



UKRAINE INTENSIFIES FIGHT, TAKES WAR TO RUSSIAN SOIL **WORLD**



CIVILIAN DEATH TAKES ANANTNAG GUNFIGHT TOLL TO THREE **J&K**



JUDGE-LESS COURTS NOT FEASIBLE, SAYS JUSTICE KANT NATION

EX-FOREIGN MINISTER NATWAR SINGH DIES AT 93 **BACK PAGE**



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MONDAY | 12 AUGUST 2024

Haryana is now the unique state that guarantees purchase of all crops at MSP

Mhara Haryana Non-Stop Haryana

In the last 8 seasons, Rs. 1.12 lakh crore for crop purchase deposited directly into the accounts of farmers

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THANKSGIVING



Members of the Indian hockey team that won the Olympic bronze pay obeisance at the Golden Temple in Amritsar on Sunday. VISHAL KUMAR

Attack on Sebi's integrity, bid to malign me: Buch junks charge

Hindenburg report Regulator gives chief clean chit

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11 Dismissing allegations made by US-based short-seller Hindenburg Research, Madhabi Puri Buch, Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), on Sunday denied any wrongdoing.

Hindenburg had, in a report released on Saturday, made serious allegations regarding the involvement of Buch and her husband Dhaval Buch, a senior adviser with Blackstone, in a Mauritius-based offshore fund, IPE Plus Fund 1, which allegedly received investments from a Bermuda-based fund tied to Vinod Adani, the elder brother of billionaire Gautam Adani.

In a two-page statement, the



Madhabi Puri Buch



Gautam Adani

IRRELEVANT DEALS

Buch clarifies their investment in fund flagged by Hindenburg was made in 2015 when she was residing in Singapore, nearly two years before joining Sebi.

Buchs clarified on the raft of allegations. "They have chosen to attack the credibility of Sebi and attempt character assassination of the Sebi Chairperson," the statement read.

In its first comments following the new report by Hindenburg, Sebi said allega-

tions against the Adani Group had been "duly investigated" and Chairperson Buch disclosed and recused herself from time to time when dealing with matters.

The regulator said the investigation in only one of the 26 aspects it was probing was pending and the same was close to completion. Buch has made "relevant disclosures" from time to time, and recused herself in matters involving potential conflicts of interest, Sebi said.

Separately, the Adani Group, in a filing to the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the National Stock Exchange (NSE), said "The latest allegations by Hindenburg are malicious, mischievous and manipulative selections of publicly

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Oppn demands JPC probe; bid to create financial chaos: BJP

AKSHEEV THAKUR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11 The Congress on Sunday reiterated its demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the Hindenburg row and said the Centre must act to eliminate all conflicts of interest in the regulator's investigation into the Adani Group.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge said a JPC inquiry is imperative to investigate this massive "scandal". "Sebi had previously cleared Adani, a close associate of PM Modi, before the SC after the January 2023 revelations. However, new allegations have surfaced

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Militant, 3 village guards killed in Manipur gunfight

IMPHAL, AUGUST 11 A militant belonging to the United Kuki Liberation Front (UKLF) and three village volunteers of the same community were killed in a fratricidal shootout in Manipur's Tengnoupal district, the police said.

The incident took place in the Molnom area on Friday. In retaliation to the killings, village volunteers set ablaze the residence of UKLF self-styled chairman SS Haokip. Control over levy in the Pallel area is suspected to be behind the gunfight, officials said.

BLAST KILLS WIFE OF FORMER MLA OF KUKI COMMUNITY

In another incident, a former MLA's wife was killed in a bomb blast in Kangpokpi district, officials said, adding the blast was triggered at a house adjacent to that of former Saikul MLA Yamthong Haokip, who belongs to the Kuki community, on Saturday evening. Sapam Charubala, the second wife of Haokip, was injured in the blast, but later succumbed to her injuries. Haokip was also in his house, but escaped unhurt—PTI

PM unveils 109 high-yield, resilient crop varieties

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11 Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday released 109 high-yielding, climate-resilient and biofortified varieties of crops at an event at India Agricultural Research Institute here.

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement, "The Prime Minister interacted with farmers and scientists on the occasion. Discussing the importance of these new crop varieties, the PM stressed the significance of value addition in agriculture. The farmers said these new varieties would be highly beneficial as these would help reduce their expenditure and also have a positive impact on the environment."

Stressing the importance of millets, Modi said people were moving towards nutritious food. He spoke about the benefits of natural farming and the increasing faith of the common man in organic farming, adding that people had started consuming and demanding organic foods.

The farmers also lauded the role played by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in creating awareness. The PM suggested that the KVKs should proactively inform farmers about the benefits of the new varieties being developed every month. The PM lauded the scientists for the development of these new crop varieties.

"Scientists said they had been working in line with the suggestion given by the PM to bring unutilised crops into the mainstream," the PMO said. The 109 varieties of 61 crops released include 34 field crops and 27 horticultural crops. Among the field crops, seeds of various cereals, including millets, forage crops, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane, cotton, fibre and other potential crops, were released. Among the horticultural crops, different varieties of fruits, vegetable crops, plantation crops, tuber crops, spices, flowers and medicinal crops were released. Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare and Rural

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



PM Modi, along with Union Agriculture Minister Shwraaj Singh Chouhan, interacts with farmers in New Delhi. ANI

Karnal scientists behind barley variety

PARVEEN ARORA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, AUGUST 11

The Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research (IIWBR) here took nine years to develop a new barley variety, DWRB-219, which was officially released by PM Narendra Modi, along with 108 other seed varieties, at the Indian Agricultural

Took them nearly nine years to develop variant

Research Institute (IARI) in New Delhi today.

Designed for both irrigated and limited irrigation conditions, scientists claim that the new barley variety will enhance productivity in several regions, particularly the

North-Western Plains Zone (NWPZ). The zone includes Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan (excluding Kota and Udaipur divisions), Western UP (except Jhansi division), Jammu and Kathua districts, Paonta valley and Una districts of Himachal Pradesh, and the Terai region of Uttarakhand, said

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

70K BSF personnel on standby to thwart influx of Bangladesh refugees

ANIMESH SINGH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11

India has reinforced its land borders in several northeastern states adjoining Bangladesh to prevent Bangladeshi nationals from entering the country.

According to highly placed officials in the BSF, as many as 70,000 personnel are on high alert to prevent any such incident from taking place. Most of the people waiting on the border are said to be from Bangladesh's minority communities.

The BSF has opened communication channels with the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to prevent people from crossing over. "We are opening communication channels with the BGB in order to remove any misunderstanding," a top official said.

No incidents of armed attacks or forcible entry into the Indian territory had taken

Ready to use force if infiltration bid takes place, says top official

2 INDIAN FACILITATORS AMONG NINE HELD

BSF troops in collaboration with the Meghalaya Police nabbed seven Bangladeshi nationals along with two Indian facilitators at a checkpoint on August 10. The apprehended illegal migrants and Indian facilitators were handed over to the police station concerned for further disposal and legal action.

place across the Eastern Command, he said. "However, if such an incident happens, we are in readiness to reply militarily also," he asserted.

Nobody was being allowed to enter the Indian territory and any such attempts since August 5, when the Sheikh Hasina government fell, had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Six hurt as Haryana dera factions clash over land dispute

SIRSA: A violent clash erupted on Sunday between two factions over a land dispute at the Namdhari dera in Rania in Sirsa. The clash, which involved gunfire, resulted in six persons getting seriously injured. The conflict arose when followers of Satguru Uday Singh attempted to take control of 12 acres adjoining the dera. The land is also claimed by Thakur Dalip Singh, brother of Uday Singh, who manages the dera. **INSIDE**



Raging rivulet kills 5 migrants in Una

DHARAMSALA: The Bathu Bathri industrial area in Una district suffered a damage of over ₹100 crore due to a flashflood in a rivulet on Sunday. Five migrant labourers living in a slum near the rivulet were killed after being trapped in the flashflood. **INSIDE**

11 of Una family swept away in flashflood, bodies of 9 recovered

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HOSHARPUR/DHARAMSALA, AUG 11

As many as 12 persons, including 11 members of a family, travelling from Dehlan village in Una district of Himachal Pradesh to attend a wedding at Nawanshahr in an Innova car were swept away in a flashflood in Jejon Doaba Choe this morning. While one person was rescued, nine bodies have been recovered. Efforts are on to trace the two missing persons.

After crossing the Himachal border, they were passing through the choe when suddenly it was flooded and their vehicle got stuck in

the mud. Within seconds, it was swept away by the strong current. One person, Deepak, was rescued by some people nearby. Deputy Commissioner Komal Mittal said a National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team was called immediately for a search and rescue operation.

Sources said despite warning from locals, the driver tried to cross the swollen choe. The vehicle was washed away hundreds of metres from the culvert and a JCB machine was deployed by the administration to retrieve it.

As per information, Deepak Bhatia of Dehlan near Mehatpur in Una, along with 11 rela-

Nawanshahr-bound Innova gets stuck in choe



The Innova that was washed away in a flashflood at Jejon. KAMALJEET SINGH

tives and family members, had left in an Innova to attend a wedding ceremony at Nehrowal village in Nawanshahr. The car was being driven by Binda, son of Hukam Chand of the same village.

The other occupants were

Deepak's father Surjit (55), mother Paramjit Kaur (50), Sarup Chand (49), Binda (Sarup Chand's wife), Shino (wife of Amrik Singh), her daughter Bhavna (18), son Harshit (12), Anku (20) and two others. DSP Jagir Singh said the search operation was still on and Deepak, whose condition was stable, had been admitted to a hospital at Garhshankar.

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu and Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri have condoled the deaths and said all possible assistance would be provided to the bereaved families by the government.



Govt. of Haryana



**Haryana is now
the unique State that guarantees
purchase of all crops at MSP**

**In the last 8 seasons, Rs. 1.12 lakh crore for crop purchase
deposited directly into the accounts of farmers**

**20 lakh farmers have received Samman Nidhi of
₹5693 crore since October, 2018**

**Now our farmers will get a bonus of ₹2000 per acre
for current Kharif season**

**Haryana Government will ensure sale of each and
every grain of every farmer at MSP or above**

**Unwavering
commitment towards
Farmers' Welfare
Continues**

**Mhara Haryana
Non-Stop Haryana**



Agniveers to get priority in govt jobs, says Saini

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

REWARI/PALWAL, AUGUST 11
Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said the state government would provide employment opportunities to Agniveers on a priority basis after their service.

"Rewari district is the land of the heroes and our soldiers are standing bravely on the borders of the country. This Half Marathon is proving effective in delivering a positive message to our youth," said Saini while addressing the participants of the Half Marathon in Rewari on Sunday.

The CM said unlike the old 'parchi karchi' tradition, merit-based recruitments were being made in Haryana. He emphasised that the state government would continue to recruit for government jobs transparently based on merit. He urged the youth to focus only on hard work, dedication and preparation.

"Due to a transparent system, the benefits of all government schemes are reaching the last person in society.



Haryana CM Nayab Saini at a function in Palwal on Sunday.

The state government is playing an active role in providing an empowering path to the youth and is contributing to the construction of a strong Haryana by providing a better educational environment," he claimed.

The CM said due to Haryana's sports policy, the players from the state had made the nation and the state proud at the Paris Olympics.

Public Health and Engineering Minister Dr Banwari Lal, Kosli MLA Laxman Yadav, Haryana State Tourism Corporation Chairman Arvind Yadav and several other BJP leaders were present on the occasion.

Earlier, cultural events were organised at Rao Tularam Stadium during the Half Marathon programme.

Meanwhile in Palwal, Saini said the state government is working at a fast pace to set up a girls' college at every 20 km in the state to educate women. He said this at a function organised to lay the foundation stone of a private girls' college in Palwal this noon.

The CM also inaugurated an indoor stadium at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose sports complex. It is built at a cost of Rs 14 crore, according to the district authorities.

Will end 'inspector raj', ensure security to traders: Hooda

MUKESH TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PANIPAT, AUGUST 11
Former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Sunday said the traders are the pillars of society and development in the state. "If the traders are strong, society will be strong, the state will be strong and the farmers will also be strong," he stressed.

Addressing a gathering at the state-level traders' programme here, Hooda announced that if the Congress came to power, it would end the "inspector raj" and provide full security to traders.

He said the BJP government was trying to attack the traders in the state with a double blow. "Inspector raj, which was abolished by the Congress, has been re-established by the BJP and the law and order in the state has collapsed," he added.

Hooda said the Congress government had reduced the market fee on maize and sunflower from 4 per cent to 1 per cent, and that on potatoes, onions and other vegetables



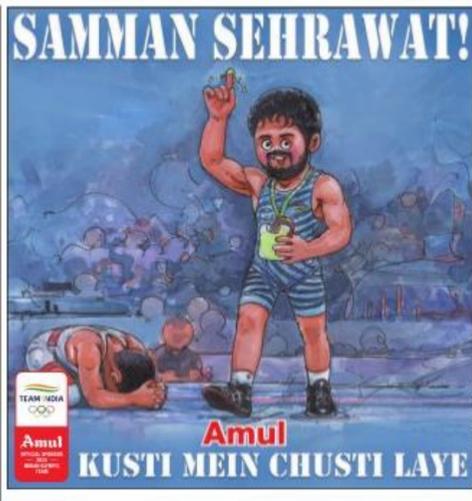
Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda in Panipat on Sunday.

was made zero. It was the Congress government that waived Rs 38 crore of H Form with a stroke of the pen," he stated.

Haryana was the number one state in the country on every scale of development, including per capita income, per capita investment, employment, law and order, sports and welfare of sports persons. However, today the BJP has made the state number one in crime, unemployment, inflation and drug addiction. That is why the business class will have to

come forward to oust the BJP from power, he said.

Congress state president Uday Bhan said the BJP had hit traders so hard with demonetisation and GST, that they had not been able to recover to date. "This government has continuously looted taxes from the business class. Haryana alone contributes 7 per cent of the total GST from the whole country to the Central Government. But in return, the state gets only 1 per cent of the share," he pointed out.



People of state deserve quality education on lines of Delhi, says AAP

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, AUGUST 11
Harping on education and healthcare issues, AAP leader Sunita Kejriwal, wife of jailed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, said that the people of Haryana deserve quality education and healthcare system on the lines of Delhi, besides other welfare measures like free electricity.

Addressing a gathering at Nalwa Assembly segment in Hisar today, Sunita said that it was unfortunate that government schools are being closed in Haryana under the BJP government. "Where will the children here go to study? The BJP government did not give anything to you in the past 10 years. Therefore, the BJP will not get a single seat in this election," she said.

Trying to strike a chord with the people in Haryana, she said that Arvind is the son of Haryana. "He was educated and brought up in Hisar. No one could have imagined even in their dreams that after 20 years, this boy would become the Chief Minister of Delhi," she said.

She said that Arvind Kejriwal improved the government schools of Delhi and Punjab to make the future of poor children brighter and secure. "The AAP governments in Delhi and Punjab have made wonderful mohalla clinics and hospitals,



AAP leader Sunita Kejriwal in Hisar on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

where free and good treatment is provided," she said.

AAP state secretary, education wing, Umesh Sharma, said that the party's campaign in the urban and rural segments in Haryana has exposed the poor condition of the education for children of weaker sections of society.

"AAP has emerged as a hope for the people of Haryana where political parties have merely politicised issues for gathering votes till now. The credentials of Arvind Kejriwal—due to the performance of the AAP government in Delhi—have attracted the people to the AAP in Haryana. We hope that Kejriwal, who is the son of Haryana, will soon come out of jail and take command of the party's campaign in Haryana," he said.

Farmers, Dalits suffering in BJP rule, says Selja

DEEPENDER DESWAL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NARNAUND (HISAR), AUGUST 11
Lambasting the BJP government over the 'poor condition' of farmers and the working classes, Sirsa MP Kumari Selja alleged that the BJP was shedding crocodile tears on the issue of the farming community now when the Assembly elections are round the corner in the state.

Addressing a rally in Anaj Mandi in Narnaund town of Hisar today, she alleged that the Haryana Government did not even blink once when about 750 farmers sacrificed their lives while holding a dharna along the Delhi borders during the farmers' agitation.

"Now, they claim to be the well-wishers of farmers, Dalits and working classes, when they are set to face the Assembly elections. Enough is enough. People are so dejected with the BJP that they are eager to kick the



Kumari Selja addresses a rally in Narnaund Assembly segment in Hisar on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

SURPRISE ENTRY

Former Haryana Minister Sampat Singh shared the stage with the Sirsa MP Kumari Selja in the rally held in Narnaund. Though he is known to be close to Hooda, his joining the rally addressed by Selja has surprised many in the Congress

BJP out of power in Haryana," she claimed.

Now, the BJP government was promising to provide MSP on all crops. "The BJP government is a government of slogans. We had never heard the word 'jumla' in our lives, but we heard it for the first time under the BJP rule. The BJP stands for Bharatiya Jhooiti Party (Indian Lying Party). Don't fall for the deception again after 10 years," she said.

"We need to change the gov-

ernment and the system. Corruption is rampant under the BJP government. People are being harassed in the name of PPP. They have trapped the people in a web, and only you can free them from it," added Selja.

EC team's two-day visit to state begins today

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11

In view of the upcoming Assembly elections, the Election Commission of India will be on a two-day visit to Haryana starting tomorrow. Chief Election Commissioner, Rajiv Kumar, along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and other officers of the commission, will hold various meetings.

Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana, Pankaj Agarwal said on August 12, the commission would review election preparations in a meeting with representatives of political parties, district election officers, and senior officers.

He said on August 13, the commission would give guidelines to enforcement agencies to enhance monitoring and vigilance across the state. Besides this, the commission will hold crucial meetings with



THE SCHEDULE

On August 12, the commission will review election preparations in a meeting with representatives of political parties, district election officers and senior officers

On August 13, the commission will give guidelines to enforcement agencies to enhance monitoring and vigilance across the state

The Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, other administrative secretaries, and senior police officers to review other arrangements. He said all preparations for the Election Commission's visit had been completed. —TNS

9 more HSVP services under Right to Service Act

Chandigarh: The Haryana Government has notified the inclusion of nine more services provided by the HSVP under the Haryana Right to Service Act, 2014. This move aims to enhance the efficiency of service delivery for residents across the state. —TNS

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INDIAN RAILWAYS

Government of India, Ministry of Railways

Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs)

CENTRALISED EMPLOYMENT NOTICE (CEN) No. 04/2024

Recruitment of the various posts of Paramedical categories

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the various posts of Paramedical categories in the table below. The last date for submission of application is 16.09.2024. Application (complete in all respect) must be submitted ONLINE ONLY.

