla 5 bedrooms, drawing dining attached bath, lift Omaze, New Chandigarh. 99149-76044. (CL24036178)

Shop-Com flat (50% share) first, Top (Near Aroma Hotel) Sector 22, Chandigarh. Going cheap. 94175-67249. (CL24036564)

Chandigarh, 4 kanal house for sale Sector 8-A, facing A-Road, old house. Owner 98780-68071. (CL24036906)

Ambala City: Commercial property 200 sq. yds, double storey, adjacent V-Mart, Patel road, Jagadhari gate. Contact: 90567-77577, 98889-98241. (CL24035480)

SCO Sector 11 Panchkula, 50% share, First and Second floor near McDonald. WhatsApp 001-81090-85594. rajhmannan1@yahoo.com (CL24036805)

8 marla new double storey kothi Sector 17 and Sector 21, Panchkula. Dhruv Properties: 98551-65590. (CL24037081)

8 marla double storey kothi Sector 11, Panchkula very reasonable price, owner going abroad. Dhruv Properties: 98551-65590. (CL24037085)

6.5 marla triple Sector 4, 17, 21, double 25 (2.40) single 15, corner, facing park 4 Panchkula. Dhruv Properties: 98761-95590. (CL24037088)

10 marla double storey kothi, North facing, Sector 15, Panchkula, very reasonable price, Owner going abroad. Dhruv Properties: 98551-65590. (CL24037138)

Mohali (Sector- 102):- Available plots, 100, 125, 150 gaj, on Landran Banar Highway. RERA approved. Bank loan available. Royalty Group 93763-00005. (CL24035082)

Mohali- Sohana: 19 marla (54' x 88') corner 3 showrooms' site for high retail market, PG, big store etc. Royal Castle 98767-60000, 98140-70362. (CL24035180)

Durali Sector-101 LOI's, 275, 550 industrial 200, 100, 60 commercial, best investment. Royal Castle Pvt. Ltd. 98767-60000, 98140-70362. (CL24035180)

Mohali- 10% Marla, brand new ultramodern house, B-Road, Phase-10. (Only genuine buyers). Contact-Empire Estates 98159-50922. (CL24035320)

Mohali- 16 marla brand new, House # 1956, ultramodern duplex, with all luxury amenities, on wide road, Sector-79. Empire Estates 98159-50922. (CL24035321)

10 Marla Brand New B-Road corner Phase-7, 10 & 8 Marla Big corner Phase-4 (Mohali). Orbit Estates: 9915534500, 7341161291. (CL24036290)

1 Kanal B-Road Phase-7, 3B1, 3B2, 69, Corner Phase-2, 3B2, Facing Park Phase-2, Sector 71. Orbit Estates: 9915534500, 9868799143. (CL24036281)

82 IT & 66 IT:- 8 Marla Double, Triple, Facing Park & Corner. Orbit Estates: 8437681291. (CL24036285)

Sector 79: 5 Marla Double, Triple, Corner, Facing Park. Genuine price. Orbit Estates: 8968799143, 9877065334. (CL24036295)

CHANDIGARH

Chandigarh:- North facing 5 marla triple storey house on B-Road in Sector 46, excellent location. 98146-01271. (CL24036872)

Chandigarh:- Residential 4 kanal plot in Sector 28 & commercial SCO area 372 sqyards in Sector 34-A. Royal Real Estate: 98766-35100. (CL24036895)

Chandigarh 10 marla good location house in Sector 15, 21, 27 & 33 for sale, new and old liveable options available. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035150)

Chandigarh 1 kanal plot (joda) for sale in Sector 21, maximum cheque preferred. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035153)

Chandigarh 10 marla brand new house with lift, ultra modern amenities, ample parking in Sector 15, 21 for sale. Subhash Mangat & Co. 98155-70278, 98726-65556. (CL24035154)

10 Marla newly built triple storey facing park Sector 34, old double storey Sector 15. Avin Properties 98151-25155. (CL24035238)

Booth for sale in Sector 37, Uttam Estates 98888-82100. (CL24035519)

Duplex Villa twelve marla 5 bedrooms, drawing dining attached bath, lift Omaze, New Chandigarh. 99149-76044. (CL24036178)

Shop-Com flat (50% share) first, Top (Near Aroma Hotel) Sector 22, Chandigarh. Going cheap. 94175-67249. (CL24036564)

Chandigarh, 4 kanal house for sale Sector 8-A, facing A-Road, old house. Owner 98780-68071. (CL24036906)

Ambala City: Commercial property 200 sq. yds, double storey, adjacent V-Mart, Patel road, Jagadhari gate. Contact: 90567-77577, 98889-98241. (CL24035480)

SCO Sector 11 Panchkula, 50% share, First and Second floor near McDonald. WhatsApp 001-81090-85594. rajhmannan1@yahoo.com (CL24036805)

8 marla new double storey kothi Sector 17 and Sector 21, Panchkula. Dhruv Properties: 98551-65590. (CL24037081)

8 marla double storey kothi Sector 11, Panchkula very reasonable price, owner going abroad. Dhruv Properties: 98551-65590. (CL24037085)

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10 sq.yd, 20 sq.yd, 22 sq.yd corner booths in Sector 82-A/ 83-A top locations IT City, Mohali. 95177-60000. (CL24036900)

SCO 15x45 good rental income builtup front side corner to Airport road Sector 117, Mohali. 98760-52353, 98888-92353. (CL24036995)

6 Marla double storey newly built # 459, Sector-77, Mohali, 94786-93713. (CL24037037)

2 BHK 125 gaj second floor with rooflights, commercial location, single line Block-C, Aerocity, Goel Infra 98720-16775. (CL24037137)

5 Marla New Triple storey, Park facing, 6 Bedroom attached, 29377, Mohali. 98551-21648. (CL24030973)

Mohali kothies/ plots Phase-1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 69, 71, 79, 80, 88, 89 Aerocity/ IT City. Rajesh Estates 98884-97023, 96468-15158. (CL24035397)

6 marla # 2372, Sector 79, ground, 2BHK, facing big park, recently built 98722-24137. (CL24035747)

10 Marla double storey, Corner kothi, Sector-71. 200 yards Corner kothi, single storey, Phase-XI. 9888211211. (CL24036563)

Booth for sale, Phase-3B2, main market. Good rental income. 90562-18397. (CL24036591)

10 marla Sector 67 double Max duplex 8, Facing park duplex sector - 9, 98786-39991. (CL24037179)

10 Marla facing park Sector 26/27, 14 Marla prime location Sector 21/26. 98786-39991. (CL24037182)

10 Marla / 14 Marla facing park Kanal prime location all in Sector -6 Mansidevi. 98786-39991. (CL24037185)

Flat 3+1 BHK Mansa Devi Sector 6, booth site Sector 27, Arya 98769-37605. (CL24035063)

Ambala City: Commercial property 200 sq. yds, double storey, adjacent V-Mart, Patel road, Jagadhari gate. Contact: 90567-77577, 98889-98241. (CL24035480)

SCO Sector 11 Panchkula, 50% share, First and Second floor near McDonald. WhatsApp 001-81090-85594. rajhmannan1@yahoo.com (CL24036805)

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PLOT FOR SALE

Plot available in Officers Societies/ DLF EcoCity, Manohar Singh etc. New Chandigarh, Office Showroom DLF New Chandigarh. 98787-09884. (CL24032822)

Mohali: 16 marla Sector-79 on 150 ft. 79-80 dividing road East facing suitable for Doctors, Lawyers, Professionals. 98767-60000. (CL24035187)

Mohali I.T. Industrial 500 Gaj corner rare available near 100 feet University Road, Sector 101-A, Royal Castle Pvt. Ltd. 98767-60000. (CL24035188)

Sector-79:- 12 marla Plot # 1512, F/park, 25% builtup. (Rare availability). Empire Estates 98159-50922. (CL24035460)

IT City

FACTORY FOR SALE

Nalagarh 6.5 acres 70,000 sqft PEB at a very prime location. All cheque, exclusive mandate with us. Please call Bakshi 93161-33009, 98039-00039. theservicesconsortium@gmail.com (CL24037073)

TOILET

4 kanal five bedrooms drawing dining servant room Sector 28, Chandigarh. Bhagwati Associate: 76964-09555. (CL24035833)

CHANDIGARH

5 marla house: Fully marbled ground floor 2 BHK, rent 30000/-, first floor 2 BHK rent 20000/-, second floor 2 BHK rent 15000/-, Sector 8-C, Contact Col Ahluwalia 98765-58145. (CL24036729)

2 BHK attached toilets furnished, girls only. Sector 63 Chandigarh. Owner 98782-32567. (CL24036755)

Sector 51 category-A 4 bedrooms attached bathrooms, drawing, modular kitchen any party. 89689-44668 (Broker). (CL24036986)

Four kanal ground two bedroom drawing Sector 2, Ten marla newly with lift 27. 99883-61727. (CL24037050)

SCO Sector 8 Inner Market Chandigarh second floor extraordinary beautifully renovated. Owner 98157-55755. (CL24034831)

Sector 8, two kanal, ground floor, separate driveway, fourbedrooms, drawing, parking, servant room. 98786-04813. (CL24036943)

Decent newly renovated second floor independent two/ one room set with large verandah, balconies. Small family. Bank Lease. 741/22-A. 93540-11907. (CL24037031)

Accommodation available in Sector 23 for regular college girl students only. Brokers not needed. 82838-23427. (CL24037150)

PANCHKULA

2 and 3 bedroom furnished flat available in Army Society, Sector 20A, Panchkula. 98141-33367, 79736-96203. (CL24036982)

2, 3 BHK kothi/ flat (furnished/unfurnished) available Sector 24, 25, 26, 27, S.R. Properties, Kailash 89248-10970. (CL24037134)

MOHALI

2 bhk fully furnished 125 gaz second floor inblock-C, Aerocity, Gool Infra 98720-16775. (CL24037132)

3 BHK for rent for family, fully furnished, park facing. Sector 67, Mohali. Mob: 98765-15436. (CL24035604)

2 BHK second floor 10 marla with store family only Phase 7, Mohali. 99149-00437. (CL24035742)

Apartment 3 bedrooms attached bathrooms, servant quarter, 6th floor, Eden Court, Sector-91: Only employed family. 98765-79812. (CL24037030)

3 BHK washroom first floor semi-furnished 250 sq. sq. Sector 85, Mohali. 81460-22002. (CL24037213)

ZIRAKPUR

3 bedroom flat in Royal city for rent/ sale on Chandigarh Ambala highway, Zirakpur. 99882-25134. (CL24037187)

MISC

Kurukshetra independent 10 marla three bedroom, lobby, drawing, two washroom, kitchen. 423, Sector 3, Bank lease. 99152-16661. (CL24036939)

RENT/LEASE

Space available for lease/ rent 1st floor 15000 sq. ft. and 2nd floor 15000 sq. ft. with passenger lift and car lift, corner showroom with huge parking space, very prime location at plot No: 165C, Sector 82, JPL, Airport road Mohali. Mobile No: 98146-12843. (CL24036511)

Showroom 18x 90 double height on Airport Road Aerocity Mohali at Mohali City Center. 2 for lease 94179-22054. (CL24036139)

For rent furnished showroom ground floor and half portion first floor Sector 38C, Chandigarh. 98142-10100. (CL24036400)

LEASE OF BUILDING FOR HOSPITAL

Available space of 60000 square feet of Constructed Area at Baddi University Entrance with parking facility available for lease / rent situated at National Highway-NH105 (Old NH-21A), Baddi-Nalagarh Main Road. Ideal location for 100-120 bedded Hospital; Baddi is a centre of largest pharmaceutical Hub of Asia. No rent for first 10 years and normal rent after 10<sup>th</sup> year. The minimum agreement period will be 15 years. Contact to: Dr. Khushmeet Kumar 9805222569. (CL24037127)

Newly constructed showroom G-3, based available for rent Emair, Sector 108, Mohali. Contact owner 98159-51044. (CL24032517)

15 to 75 seat fully furnished cabins, full floor available for IT Companies. 3+1 BHK flat Eden Court Sector 91. Natraj Properties 85658-00002, 94644-71260. (CL24037218)

Available for rent godown measuring 5,000 sq feet in godown area, behind J.P. Hospital, Babhat, Zirakpur. Contact 98724-26621. (CL24035331)

Showroom 2nd floor 1230 sq. ft. EMAAR Central Plaza, Sector-105 Mohali. 92169-22573. (CL24035939)

Ready space available with AHU, AC & power backup for Protein Powder/Food unit at Sector-82, JPL, Mohali. 98726-35655. (CL24036851)

SPACE AVAILABLE

Pinjore: Commercial space for shopping complex/ office from 4000 sq.ft. to 20000 sq.ft. in full or part, prime location, huge parking on National highway, Pinjore Kalka road, near Railway crossing. Contact: 93161-33495, 98154-80396. (CL24035946)

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Satya Estates: Approximately 150 sqft. office space air-conditioned complex, extraordinary interiors Atom Chambers, SCO 371-372, 2nd floor Sector 35-B, Chandigarh. Contact: 78142-17381. (CL24037104)

SHED/GODOWN

Wanted/available industrial properties Chandigarh all sizes. Atul Properties, Industrial Area, Chandigarh. 85588-55555, 98140-08330. (CL24035612)

Companies looking to make new Industrial Shed Sail Steel Structure 60 feet front 250 feet length height 21 feet Truss length 106 feet. 98140-06612. (CL24036834)

CAR FOR SALE

Hyundai Creta Diesel Automatic Top Model 2015 genuine Low Mileage with complete service record. Only genuine buyer contact 85668-80000. (CL24035272)

Porsche Cayenne White Colour Chandigarh Number 2013 Model 80,000 Km Done 17.5 Lakh Price.81460-97853. (CL24035516)

Brezza Maruti ZDI 2018 grey colour fully loaded single hand driven Panchkula registered. Contact: 98889-92298. (CL24036885)

Grand Vitara brand new May 2024, silver, top model, 1000 km done. 99881-00976. (CL24036889)

Thar 2021 Model, Black colour, excellent condition. Chandigarh, 30,000 km done. Diesel AX optional. Contact: 98885-62029. (CL24037260)

Innova Crysta 2.8GXAT, 7 Seater, Metallic Silver, 80000 kms driven, Chandigarh, Excellent Condition. WhatsApp 83609-56375. (CL24037049)

Scorpio for sale Model 2013, first owner, Colour grey. Connect 98728-68345. (CL24037207)

Thar 2021 Model, Black colour, excellent condition. Chandigarh, 30,000 km done. Diesel AX optional. Contact: 98885-62029. (CL24037260)

Innova Crysta 2017 colour White, Panchkula Regd., officer driven. Excellent condition, done 94000 kms. Contact: 98157-57991. (CL24035239)

Toyota Fortuner 4WD manual 2015, Silver, 78000 kilometers, Haryana registration, showroom condition. Contact: 98140-08191. (CL24035875)

Honda City petrol automatic 2015, Maroon, 19500 kilometers, sunroof top model, Chandigarh registration. Contact: 98140-08191. (CL24035883)

Maruti Ertiga VDI hybrid diesel 2017, White, 36000 kilometers only. Punjab registration. Contact: 98140-08191. (CL24035879)

Toyota Innova Crysta 2017 automatic 2.8ZX, 98000 kilometers, Bronze, Chandigarh registration, showroom condition. Contact: 98140-08191. (CL24035886)

Honda CRV 2018 petrol automatic, White, 59000 kilometers, showroom condition, Chandigarh registration. Contact: 98140-08191. (CL24035887)

Celerio ZXI 2020 automatic, Honda Amaze 2016 automatic, Celerio VXI 2014, Honda City 2019 V. (M) 98727-26072, 90414-14170. (CL24036905)

Patiala based retired Senior Army Officer's cherry red Renault Duster 2013 RXL Diesel. Excellent condition. Contact: 9780216881. (CL24037099)

EDUCATIONAL

MBBS, MD, MS, DNB, DCH. Dgo. Engineering Admission Guidance in Top College's of India. Suyashit Education Consultants. 89798-87039, 93687-59520. (CL24036874)

COOKERY

Cook required for Cloud Kitchen. Commie 2, commie 3. Chopping & preparation skills must. 2 yr exp. Ph: 86603-58988. (CL24036414)

ASTROLOGY

Are you facing so many problems related your bright future. We have all kinds of Lucky Birth Stones available. Consult for all problems. Online Appointment: 98767-26492 Raman Malhotra (Celebrity Astrologer & Gem Stones expert). Follow me at: YouTube/Instagram. (CL24034963)

MEDICAL/SURGICAL

Required BAMS/ MD Doctors for Health and Wellness Centre at Chandigarh. Attractive salary, freshers also apply. Email: atharvayurveda.org@gmail.com. Contact: 75081-78327. (CL24035389)

Dr. Shamsheer Singh Eye Hospital, Khanna, Punjab now hiring MBBS MS Ophthalmology/ DOMS Ophthalmology, Medical Officers (MBBS), for inquiries Email dsch@icloud.com Call: 70876-00016. (CL24037168)

BUSINESS

Start your own IT and Financial Management business earn approx. 50,000/- to 2 Lac per month. Contact: 90567-29031, 90567-29032, 90567-29033. email: info@wavefinancial.in www.wavefinance.in. T&C apply. (CL24035042)

Wanted schools for lease or on revenue sharing basis for a reputed chain of schools. 77430-55857. (CL24036636)

Sell your running business at premium price. We provide investors/ partners for all kind of running profitable businesses having existing customers. Franchisee King 98146-98146, 93161-93161. (CL24037122)

Hot Business Deal: Gas Agency, Petrol Pump, School, Hospital & Bank rented building at Mohali, Zirakpur, Patiala. 98770-77747. (CL24036825)

We need a good investor for our manufacturing and packing business. Contact: 81680-46684. (CL24037175)

Running chemist showroom in excellent market nearby PGI Chandigarh, available for sale/ partnership/ contract basis. Contact: 97797-7243, 79868-55161. (CL24036949)

INVESTMENT

Rented godown to Multinational Company, rent 2,70,000/- per month, land area one acre 17 km from Ambala Village, Khanpur. 98142-10100. (CL24037048)

Create rental income of 45000 per month from IT business by investing as low as 12.2 lakh Rupees, and 2 lakh per month by investing 50 lakh only, conditions apply. 90415-54918. (CL24037118)

Invest 50 Lakh onwards in verified commercial/ residential/ industrial projects on early stage around Tricity by top most reputed builders and grow your money considerably in 2-3 years 98146-98146, 93161-93161. (CL24037125)

Investors invited in fastest growing Indian Multinational Company. Deals in Medical carrier consultancy, lower investment high return in safe hands with registered agreement. Investment period for one year minimum. Contact: 9056116061. (CL24037058)

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, R.P. Sheokand s/o Sh. Narsi Ram Sheokand r/o House No. 780P, Sector 26, Panchkula, declares that I have changed my name from R.P. Sheokand to Ramphal Sheokand. Concerned note. (CL24036786)

I, Narayan Dutt Sharma S/o Late Shri Hem Dutt Sharma Village Bag, P.O. Deola Pargana Chautha, Teh. Sunni, Distt Shimla, H.P. declare that my son Yashwant Sharma and his wife Manita Sharma are out of my control. I disinherit my son and his wife from my moveable and immovable property. If any person will deal with them I shall not be liable for the same. (CL24036864)

I, Shashi Bala Aggarwal W/o Ashwani Kumar Aggarwal R/o 1765, Phase-5, Mohali have changed my name to Shashi Aggarwal. All concerned please note. (CL24036955)

I, Muskan Daughter of Parvinder Singh Resident of House No. 714, Phase-7, Mohali, SAS Nagar 160062 Punjab have changed my name to Muskan Oberoi. (CL24037001)

I, Santosh Kumari Mujral daughter of Shri Chaman Lal Mujral resident of Thaleswar Cottage Pujari (116), PO Beolia, Tehsil & Distt Shimla, H.P. declare that I have changed my name from Santosh Kumari Chaman Lal Mujral to Santosh Kumari Mujral. All concerned please may note. (CL24037013)

