

## हरियाणा कांग्रेस का संकल्प पत्र

# 7 वादे पक्के इरादे



### हर परिवार को खुशहाली

- 300 यूनिट फ्री बिजली
- ₹25 लाख तक मुफ्त इलाज



### गरीबों को छत

- 100 गज का प्लॉट
- ₹3.5 लाख की लागत से 2 कमरों का मकान



### किसानों को समृद्धि

- MSP की कानूनी गारंटी
- तत्काल फसल मुआवजा



### पिछड़ों को अधिकार

- जातिगत सर्वे
- क्रीमी लेयर की सीमा ₹10 लाख



### महिलाओं को शक्ति

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- ₹500 में गैस सिलेंडर



### सामाजिक सुरक्षा को बल

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- ₹6000 दिव्यांग पेंशन
- ₹6000 विधवा पेंशन
- OPS बहाल



### युवाओं को सुरक्षित भविष्य

- भर्ती विधान के तहत 2 लाख पक्की भर्ती
- नशा मुक्त हरियाणा

Bhupendra Singh

भूपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा

Chaudhary Uday Bhan

चौधरी उदय भान



## हाथ बदलेगा हालात

हरियाणा प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी

कांग्रेस



कांग्रेस



# 75% voting recorded in first Lankan Prez poll since Rajapaksa's ouster in July 2022

### 38 candidates in fray | Counting underway at 13K polling stations amid overnight curfew

COLOMBO, SEPTEMBER 21  
Polling concluded in Sri Lanka on Saturday with no violence or security breaches reported anywhere from all 22 electoral districts in the crucial presidential elections, the island nation's first since its worst economic meltdown in 2022. An overnight curfew was declared island-wide hours after polling ended and counting started immediately.

Election officials said everyone who had entered the polling station by 4 pm was allowed to vote beyond the deadline. Officials are yet to release the final voting percentage. More than 75 percent of the 17 million eligible people had voted, they said.

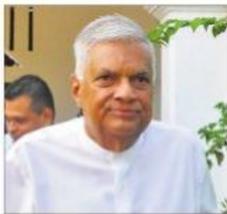
Observers said voting in the northern district of Jaffna was on a slow trickle by mid-day. A Tamil minority hardline group had discouraged people from voting in the run up to the election. The counting of postal votes commenced immediately after the voting closed at 4 pm, an official said.

Postal votes were cast by government employees, mostly election officials, military and police. The postal voting was conducted four days earlier. After postal votes are counted, "at 6 pm, we would like to start normal counting", Colombo City Deputy Election Commissioner MKSSKK Bandaramapa said earlier in the



Voters queue up outside a polling station to vote in the presidential election in Colombo. REUTERS

### THE BIG THREE



Ranil Wickremesinghe



Anura Kumara Dissanayake



Sajith Premadasa

day. The election saw the deployment of nearly 8,000 poll observers, both local and foreign. This included 116 international observers from

the EU, Commonwealth, Asian network of elections and seven from the south Asian countries. The People's Action for Free and Fair Elec-

tions (PAFFREL), the leading local group, deployed 4,000 local observers.

The election will be a test for incumbent President Ranil

Wickremesinghe, who has claimed credit for putting the country on the road to economic recovery. Analysts said the election was the most keenly contested of all presidential elections since 1982 with 38 candidates in the fray.

Some 17 million people were eligible to vote at over 13,400 polling stations. Over 2,00,000 officials were deployed to conduct the election. Buddhist temple halls, schools and community centres were converted into polling stations.

The three-cornered electoral battle saw Wickremesinghe facing stiff competition from Anura Kumara Dissanayake, 56, of the National People's Power (NPP), and Sajith Premadasa, 57, of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) and the main Opposition leader.

Wickremesinghe, 75, is seeking re-election for a five-year term as an Independent candidate, riding on the success of his efforts to pull the country out of the economic crisis, which many experts hailed as one of the quickest recoveries in the world. Sri Lanka had plunged into an economic crisis when the island nation declared sovereign default in mid-April of 2022, its first since gaining independence from Britain in 1948. Months of public protests led to the fleeing of the then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa. — PTI



The damaged school building after the attack in Gaza City. REUTERS

# Israeli attack on Gaza school claims 22 lives; 30 wounded

GAZA STRIP, SEPTEMBER 21  
An Israeli strike on a school in northern Gaza on Saturday killed at least 22 people, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, while the Israeli army said it targeted a Hamas command centre in what used to be a school.

Another 30 were wounded in the strike on the school in the Zeitoun area of Gaza City, the ministry said in a statement. Most of the casualties were women and children, it said. The Israeli army said earlier Saturday it struck Hamas' "command and control centre, which was embedded inside a compound that previously served" as a school. — AP

# Beirut strike toll rises to 37

BEIRUT/JERUSALEM, SEPT 21  
At least 37 people were killed in an Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb on Friday, including three children and seven women, the Lebanese health ministry said on Saturday.

Hezbollah said overnight that those killed in the deadliest strike in a year of conflict between Hezbollah and Israel included 16 of its members, and that senior leader Ibrahim Aqil and another top commander, Ahmed Wahbi, were among the dead. The Israeli army, in posts

on X, said the strike hit an underground gathering of Aqil and senior commanders of Hezbollah's elite Radwan forces, and had "almost completely dismantled" Hezbollah's military chain of command.

Heavy cross-border strikes continued on Saturday, with Israeli warplanes carrying some of its heaviest bombardment in 11 months of fighting across Lebanon's south and Hezbollah claiming rocket attacks on military targets in Israel's north. — Reuters

# 12-year-old boy among 3 killed in Russian attack on central Ukraine

KYIV, SEPTEMBER 21  
An overnight Russian missile strike on the central Ukrainian city of Kryvyi Rih killed a 12-year-old boy and two elderly women, regional governor Serhiy Lysak said on Saturday.

"Again, a terrifying enemy attack on Kryvyi Rih. In the middle of the night, when the city slept," Lysak wrote on Telegram. He said three more people were injured and were taken to hospital with injuries of medium severity.

The two elderly women killed by the attack were 75 and 79 years old. Lysak also said two buildings were destroyed and 20 more damaged. Kyvyi Rih, a major steel producing city, is just over 40 miles from the nearest Russian-occupied territory. It is regularly hit by air strikes.

Meanwhile, a blaze tore through a Russian arms depot deep inside the country, triggering explosions and the closure of a major highway, after Ukraine overnight launched over 100 drones at Russia and occupied Crimea, Russian news reports and the Defence Ministry said. The depot appeared to be just kilometres from another that was struck by Ukrainian drones early Wednesday, injuring 13 people and also causing a huge fire.

Russian authorities on Sat-



Police officials at the site of a Russian air strike in Ukraine. REUTERS

### 1,200 EVACUATED IN KRASNODAR

- Over 1,200 people were evacuated from Tikhoretsky district in Russia's southwestern Krasnodar region, its governor said
- Russia's defence ministry said it had downed 18 Ukrainian drones over the Krasnodar region overnight

urday closed a 100-km stretch of a highway and evacuated passengers from a nearby rail station after the fire caused a series of explosions. Posts on local Telegram channels said a missile depot was struck near the town of Topopets in Russia's Tver region 380 km northwest of Moscow and about 500 km from the Ukrainian border.

Unverified images circulating on Telegram showed a large ball of flame rising into the night sky and dozens of smoke trails from detonations.

An ammunition depot and missile arsenal in southwestern Russia also caught fire in a separate attack Saturday in the Krasnodar region, triggering evacuations after the blaze caused a series of blasts. Videos on social media showed bright orange clouds rising over the horizon, as dull thuds of detonations sounded almost continuously. Russia's Defence Ministry early on Saturday claimed that its forces overnight shot down 101 Ukrainian drones over Russian territory. — Agencies

# PM Modi unlikely to meet Yunus on UN General Assembly sidelines

DHAKA, SEPTEMBER 21  
Bangladesh's Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain on Saturday said Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus will not be meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, according to media reports.

Hossain, former foreign secretary of Bangladesh, said he would hold a bilateral meeting with India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to advance the relationship between the two

### EAM will hold talks with Bldesh foreign adviser

neighbours, The Daily Star newspaper reported. At a press briefing at the foreign ministry in the afternoon, Hossain said, "Sorting out all issues, we want to further advance our relationship based on mutual respect and fairness."

"Our meeting with Jaishankar is almost certain. We have to acknowledge that there is a certain level of ten-

sion in our relations with India. To resolve any issues, we can't simply deny their existence. We will definitely try to move past the tension and establish a working relationship," Hossain said, according to The Dhaka Tribune newspaper.

Hossain said Nobel laureate Yunus, 84, who took oath as Chief Adviser of the interim government after former PM Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled to India in August, will not be meeting Modi as the Prime Minister will depart New York before Yunus. — PTI

# Harris accepts invite to 2nd debate, urges Trump to join

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 21  
US Vice-President Kamala Harris has accepted an invitation from CNN to participate in a debate on October 23, her campaign said on Saturday. "Donald Trump should have no problem agreeing to this debate. It is the same format and setup as the CNN debate he attended and said he won in June, when he praised CNN's moderators, rules, and ratings," campaign chair Jen O'Malley Dillon said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said in an



Kamala Harris

interview that Russian President Vladimir Putin was joking when he said Moscow was supporting Democratic candidate Kamala Harris in presidential election. — Reuters

# Record rain in Japan's quake-stricken region

TOKYO, SEPTEMBER 21  
Record rain in central Japan's Noto region, still recovering from a major New Year's Day earthquake, killed at least one person on Saturday, prompted evacuation orders for tens of thousands and caused blackouts for more than 6,000 households. Seven people, including four working on quake reconstruction, were missing, and calls for rescue were swamping the fire department, public broadcaster NHK reported.

Hourly rainfall hit record 121 mm on Saturday morning

in Wajima, while neighbouring Suzu received 84.5 mm in an hour, also an all-time high. TV footage showed brown floodwater turning streets into rivers in Wajima, with cars half submerged.

Eiichi Higashi, a Wajima resident taking shelter at an evacuation centre within the city, told NHK that people were rushing to the facility as evening neared. "It's tough to see people who live in temporary housing after losing their houses to the quake now coming to yet another shelter because of the rain," Higashi said. — Reuters



An aerial view of a flooded residential area in Japan. REUTERS

# 5.3 magnitude quake hits Taiwan

TAIPEI, SEPTEMBER 21  
A 5.3 magnitude earthquake struck Taiwan's sparsely populated east coast county of Hualien on Saturday, the island's weather administration said, with no immediate reports of damage.

The quake shook buildings in the capital, Taipei. It had a depth of 17 km, the weather administration said. Taiwan lies near the junction of two tectonic plates and is prone to earthquakes. In April, Hualien was hit by the biggest earthquake to affect Taiwan in 25 years. — Agencies

# 4 ISIS terrorists held in Pak's Punjab province

LAHORE, SEPTEMBER 21  
Four alleged ISIS terrorists were arrested in Pakistan's Punjab province, the police said on Saturday. A spokesperson of Punjab Police's Counter Terrorism Department said acting on a tip-off, the CTD raided the hideouts of terrorists in four cities of Punjab — Lahore, Toba Tek Singh, Bahawalpur and Mianwali — and arrested as many terrorists belonging to Daesh (ISIS).

The terrorists have been identified as Amjadur Rehman, Sher Ali, Zahabullah and Tayyab Raees. The police recovered 2,570 grams of explosives, three detona-

tors, 18.7 feet of safety fuse wire, a Kalashnikov rifle with 40 rounds of ammunition, a 30-bore pistol with 20 bullets, four hand grenades and banned literature of ISIS from their possession.

The CTD spokesperson said the arrested terrorists had planned to target important installations and personalities. Meanwhile, CTD Punjab has conducted 980 combing operations this week, in collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, screening 32,662 individuals. These operations led to the arrest of 109 suspects and the registration of 102 FIRs, with 88 recoveries reported. — PTI

# Kiwi pilot's 19-month captivity under Indonesian militants ends

JAKARTA, SEPTEMBER 21  
New Zealand pilot Phillip Mehrrens has been freed more than 19 months after being kidnapped by armed separatists in Indonesia's Papua, authorities said on Saturday. Mehrrens was freed and picked up by a joint team in the Nduga area, after undergoing health checks-ups and a psychological examination in Timika regency, the Indonesian police said in a statement.

A spokesman for the Indonesian police, Bayu Suseno, said Mehrrens will be flown to Jakarta in an air force plane and is estimated to arrive at the Halim Perdanakusuma airbase in east



Phillip Mehrrens

Jakarta. A faction of the West Papua National Liberation Army (TPNPB), led by Egianus Kogoya, kidnapped Mehrrens on February 7, 2023, after he landed a small commercial plane in

the remote, mountainous area of Nduga.

New Zealand PM Christopher Luxon said on X he was grateful Mehrrens had been released. In August, another New Zealand pilot, Glen Malcolm Conning, was killed by separatist rebels in Papua after landing his helicopter in a remote area, authorities said at the time.

In 1996, the Free Papua Movement abducted 26 members of a World Wildlife Fund research mission in Mapenduma. Two kidnapped Indonesians were killed by their abductors. The remaining hostages were freed within five months. — Reuters

# Oyo to expand US market with \$525 mn purchase of hotel chain

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 21  
Budget motel chain Motel 6 is being acquired by the parent company of Oyo. The New York-based investment firm Blackstone, which owns Motel 6's parent company G6 Hospitality, announced that the deal would be an all-cash transaction worth \$525 million.

The transaction will also include the sale of the Studio 6 motel brand, which caters to customers seeking extended stays. The deal is expected to close by the end of the year.

Oyo, which launched in India just over a decade ago, has been expanding its footprint in the US over the past few years. The company says

it currently operates 320 hotels across 35 states and is aiming to add 250 more this year.