Opening date of Application: 17.08.2024 Closing date for Submission of Application: 16.09.2024

| Name of the Post | Pay Level as per 7th CPC | Initial Pay (Rs.) | Medical Standard | Age as on 01.01.2025 | Total Vacancies (All RRBs) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Dietician (Level 7) | 7 | 44900 | C2 | 18-36 | 05 |
| Nursing Superintendent | 7 | 44900 | C1 | 20-43 | 713 |
| Audiologist & Speech Therapist | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 21-33 | 04 |
| Clinical Psychologist | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 18-36 | 07 |
| Dental Hygienist | 6 | 35400 | C2 | 18-36 | 03 |
| Dialysis Technician | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 20-36 | 20 |
| Health & Malaria Inspector Gr III | 6 | 35400 | C1 | 18-36 | 126 |
| Laboratory Superintendent | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 18-36 | 27 |
| Perfusionist | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 21-43 | 02 |
| Physiotherapist Grade II | 6 | 35400 | C1 | 18-36 | 20 |
| Occupational Therapist | 6 | 35400 | C1 | 18-36 | 02 |
| Cath Laboratory Technician | 6 | 35400 | B1 | 18-36 | 02 |
| Pharmacist (Entry Grade) | 5 | 29200 | C2 | 20-38 | 246 |
| Radiographer X-Ray Technician | 5 | 29200 | B1 | 19-36 | 64 |
| Speech Therapist | 5 | 29200 | B1 | 18-36 | 01 |
| Cardiac Technician | 4 | 25500 | B1 | 18-36 | 04 |
| Optometrist | 4 | 25500 | B1 | 18-36 | 04 |
| ECG Technician | 4 | 25500 | C1 | 18-36 | 13 |
| Laboratory Assistant Grade II | 3 | 21700 | B1 | 18-36 | 94 |
| Field Worker | 2 | 19900 | C2 | 18-33 | 19 |
| Grand Total | | | | | 1376 |

This includes a relaxation of 3 years in age beyond the prescribed age limit as a one-time measure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For further details, please refer to the detailed centralized Employment Notice (CEN) No. 04/2024 available on the official websites of all participating Railway recruitment Boards (RRBs) listed below.

| Websites of RRBs Participating in CEN No. 04/2024 | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Ahmedabad www.rrbahmedabad.gov.in | Chennai www.rrbchennai.gov.in | Muzaffarpur www.rrbmuzaffarpur.gov.in |
| Ajmer www.rrbajmer.gov.in | Gorakhpur www.rrbgkp.gov.in | Patna www.rrbpatna.gov.in |
| Bengaluru www.rrbnc.gov.in | Guwahati www.rrbguwahati.gov.in | Prayagraj www.rrbal.gov.in |
| Bhopal www.rrbhopal.gov.in | Jammu-Srinagar www.rrbjammu.nic.in | Ranchi www.rrbanchi.gov.in |
| Bhubaneswar www.rrbbs.gov.in | Kolkata www.rrbkolkata.gov.in | Secunderabad www.rrbsecunderabad.gov.in |
| Bilaspur www.rrbilaspur.gov.in | Malda www.rrbmalda.gov.in | Siliguri www.rrbiliguri.gov.in |
| Chandigarh www.rrbcdg.gov.in | Mumbai www.rrbmumbai.gov.in | Thiruvananthapuram www.rrbthiruvananthapuram.gov.in |

This notification is purely indicative in nature. Candidates are required to go through the Post Parameter Table and Vacancy Table of detailed CEN No. 04/2024 to ascertain their eligibility before applying through ONLINE mode. Any Correspondence/ addendum/Important Notice related to the aforesaid recruitment shall be issued time to time on the above websites of RRBs only.

No. RRB/MFP/Advt./CEN 04/2024(Paramedical)/2 Chairpersons
Date : 12.08.2024 Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs)

BE AWARE OF TOUTS, BROKERS AND JOB RACKETEERS

BJP has failed farmers, youth, says Surjewala

PANIPAT, AUGUST 11 Congress general secretary and Rajya Sabha member Randeep Surjewala on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the ruling BJP and said "it is the party which divides people on the caste lines".

Surjewala was addressing a gathering at 'Parivartan Rally' organised by Balkar Malik at the new vegetable market here on Sunday. Congress

working president was Suresh Gupta also participated in the rally. He accused the BJP of betraying the youth, farmers, and employees. He claimed: "The BJP is going out of power from the state and the Congress would win 80 seats in the Assembly poll." He further said the BJP only worked for Adani. For Adani, the BJP closed the grain markets of Dhand and Pundri. — TNS

Clash over land dispute at Rania dera, 6 hurt in gunfire

ANIL KAKKAR

SIRSA, AUGUST 11

A violent clash erupted on Sunday morning between two factions over a land dispute at the Namdhari dera in Jiwan Nagar, Rania town, Sirsa. The clash, which involved gunfire, resulted in six people getting seriously injured.

The conflict arose when followers of Satguru Uday Singh attempted to take control of 12 acres adjoining the Jiwan Nagar Namdhari dera. This land is also claimed by Thakur Dalip Singh, brother of Uday Singh, who manages the Jiwan Nagar dera.

According to Sukhchain Singh, a former village sarpanch, the followers of Uday Singh arrived at the site with the intention of seizing the land. That led to a confrontation with Dalip



Cops outside a hospital after a violent clash at a dera in Rania.

CONFLICT OVER 12 ACRES

The conflict arose when followers of Satguru Uday Singh attempted to take control of 12 acres adjoining the Jiwan Nagar Namdhari dera. This land is also claimed by Thakur Dalip Singh, brother of Uday Singh, who manages the Jiwan Nagar dera

Singh's supporters. During the confrontation, both sides resorted to gunfire. Around 250 of Uday

getting seriously injured. The police were called to the scene as the situation escalated, but upon arrival, they too were fired upon. In response, the police used tear gas to disperse the crowd and restore order.

Superintendent of Police Vikrant Bhushan also arrived on the scene to assess the situation. A significant police force has been deployed in Jiwan Nagar to prevent further violence. The injured were taken to Agroha Medical College for treatment.

The dispute over the 12 acre plot is ongoing. Sukhchain Singh said that followers of Dalip Singh were caught off guard as they were in their fields spraying pesticide when the violence broke out. The attackers, who appeared to be prepared and armed, fired indiscriminately at them.

Two plots allotted under rehab scheme in F'bad cancelled

BIJENDRA AHLAWAT TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FARIDABAD, AUGUST 11

Even as a probe is on into the alleged irregularities in allotment of residential plots under Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy of the government, the allotment of two plots in return for the land acquired for carving out the Industrial Model Township (IMT) here in 2006 has been cancelled. An inquiry into a total of 14 cases is currently underway.

The alleged irregularities came to light after a complaint was lodged by a resident of Chandawali village in the district earlier this year. He alleged that many plots had been allotted in violation of the policy. As per the policy, a residential plot is allotted if 75 per cent of land owned by the person is acquired under Section 4 of the land acquisition Act.

However, some residents of the villages whose land was acquired for the township resorted to making claims by changing the ownership claims after the culmination of the process of the Section 4. The market value of some of the plots allotted wrongly had been between Rs 1 crore and Rs 3 crore, according to sources. "While a probe conducted by the office of the district revenue officer on the directions of the DC office, all the 14 allotments highlighted in the complaint have been found to be made illegally," claimed Giriraj, a complainant. He said as many

14 CASES BEING INVESTIGATED

An inquiry is underway in a total of 14 cases wherein plots were allotted in return for land acquired for Industrial Model Township in 2006. As per the land acquisition Act, a plot is allotted to owner whose 75% of land is acquired

One of the letters issued by HSIIDC to an allottee on March 19, 2024, says only 65.71% of the land belonging to you was acquired, and hence you are not eligible for allotment of plot

as 24 allotments had been suspected to be illegal, HSIIDC has issued cancellation letters to two of the allottees already.

"...it has been observed that only 65.71 per cent of the land belonging to you was acquired by the government, and hence you are not eligible for allotment of RR plot under the provisions of the policy," says one of the letters issued by HSIIDC to an allottee on March 19, 2024. Though three weeks were given for the reply, no concrete evidence has been provided so far.

Around 1,832 acres belonging to residents of Chandawali, Machghar, Sotai, Nawada and Mujeri villages had been acquired for the IMT in 2006. Additional DC Anand Sharma said the inquiry into some of the complaints was on. The probe had been marked to him by the DC office

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
"A State Govt. Undertaking"

DETAILED TENDER NOTICE (E-Tendering Mode Only)

Online tender (having two part Bid) are invited for the following works, on the prescribed form (Tender Documents). The date of Sale/ Receipt and Opening of Tenders is as per detail given below. The Detailed Tender Notice can also be downloaded from website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in>.

| Sr. No. | Tender No. | Name of work | Estimated Cost (Rs.) | Earliest money (Rs.) | Price of tender including GST (Non-refundable) (Rs.) | Date of online publication (14:00 Hrs.) | Start date and time of bid submission (17:00 Hrs.) | End date and time of bid submission (16:00 Hrs.) | Due Date of opening of tender (12:00 Hrs.) |
|---------|---------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| 1. | CEKZ-DEP-07/2024-25 | Tender for Balance Work of re-conducting of 33 kV Khanghain to Jaisinghpur feeder alongwith interlinking of existing 33 kV Chadhiar-Sandhole Feeder for Prov. SOP to LWSS Chadhiar Khas under ESD Jaisinghpur | 53,78,350/- | 53,800/- | 1,180/- | 14.08.2024 (14:00 Hrs.) | 14.08.2024 (17:00 Hrs.) | 20.08.2024 (16:00 Hrs.) | 21.08.2024 (12:00 Hrs.) |

(Er. Ajay Gautam),
Chief Engineer, (OP) KZ, HPSEB Ltd., Dharamshala.

श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड गुरुग्राम विज्ञापन (सूचना)

श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम में आने वाले श्रद्धालुओं को मुंडन की सुविधा देने हेतु मुंडन हाल का ठेका देने का निर्णय लिया गया है। जिसकी नीलामी दिनांक 13.08.2024 (मंगलवार) को दोपहर 01:00 बजे मंदिर परिसर में की जाएगी। जो भी बोलीदाता इस बोली में भाग लेने का इच्छुक हो वो मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा निर्धारित की गई प्रतिभूति राशि रु 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख केवल) मंदिर कार्यालय में बैंक ड्राफ्ट/पे-आर्डर/बैंकर चेक के रूप में श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में जमा करवाएगा और केवल वह ही उक्त बोली देने का अधिकारी होगा। प्रतिभूति राशि जमा करवाने का अंतिम समय दिनांक 13.08.2024 (मंगलवार) को प्रातः 11:00 बजे तक रहेगा।

| क्रमांक | नीलाम किये जाने वाले कार्य का विवरण | सिक्वोरिटी राशि वापिसी योग्य। | ठेके की अवधि |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | मुंडन हाल का ठेका | रु 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख रुपये) जो कि बैंक ड्राफ्ट/पे-आर्डर/बैंकर चेक के रूप में श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में देय होगा। | दिनांक 18-08-2024 से दिनांक 17-08-2025 तक। |

मुंडन हाल के ठेके की नीलामी के लिए नियम एवं शर्तें निम्न प्रकार से हैं:-

- मुंडन हाल का ठेका देने के लिए इच्छुक बोलीदाता मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा निर्धारित की गई प्रतिभूति राशि, 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख रुपये) मंदिर कार्यालय में बैंक ड्राफ्ट/पे-आर्डर/बैंकर चेक द्वारा श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में जमा करवाएगा एवं केवल वही बोली देने का हकदार होगा। उक्त प्रतिभूति राशि दिनांक 31-12-2024 से पहले Refund नहीं की जाएगी। इच्छुक बोलीदाता प्रतिभूति राशि दिनांक 13-08-2024 (मंगलवार) को प्रातः 11:00 बजे तक या उससे पहले किसी भी कार्य दिवस में मंदिर कार्यालय में जमा करवा सकते हैं। इसके साथ ही इच्छुक बोलीदाता को प्रतिभूति राशि के साथ अपना पहचान पत्र मोबाईल न0 के साथ देना होगा। इच्छुक बोलीदाता को बोली के समय अपने साथ केवल एक ही प्रतिभागी बोली स्थान पर लाने का अधिकारी होगा।
- मुंडन हाल के ठेके की नीलामी दिनांक 13-08-2024 (मंगलवार) को दोपहर 01:00 बजे मंदिर परिसर में की जाएगी।
- मुंडन हाल का कार्यक्षेत्र केवल मंदिर मवन के सामने वाला वह Designated Area (निर्धारित क्षेत्र) होगा जो बोली के समय साथ दिये गये Map में दर्शाया गया है। यदि साफल्य बोलीदाता उस एरिया के बाहर काम करना पाया गया, तो उसका सामान जब्त कर लिया जाएगा एवं उसकी प्रतिभूति राशि जब्त कर ली जाएगी।
- जो बोलीदाता एक भी बोली नहीं देगा उसकी प्रतिभूति राशि 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख रुपये) जब्त कर ली जाएगी।
- मुंडन हाल के उच्चतम बोलीदाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का 25 प्रतिशत भाग ठेका छुटने पर 72 घंटे के अन्दर मंदिर कार्यालय में उक्त राशि जमा करवाना होगी।
- साफल्य बोली दाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अगला 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 31-10-2024 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- साफल्य बोली दाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अगला 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 25-02-2025 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- साफल्य बोली दाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अंतिम 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 15-04-2025 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- यदि साफल्य बोलीदाताओं में से प्रथम उच्चतम बोली दाता ठेके की 25 प्रतिशत राशि निर्धारित समय सीमा में जमा नहीं करवाता है तो बगैर किसी नोटिस उसकी प्रतिभूति राशि रु 50,00,000/- रुपये जब्त कर ली जाएगी तथा यदि उसके बाद की उपरोक्तानुसार राशि उक्त तिथियों पर जमा नहीं करवाता तो उसकी तब तक की जमा राशि जब्त कर ली जाएगी और नियमानुसार क्रमशः अगले बोलीदाताओं को इसी प्रकार मौका दिया जाएगा। यदि अन्य बोलीदाता भी ठेका लेने के इच्छुक नहीं हो, तो उनकी प्रतिभूति राशि भी जब्त कर ली जाएगी एवं मंदिर प्रशासन को हक होगा कि वह इस बोली को रद्द करके पुनः बोली करवा लेवे।
- मुंडन हाल के ठेके के लिए आरक्षित मूल्य रु 4,00,00,000/- रु (चार करोड़ रुपये) होगी। पिछली बोली से दो लाख रुपये से कम अगली बोली मान्य नहीं होगी। साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके के अंतिम निर्णय के उपरान्त रु 100/- रु के स्टॉप पेपर पर प्रतिभूति बन्धक पत्र सत्यापित करवाकर 15 दिन के अन्दर मंदिर कार्यालय को देना होगा।
- साफल्य बोलीदाता को धरोहर राशि के अतिरिक्त रु 2 लाख रुपये की प्रतिभूति राशि मंदिर कार्यालय में मंदिर परिसर को साफ सुथरा रखने, टूट-फूट की मरम्मत करवाने व बिजली के त्रिज की बकाया राशि की पूर्ति के लिए दिनांक 15-09-2024 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- इसके अतिरिक्त यह स्पष्ट रूप में लिखा जाता है कि मुंडन ठेकेदार को कोई मंदिर/मूर्ति नहीं लगाएगा, कोई बाबा पुजारी नहीं बैठावेगा, कोई प्रशाद नहीं बेचेगा। श्रद्धालुओं द्वारा दी गई दान या चढावा, चाहे वह मुंडन हाल के कार्यक्षेत्र में हो या बाहर, उस पर मुंडन ठेकेदार का कोई हक नहीं होगा। यदि मुंडन ठेकेदार ऐसा करता पाया गया, तो उसका सामान, जो इस नियम का उल्लंघन करता है, जब्त कर लिया जाएगा तथा ऐसे बाबा पुजारी को जो उस मंदिर या अर्ध स्थान पर बैठा हो, के खिलाफ पुलिस कार्रवाई अमल में लाई जाएगी। इस नियम का उल्लंघन करने पर ठेकेदार को हक होगा कि वह इस बोली के रद्द करने की तथा प्रतिभूति राशि को जब्त करने की कार्यवाही अमल में लाई जाएगी। मंदिर को यह पूरा अधिकार होगा कि इस स्थिति में पुनः मुंडन हाल के ठेके की नीलामी करे।
- मुंडन ठेकेदार अपने कार्य क्षेत्र में साफ-सफाई भी रखेगा।
- यदि करोना महामारी या किसी अन्य आपदा या किसी अन्य कारण से मंदिर बंद हो जाता है तो जितने दिन मंदिर बंद रहेगा। उस समयवाधि का किराया ठेकेदार से नहीं लिया जाएगा।
- सरकारी नियमों की पालना बारे अतिरिक्त शर्तें:-
- मुंडन प्रशासन की माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम को ठेके की राशि स्वीकार/अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार एवं शर्तों में संशोधन करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है।
- मंदिर प्रशासन के पास यह अधिकार सुरक्षित होगा कि यदि ठेकेदार की गतिविधियां मंदिर प्रशासन के अहित में एवं निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्तों के विरुद्ध पाई जाती है तो बिना किसी नोटिस के ठेकेदार का ठेका रद्द कर दिया जायेगा तथा धरोहर राशि जब्त कर ली जाएगी।
- ठेकेदार एवं साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके की पूर्ण रकम आयकर विभाग को निर्धारित दर से अपने स्तर पर आयकर जमा करवाना होगा।
- ठेकेदार को मुंडन हाल में अलग से सब-मीटर बिजली की खपत के लिए लगवाना होगा व बिजली की खपत का भुगतान बिजली निगम को करने के लिए स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा। बिजली खपत के भुगतान अथवा अन्य किसी प्रकार की अनियमितता की स्थिति में मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा ठेका रद्द करके नियमानुसार कार्यवाही करने का अधिकार होगा।
- ठेकेदार मुंडन हाल के लिए रखे गये कर्मचारियों की पुलिस जांच करवाने होगी, अन्यथा ठेका रद्द कर दिया जाएगा।
- ठेकेदार मुंडन हाल किसी भी प्रकार का स्थाई/अस्थायी निर्माण नहीं करेगा। यदि करेगा तो मंदिर प्रशासन के पास उसे जब्त करने एवं तोड़ने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा।
- ठेकेदार अथवा उसके कर्मचारी द्वारा मंदिर प्रशासन की किसी सम्पदा को क्षति पहुंचाई गई तो उसकी मरपाई ठेकेदार की प्रतिभूति राशि में से कर ली जाएगी।
- ठेकेदार मुंडन हाल में किसी भी तरह की मूर्ति स्थापना नहीं करेगा तथा कोई भी जानवर पक्षी इत्यादि नहीं रखेगा।
- मुंडन का सरकारी रेट केवल 200/- रुपये (दो सौ रुपये मात्र) होगा। बाह्य मुंडन कैंची से हो उत्तरे से या मशीन से सभी cases में सरकारी रेट 200/- (दो सौ रुपये मात्र) applicable होगा। इसके अतिरिक्त मुंडन ठेकेदार को कोई अलग चार्ज लेने का अधिकार नहीं होगा। जैसा कि देखा गया है कि Acc hall में मुंडन करने की एवज में श्रद्धालुओं से सरकारी रेट से ज्यादा चार्ज किया जाता है ऐसा करना प्रतिबंधित है। किसी भी बहाने/अतिरिक्त सुविधाओं के एवज में ठेकेदार सरकारी रेट 200/- रुपये से अधिक चार्ज नहीं कर सकता। इस आदेश की अवहेलना करने पर मंदिर के पास पूर्ण अधिकार होगा कि वह ठेकेदार की प्रतिभूति राशि को जब्त करे तथा कानूनी कार्यवाही अमल में लाए।
- किसी भी विवाद की स्थिति में क्षेत्राधिकार गुरुग्राम होगा।
- मंदिर के किसी बकाया ठेकेदार को प्रत्यक्ष या परोक्ष रूप से बोली देने का अधिकार नहीं होगा।

मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी
श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड
गुरुग्राम।

Nominate Vinesh to RS in eminent persons' category, says Dushyant

PRADEEP SHARMA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11

BJP's former ally JJP today bowled a googly to the saffron party on the issue of nomination of disqualified Olympic wrestler Vinesh Phogat to the Rajya Sabha.

In an apparent bid to embarrass the ruling BJP ahead of the October Assembly poll, former Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala today urged the President and Prime Minister to

nominate the ace wrestler to Rajya Sabha as there are four vacant seats under the category of outstanding persons to be nominated to the Upper House after she completed 30 years on August 25, 2024.

"The government should nominate Vinesh to Rajya Sabha on the pattern of cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar. Vinesh will present the strong voice of women and youth in the august House," Chautala asserted. He claimed that ace

wrestlers like Vinesh should not be subjected electoral politics and rather should be nominated to the Rajya Sabha in the 'eminent persons' category. The demand for sending Vinesh to Rajya Sabha was first raised by former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda. The demand was lapped up by other Opposition parties which asserted that this would "provide" justice to the wrestler who was disqualified from the Olympics finals due to being overweight.