I, Meenu Gupta w/o Vikas Bansal R/o 100, Guru Gobind Singh Avenue, Jalandhar changed my name from Meenu Gupta to Meenu Bansal. (CL24037053)

I, Kushal Lakhanpal s/o Amrit Lakhanpal, 105 Dhillwar Road, New Dashmesh Nagar, Jalandhar declare that both the name Kushal Lakhanpal and Kushal Lakhanpal pertain to one and the same person. Infuture I may be known as Kushal Lakhanpal for all purposes. (CL24037063)

I, Sunait Sodhi S/o Ajmer Singh R/o House No. 4037, Sector-68, distt. S.A.S. Mohali (Punjab) have changed the name of my minor son from Aaron Sodhi to Aaron Singh Sodhi. In future he may be known as Aaron Singh Sodhi for all intents and purposes. Concerned please note. (CL24037092)

I, Meenakshi w/o Raj Kumar residing 126/14 Gohana Road, Sukhpura Chowk, Rohtak have changed my name to Minakshi. (CL24037203)

I, Kusham Rani W/o Surinder Kumar Village Behlohpur, Distt. Kurukshetra, have changed my name Kusham Rani to Kusum Lata. (CL24037245)

I, Navtish So Ramniwas R/o Village Khurana, Tehsil & Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares the I have changed my name from Navtish to Navtish Malik. In future I will be known by the name of Navtish Malik. All concerned please note. (CL24037254)

I, Esha Sharma D/o Ravi Dutt Sharma, R/o 7890/47, SBS Nagar, Balbir Enclave, Street No. 2, Halbowal Kalan, Ludhiana (Punjab), declare that, after marriage with Vishal Kumar I have changed my name from Esha Sharma to Isha for all future purposes. (CL24037259)

COURT NOTICE

Proclamation Under Order 5 Rule 20 CPC) From the Court of Sh. Rajneesh Arora, PCS, Collector-cum-S.D.M. Samrala, District Ludhiana (Punjab) India. Case No. 02 of 2023 Rohit Tondur versus Gurbir Singh etc. Notice to:- 1. Gurbir Singh s/o Jarnail Singh s/o Dalip Singh resident of Village Khera Bheema, Tehsil Samana, District Patiala. 2. R. Chha Singla w/o Rakesh Singal s/o Banwari Lal Singal, resident of H. No. 789, Sector 39, Urban Estate, Ludhiana, District Ludhiana. 3. Neeraj Aggarwal w/o Krishan Lal Aggarwal s/o Des Raj Aggarwal r/o House No. 311, Street No. 3, Bachhatr Nagar, Ludhiana. 4. Iqbal Singh s/o Mehtab Singh. 5. Tanjit Singh s/o Mehtab Singh both residents of House No. 130, Krishna Nagar, Ludhiana, District Ludhiana. Whereas in the above noted case it has been proved to the entire satisfaction of this Court that above noted respondent cannot be served in an ordinary way. Hence publication is hereby issued against the above noted respondent to appear in this Court on 06.08.2024 at 10 am, personally or through a pleader/council or duly authorised agent failing which ex-parte proceedings shall be taken against him. Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this the 09 day of July 2024. Sd/- Rajneesh Arora PCS CL24037186 S.D.M. Samrala.

I, R.P. Sheokand s/o Sh. Narsi Ram Sheokand r/o House No. 780P, Sector 26, Panchkula, declares that I have changed my name from R.P. Sheokand to Ramphal Sheokand. Concerned note. (CL24036786)

I, Narayan Dutt Sharma S/o Late Shri Hem Dutt Sharma Village Bag, P.O. Deola Pargana Chautha, Teh. Sunni, Distt Shimla, H.P. declare that my son Yashwant Sharma and his wife Manita Sharma are out of my control. I disinherit my son and his wife from my moveable and immovable property. If any person will deal with them I shall not be liable for the same. (CL24036864)

I, Shashi Bala Aggarwal W/o Ashwani Kumar Aggarwal R/o 1765, Phase-5, Mohali have changed my name to Shashi Aggarwal. All concerned please note. (CL24036955)

I, Muskan Daughter of Parvinder Singh Resident of House No. 714, Phase-7, Mohali, SAS Nagar 160062 Punjab have changed my name to Muskan Oberoi. (CL24037001)

I, Santosh Kumari Mujral daughter of Shri Chaman Lal Mujral resident of Thaleswar Cottage Pujari (116), PO Beolia, Tehsil & Distt Shimla, H.P. declare that I have changed my name from Santosh Kumari Chaman Lal Mujral to Santosh Kumari Mujral. All concerned please may note. (CL24037013)

I, Meenu Gupta w/o Vikas Bansal R/o 100, Guru Gobind Singh Avenue, Jalandhar changed my name from Meenu Gupta to Meenu Bansal. (CL24037053)

I, Kushal Lakhanpal s/o Amrit Lakhanpal, 105 Dhillwar Road, New Dashmesh Nagar, Jalandhar declare that both the name Kushal Lakhanpal and Kushal Lakhanpal pertain to one and the same person. Infuture I may be known as Kushal Lakhanpal for all purposes. (CL24037063)

I, Sunait Sodhi S/o Ajmer Singh R/o House No. 4037, Sector-68, distt. S.A.S. Mohali (Punjab) have changed the name of my minor son from Aaron Sodhi to Aaron Singh Sodhi. In future he may be known as Aaron Singh Sodhi for all intents and purposes. Concerned please note. (CL24037092)

I, Meenakshi w/o Raj Kumar residing 126/14 Gohana Road, Sukhpura Chowk, Rohtak have changed my name to Minakshi. (CL24037203)

I, Kusham Rani W/o Surinder Kumar Village Behlohpur, Distt. Kurukshetra, have changed my name Kusham Rani to Kusum Lata. (CL24037245)

COURT NOTICES

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Rajan Anuja Civil Judge (Junior Division), Ludhiana. M/s Stan Autos Pvt. Ltd. Vs. General Public CNR No. PBLD02-007224-2021 Next Date: 13.08.2024 Publication issued to: General Public 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 13.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=ludhiana Dated, this day of 10.07.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge (Junior Division), CL24036919 Ludhiana.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Ashima Sharma Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ludhiana. Junior Division-3, Moga. Simran Bhupal Vs. General Public Case No. CS/566/2024 CNR No. PBMO02-001012-2024 Next Date: 12.08.2024 The plaintiff prays for declaration that Publication issued to: General Public Moga 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 12.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?mod=district\_notice&district=mogaacourt Dated, this day of 14.06.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge Junior Division-3, CL24036959 Moga

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Ashima Sharma Civil Judge Junior Division-3, Moga. Simran Bhupal Vs. General Public Case No. CS/567/2024 CNR No. PBMO02-001013-2024 Next Date: 12.08.2024 The plaintiff prays for declaration that Publication issued to: General Public Moga 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 12.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?mod=district\_notice&district=mogaacourt Dated, this day of 14.06.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge Junior Division-3, CL24036961 Moga

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Ashima Sharma Civil Judge Junior Division-3, Moga. Sahiljot Singh Bhupal Vs. General Public Case No. CS/567/2024 CNR No. PBMO02-001013-2024 Next Date: 12.08.2024 The plaintiff prays for declaration that Publication issued to: General Public Moga 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 12.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?mod=district\_notice&district=mogaacourt Dated, this day of 14.06.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge Junior Division-3, CL24036961 Moga

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Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha chairs a high-level meeting with Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi in Jammu on Saturday. ANI

## L-G, Army Chief review security

Sinha says well-planned counter-terrorism operations must to wipe out ultras

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**SRINAGAR, JULY 20**  
Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha on Saturday chaired a high-level meeting with the Army Chief in Jammu and stated that "we must launch meticulous and well-planned counter-terrorism operations to wipe out terrorists and those aiding and abetting them."

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday reached Jammu to review the security situation in J&K amidst growing militant activities in Jammu region.

An official statement late on Saturday night said Sinha chaired a high-level meeting with the Army Chief, various heads of security and law enforcement agencies on the security situation in Jammu division.

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi,

### PREVAILING SECURITY DYNAMICS DISCUSSED

LG Manoj Sinha deliberated on the prevailing security dynamics in the region. Chief of the Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi assured the L-G of synergistic approach by the armed forces and security agencies to tackle the present situation and maintain peace and stability in the region. Gen Dwivedi also chaired a high-level joint security review meeting in Jammu, focusing on thwarting the malicious design of terrorists and anti-national elements in the region.

DG Border Security Force, DG CRPF, DGP Jammu and Kashmir Police, heads of intelligence agencies and other senior officials of the Army, CAPF and J&K Police attended the meeting.

The statement said Sinha asked the Army, CAPF and the Jammu Kashmir Police to "pro-actively conduct coordinated counter-terrorism operations in Jammu Division."

"We must launch meticulous and well-planned counter-terrorism operations with greater synergy between all agencies to wipe out terrorists and

those aiding and abetting them," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also said the "security grid should be further strengthened to ensure zero cross-border infiltration."

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday reached here to review security situation at a meeting in Jammu and Kashmir amidst growing terror activities in parts of otherwise peaceful Jammu region.

The Army Chief chaired another meeting at the police headquarters. This was the second visit

of the Army chief to Jammu in less than three weeks after taking charge as the 30th chief of the Indian Army on June 30.

On July 16, the Army said all formations of Udhampur-based northern command are committed to eliminate the scourge of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Army said it had been conducting a series of joint and coordinated operations with J&K Police to eliminate foreign terrorists who have infiltrated from across the border and are moving in the upper reaches of Udhampur, Doda and Kishtwar districts in Jammu region and thereafter to Kashmir.

On July 3, the chief of Army staff visited border district of Poonch and also chaired a meeting in Jammu and reviewed the security situation.

(With inputs from PTI)

## Nobody will be allowed to create sectarian divide, says Waqf

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JULY 20

The Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board has said action had been initiated against those who tried to vitiate the peace in the Valley. Board's chairperson Darakhshan Andrabi on Friday night said nobody would be allowed to create a sectarian divide in society.

The statement comes after some members of the Shia community held mourning inside the revered Sunni shrine of Khanqah-e-Moula in the old city of Srinagar.

"The J&K Waqf Board has taken cognisance of the matter and an action has been initiated. Nobody will be allowed to create a sectarian divide and stern action is being taken," she wrote on X.

Meanwhile, Muttahida Majlis-e-Ulama (MMU), the umbrella organisation of all major Islamic sects in J&K, on Saturday said people "should not allow any group or agency to disrupt this legacy for their vested interests."

The MMU, which is headed by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, issued a statement urging for peace and concord. "The people of Kashmir cannot afford such divisions and need to show restraint and patience," the statement said.

## NATO arms seized from terrorists worry agencies

ADIL AKHZER

SRINAGAR, JULY 20

Nearly three years after NATO withdrew from Afghanistan, weapons left by it are now increasingly making way to Kashmir.

Besides US-made M4 carbines, security forces have recently seized arms and ammunition from Austria and Turkey in Jammu and Kashmir.

After the Army foiled an infiltration bid at the Line of Control (LOC) in the Keran sector earlier this week, a Steyr AUG rifle, along with two magazines, was recovered from the militants. The Austrian bullpup assault rifle has been recovered in the Valley for the first time.

An senior security official told The Tribune that they were now witnessing an influx of new and modern weapons, which were earlier used by NATO.

"Some leftover weapons from the Afghan-NATO war are being pumped into the region," he said.

A Valley-based counter-insurgency officer said the seizure of new type of weapons was "challenging" for the security forces, but agencies were "ready to tackle it".

The officer said there had been an increase in the use of M4 rifles with night sights

### NEW CHALLENGE

- Austrian Steyr AUG rifle recovered from militants in Keran sector
- US-made M4 carbines seized
- Turkish Canik TP9 pistols recovered several times



by militants. He, however, said AK assault rifles remained the most used and dangerous weapon.

Another significant addition, the sources said, was Turkish Canik TP9 pistols in Kashmir. Such pistols have been seized several times in the recent past, including in Sopore last month.

"As the pistols' 9mm ammunition is easily available, it becomes easy for the terrorists to use," he said.

Another Valley officer said the real challenge arose from the weapons having night vision. "These are deadly when it comes to ambushes," he said.

The sources said some time ago, the security forces had seized a few Luger 9mm bullets in the Valley. Such bullets were designed by Austrian firearm designer Georg Luger in 1901.

"With modern weapons, terrorists have the upper hand at times," the officer explained, adding that high-tech Glock and Beretta pistols, which were mostly used by the US and

NATO forces, had also been recovered in Kashmir.

"What we are seeing slowly is that a lot of equipment left behind by the US and NATO is slowly finding its way into Kashmir... what we are seeing in Jammu is that terrorists seem to be well-trained. It is a challenge for security forces," Lt Gen Deependra Singh Hooda (ret'd), former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Army's Northern Command told The Tribune.

"We also have good equipment, our soldiers are equipped with modern rifles. So yes, it is a challenge that needs to be dealt with, but should it worry us too much, I don't think so," he said.

The sources indicated there was a rise in militants' presence in the Jammu region, but most of them were staying off the radar by using modern high-tech encrypted communication devices. A Chinese telecom handset — Ultra Set — was seized from two areas during anti-militancy operations recently.

## Ex-PDP leader Alam rejoins party

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**SRINAGAR, JULY 20**  
Senior political leader from the Kashmir Valley and former trade union leader Khurshid Alam on Saturday rejoined the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The joining of Alam, comes a week after he resigned from Peoples Conference. He had joined the Peoples Conference, led by Sajad Lone, in March 2021 and was the provincial president of the party.

"Senior political leader Khurshid Alam rejoined JKDP today at the party headquarters situated at Srinagar, in the presence of party president Mehbooba Mufti," the PDP wrote on X. Alam had resigned from the PDP in March 2021.

He is the second top leader in Valley, who return to the PDP this month. Former J&K minister Syed Basharat Bukhari had earlier this month rejoined the PDP, from which he was expelled in 2018. Bukhari, a former broadcaster, switched many sides since leaving the PDP in 2018.

Alam stated that one of the key factors of his return was the "unwavering resolve of party president Mehbooba Mufti".

"Throughout the trying circumstances of recent years, she has faced relentless harassment and unimaginable hard-



Khurshid Alam being welcomed by PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti at the PDP headquarters in Srinagar on Saturday. ANI

ships," he said. "Despite being rendered homeless...she has remained steadfast in her commitment to the people of Kashmir," he added.

Alam said she continues to speak truth to power, "advocating for the rights and well-being of people," despite knowing the might of the establishment she stands against. "Her courage and dedication have been a beacon of hope and resilience," he said. "...history will not absolve us, if we as political leaders, do not stand by her side during these critical times."

**BJP want to 'destroy' Constitution: Mehbooba**  
Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday alleged that Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) wants to destroy the Constitution of India. She was reacting to the Uttar Pradesh government's order to all

eateries along the Kanwar Yatra route to display their owners' names.

Speaking to reporters at a party function, Mufti said it has already become evident that the BJP government is "trampling" the Constitution which guarantees equal rights and justice to everyone without any discrimination on the basis of religion or name.

"Rahul Gandhi was right when he said that if they (BJP) get over 400 seats, they will destroy the Constitution. They have come to 240 from 350 seats, but they have not learnt their lesson, they continue to do the opposite of what the Constitution says," she said. "Those people who voted for BJP in the Lok Sabha elections must have understood that the party will 'anyhow want to destroy the Constitution'."

## Exquisite wood carving exhibition inaugurated

SRINAGAR, JULY 20

An exquisite wood carving exhibition showcasing the extraordinary craftsmanship of Ghulam Nabi Zargar, a revered master wood carving artisan, was inaugurated in Srinagar on Saturday.

This event is part of the Handicraft Department's 'Know Your Artisan' initiative, aimed at highlighting the exceptional talents and rich cultural heritage of Kashmiri artisans, an official spokesperson said in a statement.

Since Srinagar's inclusion in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) and its recognition as a 'World Craft City' by the World Crafts Council, the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir, has been at the forefront of organising events that celebrate the region's rich artistic traditions, it said.

Officials said this exhibition is a testament to their ongoing efforts to promote and preserve the unique craftsmanship of Kashmir.

Ghulam Nabi Zargar, renowned for his intricate wood carvings, has dedicated his life to perfecting the art form and his work, characterised by detailed patterns and exquisite designs, has garnered national and international acclaim.—OC

## Panghal trains in the hills for..

FROM PAGE 1

ONE CANT GUARANTEE A RESULT

“Our month-long training here has gone really well. One can't guarantee a result but he's as ready as one could ever be to put up a good show at the Paris Olympics.”

Devendra Singh, A FORMER OLYMPIAN

Olympics disappointment, where 'Chotta Tyson' lost in the first round despite being a red-hot medal favourite. "Our month-long training here has gone really well. One can't guarantee a result but he's as ready as one could ever be to put up a good show at the Paris Olympics," said Devendra Singh, a former Olympian and part of Panghal's coaching team.

For Panghal, the reasons to skip the Germany trip are quite basic — ghar ka khana and sweating it out in the company of known sparring partners and support staff. "I don't think I can achieve much without my team. I feel good and positive having them around me," says Panghal, trying to pull in as many of them as possible into the frame for a photograph. "Also, I don't like going without Indian food for too long," said Panghal. Rohit Kashyap, his personal physio, reveals Panghal really missed Indian food while training in Italy ahead of the Tokyo Olympics in 2021. "The training camp in Italy went on for one and a half months. He craved Indian food, and wasn't in the best mental frame while heading into his bout," he said. "This time he will go to the Olympics a lot happier."

Happier or not, the 28-

year-old Armyman will certainly go to Paris with a much lighter burden of expectations as compared to Tokyo 2020. Having gone to Tokyo as the top-ranked boxer in his weight category (52kg), with the Asian Games gold and the World Championship silver medal already in his kitty, the expectations were sky high.

Unfortunately, he fell in the first round, and that heartbreaking loss gradually knocked him out of the scheme of things in Indian boxing. Boxers waiting in the wings were pushed ahead of him. It wasn't until the last Olympics qualifier just a month ago that he was given a chance to get a crack at the Olympics quota, which he grabbed with both hands. "He has been through a lot since that first-round loss in the Tokyo Olympics. From the heady high of being a top-ranked boxer and the brightest medal hope, his world came crashing down," said Rohit Kashyap, his physio.

The support staff says Panghal has shut out all distractions to stay fully focused on his goal, so much

so that he skipped the interaction of the Indian Olympics contingent with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Panghal has taken a sabbatical from social media as well, where he used to be quite active not too long back. "He has stayed away from media interactions, and any other social activity that might have distracted him even for a moment," said Kavinder Bisht, an international boxer and a key member of the sparring team. "For a month, we have stayed totally cut off from the outside world. All we did was train, go for a run into the forest and up the hills. We have been training together for more than a decade now, and I can say with confidence that he's in his best physical shape at the moment," said Bisht.

The diminutive Panghal, not given to excessive talk, seems to agree. "It's good, better than the last time," he said, when asked about his preparedness for the biggest test of his sporting career. Tokyo was supposed to be that — his biggest test. It's a wonder that he's risen from the ashes to fight another day and earn another shot at Olympics glory.

## Returning Indians given escort, 1K back..

High Commissions in Chittagong, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Khulna. Measures are being taken to facilitate their safe travel to the border crossing points. The MEA is also coordinating with the immigration, land ports and the BSF authorities to ensure a smooth passage for Indian nationals.

India and Bangladesh have designated border crossings at Benapole-Petrapole, Gede-Darshana and Akhaura-Agartala. Officials are in regular touch with more than 4,000 students still staying in Bangladesh and are providing necessary assistance. Students from Nepal and Bhutan have also been assisted with their crossing into India on request.

## AAP vows free power, cash for women in...

provide drinking water to all households. Moreover, unemployment in the state is at an all-time high and youth are being forced to go abroad for jobs. The BJP has been just indulging in politics on the caste and religion lines," he said. He lauded the AAP-led Delhi Government for providing better facilities in schools and other sectors.