"This acquisition is a significant milestone for a start-up company like us to strengthen our international presence," Gautam Swaroop, OYO's international division chief, said in a statement. Blackstone had purchased Motel 6 and Studio 6 in 2012 for \$1.9 billion. Since then, the private equity giant says it has heavily invested in the brand and pursued a strategy that converted the chain into a franchise.

"This transaction is a terrific outcome for investors and is the culmination of an ambi-

tious business plan that more than tripled our investors' capital and generated over \$1 billion in profit over our hold period," Rob Harper, the head of Blackstone Real Estate Asset Management Americas, said in a statement.

Under the deal, Oravel Stays, which owns Oyo, will acquire G6 Hospitality. Julie Arrowsmith, Chief Executive Officer at G6 Hospitality said: "Oyo's innovative approach to hospitality will allow us to enhance our offerings and great value to our guests while maintaining the iconic Motel 6 brand that travellers have trusted for over six decades." — Agencies

## Ties closer, more dynamic than ever: Biden, Modi hold talks

On PM's visit eve, White House officials meet Sikh activists over safety

AJAY BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 US President Joe Biden on Saturday described the India-US relations as "stronger" and "closer" than any time in history. He made the statement after holding bilateral talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who arrived on a three-day visit to hold bilateral talks and attend the Quad summit.

On the eve of the visit, top-ranking White House and intelligence officials met a group of American Sikh activists to discuss "issues pertaining to their safety". A US federal court in New York had recently summoned the Indian Government and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval among others acting on a civil lawsuit filed by Khalistani terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had dismissed the summons as "unwarranted and unsubstantiated". The US has accused Indian nationals of trying to assassinate Pannun, who heads the banned Sikhs for Justice.



PM Narendra Modi being received by US President Joe Biden in Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday. PTI

**“The Indian community has distinguished itself in the US... Let's celebrate the bonds that connect our nations! – Narendra Modi, PM**

The 75-minute Modi-Biden meeting at Wilmington (Delaware), the hometown of US President, ended in the wee hours on Sunday (IST). The US President later posted on X: "The US partnership with India is stronger, closer and more dynamic than any time in history."

"PM Modi, each time we sit down, I'm struck by our ability to find new areas of cooperation. Today was no different," he said.

The two leaders discussed the bilateral ties with a focus on semi-conductors, space and defence technology. They reviewed the comprehensive global strategic partnership

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

### AT HELM



Atishi seeks AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal's blessings after taking oath as Delhi Chief Minister. LG VK Saxena is also seen. ANI/INSIDE

## Shouldn't Sikhs practise religion freely? Rahul defends his US remarks

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday asked the Sikhs whether there was anything wrong about his recent remarks in the US which essentially pertained to religious freedom of minorities in India.

He said, "The BJP has been spreading lies about my remarks in America. I want to ask every Sikh brother and sister in India and abroad—is there anything wrong in what I have said? Shouldn't India be a country where every Sikh—and every Indian—can practise his/her religion without fear?"

### FIR against Cong leader in Karnataka

In a post on X, he said, "As usual, the BJP is resorting to lies. They are desperate to silence me because they cannot stand the truth. But I will always speak up for the values that define India: our unity in diversity, equality and love." Rahul also posted a video of the comments he had made in the US.

While taking part in an event in Washington DC, Rahul had accused the BJP of pushing ahead with its

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Justice Shakti new Himachal CJ

NEW DELHI: Over two months after the SC Collegium recommended names for the appointment of CJs to the high courts of Delhi, HP, J&K and Ladakh, Kerala, MP, Madras and Meghalaya, the Centre on Saturday notified the appointments. Justice Rajiv Shakti of the Delhi HC will be the new CJ of the HP HC while Justice Manmohan has been appointed the CJ of the Delhi HC. INSIDE

## Air Marshal AP Singh next IAF Chief

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 Air Marshal AP Singh has been appointed as the next Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF). He is a fighter pilot and is currently serving as the Vice Chief.

He is slated to take over on September 30, when Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari superannuates.

Air Marshal Singh has been test-flying the indige-



Air Marshal AP Singh

nous Light Combat Aircraft Tejas—the latest sortie being 10 days ago when he flew the fighter jet over Jodhpur during the multi-nation exercise "Tarang Shakti".

Announcing the appointment, the Ministry of Defence said "he was the Project Director (Flight Test) at the National Flight Test Centre and was tasked with flight-testing the LCA Tejas".

Air Marshal Singh is the fourth officer—after Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh, Air Chief Marshal Dilbagh Singh

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## Oppn, RWAs gun for Saini govt over 'S+4' move

GEETANJALI GAYATRI AND SUMEDHA SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 21 The Haryana Government has opened a second front in the thick of the Assembly elections, with several Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) as well as Opposition leaders threatening to approach the Election Commission against the caretaker Nayab Singh Saini government goes ahead with its decision to open up construction in residential areas

### Term decision totally wrong, ask EC to step in

to reach four floors. From Congress leader Bhupinder Hooda to JJP leader Dushyant Chautala to several RWAs, a storm of protest is gathering to oppose the BJP's decision to side-step the court case and go ahead with still-plus-four construction.

Both opposition politicians and civil society activists say they are deeply distressed with the BJP's decision,

without a proper study of the attendant issues involved, like parking, water, electricity and sewerage.

Congress leader Bhupinder Hooda said the move smacked of government's "vested interest". Stating that the BJP was flip-flopping on the decision, Hooda said, "This is a confused government. This cannot be done. It is completely wrong, especially since this is a care-

taker government." Maintaining that the BJP, worried about the building momentum against 'S+4' put the construction on hold in August, Yashvir Malik, chairman of the confederation of 287 RWAs, said allowing construction now, showed that the BJP was playing into the hands of the builder lobby.

"My information is that the BJP wants to fulfil its commitment to the builders by getting such projects cleared

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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BJP candidate Arti Rao, daughter of Union Minister Rao Inderjit Singh, addresses a poll meeting in Ateli on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## Will ensure overall growth of Ateli: Arti

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### IT'S TIME TO TAKE REGION FORWARD

“The BJP has always given priority to people's interests and now the time has come to take this region forward on the path of development.”

Arti Rao, SP, ATOLI/ONDITE

MAHENDRAGARH, SEPTEMBER 21

Ateli BJP candidate Arti Rao, daughter of Union Minister Rao Inderjit Singh, today addressed poll meetings in Kaanti, Kheri Nawadi and Rampura village in the district.

“My aim is not just to win the election but to bring about overall development of this area with your trust. I request you to give your valuable vote to the BJP in the upcoming elections and join us in making the future of Ateli bright,” said Arti while speaking on the occasion.

She said the BJP had a clear vision for the development of Ateli. “We will together create a future where everyone gets equal opportunities and our young generation can get better employment, education and health services. The BJP

has always given priority to people's interests and now the time has come to take this region forward on the path of development.”

Arti said: “Under the leadership of PM Modi, we are determined to develop not only Ateli but the entire Haryana. The schemes made by the BJP for the development of Haryana will reach the people of Ateli. The benefits of such schemes will reach farmers, youth, women and the elderly.”

## Khattar invites Selja to switch sides, join BJP

PARVEEN ARORA & NITISH SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL/KURUKSHETRA, SEPT 21 Taking a dig at the growing factionalism in the Congress, former CM and Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar invited Congress MP Kumari Selja to switch sides and join the BJP. He highlighted the internal rifts within the Congress and took an indirect jibe at former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda and his son Deepender Hooda without naming them.

“There is no clarity on the CM candidate in Congress. The father wants to be CM, the son wants the same, and even leaders from outside their family want the same. Everyone may have aspirations, but there is no greater example of disrespect than the humiliation faced by a Dalit sister of ours, who was insulted and forced to sit at home. We are ready to bring her into our party fold if she is willing,” Khattar said while addressing a gathering at Gharanda in support of the party's candidate, Harvinder Kalyan, late on Friday.

Khattar's statement comes at a time when the Congress is grappling with factionalism and growing dissent within its ranks, with party leader Selja notably absent from the campaign trail.

In another event held at Karnal, when asked if the Congress MP would join the BJP, Khattar said, “It is



Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar campaigns for BJP candidate Anil Vij in Ambala Cantonment on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

### SLAMS CONG FOR 'INSULTING' DALIT LEADER

Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Saturday at Ladwa, slammed Congress leaders for objectionable remarks against their leader Kumari Selja and said society would never forgive them. “There is a sister who belongs to the Dalit community, whom they leave no opportunity to insult. Though she belongs to the Opposition party, the kind of words used against a woman are not acceptable and society will not forgive them,” he said.

a world of possibilities, and people are lined up for the possibilities cannot be ruled out. You will know everything when the right time comes.”

Khattar further said that the Congress was unlikely to form the government. “If they were confident about forming the government, why were they seeking alliances? No party has come forward to form an alliance with them,” he said.

In Ladwa, he addressed a gathering in support of BJP Ladwa candidate Nayab Singh Saini. He said many

people are lined up for the post of CM in the Congress. “We used to say that Congress is not a party, but a ‘kabja’ (field) of father and son, but for the past few days, they both want to become the CM. There are many people lined up for the post of CM in the Congress,” he said. Later in the evening, Khattar participated in a door-to-door campaign in support of BJP candidate Anil Vij in the market area of Ambala Cantonment. He also addressed the BJP workers at party event.

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कमल का बटन दवाएं बीजेपी को जिताएं

## Lalu's son campaigns for Rewari Cong candidate, woos migrants

RAVINDER SAINI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

REWARI, SEPTEMBER 21 Former Bihar minister Tej Pratap Yadav, son of former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav, today addressed poll meetings in Kharkara and Dharuhera town here to woo migrant labourers who reside in a considerable number in Rewari constituency.

He came here to seek votes for Congress candidate and his close relative Chiranjeev Rao, who is trying his luck in the poll battle from Rewari for the second time. Chiranjeev is the son of former minister Capt Ajay Singh Yadav.



Former Bihar minister Tej Pratap Yadav in Rewari. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Attacking the BJP government, Tej Pratap said, “The CBI and ED carried out raids on our premises but we did not leave the support of truth as my family never learnt to

bow down. Similar is Chiranjeev's family which has been serving Rewari for the past 50 years. Hence, you should vote for him for the betterment of your region.”

## BJP betrayed youth by bringing Agnipath scheme: Mann

RAVINDER SAINI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

REWARI, SEPTEMBER 21 Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann today launched a scathing attack on the BJP stating that it had worked to betray Haryana youth by implementing the Agnipath scheme. He also put the BJP government in the dock over corruption and unemployment issues.

“The BJP has worked to ruin the future of Haryana youth by making them Agniveer as he will be recruited at the age of 18, will retire at 22,” said Mann, while addressing the people during a road show in Rewari. He came here to seek votes for AAP candidate Satish Yadav from the segment



Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann accompanied by AAP candidate Satish Yadav during a roadshow in Rewari.

Flagging the issue of unemployment in the state, the Punjab CM said, “As per a report of the Central Government, the

rate of unemployment in Haryana is five times the rate of the whole country. At the same time, then Haryana Chief Min-

ister Khattar asked the youths to join the Russian army. As far as Punjab is concerned, I have given 45,000 government jobs

in two and a half years.”

He claimed the AAP government in Punjab had also arranged private jobs for three lakh youth. At the same time, Arvind Kejriwal had provided jobs to 10 lakh youth in the private sector in Delhi. The intention should be clear to do so, he added. Taking a dig at the BJP for changing its CM in Haryana, Mann said: “Earlier they used to say double engine, in between one engine broke down. It was removed but the new engine does not know which track to run on. They do not know anything.”

During the roadshow, AAP supporters showered flowers on Mann and raised slogans of ‘Badenge Haryana ka hal, ab kaayenge Kejriwal’.

### The Tribune INTERVIEW: BIRENDER SINGH, CONGRESS LEADER

## Being Dalit leader, Selja's role crucial in poll

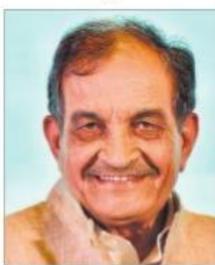
A five-time MLA and four-time MP, Birender Singh returned to the Congress before the Lok Sabha elections in April after a gap of 10 years. His son Brijendra Singh, who joined the Congress a month before him, is now contesting from the family bastion of Uchana Kalan in the Assembly poll, where he is pitted against former Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala. Birender, who hails from Jat icon Sir Chotu Ram's family, in an interview with **Bhartesh Singh Thakur** discussed the state of affairs in the Congress and hosts of other issues. The excerpts:

■ **The BJP claims that former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda has mistreated Kumari Selja. She has been missing from the Congress campaign too.** The BJP rakes up petty issues. I don't give much credence to what they say. I don't think Selja is missing

from the campaign. She goes to constituencies where she has the influence. I have asked her to cover some constituencies in Jind. She is an important leader. There was an upsurge in Scheduled Castes (SC) votes for the party and the INDIA bloc in the LS poll. SCs have rallied behind the Congress. The best example is UP, where the BJP has been reduced to 34 seats (33). Being a Dalit leader, Selja plays a crucial role not only at the national level but also in the state poll.

■ **Will she campaign for your son Brijendra?** I have asked Selja and Ran-deep Surjewala to campaign for Brijendra, while Hooda recently sought votes for him as well. I am expecting Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka too.

■ **The Hooda camp has received the lion's share of Congress tickets while just a few went to the Selja faction. Doesn't it reflect a**



“I know my place in the Congress. I may be away from electoral politics, but for the past 52 years, I have been in active politics. The new generation should take over the party now.”

### rift within the party?

More than 30 sitting MLAs have been re-nominated as they have been fighting the government for the last five years. I don't want to comment on which faction has

received more seats. Many have received tickets because of their strength.