श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड गुरुग्राम विज्ञापन (सूचना)

श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के मंदिर में आने वाले श्रद्धालुओं को प्रशाद एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित सामग्री आदि की सुविधा उपलब्ध करवाने के लिए श्री माता मंदिर बोर्ड द्वारा बनाई गई सभी दुकानों की सहजवाजी का ठेका खुली बोली द्वारा एकमुश्त देने का निर्णय लिया गया है। जिसकी खुली बोली दिनांक 13-08-2024 (मंगलवार) को प्रातः 11:00 बजे मंदिर परिसर में की जाएगी। इच्छुक बोलीदाता को मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा निर्धारित की गई प्रतिभूति राशि 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख रुपये) मंदिर कार्यालय में बैंक ड्राफ्ट/पे-आर्डर/बैंकर चेक द्वारा श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में जमा करवाना होगा और केवल वह ही उक्त बोली देने का अधिकारी होगा। धरोहर राशि जमा करवाने का अंतिम समय दिनांक 13-08-2024 (मंगलवार) को प्रातः 10:00 बजे तक रहेगा।

| क्रमांक | नीलाम किये जाने वाले कार्यों का विवरण | सिक्वोरिटी राशि, वापिसी योग्य। | ठेके की अवधि |
|---------|---|---|--|
| 1. | प्रशाद की बिक्री के लिये मंदिर बोर्ड की सभी 65 दुकानों की नीलामी बारे। छोटी माता रोड- 24 दुकानें मंदिर मेला ग्राउन्ड- 39 दुकानें मंदिर गेट -2 के साथ- 2 दुकानें Shops site Map attached | रु 50,00,000/- (पचास लाख रुपये केवल) जो कि बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर चेक/पे-आर्डर के रूप में श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में देय होगा। | दिनांक 18-08-2024 से दिनांक 17-08-2025 तक। |

तहजवाजी के ठेके की नियम एवं शर्तें निम्न प्रकार से हैं:-
ठेके की अवधि :- दिनांक 18-08-2024 से दिनांक 17-08-2025 तक।

भुगतान संबंधी शर्तें :-

- धरोहर राशि : मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा यह निर्णय लिया गया कि तब तक की प्रतिभूति राशि रु 50,00,000/- रु (पचास लाख रुपये मात्र) मंदिर प्रशासन कार्यालय में बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर चेक/पे-आर्डर द्वारा श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम के पक्ष में जमा करवाने होगी तथा केवल वह ही बोली देने का अधिकारी होगा। उक्त धरोहर राशि दिनांक 31-12-2024 से पहले Refund नहीं की जाएगी। इच्छुक बोलीदाता धरोहर राशि दिनांक 13-08-2024 (मंगलवार) प्रातः 10:00 बजे तक किसी भी कार्य दिवस में मंदिर कार्यालय में जमा करवा सकते हैं। इसके साथ ही इच्छुक बोलीदाता को धरोहर राशि के साथ अपना पहचान पत्र तथा मोबाईल न0 के साथ देना होगा। इच्छुक बोलीदाता को बोली के समय अपने साथ केवल एक ही प्रतिभागी लाने का अधिकार होगा।
- जो बोलीदाता एक भी बोली नहीं देगा उसकी धरोहर राशि 50,00,000/- रु (पचास लाख रुपये) जब्त कर ली जाएगी।
- तहजवाजी की सभी 65 दुकानों की उच्चतम बोलीदाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का 25 प्रतिशत भाग ठेका छुटने पर 72 घंटे के अन्दर मंदिर कार्यालय में उक्त राशि जमा करवाने होगी।
- साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अगला 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 31-10-2024 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अगला 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 25-02-2025 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके की कुल राशि का अंतिम 25 प्रतिशत भाग दिनांक 15-04-2025 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- यदि साफल्य बोलीदाताओं में से प्रथम उच्चतम बोली दाता ठेके की 25 प्रतिशत राशि निर्धारित समय सीमा में जमा नहीं करवाता है तो बगैर किसी नोटिस उसकी धरोहर राशि रु 50,00,000/- रुपये जब्त कर ली जाएगी तथा यदि उसके बाद की उपरोक्तानुसार राशि उक्त तिथियों पर जमा नहीं करवाता तो उसकी तब तक की जमा राशि जब्त कर ली जाएगी और नियमानुसार क्रमशः अगले बोलीदाताओं को इसी प्रकार मौका दिया जाएगा। यदि अन्य बोलीदाता भी ठेका लेने के इच्छुक नहीं हो, तो उनकी प्रतिभूति राशि भी जब्त कर ली जाएगी एवं मंदिर प्रशासन को हक होगा कि वह इस बोली को रद्द करके पुनः बोली करवा लेवे।
- तहजवाजी की सभी दुकानों के लिए बोली का आरक्षित मूल्य रु 7,00,00,000/- रुपये (सात करोड़ रुपये मात्र) निश्चित की गई है। पिछली बोली से दो लाख रुपये से कम अगली बोली मान्य नहीं होगी। साफल्य बोलीदाता को ठेके के अंतिम निर्णय के उपरान्त रु 100/- रु के स्टॉप पेपर पर तहजवाजी के ठेके की सभी शर्तों को मानने का प्रतिभूति बन्धक पत्र नोटरी द्वारा सत्यापित करवाकर 15 दिन के अन्दर मंदिर कार्यालय को देना होगा। इसके अतिरिक्त ठेकेदार दुकानों में किसी भी प्रकार की कोई भी दुकान बोलवा सकता है। (नांस/मदिर/घुम्रान आदि के अतिरिक्त)
- यदि करोना महामारी या किसी आपदा या किसी अन्य कारण से मंदिर बंद हो जाता है तो जितने दिन मंदिर बंद रहेगा। उस समयवाधि का किराया ठेकेदार से नहीं लिया जाएगा।
- साफल्य बोलीदाता को धरोहर राशि के अतिरिक्त रु 5 लाख रुपये की प्रतिभूति राशि मंदिर कार्यालय में मंदिर परिसर को साफ सुथरा रखने, टूट-फूट की मरम्मत करवाने व बिजली की बकाया राशि की पूर्ति के लिए दिनांक 15-09-2024 तक जमा करवाना होगा।
- मुंडन प्रशासन, श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड गुरुग्राम को ठेके की राशि स्वीकार/अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार एवं शर्तों में संशोधन करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है।
- मंदिर प्रशासन के पास यह अधिकार सुरक्षित होगा कि यदि ठेकेदार की गतिविधियां मंदिर प्रशासन के अहित में एवं निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्तों के विरुद्ध पाई जाती है तो बिना किसी नोटिस के ठेकेदार का ठेका रद्द कर दिया जायेगा तथा धरोहर राशि जब्त कर ली जाएगी।
- ठेकेदार/साफल्य बोलीदाता द्वारा नियमानुसार आयकर एवं अन्य कर अपने स्तर पर जमा करवाने होंगे यदि वह ऐसा करने में असमर्थ रहता है तो इसके परिणाम के लिए वह स्वयं उत्तरदायी होगा। मंदिर प्रशासन अथवा इससे जुड़े किसी अधिकारी/कर्मचारी को इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी।
- ठेकेदार को तहजवाजी की दुकानों में अलग से सब-मीटर बिजली की खपत के लिए लगवाना होगा व बिजली की खपत का भुगतान बिजली निगम को करने के लिए स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा। बिजली खपत के भुगतान अथवा अन्य किसी प्रकार की अनियमितता की स्थिति में मंदिर प्रशासन द्वारा ठेका रद्द करके नियमानुसार कार्यवाही करने का अधिकार होगा।
- हरियाणा सरकार ने पोलिबैग का इस्तेमाल करने में पाबंदी लगाई हुई है। इसके स्थान पर ठेकेदार केवल जूट बैग में ही प्रसाद एवं अन्य सामग्री विक्रय करेगा। तहजवाजी की दुकानों में अवैध गतिविधि पर पाबन्दी रहेगी।
- ठेकेदार द्वारा तहजवाजी दुकानों पर नियुक्त किए गए दुकानदारों की पुलिस जांच करवाने होगी अन्यथा ठेका रद्द कर दिया जाएगा।
- ठेकेदार पर मेला ग्राउन्ड में किसी भी प्रकार की स्थाई/अस्थायी निर्माण पर पाबन्दी रहेगी।
- किसी भी विवाद की स्थिति में क्षेत्राधिकार गुरुग्राम होगा।
- मंदिर के किसी बकाया ठेकेदार को प्रत्यक्ष या परोक्ष रूप से बोली देने का अधिकार नहीं होगा।
- इन सभी शर्तों पर या किसी अन्य विषय पर मुख्य प्रशासक, श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड, गुरुग्राम का निर्णय अंतिम होगा।

मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी
श्री माता शीतला देवी पूजा स्थल बोर्ड,
गुरुग्राम।



BJP leaders and workers gather to cast their vote for suitable candidates at the party office in Rohtak on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

BJP holds 'opinion' poll to zero in on suitable candidates

RAVINDER SAINI TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, AUGUST 11

In a different kind of exercise, the BJP on Sunday conducted a survey at every district headquarters across the state under which local leaders and workers of the party voted to select three 'most-suitable' candidates for his/her Assembly segment in the upcoming poll.

For this exercise, the party had invited office-bearers of the state, district, mandal units and various cells of the party besides former MLA, MP, the party's representatives in urban local bodies, zila parishads and panchayat samities, etc. "The party leadership had prepared a list of all those party leaders and workers who were invited to cast their vote. A slip was printed on which everyone was to write down names of three suitable candidates with preference of first, second and third for his/her Assembly segment. After writing the names, the slip was put in a box," said an office-bearer of the BJP. He maintained the same process was adopted in all district headquarters to get the opinion of the party leaders and workers about prospective candidates. Incharges were also appointed for smooth conduct of the survey. BJP's state co-media in-charge Shamsheer Singh Kharak said the party's senior leaders took the workers' opinion about "suitable" candidates for all 90 Assembly segments in a day. "Now, the incharges of the survey at the district level will prepare their reports and submit those to the party leadership for final selection of the candidate for the Assembly poll. During the survey, the party workers also gave their suggestions in writing about their Assembly constituency concerned. On the basis of the survey's outcome, the party leadership will chalk out further strategies," Kharak added. Sources claimed that the opinion poll had been conducted to find out candidates who are liked most by the party leaders and workers of their Assembly constituency. "The number of the ticket aspirants is very high in the majority of the Assembly constituencies in the state. Hence, the party may also get a survey conducted at its level to single out winnable candidates," sources added.

Godowns filled to brim, fresh paddy crop to spell trouble for millers, govt

State has no day care centre for kids of working women

RUCHIKA M KHANNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11
A bumper paddy crop in the upcoming season should have usually sent waves of excitement in an agrarian state like Punjab, but not this time. The reason: The state faces a severe space crunch for storing the next paddy crop.

Rice millers in the state have threatened that they won't accept paddy from the government for milling when the season starts in October. The paddy that they received in the 2023 kharif marketing season has been milled and around 6 lakh tonne produce is still lying at their units. Ideally, this should have been lifted by March 31. Though the season was extended to June 30, almost 40 days later, there is little sign of the rice being shifted from their premises to the government godowns, which are filled to the brim.

"We have to incur losses as regards the quantity of pro-

PLEA TO ALLOW DUTY-FREE EXPORT

Bal Krishan Bali, president of the Punjab Basmati Rice Millers and Exporter Association, said since the granaries were overflowing and there was no space for this season's crop, the government should allow duty-free export of non-basmati rice. "This will benefit farmers. The outstanding stock can be released in the open market at a controlled rate of Rs 2,800 per quintal to ensure fair pricing and prevent market inflation," he said.



duce to be delivered. Rice loses moisture, or could face insect/pest infestation. In 2023-24, the rice millers suffered huge losses due to delay in milling of paddy. The stored paddy lost moisture and we had to buy rice from the open market to supply the exact quantity to the govern-

ment," said a rice miller from Ferozpur. It may be mentioned that for every 100 quintals of paddy given to millers, they have to ensure that 67 quintals of rice is delivered to the government agencies.

"A variety of paddy (PR 126) and some hybrid seeds being promoted by the

state government have lower rice overturn ratio from paddy (around 62 per cent). Those who got these varieties for milling also have had to buy rice from the open market to give the specified quantity to the government," said another Jalandhar-based miller.

He added since these varieties were being again promoted on a large scale for this kharif season (2024-25), they were apprehensive of losses this time too.

"Senior officials from the Food and Supply Department, led by Secretary Vikas Garg, held meetings with millers from Ludhiana and Jalandhar yesterday. We apprised him of our concerns, telling him that we won't be able to mill the paddy this year. He has assured to resolve these issues, especially of space crunch," he added.

Garg said the state government was in touch with the Centre to resolve the issue of

lack of space for storing the bumper paddy crop expected in October. "They will be moving rice stocks out of Punjab soon," he said.

Sources say with the rice consuming states themselves growing and becoming self-sufficient in paddy, there were few takers for Punjab's paddy.

"We are trying to move rice from the godowns of Punjab to other recipient states. This will start in the next one-two months, especially as the Centre has decided to sell rice under the Open Market Sales Scheme. From the next month onwards, we hope to create space for storing 20-30 metric tonne (MT) grains," Regional General Manager of the Food Corporation of India told *The Tribune*.

However, 185 LMT paddy expected in October will yield 122 LMT rice. Where that huge quantity will be stored is what is now being debated in the highest echelons of the state government.

SANJEEV SINGH BARIANA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11
Punjab does not have a single creche for "mothers with disabilities" under the Palna component of the Mission Shakti scheme started by the Ministry of Women and Child Development on April 1, 2022.

This was stated by Minister of Women and Child Development Annpurna Devi in reply to a question by MPs Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Dr Vinod Kumar, Mahendra Singh Solanki and Anurag Sharma during the Lok Sabha session that concluded on Friday.

This component of the Palna programme pertains to keeping children in anganwadis and day care centres till 5 pm. Under the other category, children are kept in the anganwadis till 12 noon during summers and till 1 pm in winters.

Former Minister of Women and Child Development Smriti Irani had launched



An anganwadi centre in Amritsar. FILE PHOTO

this initiative to help out working women by keeping their children in day care till 5 pm. The ministry introduced the extension in time to "ensure whole day childcare support ensuring their well-being in a safe and secure environment".

Talking to *The Tribune*, president of the Punjab Anganwadi Workers Association Hargobind Kaur said, "As of now, workers even in normal anganwadis are not getting their salary regularly

so it might take some time in Punjab. With more and more women from town and cities taking up jobs and changed family settings with fewer elders in company, there is a need to get this facility implemented in Punjab as well."

The number of creches for children of working women in Mizoram is 176, followed by Karnataka (164), Chandigarh (89), Nagaland (94) Assam (50) and Delhi (57). Punjab only has 143 government-aided standalone creches.



Budding players welcome their idols Mandeep and Manpreet by raising hockey sticks at Mithapur village on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

Back with bronze, hockey heroes get rousing welcome

APARNA BANERJI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MITHAPUR (JALANDHAR), AUG 11
"I'm certain we'll play final in the next Olympics," said a beaming Manpreet Singh, former captain and four-time Olympian, as he spoke to the media at the Mithapur gurdwara, his daughter tugging at the shiny bronze medal around his neck.

After paying obeisance at the Golden Temple, players Manpreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, Sukhjeet Singh and Hardik Singh reached Jalandhar, amid shouts of congratulations and shopkeepers offering them sweets and seeking autographs.

Huge posters of the Mithapur natives — Manpreet and Mandeep — were put up at the village where hockey academy players greeted

them with raised sticks and danced upon their arrival. Parents, coaches, players, seniors and village elders embraced them as Mithapur erupted in joy. It took the duo half an hour to reach the gurdwara a few metres away.

Manpreet said: "It feels great to win the second consecutive bronze. Last time (Tokyo 2021 Olympics), we won it after 41 years. And now again, we have bagged a bronze. It feels wonderful to be welcomed by so many people. In 2012, we finished last. In 2016, we finished 8th, but over the years, the team's mindset has grown strong."

Sharing his experience, Mandeep said: "We have strong belief and faith. We played 43 minutes with 10 players against Great Britain. It was a huge achievement to win that match in the Olympics."

Heavy rainfall in many areas, intensity to abate

VIJAY MOHAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11
Many parts of north-western India received widespread rain over the past 24 hours with some areas experiencing heavy to very heavy downpour. The intensity of rain is expected to reduce from tomorrow.

The current wet spell is expected to further reduce the deficiency in rainfall that Punjab is facing as well as increase inflows into crucial reservoirs in the region where the water level has also been significantly below normal.

In August so far, rain deficiency in the state stood at 23 per cent. From August 1 till the morning of August 11, the state received 51.7 mm rainfall against the long-period average of 67.1 mm for this period, according to data compiled by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Some areas in south-western Punjab remained dry over the past 24 hours.

On the other hand, monsoon precipitation is so far above the long-period average in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh by 46 per cent and 18 per cent, respectively.

The combined water level in the three dams in Himachal Pradesh is 15 per cent below normal, while it is 70 per cent below normal in the lone reservoir in Punjab.

The Thein Dam on the Ravi in Punjab is at present filled only up to 19 per cent of its total capacity, compared to the past 10-year average of 64 per cent for this time of the year, according to the Central Water Commission.

The present water level at Pong on the Beas in Himachal Pradesh is normal.



Govt. of Haryana




“हमारी सरकार युवाओं के साथ है, युवा हौसलों, युवा सपनों के साथ है। आपकी सफलता सशक्त, सक्षम और समृद्ध भारत के संकल्प को भी सिद्ध करेगी।”
- नरेन्द्र मोदी

Mhara Haryana
Non-Stop Haryana

International Youth Day Programme

August 12, 2024 | 11 AM
Parade ground, Sector 5, Panchkula

Chief Guest
Sh. Nayab Singh Saini
Chief Minister

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Department of Youth Empowerment & Entrepreneurship

Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Haryana

Government jobs given to 1.44 lakh youth in a transparent manner

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Under Saksham Yuva Yojana, ₹2,652.38 crore given to 4.30 lakh Saksham Yuva as unemployment allowance and honorarium

Shri Vishwakarma Skill University established to provide skill training to the youth

Rozgar Portal launched to provide employment opportunities to the youth of Haryana

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The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Hindenburg at it again

Market regulator SEBI's credibility at stake

OVER a year and a half after it stirred up a hornet's nest by accusing the Adani Group of pulling off 'the largest con in corporate history', US short-seller Hindenburg Research has trained its guns on the chairperson of SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India), Madhabi Buch, and her husband. Flagging conflict of interest, Hindenburg has alleged that the couple had stakes in obscure offshore funds used in the financial scandal. The insinuation is that the country's market regulator, tasked with protecting the interests of investors in securities, took its foot off the probe pedal in view of a presumably commercial relationship between the Buchs and the Adanis.

The accusation — trashed by the couple as well as the conglomerate — is provocative as the Supreme Court had in January backed SEBI to the hilt, stating that the latter was conducting a 'comprehensive investigation' into alleged manipulation of stock prices and there was no need to transfer the case to a special investigation team. The faith reposed in SEBI by the apex court had raised eyebrows; after all, had the court trusted the board unquestioningly all along, why would it have set up a separate expert panel to look into regulatory lapses in the wake of Hindenburg's January 2023 report?

At stake here is SEBI's credibility, even as knives are again out in the political arena. The Congress has reiterated its demand for a joint parliamentary committee to investigate the scam in its entirety. Repeatedly accused of going the extra mile for leading corporates, the government needs to do much better than to just allege that the main Opposition party and Hindenburg are in cahoots. Transparency is a must to clear the air; the impression that SEBI is reluctant to complete its probe in all respects ought to be dispelled. Hindenburg might not be completely above board itself, but its claims cannot be conveniently brushed aside; they need to be countered with indisputable facts. The sooner the better, failing which the government's pro-investor push will suffer a big jolt.

A nuanced approach

SC ruling on hijab balances faith, education

THE Supreme Court's decision to partially stay the Mumbai college circular banning the hijab, while upholding restrictions on the niqab and burqa, strikes a commendable balance between respecting religious sentiments and addressing the pragmatic needs of modern education. It is a nuanced attempt to reconcile cultural traditions with the demands of contemporary academic environment. This decision underscores the importance of fostering an inclusive atmosphere while maintaining discipline and uniformity within institutions. By allowing the hijab but restricting face-covering attire like the niqab and burqa, the SC has set a precedent that other institutions with similar issues would do well to follow.

The court's approach recognises that education is not just about imparting knowledge but also about ensuring that students can participate fully in the academic experience. Face coverings can inhibit interaction, an essential component of the learning process. The order supports the idea that while religious freedom is fundamental, it should not come at the expense of the educational milieu. This decision offers a template for resolving similar disputes across the country. The Karnataka hijab case, for example, could benefit from this balanced perspective. Countries like Turkey, which have historically grappled with the role of religious symbols in secular institutions, might find the Indian approach instructive.

This ruling emphasises that educational institutions should focus on empowering students rather than imposing restrictive dress codes. By navigating the fine line between tradition and modernity, the SC has taken a significant step towards ensuring that educational institutions remain inclusive, respectful and progressive spaces for all students.