Party MP Sanjay Singh targeted the BJP government in the state over several issues, including the Agnipath scheme for short-term military recruitment.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann said his government in the neighbouring state had provided 43,000 jobs. He said, "Nearly 90 per cent of the households in Punjab do not have to pay electricity bills and we are providing electricity for 11 to 12 hours. We abolished former MLAs' multiple pensions after coming to power. We also shut down 17 toll plazas that were running despite the expiry of the agreements. We will deliver on our guarantees in Haryana as well."

## NEET details out, only 3 Hazaribagh centre..

Of 701 students who took the exam at the centre, only seven scored above 650 and 28 above 500. Only students who score 650 and above out of 720 have the possibility of getting admission in a government medical college.

The CBI had last month arrested Oasis School's principal Ehsanul Haque and vice-principal Intiaz Alam in connection with the paper leak case. The Economic Offence Unit (EOU) of the Bihar Police had found a burnt question paper at a private school's hostel in Patna. The booklet number on the question paper matched with the ones provided at Oasis School.

Meanwhile, no candidate scored above 682 in the revised results for a centre in Haryana that was under the scanner after six aspirants got 720 out of 720. The scores were revised after a retest was ordered by the Supreme Court following allegations over undue grace marks being awarded.

Only 13 candidates who appeared at Hardayal Public School in Jhajjar, Haryana, managed to score more than 600 marks.

At Jay Jalaram International School and Jay Jalaram School in Gujarat's Godhra, the two centres which are being probed for changes in

OMR sheets, just five students from among 2,516 who took the test, scored 650 or more. Of these students, only 58 got more than 500 marks.

Earlier, the NTA had said eight of the 13 candidates from Patna, who were booked by the Bihar Police for their alleged involvement in a paper leak, scored less than 500 marks. A total of 10,352 students appeared for the exam at 12 centres in Patna which were suspected to have been affected due to paper leak. Of these, only about 4 per cent scored more than 600 marks.

Meanwhile, the CBI arrested Sashikant Paswan,

a BTech graduate from NIT-Jamshedpur, and an alleged mastermind in the NEET-UG paper leak case, and two MBBS students from Rajasthan who acted as "solvers".

The total number of persons arrested so far in six cases related to the alleged irregularities in the NEET-UG has reached 21. The two MBBS students — Kumar Mangalam Bishnoi and Deepender Sharma — were present in Hazaribagh on May 5 and allegedly acted as "solvers" for the paper stolen by Pankaj Kumar, an engineer, who was arrested earlier, officials said.

**CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION HEALTH DEPARTMENT E-TENDER NOTICE**

No. GH-I-2024/14561 Dated, Chandigarh the: 17/07/24

E-Tender (Online tenders) are hereby invited from the manufacturers or their sole authorized distributors/sole agents for the purchase of following item:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Items	Date of Publication	Department	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Due Date of Opening of Tender	Earnest Money (in Rs.)
1.	Medical Oxygen Gases	24.07.2024	Anesthesia	31.07.2024	22.08.2024	80,000.00
2.	Nitrous Oxide Gases	25.07.2024	Anesthesia	01.08.2024	23.08.2024	87,300.00

**Terms & Conditions:-**

- Tender documents for the above items can be obtained from the website i.e. <http://etenders.chd.nic.in>
- The Competent authority reserves all rights to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.
- EMD must be submitted online only on or before the date & time as mentioned in the milestone dates. Tender without submission of EMD will be rejected straightaway.
- PRE-BID CONFERENCE:-** Only firms who have downloaded or intended to submit tender for the concerned item shall be allowed to participate in the "PRE-BID CONFERENCE" at 11:30 A.M. on the scheduled date as mentioned above in the office of Deputy Medical Superintendent, GMSH-16, Chandigarh.
- The tender must be submitted online on or before the dates as intimated against each item & followed by scheduled time as mentioned in the tender document. The bid guarantee and technical bid will be opened on the schedule date & time as mentioned in the tender document. **No tender shall be accepted in physical form.**
- Opening of Price Bid to be intimated to all the qualified bidders separately.
- The tenderer can approach in the office of Admn. Branch, GMSH-16, Chandigarh on any working day regarding any query of tender, in case of any query/clarification regarding e-tendering process, the tenderer/bidder can contact with I.T. Department of U.T., Chandigarh on Ph. No. 0172-2740641.
- The information is also available at the website i.e. <http://etenders.chd.nic.in>

Sd/- Superintendent (Proc.)  
For Director Health & Family Welfare,  
Chandigarh Administration.

### CALENDAR

- July 21, 2024, Sunday
- Shaka Samvat 1946
  - Aashadh Shaka 30
  - Shravan Parvatishe 6
  - Hijari 1446
  - Shukla Paksha Tithi 15, up to 3.47 pm
  - Vishkumbha Yoga up to 9.11 pm
  - Ultrashadha Nakshatra up to 12.14 am
  - Moon enters Capricorn sign 7.27 am
  - Aashadhi Purnima, Guru Purnima

# Bangladesh shuts offices, imposes curfew to curb deadly quota clashes

Two-day public holiday declared | PM Sheikh Hasina cancels foreign trips

**DHAKA, JULY 20** Bangladesh soldiers patrolled the deserted streets of capital Dhaka on Saturday and set up roadblocks during a curfew meant to quell deadly student-led protests against government job quotas that have killed at least 114 people this week.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government declared Sunday and Monday as "public holidays" due to the situation in the country, with only emergency services allowed to operate.

Authorities had earlier closed universities and colleges from Wednesday. Overseas telephone calls mostly failed to connect while websites of Bangladesh-based media organisations did not update and their social media handles remained inactive.

In addition to the deaths, the clashes have injured thousands, according to data from hospitals across the country. The Dhaka Medical College Hospital received 27 dead bodies between 5 pm and 7



A barbed fence barricades a road in Dhaka during a nationwide curfew on Saturday. REUTERS

pm on Friday. For five days, the police have fired tear gas and hurled sound grenades to scatter protesters as demonstrators clashed with security personnel, throwing bricks and igniting vehicles.

The demonstrations — the biggest since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was re-elected for a fourth successive term

this year — have also been fuelled by high unemployment among young people, who make up nearly a fifth of the South Asian nation's 170 million people.

With the death toll climbing and the security forces unable to contain the protests, Hasina's government imposed the national curfew and deployed

the military. The curfew was eased for two hours from noon on Saturday to allow people to shop for supplies and complete other chores, television channels reported. It will last until 10 am on Sunday, when the government will assess the situation and decide the next course of action, the reports added. — Reuters

# Israeli strikes kill 13 in central Gaza

CAIRO, JULY 20

At least 13 people were killed in three Israeli airstrikes that hit refugee camps in central Gaza overnight into Saturday, according to Palestinian health officials, as cease-fire talks in Cairo appeared to make progress.

Among the dead in Nuseirat refugee camp and Bureij refugee camp were three children and one woman, according to Palestinian ambulance teams that transported the bodies to the nearby Al-Aqsa Martyrs hospital. The 13 corpses were counted by AP journalists at the hospital.

Earlier, a medical team delivered a live baby from a Palestinian woman killed in an airstrike that hit her home in Nuseirat late Thursday evening. Ola al-Kurd, 25, was killed along with six others in the blast, but was quickly rushed by



An explosion occurs following an air strike in Nuseirat, Gaza. REUTERS

## SINCE WAR BEGAN, FIRST ATTACKS ON YEMENI SOIL

- Israel said it had struck several Houthi targets in Yemen following a fatal drone attack by the rebel group in Tel Aviv the previous day
- The Israeli strikes appeared to be the first on Yemeni soil since the Israel-Hamas war began in October

emergency workers to Al-Awda Hospital in northern Gaza in the hope of saving the unborn child. Hours later, doctors said a baby boy from an incubator, said Dr Khalil Dajan on Friday. — AP

The still-unnamed newborn was stable but had suffered from a shortage of oxygen and had been placed in an incubator, said Dr Khalil Dajan on Friday. — AP

# India plans ₹1.5K cr stimulus for Bhutan

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 20

India has agreed to consider a proposal by Bhutan seeking an upfront payout of Rs 1,500 crore as part of an "economic stimulus package".

Discussions on the matter happened during the two-day (July 19-20) visit by

## Discussed during Foreign Secy's visit

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri to Bhutan, where he met his counterpart Aum Pema Choden. The two co-chaired the 3rd India-Bhutan Development Cooperation talks. The MEA said "the Indian side agreed to positively consider frontloading the full amount of Rs 1,500 crore for the stimulus package".

## Republican Party leader was trolled for reciting ardas at RNC

completely unacceptable". Dhillon had recited the prayers at the Republican National Convention that began on Monday. — PTI

# Four Indians suffocate to death in Kuwait fire

DUBAI/KUWAIT CITY, JULY 20

In a tragic incident, an Indian couple and their two children were killed in a fire that broke out in their flat in Kuwait City, local authorities said on Saturday. The tragedy happened on Friday night, the same day they returned from Kerala after vacation.

Mathews Mulackal, his wife Lini Abraham, and their two children, all hailing from Neerattupuram in Alappuzha, suffocated to death on Friday night due to the fire caused by a short circuit in the air conditioner at around 8 pm in their second-floor flat in Abbasiya area, The Arab

## Had returned from Kerala same day

Times newspaper reported. "The family had returned to Kuwait from a vacation in Kerala, arriving around 4 pm local time on Friday. Mathews worked at Reuters, while his wife Lini was a staff nurse at Adan Hospital in Al Ahmadi Governorate," the newspaper said. The Indian Embassy in Kuwait said it was in touch with the family in Kerala and would ensure the early repatriation of the mortal remains of the four Indians. — PTI

# 12 die in China bridge collapse

BEIJING, JULY 20

At least 12 people were killed in a bridge collapse and more than 60 others went missing in flash floods in China's Shaanxi and Sichuan provinces, an official said on Saturday.

The highway bridge collapse triggered by torrential rains in northwest Shaanxi

Province killed 12 people and left 31 others missing, local authorities said.

The bridge, located in Zhazhui County of Shangluo city, partially collapsed around 8.40 pm on Friday due to a sudden downpour and flash floods, according to the provincial publicity department. — PTI

# Oli likely to win trust vote in Nepal parliament today

KATHMANDU, JULY 20

Nepal's newly appointed Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli is expected to win a vote of confidence in Parliament on Sunday, nearly a week after he was sworn in to lead another coalition government in the Himalayan nation facing frequent power struggles.

The 72-year-old veteran Communist leader was sworn in on Monday as the Himalayan nation's PM for the fourth time. He was administered the oath of office and secrecy along with 21 other members of the Cabinet. According to Nepal's Consti-

## Was sworn in PM for 4th time on Monday

tution, Oli needs to secure a vote of confidence from Parliament within 30 days of appointment, which he is likely to secure easily. The minimum number to form a government in the 275-strong House of Representatives is just 138. The chairman of the CPN-UML, Nepal's largest communist party, was appointed as PM on Sunday. The ruling alliance has a strength of 178 in the 275-member HoR. — PTI

# Congressman denounces racist attack on Dhillon

WASHINGTON, JULY 20

Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi has denounced the racist response to Republican National Committee woman Harmeet Dhillon's recital of Sikh prayer 'ardas' in the presence of the party's presidential nominee Donald Trump, and said it was "com-

## HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed item rate tender on form PWD-6 and PWD-8 are invited by the Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub Division, Shimta for the following work from approved and eligible contractors in Jal Shakti Vibhag so as to reach in this office on or before 26.07.2024 up to 12:00 Noon and will be opened on the same day at 03:00 p.m. in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives. The tender forms can be had from his office against cash payment (non-refundable) up to 12:00 Noon on 26.07.2024. The earnest money in the shape of National Saving Certificate/Time Deposit/Accounts/Saving Account in any of the post office or Nationalized Bank in Himachal Pradesh duly pledged in favour of Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub Division, Shimta must accompany with each tender. Conditional tender and the tender received without earnest money will summarily be rejected. The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 120 days. Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub Division, Shimta reserve the right to reject the tender without assigning any reasons. However such tender form duly filled should be accompanied by demand draft of cost of tender form drawn in favour of Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub Division, Shimta.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of form	Time Limit
1	Restoration of rain damages of WSS Samote Jassure Dukhar in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP Providing and fixing various fitting material at various locations.	199411	3988	250	2 Months
2	Restoration of rain damages of FIS Upper Motia in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP C/O CC lining from RD 670 to 770, RD 990 to 1070 total- 180 Rmt.).	195070	3901	250	2 Months
3	Restoration of rain damages for Sihunta and other Multi villages piped water supply scheme for part of Block Bhatiyat and Distt. Chamba HP (SH- C/O R/wall at RD 3.10 to 6.10 = 3.00 Rmt height = 3.65 Rmt at front side of pump house at Tikri under JIM Flexi fund).	193199	3864	250	2 Months
4	Restoration of rain damages of WSS Hatli Gola in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP Providing and fixing various fitting material at various locations.	193404	3868	250	2 Months
5	Restoration of rain damages for Sihunta and other Multi villages piped water supply scheme for part of Block Bhatiyat and Distt. Chamba HP (SH- C/O R/wall at RD 3.10 to 6.10 = 3.00 Rmt height = 3.65 Rmt at front side of pump house at Tikri under JIM Flexi fund).	152879	3058	250	2 Months
6	Restoration of rain damages of FIS Upper Motia in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP C/O PCC R/wall at RD 1160 to 1172.50, 12.50 Rmt height = 1.80 mtrs.).	197100	3942	250	2 Months
7	Restoration of rain damages of WSS Kamla Triuh in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP Providing and fixing various fitting material at various locations.	194089	3882	250	2 Months
8	Restoration of rain damages of FIS Upper Motia in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP (SH- Removal of silt from Rd 0 to 1420 = 1420 Rmt.)	148250	2965	250	2 Months
9	Restoration of rain damages for Sihunta and other Multi villages piped water supply scheme for part of Block Bhatiyat and Distt. Chamba HP (SH- C/O R/wall at RD 0 to 3.10 = 3.10 Rmt height = 3.65 Rmt. at front side of pump house at Tikri.) under JIM Flexi fund).	199639	3993	250	2 Months
10	Restoration of rain damages of FIS Thulei in Tehsil Sihunta Distt. Chamba HP (SH- C/O R/wall to protect the main channel at RD 430-436 = 6 Rmt.)	73827	1477	250	2 Months

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS :-**

- The contractors/firms should be registered in Jal Shakti Vibhag in appropriate class.
- The contractors/firms should have Income Tax/GST registration certificate.
- The earnest money in the shape of National Saving Certificate/Time Deposit/Accounts/Saving Account in any of the post office or Nationalized Bank in Himachal Pradesh duly pledged in favour of Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub Division, Shimta with application form before the purchasing the tender documents.
- The contractors/firms are required to quote their rates clearly both in words as well as in figures, failing which the Assistant Engineer reserve the right to accept/reject any or all tenders.
- In case of sudden holiday on the date of opening of the tenders, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time.
- The conditional/ambiguous/telegraphic tenders or tender by Fax or tender without earnest money will not be entertained/considered in any case.
- The tender of those contractors/firms shall not be considered whose performance is not found good/satisfactory in the past

No. J.SV-SHN-E-Tender/2024 DPR/HP/914 Dt. Sihunta the:-

## HP CROP DIVERSIFICATION PROMOTION PROJECT (PHASE II), JICA-ODA

District Project Management Unit Agriculture Complex, Mandi, Distt. Mandi (H.P.) 175001 (e-mail- dpmcdp-man-hp@nic.in)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Online bids are invited for the following works from eligible contractors/firms duly registered with Himachal Pradesh Jal Shakti Vibhag in appropriate class and latest renewal thereof. Terms & conditions/other documents can be downloaded from the website <http://hptenders.gov.in>. For further queries / details, please contact 01905-235210.

Sr. No.	Name of the work.	Amount put to Tender (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)
1	C/O Flow Irrigation Scheme Thandi Bawdi to Badyal at Village Badyal, G.P. Badyal, Tehsil Bah, District Mandi (H.P.). & C/O Flow Irrigation Scheme Pajia Nalla to Upper Sakroha at Village Sakroha, G.P. Sakroha, Tehsil Bah, District Mandi (H.P.).	11196600/-	145000/-
2	C/O Flow Irrigation Scheme Delag Tikari at Village Tikari, G.P. Delag, Tehsil Chachyot, District Mandi (H.P.). C/O Flow Irrigation Scheme Gawad at Village Gawad, G.P. Gawad, Tehsil Chachyot, District Mandi (H.P.). & C/O Flow Irrigation Scheme Khakhan Khad to Lehohi at Village Oari & Dari, G.P. Nehar & Bassa, Tehsil Chachyot, District Mandi (H.P.).	13581000/-	169000/-

Cost of Tender (Rs.): 5000/- for each  
Time Allowed: (Months) 12 for each

**Key Dates:**

Sr. No.	Description	Key Dates
1	Date of online publication	19-07-2024 1700 Hrs
2	Document Download start and end date	19-07-2024 from 1700 Hrs up to 30-07-2024 1700 Hrs
3	Bid submission start and End date	19-07-2024 from 1700 Hrs up to 30-07-2024 1700 Hrs
4	Pre-Bid meeting	24-07-2024 1100 Hrs
5	Physical submission of EMD and i) Cost of tender documents and other Technical/Eligibility Documents.	20-07-2024 from 1000 Hrs up to 31-07-2024 1030 Hrs
6	Date of Technical Bid opening	31-07-2024 1100 Hrs

Sd/- District Project Manager, HPCDP (Phase-II), JICA-ODA, Mandi, District Mandi (H.P.)  
DPR/HP/198

## HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Baggi invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through e-tendering process :-

Sr. No.	Name of work(s)	Estimated Cost	E/ Money
1	C/O 2 Nos. Tube well to cover the tail end area of BVMIP Zone No. 1 & Improvement of FIS Malwana in GP Badhyal Tehsil Bah Distt. Mandi HP. (SH- C/O 2 Nos. Tubewell 110 Mtrs. deep) (UNDER NABARD)	45,43,434/-	Rs.

Earnest Money: Rs. 75,700/-  
Time limit: Three Months

Last date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering: 06/08/2024 up to 05.00PM.

The tender form and other details and conditions can be obtained from the website <http://hptenders.gov.in> or from office of Jal Shakti Division Baggi upto the date specified above.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Baggi.  
DPR/HP/916

## HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

The Assistant Engineer, Jal Shakti Sub-Division Gumma invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors as per tendering time defined by the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh for the following work(s) through offline process:-

Sr. No.	Name of work(s)	Estimated Cost	E/ Money
1.00	A/R & M/O of LIS Gumma in G.P. Gumma Tehsil Kotkhai Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH- Rewinding of 50HP Kirloskar make motor).	89,440.00/-	1800.00/-
2.00	A/R & M/O of LWSS Nagan in G.P. Nagan Tehsil Kotkhai Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH- Repair of KSB make pump WKFI 40/11 and providing and fixing of various mechanical items) stage 1st.	1,54,250.00/-	3100.00/-
3.00	A/R & M/O of LWSS Nagan in G.P. Nagan Tehsil Kotkhai Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH- Rewinding of 40 HP Motor stage 1st Set. No. 1. Providing and fixing of star delta starter 40-50 HP, repair of 3 HP submersible pump and providing and fixing of various mechanical items).	1,66,850.00/-	3350.00/-

Time: 1 Month (For each)

Last Date: Last Date of Sale of tender form is up to 23.07.2024 till 05:00 p.m., Date of receiving of tenders from contractors is up to 24.07.2024 till 03:00 p.m., Date of opening of tenders is on 24.07.2024 at 03:30 p.m.