■ **Did your son lose the Hisar ticket in the LS poll to Jai Prakash due to your past differences with Hooda?** There can be various reasons. Brijendra enjoys a good relationship with Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, as they were both part of the Parliament Standing Committee on Defence. However, he never sought a nomination from Rahul or Sonia Gandhi. He didn't leave the BJP because he was being denied the ticket like others.

■ **How do you see the JJP and the INLD in the poll?** The JJP has no future. Only four to five candidates will manage to save their deposits in the Assembly polls. Even Dushyant could lose his deposit. However, INLD may have some share in the Assembly. In 2019, the JJP got 10 seats as a mandate

against the BJP. However, the JJP formed a government with the BJP. I call it political corruption. People despise them (JJP). I can see that.

■ **You served as a minister in the Modi cabinet. Your son was a BJP MP in 2019. Why did you leave the BJP?** I could see their inner workings and found their philosophy damaging to society. There are four segments in society — agriculturists, army personnel, the working class, and minorities. The BJP targets all these groups. Some gain power by relying on religion and acting like monarchs. People are aware of their politics now.

■ **Are you getting your due in the Congress?** I know my place in the Congress. I may be away from electoral politics, but for the past 52 years, I have been in active politics. The new generation should take over the party now.

## Zee owner joins Cong campaign in Adampur, attacks Bishnois

DEEPENDER DESWAL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, SEPTEMBER 21 Zee group owner Subhash Chandra today joined the campaign for the Congress candidate Chander Prakash in Adampur constituency here today.

Chandra, who is a former Rajya Sabha MP, said though he was associated with the BJP, he had decided to support the Congress candidate Chander Prakash due to neglect of the Adampur segment by the sitting MLA of the BJP Bhavya Bishnoi.

“Kuldeep Bishnoi visited me yesterday to seek support and stayed with me for an hour. He insisted on my blessings. But I questioned him for what had he or his son Bhavya Bishnoi done for the Adampur segment,” he said. Chandra said Bishnoi made a claim of investing Rs 800 crore for the development works. “But I asked him to give details of just Rs 80 crore and promised to



Zee group owner Subhash Chandra campaigns for the Congress candidate in Adampur on Saturday. PHOTO: ASHOK KUNDU

campaign for him if he is able to provide details of works worth Rs 80 crore. He could not count the works of even Rs 4 crore,” he said. The former Rajya Sabha MP further attacked Bishnoi stating that he saw a newly built kothi in Adampur mandi of Bishnoi. It seemed that he had invested Rs 80 crore in building this kothi,” he remarked.

Chandra claimed that it seemed to be a wave in

favour of the Congress in Haryana. “I will continue my public contact programme. He said that people told him that the new MLA (referring to Bhavya Bishnoi of BJP). “Adampur which is my birthplace has become one of the worst backward segments in Haryana,” he said. Terming Bhupinder Singh Hooda as next chief minister, he said that Hooda is his friend.

# National leaders missing, Hooda alone managing show for Cong

**BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 21**  
With national leaders missing from the Congress campaign so far, former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda is holding the show for the party alone.

Having received requests from most candidates, Hooda has been holding 11 to 12 public meetings daily, with multiple rallies in each constituency. Besides this, the 78-year-old leader has been holding press conferences, giving interviews and remaining present during new joinings in the party.

While other senior state leaders were absent, he presided over the release of seven guarantees by the party on September 18 in Delhi.

On the other hand, for the BJP, PM Narendra Modi held a rally in Kurukshetra on September 14, with three more rallies planned after his US visit. Home Minister Amit Shah held rallies in Faridabad and Loharu on September 17. Additionally, Union Power Minister and former CM Manohar Lal Khattar, along with CM Nayab Singh Saini, are holding public meetings across the state.

Former Delhi CM and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal held a roadshow in Jagadhri on Friday. Recently released from jail, he is sched-



Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda addresses a poll meeting in Jhajjar on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

uled to address rallies in Rania, Dabwali, Pundri, Dadri, Assandh, Bhiwani, Meham, Kalayat, Rewari, Ballabgarh and Badha from September 23 onwards.

Congress' campaign is yet to peak like that of its rivals. The party has not released any programme regarding rallies by the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi or Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi. Former Union Minister and Sirsa Kumari Selja has also kept herself aloof from campaigning. However, Rajasthan leader Sachin Pilot is visiting the state on September 22.

"Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge will visit Ambala and Gharanda on September 23. The programme for Rahul Gandhi

is yet to be chalked out," said Hooda. He confirmed, "It is true. Almost all the candidates have requested me for campaigning."

As a frontrunner for the CM's post should the Congress come to power, it has become Hooda vs. the rest of the parties in the state. From PM Modi to Amit Shah to CM Nayab Singh Saini, Hooda has become the target.

A crucial link for consolidating Jats behind the Congress, Hooda is likely to tour as many constituencies as possible, particularly those dominated by Jats. Having managed to allocate about 78 seats to his loyalists, Hooda's strategy has been to exploit anti-incumbency against the BJP while galvanizing voters around issues concerning

'kisan, jawan and pehalwan'. However, Prof Ashutosh Kumar from the Department of Political Science, Panjab University (PU), differs with the Congress strategy. "It has become national leadership of the BJP vs. Hooda in Haryana. We have seen a similar Congress strategy in Madhya Pradesh too in 2023, and it boomeranged as the party kept all its eggs in Kamal Nath's basket. It also shows a weak high command. On the other hand, the BJP bringing Modi, Shah and other national leaders to Haryana makes sense. It tones down people's anger towards their local candidates when there is high anti-incumbency as we have seen it in other states too," he said.

# BJP cancelled 10 medical institutes in Jhajjar: Ex-CM

**RAVINDER SAINI**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**ROHTAK, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Saturday sought votes for Congress candidates in Badli, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar and Rohtak constituencies. He held 10 public meetings in quick succession and claimed a big victory for the Congress after seeing the public enthusiasm.

Addressing the public meetings in Jhajjar, Hooda accompanied by the Congress candidates — Geeta Bhukkal and Kuldeep Vats — said many big projects like AIIMS in Jhajjar's Badhsa, National Cancer Institute, Central Yoga and Natural Research Institute in Devrakhana, Global Nuclear Energy Partnership Centre in Jasaur Kheri, Metro line to Bahadurgarh, Industrial Footwear Park, two thermal power plants came up during the Congress government in the state.

"The BJP has always given step-motherly treatment to Jhajjar. Instead of bringing any new project, the BJP government cancelled 10 national-level medical institutes approved by the Congress in Badhsa. The people of Jhajjar will give a reply to this anti-people mentality of the BJP on October 5 and work to speed up the development of Jhajjar by electing all Congress candidates," he said.

# For causing 'nuisance', 300 families call for boycott of Ind G'gram candidate

**SUMEDHA SHARMA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**GURUGRAM, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Troubled by the "civic nuisance" created by Independent candidate from Gurugram Assembly segment, Naveen Goyal, as many as 300 senior citizen families of Sector 17-A have launched a 'Boycott Goyal' campaign.

Led by the local RWA, these ex-Army men and bureaucrats are residents of the same sector as Goyal. They have been accusing him of causing civic nuisance in the area.

The residents claim that while they tried reasoning with Goyal on many occasions about the inconvenience he was causing to the public by opening his political office at his residence, they were rebuffed and even roughed up by his staff.

Pushed into a corner, the residents have decided to launch a campaign to urge residents of Gurugram to vote against him. The residents claim he is not only misusing his residence as a political office which gets over 200 visitors each day, it has led to traffic chaos, parking chaos, littering and noise pollution.

They have alleged that Goyal has virtually taken over the sector park where his workers camp all day — loitering around, littering the place, playing cards and "misbehaving" with senior citizens.

"This man is responsible for

Has opened political office at his residence



Haphazardly parked vehicles outside Independent candidate Naveen Goyal's residence in Gurugram. TRIBUNE PHOTO

creating the same civic issues in our society that he promises to resolve for the city. We are all senior citizen families here and ever since he got politically active, our lives have been hell. His house is on main entry road which is always congested, thanks to wrongly parked cars, buses and his campaign vehicles. They throw garbage on the road and the place is littered with plastic cups and plates. If he can't keep his own house in order, he can't be trusted with the city. That prompted us to campaign against him and ensure the city makes the right

choice," said RWA president Rakesh Jinsi.

Local BJP candidate Mukesh Sharma said that the party didn't consider Goyal for ticket for exactly the same reason. "When his own neighbours are against him, how could the city accept him? People have seen through Naveen Goyal. He will be defeated by the people," said Sharma.

The sector residents yesterday had issued a "warning letter" to Naveen Goyal. He is yet to respond to it.

Naveen Goyal remained unavailable for comments till the filing of the report.

# Barala suffers minor injuries in mishap

**HISAR, SEPTEMBER 21**

Rajya Sabha MP and former president of Haryana BJP, Subhash Barala, suffered minor injuries when his car rammed into a tree along the road near Sherpura road in Bhiwani district on Saturday evening. He was returning from Loharu to Hisar. His car skidded off the road and rammed into a roadside tree. Barala was taken to a private hospital in Hisar town. — TNS



BJP leader Subhash Barala's car that met with an accident in Bhiwani on Saturday evening.

# End my 30-year exile with votes: F'bad Cong candidate

**BIJENDRA AHLAWAT**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**FARIDABAD, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Attempting to strike an emotional chord with residents, Lakhari Singla, Congress candidate from Faridabad Assem-

bly constituency, has appealed to voters to end his 30-year exile in the political field.

Addressing a series of meetings in the constituency on Saturday, Singla said that this was the time when he needed

their blessings as he had been serving them with dedication for 30 years and wished to represent them on a bigger platform like state Assembly.

Singla had lost the last Assembly election from this

seat by a margin of 21,000 votes to BJP candidate Narendra Gupta. In 2014, Singla, who was fielded as Congress candidate from Ballabgarh segment, had lost to Mool Chand Sharma of the BJP.

# BKU-Tikait to oppose BJP

**PALWAL, SEPTEMBER 21**

The district unit of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (Tikait) has resolved to oppose BJP candidates in the Assembly election on October 5.

At a meeting held here today, the union resolved to lend its support to any non-BJP candidate who could ensure the defeat of the ruling party candidates from all segments in the district.

The meeting presided over by Ratan Singh Sorot, national secretary of the union, resolved that the members owing allegiance to BKU (Tikait) would oppose the BJP as the party had made the farmers suffer during its 10-year rule at the Centre and state. The meeting held under the chairmanship of Pandit Daniram decided that the union would work to ensure the ouster of BJP in the state.



A meeting of farmers in Palwal on Saturday.

Sorot said while the union would not support any particular party, it would extend support to strong candidates from various segments who may be from any other party except the BJP in these elections. He said the harassment of women wrestlers has been unprecedented.

The demands of farmers regarding MSP and the implementation of the Swaminathan Commission also remain unmet. — TNS



**कृषि वैज्ञानिक चयन मंडल**  
(कृषि अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा विभाग)  
चयन भवन, पूसा कैम्पस, नई दिल्ली-110012

**AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS RECRUITMENT BOARD**  
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION)  
Chayan Bhavan, Pusa Campus, New Delhi — 110012

File No. 10(03)/2024-Rectt.I

**NOTICE**

ASRB invites online applications for filling up 04 (Four) Research Management Positions (RMP) to be filled up on tenure basis for a period of five years at Research Institutes of ICAR. Candidates are required to apply online using the application form link available on the website: <http://www.asrb.org.in> only. No other mode of filling of application is allowed.

The closing date and time for submission of online application form for the position shall be **22.10.2024 (05.00 P.M.)**.

Detailed Advertisement for the position regarding the post/pay scale/pay level and eligibility conditions may be accessed and downloaded from the website of the Board [www.asrb.org.in](http://www.asrb.org.in)

CBC 01307/12/0003/2425 **SECRETARY**

# पोषण माह

1<sup>st</sup> से 30<sup>th</sup> सितम्बर 2024

## एक पेड़ माँ के नाम



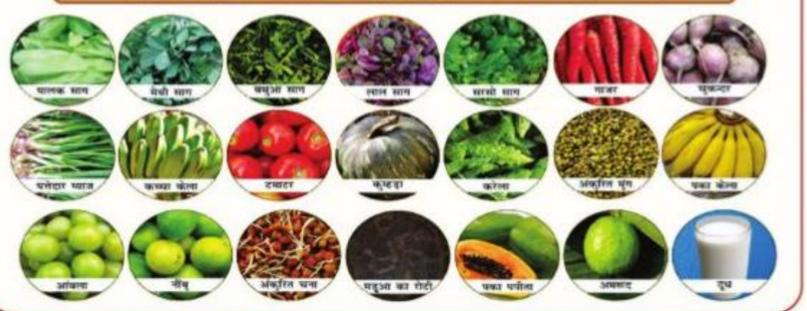
5 वर्ष तक के बच्चों का वजन कटाएँ, अतिकुपोषित बच्चों का संदर्भन एवं उपचार अस्पताल में करवाएँ।

नियमित टीकाकरण से छूटे हुए बच्चों को टीके अवश्य लगवाएँ।

अपने भोजन में आयोडीन युक्त नमक का ही प्रयोग करें।

छह माह से अधिक आयु के बच्चों को माँ के दूध के साथ ऊपरी आहार देना भी अवश्य

खून में आयरन की मात्रा को बढ़ाने एवं भोजन में जरूरी पोषक तत्वों के लिए अपने भोजन में शामिल करें



- 6 माह से 5 वर्ष तक के बच्चों को आयरन फॉलिक एसिड सिरप सप्ताह में दो बार
- 6 वर्ष से 9 वर्ष तक के बच्चों को आयरन फॉलिक एसिड की गुलाबी गोली सप्ताह में एक बार
- 10 वर्ष से 19 वर्ष तक के बच्चों को आयरन फॉलिक एसिड की नीली गोली सप्ताह में एक बार

**9 माह से 5 वर्ष के सभी बच्चों को विटामिन ए की खुराक छः माह के अंतराल पर अवश्य पिलाएँ।**

**राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन**  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, हिमाचल प्रदेश




# JJP holds the key to Vidhan Sabha, says Ajay

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**KURUKSHETRA, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Jannayak Janta Party leader Ajay Chautala today said the JJP was getting a good response from the people of Haryana and his party held the key to the Haryana Assembly.