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1924

Mahatma and the floods

THE statement which Mahatma Gandhi has made on the subject of the South Indian floods both in the course of a press interview and of a letter addressed by him to K Natarajan is at once an absolutely just and correct estimate of the situation created by this awful calamity, and an illuminating commentary upon the mistaken notions which so many people entertain regarding the Mahatma's attitude towards the Government. A newspaper reporter with rather more than his share of the gift of imagination and rather less than his share of the sense of truth, justice and fairness had attributed to the Mahatma the cruel and heartless statement that all that the situation demanded was that the afflicted men and women should spin, and a correspondent had improved upon the report by making the imaginary statement the subject of taunting comment. When the Mahatma's attention was drawn to the matter he said: "I never said any such thing. I have sent several telegrams to the afflicted Presidency, but in not one of them I even mentioned the word spinning or *khaddar*. I must, however, adhere to the opinion I have given that the relief is beyond the capacity of any private agency. The State alone can do it efficiently. Private aid will come in to supplement the work done by the State agency." In his letter to Natarajan, the Mahatma went a step further and humorously said that he felt like shooting the reporter when he saw the report, but as it was against his creed he subsided and believed that no sane man or woman would credit him with any such absurd remarks. "There is no mention of the wheel," he added, "in any of my wires."

How democracy collapsed in Bangladesh

Political intolerance, corruption and violence against opponents led to Hasina's downfall



GURBACHAN JAGAT
FORMER GOVERNOR, MANIPUR,
AND EX-DGP, JAMMU & KASHMIR

IN a statement made under the aegis of a group called 'VCs for Kamala', some prominent leaders of the tech industry (LinkedIn founder Reid Hoffman, Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak and Sun Microsystems co-founder Vinod Khosla) said they were united in their support for Kamala Harris in this 'pivotal moment'. "We are pro-business, pro-American dream, pro-entrepreneurship and pro-technological progress. We believe in democracy as the backbone of our nation. We believe that strong, trustworthy institutions are a feature, not a bug, and that our industry — and every other industry — would collapse without them," the group said in the statement, signed by over 700 tech leaders. This enunciates the two foundational principles on the basis of which developed countries have progressed — democracy and institutions. These are the two principles enforced strongly by men and women of courage who have fought and defeated the forces of autocracy, chaos, fascism and violence. The fight is still on and the forces of autocracy and chaos are pitted against democracy and the rule of law. Most of the institutions mandated by the constitution and parliament have stood steadfast in their duties in most of Europe and North America, although they are opposed by strong determined forces.

The 'Magna Carta Libertatum' (Latin for great charters of freedom) declared the sovereign to be subject to the 'rule of law' and documented the liberties held by 'free men', providing the foundation for individual rights in Anglo-American jurisprudence.



CHAOS: What began as student unrest was politically and administratively mishandled. PTI

Subsequently, the 'divine right of kings' was gradually taken away, leading to the establishment of democracy. It was this transition in society, where the rule of law and the empowerment of the common citizen were established, that paved the way for the creation of the great democracies. To quote former British PM Margaret Thatcher, "A country is not rich just because of its natural resources. If this were so, your country (Russia) would already be one of the richest in the world. But countries are prosperous only in so far as the system of government encourages the enterprise of the people. For it is enterprise which creates wealth... The capitalism which I support is not a free-for-all in which the powerful are able to exploit their position at the expense of fairness, decency and the common good. Capitalism can only function when there is a strong and just rule of law, to which everyone, including the government, is answerable."

To take the argument further, it can be seen that most of the developed countries have evolved over a period of time strong institutions, as mandated by their constitution and parliament. They withstood the onslaught of the two world

Democratic institutions were emasculated and could not or would not perform their duties. The streets were taken over by the cadres of the ruling party.

wars and their institutions did not flinch in the face of adversity but gained in strength and emerged victorious. On the other hand, less developed and recently independent countries might have started with the right intentions and institutions, but soon caved in to the lust for power and money, besides bigotry, and in the bargain gradually destroyed their institutions. Democracy gave way to autocracy and the dictatorship of a party or a coterie or a person so much so that the armed forces came to be looked upon as a beacon of hope and justice. The judiciary, the elected bodies, the political entities — all fell like ninepins in the face of the onslaught by the anti-democratic forces opposed to the rule of

law, forces opposed to the development of the poor and downtrodden, forces favouring the ruling party, coterie or individual.

Now coming to the country in the context of which the above has been written, Bangladesh or East Pakistan — as it was then known — had all the ingredients necessary to be a state on its own. Politically, culturally and historically, it had nothing in common with Pakistan except religion (that also was not total). However, it continued to be trampled under the iron heel of the Pakistani army, which let loose a reign of terror and massacres. The army was the court of 'first and last resort'; all other institutions had been emasculated. The people rose and formed the Mukti Bahini and a credible leader rose in the form of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Backed by the sage and courageous leadership of Indira Gandhi, Bangladesh was born. Tragedy struck at the very beginning with the assassination of the Sheikh and most of his family members in 1975. The army and the forces of autocracy began to call the shots again. Bangladesh returned to square one. However, Sheikh Hasina, with the support of her people, became the popular leader of Bangladesh. Elections were held, parliament came into

being, an elected government was formed and with this and the formation of democratic institutions, the entrepreneurial genie was released. Bangladesh started to grow economically and so did the people's standard of living. The nation started improving on most parameters of development — human and financial. At the same time, the external and internal forces of destabilisation were at work under the guidance of Pakistani intelligence agencies and extremist Islamic organisations. In order to face the onslaught of these forces, the ruling party cadres and the administrative structure also began to resort to extra-judicial measures. Gradually, a malaise set in — political intolerance, corruption, violence against opponents. More and more Opposition leaders and activists were locked up. Charges of rigging elections were levelled against the ruling party, and Opposition parties were not allowed to function freely. Democratic institutions were emasculated and could not or would not perform their duties. The streets were taken over by the cadres of the ruling party.

When the crisis came, Bangladesh had become a dictatorship bereft of independent and strong institutions. What began as student unrest was politically and administratively mishandled. Finally, Hasina ordered the police and the army to shoot down her own citizens — hundreds died, and the blood will stain her hands forever. She had to flee the country which had brought back her father to an independent Bangladesh and she waits alone in some obscure corner of Delhi for asylum somewhere. Coming back to the statement at the beginning, "we believe in democracy as the backbone of our nation. We believe that strong, trustworthy institutions are a feature, not a bug, and that our industry — and every other industry — would collapse without them..." One would just add that not just the industry, the whole nation could collapse.

The author is a member of the Tribune Trust

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A great democracy must be progressive or it will soon cease to be a great democracy. — Theodore Roosevelt

Mr Rooster's death stare

RASHMI OBEROI

MY summer vacation was spent at our family bungalow, Ahmedalli Cottage, in Kolhapur, my mother's home town. Many relatives who had nowhere to go were given refuge by my grandmother in that huge cottage, which was built in 1927. In those times, homes were built in the centre of a large walled garden, with space for children to play, families to relax and estates overflowing with flowers, fruit trees and vegetable gardens. These striking old buildings are reminiscent of a bygone era — large, single-storeyed homes with red tiled roofs, whitewashed walls, wrap-around verandahs and large manicured gardens with abundant flowers displaying a riot of colour. I was particularly fond of the mango and *jambun* trees and the *mogra* shrub growing near the front door.

These places had toilets outside the house. You could call it the outhouse, the privy, the kybo or something more. Of course, most homes had the squat toilet or the 'Indian toilet', not liked by many.

In 1967, when my parents got married, my grandmother's priority was to install the 'Western-style' toilet for my father, an Army officer. During the 1965 India-Pakistan War, he had been severely wounded in a skirmish with Pakistani soldiers in Kashmir and was taken to the Command Hospital at Pune, where the 'love in the times of war' story began with my mother. Dad had been wounded in the right leg, which had to be amputated. After a long period of recuperation and treatment, including the fitting of an artificial limb, he was presented with a choice of what to do next. He chose to remain with the infantry, determined to overcome his handicap.

Bearing this in mind, grandmother had set forth on her quest to find the perfect room and place for the Western-style pot. The longish room that was largely used as a store and also housed the chickens was the chosen place. With a great flourish, the pot was installed and put to use.

Those were exciting times for a child to share her privacy with a bunch of hens clucking around or laying a few 'golden' eggs on straw that had been placed conveniently around. But in all this mayhem, we had an issue: the problem lay with Mr Rooster, who thought he was the 'King of the Barn'. His piercing stare and loud crowing were enough to scare many to exit the barn faster than the speed of light and never return.

Mr Rooster would crow whenever he saw any kind of movement anywhere near what he considered his territory. Well, he didn't scare me a bit, and we kept up a perpetual battle of territorial claims.

"Thanks to him, I learnt the 'death stare' — I have perfected the art of giving someone the same treatment: an angry look that shows them the intensity of my annoyance and keeps the unwanted at bay!"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

B'desh haunted by ghosts of past

Refer to 'Dacca-Dhaka/1975-2024' (*The Great Game*); one couldn't help but feel a sense of déjà vu as Sheikh Hasina stepped down as the PM and fled Bangladesh in the face of growing protests. After all, who can forget the 1971 Liberation War or the coup of 1975? But those who ousted Sheikh Hasina from power do not have a clear and coherent vision for the future of Bangladesh. The group of protesters is made up of people with disparate ideologies. Now that Muhammad Yunus, a scholar of international repute and Nobel laureate, is at the helm of affairs in Dhaka, there is hope that members of minority communities will be shielded from mob violence and vandalism.

RAJ BAHADUR YADAV, FATEHABAD

Regional stability at stake

Apropos of 'Dacca-Dhaka/1975-2024'; the column has rightly underscored the need for India to tweak its strategy in the wake of the formation of a new interim government in Bangladesh. Now that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been ousted, New Delhi's focus should be on engaging deftly with the new regime. India continued to express support for the Awami League government even when the US called into question the credibility of the general elections held earlier this year that had handed Hasina another term. So, it should actively seek dialogue with the new government and offer diplomatic and economic support to the neighbour to ensure that bilateral relations do not suffer. Ensuring regional stability is the need of the hour.

CHANCHAL S MANN, UNA

Misuse of probe agencies

The grant of bail to former Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia marks a triumph of justice over political vendetta. His release from prison after 17 months is a reminder that bail should be the norm, not jail. The SC verdict is in line with a position that the court has reiterated several times — that bail should not be withheld as a form of punishment. Since the beginning, the case has raised questions about the misuse of inves-

tigative agencies, highlighting the complex interplay of politics and the judicial process. It is imperative to ensure that the law is not weaponised to target the Opposition. Sisodia's release gives hope to other AAP leaders embroiled in legal woes.

SEWA SINGH, AMRITSAR

Neeraj does it again

Javelin throwers Arshad Nadeem and Neeraj Chopra have both created history at the Olympics by winning gold and silver, respectively. This marks a high for South Asian athletes. Neeraj, who has once again won over a billion hearts, has now made it to the pantheon of the greatest athletes in the world. By clinching the silver medal this time, Neeraj has proved that his stellar performance at the Tokyo Olympics was no fluke. His success at the Games has inspired millions of budding sportspersons.

POOJA, BY MAIL

No country for girls

Refer to the story 'Jind school principal rapes Class IV student'; it is a matter of shame that in Haryana girls are not even safe in school. The incident scars the sacred relationship between a teacher and a student. When even school principals prey on vulnerable children, the much-touted government slogan of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' rings hollow. Haryana has sadly become one of the most dangerous states for women. The perpetrator must face stringent punishment.

RAJ KUMAR KAPOOR, ROPAR

Rapist must get harsh punishment

Apropos of 'Jind school principal rapes Class IV student'; the incident is a blot on the position that the culprit holds. The heinous act will shatter the faith that students have in their school authorities. Sending the disgraced principal to jail will not suffice. He deserves exemplary punishment. The incident has struck fear in the minds of youngsters. The onus is on the authorities concerned to assure the students of their safety. Besides, there is a need to overhaul the procedure to appoint headmasters or principals of schools in rural areas.

COL RS NARULA (RETD), PATIALA

Strategic outcomes of 1971 war must not be jettisoned



ASOKE MUKERJI
INDIA'S FORMER PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN

DO the recent events in Bangladesh require the jettisoning of the strategic outcomes of the December 1971 war that led to the emergence of an independent nation? What are India's broader strategic incentives in the light of these changes? At least four major strategic outcomes of the war remain relevant for India at a time when international relations are in a period of unpredictable churn.

First, the war proved the hollowness of the two-nation theory on the basis of which the British government partitioned India in August 1947. The war was triggered by the refusal of Pakistan to accept the outcome of its 1970 national elections, which had given the mandate to the Awami League, a political party based on linguistic rather than religious identity. The refusal of the Pakistan army to accept the swearing-in of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Muslim leader of the Awami League, as the Prime Minister

of Pakistan, led to the political dismemberment of Pakistan through the war.

The strategic outcome for India's interests in independent Bangladesh that emerged from East Pakistan has been acknowledged. The dramatic transformation of the India-Bangladesh bilateral relationship is credited to the 'forward-looking vision' of ousted Bangladesh Prime Minister and Awami League leader Sheikh Hasina. It is this vision that needs to be 'tied down' by India now to ensure that the genie of religion-based politics or terror does not derail India-Bangladesh relations. India has assiduously built up a range of interlocutors in Bangladesh, particularly during the past 15 years that Hasina was in power, to calibrate this effort in a coherent manner.

Second, the war proved that India could act to intervene militarily in the former East Pakistan to create "conditions of stability and wellbeing which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations" (Article 56 of the UN Charter) between India and Bangladesh. India concluded its armed campaign on December 16, 1971, and withdrew its military forces from Bangladesh by March 12, 1972, illustrating how humanitarian intervention can work in practice in international relations.

This strategic outcome has provided the foundation for



PARTNERSHIP: India has extended \$8 bn in lines of credit to Bangladesh for connectivity projects. PTI

the sustainable development of India-Bangladesh bilateral relations, particularly in the economic and security spheres. Major outcomes in recent years, apart from frequent high-level political exchanges which have been of mutual benefit to the people of both countries, illustrate this well.

Connectivity projects have made Bangladesh an important strategic partner for India's links with its north-eastern states through Bangladesh. This has had an impact on India's Act East Policy as well. About \$8 billion in three lines of credit have been extended by India to Bangladesh in recent years for specific connectivity projects. These include the construction of the Akhaura-Agartala rail link,

Ousted Bangladesh PM Hasina's 'forward-looking vision' needs to be 'tied down' by India so that the genie of religion-based politics does not derail bilateral ties.

the dredging of inland waterways in Bangladesh and the construction of an India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline for the carriage of high-speed diesel from India into Bangladesh, which was inaugurated in March 2023. As many as six pre-1965 rail links between India and Bangladesh have been reactivated, while Bangladesh's ports of Chittagong and Mongla have been made available for Indian transit cargo to North-East India.

The India-Bangladesh border, covering 4,095.7 km, is the longest land border that India shares with any of its neighbours. On the midnight of July 31, 2015, India and Bangladesh implemented their historic Land Boundary Agreement to transfer 51

erstwhile Bangladeshi enclaves in India and 111 erstwhile Indian enclaves in Bangladesh to the other country. This laid the groundwork for operationalising appropriate border management systems on both sides, including for border fencing, joint inspection of boundary pillars and joint boundary demarcation, including of riverine boundaries, which impact on security and migration issues.

In July 2014, the Hague-based Permanent Court of Attribution of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) had awarded Bangladesh an area of 19,467 sq km, four-fifth of the total area of 25,602 sq km disputed maritime boundary with India in the Bay of Bengal. India's swift acceptance of the award provided the impetus for generating mutual trust and confidence with Bangladesh. It also led to the dynamic growth of regional cooperation, with the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) establishing its Secretariat in Dhaka.

Third, following the unconditional surrender of the Pakistan army on December 16, 1971, to India, strategic conditions were created in South Asia for asserting the primacy of resolving disputes through bilateral treaty-based negotiations. The Simla Agreement, signed in July 1972 as a bilateral treaty, was negotiated

and signed by the elected governments of India and Pakistan. It was registered with the United Nations as a legal framework that can be invoked "before any organ of the United Nations" under Article 102 of the UN Charter.

This strategic outcome has served India's interests well. It has ensured that an undemocratic and unreformed UN Security Council has not succeeded in reopening the Kashmir issue after the war. India has prioritised applying bilateral frameworks to address its disputes with its neighbours rather than taking such issues into ineffective multilateral frameworks.

Fourth, the war established India's ability to act invoking the principle of 'strategic autonomy'. India put its national interests above international attempts to dictate terms to India through the UN in December 1971. The most striking illustration of this was the rebuff to the display of a nuclear-armed maritime force by the USS Enterprise in the Bay of Bengal to try and prevent India from achieving its objectives in the war.

At a time when international relations are being increasingly subjected to the dictates of major military powers, including the imposition of unilateral sanctions, 'strategic autonomy' is a strategic outcome of the 1971 war that India has a strong incentive to build upon as it transitions into a major power.

Time running out to preserve cultural heritage of Punjab



MAJGEN BALWINDER SINGH (RETD)
CONVENER, PUNJAB STATE CHAPTER, INTACH

WHY has Punjab not been able to use its cultural heritage to its advantage and boost its economy? Is it because of our disconnect with our heritage or a lack of vision on the part of successive governments?

Punjab's heritage can become a major source of attraction for tourists from all over the world if the right steps are taken at the right time. Several invaders passed through Punjab to reach the rest of India. Many wars were fought on this land. This is the land of the Sikh Gurus, who made sacrifices for the cause of humanity. Regarded as the food bowl of India, the state made a significant contribution to the struggle for Independence and suffered the most during Partition.

The cultural heritage of Punjab is so rich that many of its gems are yet to be studied by scholars and historians. Unfortunately, several heritage structures in the state are in a pathetic state. And if efforts are not initiated

immediately to conserve or restore them, they may be irretrievably damaged.

In an era marked by rapid technological advancements and globalisation, the preservation of cultural heritage has become both more challenging and more crucial than ever. Cultural heritage — encompassing tangible assets like monuments, artefacts and sites as well as intangible aspects such as traditions and languages — forms the bedrock of our collective identity. It connects us to our past, enriches our present and influences our future. Therefore, it is imperative to adopt contemporary advancements to ensure the preservation of heritage for future generations.

Cultural heritage is not just a repository of history but a living embodiment of community values, beliefs and experiences. It fosters a sense of belonging and serves as a source of inspiration. Further, it significantly contributes to economic development through tourism and mass media, enhancing social cohesion and intercultural dialogue.

The integration of contemporary advancements in cultural heritage is not just about adopting new technologies but also promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and inclusive practices. By bringing together experts from various fields, such as archaeology, material science and digital technology, we can develop a holistic approach to preservation.



STATE OF NEGLECT: Maharaja Ranjit Singh's summer palace at Dinanagar, Gurdaspur. It is imperative to identify and protect key historical sites. FILE PHOTO

Besides, it is crucial to address ethical considerations to make sure that digital and technological interventions respect the authenticity and significance of cultural heritage. By balancing innovations with traditions, we can create sustainable strategies that honour our past while embracing the future.

The need of the hour is to integrate modern elements thoughtfully into traditional settings. Modern architecture can be designed to complement historical landmarks without overshadowing them. Incorporate modern amenities and infrastructure into historical areas in a way that suits the existing architecture and ambience. This could be done using traditional building materials or designs in a new

Cultural heritage forms the bedrock of our collective identity. It connects us to our past, enriches our present and influences our future.

construction. Besides, we must preserve and restore our older buildings, which facilitate natural cooling in the horrid heat of the northern plains.

It is imperative to identify and protect key historical sites that represent the legacy of our past. There is a need to restore and maintain them by using modern techniques. Further, we should consider the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings for contemporary purposes, such as museums, cultural centres or boutique hotels. This can breathe new life into historical structures while preserving their heritage value.

We need to have a sense of pride in our culture and heritage. And we should acknowledge the importance of preserving cultural heritage. Traditions, customs,

languages and historical sites often embody the identity and values of a community or society. Punjab has the grit to overcome all the challenges and bring about a positive change.

Societies evolve, and modernisation often brings progress in terms of technology, infrastructure, healthcare and education facilities. We should embrace these advancements to improve the quality of life and meet the current challenges. Frame policies that balance development goals with heritage preservation. This might take the form of zoning laws, heritage protection regulations and incentives for the adaptive reuse of historical buildings. Implement modernisation projects that are sustainable and environment-friendly. And use green technologies and practices to minimise the impact on heritage sites and their surroundings.