Sd/- Assistant Engineer, JSV Sub Division Gumma Teh. Kotkhai, Shimla.  
HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK  
No. 205-214 Dated: 15.07.2024 DPR/HP/920

## HIMACHAL PRADESH SPORTS COUNCIL

Craig Garden-V, Chotta Shimla -02  
E-mail:- deputydirector@nic.in

**Advertisement**  
The Secretary, HP Sports Council invites applications from eligible candidates for hiring Manpower for KHELO INDIA STATE LEVEL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (KICE) at Luhn Bilaspur, HP on temporary/co-terminus based as per details given below:-

Sr. No.	Name of Post	Vacancy	Fixed Monthly Remuneration	Tenure of Post
1.	High Performance Manager	1 (One)	Rs. 1,25,000/-	Initially for one year and further extendable for another year on the basis of satisfactory performance, periodic review, result oriented, etc. and at all times continuous with khelo India Scheme.

Interested candidates may apply with their duly signed applications on the prescribed format accompanied with self-attested copies of all educational qualifications, professional qualifications and experience certificates, along with other testimonials, required to support their candidature. Applications (on the prescribed format only) must be submitted to the Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Sports Council, Craig Garden-V, Chotta Shimla -2 either in person or through post or online on the official email id of the Department at [dir-yss-hp@nic.in](mailto:dir-yss-hp@nic.in) (deputydirector@nic.in) latest by 05.08.2024 till 5.00 PM. The schedule for walk in interview will be notified separately. The document containing application form, terms & conditions and Job description of the post may be downloaded from official website of HP Sports Department Link is as under- [https://himachal.nic.in/index.php?lang=1&dpt\\_id=241](https://himachal.nic.in/index.php?lang=1&dpt_id=241)

Further any information, candidate may contact Sh. Hitesh Azad, Additional Director-Cum- Joint Secretary HP Sports Council (01772622032) and Sh. Anurag Verma DYSSO(HQ)-cum- In-charge IGSSC, The Mall Shimla (01772806520)

Sd/- Sandeep Kumar (IAS) Member-Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Sports Council, HP  
Ends No. Even 5-197/2017-SC-2465 Dated 19/07/2024 Shimla-2 DPR/HP/200

## HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICE, MANDI

Distt. Mandi (HP) PhoneNo. 01905-222177  
No. HFW-CMO/MND/Tender/2024-11956-58 Dated :-19.7.24

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tender for supply of medicines are hereby invited so as to reach in the office of the undersigned on or before 01/08/24 up to 5:00 PM. The Technical and Financial bids be submitted separately. The Technical bids will be opened on 02/08/2024 at 12:00 PM. The detailed terms and conditions along with tender form can be obtained from the office of the undersigned at the cost of Rs. 500/- on any working days wef 20/07/24 to 01/08/24 at 10:30 AM. The Financial Bid shall be opened of the technically qualified bids only. The financial bids of technically rejected bidders shall not be opened.

The undersigned reserves all the rights to accept or reject any Tender document without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Chief Medical Officer Mandi, District Mandi, H.P.  
DPR/HP/911

## HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE SOCIETY VALLABH GOVERNMENT COLLEGE MANDI, HP-175001

Ph.: 01905-235505, 01905-237705,  
Applications are invited for following posts within 21 days.

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Vacancies
1.	Head of the Department (Education)	One
2.	Assistant Professor (Perspectives in Education)	Four
3.	Pedagogy subject (Maths., Science, Social Science, Languages)	Eight
4.	Assistant Professor Health and Physical Education	One
5.	Assistant Professor Fine Arts	One
6.	Assistant Professor Performing Arts (Music/ Dance/Theatre)	One

NOTE: The Number of Vacancies may be increased or decreased.  
> Qualification and pay as per HP Govt./NCTE/SPU Norms.  
Sd/- Member Secretary Davika Vaidya  
DI-8083

## WESTERN RAILWAY Material Management Department VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/36/2024 Date 18.07.2024

S.N.	Short Description of Items	Quantity	T.O.D.
476	Sealed horizontal scroll compressors	20 Nos	14-Aug-24
477	Anti roll bar fork	1130 Nos	14-Aug-24
478	Secondary lateral	777 Nos	14-Aug-24
479	Rubber pad for primary suspension	4444 Nos	14-Aug-24
480	Brake shoe complete	35118 Nos	14-Aug-24
481	Top side bearer liner	6261 Nos	14-Aug-24
482	Flap Door for BCNA Wagon	1661 Nos	14-Aug-24
483	Striker casting wear plate	21211 Nos	14-Aug-24
484	22.22mm Diameter Lock Bolt & collar	55253 Nos	16-Aug-24
485	R/M paint Black	123551 Ltr	17-Aug-24
486	Paint Aluminium	36320 Ltr	19-Aug-24
487	10 KVA DA set for DETC/US	20 Nos	19-Aug-24
488	Lower rubber washer	14705 Nos	20-Aug-24
489	Buffer plunger(Casting)	1769 Nos	26-Aug-24
490	Yaw damper	2770 Nos	26-Aug-24

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) and [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in). 0365

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# Patna agog over Nitish pick in JD(U)

Retired Odisha-cadre IAS officer Manish Verma tipped to be Bihar CM's successor

AKSHEEV THAKUR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 20**  
Days after former bureaucrat Manish Verma officially joined Bihar's ruling Janata Dal(United) as general secretary, he is making waves as a potential successor to the party's supremo and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. Though Nitish is very much in command, Verma's recent induction into the JD(U) fuelled speculation over his growing prominence in the party.

JD(U) leaders describe the former 2000-batch Odisha cadre IAS officer as closest to Nitish, whose association with other former bureaucrats NK Singh and RCP Singh, ended bitterly. Both switched over to the BJP. However, Verma stayed. JD(U) leaders recall how Ver-



Manish Verma (in green scarf) has been Nitish loyalist for years. FILE

ma did not think twice before heading Nitish's advice to quit the IAS when his deputation ended in 2021.

"Verma came to Bihar from Odisha on deputation in 2012 and took VRS on Nitish's advice in 2021," a JD(U) insider said, adding the talk of Nitish's succession gained ground when the CM, on the 2020 state

poll eve, said this was his last election. Verma has since been active in JD(U) affairs. "In 2014, when Verma was Patna DM, there was a stampede at Gandhi Maidan there. The Ravan Vadh ceremony was underway when the chaos struck, killing 33 persons. The ground had a single exit. When the tragedy unfolded, Verma was busy cel-

ebrating his son's birthday at Hotel Maurya, right next to the stampede location. Despite widespread criticism of the state administration's apathy, Nitish did not act against Verma... We knew that day that this bureaucrat had the CM's ears and patronage," a JD(U) leader recalls.

## CASTE CENSUS SHOULDN'T BE MADE PUBLIC: CHIRAG

Union Minister and LJP (Ram Vilas) chief Chirag Paswan has pitched for a nationwide caste census but warned against making the figures public as it would lead to "division" in society. He noted that now people in Bihar are being associated with the percentage of their castes in the total population after the state government disclosed the figures of its caste survey. PTI

Another leader speaks of how Nitish created the post of additional adviser for him after he quit IAS in 2021. "This post was created in a Cabinet meeting in 2022. Without holding any post in the party, Verma was made a member of several government bodies," a JD(U) source said, highlighting Verma's journey — from Patna-Punea DM, CM Nitish's principal secretary to now JD(U) general secretary. "The post on July 9 came on Nitish's insistence," says a party leader terming Verma, 50, as a man to watch out for.

In between, CM's 49-year-old son Nishant Kumar was briefly speculated to take a political plunge, but that turned out just a ripple in the water whereas Verma, a Kurmi from Nalanda, much like his mentor, consistently remained in the public eye.

# UPSC chief quits 5 years ahead of term; Cong says nudged out

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 20**  
Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Chairman Manoj Soni tendered his resignation five years ahead of his scheduled exit in 2029 with official sources saying the move has nothing to do with the ongoing controversy involving IAS probationer Puja Khedkar.

The resignation has not yet been accepted. The UPSC on Friday registered an FIR against probationer Khedkar over mass scale fraud including forging of identity to become eligible for multiple attempts at the civil services exam. Khedkar, who qualified in 2022, is now facing cancellation of candidature. Though official sources said



Manoj Soni

Soni had put in his papers a fortnight ago citing personal reasons, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said he had been asked to go amid controversies.

"The BJP-RSS is systematically indulging in an institutional takeover of India's constitutional bodies, damaging their reputation, integrity and autonomy. The multiple scandals that have plagued

the UPSC is a cause for national concern. PM Modi and his Minister of Personnel must come clean. Numerous cases of unqualified individuals faking caste and medical certificates seemed to have duped a 'fool-proof system,' Kharge said on X. He said this is a direct affront to the genuine aspirations of lakhs of aspirants, including SC, ST, OBC, EWS candidates.

"It is disconcerting how the UPSC Chairperson has resigned prematurely. Why was his resignation kept secret for a month? Is there any connection between the numerous scandals and the resignation?" Kharge asked, adding "This blue-eyed gem of Modi ji was brought in from Gujarat and promoted as UPSC chief."

# Hospitality sector seeks infra status

BUDGET EXPECTATIONS

VIJAY C ROY  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JULY 20**  
The hospitality sector is currently on the upswing. The growth is driven by couple of factors such as favourable demographics, robust domestic demand and increased investments. To further boost the sector, the industry is pinning hopes on the Union Budget 2024-25 and expects the government will announce favourable steps to boost the segment.

## Better connectivity needed

The hotel and tourism sectors have been among the key growth segments of the economy. Besides seeking the infrastructure status ahead of the Budget, the hospitality sector wants better infrastructure and connectivity. CareEdge Ratings has also called for according the infrastructure status to the hotel industry and the industry status for the travel and tourism sector. It will help in the regularisation of policies and processes and better access to finance.

## Demand for uniform GST

The industry expects regularisation of GST rates across all segments in the Budget. "The government should consider a uniform GST rate of 12 per cent on hotels in the Budget. The existing tiered structure leads to price disparity as hotels adjust room rates based on demand and peak season. The move will not only provide respite, but also simplify compliance giving a much-needed boost to the inbound and domestic sector, especially in the hills," said Sandeep Sahni, president, Hospitality and Restaurant

Association of Uttaranchal.

## TCS standardisation

The government's continued efforts to enhance infrastructure, including new airports and expanded transportation networks, alongside developing religious circuits and lesser-known attractions, are pivotal for national growth and future-proofing the tourism sector. "We also believe that the standardisation of tax collected at source (TCS) at five per cent on foreign travel packages should be considered, against the current five per cent and 20 per cent slabs. This is hampering our business as customers prefer to use alternate channels that are outside the domestic tax net," said Amit Jain, founder, Magicfares.

## Single-window clearance

The industry has called for streamlining the licensing process by implementing a single-window system for all approvals and equalising regulations for online travel agencies. By addressing the key areas, the Budget can provide the much-needed impetus to the real estate sector, ensuring sustainable growth and development across all segments.

## Changes in LTA rules

The industry believes the Budget should modify the Leave Travel Allowance (LTA) rules to include the amount spent on hotel stays to be considered as an LTA expense. Further, corporates should be offered incentives for organising meetings and conferences in India through partial or full tax exemptions on the expenses incurred, thereby boosting domestic travel and tourism. Incentives for hotels, resorts and travel agencies are also needed to promote local destinations.

# Vessel with 'dangerous goods' on fire off Karnataka



■ A fire erupted on board a cargo vessel carrying 'dangerous goods' 17 miles off the coast of Karnataka's Karwar, a base that houses INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant.

■ The Coast Guard, tasked with putting out fire on merchant vessel Maersk Frankfurt, said helicopters had air-dropped 150 kg of dry chemical powder on source of fire. TNS

# 'Love, land jihad' rampant: Shah slams Soren govt in Jharkhand

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 20**  
Union Home Minister Amit Shah today flagged "love jihad" and "land jihad" as real challenges in the opposition INDIA bloc-ruled Jharkhand, accusing Chief Minister Hemant Soren of looking the other way.

Addressing a meeting of the BJP's Jharkhand unit, Shah claimed the saffron party would form a majority government in the state after the upcoming Assembly elections. He said the "ongoing infiltration was taking away jobs from the youth of the state".

"Hemant Soren's government is focused on increasing its vote bank. The tribal population in Jharkhand is decreasing. 'Land jihad' and 'love jihad' are occurring, but Soren and Congress are



TRIBALS SUFFERING

“The Soren govt is focused on increasing its vote bank. The tribal population in Jharkhand is decreasing amid rising love jihad.”

Amit Shah, UNION HOME MINISTER

silent," said Shah. He claimed the BJP government would introduce a white paper to safeguard the land, population and reservations of the tribal communities in the state.

The Union Home Minister also attacked the Soren gov-

ernment as "India's most corrupt". At a time when the BJP cadres are said to be demoralised for the party not winning a full Lok Sabha mandate on its own, Shah said, "The foundation of the BJP's election victories lies in its booth-level workers. It is because of them that the BJP has formed the government for the third time at the Centre." Shah accused Congress MP Rahul Gandhi of arrogance. "We have seen people becoming arrogant after victories. But I am seeing for the first time people becoming arrogant after loss," Shah said in a reference to the Leader of the Opposition.

"What is the Congress' arrogance about — entrenched nepotism, corruption, appeasement or their policies that undermined national security?" asked Shah.

# Rahul's 1st all-party meet as Leader of Oppn today

NEW DELHI, JULY 20

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi will attend his first all-party meeting as Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha here on Sunday.

The government has called an all-party meeting at 11 am on Sunday to discuss the agenda for the monsoon session commencing on July 22 until August 12.

The main agenda of the session is the July 23 Union Budget, the seventh by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who will set a record with this presentation.

The Opposition is drafting its list of items for discussions in the session with loss of civilian and soldiers' lives in the rising terror attacks in Jammu top of the list apart from NEET-UG, paper leaks and Agniveer scheme.

The Opposition parties will



press for short duration discussions on the issues of public interest, with the government saying it was willing to discuss all issues within the remit of rules. Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju has already said the government would take everyone along. Apart from the Finance Bill, the government has listed five new Bills for introduction and passing including a Bill to strengthen disaster response structures and another to enhance ease of living in the aviation sector. — TNS

## IN BRIEF

### BSF officer, jawan die of heat on patrol

**AHMEDABAD:** A Border Security Force officer and a jawan died during patrol due to exposure to "extreme weather" at the Harami Nallah creek area along the India-Pakistan international front in Gujarat, the force said on Saturday. The incident, in which Assistant Commandant Vishwa Deo and Head Constable Dayal Ram are stated to have suffered heat stroke and dehydration, took place on Friday along the border, official sources said. PTI

### NZPM dials Modi; agree to boost ties

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a phone call from his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon, who congratulated him on his re-election following the recent General Election. The Ministry of External Affairs put out a statement saying both leaders reiterated their commitment to taking bilateral cooperation to new heights in the years to come. The two agreed to advance their bilateral ties in various sectors, including trade and economic cooperation, animal husbandry, pharmaceuticals, education and space. TNS

### 14 Indians lured into cybercrime released

**NEW DELHI:** Fourteen Indian nationals who have been scammed into joining cybercrime operations, have been released in Cambodia. The Indian Embassy in Cambodia put out a post on X saying "in collaboration with Cambodian authorities, (we) have got 14 Indian citizens trapped in cybercrime scam released. They are being looked after by Cambodian side". The Embassy of India in Phnom Penh had provided tip-off to the Cambodian Police, leading to the rescue of 14 Indians. TNS

# Bhojshala: Hindu body moves SC, wants stay to go

NEW DELHI, JULY 20

A Hindu organisation instrumental in getting an order for a scientific survey of the Bhojshala complex at Dhar in Madhya Pradesh by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has moved the Supreme Court for lifting of stay on any further action based on the ASI report.

The existing structure of a mosque in the Bhojshala complex was made from parts of an earlier temple that can be dated to the Paramara period almost 1,000 years ago, the ASI told the Madhya Pradesh High Court on July 15. Hindus have been demanding full ownership of the disputed site, claiming it was a temple of Goddess Saraswati and the mosque came up later. — TNS

# Two 'mates' get bail as Dawood 'terrorist in individual capacity'

MUMBAI, JULY 20

The Bombay High Court has said fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim has been declared a terrorist in his individual capacity under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and, hence, any association with him or his gang would not attract provisions of the stringent law.

A Division Bench in an order of July 11, details of which were made available on Friday, granted bail to two persons held by the Maharashtra ATS in August 2022.

The ATS had claimed Faiz Bhiwandiwala and Parvez Vaid, were members of Dawood Ibrahim's gang.

In its judgment, the HC said the Union Government had issued a notification on September 4, 2019, notifying



Dawood Ibrahim

"Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar as a 'terrorist' under the UAPA".

The Bench said UAPA has segregated the activities of an individual, which would amount to a terrorist act on one hand, and the activities by the terrorist gang and terrorist organisation on the other.

"In our view, prima facie, the offence of Section 20 of the UAPA (being member of a terrorist organisation) would not be attracted, as Dawood Ibrahim has been declared as a terrorist in individual capacity," the court said. — PTI

# Snake slithers into PM garden, removed

Wildlife SOS has released 70 reptiles back into wild in NCR this season

ADITI TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 20**  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi's house had an intruder recently — an Indian rat snake that slithered into the garden at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg. The reptile was slithering sluggishly through lush greens of the capital's most guarded address when rescuers from Wildlife SOS, specialists in rehabilitating wildlife, retrieved it.

"The 3-ft-long rat snake was found on top of a tree in the garden area on the PM house premises on July 8. We were called for assistance. Our three-member rescue team went and rescued the snake. After a thorough medical check-up, it was successfully



A rat snake rescued by the Wildlife SOS team in New Delhi.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SPOT A SNAKE

- Be calm, refrain from engaging. Snakes typically do not interact with humans unless provoked. Slowly and silently distance from the snake
- Call Wildlife SOS emergency hotlines in Delhi NCR (+91 9871963535), Agra (+91 9917109666), Vadodara (+91 9825011117), Jammu and Kashmir (+91 7006692300, +91 9419778280)
- Mishandling a snake can cause defensive bites which may be fatal if the snake is venomous

released," Neel Banerjee of Wildlife SOS told *The Tribune* on Saturday. The PM house snake extrication is part of 70 snake retrievals the NGO has done this monsoon including

of the Indian cobra, black-headed royal snake, Indian rat snake, Indian wolf snake, common krait, common sand boa and checkered keelback.

Recently, a family in Achheja, Greater Noida, was startled to see an Indian cobra inside their cupboard. "They called us and our rapid response unit safely extricated the nearly 3-ft-long reptile. It was medically examined and released back into the wild," Suvidha Bhatnagar, Director-Communications, Wildlife SOS, said. She said the monsoon season typically leads to an increase in snake sightings. While rains bring about much-needed relief to humans, they strip the reptiles of homes as burrows, drains and culverts flood up.



Starting with men's hockey team, which won bronze in Tokyo, The Tribune looks at India's medal hopefuls

# HUNGRY FOR MORE

INDERVIR GREWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JULY 20  
Manpreet Singh falling to his knees — exhausted, relieved and overjoyed — before burying his face in the blue turf was one of the most iconic images from the Tokyo Olympics.

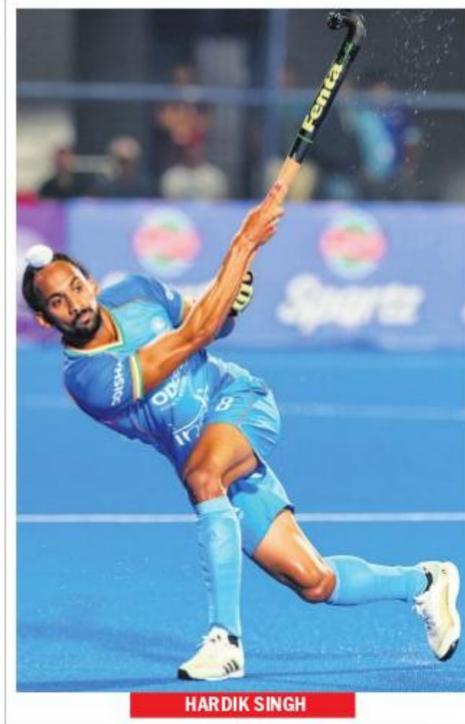
India had just pulled off a comeback for the ages, fighting back from 1-3 to beat Germany 5-4 in the bronze medal playoff. By the end, though, it had turned into a fight for survival for India. No wonder that when the final whistle was blown, India's players looked physically and mentally spent.