After attending an event, in support of party candidate Dr Sukhwinder Kaur in Pehowa, he said: "We have been doing our job continuously and the decision is to be taken by the people. The JJP is getting a good response and I can say that the lock of the Assembly will be opened by our key."

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH**  
6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW

No. ME-3/2024/2106 Lucknow: Dated-21 September, 2024

**Important information regarding registration for online Counseling UP NEET PG-2024**

In the order of guidelines given in the meeting held on 20.09.2024 by NBEMS, MCC and NMC New Delhi, the dates of online registration (online registration) in MD/MS/Diploma/DNB courses under the counseling of UP NEET PG-2024 are fixed as follows-

S.No.	Description	Dates	Total Days
1	Date of online Registration & deposit of Security money	23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024 (From 12:00 Noon) to 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 (Till 05:00 PM)	06 Days

- Only the candidates declared successful in the NEET PG-2024 entrance examination are eligible to participate in the counseling of UP NEET PG-2024.
- The portal will be opened only once for online registration of eligible candidates under UP NEET PG Counseling-2024.
- Only the candidates registered on the dates prescribed above will be eligible to participate in the counseling process for the first round, second round, third round and stray vacancy round. Online registration for UP NEET PG 2024 will not be opened for every round of counseling, nor will the applications received in this regard be considered.
- For the counseling of UP NEET PG 2024, it is mandatory for the eligible candidates to register by logging on to the website <https://upneet.gov.in> and depositing the registration fee of Rs. 3000/- (Rs. three thousand only) online. The registration fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.
- The Security Money is Rs. 30,000/- (Rs. thirty thousand only) for the seats in the government sector (MD/MS/Diploma/DNB courses) and Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rs. two lakh only) for the seats in the private sector (MD/MS courses) to participate in the counseling. On depositing the security amount of Rs. 2,00,000/-, the candidate will be eligible for counselling for private and government seats.
- Such candidates whose security amount is not deposited will not be eligible for choice filling in the counselling process.
- Disability certificate of disabled candidates will be valid only on the format issued from the centres prescribed by Government of India.
- All information related to UP NEET PG 2024 counseling will be uploaded on website <https://upneet.gov.in> and [www.dgme.up.gov.in](http://www.dgme.up.gov.in).

(Director General)

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE 2024/A-10 ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS/SITES**  
 Tenders are invited under two bid system for allotment of under mentioned shops/sites:-  
 1. Built up Chemist Shop (measuring 9' - 4" X 12' - 6" x 2) at Level II, New OPD Block for sale of medicines, drugs, vaccines and surgical items at PGIMER, Chandigarh.  
 Closing date & time: 14.10.2024 at 11.00 AM.  
 The link for the e-Bidding portal is <http://procure.gov.in/eprocure/app>  
 Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <http://procure.gov.in/eprocure/app> Website: <http://pgimer.edu.in>  
 DI-13803 DIRECTOR

**PUNJAB REMOTE SENSING CENTRE, LUDHIANA**  
 (A Government of Punjab Enterprise)  
**P.A.U. Campus, Ludhiana - 141004 [www.prs.c.gov.in](http://www.prs.c.gov.in)**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
 Sealed tenders are invited to engage the services of "Security Service Provider" for providing security of PRSC campus on outsourcing basis.  
**Sr. Tender Ref No. Date of issue/download/ Tender document**  
 1. Tender No. Tender/PRSC/2024-25/008 23.09.2024  
 Detailed tender document containing terms and conditions may be downloaded from website [www.prs.c.gov.in](http://www.prs.c.gov.in). The last date for submission of bid document is 21.10.2024 upto 4.00 pm at the aforesaid address.  
 DPR/PB/37878 Sd/- Director, PRSC

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**  
 No. PGI/Engg/C-III/2024/252  
**Re-Invitation E-Tender Notice (Short Term)**  
 The Hospital Engineer (Civil-II), PGIMER, Chandigarh invites on behalf of the Director PGIMER, Chandigarh online Percentage rate bids from the eligible contractors of appropriate class in CPWD/Department of Posts,BSNL/Railways/M.E.S./Chandigarh Administration/CHB/MC Chandigarh/State PWDs/HUDA/PUDA/State Electricity Boards & Corporations dealing in Road works in two bid system (Eligibility Bid & Financial Bid) for the following works:-  
**NI No.:** PGI/Engg/HC/Civil-II/2024/252. **Name of Work:** Widening of roads around Bank towards Community Centre & Neuroscience Centre including Creation of Parking behind Bank, PGIMER, Chandigarh. **Estimated Cost:** Rs.66.22 Lakh. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1.32,440/-  
**Period of Completion:** 02, Months. Last date and time of submission of bid: 26.09.2024 upto 3:00 PM. Last date & time for submission of Original EMD or EMD exemption certificate: 27.09.2024 upto 3:00 PM. Date and time of opening of Eligibility bid: 27.09.2024 at 3:30 PM. Date and time of opening of Financial bid: To be declared later on the original EMD or EMD exemption certificate for MSEMSE as scanned & uploaded shall be deposited physically by all the intending bidders in the office of H.E. (Civil-II) as per above schedule failing which the bid shall be treated as invalid. The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website [www.prcprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app](http://www.prcprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app) and official website of the PGIMER [www.pgimer.edu.in](http://www.pgimer.edu.in). Press notice is also available on [www.prcprocure.gov.in](http://www.prcprocure.gov.in). The contractors are requested to get their firm registered on the website [www.prcprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app](http://www.prcprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app) for participating in e-tendering process. (Helpdesk No. for registration- 0172-2758662 & 988447883).  
 DI-13802 HOSPITAL ENGINEER (CIVIL-II)

**HIMACHAL PRADESH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
 The Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No-II, HPPWD, Shimla-3 on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of contractors registered with HP.PWD., for the work as detailed in the table.  

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender
1.	Restoration of rain damages under Shimla Division No. III (SH:- Construction of retaining wall for front side protection and fencing at boundary wall in SPM Ground).	Rs. 1494805.00	Rs. 29900.00	Rs. 500.00

Time Allowed: One Month  
 Starting date of downloading Bid: 21.09.2024  
 Deadline for submission of Bid: 25.09.2024  
 The bidders are advised to note other details, of tenders from the department website: [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in). The Executive Engineer reserves the right to accept/reject any tender/application without assigning any reason.  
 Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
 Shimla Division No-II, HPPWD, Shimla-3.  
 DPR/HP/2238

**Save Energy for the benefit of self and nation**  
**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.**  
 (A State Government Undertaking)  
**Open Tender Notice**  
 (Tender invited through e-tendering mode only)  
 Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited invites Online Open Tender in two part bid system (Part-I Technical Bid and Part-II Price Bid) through e-submission of competitive bids from the reputed and experienced Company/ Firm/ Contractors/ Enterprises for Comprehensive Facility Management Support (FMS) services towards IT & Non-IT Infra at Data Center Shimla and Disaster Recovery Center Paonta Sahib of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited (HPSEBL).  
 Technical bid will cover information relating to all aspects other than the price quoted and Financial bid will only cover the price quoted in the given performa in this tender document. The abstract of the estimated cost and tentative timelines proposed in the Tender is as follows:-  

EMD (in ₹)	₹8,00,000/-
Tender Doc. Cost (including GST @ 18%) (₹)	₹5900/-
Start date & time of bid purchase	30.09.2024 (11:00 AM)
Date of pre-bid meeting	25.09.2024 (11:00 AM)
End date & time of bid submission	10.10.2024 (11:00 AM)
Opening date of Part-I of bid.	10.10.2024 (03:00 PM)

1. The detailed terms and conditions along with tender documents can be viewed and downloaded free of cost at website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in>.  
 2. The copy of NIT shall also be available on website [www.hpseb.in](http://www.hpseb.in).  
 Chief Engineer (P&M), HPSEB, Vidhut Bhawan, Shimla-171004  
 Email: [cepmhpsebl@gmail.com](mailto:cepmhpsebl@gmail.com)

**TENDER NOTICE**  
 The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Nohradhar invites following offline tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from eligible contractors for the following work through offline process:-  

Sr. No.	Description	E/ Cost	E/ Money	Time	Cost of Form
1.	Providing GWSS to multi villages of G.P.Nohradhar, Choker, Deva Manal, Bharadi, Bhutti Manal, Shamra, Bhattan Bhujond, Gawaht, Lana Chata and ser Tandula Tehsil Nohradhar District Sirmour (HP). (SH:- C/O protection wall protect the filter bed front side from RD 0/0 to 15).	497556/-	9950/-	2 months	250/-
2.	Providing GWSS to multi villages of G.P.Nohradhar, Choker, Deva Manal, Bharadi, Bhutti Manal, Shamra, Bhattan Bhujond, Gawaht, Lana Chata and ser Tandula Tehsil Nohradhar District Sirmour (HP). (SH:- C/O protection wall protect the pump house front side from RD 0/0 to 10).	478598/-	9600/-	2 months	250/-
3.	C/O LIS Bhawai in G.P Bhawai Tehsil Sangrah District Sirmour H.P. UNDER HIMCAD). (SH:- Preparation of DPR Plan/Proposal, Survey/ investigation work for providing LIS to G.P Gehal Dimaina Tehsil Sangrah District Sirmour H.P).	490000/-	9800/-	2 months	250/-

The application for purchase of tender documents shall be entertained up to 3.00 PM dated 24.09.2024, non-refundable, in cash or by money order as per cost shown above. The tenders shall be received in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar up to 11.00 AM dated 25.09.2024 and shall be opened on the same day at 11:30 AM in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives if any.  
 Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
 Jal Shakti Division, Nohradhar.  
 DPR/HP/2211 HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

**NIILM University**  
 A UGC Recognized University  
**Ph.D Programme**  
 Application are invited for admissions in Ph.D Programme. Application form, Entrance Test, Number of Seats and other details can be downloaded from the university website (<http://www.niilmuniversity.ac.in>). Application form should be submitted along with demand draft of Rs. 5000/- in favour of "NIILM University" payable at Keorak or pay online as per Bank account detail: NIILM University, Account No. 50100159479920, HDFC Bank-Keorak, Kaithal, IFSC Code- HDFC 0003231 to the office of Registrar on or before 15.11.2024. The date of entrance test is 24.11.2024. Applicant can send the soft copy of form at Email id: [research@niilmuniversity.ac.in](mailto:research@niilmuniversity.ac.in)  
 NIILM University, NH-152, Kaithal-136027, Contact No. - 9992800357, 9992800242  
[www.niilmuniversity.ac.in](http://www.niilmuniversity.ac.in) | [admission@niilmuniversity.ac.in](mailto:admission@niilmuniversity.ac.in)

# Seeing maximum farm fires in past, Sangrur readies to deal with 14 LMT paddy stubble

**MANAGING CROP RESIDUE-II: The Tribune deep dives into factors behind annual farm-fire crisis**

**RUCHIKA M KHANNA & SUSHIL GOYAL**  
 TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
**CHANDIGARH/SANGRUR, SEPT 21**  
 Will the state's political capital Sangrur finally lead the way in the scientific management of 14 lakh metric tonne (LMT) paddy straw to be generated this year? Where there is a will, there is a way, says Deputy Commissioner Sandeep Rishi. He is full of hope that there will be a substantial reduction in the number of farm fires after paddy is harvested this year. From awareness campaigns by the district administration to setting up the biggest biogas plant here in 2022 to utilise paddy straw; from providing stubble-management equipment to farmers under the in-situ management plan to threats of red entries in the revenue records of errant farmers, the administration is going all out to implement its ambitious plan for scientific management of crop residue. The district is notorious for reporting the highest number of farm fires in the state for the past several years, ever since the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre started recording these incidents. This year, a definite plan is in place to check the environmentally dangerous exercise of burning paddy stubble. Of

**PROPOSED PLAN TO SET THINGS RIGHT**

- 14 LMT paddy stubble expected this year
- 10.4 LMT to be managed using in-situ methods
- 3.6 LMT to be managed through ex-situ methods

- Nodal Officer appointed for every panchayat to check farm fires
- 39 senior officials to keep check on nodal officers
- Overall supervision by ADCs and SDMs
- Of 250 awareness campaigns, 101 already organised
- DC Sandeep Rishi says besides lodging FIRs, red entries will also be made in the revenue records of erring farmers
- SHOs of various police stations will be responsible for the registration of cases of farm fires

Bales of paddy straw lie in a field. FILE PHOTO

the 36,663 incidents of farm fires recorded in the state in 2023, 5,600 were reported in Sangrur alone, with the entire district remaining enveloped in smog for many weeks during October-November. Although local residents and farmers also face health hazards due to stubble burning, they claim they have no option but to burn paddy stubble if the harvesting gets delayed

due to delayed monsoon. "Wheat sowing has to be completed by November 15. If the paddy crop matures late, a small farmer like me, who does not have his own stubble management machinery, will not take the risk of waiting for someone to come and cut the stubble, make its bales and take it away. He will simply burn the stubble and then sow wheat, as delay in sowing

could affect wheat yield," said a farmer at Lehragagga, insisting that economic factors ruled their judgement on managing paddy stubble. This farm fire hotspot district is considered power centre of farmer unions with the largest farmer union BKU (Ekta-Ugrahan) wielding huge influence here, both politically and administratively. This explains why in spite of

the highest number of farm fires, very few FIRs are registered here. Though environmental compensation of Rs 12 lakh was imposed on defaulters last year, only Rs 9 lakh has been recovered so far. This year also, union leaders remain adamant that they would resist any coercive action against farmers. Amrik Singh Ganduan, Sangrur district president of the BKU

(Ekta-Ugrahan), said though they tell farmers to save environment, the fact is that small farmers cannot afford to buy, and maintain the machinery. "The government should arrange for leasing the requisite machinery to the farmers at nominal rates. This said, we will stand by our farmers if any coercive action, including making red entries in records or registering FIRs, is taken by the government," he said. Adarsh Pal Vig, Chairman of the Punjab Pollution Control Board, claimed there was a big boost to both in-situ and ex-situ stubble management, with machines being provided well in advance. Hopefully, there would be a drastic reduction in farm fire incidents. In 2023, there 27 per cent reduction in farm fires as compared to the stats for 2022. Since elaborate plans have been chalked out at the district level to tackle such cases this year, the situation should be much better," he said. But will the CM's home district, which also boasts of sending Harpal Cheema and Aman Arora to the Council of Ministers, reverse the trend this year and wean farmers away from stubble burning in both in-situ and ex-situ stubble management, only time will tell.