Letting local communities have a say in decisions related to the development of these sites will be a step in the right direction. Their inputs can ensure that modernisation efforts are made while taking into consideration our cultural values and traditions. The impact of modernisation on heritage sites and traditions will have to be regularly assessed. Policies and practices must be adjusted to maintain balance. It can help society make sure that modernisation enhances

our cultural heritage instead of diminishing it. Notably, the originality of the Jallianwala Bagh got compromised to an extent during the restoration of the memorial three years ago.

The government must come up with an awareness campaign that targets students in schools and colleges. Organising events that celebrate local traditions and culture at educational institutions will not only help preserve our heritage but also encourage tourism and economic development.

By taking these measures, society can navigate the complex interplay between heritage and modernisation, so that both aspects contribute to a vibrant and sustainable future. Maintaining a balance is crucial for preserving cultural identity while progressing with the times.

Volunteers of INTACH, working at the state and district levels, possess expertise in preservation and conservation. The government must take full advantage of it.

Preserving our cultural heritage in the face of modern challenges requires a forward-thinking approach that harnesses contemporary advancements. By embracing digital technologies, data analytics, material science and community engagement, we can protect and celebrate our shared heritage. It is our collective responsibility to safeguard the cultural treasures that define us.

QUICK CROSSWORD | SU DO KU | FORECAST

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Mass meeting of supporters (5)
- An anticlimactic happening (3-5)
- Extreme suffering (5)
- A subsidiary activity (8)
- Assurance of manner (5)
- Write (3)
- In abundance (6)
- Snobbish (6)
- To chatter (3)
- A limbless reptile (5)
- Reactionary minority (4,4)
- Obstinately intolerant believer (5)
- Justice (4,4)
- Landing pier (5)

DOWN

- Practically (2,4,2)
- Remote chance of success (4,4)
- Submissive (6)
- Nervous excitement (5)
- Worth (5)
- Precipitous (5)
- Fix at predetermined rate (3)
- Gist (3)
- Start shooting (4,4)
- Place under surveillance (5,3)
- In foreign countries (6)
- Make sore by rubbing (5)
- In weak health (5)
- Opportunity for action (5)

Saturday's solution

Across: 1 Spell it out, 6 Mars, 10 Fatal, 11 Credulity, 12 Perceive, 13 Tough, 15 Ruinous, 17 Somehow, 19 Tempted, 21 Mariner, 22 Eight, 24 Contrast, 27 Obstinacy, 28 Fight, 29 Fool, 30 Dead letter.

Down: 1 Soft, 2 Extremism, 3 Lilac, 4 Tactics, 5 Useless, 7 Adieu, 8 Say the word, 9 Customer, 14 Written off, 16 Outstrip, 18 Hindsight, 20 Dictate, 21 Moneyed, 23 Gusto, 25 Rifle, 26 Star.

SU DO KU

SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

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

V. EASY

FORECAST

| CITY | MAX | MIN |
|------------|-----|-----|
| Chandigarh | 33 | 26 |
| New Delhi | 33 | 26 |
| Amritsar | 33 | 27 |
| Bathinda | 33 | 27 |
| Jalandhar | 33 | 27 |
| Ludhiana | 33 | 27 |
| Bhiwani | 31 | 27 |
| Hisar | 33 | 27 |
| Sirsa | 34 | 28 |
| Dharamsala | 27 | 19 |
| Manali | 25 | 16 |
| Shimla | 24 | 17 |
| Srinagar | 30 | 18 |
| Jammu | 32 | 24 |
| Kargil | 35 | 19 |
| Leh | 30 | 13 |
| Dehradun | 32 | 23 |
| Mussoorie | 21 | 17 |

CALENDAR

AUGUST 12, 2024, MONDAY

- Shaka Samvat 1946
- Shravan Shaka 21
- Shravan Parvishite 28
- Hijari 1446
- Shukla Paksha Tithi 7, up to 7.56 am
- Shukla Yoga up to 4.26 pm
- Swati Nakshatra up to 8.33 am
- Moon enters Scorpio sign 4.15 am

TEMPERATURE IN °C

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Mass meeting of supporters (5)
- An anticlimactic happening (3-5)
- Extreme suffering (5)
- A subsidiary activity (8)
- Assurance of manner (5)
- Write (3)
- In abundance (6)
- Snobbish (6)
- To chatter (3)
- A limbless reptile (5)
- Reactionary minority (4,4)
- Obstinately intolerant believer (5)
- Justice (4,4)
- Landing pier (5)

DOWN

- Practically (2,4,2)
- Remote chance of success (4,4)
- Submissive (6)
- Nervous excitement (5)
- Worth (5)
- Precipitous (5)
- Fix at predetermined rate (3)
- Gist (3)
- Start shooting (4,4)
- Place under surveillance (5,3)
- In foreign countries (6)
- Make sore by rubbing (5)
- In weak health (5)
- Opportunity for action (5)

Saturday's solution

Across: 1 Spell it out, 6 Mars, 10 Fatal, 11 Credulity, 12 Perceive, 13 Tough, 15 Ruinous, 17 Somehow, 19 Tempted, 21 Mariner, 22 Eight, 24 Contrast, 27 Obstinacy, 28 Fight, 29 Fool, 30 Dead letter.

Down: 1 Soft, 2 Extremism, 3 Lilac, 4 Tactics, 5 Useless, 7 Adieu, 8 Say the word, 9 Customer, 14 Written off, 16 Outstrip, 18 Hindsight, 20 Dictate, 21 Moneyed, 23 Gusto, 25 Rifle, 26 Star.

5 migrant labourers killed in Una flashflood

LALIT MOHAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, AUGUST 11
Over Rs 100 crore damage was caused to Bathu Bathri industrial area in Una district today due to a flashflood in local rivulet. Sources said that after heavy rain throughout the night, local rivulet in Bathu Bathri area of Una witnessed a flashflood. About five migrant labourers living in a slum near the rivulet were killed after being trapped in flashflood. Till the filing of this report three dead bodies were retrieved by the Una district administration. Water entered the industrial units located along the rivulet and caused massive damage. The sources said that maximum damage was caused in Vardhman Industries, Preetika Auto industries, Uphar Cable and Esccon industry. Besides, many small scale units were inundated in the flashflood.

Joint Director Industries, Anshul Dhiman, who reached the affected industrial area, said the flashflood in Bathu Bathri rivulet caused massive damage to public and private infrastructure in the area. "A damage of

3 bodies recovered, ₹100 crore damage estimated to industrial units



Swollen rivulet caused massive damage to Bathu Bathri industrial units in Una district. TRIBUNE PHOTO: KAMAL JEET

about Rs 100 crore has been caused in the Bathu Bathri industrial area. We are trying to help the affected industri-

al areas," he said. Dhiman also said that five deaths were reported in the flashflood. The deceased

were the migrant labourers living in slum area along the Bathu Bathri rivulet.

Rakesh Kaushal, president of the Tahliwal, Bathu Bathri industrial association, said that massive damage has been caused as water inundated many industrial units in the area following flashflood in a local rivulet. "We had been demanding that the Bathu Bathri rivulet that passes through the industrial area should be channelised. Though most of the tributaries of Swan river in the area have been channelised, the rivulets in industrial area have not been channelised. We are again making demand from the government that Bathu Bathri rivulet should channelised so that the no such incident happens in future," he said.

Kaushal also alleged that the local rivulet changed courses due to illegal mining in the area.

Bathu Bathri area falls in the Assembly constituency of Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri. When asked, Agnihotri said that NDRF teams have been requested to help in the rescue operations.



Boulders fell on the Chandigarh- Shimla highway on Sunday.

Heavy rain hampers traffic at Chakki Mor

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, AUGUST 11

Vehicular traffic got disrupted at Chakki Mor on the Parwanoo-Dharampur section of the national highway-5 today as boulders and muck fell from the hill following incessant rain.

The vehicles moved at a snail's pace near Chakki Mor as traffic was diverted to two lanes.

Solan Additional Deputy Commissioner Ajay Yadav said there was partial disruption at Chakki Mor and the traffic

movement was restored.

Apart from this, a pucca house owned by Beena Devi in Dhalli village of Kandaghat was damaged after boulders and muck fell on the roof causing widespread damage.

In another incident, a cow died after a boulder fell on it at Jobi village in Ramshehar of Nalagarh sub-division following heavy downpour.

Three roads, including Ramshehar - Sunna Nerli, Ramshehar - Dharamana and Ramshehar - Chandar faced traffic disruptions due to landslides in Nalagarh.

Portion of Matour-Shimla four-lane road washed away

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, AUGUST 11

A portion of under construction Matour-Shimla four-lane road was washed away near Ranital, about 30 kilometres from Dharamsala. Two lanes of the four lane road near Ranital were washed away in the morning hours after heavy rains throughout the night in Kangra region. Sources here said that road got washed away as the old retaining wall with the support of which was standing gave away.

The debris from the damaged portion of road fell over the track of narrow-gauge Pathankot Joginder-nagar railway line. The rail services over the track had already been suspended due to monsoons. However,



The Shimla -Matour road damaged due to heavy rain on Sunday.

the damage to the track may delay the resumption of train services to the region, the sources available here said.

Despite damage to the portion of national highway, the traffic was not disrupted as remaining two lanes of national highway were still intact.

Heavy rains in the region submerged many areas of Kangra town. The blocked drainage led to inundation of roads and streets in Kangra town. The drains in Kangra town have been encroached by people that leads to drainage of rain water after heavy rains.

Markanda swells, 8 family members rescued from island after 13 hours in Sirmaur district

PANKAJ SHARMA

NAHAN, AUGUST 11

Eight members of a Gujjar family remained stranded for 13 hours on a small island near Kolar in Sirmaur district on Saturday night after heavy rain in the region led to a sudden rise in the water level of the Markanda.

The trapped family somehow managed to inform the locals via cellphone about their precarious situation. The residents, in turn, alerted the authorities.

As water level was high at night, the rescue operation was put on hold by the authorities concerned.

Today afternoon, an earth mover was pressed into the service to rescue the eight individuals from the island.



LAND ALLOTTED IN APRIL

■ As water level was high at night, the rescue operation was put on hold by the district authorities

■ The rescued persons said the government had allotted them land in April

■ Nahans SDM said the SDRF was also summoned, but they rescued the family before they arrived

<< The authorities rescue people from the Markanda on Sunday.

Recounting their harrowing experience, the rescued persons said water level in the Markanda rose suddenly around midnight.

They stated that they had recently started living in the area after the government

allotted them land in April.

The residents raised concerns over allocation of land to Gujjar families in the flood-prone area by the government.

They pointed out that even light rain causes the

Markanda's water level to rise significantly, thus making it unsafe for anyone to reside at such a location.

The locals urged the authorities to relocate the Gujjar families to safer areas at the earliest.

Nahan Sub-Divisional Magistrate Salim Azam said the administration had received information about the trapped individuals, after which a team was dispatched to the site.

He said a team of the State Disaster Response Force was also summoned, but the family was rescued before their arrival. Azam added that the family's livestock are still stranded on the island and efforts were underway to rescue them. He assured that necessary steps would be taken to enhance the safety of residents in the area.

As the India Meteorological Department issued alert for heavy rain, the district administration has urged the residents to remain vigilant.

Heavy rain, cloudbursts disrupt life in Kinnaur

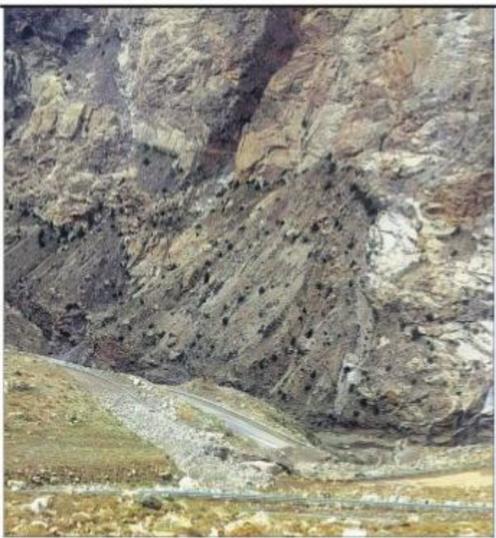
ASHISH NEGI

KINNAUR, AUGUST 11

Khab, Ka, Hango, Leo and other areas in Kinnaur have been severely affected by heavy rainfall and cloudbursts, disrupting daily life. The Pooh- Kaurik National Highway has been blocked, resulting a lot of inconvenience to residents.

Kinnaur's upper areas, known as the cold desert, are experiencing widespread landslides due to the intense rainfall. Heavy landslides on the Leo and Hango connecting roads have completely blocked traffic. A cloudburst occurred last evening on the confluence of the Sutlej and Spiti rivers in Khab, damaging the National Highway.

Authorities have advised people to maintain a safe distance from the Sutlej river as water levels have risen due to the flushing operations conducted at the Nathpa Jhakri hydro power station. The Northern Region Load Dispatch Centre of the Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station



A cloudburst occurred at the confluence of the Sutlej and Spiti rivers in Khab, damaging the National Highway in Kinnaur. TRIBUNE PHOTO

carried out a scheduled flushing of the upstream 1000 MW Karcham Wangtoo HPS and 300 MW Baspa HPS. Approximately 1500 cumecs of water are being released from the

Nathpa Dam.

As part of the planned flushing activities, the public has been urged to avoid going near the banks of the Sutlej river starting on the

WATER DISCHARGE FROM NATHPA DAM

■ People have been advised to maintain a safe distance from the Sutlej river as water levels have risen due to the flushing operations conducted at the Nathpa Jhakri hydro power station.

■ The Northern Region Load Dispatch Centre of the Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station carried out flushing of the upstream 1,000 MW Karcham Wangtoo power station and 300 MW Baspa power station. Approximately 1,500 cumecs of water is being released from the Nathpa Dam.

■ The PWD has deployed JCB machines at several locations to clear the roads and efforts are on to restore road connectivity.

night of August 10. The administration has advised people to maintain a minimum distance of 50 to 100 metres from the banks of the Sutlej and other near-

by rivers and streams. Authorities have been instructed to ensure adequate safety measures and public awareness in areas near the riverbanks.

Several roads in the Kinnaur district have been blocked due to landslides and flashfloods caused by recent heavy rains. The National Highway NH-05, particularly the stretch from Pooh to Kaurik, has been affected by multiple landslides and flashfloods at various locations.

Three link roads each are blocked in Kalpa and one in Nichar divisions. Apart from the national highway, five link roads are also blocked in Pooh division.

The PWD has deployed JCB machines at several locations to clear the roads and efforts are on to restore connectivity.

Local authorities have advised residents and travellers to remain cautious and avoid non-essential travel in the affected areas until the roads are cleared.

Spells of heavy rain to continue

SHIMLA, AUGUST 11

Having endured widespread and devastating rainfall since Saturday evening, the state is likely to continue receiving isolated spells of heavy rain over the next few days. Besides, the department has warned of the possibility of more flashfloods in the districts of Bilaspur, Chamba, Kangra, Kinnaur, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmaur and Solan

districts on Monday as well.

Following heavy rains at several places, especially in the districts of Sirmaur, Kangra, Una and Bilaspur; several incidents of landslides and flashfloods have been recorded across the state. Apart from the loss of human life in Una, several roads have been closed, cowsheds and kutcha houses and apple orchards have been damaged. —TNS

RAIN SINCE SATURDAY

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Nahan | 200mm |
| Renukaji | 140mm |
| Una | 130mm |
| Paonta Sahib | 110mm |
| Kangra | 90mm |
| Palampur | 80mm |
| Dehra Gopipur | 70mm |
| Ghamroor | 70mm |
| Pachhad | 70mm |
| Bajjnath | 70mm |

Sirmaur's braveheart dies in Anantnag encounter

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NAHAN, AUGUST 11
Lance Naik Parveen Sharma, 26, from Palu village in Rajgarh subdivision of Sirmaur district lost his life after an encounter broke out with the terrorists in the dense forests of Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday afternoon.

Praveen served in 1 Para Special Force, which is known for its expertise in undertaking the most dangerous operations.

The Indian Army delivered the devastating news to his family yesterday evening. Even the district administration reached out to Praveen's family. The entire Palu village plunged into collective grief after hearing about the demise of a braveheart.

Efforts to retrieve the body from the dense forest



Lance Naik Parveen Sharma

Britishers in Sirmaur.

Sirmaur Deputy Commissioner Sumit Khimta said the Army had already informed the family. Praveen's last rites would be conducted with military and state honours at Palu village.

The state government and local representatives have expressed their deepest condolences to the family and offered support.

Praveen's parents — Rekha Sharma and Rajesh Sharma — were preparing for his wedding, which was just a few months away.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu expressed condolences to the family of Lance Naik Parveen Sharma. The Chief Minister said the state government was standing with the bereaved family in this hour of grief and assured all possible help to them.

₹22 crore investment to boost fish production: Govt

SHIMLA, AUGUST 11

From January 2023 to June 2024, the state's fisheries sector has witnessed the production of approximately 21,000 metric ton of fish.

"With an investment of Rs 22.66 crore, several projects aimed at modernising and

expanding the fisheries sector are being implemented. These include 258 new trout units, 20 fishery kiosks, six fish feed plants (both large and small), 47 biofloc units,

two cold storage facilities, two ice factories, four re-circulating aquaculture sys-

tems, two ornamental fish units and four working trout hatcheries in the private sector," said a government spokesperson.

He further said that in line with Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's budget announcements, new ponds

were being constructed over an area of 25 hectares. "These new water bodies were expected to further augment the state's fisheries activities, paving the way for increased output and greater economic returns," said the spokesperson.

The spokesperson said that

428 fishermen had been given subsidies for purchasing boats and nets. "The state has provided air-conditioned vehicles, motorcycles equipped with ice boxes and three-wheelers with ice boxes to fishermen and entrepreneurs," said the spokesperson. — TNS

Civilian dies, Anantnag gunfight toll 3

2 Army men killed on Saturday | Search operation also underway in Doda-Bhaderwah

ADIL AKHZER

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 11
As the fierce encounter between militants and security forces in the upper reaches of south Kashmir's Anantnag continued for a second day on Sunday, the death toll in the operation rose to three as an injured civilian succumbed to injuries, officials said.

The encounter began during a cordon and search operation on Saturday afternoon in the remote Ahlan Gagarmandu forest of Kokernag at an altitude of 10,000 ft.

As the operation entered the second day, top police officers rushed to Anantnag, with sources maintaining that the security forces have launched a massive search operation in the Doda-Bhaderwah region, which is connected to Anantnag through forests.

Security officers suspect that the group of militants may attempt to enter Doda belt again.

VK Birdi, Inspector General of Police, Kashmir Zone was among the top police officers who reached Anantnag district on Sunday morning. He said an intensive search operation



Security personnel during an encounter with terrorists in an Anantnag forest area on Sunday. PTI

ation was going on in the upper reaches of Gagarmandu forests.

He said two soldiers attained martyrdom, while the third was undergoing treatment and is said to be stable now. Besides, one of the civilians succumbed to the injuries, while another is stable and undergoing treatment.

Responding to a question about the possible involve-

ment of civilians with militants, the IGP said the presence of two men close to the encounter site was being investigated.

He said it was premature to say if the group came from the Doda region and entered Kashmir. "But the area is close to the border district of Doda. This information can be shared only after the operation concludes," he said,

adding that it is suspected that it was a group of two to three militants.

Police sources told The Tribune that there had been no fresh contact with the militants' groups and a massive search operation was underway. They stated that injuries to security forces and civilians took place during the initial contact with militants. "The security forces are pro-

ceeding cautiously as the area is located in the mountains and the terrain is extremely difficult," said one of them.

Residents of nearby villages claimed that the Army had taken some of the villagers along with them on Sunday morning. "Several civilians were taken by the Army this morning. Many have returned home by evening," said Javaid Ahmad, a villager.

Locals further said the deceased civilian was among the group of people, who usually shift to mountains during summers along with their cattle and live in mud houses.

Meanwhile, Srinagar-based defence spokesperson Lt Col MK Sahu could not be contacted.

Srinagar-based Chinar Corps on Sunday said it salutes the "supreme sacrifice" of bravehearts Havalder Dipak Kumar Yadav and Lance Naik Praveen Sharma, who "laid down their lives in the line of duty in Anantnag." "Chinar Warriors salute their immense valour and sacrifice, express deepest condolences and stand in solidarity with the bereaved families," Chinar Corps wrote on X.