It was this desperation to win at all cost — more than their tactical or technical ability — that earned India their first Olympic medal in four decades.

Two days earlier, India had relinquished a 2-1 lead to lose their semifinal 2-5. They were patiently taken apart by a tactically superior Belgium, but it was India's inability to break free and run wild in a do-or-die situation that left the players and fans feeling frustrated and disappointed by the end of the game.

Against Germany, the intensity and desperation in their eyes had returned. They went all out when chasing the game, took the lead and then protected it with all their might.

It was the second time in five days that India had held on till the final whistle. In their dogfight of a quarterfinal against Great Britain,



HARDIK SINGH

India absorbed relentless pressure to come out on top.

For a medal encore in Paris, India will have to match, if not improve upon, their performance from Tokyo, which will not be an easy task. The pandemic had disrupted the preparation of many nations — it showed in the many surprise results in all sports at the delayed Tokyo Games. The Indian hockey players, though, had stayed together

for long durations, training in national camps. It resulted in the women's team also finishing in the top-4.

This time, all the teams will be better prepared. And India have not shown the same level of intensity that they did in Tokyo. At last year's home World Cup, India finished ninth after a string of uninspiring performances, which led to the

ouster of Graham Reid.

Under new coach Craig Fulton and in a new system, India have shown a more measured approach. They have also tried implementing a mix of styles. But they have lacked intensity with their presses and when fighting for the 50-50 balls. Discipline has also been missing at both ends of the field, with mix-ups and lapses in defence and missed chances in attack. The biggest worry has been India's poor penalty conversion rate, with captain Harmanpreet Singh still not back to his best since the debacle at the World Cup. These are the main reasons for India's inconsistent performances so far this year.

To be fair, though, India have not been required to produce their best game. They won last year's Asian Games with considerable ease — the competition level in the continent has steadily fallen over the last decade. The Asian Games gold gave them a direct ticket to the Olympics, meaning that India could afford to experiment till Paris.

But they can no longer take it easy, even in the pool stage. Australia have been India's long-

time bogey team — the 7-1 hammering at the hands of the Kookaburras in Tokyo was one of India's worst defeats at the Olympics. In recent times, India have found it difficult to get past Belgium. Argentina, though not at the level that won them the 2016 Olympics gold, always trouble India with their physical game. Then there are the dogged New Zealand, who ousted India from the World Cup, and Ireland, who twice stunned Belgium in the Pro League in May.

Despite their tough pool, India are expected to finish in the top-4 and qualify for the quarterfinals. It was in the knockout stage in Tokyo that India produced two of their best performances in recent times. It will be no different in Paris — to get those two knockout victories for a medal and three for a gold, India will have to play with the same hunger and desperation they showed in Tokyo.



PR SREEJESH

4

Former skippers Sreejesh and Manpreet will play in their 4th Olympics



HARMANPREET SINGH



After its historic bronze in Tokyo, hockey team targets gold

05

DAYS TO GO

## HOCKEY

### MEN'S TEAM

PR Sreejesh | Harmanpreet Singh | Amit Rohidas | Harmanpreet Singh | Sumit | Sanjay | Rajkumar Pal | Shamsheer Singh | Manpreet Singh | Hardik Singh | Vivek Sagar Prasad | Abhishek | Sukhjeet Singh | Lalit Kumar Upadhyay | Mandeep Singh | Gurjant Singh  
RESERVE: Krishan Bahadur Pathak | Nilakanta Sharma | Jugraj Singh

### POOL A

Netherlands, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, France, South Africa

### POOL B

India, Belgium, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, Ireland

Top 4 from each pool reach the quarterfinals



MANPREET SINGH

370

Matches for India, the highest in the current team

### INDIA'S SCHEDULE

vs New Zealand | July 27  
H2H\*: 24 wins, 5 draws, 16 losses  
vs Argentina | July 29  
H2H: 18 wins, 2 draws, 13 losses  
vs Ireland | July 30  
H2H: 6 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss  
vs Belgium | August 1  
H2H: 19 wins, 4 draws, 13 losses  
vs Australia | August 2  
H2H: 16 wins 6 draws 50 losses  
\*HEAD-TO-HEAD RECORD

QUARTERFINALS AUGUST 4

SEMIFINALS AUGUST 6

FINAL AUGUST 8

## BRIEFLY

### BASTAD (SWEDEN) Nadal reaches first final since 2022 ahead of Olympics

Rafael Nadal reached his first final in two years, beating qualifier Duje Ajdukovic 4-6 6-3 6-4 in the semifinals of the Swedish Open in Bastad as the 22-time Grand Slam winner continues his preparations for the Paris Olympics.

### SYLVANIA (US) Paris-bound Aditi tied-13th at LPGA's Dana Open

India's Aditi Ashok, preparing for her third Olympics, showed fine form as she carded 66-72 to be placed tied-13th after two rounds of the Dana Open golf tournament on the LPGA Tour. Aditi is still looking for her first top-10 of the season. AGENCIES

## Thomas and Lawrence roar up Open leaderboard



England's Justin Rose plays out of the rough with his third shot on the 4th hole during the third round. REUTERS

TROON, JULY 20  
Former world No. 1 Justin Thomas took full advantage of helpful conditions at Royal Troon with a flurry of birdies rocketing him up the Open leaderboard.

With the course becalmed after two days of stiff breezes, twice PGA champion Thomas went out in 31 after five birdies in the opening eight holes of his third round.

The American collected another birdie with a sweetly struck 24-foot putt on the 12th to move to three under for the tournament, four behind leader Shane Lowry, having started the day on four over.

Thomas had held the clubhouse lead for much of the opening day after a three-under 68 but suffered a horrible start to his second round when he went out in 45 before scrambling inside the cut line with some gutsy golf in Friday's winds.

With the leaders out later when heavy rain is forecast,

several early starters took the chance to make up ground.

South Africa's Thriston Lawrence was also on the move as he played the front nine in 30 shots with six birdies to move to three under for the tournament.

Adam Scott got back to level par thanks to a round of 5-under 66 while Sungjae Im also shot a 66 to move to one over. "I think the front nine is just going to play easy, and these are the guys playing the best," Scott said. "I just don't think it's getting so windy where disasters are going to happen maybe on a hole to slow them down, but there's good scores out there if you're playing well."

Only 10 players began the third day under par. South Korea's Kim Si-woo provided the day's standout moment when he made a hole in one at the 238-yard par-three 17th — the first ace at this year's championship. — Reuters

## Marquez named men's football team coach

NEW DELHI, JULY 20  
Spaniard Manolo Marquez, currently in charge of ISL side FC Goa, was named as the Indian men's football team head coach after the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) executive committee met here today.

The AIFF said the 55-year-old Marquez will perform the dual role of managing the national team as well as the ISL franchise in the 2024-25 season before taking up the India job on a full-time basis. The tenure of Marquez was not disclosed by the AIFF.

Marquez has been coaching in India since 2020. His



Manolo Marquez

first stint was with Hyderabad FC (2020-23).

Meanwhile, legendary footballer Bhaichung Bhutia today told the AIFF executive committee that he is resigning from his membership of the technical committee, alleging that the panel was "bypassed" while appointing the coach. — PTI

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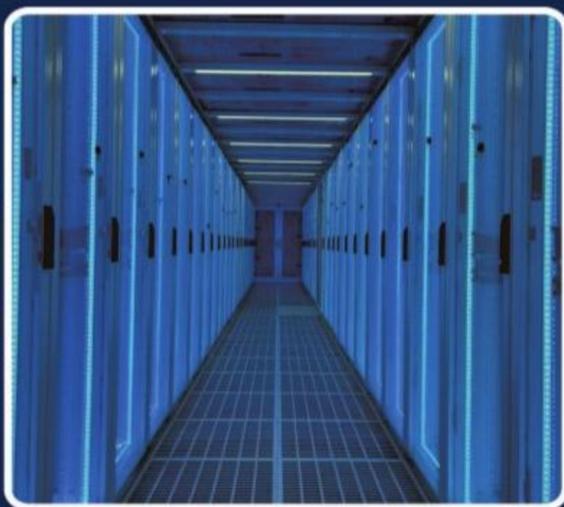
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It's easy to fall for clichés. Those who break the stereotype soar in unexpected directions

ARTS PAGE 3



'The Kauras of 1984' retells and relives the horrors, 40 years on

BOOKS PAGE 4

CHANDIGARH | 21 JULY 2024

# ON A ONCE A DECADE YATRA



Shekhar Pathak (above) has led from the front in all of the nearly two-month-long yatras to the remotest parts of Uttarakhand (even when it was a part of Uttar Pradesh) to assess the developmental situation. PHOTO COURTESY: NEERAJ PANGTEY

**A**FTER a *yatra* lasting 45 days (1,150 km) beginning May-end, crossing 36 rivers and visiting more than 300 villages across seven districts of Uttarakhand, we saw changes in some areas and major losses in many spheres of mountain life. Back, the team members are compiling notes, selecting photos and synchronising discussions. The People's Association for Himalaya Area Research (Pahar) organises the Askot-Arakot Abhiyan Yatra once every 10 years to assess the developmental situation in the state. The participants include researchers, students, teachers, social activists and Himalayan enthusiasts.

Pahar is now into its 50th year. It all began in 1973, when, after returning from a trek to Pindari glacier, I wrote an article in an Almorah weekly, *Shakti*. I quoted from 'One Dimensional Man', a book by American scholar Herbert Marcuse. Social activist Sunderlal Bahuguna liked it and was instrumental in connecting me and my friend Shamsheer Bisht with Kunwar Prasad and Pratap Shikhar. Bahuguna then floated the idea of an Askot-Arakot Yatra.

The four of us were students of the first batches of the newly opened Kumaon and Garhwal universities. This *yatra* in 1974 opened our eyes and minds about Uttarakhand (then a part of Uttar Pradesh) and the realities of the innermost areas. In 1984, after becoming a teacher in Kumaon University, I, with my friends, thought about repeating the *yatra*, but with an extended programme. So, we started from Pangu, a village near the Nepal border (in Dharchula tehsil).

The length of the *yatra* was extended from 750 km to 1,150 km. It was more professional and research-oriented. We were trying to capture the details of change in a decade. Fortunately, our enthusiasm survived and we repeated the *yatras* in 1994, 2004, 2014 and for the sixth time this year. From a team of seven-eight in 1974, the strength increased to more than 300 this year.

At the launch of the Abhiyan at Pangu in 2014, environmentalist Chandi Prasad Bhatt termed it '*jangam vishwavidyalaya*' (walking university). Former Chief Minister HN Bahuguna hoped that "this *yatra* will open new ways to understand our mountains". Geologist KS Valdiya termed it "a perennial study tour" and historian Ramachandra Guha saw in this *yatra* "the birth of a new research methodology".

Pahar has published a volume on the Abhiyan up to the 2004 *yatra*. On its golden jubilee, it is keen to prepare a report for the good cause of Uttarakhand.

This year, we began the *yatra* from Pangu. It culminated at Arakot in Uttarkashi, covering Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Rudrapur, Dehradun and Tehri. I share the very initial observations here. The big surprise this time, compared to the 2014

Founder of the People's Association for Himalaya Area Research (Pahar) 50 years ago, historian and author **Shekhar Pathak** is often referred to as the living encyclopaedia of the Himalayas. Back after his sixth Askot-Arakot Abhiyan across Uttarakhand, he shares his observations about the developmental situation and his 'walking university'



This year, the *yatra* began from Pangu, a village near the Nepal border in Dharchula tehsil, and ended at Arakot in Uttarkashi (above).

*yatra*, was the construction of roads. The road builders, however, have not followed the rules and indulged in large-scale blasting. Soil, muck and boulders are just thrown downwards, without considering the presence of agricultural fields, canals, pastures, springs, orchards, human settlements and finally, a rivulet or a river below.

This criminal behaviour towards nature and inhabitants apparently has the sanction of the governments and political parties. The environmental impact assessment and labour laws have been amended, and misused.

The cut and fill method, meant for mountains, has been avoided and drainage systems have not been built for the new village roads. The villagers appear relieved, but having been shortchanged for decades, they say they are compelled to accept this gift in its inferior form, and with no public transport.

While ignoring the setting up of schools and hospitals, as roads reach the remotest villages, these help in taking the villagers to towns and cities. These lively villages are being deserted. A flawed model of development has taken root. The loss of soil, fields, pastures and forests has accelerated. Before the locals realise, they are surrounded by land sharks, traders of medicinal herbs and wildlife, and travel agents. In the cities, the land mafia is already very powerful.

The ramifications of the end of age-old pilgrimage and its takeover by Big Tourism are all too visible — large-scale garbage, plastic bottles and excreta of thousands of horses on the Yamunotri and Kedamath walking trails.

The pilgrim centres were clean when there were fewer visitors, who mostly completed the journey on foot. Now, the sacred places and river valleys, flooded with lakhs of visitors, are stinking. The bulldozing at the Badri-Kedar shrines will have far-reaching consequences. It has been forgotten that these shrines were built on old moraines.

Canalising the Vishnu Ganga at Badrinath and Mandakini at Kedarnath is another suicidal deed. The arrival of a Tharjeep through the sky route to Kedamath shows the scant wisdom of rulers and no respect for the shrines and the tradition of pilgrimage. Looking at pilgrims as voters is another aspect.

The rivers are over-burdened by the debris and silt created by digging, mining, tunneling and bulldozing. The landslides, flood remnants and destroyed hydro project sites of 2013 can be seen here and there. The wasted fields and houses at Khet; the sinking Tawaghat (Pithoragarh) and Joshimath; the big landslides in Pinder, Nandakini, Bhilangana, Balganga; an artificial lake created by the Kwari landslide in Shambhu Gad (tributary of Pinder) alarmed us. The defaced Alaknanda and its tributaries Bhaginathi, Yamuna and Tons saddened us. Nothing has been learnt from the 2013 disaster.

The Supreme Court failed in supporting the recommendations given by the high-powered committee formed by the apex court itself regarding dams and road widening. The politicians, ruling parties and contractors always wait for such a situation. They are sometimes local inhabitants, but

insensitive like their politician brothers.

The roads may have reached the last settlements, but communication still fails there.

For 28 days, from Pangu to the Bhilangana-Bhagirathi valleys, we witnessed forest fires continuously. Some of us felt suffocated in the hills for the first time. We saw how fire had reached the oak and other broadleaf forests. Some forests witnessed fire incidents two to three times between December 23 and June 24.

In the last Abhiyan in 2014, we recorded temperature variation of 28 to 36 degrees Celsius on the route. This time, it was between 35 and 43 degrees. Long dry spells, little snowfall and aspects of climatic change are certainly associated with it.

Wherever there are schools, the good presence of girls is a big positive change, but closure of primary and middle schools due to less number of students forces us to take back our smiles. It is difficult to talk about any improvement in the quality of education, but the opening of Kasturba residential schools and Atal Utkarsh schools is a welcome venture. Here, too, quality education and counselling are a big concern. Many schools have washrooms, with availability of water. Some schools are well maintained, but most are without a fence or boundaries.

Innovative works also came to our notice during the *yatra*. Construction of an attractive gram panchayat campus at Pangu, the good homestay management at Sarmoli (Munsyari) mostly by women, introduction of kiwi in Liti and Uttarkashi and new apple



varieties in Uttarkashi and Munsyari, the production of medicinal herbs at home, and the campaign to restore communication systems in Karmi and Badiakot are examples of local leadership, rural creativity and vision.

The establishment of museums at Dharchula (Rang Sanskriti Museum), Munsyari (Tribal Museum), Lata (Nanda Museum), Uttarkashi (Pratap Museum and Tibar) and an emerging museum at Mahendrach (Jaunsar-Bawar, Dehradun) are encouraging signs of the restoration and preservation of cultural expressions. These indicate people's initiatives and innovations.

We found communal and caste angles more visible this time, especially in Champawat, Salt, Bageshwar, Dharchula, Haldwani, Nand Prayag, Satpuli and Purola. It is clear how the divisive strategy of communal politics and hate is being played out.

The attitude towards women has changed a bit, but male prejudice is predominant. Outmigration has increased and there was complete failure in retaining non-resident Uttarakhandis who returned during Covid times. Entrepreneurship and enterprise are still awaited. Only contractorship is a big business, where quality work remains the casualty. There is so much construction in the inner-most areas, yet we don't even have any model for building a rural bridge, school buildings, or a panchayat ghar, etc.

In the rural areas, no state agency works properly. Take the case of destruction of the Curzon route (built in 1903) between Devalvan to Ramani-Jhinji-Pana and Dhak Tapovan. Even the old bridge over Birehi was virtually destroyed. It should have been preserved and the motor bridge should have been built at another site. The old building at Rajgadhi could not be restored.

Asa villager told us, "Leaders fly to helicopter-able places and bureaucrats to car-reaching points. The rest is the real Uttarakhand, where no one is keen to go."

Uttarakhand, when it was carved out of Uttar Pradesh in 2000, had its positive sides as far as the availability of funds was concerned. It is visible in villages in the form of red roofs, cemented houses and homestays, but most public works are below standard.

Money may have come in the hands of locals, but the environmental loss is a much bigger issue. This is realised by the women in Pangu, who say the "beauty and inner feeling" while traversing the route are now missing. We should have avoided constructing the road beyond Kuti village. How the crazy development makes us blind, is evidenced here. An elderly villager summed it up: "Our leaders lack imagination and we lack the ability to elect the best and honest ones."

The villagers arrange our stay, listen to us and tell us about their problems. The young people and students are always keen to listen to us and ask questions. They are our hope.

Roads are coming up fast, but construction rules are flouted with impunity and there is large-scale blasting. For Pathak, this is criminal behaviour. PAHAR



# HASTINGS IN HARYANA

British Governor-General's journal is insightful for his observations during his 17-month trip from Bengal to southern Punjab that began in 1814

SUBHASH PARIHAR

**M**ANY British administrators maintained journals in which they kept a record of their own activities, and significant events of their life and times. One such journal was kept by Francis Edward Rawdon-Hastings (1754-1826), the Governor-General between October 4, 1813, and January 9, 1823. The East India Company at that time directly controlled only the Madras, Bengal, and Bombay presidencies.

During his tenure, Hastings supervised the British victory in the war against the Gurkhas of Nepal (1814-1816), the final British conquest of the Marathas in 1818, and the purchase of the island of Singapore in 1819. He also brought many Indian states into subsidiary alliance, besides carrying out educational and administrative reforms.

To inspect the British possessions in India, and to meet Indian rulers and notables, Lord Hastings undertook a long journey, from his headquarters in Bengal up to southern Punjab (now Haryana), and back. He began his voyage in June 1814 from Barrackpore, and completed it in 17 months. He died in 1826. About three decades later, his daughter Lady Sophia published the journal.

Lord Hastings hired the services of a major Indian artist, Sita Ram. His paintings are preserved in eight albums (originally 10), now acquired by the British Library, London. Recently, JP Losty, the former curator-in-charge of the Indian visual collections in the British Library, republished the journal in the form of a beautiful book, 'Picturesque Views of India, Sita Ram: Lord Hastings's Journey from Calcutta to the Punjab, 1814-15' (Roli Books).

Hastings passed through Murshidabad, Patna, Benaras, Allahabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Moradabad, Hardwar, Karnal and Hansi. His return journey up to Kanpur was by a slightly different route, via Mathura, Agra and Farrukhabad.

The retinue crossed the Jamuna from the Saharanpur side on January 2, 1815, and passed through Kunjpura, Karnal, Jind, Hansi, Bahadurgarh and Narela. On January 27, he re-crossed the Jamuna at Baghpat. On the method adopted to cross the river, he wrote: "Though this may perhaps be reckoned its lowest period, it is a great body of water. I forded it on my elephant. The bottom is sand. It is firm where I passed, but in other parts three or four ele-

phants were much embarrassed by sinking in it. While the elephant is thus entangled, they give large fascines of brushwood, and he will with his trunk place them under his leg, so as to enable himself to draw up his feet out of the quicksand. Some camels had stuck fast near the western shore. Ropes were tied around them with the ends fastened to elephants, which readily dragged the camels out of their difficulty."