## IN BRIEF

**AAP legislator bereaved**  
 Amritsar: Former Inspector General and Amritsar (North) AAP MLA Kunwar Vijay Pratap Singh's wife Madhumati passed away on Saturday. AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal and Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann also expressed condolences. Madhumati faced difficulty in breathing on Friday and was immediately rushed to a private hospital where her health deteriorated further. TNS

**Man 'beaten' to death**  
 Sangrur: Balwinder Singh of Aklia village in Mansa was allegedly beaten to death by a woman, her husband and their aide at Longoval village. Gurcharan Singh, father of Balwinder, told the police that his son and the accused woman were in a relationship. SHO Jatinderpal Singh said all three accused were produced in a court, which remanded them in three-day police custody. oc

**47 cadets clear NDA test**  
 Chandigarh: Forty-seven cadets of the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Armed Forces Preparatory Institute, Mohali, have cleared the written exam for the National Defence Academy (NDA). At present, 21 cadets, who have cleared their service selection board interview, are awaiting the final merit list before joining the forces. TNS

# State power regulator snubs govt depts over dues

Excludes them from settlement scheme | Failed to pay ₹3,643 crore despite two extensions

**AMAN SOOD**  
 TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
**PATIALA, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 Taking into account repeated failures on part of the Punjab Government departments to clear dues, the state's power regulator has kept them out of the scheme for defaulting consumers, but has given them an opportunity to plead their case in November. The recent orders pertaining to a one-time settlement (OTS) scheme for defaulting consumers by the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (PSERC) has left the government re-faced, while coming as a relief to the state industry. "The power regulator has approved the scheme for three months for all categories of defaulting consumers, barring government departments that have failed to clear their dues despite many chances," a Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) official said on condition of anonymity. In its order dated September 20, PSERC Chairperson Viswajeet Khanna and member Paramjeet Singh

**MAIN GOVT DEFAULTERS**  
 Departments of Water Supply and Sanitation, Local Government, Rural Development and Panchayat and Health and Family Welfare

**PSPCL FACES SEVERE CRUNCH**

- Cash-strapped PSPCL has remained under severe financial strain due to default in payment by consumers
- No government department came forward to clear dues despite two extensions in 2023
- Due to poor response, it was extended in August for three months, and again till December

approved the scheme that shall remain valid for three months from the date of issuance of the Commercial Circular by PSPCL. The orders came after PSPCL wrote to the PSERC in May and submitted a list of associations/firms requesting the re-launch of the scheme. Later, PSPCL submitted details of outstanding amounts pertaining to gram panchayats/rural water supply schemes, local bodies and other government departments totalling Rs 3,643 crore. "Recoverable amounts of all other categories, excluding government departments was

shown as Rs 1,860 crore, of which Rs 577 crore was shown as outstanding pertaining to industries," the PSPCL official said. As substantial defaulting amounts are shown as pending, mainly against Water Supply & Sanitation, Local Government, Rural Development and Panchayat, and Health and Family Welfare Departments, "these departments were impleaded as respondents" in the petition, says the PSERC order. After hearing PSPCL, the power regulator directed, "As per the prayer in the petition filed by PSPCL,

the OTS scheme is approved for 3 months for all categories of defaulting consumers (except agricultural power & the Government Departments of Water Supply & Sanitation, Local Government, Rural Development and Panchayat, and Health & Family Welfare Departments, who have been impleaded in this petition and other government departments)." The commission further decided that the consumer concerned (read industry) could avail the scheme and the interest chargeable on defaulting amount shall be simple interest at the rate of

10 per cent per annum. "PSPCL to indicate the willingness of the government departments for clearance of the outstanding defaulting amount. Regarding OTS for the government departments, the Commission will take a decision after the receipt of their response in this petition," read the PSERC order. The petition shall be taken up for hearing on November 20. Meanwhile, RS Sachdeva, Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI, has commended the order for defaulting industrial consumers. "PHDCCI had submitted a representation on July 31 and met CM Bhagwant Mann and highlighted the benefits of the scheme." Karan Gilhotra, Co-Chair, Punjab State Chapter, PHDCCI, said the scheme provided an opportunity for defaulting consumers to settle their dues, which would enhance the recovery of dues. The PHDCCI has appealed to industry to use the scheme and clear litigation by paying the actual amounts with simple interest.

# Drug syndicate busted, 10 held

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**  
**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 The Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) of the Punjab Police in a joint operation with a central agency busted a major drug-trafficking syndicate with the arrest of 10 persons, said Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav here on Saturday. Those arrested were identified as Chandan Sharma, Akash Sharma, Vishal Singh, Arvinder Singh, Lovepreet Singh, Rinku Thapar, Bharat, Divyam, Pratham and Ankush Bhatti. Police teams also seized 1 kg heroin, 381 gm chams, three pistols, including one sophisticated Glock pistol, along with 62 live cartridges and two empty shells, Rs 48.7 lakh drug money, 262 gm gold and electronic devices from their possession.

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**  
**JALANDHAR, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 A sudden ammonia gas leak at Jain Ice Factory situated along the Old Railway Road near Damoria Bridge here resulted in the death of a worker and caused panic in the area on Saturday afternoon. Deceased Sheetal Singh (68) was a migrant who had been working at the factory for the past four months. Three other workers also got trapped in the factory after the gas leak, but were later rescued by the emergency response teams. Their condition is stated to be stable. The incident occurred around 2.30 pm. Some passers-by reportedly collapsed near the factory. Locals immediately alerted

The money seized by the police. TRIBUNE PHOTO

the police control room about the potential gas leak. Acting swiftly, the police sealed the area and diverted traffic. Emergency response teams, three fire tenders and disaster management personnel were deployed to contain the situation. The area remained cordoned off till evening. A formal inquiry into the incident has been launched with SDM (Jalandhar-I) Jai Inder Singh overseeing the investigation. He said technical experts were conducting a detailed inspection of the factory that had been sealed pending further investigation. Joint Commissioner of Police Sandeep Sharma claimed the situation was brought under control in two hours. The cause of gas leak was yet to be ascertained, he added.

# SC orders HP Govt to pay ₹3.05 cr relief to six landowners in Solan

SATYA PRAKASH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
The Supreme Court has directed the Himachal Pradesh Government to pay a compensation of more than Rs 3.05 crore to six persons whose land in Solan district was acquired to provide a safety zone for a cement plant and mining areas.

A Bench led by Justice JB Pardiwala yesterday ordered that the Rs 3,05,31,095 crore compensation should be paid along with 9 per cent interest from the date of passing of the Supplementary Award on May 2, 2022, till the date of realisation, within a period of 15 days.

The Bench, which also included Justice Manoj Misra, said that the total amount paid by the state shall be recovered from M/s Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL). "We regret to note that the amount of Rs 3,05,31,095 determined as compensation under the supplementary award has not been paid to the landowners for more than two years and Himachal as a welfare state has made no effort to get the same paid at the earliest," it said.

**TO BE PAID WITH 9% INTEREST**

- The ₹3,05,31,095 crore compensation to be paid along with 9 per cent interest within 15 days
- The total amount paid by the state shall be recovered from M/s Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL)
- The compensation under the supplementary award not paid to the landowners for more than two years
- The Supreme Court's verdict came on an appeal filed by M/s UltraTech Cement Ltd arising out of the Himachal High Court's order dated July 12, 2022, on the dispute

mentary award has not been paid to the landowners for more than two years and Himachal as a welfare state has made no effort to get the same paid at the earliest," it said.

The Bench noted that even before the amount of compensation could be determined by way of a supplementary award dated June 8, 2018, the land in question stood transferred to the JAL. "This, in our view, is in the contravention of Section 38 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition,

Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, and Section 41 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894," it said.

The Himachal Government had issued a notification on July 25, 2008, under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, through its Department of Industries, declaring its intention to acquire the subject land measuring 56.14 bighas, situated at Mauza Bhalag in Arki tehsil of Solan district in favour of the Jaypee Himachal Cement project, a unit of the JAL, invoking the urgency clause under Section

17 of the 1894 Act.

Some landowners had challenged the acquisition proceedings before the Himachal Pradesh High Court, which directed the firm to pay the requisite amount towards compensation as determined in the supplementary award of May 2, 2022, passed by the Land Acquisition Collector, Arki, with liberty to recover the same from the JAL, if permissible under the legal relationship between the two entities.

The Bench said, "The state government, in peculiar circumstances, was expected to make the requisite payment towards compensation to the landowners from its own treasury and should have thereafter proceeded to recover the same from the JAL."

"Instead of making the poor landowners run after the powerful corporate houses, it should have compelled the JAL to make the necessary payment," the top court said.

# Protest against migrants in Shillai, police begin verification campaign

NAHAN, SEPTEMBER 21

The Paonta Sahib police today started the verification and registration of outsiders residing in the area. The move comes following widespread protests against migrants in view of the mosque controversy in Sanjauli of Shimla district.

A protest was held in Shillai this morning against individuals from other states residing in Simaur district without proper police verification. Hindu organisations have been staging protests in the state against people coming from other states to work in Himachal Pradesh without proper verification. A protest rally was held in Paonta Sahib on September 14.

Aditi Singh, Assistant SP, Paonta Sahib, issued directives to all police station in-charges under her jurisdiction to collect detailed information of people from other states, who were selling fruit, vegetables and other goods on roadside or in kiosks in Himachal. Till



Policemen verify the particulars of a roadside vegetable seller at Paonta Sahib in Sirmour district on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

date, the Paonta Sahib police have maintained the record of 70 migrant vendors.

She also issued instructions that the antecedents of all migrant labourers staying in the region should be verified

through their landlords.

Aditi said, so far, all individuals verified by the police were Indian citizens from other states and no case of foreign nationals living in the region had been detected. — OC

# Govt owns land of Lakhdata Peer 'mazar'

HAMIRPUR, SEPTEMBER 21

Amid claims over the ownership of land where the 'mazar' of Sufi Saint Lakhdata Peer is situated, the Land Revenue Officer of Hamirpur said on Saturday that it belonged to the state government.

According to the Revenue Department's records of 2018-19, the land in Mahal Mahatani village belongs to the Himachal Government and not the Waqf board, Hamirpur Land Revenue Officer Subhash Kumar said.

On September 16, the Forest Department had demolished the tomb when a video about the plan of the Lakhdata Peer committee to construct a building there was circulated. This led to tension in Hamirpur town as the land is located on its outskirts.

Subhash said the Revenue Department was taking necessary action to make the Forest Department, Lakhdata Peer Committee and local people aware of the actual situation. — PTI

# Govt to auction three limestone deposits to boost revenue, jobs

PRATIBHA CHAUHAN  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, SEPTEMBER 21**  
The Himachal Government will soon invite bids for the auction of three limestone deposits in Arki, Sunni and Chamba for the extraction of high steel-grade limestone and for setting up cement plants, which have been pending for over a decade.

Even as cases related to the setting up of five cement plants are embroiled in litigation in various courts of law, the state government is set to go ahead with the auction of mining leases at Sherpur in the Arki area of Solan, Sunni near Karsog and Broh Shind deposits in Chamba district.

In fact, earlier attempts to auction some of these limestone deposits had failed to evoke interest among investors. "The auction of the mining leases will bring the much-needed revenue to the government and create employment opportunities for locals, especially in interior and remote areas of the state," said Industries Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan.

The state government had signed a MoU with Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd

last month so that the agency could function as a platform for the auction of mining leases in the state in a transparent manner, he said.

The deposits at Sherpur in Arki are rich in steel-grade limestone, used in making steel. In fact, with the extension of the rail line to Bilaspur and beyond, the logistics for the transportation of the mineral will make the project viable.

On March 17, 2022, the National Mining Development Corporation (NMDC) had surrendered the limestone mining lease allotted to it at Sherpur for the extraction of steel-grade limestone.

The plant had been allotted to the NMDC in August 1991 but even after two decades, the work had not started at the site.

The NMDC and Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) had signed an agreement on November 18, 2009, for a joint venture while Virbhadr Singh was the Union Minister for Steels. In fact, there was a proposal to invest Rs 260 crore for starting production at the 100 million tonne reserves at the site, but the proposal never materialised.

# Steps afoot to reform education sector: CM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said that the state government was taking significant steps to reform the education sector so as to provide better facilities in its educational institutions.

He said that the government had taken a decision to restructure the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and all District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) to strengthen the training mechanism for teachers.