Brief encounter in Kishtwar, hunt on to track down ultras

ARJUN SHARMA

JAMMU, AUGUST 11
An encounter took place between terrorists and security forces in the forest area of Kishtwar early on Sunday, following which search operations have been launched in the area as the ultras fled the spot.

The gunfight began after the police, Army and the CRPF laid a cordon upon receiving information about the presence of at least two to three ultras in the forest area in the district.

The terrorists opened fire on the security forces as the latter started a search operation in Peyaas, Naagseni. A spokesperson of the police said, "A brief exchange of fire took place between terrorists and security forces in an area under the Kishtwar police station, and a search operation is going on."

The security forces had already made elaborate security arrangements in view of the ongoing Machail Mata pilgrimage in the district. An official said the encounter had no impact on the Machail

| ANOTHER GUNFIGHT IN UDHAMPUR | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brief gunfight took place between terrorists and security forces in the Khaned forest area of Basantgarh in Udhampur district on Sunday evening. The group of three to four terrorists is allegedly moving in the area for past one week, and contact was established with them | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> even a few days ago. The Army and the police have cordoned off the area, due to which the ultras are finding it difficult to escape. A senior police official said search operations were underway, and there was no report of any injuries during the encounter. |

yatra as the route was secured and no anti-national element could reach near the pilgrims. It has been learnt that the pilgrimage was halted for some time soon after the encounter, but was resumed later.

Terrorist activities were witnessed in the adjoining Doda district, but Kishtwar was comparatively peaceful for the past sometime.

Meanwhile, a day after the Kathua police released the sketches of four terrorists believed to be behind the July 8 ambush on two Army vehicles in Machedi area, in which five soldiers were killed, the police have further shared information about the

weapons they are carrying. According to the police, three terrorists are carrying AK-47, one is carrying US made M-4 carbine, which has been rampantly used against the security forces in recent times in J&K.

The interrogation of overground workers, who helped the terrorists, and residents who have seen them moving in the area revealed that these terrorists were aged between 25 and 32 years. They spoke Urdu and another language (not understood by the locals). Besides the height of the four terrorists is between 5.8 feet to 6 feet. A reward of Rs 5 lakh has been announced on each accused.

Village defence guards to be strengthened: DGP

ARJUN SHARMA

JAMMU, AUGUST 11
To strengthen the counter-infiltration grid along the International Border (IB) in Jammu region, the UT police will strengthen village defence guards (VDGs) by providing them night vision devices and modern guns.

Top police officials, including Director General of Police (DGP) RR Swain and Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anand Jain, met youth who are VDGs in Kathua, Samba and Jammu district and discussed the current security scenario in the Jammu region.

The youth were assured that they would soon be provided with better gadgets to detect any movement in their villages at night, and semi-automatic weapons against their current 303 rifles.

RR Swain said a new strength would be infused in the anti-infiltration grid of the Kathua-Samba stretch with the help of the local residents.

He said optimum results in the anti-infiltration grid could not be achieved without the

public's participation. "Even in the past, residents of these areas have stood against the anti-national forces and coordinated with the security forces to defeat the evil designs of the enemy," the DGP said.

There has been an increase in infiltrations from the IB recently. After entering from the border, terrorists move to the higher reaches of Kathua, Udhampur, Doda and Reasi among other districts.

The DGP said, "We held an interaction with the youth of the border villages and we have decided that new equipment like night vision devices and better weapons will be provided to the VDGs. We also informed them that if there are demonstrative efforts by members of these groups, they will be inducted in the police as SPOs as per rules."

He said the residents in the border areas would work in coordination with the police and the BSF. "The SOPs cannot be discussed in the public, but the VDGs, will become a new strength in operations against infiltrators," he added.

Stand together against divisive forces: Farooq

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 11
Jammu and Kashmir National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday emphasised the importance of unity among people, urging people to stand together against those who seek to divide them.

Abdullah, former Chief Minister, made these comments while presiding over a meeting with party members in Kishtwar. "Unity is crucial for growth and advancement, as emphasized in Islam's teachings of respecting others' faiths," he stressed while highlighting the need to move beyond labels of religions, saying our adversities thrive on our disunity.

"The challenges of unemployment, inflation, and lack of accountability can only be overcome through unity. As the upcoming elections approach, wise decisions must be made to keep communal forces at bay and uphold the sanctity of democracy. Unity is our strength, and it is essential to stand together against those who seek to divide us," he added.



A portion of the Durangali bridge was washed away after heavy rain in Poonch on Sunday. PTI

Bridge partially washed away in Poonch

JAMMU, AUGUST 11
A bridge connecting Mandi tehsil with the National Highway was partially washed away by heavy rain in Poonch district, forcing the authorities to suspend traffic, officials said on Sunday.

The repair work on the damaged portion of the Drungali Nala bridge has begun and every effort will be made to complete the repairs before the upcoming Chhadi Yatra festival, Additional Deputy Commissioner Tahir Mustafa Malik said.

The ADC, who along with

Officer-in-charge, GREF, MK Sharma visited the site to assess the situation, said the Chhadi Yatra is a significant religious event, and the restoration of the bridge is crucial to facilitate the movement of devotees.

"As long as the bridge is being repaired, everyone should go through the adjacent Bandichechan bridge only," he said.

Heavy rains lashed several parts of the Jammu region overnight, resulting in a rise in the level of water bodies. According to the MeT Depart-

ment, the Kathua district recorded 77 mm of rainfall, Jammu 71 mm and Samba 59.6 mm during the last 24 hours, ending 5.30 pm. Katra received a rainfall of 51 mm during this period.

The weathermen have predicted wet weather in most parts of the UT till August 18 with intense showers for brief periods with the possibility of flash floods or landslides in vulnerable places. They said there will be an increase in rainfall in the Jammu division from August 14 onwards. — PTI

Pak pushing trained ultras into J&K: L-G

JAMMU, AUGUST 11

Pakistan has been pushing highly trained foreign terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir to destabilise its security, Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha claimed on Sunday. He said a strategy had been formulated and security forces were being redeployed to foil the neighbouring country's nefarious designs.

In an interview with PTI, he asserted that there would be a "big change in the situation in the next three months."

The Jammu region, previously known for its peaceful atmosphere, has seen a surge in terror incidents. Attacks on an IAF convoy, a pilgrim bus and the killing of soldiers in Kathua during the last few months have raised security concerns in the UT.

On Saturday, two soldiers were killed during an encounter in Anantnag, while an injured civilian died on Sunday. Pointing to the terror incidents in the Jammu region, Sinha said, "We acknowledge the incidents and want to assure the people

of J&K and the country that these incidents will definitely be controlled. The neighbouring country will not succeed in its evil designs."

"Pakistan is the birthplace of terrorism, it emanates from there. India and the Jammu and Kashmir administration are making concerted efforts to counter it, with several other countries also contributing to these efforts," he said.

The L-G exuded full faith in the Army, CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police in controlling the situation, and said, "You will see a big change in the coming three months."

"The neighbouring country is pushing in foreign terrorists to spoil the situation here. Considering previous incidents, security forces and the administration have formulated a strategy. Redeployment of forces has started... Deployment of army, CRPF, and police personnel has increased," Sinha said.

"The (Union) Home Minister has reviewed the strategy. I feel better results will be seen in the region in the coming days," he said. — PTI

Opp demands JPC...

regarding a quid-pro-quo involving the Sebi chief," he said in a post on X.

The BJP dismissed the allegations, accusing the Opposition of being a part of a conspiracy to create financial instability in India. Former Union minister Rajeev Chaudhary said Hindenburg had attacked Sebi in an "obvious partnership with the Congress and has an ominous motive and goal to destabilise and discredit India, one of the world's fastest growing economies".

LoP Rahul Gandhi said, "The integrity of Sebi, the securities market regulator entrusted with safeguarding the interests of small investors, has been gravely compromised." He questioned why Buch had not resigned yet. "Honest investors across the country have pressing questions for the government. If they lose their hard-earned money, who will be held accountable — PM Modi, Sebi chairperson or Gautam Adani? Will the Supreme Court look into this matter suo moto once again?" he posted on X.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the Sebi account on X was "locked" and inaccessible to the public. "The 'Modani' scandal has been brewing for many months," he said.

Attack on Sebi's integrity, bid to...

available information to arrive at pre-determined conclusions for personal profiteering with wanton disregard for facts and the law." It was a calculated and deliberate effort to malign our standing, the group said.

The statement by the Buchs described the insinuations about their financial status and investments, especially in relation to Madhabi's current salary from Sebi, as "malicious and motivated". The release said from 2010 to 2019, Dhaval Buch lived in London and Singapore while working with Unilever. Madhabi also lived and worked in Singapore from 2011 to March 2017, first as an employee of a private equity firm and later as a consultant. The couple clarified that their investments in the fund mentioned (IPE Plus Fund 1) by Hindenburg was made in 2015 when they both were private citizens residing in Singapore, nearly two years before Madhabi joined Sebi.

According to the statement, their decision to invest in the fund was based on the fact that chief investment officer Anil Ahuja was a long-time friend of Dhaval's from school and IIT Delhi. The statement said, "When in 2018, Ahuja left his posi-

tion as CIO of the fund, we redeemed the investment." At no point did the fund invest in any bonds, equities or derivatives of any Adani Group company.

The release addressed Dhaval's appointment as a senior adviser to Blackstone Private Equity in 2019. The couple clarified this role was due to Dhaval's expertise in supply chain management and was publicly known long before Madhabi became Sebi Chairperson. "On his appointment, Blackstone Group was immediately added to Madhabi's 'recusal list' maintained with Sebi," the statement said, ensuring there was no conflict of interest.

The couple rejected insinuations that any regulations related to the REIT industry were favours to specific parties, labelling these claims as "malicious and motivated". The statement also touched on two consulting companies Madhabi had set up during her time in Singapore. "These companies became immediately dormant on her appointment with Sebi, and all relevant disclosures were made to Sebi," the statement read. Dhaval retired from

Unilever in 2019, but continued his consultancy practice through these companies, working with prominent clients in India.

The couple's statement said Hindenburg chose to attack their credibility instead of responding to the show-cause notice served to it for various violations in India. "It is unfortunate that instead of replying to the notice, they have chosen to attack the credibility of Sebi and attempt character assassination of the Chairperson".

Meanwhile, fund management company 360 ONE Asset Management also filed its version with the BSE and the NSE, saying the IPE Plus Fund 1 was a fully compliant and regulated fund. It was launched in October 2013 and operated until October 2019. "Throughout the fund's tenure, it made zero investment in any shares of the Adani Group either directly or indirectly through any fund," it said.

"No investor had any involvement in the fund's operations or investment decisions and Madhabi Buch and Dhaval Buch's holdings in the fund were less than 1.5 per cent of the total inflow," it added.

70K BSF personnel on standby...

been handled peacefully, another senior official confirmed to The Tribune.

Referring to the August 9 incident, when around 1,700 Bangladeshi nationals came near the Indian border in Bengal's Cooch Behar sector via a rivulet, the BSF officials said it was a "peaceful" incident, as they were neither armed nor had they tried to enter forcefully.

"These incidents cannot be

termed infiltrations, which are armed and forced. However, reinforcements are in place around the Eastern Command near the Bangladesh border to counter infiltration attempts," said the official. Sources, however, admitted the BSF had a hard time pushing back Bangladeshi nationals with the help of BGB officials.

On the morning of August 9, a group of 10 to 15

Bangladeshis, all Hindus, had tried to enter India near the border village of Bhogdanga in Assam's Dhubri district, but they were turned away under the protection of the BGB, the sources added.

The Chief Ministers of Assam and Tripura had already stated their borders had been secured and no one had entered their territories from the neighbouring country.

Drugs worth ₹12 lakh seized from train in Jammu

Jammu: More than 10 kg of ganja worth over Rs 12 lakh and a pistol were seized from a train here on Sunday, an official said. The recovery was made during a surprise checking of a Jammu-bound train soon after it arrived at a railway station here, the Government Railway Police official said. He said a case under various sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and Arms Act has been registered at the police station railway, Jammu. No arrests have been made so far. PTI

PM unveils...

Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the PM's resolve was to increase the income of farmers, increase production and reduce cost. "The public should get nutritious agricultural products, which keep the body healthy. This is a wonderful example of 'lab to land' under which these new varieties are being dedicated to the nation and farmers under the leadership of the PM Modi. The Central Government is committed to realising the vision of India becoming the food basket of the world," Chouhan said.

Karnal scientists behind barley variety

Dr Ratan Tiwari, Director, IIWBR. The average yield of the variety, said Dr Om Vir Singh, in charge of the barley division of the institute, was 54.49 quintals per hectare and took only 132 days to mature. The average yield of other varieties was 50 quintals per hectare and matured in nearly 140 days. DWRB-219 had superior malt quality and was resistant to rust, a common disease. It was moderately tolerant to lodging and contained a protein content of 11.4 per cent. "This two-row variety is suitable for malt purposes and farmers can get good returns as it promises higher yields, better disease resistance and improved quality," he said, adding November was the best time to sow it.

"Our principal scientists, including Dr Lokendra Singh, Dr Joginder Singh, Dr Chuni Lal and Dr RPS Verma took nine years to develop this variety," he added. Meanwhile, the IIWBR, which is also a nodal centre of the All India Coordinated Research Project on Wheat and Barley at the national level, has recommended the newly released wheat varieties, HI-1665 (known as Pusa Gehun Shabati) and Pusa Gehun Gaurav HI-8840 developed by the ICAR-IARI Regional Station, Indore. HI-1665, also known as Pusa

Gehun Shabati, is one such variety with high yield, superior grain quality and can be classified as a biofortified variety. "It can be cultivated in MP, Maharashtra, and Karnataka. It is suitable for timely sown conditions along with restricted irrigation. The average yield is 33 quintals per hectare and matures in 110 days. It is tolerant to heat and drought and is bio-fortified with higher grain zinc content," said IIWBR Director. Recommended for Maharashtra, Karnataka and plains of Tamil Nadu, HI-8840 had average grain yield of 30.2 quintals per hectare and was resistant to stem and leaf rusts, he added.

FROM PAGE 1

Judge-less courts not feasible, says Justice Kant on role of AI

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11
Judge-less courts were neither feasible, nor desirable as adjudication requires nuanced understanding of complex legal issues, human emotions, societal values and intricate application of legal principles, Justice Surya Kant of the Supreme Court said today.

Besides, the subtleties of human behaviour often played a crucial role in legal decisions. Justice Kant said relying on data and algorithms, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) could not fully grasp the complexities despite all its advancements.

Justice Kant, who was in Chandigarh for a two-day 'National Conference on the Landscape of Technology in Courts in India and the Way Forward', said the judicial process involved empathy, application of discretion and interpretive judgement —

'JUDICIAL PROCESS INVOLVES EMPATHY'

Justice Surya Kant said the judicial process involved empathy, application of discretion and interpretive judgement — qualities that were inherent to human judges and not replicable by machines. Artificial Intelligence (AI) could undoubtedly support and enhance the judicial process, but replacing judges would diminish the human element that was necessary for delivering justice.

qualities that were inherent to human judges and not replicable by machines.

Speaking at the sidelines of the conference, Justice Kant said AI could undoubtedly support and enhance the judicial process, but replacing judges would diminish the human element that was necessary for delivering justice.

The conference concluded today with Justice Rajesh Bindal and Justice Augustine George Masih of the Supreme Court, and Chief Justice Sheel Nagu of the Punjab and Haryana High Court collectively reflecting on the critical role technology played in

transforming courts, enhancing access to justice, improving efficiency, leveraging AI and fostering collaboration.

Justice Kant said AI undoubtedly held immense potential in revolutionising the judicial process. AI-powered tools could assist in legal research, providing judges and lawyers with quick access to relevant case laws and statutes — expediting the decision-making process.

Machine-learning algorithms could identify patterns in legal documents and case histories, aiding in the early detection of potential delays or bottlenecks in the judicial

process, he said.

It was equally important to recognise the significant harms it might entail. The introduction of online proceedings for high courts and the Supreme Court had led to the circulation of clips from the proceedings on social media he said. The proliferation of AI-generated deep-fakes made it increasingly difficult to distinguish between reality and fabrication.

Justice Surya Kant said he envisioned a judicial system where every citizen, regardless of socio-economic status or geographical location, had seamless access to justice.

The Indian Judiciary would share its technological advancements with nations through exchange programmes, reflecting its leadership in judicial innovation in 2025, said Justice Kant, who recently led the Indian delegation at the Chief Justices Conference of BRICS countries.

Oppn must apologise, says Scindia

GWALIOR, AUGUST 11

Referring to a spat between Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice-President Jagdish Dhankhar and Samajwadi Party MP Jaya Bachchan, Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya Scindia on Sunday said the Opposition must apologise to the VP.

Dhankhar and Jaya Bachchan had locked horns on Friday after the actor-politician accused him of speaking to her in an unacceptable tone in the Upper House, inviting an angry retort that he could not be schooled. Dhankhar also said even a celebrity had to follow the House's decorum. The Opposition had then walked out, stating it was a matter of "disrespect to democracy and Constitution".

Responding to a question here regarding the face-off, Scindia said the way the Rajya Sabha chairman had been treated was very sad. "He is not only the Speaker

AN INSULT TO CONSTITUTION

“He is not only the Speaker of the House but also the Vice-President of the country. Every person in the Opposition should apologise for this behaviour. This is not an insult of the Speaker of the House and the VP, but the Constitution and our Tricolour.”

Jyotiraditya Scindia, UNION MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

of the House but also the Vice-President of the country. Every person in the Opposition should apologise for this behaviour. This is not an insult of the Speaker of the House and the VP, but of the Constitution and our Tricolour," he said.

Scindia said people of the country understood everything about the noise and insults in the House. The public taught them a lesson in 2014, 2019 and now in 2024, and would teach them in the coming times as well, he said.

The angry exchange hours before the Upper House was adjourned sine die on Fri-

day added to the strain between Dhankhar and the INDIA bloc parties, with sources saying the Opposition is considering submitting a notice for moving a resolution to remove the VP from his office.

Regarding the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' ahead of Independence Day, the Union minister called it the biggest campaign of democracy, where every citizen of India would hoist the Tricolour at home.

He said 1.64 lakh post offices of the Postal Department were working hard to deliver the Tricolour across the country. — PTI

Two pilots injured as trainer aircraft crashes in MP

GUNA, AUGUST 11

Two pilots were injured after a trainer aircraft belonging to a private aviation academy crashed at an airstrip in Madhya Pradesh's Guna on Sunday, a police official said.

The two-seater Cessna 152 plane with the two pilots aboard crashed at around 1.30 pm, possibly due to engine failure after remaining airborne for 40 minutes, Guna Cantt police station in-charge Dileep Rajoria said.

The injured pilots, V Chandra Thakur and Nagesh Kumar, are now out of danger. They have been admitted to a hospital. Officials said the plane had arrived here a few days ago for testing and maintenance, adding that aviation officials would carry out a detailed probe into the matter.

Guna Tehsildar GS Bairwa said that Sha-Shib Flying Academy's manager said the trainee aircraft had arrived in Guna some months ago from Karnataka's Belagavi Aviation and Sports Enterprises. — PTI



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Chief Minister

August Presence

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Smt. Seema Trikha

Minister of State, School Education (I.C.), Haryana

12th August, 2024 | 5:00 PM
Sector 32, Panchkula



Department of Higher Education, Haryana






Doctors and nursing staff stage a protest in Kolkata on Sunday, pn

CBI probe sought into rape, murder of Kolkata doctor

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11

In a display of solidarity, several doctors' associations have demanded a CBI probe into the rape and murder of a resident doctor at a government hospital in Kolkata.

The Resident Doctors' Associations (RDA) of Maulana Azad Medical College, Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar Medical College and Hospital, RML Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College, VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and GTB Hospital here have announced the suspension of their elective services, including OPDs, operation theatres and ward duties, from Monday.

The Federation of Resident Doctors' Association (FORDA) has asked Union Health Minister JP Nadda to ensure that no police brutality or manhandling of the protesting doctors

Delhi medicos to suspend elective services from today

should occur. "The Union Government must enforce a security protocol for healthcare workers across all hospitals. An expert committee comprising representatives from the medical community and associations must be formed to speed up ratifying the Central Healthcare Protection Act," the FORDA said in a statement.