On the way to Karnal, Nawab Rahmat Khan, ruler of the small state of Kunjpura, met Hastings. The Nawab was aware that the British cantonment of Karnal, between his state and the Sikh chiefs, rendered him safe from the Sikhs. Hastings noted that the inner and outer walls of the ditch of Kunjpura, made of "brick, laid patternwise, so as to produce a handsome effect", were in a good condition.

On reaching Karnal, his retinue camped in front of the cantonment, the town lying at some distance in the rear. He felt that as compared to Meerut, Karnal was more suitable for stationing a body of troops as there was no great river between Karnal and Delhi on the one hand, and between Karnal and Ludhiana on the other, which swelled in rainy season, and made the passage difficult to traverse.

At Karnal, he inspected the fort and the artillery depot, which was originally a serai, erected for the convenience of travellers between Delhi and Lahore. Most probably, it was Serai Bhara Mal, built during the reign of Akbar (1596-1605).

Hastings described it as follows: "The building converted into a depot is square, with two elegant gateways. The arched accommodations all round afford excellent storage. The roof, supported by those arches, is flat and forms a broad rampart walk behind a good parapet. An excellent ditch, secured by the fire of towers at three of the corners, renders the defensive state of the depot nearly complete. The part where the work has not been perfected is the fourth corner, where the plan could not be continued without destroying a large tree, under which a fakir had taken up his residence. Leaving an object of great public concern unfinished on this account shows the attention which is paid (and wisely) to the prejudices of the natives."

It was General Hewitt, erstwhile commander-in-chief, who ordered appropriation of the serai. But "Lt Col Worsley, then Adjutant General, being more intimate with the feelings of the natives, lamented the impression likely to be made by this perversion of a charitable institution:



'Three Sikh sirdars on horseback.' From 'Picturesque Views of India, Sita Ram: Lord Hastings's Journey from Calcutta to the Punjab, 1814-15' by JP Losty. PHOTO COURTESY: ROLI BOOKS



Governor General FE Rawdon-Hastings. ISTOCK

therefore, he purchased a neighbouring spot of ground, and built on it, at his own expense, a serai of equal extent (though not equally ornamented)."

In the area of Karnal, Ali Mardan Khan, a prominent Persian noble of the period of Shah Jahan (1628-58), had dug a canal from the place where the Jamuna came out of hills into the plains, up to Delhi. Hastings traced for a considerable distance the remnants of this canal. According to him, the object was to "fertilise the long tract of country from its source to its termination; in which extent no tolerable water is to be produced but by sinking wells to such an enormous depth as is beyond the compass of ordinary funds. All the water found in the higher strata is brackish and is deleterious to vegetables as well as unwholesome for man... This noble work of art formerly rendered the country through which it passed an absolute garden; and the sums paid by the several villages for the privilege of drawing water from the canal, furnished a considerable revenue to government... During

the wars, which for a long period wasted the country between the Sutlej and the Jamuna, the banks of the canal were broken in many places, and its course stopped... no set of men found an interest to excite their negotiating for restoration, or perhaps saw a chance of prevailing on the Sikhs to allow it. The country has now, in consequence, an air of desolation. Ruins of villages meet the eye everywhere..."

In the middle of the day, Hastings had a *darbar*, attended by Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala, along with his minister Mir Naudh Roy, Raja Bhag Singh (Jind), Bhai Lal Singh (Kaithal), Bhai Ajit Singh (Ladwa), Fateh Singh (Thanesar), and his nephew. Each of them presented Hastings a bow (without any arrow), as a symbol of surrendering their power into his hands. Hastings presented "a new fashioned English gun" to the Maharaja of Patiala. Making use of the occasion, Hastings acquainted them of his intention to repair the canal.

Writing about the Sikh Rajas, Hastings describes them "as a bold, athletic, and animated race". The chiefs and attendants were richly dressed, but in a martial way. They all wore "a scarlet turban, wreathed very close and high, so as to be almost conical, which appears fashioned for activity. Their several escorts of troops were handsome and soldier-like..."

At another place, Hastings is again all praise for the Sikhs and Jats: "They are not bulky, but they are tall and energetic. Their step is firm and elastic; their countenances frank, confident, and manly; and their address has much natural politeness. I noticed the same appearance in the Rohillas and Patans (Pathans), but with less of cheerful air than I observe in the Sikhs. More active, brave, and sturdy fellows can nowhere

be found than these tribes present."

On January 10, the retinue proceeded to Jind and encamped in front of its fort. About this town, Hastings writes that it "covers a small hill, and it has at a distance a showy appearance which gradually declines as a nearer approach affords a more distinct one. The place is fortified in a manner to be respectable against a native force. The fort, or citadel, which contains the palace, is within the town, and shouldered by the houses. As it is built on the most elevated part of the hill, it looks over everything. From the manner in which the works and buildings are huddled together, it would soon be reduced by a proper proportion of mortars."

On January 13, Hastings' retinue reached Hansi, at that time the headquarters of Col James Skinner (1778-1841). He gives valuable information of its fort, only parts of which survive now: "The fort stands on an elevation considerable for this country; and as the hill is insulated and abrupt, it is a striking object... It was the favourite stronghold and residence of George Thomas, well known for having during a considerable time maintained an independent dominion over a large tract of territory here... as a frontier post, Hansi is very advantageously situated; therefore, it is expedient to keep up the fortress."

On January 15, Hastings received Jaswant Singh, the Sikh chief of Nabha. On January 21, he marched to Bahadurgarh and observed that formerly it has "been a place of no mean rate, but it has much fallen into decay". On January 26, Hastings reached Narela. Here, Begam Samru (1753-1836), the ruler of Sardhana, a small principality near Meerut, came to pay her compliments. The next day, he crossed Jamuna at Baghpat, entering what is now Uttar Pradesh.

The writer is a Faridkot-based historian

## CAPTION CONTEST 1468

VICKY GHARU



Entries are invited to suggest a caption for the photograph. The caption should only be in English, witty and not exceeding 10 words, and reach Spectrum, The Tribune, Chandigarh, 160030, by Thursday. The best five captions will be published and awarded ₹300, ₹250, ₹200, ₹150 and ₹100, respectively. Each caption must be accompanied by a clipping of the caption contest and its number. Photocopies or scans of the caption photo won't be accepted. Online subscribers may attach an e-paper clipping at captionpics@tribunemail.com or a scanned copy of the e-paper clipping. Please mention the pin code and phone number in your address.

## SELECTED ENTRIES FOR CAPTION CONTEST 1467



SPECTRUM JULY 14 ISSUE (SEE PHOTO)

- Immobilised by mobile — Ashwani Kalia, Ferozpur
- Family pack — Surendra Miglani, Kaithal
- 3G(eneration) network — Tejinder Kaur, Gurdaspur
- Network connection — Yasmin Dutta, Panchkulaa
- Screening committee — Gaganpreet Singh via epaper, Mohali

## Relish the snacky avatar of kathal to enhance the flavours of monsoon



FOOD TALK  
PUSHPESH PANT

# Jacking up jackfruit

**L**ONG years ago, good friend and gifted Chef Devinder Kumar, who is the culinary director at Le Méridien, New Delhi, invited me to help in designing a curated monsoon menu that showcased seasonal recipes from all over India. It was in the course of this work that I stumbled upon almost forgotten (outside their place of birth!) delicacies like *echoror kalia* (unripe jackfruit curry) from Bengal and *jack verde picante* (tender raw jackfruit bhaji) from Goa. We have long searched for a spicy snack created with *kathal* — something resembling a *tikka*, recalling the all-time favourite *pakora* to nibble and gobble when the dark rain-bearing clouds unburden themselves.

We were overjoyed to encounter just what the self-taught doctors had prescribed at Bhanas, a most unusual eatery in Dwarka run by three enterprising women who have entered the entrepreneurial stage as chefs. They represent the states of Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and Jharkhand.

*Kathal* is prepared in a dozen different ways and relished both ripe as fruit and unripe as vegetable. It is pickled and the seeds are put to excellent use as a nutty side dish.

What is most impressive is that these ladies

### THREE-CHILLI KATHAL

INGREDIENTS	
Kathal	1 kg
Cornflour	200 gm
Soy sauce	2 tbsp
Ginger-garlic paste	2 tbsp
Fresh red chilli ( <i>achari</i> )	150 gm
Fresh green chilli ( <i>achari</i> )	150 gm
Dry red chilli	2-3
Red chilli paste	2 tbsp
Garlic	50 gm
Oyster sauce	2 tbsp (or a vegetarian substitute)
Cornflour slurry	2 tbsp
Oil to cook and fry	1/2 cup
Salt	As per taste

#### METHOD

- Roughly chop red, green *achari mirch* and boil the *kathal*. Dry it out on a kitchen towel. Marinate with ginger-garlic paste, soy sauce, cornflour & salt for 15 minutes.
- Heat oil in a *kadahi*. Deep fry

the *kathal* till it is well browned on medium high flame.

- Remove with a slotted spoon, pressing with the back of the ladle to drain excess oil. Place on a platter and keep it warm till required.
- Raise the flame and put garlic slices and whole red chillies. Stir fry briskly till the chillies change colour. Add the *kathal*, red chilli paste, soy sauce and vegetarian oyster sauce. Reduce the flame to low medium and continue cooking till everything is well blended.
- Add the chopped chillies and cook for a minute before adding the cornflour slurry. Cook on low flame for a minute. Remove from stove. Garnish with green onions. Enjoy without any accompaniment, or as you like it.

aren't afraid to step out of their comfort zone and experiment with fusion that hitherto has been the forte of celebrity chefs. Sunita Choubey and Kirti Jha play around with this monsoon *kathal* recipe with ingredients like soya sauce and cornflour slurry.

Come to think of it, who treats soy sauce as alien these days? Chow mein sold by tonnes on the streets and elsewhere relies on it for flavouring. But tinkering with vegetarian oyster sauce, me thinks, was a stroke of inspired genius. Incidentally, none of these is hard to come by nowadays

and can be easily bought. The three chillies lend the dish different levels of pungency. In times gone by, those who toiled in the kitchen avoided handling jackfruit, as skinning and cutting it into bite-sized chunks was arduous. Times have changed and one can buy the required quantity skinned and pre-cut from vegetable vendors.

While we thank the ladies from the bottom of our heart for sharing this recipe, readers are welcome to tweak it as per taste. *Kathal* in its snacky avatar will certainly enhance your enjoyment of *varsha ritu*!

NEELAM MANSINGH CHOWDHRY

**M**ANY years ago, I saw the rehearsal of a traditional performance where the *shishya* stood in front of the *guru* and copied each gesture, each expression and each footwork of the *guru*, almost akin to a mirror exercise. Sharing and passing of knowledge from one generation to another orally is part of the *guru-shishya parampara*, but to see a grand tradition being imitated in a repetitive lifeless way was distressing. Recently, I was at Kerala Kalamandalam where I saw 'Kutiyattam', the ancient Sanskrit theatre, being rehearsed by young actors with their *guru*. It was a terrific change from my earlier experience. I noticed that the sharing of traditions was not done with blind reverence and mindless repetition. It seemed as if a deep and spiritual communication flowed between the two. The transference of knowledge from the *guru's* body into the *shishya* was as if an invisible *sutra* had made them part of the same continuum. Meanings were shared, as were gestures. Meanings do not belong to the past. They travel through time into the performer's body and emotions, rejuvenating both the present and the past.

# Shaking off the familiar, welcoming the strange



A still from Anuradha Kapur's 'Nale Wali Ladki', and (left) a performance in Kerala of 'Kutiyattam', an ancient Sanskrit theatre art.

As in other walks of life, it is easy to fall for clichés in art. Those who break the stereotype soar in unexpected directions

These two experiences made me recognise that even when we deal with a canonised form of training, it has to be revitalised and internalised. Technique is significant but passion is the driving force. The system of learning a traditional art form with a highly developed iconography cannot be simplified and neither can the process be bypassed. It has to be constantly rechecked in every performer's present experience. Otherwise, it can descend into an external artifice with its inner core dead. The same vigilance is required in contemporary theatre practice from both the student and the teacher. This demands a magnifying glass and a microscope for constant checks and balances on what is being transmitted and how it is being received. Every performer, said the British actor Sir Laurence Olivier, comes with "a bag of tricks" that he dips into constantly. Anger, horror, love, yearning, pain, brutality, bravery, courage and so on and so forth are emotions that are documented and catalogued in the memory box of the actor. He pulls these out and uses these for the specific emotional moments required for the characters. When he does that, the characters become boring, static and artificial. The actor is bewildered by the lack of response and adrenaline rush and starts to blame the venue, the script and the lack of enthusiasm in the audience. Konstantin Stanislavski, the great Russian director and theorist, said that "cliché is the death for any actor", and further advised to "always look for what is fresh in the arts".

Cliché and stereotype are two words that are constantly brandished by a director: 'Stop, you are stereotyping the emotion.' 'I don't want to hear this speech in such a clichéd manner.' These two words always intrigued me, and I wanted to explore the genesis of these words. While rummaging through various dictionaries, I came across the etymology of the word 'stereotype'. It comes from the Greek word 'stere', which means solid, and 'type' comes from the word 'pounding'. In French, the first printing press was called a stereotype; it was the plate cast from the printing surface. The word 'diché' comes from the sound of the metal, jumping when the ink dye is stuck between the metal during the printing process. As one printing plate prints many copies, with each copy being a duplicate of the previous one,

this term was borrowed by artists and entered the theatre lexicon somewhere in the 20th century. It had negative connotations and was generally used to express uncritical judgement and perpetuation of a standardised and generalised form. Most artists in their work challenged these assumptions and expressed an uneasiness about resorting to the cliché and the stereotypical. Fearful of settling into a situation that may not be original or new, as well as carrying the baggage of cultural stereotypes, took my mind to 'Traditional and the Individual Talent', an essay by TS Eliot. 'The artist's work should not be judged by its novelty and newness, but rather how the artist handles the tradition he or she inherits,' he wrote. This quote made me recognise that, in life, we are prisoners of our habits and routine. The quotidian is our comfort zone, our safety net. But as an

artist, we have to shake off the familiar and welcome the strange, as Bertolt Brecht, the German playwright and theorist, said: "to un-define and un-tame what has been delineated by our belief systems and conventions. To welcome the discomfort of doubt and transform the familiar into the unfamiliar". How do words, forms, visual material, theatre performances, habits, eating choices, fashion proclivities, installations, music, books and dance get labelled as cliché and stereotypes? In life, as in art, we are submerged in clichés. Yet, a cliché qualifies as a cliché through constant usage. 'All that glitters is not gold'. 'Don't cry over spilled milk'. 'An apple a day keeps the doctor away' — aphorisms that contained non-negotiable truisms, but an excessive use in language made the words sound jaded and lacking in punch! We are assaulted by clichéd and stereotypical behaviour in every sphere of life. A candlelight dinner suggests romance — a man bending on his knees with a ring box is visual imagery that carries no ambiguity. A similar scenario plays out in a theatre performance. The moment a director casts an actor as Shakuntala, Kalidas' eponymous character, the actor goes into a *tribhanga*. Similarly, you mention the name of Ram and a beatific visage replaces the nor-

mal expression of the actor. An actor playing the role of Bhima expands his body in a show of hypermasculinity. These images have been frozen in time and a guesswork construction is made through either a hunch or through imagination, along with theatrical memories. Works of contemporary directors Anuradha Kapur, Maya Krishna Rao and Anamika Haksar and a host of younger directors, including Deepan Sivaraman, Abhilash Pillai and Mohit Takalkar, to name a few, did not set out to break rules. Their imagination was untrammelled, making them soar in unexpected directions. They stepped out of the proscenium arch and performed in warehouses, abandoned buildings, football fields or under a tent. They broke the rules of the game and created their own genre beyond the subscribed norm. Their plays were peopled with epic characters and everyday folks, mapped with precision and depth, crafted with empathy and interiority. We recognise that the purpose of art, whether traditional or contemporary, is to wake us up. To shake us out of the slumber of routine. To remind us that our perceptual mechanism needs to be sharpened, chiselled and nurtured. Can art do that? Or is it too much to expect? I wonder.

## NAATI & LILT OF THE LAND

Exploring the unique connection between Pahar & Pahari folk

ADHIRAJ SINGH BISHT

**T**HE origin of the word 'Naati', a traditional folk performance of the western Himalayas, is lost in time. However, many speculate that it is a corruption of the word 'Naach' (dance). Historian OC Handa describes it in terms of its traditional significance in his book, 'Naga Cult and Traditions in the Western Himalaya': "They (locals) indulge in community dancing (locally called *naati*) and singing for hours at end in gaysome abandonment. Interestingly, their gods and goddesses, most of them the Naga and Nagin deities, also join them on these occasions on their *rathis* (palanquins), attired in their best, and dine and dance in unison." When one utters the word 'Naati', one

does not just think of the Himachali dance form, the music that accompanies it, the lyrical style, the resounding drums and *karnalis* (a Pahari horn-like instrument), the heavy yet hollow soundscape, or the near-ritualistic call to the movement of bodies to a steady, relaxed rhythm. Instead, the word evokes all of these together, along with a lot more. Each of these aspects merges into the other; bodies move with one another like the pulsating echoes of the drums, the choral singing blends with the commanding lines of the *hesni* (a wind instrument, akin to a clarinet) and the lyrics meld with the melody-like flourishes of the hands.

It is a unique cultural labour that builds the experience of *Naati* — that of association and connection, if not among performers, then among more abstract ideas like music, dance, ritual, etc. Stretch its boundaries, bring to light the connections it draws, and *Naati* ceases to be a discrete art. It becomes larger than any definition. The idea of landscape is one that almost all traditional *Naatis* connect to very strongly. An association and intimacy with land is created through these *Naatis*. Most of these need to be understood as ways in which geology becomes familiar — land gets marked by a steady movement of the body, drowning soundscape of the *baaja* (instruments) and evocation of the lyrics; consecrated by their ritualistic repetition at weddings, festivals, retirement parties, etc. The lyrics often evoke the signifi-



A 'Naati' performance by Surya Sanskrit Dal, Banogi, in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.

cance of special places. For instance, the songs 'Shobhli beeriye' and 'Laal chidiye seri' invoke the sites of the orchard/farm as those of romance and eroticism. The line, 'Laal chidiye seri be zaana, seri poki ra gehu ra daana' — which would roughly translate to 'Pretty red bird (the bird not being a literal bird), take me to the sprouting stretches; for, in the fields, grains of wheat have flourished' — exhibits this perfectly. In these *Naatis*, an invitation to the orchard/farm is followed by flirting and affection. Similarly, local fairs and festivals that turn into events of excitement (and tireless *Naati*) also become sites of flirtation and play in 'Bhaura Rupiyee'. The day of the local fair becomes an anticipated event, where the suitors decide to meet. The everydayness of the labour on a field suddenly becomes animated with novelty and excitement in the Mahasuvi-Sirmouri *Naati* 'Hoth kota poini dachiye': 'Hoth kota poini dachiye, mere royee noziro tane' ('My sickle gashed my hand; my eyes lay fixed on you).