"The SCERT has been made an apex institution for school and teacher training and its administrative control has been transferred to the State Project Director, Samgra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Similarly, the administrative oversight of DIETs has also been given to the State Project Director, SSA," he added.

Sukhu said, "Previously, the SCERT was under the Higher

## NOT WELL, SUKHU CANCELS J&K RALLIES

- Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has cancelled his election meetings in the Doda area of Jammu and Kashmir tomorrow due to ill health
- He remained at Oak Over and cancelled all his engagements for the day
- Saturday morning, Sukhu visited the IGMC for an ultrasound test as he was suffering from gastritis
- The ultrasound report is normal but since his routine tests are being done, doctors have advised him to take rest for next three days

Education Department while the Elementary Education Department managed DIETs, leading to a lack of clarity in the policy regarding the deployment and transfer of teachers in these training institutions. The restructuring will provide much-needed clarity in the functioning of both entities."

# CREMATION

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved



## SHRI HUKAM CHAND BANSAL

(09-12-1949 to 21-09-2024)

**CREMATION** will be performed at Swarg Dham Seva Samiti  
**Mandi Gobindgarh** on 22-09-2024 (Sunday) at 11:00 AM

**In Grief**

Neena Bansal (Wife)

Suman & Late Shri Dewan Chand Bansal (Bhabhi & Brother)

Saloni and Vijayant Bansal (Daughter-In-Law & Son)

Sanya and Rahul Bansal (Daughter-In-Law & Nephew)

Varsha and Sahil Bansal (Daughter-In-Law & Nephew)

Mona & Nitin Kansal (Daughter & Son-In-Law)

Rigu and Naveen Mittal-IAS (Daughter & Son-In-Law)

Sarina & Saurab Aggarwal (Daughter & Son-In-Law)

Shweta & Rahul Garg (Niece and Son-In-Law)

Amogh, Anagh, Abhiraj, Anikait, Nivransh and Rishaan (Grandsons)

Darshana & Late Shri Narendra Aggarwal (Sister & Brother-In-Law)

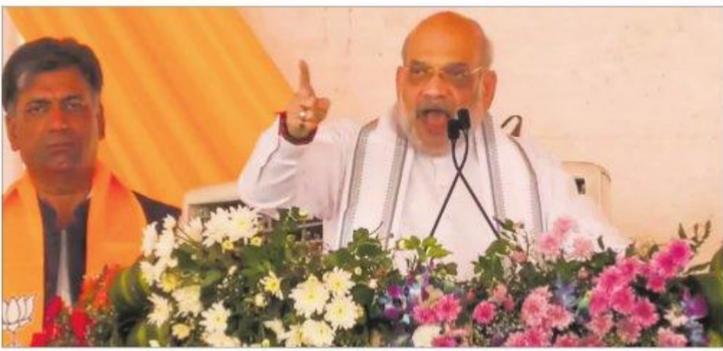
Late Smt Krishana & Late Shri Krishan Goel (Sister & Brother-In-Law)

Parveen & Late Shri Rajinder Bansal (Sister & Brother-In-Law)

Raman & Raj Kumar Goel (Sister & Brother-In-Law)

**Management & Staff of**

**OPBMS, RIMT University, World University of Design, RIMT World School, RIMT Medical College and Hospital, Punjab Steel Forging and Agro Industries, Kashmir Ispat**



Home Minister Amit Shah addresses a gathering during a rally in Mendhar on Saturday. PTI

## Pakistan fears Modi, won't open fire along LoC: Shah

Says Cong, NC misrule resulted in uncontrolled terrorism

ARJUN SHARMA

### ADDRESSES 5 RALLIES AHEAD OF PHASE 2 POLLS

Home Minister Amit Shah addressed five rallies in Mendhar, Surankote, Thanamandi, Rajouri town and Akhnoor in favour of BJP candidates. The elections for the second phase will be held in Rajouri and Poonch on September 25.

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 21

Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said cross-border firing along the LoC in J&K has stopped as Pakistan is now afraid of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

While addressing a series of public rallies in border districts of Rajouri and Poonch, Shah said: "Do you remember how much cross-border firings used to take place in J&K in the 1990s. Is cross-border firing happening now? It used to happen because the previous leaders here were afraid of Pakistan. Now, Pakistan is afraid of Modi. It will not dare to open fire. If the neighbouring country fire bullets, it will be answered with bombs".

Shah addressed five rallies in Mendhar, Surankote, Thanamandi, Rajouri town and Akhnoor in favour of BJP candidates. The elections for the second phase will be held in Rajouri and

Poonch on September 25.

Shah said the BJP government ended terrorism by replacing guns and stones in the hands of in J&K youngsters with laptops. The government would not allow guns to resound in the hills of the Jammu region.

Shah said: "The misrule of the Congress and the NC in J&K for over 35 years resulted in uncontrolled terrorism, 40,000 deaths and 3,000 days of lockdown. The BJP will not allow terrorism to penetrate in the region".

Shah tried to woo the dominant Paharis and Gujjar community in Rajouri and Poonch by ensuring reservation in promotions. "We will ensure reservation not only in jobs, but also in promotions...don't be contented with just Class 1 jobs for your children...dream big...you

need compensation for the injustice meted out to you for decades. You should not stop until your child attains the rank of either DGP or Chief Secretary," Shah said.

Shah said: "The Congress, NC and the PDP snatched the rights of the people for years and kept them away from democracy. They did not allow gram, block and district panchayat elections to take place. The three families continued to rule here. After PM Modi came to power, 30,000 elected panchayat members became beneficiary of democracy".

Commending over 61 per cent voter turnout in the first phase of elections, Shah said it was a testament to the transformation in J&K and strengthening of democracy.

## Restoring J&K's statehood first priority, says Kharge

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 21

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday said reservation cannot be scrapped till there was untouchability and lack of social justice in the country.

Kharge, who was speaking at a press conference in Jammu, said: "Reservation cannot be scrapped until there is casteism in the Hindu religion. Until there is untouchability and lack of social justice, reservation will continue. It will continue till my death. I will tell my children to fight for it".

Responding to a question about Gandhi's remark on reservation, Kharge said: "He did not say that, and he will never say so. We won't even allow him to say anything like

### Cautions UT people against BJP's 'deceitful tactics'



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in Jammu on Saturday. ANI

this). While addressing students at Georgetown University in the US, Gandhi mentioned that the Congress might consider ending reservations when India becomes a truly fair society, but added that this was not the case at present.

On a question whether the Congress supports National Conference's manifesto on bringing back Article 370, Kharge said: "You know our agenda. You should go through our working committee resolutions (on Article

370). What we have said, we will go by that. Our first priority is to restore statehood. Other things later".

The Congress president cautioned the people of J&K against the "deceitful tactics" of the BJP, accusing the ruling party of diverting attention from their failure to address the real issues plaguing the region.

Kharge criticised the BJP for exploiting distractions, especially citing Pakistan's Defence Minister's comments on Article 370 as a smoke-screen to conceal their ineffectiveness in governance.

"Except for promises, the BJP did nothing for the people of J&K in the past 10 years. Now during elections, the BJP is shamelessly trying to rake up irrelevant issues to hide its failures", Kharge said. Defending his party's deci-

sion to form a pre-poll alliance with the NC, he emphasised that the coalition formed to oppose the BJP was a necessity, not out of compulsion or surrender.

"This alliance was vital to defeat the BJP and protect the country's integrity from their misdeeds, particularly in J&K," he said.

He accused the BJP of delaying the restoration of statehood despite having the power to do so. He pointed out that the ruling party allowed outsiders to dominate key sectors such as mining and liquor contracts.

Kharge also assured the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits, constitutional rights for OBCs, caste-based census and safeguarding land and job rights for the people of J&K.

## Will fight injustice with unemployed youth: Apni Party candidate

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 21

Apni Party candidate Manjit Singh, who is contesting elections from the Vijaypur Assembly constituency, said he would fight against the alleged injustice being done with locals and the educated unemployed youth in J&K.

While addressing a series of public meetings in Vijaypur in Samba district, the former minister questioned the involvement of non-locals in trade, employment, and grab of resources that has annoyed the local population as they had been deprived of their constitutional rights after August 2019.

He said the elected representative should be aware of the difficulties of the people



Apni Party candidate Manjit Singh at a meeting in Vijaypur.

and fight for their rights.

"This Assembly elections have provided an opportunity to the people of Vijaypur to elect a representative that can address their issues and bring prosperity in the constituency which has faced negligence at all levels," he stated.

He said the unemployment

rate had spiked after August 2019 in Vijaypur and other parts of J&K that has left the educated youth jobless. Hence, the situation turned alarming for the people.

He said resources had been grabbed by the mafia and the trade had been gradually taken over by the outsiders. The situation of the industri-

al sector was worsening as outsiders were given benefits and their applications were processed fast in comparison to the application for industrial units by the locals.

He said the Apni Party would fight in the Legislative Assembly for the rights of the people. He also elaborated about the welfare scheme that would be started to benefit the locals in J&K, if the party forms the government.

**Party issues notice to leader for backing Omar Srinagar:** The Apni Party on Saturday issued a show-cause notice to its senior leader Muntazir Mohiuddin after he extended his support to former Chief Minister and NC vice-president Omar Abdullah from the

Budgam Assembly segment in Central Kashmir.

"The Apni Party issued a show-cause notice to its chief spokesperson Muntazir Mohiuddin for his purported remarks supporting Omar Abdullah," the party said on Saturday.

The party said it had urged Muntazir "to clarify his remarks before the party leadership within 48 hours, failing which a disciplinary action will be taken".

Muntazir had earlier submitted his nomination from Budgam seat. He, however, withdrew from the seat. Muntazir said on Friday that after Omar Abdullah entered into the seat, he didn't want to divide the votes as it had become a high-profile constituency.

## SC expresses concern over delay in trial of Kashmir man under UAPA

ALLEGED ISIS LINKS

SATYA PRAKASH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21

Expressing concern over delay in trial of a 25-year-old man from Kashmir under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967, for his alleged ISIS links, the Supreme Court has said steps must be taken to ensure that the trial is completed expeditiously.

A Bench, led by Justice Surya Kant, gave three weeks to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to file an affidavit giving details of the witnesses to be examined; if the witnesses were public servants; the number of expert witnesses; and the total number of trials pending

before the trial judge at the Patiala House Courts here.

Accused Jamshed Zahoor Paul was arrested from Lal Quila area here along with another person in 2018 by the NIA, which claimed to have recovered a pistol with five live cartridges. Paul had connection with the ISIS and he was involved in procuring arms and ammunition for committing terror acts in Jammu and Kashmir; the NIA alleged.

Paul and another person arrested with him had allegedly procured the weapons from four persons from Uttar Pradesh. They were also involved in propagating ISIS ideology in India and were in touch with another ISIS operative Abdullah Basith, the

probe agency alleged.

The Bench, which also included Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, posted Paul's petition challenging the Delhi High Court's April 24, 2024 order denying him bail for further hearing on November 8. The High Court had said the procurement of sophisticated weapons by the accused could not be brushed aside casually.

Petitioner's counsel Nizam Pasha urged the Bench to release him on bail, saying the trial was likely to take time and that the accused has already spent six years in jail.

Ideally, this trial should be over in one year; the Bench said even as it clarified that the court would refrain from monitoring the trial.

## Brief encounter in Kishtwar area

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 21

A brief encounter took place between terrorists and security forces in a remote forest area in Kishtwar district on Saturday evening, officials said. The gunfight broke out when the forces launched a search operation in Chatroo forest following information about the presence of terrorists, officials said. — PTI

## Shouldn't Sikhs...

FROM PAGE 1

Hindu nationalistic agenda disregarding the plural nature of the country's demography. "The fight in India is whether a Sikh can go to gurdwara or wear a turban and the kada," he said to explain his concern.

This prompted the BJP to unleash a barrage of attack against Rahul with MoS Raveet Singh Bittu spearheading the offensive. Bittu called the Congress leader, who is also the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, "the number one terrorist" in the country.

Three FIRs have been registered against Rahul in Chhattisgarh for allegedly hurting the religious sentiments of the Sikh community.

## Oppn, RWAs gun for Saini govt over 'S+4'...

across the state, especially those in Gurugram and Faridabad, before a new government is in place. The RWAs will oppose the BJP and its candidates across the state. We will hold a meeting tomorrow to decide how to go about it. Inko vote ki chot dengay ab," he said. As many as 200 applications are pending in Gurugram alone, seeking permission to build the floors.

Vocal about the "chaos" the S+4 construction can cause in existing sectors, Gen VP Malik (retd), a resident of Panchkula, said the "clandestine" manner in which the ban was lifted, indicated that it was done to please a particular lobby. "Everyone, so far, was under the impression that S+4 had been put on hold until after the elections. However, the ban has been lifted through one letter. Apparently, some promises were made to the builder lobby. The greed in the government has overtaken the welfare concerns of citizens and the government has not paid heed to BJP's own former MLA, Gian Chand Gupta. We will go to court since no other option is available," he said.

Kumari Selja, MP and former Congress chief, said to

lift the ban in the middle of election was "totally wrong". "It is being done to please a certain section with an eye on elections," she said.

Former Deputy CM and JJP leader Dushyant Chautala said, "To allow S+4 in existing sectors is wrong. We did not approve of it even when we were part of the government. We will move the ECI. How can this be allowed in the middle of an election?"

INLD senior leader Abhay Chautala questioned how a caretaker government was authorised to take such a decision. "If it has been done by an officer, the ECI must take note and action should be taken against him," he stated.

Vardhan Yadav and Mohit Grover, Congress candidates from Badshahpur Assembly segment and Gurugram, respectively, have called it a last favour to builders by the Nayab Saini-led BJP caretaker government and "a violation of the model code of conduct".