The Kolkata Police have formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT), including members of the Homicide Department, among others, to probe the matter. A preliminary post-mortem of the resident doctor revealed that she was sexually assaulted before being murdered. A person, Sanjay Roy, has been arrested in connection with the case.

Communal cliplands man in UP police net

GHAZIABAD, AUGUST 11

A member of a Hindu right-wing outfit was on Sunday arrested for allegedly circulating an inflammatory video calling for the expulsion of Rohingya Muslims and Bangladeshis from India within 72 hours, the police said.

"Satyam Pandit associated with the Hindu Veer Sena had challenged the police and used abusive language in the video. He was arrested by the Nandgram police and has been sent to jail," police commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra said.

In the video, the accused warns of reprisal against Rohingyas and Bangladeshi Muslims if the authorities did not repatriate them from the country within 72 hours.

Meanwhile, Bhupendra Chowdhury, alias Pinki, of

the Hindu Raksha Dal and his supporter Badal, alias Hariom, were on Sunday sent to judicial custody for 14 days. The two were arrested on Saturday after they allegedly assaulted a group of people living near a railway station here and destroyed their shanties, claiming that they were Bangladeshi infiltrators. Their shanties were razed and set on fire near Guldhar railway police station under the jurisdiction of Madhuban Bapudham police station of the city on Friday.

Mishra said some more attackers had to be identified and attempts were on to nab them. Officials said those attacked were not Bangladeshi and an FIR had been lodged against Chowdhury and 20 others for rioting, hurting religious feelings and other offences. — PTI

Big challenge for India in B'desh: Defence experts

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11
The ongoing political turmoil in Bangladesh that resulted in the ouster of its pro-India Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina this month has serious implications for India on the diplomatic as well as security front. As the world, with India in particular, watches the developments unfold in Bangladesh, defence experts have urged the Indian establishment to remain highly vigilant and make all-out attempts to engage the political and military dispensation in the neighbouring country to ensure the Indian interests are not compromised. In a video interview with *The Tribune*, former GOC-in-C, Western Command, Lt-Gen KJ Singh, who had earlier commanded a corps based in north Bengal, and Brig SS Ahluwalia, a veteran of Indo-Pak War, were of the view that with regional organisations like the SAARC being defunct, it would be very dangerous for India not to find

THREE NARRATIVES OVER TURMOIL

“Three narratives doing the rounds. The first: The US wanted this to happen as Hasina was not listening to it; the second: Pak's ISI and China had a hand in catalysing the situation; and the third: it was spontaneous. Lt-Gen KJ Singh

a mechanism of engagement. Both veterans did not discount the possibility of foreign powers having a role in the ongoing agitation. “There are three narratives that are going on. The first is that the US wanted this to happen as Sheikh Hasina was not listening to it. The second is that Pakistan's ISI and China had a hand in catalysing the situation; and third, that it was spontaneous,” Lt-Gen Singh said. While ruling out that there was an intelligence failure on part of India to foresee the developments in Bangladesh, Brig Ahluwalia said that there were indications for a month, but the Foreign Ministry missed the bus. “The ministry should have got in touch with

Sheikh Hasina and advised her,” he said. “Bangladesh, with its Chittagong port, is a strategic port where several foreign powers have an interest and we have to move fast,” he added. On the part of the Bangladesh army, he said that it had an all-pervasive role and it was the 30th intervention by it. It suits India's interest if Bangladesh army retains its influence. The Indian and the Bangladesh army have cordial relations and its present Chief, General Waker-uz-Zaman, has great credentials. Brig Ahluwalia said Bangladesh was very important for India as it bordered seven states that had a history of insurgency and internal disturbances.

Tripura teacher lynched over molestation

AGARTALA, AUGUST 11
Accusing a schoolteacher in Tripura's Gomati district of molesting a minor girl student, a mob assaulted him, leading to his death two days later, a police officer said on Sunday. The police have registered an FIR in this connection, but no arrests have been made so far.

It is alleged that the man, who was in his 40s, molested the girl during a private tuition session in Udaipur town. Following this, locals thrashed the government school teacher on Thursday. “After a severe assault, the locals took him to the RK Pur police station on August 8 night in the presence of his wife and lodged a molestation case against him. On doctor's advice, the accused stayed at a local health centre the entire night,” Assistant Inspector General of Police (Law & Order) Ananta Das said. He was arrested and granted bail by a local court on Friday. Das said the teacher fell ill after returning home and later died. — PTI

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- Last date of receipt of application as per format given at our website.** Application as per requisite formal along with self-attested photocopies of testimonials in support of Educational qualification and Work Experience will be submitted to OIC, Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) Unchi Bassi by **03 Sep 2024** in duplicate. Any application received after **03 Sep 2024** will not be accepted.
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DI-10164



Candidates outside an examination centre in Patna on Sunday. PTI

NEET-PG held at 416 centres amid tight vigil

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11
The National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) announced the successful conduct of NEET-PG on Sunday. The examination was conducted in two shifts at 416 centres spread across 170 cities. Admit cards were issued to a total of 2,28,540 candidates. The board said candidates were given examination centres within their states, whenever possible. “To ensure smooth conduct of NEET-PG, the board had set up a central command centre at its Dwaraka Office, Delhi,” a statement from NBEMS said. As many as 1,950 independ-

ent appraisers and 300 flying squad members were deputed at the examination centres to monitor the conduct of NEET-PG. Eight regional command centres were also set up to supervise the conduct of the nationwide examination. The board also monitored social media to counter the spread of any misinformation during the conduct of the examination. Several aspirants, who took the exam in the morning shift, said the question paper was moderate. Kunal Kishore, who took the exam in Delhi, said, “The difficulty level of the exam was easy to moderate in the morning shift. Twenty per cent of the questions were tough.”

Foreign Secy in Nepal to boost bilateral ties

KATHMANDU, AUGUST 11

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Sunday met Nepal's top leadership and discussed ways to provide an impetus to various sectors of bilateral cooperation. Misri, who is here on a two-day visit at the invitation of his Nepalese counterpart Sewa Lamsal, paid a courtesy call on President Ramchandra Paudel at the president's office Sheetalniwas in Kathmandu. “While conveying greetings of the Indian leadership, he discussed ways to further strengthen India-Nepal ties across all sectors,” the Indian Embassy in Nepal said in a post on X. Misri also called on Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli at his office at Singhdurbar. “The Foreign Secretary reaffirmed India & Nepal's civilisational, close and multifaceted relationship and discussed ways to provide an impetus to various sectors of bilateral cooperation,” the Embassy said in another post. Foreign Secretary Sewa Lamsal was also present on the occasion. Earlier in the day, Misri and Secretary of Nepal's



Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri with Nepal PM Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli in Kathmandu. PTI

Urban Development Ministry Maniram Gelal jointly inaugurated a new building of Nepal Bhasa Parishad in Kathmandu built under India's post-earthquake reconstruction grant. The building in the Naradevi area of the capital was damaged in the 2015 earthquake. Nepal Bhasa is the language belonging to the ethnic Newar community of Kathmandu. In keeping with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call of “Ek Ped Ma ke Naam”, Misri planted a sapling of “Nili Gulmohar” at the Indian mission's complex. — PTI



हरियाणा सरकार

“बहनों के स्वास्थ्य, सुविधा और सशक्तिकरण के इस संकल्प को उज्वला योजना ने बहुत बड़ा बल दिया है। उज्वला योजना से पूरे देश में एल.पी.जी. गैस से जुड़े इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर का कई गुना विस्तार हुआ है।”

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Markanda (Kurukshetra), declare that
I have changed my name Manjit to
Manjeet Kaur. Concerned please note.
(CL24044421)
I, Balbir Shahu S/o Suraj Shahu R/o
B07/0057, Guru Ravidas Nagar,
Bhogpur, Distt. Jalandhar (Pb.) have
changed my name Balbir Shahu to
Balbir Shahu. (CL24044441)
I, Parmjeet Kaur D/o Bhajan Singh
R/o Nathu Chisti, Jalalabad has
changed my name to Parmjeet Kaur
for future purposes. (CL24044442)
I, Charnjit Kaur alias Charanjit
Kaur, wife of Baljinder Singh, resident
of Village Banna Wala PO Jandwala
Bhimeshah, Tehsil and District Fazilka,
both are in my name and my correct
name is Charnjit Kaur in future known
as Charnjit Kaur. (CL24044443)

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COURT NOTICES

In the High Court of Delhi
At New Delhi
(Oriinary Original Civil Jurisdiction)
CS(OS) No. 427/2023
Shri Brahm Prakash ...Plaintiff
Versus
Shri Om Prakash & Ors. ...Defendants
To: Defendants Nos. (1, 2 & 4)-
1. Shri Om Prakash S/o Late Shri Mande
Ram R/o A-14, IFS Apartments, Mayur
Vihar, Phase-1, New Delhi-110091.
Mobile No. 98186-10305, Email:
omprakash.prakash844@gmail.com
WhatsApp No. 98186-10305
2. Shri Rishi Prakash S/o Late Shri
Mande Ram at 37/13/2, Prakash Sadan
Village & Post Office: Bankner,
Narela, Delhi-110040. WhatsApp No.
001-81-98184-58132 WhatsApp No.
001-81-59706674.
4. Shri Suresh Prakash S/o Late Shri
Mande Ram at 37/13/2, Prakash Sadan
Village & Post Office: Bankner,
Narela, Delhi-110040. WhatsApp No.
001-81-90887-22206.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff
has instituted a suit for Partition
against the above named defendants
and whereas it has been shown to the
satisfaction of the Court that it is not
possible to serve you in the ordinary
way, therefore, this notice is given by
publication directing you, the above
named defendants Nos. 1, 2 & 4 to
make appearance before the Court of
Ld. Joint Registrar (Judicial) on 21st
day of November, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Take notice that in default of your
appearance on the day mentioned
above, the suit will be heard and
determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal
of the Court, this 01st day of
August, 2024.
Sd/- Assistant Registrar (O)
CL24044097 For Registrar General
(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Sh. Hasan Deep Singh Bajwa
Civil Judge (Jr. Division),
Malerkotla
Baldev Singh
Vs.
Amrik Singh
CNR No.
PBSGC0-000580-2024
Next Date: 06.09.2024
CS/360/2024
Publication issued to:
1. Amrik Singh s/o Tara
Singh, 2. Jasvir Singh s/o
Tara Singh, 4. Sarabjit Kaur
widow of Dalbir Singh all
rs/o Village Mandian, Tehsil
and District Malerkotla.

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 06.09.2024 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to
https://highcourthd.gov.in/?
trs=district_notice&district=
sangur
Dated, this day of 09.08.2024.
Sd/- Civil Judge
(Junior Division),
CL24044300 Malerkotla
(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Ms. Lavleen Sandhu
Civil Judge
Junior Division-2,
Moga.
Chmakaur Singh
Vs.
Jaspreet Singh
CNR No.:
PBMO02-000338-2023
Next Date: 29.08.2024
Publication issued to:
Respondent 3 (ii) Veerpal
Kaur D/o Harjinder Singh R/o
Dhudi Ke Tehsil and District
Moga now Griffith New
South Wales Australia.

In above titled case, the
defendant(s)/respondent(s)
could not be served. It is
ordered that defendant(s)
should appear in person or
through counsel dated
02.09.2024 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to
https://highcourthd.gov.in/?
trs=district_notice&district=
sbsnagar
Given under my hand and seal
of this Court on 08.08.2024.
Sd/- (Komple Dhanjal)
Addl. Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Nawanshahr
CL24044071 SBS Nagar

Notice to:
Radha Sharma w/o Late Sh. Prem
Pal Sharma s/o Faqeer Chand
Sharma r/o 404/1, Preet Nagar
Banga, Distt. SBS Nagar.
In above titled petition
the defendant(s) could not be served.
It is ordered that defendant(s)
should appear in person or
through counsel dated
02.09.2024 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to
https://highcourthd.gov.in/?
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Addl. Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Nawanshahr
CL24044071 SBS Nagar

In above titled case, the
defendant(s)/respondent(s)
could not be served. It is
ordered that defendant(s)/
respondent(s) should appear
in person or through counsel
on 29.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m.
For details logon to:
https://highcourthd.gov.in/?
mod=district_notice&district=
mogacourt
Dated, this day of 05.08.2024.
Sd/- Civil Judge
Junior Division-2,
CL24044370 Moga.
(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Gagandeep Singh
Civil Judge
(Junior Division),
Amritsar.
Dhir Singh
Vs.
Poonam Handa
CNR No.:
PBAS02-002632-2024
Next Date: 28.08.2024
Suit for Declaration
Publication issued to:
2. Ramil Handa son of Ashok
Handa R/o Flat No. 7, DGM,
OCM Mills Amritsar

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 28.08.2024 at 10:00 a.m.
For details logon to:
https://highcourthd.gov.in/?
trs=district_notice&district=
amritsar
Dated, this day of 09.08.2024.
Sd/- Civil Judge
(Junior Division),
CL24044416 Amritsar.

Yunus acquitted in graft case
as new B'desh CJ takes oath

DHAKA, AUGUST 11
Muhammad Yunus was on
Sunday acquitted in a graft
case filed by the Anti-Corruption
Commission, three days
after he took oath as the head
of Bangladesh's interim gov-
ernment, according to a
media report.
Judge Md Rabiul Alam of
the Special Judge's Court-4 of
Dhaka accepted the Anti-Cor-
ruption Commission's applica-
tion which was filed with
the court, seeking withdraw-
al of prosecution of the case,
an official of the anti-graft
agency was quoted as saying
by The Daily Star newspaper.

On August 7, a Dhaka court
acquitted Yunus and three top
officials of Grameen Telecom
in a labour law violation case.
Yunus had been in a pro-
tracted row with the Sheikh
Hasina government due to
obscure reasons while authori-
ties initiated a series of inves-
tigations against him after
she came to power in 2008.

Yunus was charged under
dozens of cases during Hasina's
regime.
Meanwhile, Syed Refaat
Ahmed was sworn in as
Bangladesh's new chief jus-
tice on Sunday, a day after
Obaidul Hassan stepped
down as the top judge follow-
ing an ultimatum by the pro-
testers demanding a revamp
of the judiciary.

Hassan and five other
judges of the apex Appellate
Division on Saturday tend-
ered their resignation. His
resignation came as protest-
ers of the Anti-Discrimination
Student Movement gathered
at the apex court premises.
The students had issued an
ultimatum to him and the
judges of the Appellate Divi-
sion to resign by 1 pm on Sat-
urday.
President
Mohammed Shahabuddin
administered the oath to the
chief justice. —PTI



Members of the Hindu community protest attacks on minorities in Dhaka. REUTERS

Important for people to see India as
good friend: Foreign affairs adviser

DHAKA, AUGUST 11
Bangladesh's newly-installed
interim government on Sun-
day said it would maintain a
"balanced" foreign policy,
asserting that Dhaka intends
to maintain "smooth and posi-
tive" relations with all, includ-
ing India and China.

"Our policy is to maintain
good relations with all coun-
tries while protecting our
national interests," interim
government's foreign affairs
adviser Md Touhid Hossain
said during his first press brief-
ing at the foreign ministry.
Hossain, whose position is
equivalent to a minister, said
it is meaningless to assume
that this interim government
is focused solely on any par-
ticular direction.

"We intend to maintain
smooth and positive relations
with all ... including India and
China," said Hossain, who pre-
viously served as a deputy

GOVT WARNS MEDIA OVER 'MISLEADING' NEWS

Bangladesh's interim government on Sunday issued a stern
warning to media organisations, stating that they will be shut
down if they publish or broadcast false or misleading news, in
a move aimed at curbing the spread of misinformation. Home
Affairs Adviser Brig Gen M Sakhawat Hossain (ret'd) said:
"There is a lack of substantive discussion on talk shows, and
the media fails to provide accurate information." —PTI

high commissioner to India.
When asked about the inter-
im government's approach
towards India, Hossain said
both countries share a strong
and deep bond.

"(But) it is important that
people feel India is a good
friend of Bangladesh... We
want that, we want to advance
the (Dhaka-Delhi) relation
towards that direction," said
Hossain, a career diplomat
and former foreign secretary.
He said the interim gov-
ernment "would like to see India
cooperate with us in this
regard" and underscored the

Ukraine steps up retaliation, 'confirms'
military incursion on Russian soil

KYIV, AUGUST 11
Days after Ukraine began a
surprise military incursion
into Russia's Kursk border
region, Zelenskyy broke the
government's silence on it by
indirectly acknowledging
ongoing military actions to
"push the war out into the
aggressor's territory" in his
nightly address.



A residential building damaged during a Russian missile strike at Rozhivka village in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Sunday. REUTERS

Overnight into Sunday, a
Russian drone and missile
barage on Kyiv killed two
people including a 4-year-old
boy. In Russia, Kursk's
regional governor said that a
Ukrainian missile shot down
by Russian air defences fell
on a residential building,
wounding 13 people.

Russia attacked Ukraine
with four ballistic missiles and
57 Shahed drones, Ukraine's
Air Force said. Air defences
shot down 53 drones.
The bodies of a 35-year old
man and his son were found
under rubble after frag-
ments of missiles fell on a
residential area in Kyiv's
suburban Brovary district,
according to Ukraine's
State Emergency Service on
Sunday. Another three peo-
ple in the district were also
injured in the attack.
Serhii Popko, head of the

Kyiv City Military Adminis-
tration said that it was the sec-
ond time this month Kyiv
was targeted.

Popko said ballistic missiles
did not reach the capital but
that suburbs took the hit,
while drones aiming for the
capital were shot down.
Zelenskyy, citing prelimi-
nary information, said that
Russia had used a North
Korean missile in the strike.
Ukraine and the US have
previously said that Russia
has used North Korean mis-
siles in the war.
Zelenskyy reiterated calls to
Western allies to step up in

assistance to Ukraine, and that
"to really stop Russian terror,
we need not only a full-fledged
air shield that will protect all
our cities and communities,
but also strong decisions from
partners — decisions that will
remove restrictions on our
defensive actions."
Ukraine's incursion into
Russia continued for a sixth
day. The largest such attack
since the full-scale invasion
and unprecedented for its
use of Ukrainian military
units on Russian soil.
Ukraine has not comment-
ed on the Sunday drone
attacks inside Russia. —AP

Israeli military broadens its
evacuation orders in Gaza

DEIRAL-BALAH, AUGUST 11
The Israeli military ordered
more evacuations in southern
Gaza on early Sunday after a
deadly airstrike on a school-
turned-shelter in the north
killed at least 80 Palestinians,
according to local health
authorities. Israel said it tar-
geted a militant command
post, killing 19 fighters.

Israel has repeatedly
ordered mass evacuations as
its troops have returned to
heavily destroyed areas
where they had previously
battled Palestinian militants.
Hundreds of thousands
have crammed into squalid
tent camps with few public
services or sought shelter in

schools like the one struck on
Saturday. Palestinians say
nowhere in the besieged ter-
ritory feels safe.

The latest evacuation orders
apply to areas in Khan Younis,
including part of an Israeli-
declared humanitarian zone
from which the military said
rockets had been fired. Israel
accuses Hamas and other mil-
itants of hiding among civil-
ians and launching attacks
from residential areas.
Khan Younis, Gaza's second-
largest city, suffered wide-
spread destruction during an
air and ground offensive ear-
lier this year. Tens of thousands
fled again last week after an
earlier evacuation order. —AP

Pure vegetarian Indian dishes new rage in Pak

KARACHI, AUGUST 11
Pakistan's industrial and
financial centre Karachi has
become the food capital for
the foodies of the cosmopol-
itan city, with the latest trend
being an acquired taste for
authentic and refined Indian
vegetarian dishes such as
'soyabean aloo biryani', 'aloo
tikki', 'vada pav', 'masala
dosa' and 'dhokla'.
For millions of people in the
capital of Sindh province,
Karachi's beauty is the food

options ranging from the most
expensive European and Ital-
ian cuisine to affordable Chi-
nese food or a simple bun
kabab as the food capital
caters to the taste and pockets
of everyone. The foodies in
recent months have also
developed a taste for "pure
vegetarian" dishes.
Mahesh Kumar, who owns
the small Maharaj Karam-
chand Vegetarian Foods Inn
inside a historical old com-
pound of the bustling MA

Soyabean aloo biryani,
pav bhaji, dhokla, dal
samosa tickle palate
Jinnah Road, says his busi-
ness was booming as people
have developed a taste for
vegetarian dishes known in
Karachi as "pure vegetarian
Indian dishes".
"Our Soybean Aloo Biryani,
Aloo Tikki, Paneer Karahi,
and mixed vegetables are

famous and we witness a lot of
rush during lunchtime with a
lot of takeaways and deliveries
as well," Kumar said.
It is not just this Hindu-
run vegetarian restaurant
that is doing a great job but,
in other parts of Karachi,
entrepreneur Hindu, Christ-
ian and Muslim women
have set up food stalls spe-
cialising in refined Indian
vegetarian dishes such as
'pav bhaji', 'vada pav',
'masala dosa' and 'dhokla'.