Songs like 'Lumbri' and 'Dura desha re nhiacanu' see mountains as visual formations of distance and longing, wherein lovers are separated by the terrain of valleys and gorges, close yet far. The feeling of longing and separation lays itself bare thus: 'Ek shauri bola Bhekli dhaara; dooja shauri bola Rupiyee; aadha ge ratiye supna hua, bhokki kaalzu lupi' (A lover on mount Bhekli, his beloved in Rupiyee; at night, you invaded my dream and scorched my heart complete). The very act of traversing these landforms is also central to the *Naati* in various forms. Walking is the quintessential manner of mapping lands in Himachal, from deities and their cavalcades walking on their lands to demarcate their territories to nomadic communities traversing alien lands for resources. In the Mahasuvi and Sirmouri *Naatis*, 'Chidiye dachiye' and 'Giriyo to pacani', the ferocity of the landscape is afforded the site of droughts and implicitly impending calamity. The *Naatis* 'Naina ladi rinaati' and 'Laa-

di Shauni' (as also others) engage with the treacherous terrain as a hurdle, both metaphorical and literal, to the necessity of the desire to move from one station to another, surmounting the distance that spawns longing. This is seen in the very first line of 'Naina ladi rinaati': "Dhoge ta dhoge ni hondna, Nainnu; dhoga ra pathru kala ho; dei bi khabar meri zhoori be; chidoo laga bashda daala ho" ('Tread not along the cliff, O Nainnu; for the cliff is black and slippery; deliver this to my lover, for a little bird sits on a tree, yonder). When talking about *Naatis* in the contemporary context, one has to acknowledge the pervasive effects of recording technology on folk music. It has fundamentally transformed the very experience and production of the *Naati*, which can now be recorded as music, dance and so on, separately. It often ends up losing the connections one notices in more traditional settings. In some ways, the advancements in electronic music have been conducive to dance than any other form of *Naati* music, recorded and unrecorded alike. *Naati* songs can now be heard and danced to anywhere and by anyone. The grounding of the performance of *Naati* in its native landscape can get dislodged in this fashion. While newer songs like 'Pink palazzo' and 'Seue ra nibhu season' retain the particular aesthetics of their landscape in their lyrics, others like 'Laadi Shauni 3' do not necessarily evoke the meaning and aesthetics of a landscape that only the native has access to. The only two things that tether them to a certain place is the musical form of *Naati* and the Pahari language. As I travel on a bus with some *Naati* hits blaring through the speakers, the landscape lays itself bare through the window, and absents itself from the song, I wonder what it would be like to listen to it in the absence of this landscape, in a closed room. What is Pahari-ness without the landform of the Pahar?

Rajendra Acharya (L) and Gopal Sharma in a still from their single 'Folkshake 3'.



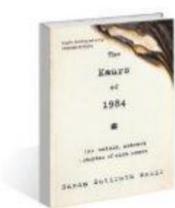
# 40 years after 1984, retelling the horrors

AJAZ AŞHRAF

**I** WAS raped collectively — by the entire Congress government. All of them, including the Prime Minister, President, Home Minister and, in fact, everyone in this country who failed to protect us,” Satwant Kaur told Sanam Sutirath Wazir, the author of ‘The Kaurs of 1984’. Satwant was recalling the hours following the assassination of Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984, by her two Sikh bodyguards, when mobs of Hindus descended upon Delhi’s Sultanpuri Colony, where she lived. They killed men wearing the turban, set houses on fire, and leisurely took to brutalising women.

Satwant was whisked away to a place where four men took turns to rape her, egged on by the women of the household. She heard an old woman say, “Don’t leave these whores. They killed our mother.” There were others who were brought there and raped. Naked, Satwant walked home, groped by men and laughed at by women. Satwant still lives, 40 years later, struggling to ward off the past from intruding upon her present.

Satwant’s story constitutes one of the many fragments of national memory forgotten or suppressed or ignored — and now retold, and relived, in ‘The Kaurs of 1984’. There was a ‘before’ to the fury into which Satwant was sucked. The before could cover a decade of complicated political processes, through which the demand for greater autonomy for Punjab triggered a militant movement for carving out an independent state, Khalistan.



**THE KAURS OF 1984**  
by Sanam Sutirath Wazir.  
HarperCollins.  
Pages 256. ₹399

In a Delhi court, Darshan Kaur took off her slipper, pointed it at HKL Bhagat and identified him as the leader who “urged the mobs to kill the Sikhs”. PHOTO: SHOME BASU



But the before in ‘The Kaurs’ begins in June 1984, when Operation Blue Star was conducted to flush out militants, led by Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, from the Golden Temple complex. The damage to the complex was extensive. The violation of their sacred space traumatised a large segment of Sikhs, whose alienation further deepened over the violence the Indian State allowed to be perpetrated against the community outside Punjab after the assassination of Indira Gandhi. Militant bands mushroomed and invited, not unexpectedly, a brutal police crackdown.

Wazir does not tell the story of Punjab’s slide into abyss, which only provides a backdrop to the torrid times through

which the women in Wazir’s book lived, and whom he tracked over some years. They narrate their stories to him. And he threads them together, at times disjointedly, into a pastiche of memories. It becomes an alternative to the histories men have written on the before and the after of the 1984 pogrom, as experienced and narrated by Sikh women.

Horror is the leitmotif of the book. This is most tellingly narrated in the voice of Darshan Kaur, a resident of Block 32 of Trilokpuri Colony, Delhi. After most men of her neighbourhood had been killed, the women were assembled in a park, and gangs of men ferreted away the girls they fancied. Later, she saw Congress leader HKL Bhagat step

out of his “gleaming white ambassador”, dressed in a “white kurta-pyjama”, receive a rapturous welcome by Trilokpuri’s butchers and rapists. White contrasted with the colour of blood!

Darshan is not like many other women in ‘The Kaurs’, a passive, inert being. Years later, in a Delhi court, she took off her slipper, pointed it at Bhagat and identified him as the leader who “urged the mobs to kill the Sikhs”. But not all took recourse to court to seek justice. A young Nirpreet Kaur saw her father being burnt alive by the “goons of Sajjan Kumar”, then an upcoming politician, whom the Congress subsequently fielded in the 1984 Lok Sabha elections. He won. It shattered Nirpreet’s faith in the system. She joined the Sikh militant movement and insisted she be married to a gun-toting man before undertaking a mission in Delhi — but was arrested. Nirpreet’s recompense was, ironically, the court, where she testified against Kumar, now in jail.

Not all women joined the movement to avenge the killing of their relatives — some did because their sentiments were roiled by Operation Blue Star. Others did because they were as affected as men were by the zeitgeist, the spirit of the Punjab of the 1970s and 1980s. Of such women too, the book tells the stories, in their voices. These, too, can make you recoil in horror.

For instance, a woman speaks of how she enticed a communist activist to walk into the trap laid by militants. The activist’s head was later found at the entrance to the village. Another woman

narrates her experiences of crossing into Pakistan multiple times, to secure assistance for the cause of Khalistan. And then there are horrific tales of the police beating up women mercilessly, giving them electric shocks and, in one instance, raping her. Most of them were not militants. They were tortured in order to have them divulge the whereabouts of their relatives.

‘The Kaurs’ does not tell, in any detail, the horror the militants themselves perpetrated against both the Sikhs and Hindus, killing them at random or for having the temerity to speak out against them. This, in a way, leaves Wazir’s story incomplete. But it can also be argued that he never set out to provide an authoritative account of the experiences of women who lived through Punjab’s torrid years. The brief he lays out for himself is to show how the State can, through its inaction and action, brutalise its own citizens, and that it cannot become partisan in ethnic conflicts. It will, otherwise, produce the Satwants, who will say the government raped them — as many Muslim women, too, must have thought during the 2002 Gujarat riots.

The tales of horror recounted in ‘The Kaurs’ will likely perturb many into wondering about the need to spotlight the wounds inflicted on citizens in the past. But the wounds the women suffered continue to bleed and hurt. They will not heal until they see the light of justice and their lives, wrecked in 1984, acquire a semblance of normalcy. ‘The Kaurs’, in the 40th year of the 1984 pogrom, is a reminder of what the State ought not to do.

## Democracy, decay and renewal

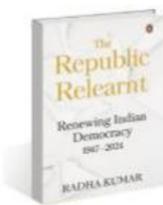
**I**T is generally assumed that Indian democracy has had an unbroken run since Independence, with the brief disruption of the 1975-77 Emergency. In ‘The Republic Relearnt’, Radha Kumar challenges this belief. She points out that Indian democracy had been repeatedly punctured prior to that and it has been threatened many times since.

She punctuates the narrative with insightful analyses of historical disruptions and threats to democratic institutions, as she sheds light on the almost four decades of democracy decay following the republic’s founding years, contrasting them with the shorter-lived waves of democracy renewal. By examining these waves in detail, Kumar uncovers invaluable insights into the resilience and vulnerabilities of Indian democracy.

Kumar’s work not only diagnoses the ailments affecting India’s democratic fabric, but also offers a roadmap for its revitalisation, emphasising the need for collective introspection and proactive measures to safeguard democratic principles.

Kumar says that in the face of rising authoritarianism, it is imperative to reevaluate our understanding of democracy and draw inspiration from past experiences to fortify its foundations for future generations.

She hopes the book serves as a call to action, urging us to confront the challenges ahead with renewed vigour and a steadfast commitment to democratic ideals. — TNS



**THE REPUBLIC RELEARNED: RENEWING INDIAN DEMOCRACY (1947-2024)**  
by Radha Kumar.  
Penguin Random House.  
Pages 331.  
₹999

## Bani, interpreted for the times

ROOPINDER SINGH

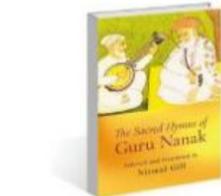
**G**URU NANAK’S message is accessible through his *bani*, or his compositions.

What Guru Nanak said was profound, direct and it transformed the socio-religious landscape, not only of the land of his birth, but far beyond. Indeed, now Sikhs recite his *bani*, and that of his successors, in homes and gurdwaras around the world.

The Guru’s language was simple and everyone understood it. However, language evolves, especially over centuries, and thus an explanation becomes necessary. There is an adequate body of work in the Punjabi language that fulfills this need, as do the explanatory *kathas* in various gurdwaras where audiences listen to learned *kathakars* who explain and place into context the teachings of the Gurus as enshrined in Guru Granth Sahib.

Immigration of Sikhs to distant lands took place ever since they found employment or opportunities in far-flung corners of the British Empire and beyond. Wherever they went, they took with them copies of Guru Granth Sahib and kept in touch with the *bani* of their Gurus.

Today, however, Sikh immigrants



**THE SACRED HYMNS OF GURU NANAK**  
Selected & translated  
by Nirmal Gill.  
Speaking Tiger.  
Pages 197.  
₹499

in the West have generations which have been brought up in an English-speaking environment. Sikhs outside Punjab too live in areas where Punjabi is not spoken. The author has this section of audience in mind when he seeks to provide a simple, accessible way of grasping the meaning of Guru Nanak’s *bani* in English. He has divided the book into five chapters: Creation of the Universe; The Concept of One God; Naam; Equality and Truthful Living; and Rejection of Ritualism and Hypocrisy. For each, he has selected appropriate verses that help the reader understand Guru

Nanak’s message.

Guru Nanak’s *bani* has been translated into English since the 1800s. Early translations tended to be formal and often too literal. Guru Nanak’s quincenary celebration in 1969 triggered much literature, including translations. Since then, there have been many more, each an attempt to portray the author’s understanding of the *bani* of the founder of Sikhism.

The format in this book is interesting. The original in Gurmukhi and the transcription in the Roman text under it are on one page. The author’s translation is on the facing page. This arrangement makes it easy for the reader to follow the original and understand it. While using the Roman text, the author eschews the use of traditional diacritical marks that are generally used to help with the correct pronunciation. In this section, he spells the words to reflect their pronunciation. Purists may also have issues with some non-standard spellings, as well as particular aspects of the translation, but it must be appreciated that the text is an easy read, which helps the uninitiated understand the Guru’s word. This is what the author set out to do. He wrote for the modern English-speaking Sikhs and they will benefit from his work.

## Challenges and contradictions in women studies

MANINDER SIDHU

“...another cell in the university beehive.”  
— Jacques Derrida

**W**OMEN’S Studies Centres (WSCs), the first of its kind founded by the sociologist Neera Desai, not long after the inauguration of the field at Cornell University in 1969, rose to 163 by 2019. The publication of ‘Towards Equality: A Report on the Status of Women in India’ in 1974 led the UGC to take cognisance of gender disparity and social injustice, and support women’s studies in various Five-Year Plans thereafter. Not only were women’s studies made a part of the education policy in 1986, some of the centres, including the one at Panjab University, were later upgraded to statutory departments for teaching and research.

Institutionalisation of the feminist agenda of gender equality was a step towards course correction that aimed to bring about social transformation. Given that it has fallen short of bringing about marked societal change, there is an urgent need to analyse the current state of WSCs and the challenges they face. This compilation, edited by Panchali Ray and Shadab Bano, critiques the contemporary state of WSCs to unveil obdurate mindsets, ambivalent policies and capitalist pressures attempting to shift the focus from research and

reform that empowers women en masse to the tokenism of representation and urgency of professionalism.

Mindful of the Nehruvian-era political exigencies and complacency, the radical feminism of the 1970s, the history of institutionalising WS as an interdisciplinary discourse in the universities and related pedagogical dilemmas like inter-disciplinarity and theory, the book draws attention to the interventionist nature of the State in knowledge production and its role in diverting the focus away from the vision and objectives of the feminist pioneers.

It argues that the WSCs were supported by the Centre till the 12th Five Year Plan, giving the “floundering institutions a new lease of life”. The requirement of mandatory yearly renewal by the UGC made the situation precarious post-2014 as the “threat of discontinuing/reducing funds to all interdisciplinary spaces” loomed large.

In the Introduction, the editors write, “At the moment, when WSCs are not just using intersectional analysis but also rethinking class, caste, race, ability, gender and sexuality, not as pre-given or transparent categories, but both synchronically and diachronically produced, there are threats of shutting down such spaces. Do WSCs now toe the government line of being merely spaces that equip women to fight for inclusion without questioning the gendered, classed, sexualised, racial/ethnic, and caste hierarchies to



**TEACHING/WRITING RESISTANCE: WOMEN'S STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES**  
by Panchali Ray and Shadab Bano.  
Orient BlackSwan.  
Pages 200.  
₹1,260

ensure continuity of funds?” It states apprehensions not just about defunding, but also increasing privatisation, consolidation of right-wing forces, subservience of education to capitalist economy, skewed emphasis on skill-based learning, New Education Policy and the overall marginalisation of critical thought.

The paradox posed by the sweeping post-structuralist thought to feminist studies is not lost on the scholars. On one hand, the category of ‘woman’ as a subject of feminist studies lies destabilised; on the other, feminism cannot do without the deconstructive thrust of theory to interrogate cultural, social and economic strongholds. The

reader can trace the ideological source of LGBTQ voices pushing for renaming the WSCs as ‘centres for gender and sexuality studies’, just when the hegemonic social order is intent on rechristening them as ‘centres for women and family studies’.

The eight chapters are arranged in three interesting, theme-based sections. Authored by prominent academicians/activists like Devika Jain, Sunera Thobani and Mary E John, the articles cover the story of the discipline from its genesis to its open-ended future. Quite evidently, the contributors regret the prevailing state of WSCs, founded as they were as an intellectual arm of the women’s movement for the purpose of reconstructing knowledge and catalysing change. Disconnecting from public space, the centres, “instead of being outward-looking have become inward-looking”, and the “processing of graduates” has taken precedence over critical understanding of exclusion, discrimination, and oppression. Along with concerns around “depoliticisation, NGOisation, and professionalisation” of women’s studies, the issue of the “elusive presence” of caste in the curricula, the realities of non-metropolitan locations and some challenging pedagogic experiences are articulated with élan.

This forceful and timely edition will be a valuable addition to book racks of all academic departments with gender associations, or rather, universal human concerns.



### BACKFLAP

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF PRESENT: MUSLIMS IN NEW INDIA**  
by Hilal Ahmed.  
Penguin Random House.  
Pages 226. ₹699

The political discourse in India today swings between two contrary positions on the issue of Muslims. Hindutva politics categorises Muslims as a monolithic religious group to substantiate Hindu homogeneity and the liberals claim to protect Muslims as a religious minority to defend Indian democracy. Both envision Muslim identity as a one-dimensional phenomenon. The author attempts to provide an accurate picture of Indian Muslims.

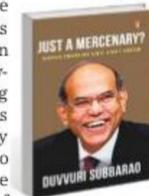
### CARNIVAL: A NOVEL

by Sayam Bandyopadhyay.  
Translated by Arunava Sinha  
Aleph.  
Pages 160. ₹499

On July 6, 1857, as colonial Calcutta prepares itself for the first gas lights to illuminate Chowringhee, Rajaram Deb remains in the solitude of his room. He is awaiting trusted associates of a man whose face remains obscured by shadows, and his partner, an adjutant stork. The men will escort him to a transcendental celebration set to begin at dawn. To be a part of this congregation, he will sever all worldly ties and forsake the human form... ‘Carnival’ melds past and present, the mysteries of an ancient city, and one man’s pursuit of ecstasy.

**JUST A MERCENARY? NOTES FROM MY LIFE AND CAREER**  
by D Subbarao.  
Penguin Random House.  
Pages 336. ₹799

In his autobiography, ‘Just a Mercenary?’, the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, D Subbarao, has attempted to tell the various stories from his life by situating them in the larger context of drawing lessons or explaining policy dilemmas. This book narrates the journey of a small-town boy who started his career in the IAS as sub-collector of Parvathipuram sub-division in north-coastal Andhra Pradesh way back in 1974. He rose to become the RBI Governor decades later, in the midst of a fierce exchange rate crisis.



# Election, wedding, disgust



TOUCHSTONES  
IRA PANDE

HERE are weeks when I don't know what to do as I sit down to write my column. Nothing happens and the world seems to be asleep. However, this time, there is such a surfeit of events that I don't know where to start. So let's begin with the drama unfolding in the US. After the high-octane national elections here, all those suffering from withdrawal symptoms were delighted to plug into another political battle. Initially, it seemed like a pow-wow between two well-defined political actors who had nothing but hot air to offer. We giggled at the gaffes that a doddering Biden made and, after his disastrous performance in the first presidential debate, political chatter shifted to whether he was even fit to be a candidate. Then came the ear-splitting din created by the gunshot that rang out at Trump's rally where he escaped literally by a hair's breadth. Memes were created and shared widely, each one funnier than the last. Seriously, though, the consequences of this election are going to affect the rest of the world in the coming years, so it's no laughing matter any more. The latest is that Biden has tested positive for Covid. God save America is all I can say.

Come now to the Ambani wedding that soaked up all the oxygen in India and large parts of the world. The sheer scale of the vulgarity, shameless display of wealth and bad taste left many of us swooning. No matter how hard one tried to escape it, virtually every national channel (many owned by the Ambanis), social media sites and gossip columns made sure that you were compelled to see it, week after week. The size of the emeralds

(bigger than *tindas*) Nita Ambani wore, the designer *lehengas* and *sherwanis* the rest of the assembly wore (no matter how comical they looked), the long roster of celebrity guests from around the world, the gifts received by the newly-weds — all are by now public knowledge, thanks to the well-oiled PR machinery that was pressed into service.

Jokes apart, could there have been a more dignified way of celebrating a wedding in the House of the Ambanis? The answer is an unqualified yes, but in a country that is now staring into its phones all the time, the wonder of the spectacle trumped (sorry for this word) all such considerations. Look around your-

As drama unfolds in the US, the Ambani wedding *tamasha* keeps India engrossed, and an iconic Canadian writer's sordid story leaves one stunned

selves and tell me which Indian family has the courage today to hold a quiet, private wedding? From our helpers to our family, friends and colleagues, Indian parents pay a fortune to the beauticians to lather their daughters with fistfuls of lightening creams and make-up, to the caterers who provide the multi-cuisine feast laid out and for the clothes, jewellery and cash that they have to cough up as dowry — the difference lies only in the scale. In the aspirational society that we have created, austerity and modesty are unknown concepts. Add to that the serials and films that celebrate *tamashas*, there can be no going back to those days when wedding feasts were cooked at home by a *halwai* and the bride wore her mother or grandmother's wedding *sari*. In the Punjab of the Seventies and Eight-

ies, I recall being almost stupefied by the scale of the weddings in a land where the quiet dignity of an *Anand Karaj* ceremony was only a small part of the *chikan-shikan* and *dance-doonce* at other accompanying parties. Naturally, a huge industry has cropped up for curating such mega events and rare is the family that can afford to buck this trend.