"The party had no answer to infrastructure collapse in Gurugram. So, they chose to do a last-minute favour to the builder lobby. This violation should be rolled back. The Congress government will

review the policy and both builders and home developers need to wait for the same," they said in a joint statement.

The RWAs, meanwhile, have threatened to not just move the ECI, but also obstruct any new construction. "This is unethical. Rather than thinking about the masses, they are benefiting a handful during elections. The policy needs to be properly reviewed and implemented and the BJP should wait for people's mandate. The ECI should take a stern stance. Local RWAs will not allow any new construction," said the RWA Federation of Gurugram.

Sources in the Town and Country Planning Department said construction had been allowed in a policy that was already in place. "This is not a new decision and it does not violate the poll code. We only told the court that we are lifting the self-imposed ban," an officer explained.

Former Speaker and Panchkula MLA Gian Chand Gupta, who had written to the government to consider stalling the approval, said the government had plugged the loopholes and the consent of neighbours was mandatory.

## Air Marshal...

and Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa — from the Sikh community to lead the IAF.

Among the tasks ahead of him is fostering collaboration between the Army, Navy and IAF. A fierce advocate of indigenisation, Air Marshal Singh had made it clear at a recent public event that the speed of manufacturing was critical to maintaining self-reliance.

Air Marshal Singh, who studied at Janakpuri in the national capital, grew up in a middle-class family in west Delhi. He is a squash player and an avid long-distance runner.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College and National Defence College, Air Marshal Singh is a qualified flying instructor and an experimental test pilot with more than 5,000 hours of flying experience on a variety of fixed wing planes and helicopters.

Air Marshal Singh was commissioned as a fighter pilot in December 1984. Prior to his elevation as the Vice Chief, Air Marshal Singh headed the IAF's Central Command headquartered at Prayagraj. Air Marshal Singh has commanded an operational fighter squadron and a frontline airbase along the borders, and led the MiG-29 jet upgrade project management team at Moscow, Russia.

He also served as the Air Defence Commander at the South Western Air Command, headquartered at Ahmedabad, and the Senior Air Staff Officer at Eastern Air Command at Shillong, Meghalaya.

## CALENDAR

September 22, 2024, Sunday

- Shaka Samvat 1946
- Bhadrapad Shaka 31
- Aashwin Purnima 3
- Hijri 1466
- Krishna Paksha Tithi 5, up to 3:44 pm
- Harshana Yoga up to 8:17 am
- Vajra Yoga up to 5:27 am
- Kritika Nakshatra up to 11:03 pm
- Moon in Taurus sign

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE							
For and on behalf of the President of India, Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Ambala Division invite e-tenders through website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> on 22.10.2024 upto 15:00 hrs from Individual/Partnership firms/Companies/Self help groups/cooperative etc. and reserved categories for operation of Catering Stalls GMUs (General Minor Units) over Ambala division for a period of five years. The details of the bid/tender is as under:-							
S. N.	Tender No.	Name of Station	Station Cat.	Stall No.	Location	Cost of Tender Documents + @18% GST per tender document (in Rs.)	Reserved for Category
1	UMB-CTG-UMB-GMU-01-24	Ambala Cantt	NSG-2	2	PF No.1 (Adjoining existing MPS)	2,950	General
2	UMB-CTG-SRE-GMU-01-24	Saharanpur	NSG-3	11	PF No.4 (Near Goods Office)	2,950	General (Women)

Note: E-tender forms & documents shall be available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) upto 15:00 hrs on 22.10.2024. Railway administration reserved the right to postpone/modify or to cancel any one or all the e-tenders without assigning any reason. (file no.:NR-UMB0COML/CG/29/2024) 2943/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED**  
“(A State Govt. Undertaking)”

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERING (E-Tender Mode only)**

ONLINE TENDER is hereby invited by the undersigned, for & on behalf of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, HPSEB Ltd., Shimla-4, from the experienced/reputed Bidders / Joint venture firms / A Co-operative Society of Retired Employees of HPSEB Ltd. for the below mentioned work on the prescribed formats:-

BID No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender	Earnest Money @ 1%	Time for Completion	Cost of Tender Documents	Sale of Tender Documents	Submission of tender	Opening of technical-commercial bid
HC-100B-E-001-2024-25	E-Tendering on partial turnkey basis for providing SOP to ITI Building at village Krishnagarh (Kuthar) in Electrical Section Kuthar under Electrical Sub-Division, HPSEBL, Subathu. T.S. No.: 56/2024-25; WBS No. D-24- 2105; Name of Scheme: Deposit.	₹13,91,395/- only	₹13,914/- only	Three Months	₹900/- only (i.e. ₹90/- x 10%)	22.09.2024 to 03.10.2024 upto 05:00 PM	04.10.2024 upto 05:00 PM	05.10.2024 at 11:30 AM

The detailed tender notification can be viewed/downloaded free of cost from the website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> (Er. Vinod K. Verma),  
“SAVE ENERGY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SELF & NATION” Superintending Engineer, (OP) Circle, HPSEBL, Solan

Centre clears appointment of 7 HC Chief Justices

Justices Manmohan, Rajiv Shakdher to be CJs of Delhi & Himachal Pradesh, respectively

SATYA PRAKASH

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 More than two months after the Supreme Court Collegium, led by CJI DY Chandrachud, had recommended names for the appointment of Chief Justices to high courts of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Meghalaya, the Centre on Saturday notified the appointments. Union Minister for Law and Justice (Independent Charge) Arjun Ram Meghwal took to X to announce the appointments.

been appointed Chief Justice of the same HC while Justice Rajiv Shakdher of the Delhi HC will be the new Chief Justice of the HP High Court.

Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice MS Ramachandran Rao has been transferred to the Jharkhand High Court. Justice Suresh Kait of the Delhi High Court has been appointed Chief Justice of the MP High Court while Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji of the Calcutta HC will be the new Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

Similarly, Justices Nitin Madhukar Jamdar and Shri Ram Kalpathi Rajendran of the Bombay High Court have been appointed Chief Justices of the Kerala and Madras high courts, respectively, while Jus-

JUSTICE RABSTAN NEW CJ OF J&K AND LADAKH HC

Justice Suresh Kait has been appointed Chief Justice of the MP High Court, while Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji will be the new CJ of the Meghalaya High Court.

Justices Nitin Madhukar Jamdar and Shri Ram Kalpathi Rajendran have been appointed Chief Justices of the Kerala and Madras HCs, respectively, while Justice Tashi Rabstan — Acting Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court — will be the new CJ of the same high court.

Justice Tashi Rabstan — Acting Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court — will be the new Chief Justice of the same high court.

The notifications came a day after a Bench led by the CJI on Friday asked the Centre to explain the delay and provide information on the names recommended and reiterated for appointment by the Collegium. "You tell us the rea-

sons why those appointments have not been made. Which are the matters reiterated and why are those pending?" it had told Attorney General R Venkataramani.

"The Supreme Court Collegium is not a search committee whose recommendations can be stalled," the Bench had asserted. The Bench had, however, at the request of Venkataramani

deferred the hearing on the issue of judicial appointments to next week, saying some of the appointments of high court Chief Justices were likely to be cleared soon.

"If you can please make a list of the names reiterated and why it is pending and at what level it is pending... Show us why it is pending," the CJI had told the Attorney General who said, "There are several reasons why such names are pending and we have no hesitation in disclosing the facts to the Bench."

In supersession of its July 11 resolution, the Supreme Court, on September 17, recommended Justices GS Sandhawalia, Tashi Rabstan and Suresh Kumar Kait to be appointed as Chief Justices of

high courts of HP, J&K and Ladakh and Madhya Pradesh, days after the Centre said certain "sensitive information" available with it was delaying forward movement on the Collegium's recommendation for appointments at high courts of Delhi, HP, J&K and Ladakh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Meghalaya.

Since Justice Shakdher is due to retire on October 18, the Collegium, in supersession of its earlier recommendation dated July 11, had, on September 17, recommended that Justice GS Sandhawalia — the senior-most puisne judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana — be appointed Chief Justice of the HP High Court on the retirement of Justice Shakdher.

Atishi takes oath as Delhi's youngest CM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 Senior AAP leader Atishi was sworn in as the eighth Chief Minister of Delhi by Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena on Saturday, making her the youngest at 43 to hold the position in the Capital.

She is now the third woman CM of Delhi after Congress' Sheila Dikshit and BJP's Sushma Swaraj. She succeeds Arvind Kejriwal, who resigned after securing bail from the Supreme Court in the alleged excise policy case.

She was unanimously selected for the post by AAP MLAs at a meeting on September 17. Her Council of Ministers — Saurabh Bharadwaj, Gopal Rai, Kailash Gahlot, Imran Hussain and first-time MLA Mukesh Ahlawat — also took the oath of office at Raj Niwas. An AAP leader said the swearing-in was intentionally kept a low-key affair due to the party's

KEEPS 13 PORTFOLIOS

Atishi will manage 13 portfolios, including key departments such as Finance, Revenue, PWD, Power and Education, similar to those held by her in the previous Kejriwal government.

low spirits following Kejriwal's resignation.

Atishi, who represents Kalkaji and was the only woman in the outgoing Delhi Cabinet, will manage 13 portfolios, including Finance, Revenue, PWD, Power and Education.

Gopal Rai will oversee the Environment, Development and General Administration departments. Bharadwaj will manage Health, Tourism and Urban Development. Gahlot has been given the Transport, Home and Women and Child Development departments. Imran Hussain retains Food and Supplies, and Elections. Mukesh Ahlawat will handle SC/ST, Labour, Employment and Gurudwara Elections.

Gadkari: Ruler in democracy must tolerate dissent

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has said the biggest test of democracy is that the ruler will tolerate even the strongest opinion against him, leading to introspection by the ruler. Writers and intellectuals should express themselves fearlessly, he said at a book release event at MIT World Peace University in Pune on Friday.

The Modi-led BJP is often criticised for treating dissent as "anti-national". Gadkari has been making periodic outbursts ever since Modi returned to power for a third term with a reduced majority.

Recently, Gadkari said he was offered the PM's post by a senior Opposition leader, but he declined. An amused Shiv Sena (UBT) MP, Priyanka Chaturvedi, said Gadkari cooked up the story to express his "heartfelt desire to be on the top chair". — TNS

Arms, war-like stores seized in Manipur

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21 In two successful joint operations conducted on Saturday, the Army, in coordination with the Manipur Police, made significant recoveries of illegal arms and other war-like stores from Churachandpur district and the fringe area of Thoubal and Imphal East districts in the strife-torn state, official sources said.

In the first operation, a combined team of the Army and the Churachandpur police carried out a search in the heavily forested upper reaches of Thangjing Ridge in Churachandpur district.

The operation led to the recovery of two 9 mm pistols along with two magazines, a single-barrel rifle, two locally fabricated rockets measuring 5.5 ft and 3 ft, a modified long-range mortar, two modified medium-range mortars, four mortar bombs, nine rounds of 9 mm ammunition,



6.2 kg of grade two explosives and war-like stores.

In another operation, acting on a tip-off, a team of the Army and the police carried out a search at Changbi village in the fringe area of Thoubal and Imphal East districts.

The operation resulted in the recovery of two carbine machine guns, two pistols, a single-barrel gun, nine hand grenades, 11 rounds of small arms and ammunition and other war-like stores.

All recovered arms and war-like stores have been handed over to the police for further investigation and legal proceedings.

The recovery comes just a week after the Army recovered a similar cache of arms and war-like stores in Churachandpur.

Violence had escalated again in Manipur on September 1 following what the police said, was a weaponised drone attack in Imphal West's Koutruk.

Dharavi tense as residents stop BMC from razing illegal mosque portion

MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 21 Tension prevailed in the Dharavi slum colony this morning after hundreds of residents blocked a road to oppose the Mumbai civic body's plan to demolish an alleged illegal portion of a mosque, an official said. Some residents stopped

civic officials from entering the lane where the mosque is located and soon hundreds of people assembled outside the Dharavi police station. Trustees of the mosque sought 4-5 days to remove the encroached portion, which was agreed upon by the authorities. — PTI

16 years after discharge, SC upholds grant of disability benefits

VIJAY MOHAN

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 21 About 16 years after her husband was discharged from the Army because of a medical condition, the Supreme Court has upheld the orders of the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) that had granted special family pension to the widow on account of her husband's death from cancer, along with disability pension to the soldier for the duration he was alive after leaving the Army.

Tarsem Singh, hailing from a village in Bilaspur district of HP was serving in the Mahar Regiment when he was diagnosed with cancer. Despite chemotherapy, he continued to serve, but when he was ultimately released from service, his disability pension was rejected on the grounds that his medical condition had been declared as "neither attributable to, nor aggravated by military service" by the Release Medical Board.

His widow approached the AFT citing law that if a disability incurred during service, then it was deemed to be aggravated by military service because of the stressful conditions under which all soldiers serve.

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM. Notice Inviting Applications for shortlisting of PAD items for use/sale/service at Static Catering Establishments over Firozpur Division was published in various leading National Newspapers on dated 01.09.2024 as well as on the official website of Northern Railways. Further, following changes have been made in the said notice:

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE. Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of the President of India invites applications for setting up stalls/kiosk stalls Railway Stations over Firozpur Division under One Station One Product scheme. This scheme was started from April 2022 in this Division. The terms and conditions are as under:

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB Notice Inviting Tender Reference No. 11 of 2024. The Department of Punjab Water Resources Management & Development Corporation, Lining Division No. 5, Ludhiana invites online bids on Work Order basis for Lining/Relining of 09 No. of Water Courses under project of Project Estimate for Lining of Watercourses in various Districts of Punjab by PWRMDC & Water Resources Department Using U/G Pipeline & Brick Lining & "Kotla Branch Part-2 project in Amargarh and Sunam Constituency, District Sangrur.