Kavita, who started a food
stall in the Cantt area on a side
street eight months ago, sells
Indian vegetarian dishes and
can barely keep up with the
rush at her stall.
What surprised Kavita and
her family is the taste the
meat-loving people of Karachi
have developed for pure vege-
tarian dishes.
A stall that sells 'dhoklas'
and 'dal samosas' is run by a
Christian lady Mary
Richards. —PTI



Paris 2024



Top 5 Medal tally

| COUNTRY | Gold | Silver | Bronze | TOTAL |
|--------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| USA | 40 | 44 | 42 | 126 |
| CHINA | 40 | 27 | 24 | 91 |
| JAPAN | 20 | 12 | 13 | 45 |
| AUSTRALIA | 18 | 19 | 16 | 53 |
| FRANCE | 16 | 26 | 22 | 64 |
| INDIA (71ST) | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6 |

Pic of the day



India's flagbearers Manu Bhaker and PR Sreejesh ahead of the closing ceremony in Paris on Sunday. PTI

US complete hoops golden double

The United States won a 67-66 thriller over France in the women's basketball final, claiming an historic eighth consecutive Olympics crown while denying the hosts the golden finish to the Paris Games that had seemed within their grasp. With LeBron James sitting court-side wearing the gold medal the US men won by beating France on Saturday, the American women completed the golden hoops double and extended their winning streak on Olympics hardwood to a remarkable 61 games — a stretch of domination that goes all the way back to 1992. But the US had to dig deep to repel the scrappy French, who led by 10 in the third quarter and had looked poised to pull off one of the biggest upsets in Olympic history when Gabby Williams drained a clutch three to leave Les Bleues down one with five seconds left. The drama was not over. With the clock hitting zero, Williams threw up a desperation shot that banked in off the backboard and appeared to tie the game at 67-67 as the buzzer sounded. A video replay, however, showed Williams was inside the arch good for two points, leaving the U.S. celebrating a breathless one-point victory and the fearless French stunned. "I'm sad for them because they fought, they've been working hard for two months," said French coach Jean-Aime Toupane. REUTERS

Paris diary

A lawyer at the Games



Shilpa Nautiyal, a Mumbai lawyer, was hopping from train to train, venue to venue, cheering on the Indian team. She and her husband, Richie, an entrepreneur, spent up to Rs 40,000 each for tickets at some of the venues. It's been worth it, she says, because she and Richie Khandelwal "live for experiences". "That's what life is all about — different places, different experiences," says the Uttarakhand-born Shilpa. "The Olympics were on my bucket list. I just wanted to experience Paris 2024! The experience has been just wonderful — easily worth the few lakh rupees we spent on the trip." Richie, meanwhile, went off to Belgium for an experience he craved — Tomorrowland music festival. "Earlier this year, we went to Norway for the Northern Lights," says Shilpa. "We try to make time for travel every year, India and abroad."

Cost of watching

We met Antoine, Gaspard, Edgar and Maxime, French students 20-21 years old, on a train to the football event. They were excited about the Olympics coming to their city, but the prices of the tickets left them aghast. "The price of good seats at the football venue is over 60 euros," says Maxime,

studying international business. The others laugh at him because he's managed to buy a ticket for a 'lesser' match — the game between Nigeria and Japan women. "It's what I could afford... 30 euros!" Maxime shrugs.

Sivakoti from Hanover

Sivakoti, from Hyderabad, has some regrets, for he wanted to become an IAS officer but turned out to be a mere engineer, now working in Hanover in Germany. But he's happy in Paris — he's achieved a lifetime high at the Olympics by watching live tennis at Roland Garros, hockey at Yves-du-Manoir Stadium, football at Stade de Marseille. The tickets have been expensive, he says, but not "really expensive". "They were much more expensive for the French Open. I wanted to book them in May, but the Category A tickets cost over 1,000 euros each!" he says. "But at the Olympics, I got Category A tickets for only 160 euros!" That's a steal, he says. His trip from Hanover to Paris cost him "about 700 euros", including travel, hotel and tickets and meals. Money well spent, he says. Mumbai girl Mehak Shaikh, face painted in the Indian flag, spent 60 euros to watch a hockey game. "What an experience it turned out to be!" she said. "I'd try to get more tickets."



Drifter from Mauritius

Anand Prayag, third-generation Mauritian, doesn't know where his grandfather — or perhaps great-grandfather — was born before being taken to Mauritius to work in the sugar and indigo fields. "It's probably Bihar where he came from," says Prayag, 60, volunteering for the Olympic Games. He says, growing up, there was no curiosity in his heart about his roots. "Life was tough. It was hard work in the fields that my grandfather and father did," he says, explaining the absence of stories he inherited. "After work, they found solace and rest in drinking. I don't recall any stories that elders told us about where they came from."

Ease of working

Julia Maria Comes e Carvalho from Brazil loves the life in Paris. Working for tech major SAP, how does she find the time off from work to spend so many days as a volunteer at the badminton venue? "It's no problem — we have 40 paid holidays a year here in France!" says Julia. Then there's sick leave, and other holidays as well, she says, and adds: "Back in Brazil, we work too hard — six days a week, eight hours and even more a day! In India, too... This I found when I started interacting with my Indian colleagues." French labour laws are extremely pro-worker. An Indian Embassy official relates how an employee has been on unpaid sick leave for three years — and yet is protected against dismissal!

Maria from Ukraine

On the bridge over the Seine close to the Notre Dame cathedral, Maria from Ukraine clicks photographs of tourists who have

INDIA'S MEDALS

1 SILVER

MEN'S JAVELIN THROW
Neeraj Chopra

5 BRONZE

WOMEN'S 10M AIR PISTOL
Manu Bhaker

10M AIR PISTOL MIXED TEAM
Manu Bhaker & Sarabjot Singh

MEN'S 50M RIFLE 3 POSITIONS
Swapnil Kusale

MEN'S 57KG FREESTYLE WRESTLING
Aman Sehrawat

MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

feat beyond the imagination of the Indian sports fan.

The hockey team retained the bronze it won in Tokyo

Neeraj, Manu lead charge as India finishes Paris Olympics campaign with six medals BASKING IN AFTERGLOW



Neeraj Chopra has won an unprecedented two medals in two Olympic Games in track and field; The player of the Olympics for India was Manu Bhaker, who won two medals.



Aman Sehrawat ensured that wrestling's Olympics streak continued; The most heartbreaking fourth was scored by Lakshya Sen.



The disqualification of Vinesh Phogat broke hearts in the Indian contingent.

matches, and two opportunities, in the mind.

Doubles specialists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty were considered almost a certainty for a medal — and they won the first game in the quarterfinals, as expected; but Malaysia's Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik then turned the screws, winning the next two games and knocking the Indians out.

Among the Indian medalists, the greatest certainty was Neeraj Chopra, of course; he did deliver, taking a historic silver, which made him possibly the greatest living Indian sportsperson — two medals in two Olympic Games in track and field used to be a

“The ones who have missed, they are the ones who have the fire burning brighter than ever to get us medals in the future. They need to be encouraged.”

— Gagan Narang, CHEF-DE-MISSION

three years later; the build-up had not been great, but India did very, very well in Paris — the defeat of Australia, the brilliant fight against Belgium and Great Britain, the overpowering of Spain in the bronze medal playoff after a heartbreaking defeat to Ger-

many in the semifinals. But the player of the Olympics for India was Manu Bhaker, who won two medals, becoming the first Indian shooter to win two medals at one Games.

The 22-year-old ended shooting's sinking reputation — they had come back empty-handed at the last two Olympics — winning bronze in the 10m air pistol, and in the mixed team 10m air pistol with Sarabjot Singh. Swapnil Kusale's unexpected medal in men's 50m rifle 3 positions completed the haul.

The young Aman Sehrawat then ensured that wrestling's Olympics streak continued — his bronze in the 57kg category made him

the youngest Indian medalist ever at the Olympics.

The disqualification of Vinesh Phogat from the women's 50kg field for being 100g overweight, after her brilliant show on Day 1, broke hearts in the Indian contingent.

Narang said Vinesh, awaiting the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) verdict about her disqualification, is still all right. "She's perfectly fine physically, and has been going around in the village as well," he said. "I'm sure she'll be back at her peak in the next few days."

A medal could aid in that, but as of now, it seems unlikely that CAS verdict would be in her favour.

New football coach questions Indian players' mentality

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11

The new Indian football team coach, Manolo Marquez, suggested that he is not proficient in English, hinting that he might get misquoted. But while trying to explain what the Indian players need to improve, the 55-year-old Spanish coach did not mince his words. Neither did he need any help from the All India Football Federation (AIFF) media team when he called out the Indian players for being too happy in their home environment.

Marquez will also coach the ISL team FC Goa while taking over the coaching duties of the national team. "My opinion is that the level of Indian players is better than what it was five years ago. But it can be better and improve faster. My feeling is that Indian players are very comfortable in the ISL. You will grow when you play abroad," Marquez, who first came to India five years ago to coach Hyderabad FC. "I am not speaking about the top level, in the Premier League or La Liga. But if you go abroad and play against opponents who are better than you, you will improve. But I understand that life is very good for them in ISL and it is difficult for them to try to go abroad," he added.

Another improvement that the new coach, who took over Igor Stimac last month, is seeking is in the mentality of the young players. "They are improving, but it is the Indian mentality. We need to improve in this aspect. They have to be stronger mentally. In football, technique, tactics and physical condition are important, but if the head doesn't work, you can do nothing. If you are losing 0-2 in the 20th minute, you have 70 minutes to turn the game. And this is possible. This is the mentality," he said. — TNS

Cab business

The Paris Olympics, praised for their inscrutability, did require thousands of taxis, luxurious cars and buses to transport athletes, support staff, officials, and media from one venue to another. Nicolas Gowry, with roots in Mauritius and India, is one of the vendors who provided luxury cars for the Olympics. He strenuously denies the charge that he's very, very rich. "Oh no, I'm not really rich," he laughs, adding that he sub-contracts business further when the demand is very high. "I'm just very hardworking." His associates, Manueer Nasrden and Manoj Ramsanri, speak passable Hindi but Gowry — whose first name is Vimal which he's swapped with "Nicolas" — doesn't have a word of the language of his forefathers. "I provided 150 cars for an Indian wedding last year," says Gowry, but refuses to reveal just who it was from India who needed so many luxury cars. "Client privacy, you know... Can't tell!" he says.

— Rohit Mahajan



thronged the city for the Olympic Games. She has a polaroid camera camouflaged in an antique camera body, and hands out prints instantly. She has a sunny personality and laughs and laughs as she encourages tourists to "go crazy" with different poses as she clicks photographs. But she has a secret sorrow — her brother is in Ukraine, as are many other relatives and friends. "I worry about them, of course," she says. "Russia



OBITUARY

K Natwar Singh, ex-EAM (May 16, 1931 - August 10, 2024)

In written word, found anchor amid political storms

THE death of K Natwar Singh (93) on Saturday night ends the journey of a man who meandered through diverse professions and situations, but will in the end be remembered for his abiding love for the written word that kept him centred during political upheavals.

Born in the royal family of Bharatpur in Rajasthan, Singh served as a career diplomat in the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), resigned from the service midway, went on to become a Union Minister for External Affairs, only to be asked to leave unceremoniously in 2005 owing to his alleged role in the "oil-for-food" scam.

Minister of State for Steel and Coal, and later, MoS External Affairs in the Rajiv Gandhi Cabinet.

He announced his exit from the Congress in 2008 during a rally organised by the BJP. Later, he joined the Bahujan Samaj Party but parted ways with it, too.

During the PV Narasimha Rao era (1991-96), Natwar Singh was sidelined in the Congress. At one point, he, along with Arjun Singh and ND Tiwari, left the party to form the All-India Indira Congress (Tiwari). He returned to the party fold in 1998 and was seen as part of Sonia Gandhi's coterie.

In his autobiography, 'One Life is Not Enough', released in August 2014, Singh divulged private conversations between Sonia Gandhi and former PM Manmohan Singh, whom he had publicly criticised multiple times. For him, that shut the Congress' door forever.

A 1953-batch IFS officer, Natwar Singh had walked the diplomatic tightrope in the Cold War (1945-1991) era when he was part of the much-publicised Non-Aligned Movement summit in New Delhi in 1983. Next year, he was conferred the Padma Vibhushan. Natwar Singh studied at St Stephen's College in Delhi before going to Cambridge.

As a diplomat, he served as the Deputy High Commissioner for India in the UK from 1973-77 and was Indian Ambassador to Pakistan from 1980-82, when relations between the two neighbours were rather frosty. It was also a time of churn in the US-Pakistan ties as the US trained an army of mujahideen who took on the Soviets in Afghanistan.

—Ajay Banerjee



Manmohan, Vohra offer condolences

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11

Former PM Manmohan Singh and former Jammu and Kashmir Governor NN Vohra on Sunday condoled the demise of Natwar Singh, remembering him as an able administrator and a leader with notable literary disposition.

Manmohan Singh, in his condolence message, said, "Natwar Singh ji was one of our close friends. He was a good politician and an able administrator, which he proved himself as Minister of External Affairs. My wife Gursaran joins me to send our heartfelt condolences to the family on the bereavement."

Expressing sadness over the loss, Vohra said, "I had known Natwar from the time I joined the service 65 years ago, when he was serving in Prime Minister Nehru's office, and in the subsequent years, after he forayed into politics. I admired him for his notable literary disposition, for his writings, and for his unwavering loyalty to the political party he had joined. May the Lord rest the departed soul in eternal peace and give his family the strength to bear this irreparable loss."

The last rites of Natwar Singh will be held at Lodhi crematorium in the national

Capital at 2 pm on Monday. His body was kept at the family's Maharani Farms home in Chhattarpur for people to pay their last respects. Former Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh was by the side of his sister Hem Inder Kaur, who is late Natwar Singh's widow.

Meanwhile, taking to X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his condolences to the former EAM's family. "Pained by the passing away of Natwar Singh. He made rich contributions to the world of diplomacy and foreign policy. He was also known for his intellect as well as prolific writing. My thoughts are with his family and admirers in this hour of grief. Om Shanti," Modi said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge described Natwar Singh as "an acclaimed intellectual and a Padma Bhushan recipient, he made a profound contribution to India's diplomacy and external affairs". Congress spokesperson Jairam Ramesh also took to X and referred to Singh as "a walking encyclopedia of the worlds of Nehru and Indira Gandhi" and a "delightful conversationalist, storyteller and ready wit." —TNS

Rain floods HC record room

SAURABH MALIK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 11

The Punjab and Haryana High Court's record room in Sector 17 here was inundated following heavy rain that battered the city on Sunday. The relentless downpour caused sewage to backflow, leading to extensive flooding in the basement of the erstwhile District Courts building.

A sense of chaos and urgency prevailed as the usually serene ambience of the court's archive shifted into a bustling hive of frenzied activity. The corridors of the basement, once lined with neatly organised shelves, were transformed into narrow, water-logged passages where staff jostled shoulder-to-shoulder. Their movements were marked by a sense of desperation as they manoeuvred through the rising water; their hands trembling as they clutched soaked files dripping with dirty water.

The flooding left stacks of case files, some decades old, drenched and vulnerable to damage. Each step was a struggle as the staff waded through the foot-deep water, the floor beneath them sloshing with each movement. The sound of frantic voices and the sloshing of water created

Decades-old case files drenched



Workers shift the files at the Punjab and Haryana High Court record room in Sector 17, Chandigarh, on Sunday.

CHIEF JUSTICE NAGU, JUSTICE SIBAL RUSH TO SPOT

Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Deepak Sibal rushed to the scene, personally overseeing the emergency operation to shift the records to a safer location. Their concern was evident as they navigated the waterlogged basement. The soaked files underscored the High Court's decade-long insistence on additional space for its staff and the record.

a discordant backdrop against the High Court's usually solemn atmosphere.

Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Deepak Sibal rushed to the scene, personally overseeing the emergency operation to shift the records to a safer location. Their concern was evident as they navigated the waterlogged basement. The

soaked files underscored the High Court's decade-long insistence on additional space for its staff and the record. The gravity of the situation was underscored by the fact that the High Court is a court of record, where case files are meticulously maintained and preserved.

As the water crept higher, the staff worked with a sense of urgency, forming human chains to move the files to drier areas. The only saving factor was that the records had already been digitised, offering some relief in an otherwise dire situation. The building houses approximately 20 lakh files of decided cases, making the task of preserving these records a monumental one. Chief Justice Nagu, who personally drove to the site, stood amidst the chaos, his presence a reassurance to those battling the floodwaters.

The High Court has since 2013 been hearing a petition filed in public interest on its expansion. It had only recently rapped the UT Administration for deflecting the issue regarding allotment of land, while "coming prime property for its own use, including the new DC Office, which is to be set up in Sector 17 next to Shivalik Hotel".

Chief Justice humour

CHIEF Justice of India Y V Chandrachud is widely acknowledged to be an extraordinary judge, both erudite and compassionate — both of which he demonstrated in large doses during his visit to Chandigarh over the weekend. At PGI, he talked about how his daughter, Priyanka, a girl with special needs, had been admitted to the hospital for 44 days for respiratory distress when the family was on holiday in Shimla in 2021 — and how he paced the corridors of PGI talking to doctors, while his wife stayed with their daughter. At the Chandigarh Judicial Academy, he won the hearts of the audience by walking up the auditorium and greeting all the guests. Evidently, few people do that these days. But there was more to come — who knew that the CJI also has a wry sense of humour. Responding to the young woman lawyer who introduced him at the podium with heaps of praise, Chandrachud recounted the time he was visiting his sister in the US and her offspring told him, "There are only two people in the world my mother thinks are amazing. The first is my brother and the other is our pet dog."

Bangla Army chief postpones visit

BANGLADESH Army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman, who was expect-

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UNTOLD STORIES FROM THE PROVINCES

ed to come to India on an official visit this month, is not likely to come anytime soon. After the August 5 ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, everything has changed. India remains watchful, especially as the Bangladesh Army is likely to play a greater role running the country, even if it is behind the scenes. Nevertheless, military diplomacy will remain one key instrument of India reaching out to Dhaka. Remember that Air Force chief VR Chaudhari and Naval chief DK Tripathi had visited Bangladesh in February and June, respectively.

Flattery Babu

FLATTERY cannot always get you places. A senior bureaucrat, whose retirement is around the corner, and is

eyeing a plush post-retirement job, perhaps he thought he could get his dream post-retirement posting by flattering CM Bhagwant Mann. So during an official meeting, before he waded into the issues at hand, he began to sing praises of CM, only to be stopped immediately by Mann, who was apparently ticked off by the flattery. This has set tongues wagging in the corridors of power, with many believing that this was the CM's way of conveying that the "job" would not be given to the babu.

Who's the boss, asks Gadkari

AT a recent meeting chaired by Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi to review

the progress of national highway projects in Punjab, a senior IAS officer from the state referred to the Supreme Court's observations regarding land acquisition issues. This prompted Gadkari to ask his team of officers to tell this Punjabi officer who is supreme, when it comes to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) projects. The bureaucrat immediately responded with folded hands, "No intention to offend you, Sir."

Power helpline

THE Punjab Police helpline 112 has remained overly busy during the paddy sowing season. The reason was that several consumers, suffering from power cuts, chose to call the police helpline asking for help in restoring the power supply, asking them to communicate with the Power Corporation in "typical Punjab Police" style. As tubewells are run on double shifts in the paddy season to irrigate the fields, there is a diversion of power from residential and commercial areas to agriculture, resulting in power cuts in the former. Hopefully, the rain and resultant lower demand for power will keep the police helpline free for crime-related matters.

Contributed by Saurabh Malik, Ajay Banerjee, Ruchika Khanna, Nitin Jain & Mohit Khanna

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