I want now to shift to a topic that has made me so sick that I cannot even begin to register my disgust. Alice Munro, the iconic feminist writer, died in May this year at 92 and reams were written about her insightful gaze that revealed the lives of women in provincial Canada. It was the kind of prose that touched you deeply because it was written from the heart. Then, in a recent shocking article written by her daughter, Munro was revealed as a woman who her readers did not know.

Munro's daughter, from her first marriage, lived with her and the stepfather and was sexually abused by the stepfather over years. Like all little girls (she was just nine when this happened first), she found it difficult to speak of it. Eventually, when she did, Alice Munro refused to confront her husband and told her daughter she could not live without him. The sordid story finally reached the court and although he was indicted and convicted, the case was hushed up and never made it to any newspaper or public platform. It was as if there was an unspoken omerta in Canada to not sully the famous writer who had been awarded its first Nobel Prize!

This story has many dimensions. The lack of space restricts me from writing a fuller account of how many girls are groped or sexually abused at some point in their early life by a family member or helper. In our childhood, many such girls were shushed up by their mothers. However, the MeToo movement lifted the veil of shame that had made silence mandatory until then.

I promise my readers I will write about this one day but until then, think about what women undergo for the sake of preserving their family's honour.

# British Gen's artist wife and the muse



Sybilla Barrow's paintings of Subedar Major Mauji Ram (left) and as she imagined he would have looked as a recruit. Both are displayed at Jat Regimental Centre, Bareilly.

COL. ASHOK AHLAWAT

THE air was getting warmer by the day and the hot weather was coming. Soon it would have full sway over the plains of India, from Peshawar to Calcutta. The offices of the Eastern Command headquarters at Lucknow started packing up for the annual move to the cool hills of Nainital for the summer. They would halt at Bareilly en route.

Sybilla Barrow's husband was the army commander and Nainital held a special attraction for the family. He was born there in 1864. His father had also been a General in the British Indian army.

A carriage was driving the two to a bungalow in Bareilly when she asked him, "George, who are these boys in native costumes?"

"They are the fresh recruits who have arrived for their military training," the General replied.

Sybilla Barrow was an artist with a sensitive eye. She wanted to paint one of those young men she had seen. She got her art box and laid out her painting materials in a room with lots of natural light.

"Would you mind calling a few of those young boys? I would like to make a portrait of one of them," she told her husband. "Bilkul," he replied. He spoke good Hindustani.

He sent a message across to the centre commandant, who conveyed it to the Subedar Major of the Jat Regimental Centre. Soon, a couple of recruits in *dhoti* and *kurti* reached the bungalow.

She sketched for some time and then threw down her pencil, before dismissing the recruits, "Some boys came and I tried to sketch them. They won't do," she told her husband.

The next day, the Subedar Major sent some more recruits to sit for her. One or two were selected, but were sent back again.

A puzzled centre commandant called the Subedar Major. "She wants to draw an ideal young Jat, why can't you select them?"

"*Sahib*, I have sent a fair sample of young men from all over. I have sent boys from Bikaner, Rohtak, Hisar, Meerut. I don't know what the *Mems-*

*sahib* is looking for?"

Colonel Warden, the centre commandant, told Subedar Major Mauji Ram to go the bungalow himself and find out. Like her husband, Mrs Barrow spoke Hindustani and had a deep affection for India and its people.

"*Memsahib*, what kind of recruits are you looking for? I have sent you the finest recruits," he told her.

Sybilla Barrow took a long look at him, her artistic instincts fully deployed. The Subedar Major was a fine looking man, 6 feet 3 inches tall, with a clean-cut sculpted face. He stood there, a picture of soldierly dignity that long years of service had imparted to him.

"Would you mind if I ask you to go and sit on the chair?" she told him and started sketching the Subedar Major soon enough.

"But *Memsahib*, I am an old man," he protested.

"Never mind, I think you will do perfectly," she shot back.

Many sittings later, the two paintings were complete. Mrs Barrow imagined how he would have looked as a young recruit and drew him out of the sheer power of her imagination.

Both the paintings of Subedar Major Honorary Captain Mauji Ram, Order of British India (OBI), are displayed at the Jat Regimental Centre, Bareilly. The portrait of the young Mauji Ram acquired a symbolic aura; today, it is embossed as the regimental escutcheon and is an iconic symbol of the Jat soldier.

Belonging to Dhandlan village in Jhajjar district of Haryana, he died in 1960. His son, Major Ran Singh Ahlawat, joined his father's battalion. It was part of the British empire forces that surrendered to the Japanese in 1942. Taken a prisoner of war, on the raising of the Indian National Army, he volunteered to join the INA, becoming a staff officer of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Maj Ahlawat's son, too, joined his regiment as an officer.

Two of Subedar Major Honorary Captain Mauji Ram's great grandsons are serving Army officers in the Special Forces.

A third great grandson, Maj Raghunath Ahlawat, also of the Special Forces, died in a counter-terrorist operation in Uri in 2022.

# 42 hours in an elevator, what it tells



CONSUMER RIGHTS  
PUSHPA GIRIMAJI

KERALA resident Ravindran Nair's 42-hour ordeal, trapped in a dark and dingy elevator, is really the stuff nightmares are made of. One must really appreciate the man's tenacity for surviving the horror — without food, water, light, or any means of communication with the outside world!

The ghastly incident draws attention to the poor state of elevators in many of our public, commercial and even residential buildings, and more particularly, to the absence of an effective, foolproof system of communication and rescue operations in emergencies. A good alarm and communication system is the lifeline in case of an emergency, where every minute counts — but this is the most neglected part of elevators in India. Nair's experience is typical. He kept on pressing the alarm or the emergency button provided in the lift, but there was no response! There was no other means of communication in the lift to contact anyone trained for rescue in such cases. The lift displayed emergency numbers, but there was no response from any of

them when he called from his cell phone!

Even as he was desperately re-dialing those numbers, his phone fell and stopped working. So, he was stuck in the lift of the Thiruvananthapuram Government Medical College from noon on Saturday till Monday morning, when the liftman reported for duty!

In March this year, 44-year-old Sahabuddin Molla's leg was trapped in the gap between the floor and the elevator shaft at the Alipore treasury building in Kolkata, for two-and-a-half hours. As the lift door opened on the fifth floor and he was stepping out, the elevator jerked and went down a little, trapping his leg. In this case, too, the emergency alarm did not elicit any response. There were 10 people other than Molla, stranded in the lift. Finally, they called the police, who in turn called the fire service and the state disaster management authority — it took them two hours to free the 10 people and another half an hour to extricate Molla's leg.

In such emergencies, delays could cost a life or a limb and that's the reason why the emergency communication system must be infallible and the response immediate. Besides, many of these entrapments are tricky and the rescue operations should be handled by those trained for the job. If there is an alarm, it should be heard at a place where someone is always available 24/7, maybe where the security staff are located. If there are emergency numbers, those calls should go simultaneously to at least three first responders entrusted with the job.

More importantly, the emergency communication should not be dependent on the elevator

user's cell phone, because the person may not have it, or it may not work. So, there must be a provision for two-way communication at a height that is easily reachable by even a short person, or someone sitting in a wheelchair. Besides analogue, there should be a VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) phone so that if one fails, the other would be available.

Today, many countries are mandating the most advanced communication technologies, keeping in mind the safety of elevator user. In fact, the International Building Code now requires emergency phones in elevators to provide for two-way video and text communication (through a keyboard), keeping in mind those who may have hearing problems or speech impairment. And our lifts do not even have basic phones, and nobody responds to emergency calls or the alarm bells — a gross violation of the consumers' right to life and safety! This must change. Those regulating the elevators should not only ensure reliable communication systems, but also mandate that they be checked regularly. Failure should invite hefty penalties, and the victims should seek compensation and punitive damages from all those responsible for the upkeep of the lift, including the enforcement agencies.

I must also emphasise the need for liftmen/security personnel in public and commercial buildings to always check the lifts before locking the building. If only the liftman at the medical college in Kerala had followed this drill, 59-year-old Nair would not have had to go through that terrifying experience.

# Mahlya is dead, the entire village mourns

KULBHUSHANSINGH SURYAWANSHI

WHEN I woke up from my afternoon siesta on a hot summer afternoon, the words that I kept hearing all around were, "Mahlya is dead." Apparently, he had been hit by a car while he tried to cross the highway.

My eight-year-old daughter said, "I was there. He had a small streak of blood at the corner of his mouth. The rest of his body seemed fine. How did he die of such small injury? How did a whole car hit him and he had only a little blood at the edge of his lips?" I tried to explain internal bleeding and haemorrhaging to her, but I was also distracted by all the parallel conversations going on among the people of our village.

When I asked her if she was afraid, she said, "His hands were just like mine, and his eyes too. He looked a little like me. That's why I was not scared when I saw him dead."

"I did not know he was dead when I first saw him. I thought he was just lying down," she added quickly.

"Tatya (her grandfather) buried him behind the Maruti Mandir (Hanuman temple). Lots of people from the village came to see him," she said.

Mahlya was not unpopular in the village, but people were tired of his stealing. He was always perched on the *neem* tree at the edge of the village and made a run for whatever he could get his hands on: a kernel of maize from someone's field, raw mangoes plucked from the tree, bitten into and then dropped to the ground, half-eaten guavas. He never touched *sitaphal* (custard apple). The skin was too bitter for him.

The first time I saw Mahlya was on the terrace of our house on the farm. I have a little room on the terrace, which I use as an office. I was in a meeting on Zoom when I heard a loud crunching sound outside. I came out to find Mahlya munching on the *Kabuli chana* that my mother had spread on a bedsheet to dry.

He stared at me with his golden eyes and dark face. His black hands were frozen mid-air between the floor and his mouth, with a few *chanas* held firmly. His



Mahlya was big, but not threatening.

lips were slightly apart and his canines were clearly visible. His long silver tail was now caught behind his back, arching like a question mark.

I made the first move. I tried to shut the door of my room. Two ripe mangoes were next to my laptop, and I was worried that my computer might get dam-

aged if Mahlya lunged for them. When I turned back after closing the door, Mahlya was already halfway to the parapet of the terrace. In one jump, he made it to the *cassia* tree next to the house and then on to the tamarind tree, and then he jumped to the ground where our dog Mowgli tried to chase him.

I knew it was Mahlya the langur the moment I saw him. He was big but not threatening. I had seen threatening langurs before; I had even been attacked, but Mahlya was not like that. He stole food but he was tolerated by the village. He was not liked by anyone, yet everyone cared for him.

They often left a *chappati* or *jowar roti* in the backyard, knowing that Mahlya would come and eat it.

At first, Mahlya was not his name. My father explained that in rural Marathi, Mahlya meant the alpha male of a langur troop, *morkhya vanhar* (lead monkey).

But our Mahlya did not have a troop and so it became his name. He was ousted from his position as Mahlya in his troop by another large but younger male only a few days before the Forest Department sent a

monkey catcher to our village at the behest of the panchayat. The troop was a nuisance. They had become bold enough to enter houses and steal warm *jowar roti* from right next to the earthen *chulha*.

Some langurs chased little kids if they had food in their hands, and others jumped on the tin roof, which would cave in from the weight.

The monkey catcher got everyone, but Mahlya escaped. He was still licking his wounds outside the village at the edge of the forest. The troop and the new alpha male were taken to the Gyanganga wildlife sanctuary, some 60 km away, never to be seen again.

When people from my village saw Mahlya after that, they recognised him and felt sorry for him and perhaps a little ashamed of their actions, and so the guilt meant them care for him.

But now, he was dead. He had been hit by a car and my father and daughter had buried him, and many people from the village came to see him, a langur, one last time.

— The writer is director of the India Programme of the Snow Leopard Trust



VIJAY MOHAN

**O**N April 7, 1999, just a month before the Pakistani intrusions in the Kargil sector were officially acknowledged, a wargame was held by 15 Gen Krishan Pal, the then GOC of 15 Corps, and Maj Gen VS Budhwar, the then GOC, 3 Infantry Division. Maj Gen (later Lt Gen) Mohinder Puri, then GOC, 8 Mountain Division, was the 'enemy commander' (FCNA) — the enemy formation opposite the Line of Control (LoC) in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) — presented a war-like scenario that was uncannily similar to the situation that unfolded in the coming days.

Among those present at the wargame were Lt Gen SK Khanna, the then GOC-in-C, Northern Command; Lt Gen VS Budhwar, the then GOC, 3 Infantry Division. Maj Gen (later Lt Gen) Mohinder Puri, then GOC, 8 Mountain Division, was the 'enemy commander'.

Those familiar with the wargame say the prevailing mindset of the military top brass at the time was focused on counter-insurgency, which prevented a holistic review of the situation and led to incorrect assessments. The Corps Commander himself, at the beginning of the Kargil conflict, was of the opinion that there were just 35-40 terrorists, who would likely infiltrate further down into the Valley.

Similar wargames had been held at various levels for years where the probability of intrusions by Pakistan across the LoC was discussed. Yet, Pakistan managed to surreptitiously occupy heights dominating the Srinagar-Leh National Highway in what was termed an intelligence failure, or by some as a failure to interpret the available information or act appropriately on the inputs that had filtered in.

This led to a three-month-long tedious and costly conflict on the remote and icy heights along a 170-km stretch of the LoC in the sector, which is now overshadowed by the growing Chinese belligerence on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

The Kargil sector, lying east of the Zoji La and comprising Mushkoh, Drass, Batalik and Turtuk sub-sectors, was not new to conflict, having witnessed battles since 1948, when some areas were captured by Indian troops.

When India occupied the Siachen Glacier in 1984, the Army had raised 28 Infantry Division to be deployed in the Kargil sector, along with the existing 3 Infantry Division on the eastern flank. However, with terrorism erupting in the Kashmir valley, 28 Division was moved to the west of Zoji La on counter-insurgency deployment.

The stretch that was guarded by an entire division, consisting of three brigades, was left to a single brigade — the 121 (Independent) — at Kargil, leaving huge gaps. These gaps were exploited by the then Pakistan army chief, Pervez Musharraf, who had kept the flow of information about his operations extremely limited within his force. Since there were no indications of any impending military operation from the Pakistani establishment at large, this was also at odds with reports of intrusion filtering in from the northern sector.

When the conflict started, there were operational setbacks, with inadequate intelligence and equipment. Some field commanders complained of piecemeal availability of troops and a heterogeneous mix of frontline units, dependence on man packs and mule loads for supplies, restricted deployment of artillery guns in some areas due to terrain limitations, disconnected sub-sectors and inadequate radio communications.

"We were moved up from the Valley and pushed into operations," Brig Khushal Thakur (retd), who as a Colonel commanded 18 Grenadiers during the conflict, said. "We were initially told there were just a few militants on the hilltops and in the initial phases, there was no information or intelligence, no recce had been done, whereas the enemy was at a height and had the advantage. The troops were not acclimatised, proper clothing was not available and casualty evacuation was a problem," he added.

The then Chief of Army Staff, Gen VP Malik, is on record saying that the Kargil conflict was fought in the face of great challenges, with serious shortages of ammunition and equipment.

A four-member high-powered committee headed by strategic analyst K Subrahmanyam (the father of

A lot has changed since 1999. Lessons have been learnt, counter-measures initiated, infrastructure upgraded, but China's transgression along the LAC adds a new dimension

# 25 YEARS AFTER Kargil



Kargil Vijay Dwas is celebrated every July 26 to observe the victory over Pakistan and to pay homage to the martyrs.

Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar), that was set up to review the conflict, observed that Pakistan's aggression came as a total surprise. Infiltration by armed irregulars was considered to be feasible in the area, but not an intrusion and occupation of territory by Pakistani troops.

The committee pinpointed several inadequacies in the Indian intelligence setup and recommended significant structural changes in the security establishment. It said that though there were no specific indicators of a likely major attack in the Kargil sector — such as significant improvements in logistics and communications or substantial force build-up or forward deployment of forces — there were many bits and pieces of information about

activities within the FCNA region. Most of these tended to indicate that Kargil was becoming a growing focus of Pakistani attention, which had been clearly demonstrated by the marked increase in cross-LoC shelling in 1998.

Twenty-five years later, there is not only a sea change in the strategic environment and threat perception in the northern sector, but also important developments within the armed forces that have resulted in structural reorganisation at the highest level, capability build-up and force redeployments.

As in all wars and operations, a plethora of lessons were thrown up, some of which have been implemented and some are still embroiled in bureaucratic tussles and lip service. It was as a fallout of the conflict that the Integrat-

ed Defence Staff Headquarters was set up to deal with inter-services matters and the long-pending appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff finally came through in January 2020. Intelligence collection was ramped up with the creation of organisations like the Defence Intelligence Agency and the National Technical Research Organisation, and formations like the Strategic Forces Command and Andaman and Nicobar Command, both having elements from all three Services, were set up.

"A lot has happened in the past two decades. The 170-km stretch that was then held by just a brigade and had wide gaps is now guarded by a division, with 8 Mountain Division that was moved to Kargil during the conflict being permanently deployed there," says Lt Gen YK Joshi (retd), who commanded a battalion during the conflict and then served as the GOC-in-C, Northern Command.

"The area is now strongly held and I do not visualise another Kargil-type incident happening. Moreover, with its internal situation and a floundering economy, Pakistan is not in a position to carry out such activity," he adds, while pointing out that new technology and force multipliers like drones, UAV optical devices and surveillance equipment that provides a constant flow of information have since been inducted. Infrastructure has also been developed and all forward posts are now connected by tracks, with a strong logistics network.

As the nation commemorates the conflict's 'Rajat Jayanti', several issues linger on. Among them is whether the war could have been fought differently, with the same results being achieved with lesser casualties, declassifying documents for greater transparency and an incisive analysis and debate on the role of senior commanders.

Wars are fought at three levels — tactical, involving sub-units and battalions; operational, at the level of brigades, division and corps; and at the strategic level that encompasses the political leadership and other government establishments. "During Kargil, the young officers and soldiers delivered and their achievements and sacrifices have been celebrated, but little has been said on the role of the Generals and the higher defence management," says a senior serving officer.

While agreeing that intrusions at the level that took place in 1999 may not happen now, Lt Gen DS Hooda (retd), former GOC-in-C, Northern Command, says that among the recommendations put forth after the conflict was the publication of a national security doctrine, which is still not in place.

"The much-needed integration or jointness amongst the Services and the Ministry of Defence is still unsettled. The level of integration required between the ministry and Service headquarters, of ministry officials and military officers functioning together, is not there. The tri-service theatre commands are still in the process of being set up," he says. "Even the recommendation of 'one border, one force' has not been fully implemented. We have the Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police deployed operationally on the Line of Actual Control, but both report to different ministries," he adds. This is unlike the LoC, where the Border Security Force is co-deployed, but comes under the operational command of the Army.

Kargil, the experts look back, was Pakistan's attempt to even out the loss it suffered in Siachen, as also a part of its larger game-plan in Kashmir. An active LAC post the 2020 standoff with China, along with Siachen, is now a worry for India. Immediately north of Siachen lies Shaksgam valley, ceded to China by Pakistan, where heavy infrastructure development has been reported, and to its east is Depsang Plains — a hot area.

The reported presence of Chinese troops in PoK is another worry. Any China-Pakistan collusion on the northern borders would have serious implications. As Lt Gen Hooda puts it, "We have to be careful of that challenge."

In 2020, troops deployed in the counter-insurgency grid in Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere were pulled out and deployed on the LAC, with the post-Kargil enhanced posture on the LoC remaining as it was. The emphasis of the Northern Command is now on the LAC.

During the Kargil conflict, China had remained silent as it lacked infrastructure on its side along the LAC, which has since seen exponential development. Earlier, the premise was that if there is a war with Pakistan, Pakistan will help it, while if there is a war with China, China may not step in. Now, a question mark lurks over the possibility of China stepping in.

When the Kargil war started, there were operational setbacks. The Indian Army rose to the challenge to recapture the heights from the Pakistani troops. FILE

PHOTO BY THE WRITER