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES VIBHUTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW- 226 010 (UP). Advertisement No.-DrRMLIMS/ER/Recr-F(C)/2024/2642 Dated: 20.09.2024. Walk - In Interview for Appointment of Medical Faculty on Contractual Basis.

Government of Himachal Pradesh Jal Shakti Vibhag "Tender Notice". E.E., Jal Shakti Division No. 1 Una Telephone No. : 01975-226060, E-mail : eeiph1una@gmail.com. The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. 1 Una invites online tender on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works through offline process:-

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HIMACHAL PRADESH Website: https://www.hptenders.gov.in Email: directoragriculturehp@gmail.com TENDER NOTICE Tender Reference Number: Agr.H(II-Tech)F-Com.(7)1/2023. E-Tender for Procurement/Bagging (in airproof/leak proof HDPE bag having capacity of 50 Kg./25 Kg./10 Kg./5 Kg.)/Sealing/tagging/loading/Unloading/Transportation of compost (Vermi Compost/Organic Manure) up to warehouse/godown/departamental store (50-100 KM) from registered farmers/clusters for the interest of improving Soil Health and Welfare of Farming Community in the Department of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG "TENDER NOTICE". E. E., Jal Shakti Division No. 1 Una Telephone No. : 01975-226060 E-mail : eeiph1una@gmail.com. The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No.1 Una invites offline tender on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works through offline process:-

INSTITUTE FOR AUTO PARTS & HAND TOOLS TECHNOLOGY, LUDHIANA. (Institute is registered under Society Registration Act, 1860) A-9, Phase-V, Focal Point, Ludhiana. E-mail: iatidh@iaiph.org. Website: www.iaiph.org. Tel. No. 0161-2674597, 2675597, 5022597. Applications are invited from eligible candidates meeting qualifications and minimum period of in line experience for the below said posts:

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG SHORT NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER. Online bids on items rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Nahan on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the undermentioned work from the contractors/firms of appropriate class enlisted with Himachal Pradesh Jal Shakti Vibhag.

# Bridegrooms Wanted

**KHATRI/ARORA**

Match for beautiful, slim Sikh Khatri girl, 5'-4", Aug 1996, MBA (Jalandhar), looking for handsome Sikh turban well settled boy, businessman. Upper middle class family, above 40 lacs PA. M: 81467-18618, 76964-03407. (CL24057576)

Well earning cultured boy from status family, Class I Gazetted officer Central Govt./ Army officer/Bank Officer/ MBA/IT for a beautiful very fair, Punjabi Khatri girl 28 years, 5'-3", MBA, convent educated, Manager (MMS-51) 151-L Govt. Bank. Only child. Father and mother. Doctors retired. Class I Officer. Contact WhatsApp No.: 87082-63330. Responses with photo, date, time and place of birth. Job details, salary & family details only will be replied. (CL24056298)

Suitable match for slim beautiful Hindu Chawla girl, 23.09.1989, 5'-3", B.Tech., working in MNC Software Engineer NCR based preferred. 99105-53151, 70119-75709. (CL24056312)

Software Engineer match for Hindu Khatri girl, 21Apr1995 12:22pm Karnal/5'3", M.Sc Computer Science, Sr. Software Engineer (19LPA). Job and family in Bangalore. Boy born after Jan 1993, working in Bangalore/Hyderabad/Canada/England. Horoscope not necessary 97311-72562. (CL24057062)

Match for beautiful MD Doctor girl Khatri /Arora 5'-4", born in Delhi on 10.7.1994 at 5.14 am, Doctors/Engineers/Civil servants from Upper caste apply. 72178-00016, 98104-47817. (CL24057592)

5'-7", girl, Asstt. Professor in English at Chandigarh, MA, Ph.D. (pursuing) NET/JRF, 3.10.93, 6.25 am, Kurukshetra. WhatsApp only 98887-60523. (CL24057839)

Match from Punjab/ Chandigarh big Jewellers/ Industrialist/ Businessman having yearly profit 4/5 Crores, for very beautiful Patiala decent Hindu Jewellers family girl, B.Com, MBA, 31, 5'-5", very-very decent marriage, Verma/ Khatri/ Arora/ General caste considered. 84723-98854. (CL24057738)

Anshik Manglik Khatri pure vegetarian boy 12.03.97, 8:57 pm, Ambala, 5'-10", B.Tech. (Civil Engg.), IIT Gwahati, Engineer NHPC (Govt. job), Pkg. 16 LPA, pure veg. well qualified girl preferred. Marriage bureau excuse. 85709-37145, 99927-47499. (CL24056915)

Amritsar based Hindu Arora vegetarian slim girl 19.3.1997, 1:05 am, 5'-3", M.Sc. Maths, B.Ed. 87279-29130. (CL24057461)

Well settled match for Hindu Arora 1991 born, 5', Grade B officer in Centre Govt., posted at Kapurthala. Chandigarh family. 79734-24346. (CL24057617)

Match for issueless divorced within a very short period (annulled) Arora Khatri girl, 30, 5'-4", B.Tech., MBA, Data Scientist in MNC, package 28 Lac. Annually Ambala based reputed family, looking for well settled Punjabi/ Hindu family girl. Call/ WhatsApp: 89503-24988. (CL24057777)

Never married boy for fair, slim, beautiful Hindu Arora 5'-4"/1976, MA, B.Ed., never married girl, 98144-52413, arorab21@gmail.com. (CL24057804)

**KHATRI**

Suitable match required for Khatri girl 31, M.Tech, pursuing Ph.D, 5'-2", looking for well qualified, tetotalter and vegetarian boy. Contact: 98550-55011. (CL24056143)

Match for beautiful Panjabi Khatri girl, 07.01.92, 8:55 pm, Amritsar, 5'-2", B.Tech. Working in MNC, Gurgaon. WhatsApp: 95309-03900. (CL24056625)

Match for Khatri girl 32/5'-5", B.Com, Educated boy from Tricity preferred. Contact: 98143-33737. (CL24056627)

Wanted groom for working 44 years old, slim, beautiful, Post Graduate, divorced Hindu girl from Chandigarh. Early marriage preferred. Contact: 98882-78540. (CL24057080)

Beautiful slim Hindu Punjabi Khatri girl 30.11.1997, 5'-5", NET, Pursuing Ph.D. (Finance) with scholarship. Ludhiana based status family. Marriage bureau excuse. 73800-46275. (CL24057359)

Well qualified, decent match for beautiful MA Eng., B.Ed, CTET, HTET qualified girl 5'-4", 1995, teaching in reputed school. Father ret'd. Govt. officer, mother reputed school Principal. Brother's family settled in Canada. Girl having minor disability in one leg, can walk and drive perfectly. Contact: 94160-09026. (CL24056084)

Suitable match for Khatri girl, MA, B.Ed., 18.11.97, 1:52 pm, Chandigarh, 5'-3". 94171-57364. (CL24056657)

Match for homely girl, MCA, M.Phil, Asstt. Prof. 25.09.91, 5'-4", 11:30 am, looks young, 79869-99675, 62835-18386. (CL24057458)

Khatri girl pure veg., M.Com., MBA, 4'-11" 13.04.1997, 03:24 am Kamal. Working Gurgaon. Father Govt. employee. 95180-40701. (CL24057464)

Beautiful Hindu Khatri girl upper class family December 1983, 5'-3", MA, LL.B., residence Delhi/Punjab. Contact age 1983 or above. 98761-14888. (CL24057469)

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

**Advertisement:**  
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## TONK-KASHATRIYA

Canada PR Tonkashatriya Sikh girl 29/ 5'-1", doing Bank Related Job. Seeks Canadian PR/ Citizen well settled boy. Contact only Surrey or surrounding area. Caste no bar. 98724-68160. (CL24056427)

Suitable match for 5'-2", 1994, LL.M., B.Com. girl, Corporate Lawyer in an MNC, Chandigarh. (Caste no bar), 96464-41124. (CL24056974)

Suitable match for Ludhiana based Tonk-Kashatriya Sikh girl 30.11.1996, 5'-1", MCA from NIT, working Gurgaon. Preference Sikh family's turbaned educated boy. 94172-20160. (CL24057629)

Sikh Tonk-kashatriya vegetarian girl Nov 1998, 5'-2", B.Tech, working in IT sector. Caste no bar. Seeking well-settled partner. Mobile 98555-88061. (CL24057457)

SM4 a Sikh Tonk-Kashatriya girl, 1995 born, 5'-6", B.Com & M.Com, fair and beautiful working professional belonging to a well settled family. Seeks a well qualified working professional based only in Delhi-NCR. 98180-62002. (CL24057611)

## MUSLIM

Sunni, Salmani girl, 26, 5'-3", MBA, Chandigarh, Seeking educated & well settled boy. Ph: 94641-21120. (CL24057723)

## JAT

Canadian citizen girl, Medical Microbiology, B.Sc., M.Sc., July 1988, height 5'-3", only for Jatt. 79732-84032, +16475256268. (CL24057567)

## DOCTOR/ENGINEER

Match for July 1992, 5'-1", MD Doctor girl, Obs & Gynae, Fellowship in Laparoscopy and Robotics Surgery, status Punjabi Khatri business family. 99140-38193. (CL24057547)

Doctor, B.Tech, Sept 95/ 5'-5", fair, DM Neuro, seeks Super specialty match, Brother A.P. AIMS, Delhi. WhatsApp: 98998-16498. (CL24053894)

Vegetarian Hindu Saini girl 1986, 5'-2", PhD working as Assistant Professor regular. Tricity preferred. 97796-89418. (CL24057107)

Wanted Medico/ Non Medico match for Brahmin girl of 5'-2", 1995 born, pursuing MD Psychiatry at GMCH Chandigarh. Contact: 98556-15587. (CL24056068)

Compatible match for beautiful Jaisikh 95 born, 5'-3 1/2" girl MD (Pulmonary Medicine), working at Govt. Institute, Chandigarh and preparing for DM. Well established tricity family. WhatsApp: 98151-65137. (CL24056628)

Doctor girl 1996/ 5'-5", MBBS, MD Radiodiagnosis, well settle family. Caste no bar 94063-37389. (CL24057705)

MDS, MD, MS, IAS or Allied, 1991 to 1993 born, never married, tetotalter match for beautiful, Bhardwaj Brahmin, 5'-1", 14.9.1993, 11.14 am, MDS Orthodontist, 2023, Aadesh University, Bathinda. All doctors family. 9815047067. (CL24055852)

MD match for MBBS, MD (Psychiatry), Ramdasia girl, 1990/ 11, Doctor (Specialist) in reputed hospital. 94640-43995 (Patiala). (CL24055967)

Ramdasia Sikh girl, 5'-4", May 1996, MBBS & MD (Community Medicine) Senior Resident. Well settled family Patiala. WhatsApp only 79860-10620. (CL24056030)

Qualified match for Assistant Professor, Ph.D Chemistry, Govt. University, 5'-4", beautiful Verma girl. 89688-57100. (CL24056035)

MD, MS, DM, MCH, IAS, IPS match for beautiful Jat Sikh girl, (Virki), March 96, 5'-5", fair Complexion, Pursuing MD Radio Diagnosis II year. Preferred Radiologist. 98961-02821, 89503-81616. (CL24056208)

MD/ MS/ IIT/ IIM for Aggarwal girl, Dec 95/ 5'-4", Senior Resident Paediatrics, Patiala. 98554-22260. (CL24056296)

Seeking suitable match for 1994 born, convent educated beautiful girl, 5'-6", MD (Pediatrics), Gold medalist, working in PGI, Chandigarh. Preferably cut surd Jat Sikh/ Rajput, DM/MD/IAS/IPS boy marriage bureau excuse. 94180-86960. (CL24056354)

Ramdasia Sikh girl, Nov. 1986, 5'-3", MBBS, pursuing MD final year in Punjab, USMLE three steps cleared. 94652-72768. (CL24056439)

Postgraduate Doctor match for beautiful, Hindu Arora girl MD Gynae. Aug. 95, 5'-5", Sr. Resident at Ludhiana. Preferred location Chandigarh, Punjab. 98880-32142. (CL24057459)

DM, MCH match for fair, specialist, 5'-3", 32, Khatri girl, super Specialist in Medical Oncology. Contact: 95188-60205. (CL24057553)

30 years, 5'-4", female, MD Anesthesia, Sikh, hard working Career-Oriented girl, Doing good practice at Amritsar, wants a good Medico match. 78890-32145. (CL24057554)

Bhagat Megh beautiful smart girl, 5'-5", 24.11.94, doing MD Gynae 3rd year, Father Surgical Specialist own Hospital, need handsome boy with MD/ MS Clinical, preference Bhagat/ Ramdasia local Pathankot and with surrounding area contact: 99151-93193. (CL24057560)

Medico/Civil match for Bairagi (Vaishnav) MBBS, MD Pediatrics girl, (January) 1994, 5'-3", preferred Haryana, Delhi NCR, Chandigarh NCR WhatsApp: 80539-00449. (CL24057598)

SM4 1996/ 5'-7", slim beautiful Aggarwal girl, MD (Radio), both parent Doctor. Preferred Medico/ Civil Services match. Upper caste no bar. 94140-87055. (CL24057619)

Goyal girl, 16.12.1996, 5:55 pm, Sunam, Punjab, 5'-3", MDS Maxillofacial Surgery, Got. Fellowship in Head and Neck Oncology. Cancer Surgeon. (Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon). Only Aggarwal Doctors/ Officer (MD/ MS/ ENT). 94632-16620. (CL24057630)

PQM for Jatt Sikh girl, 95 born, 5'-9", MBBS, PCMS- I Doctor, NEET PG 2024 Score- 445. Send biodata 94632-32010, 98140-01435. (CL24057709)

Well qualified match for Khatri/Arora 1996, 5'-7", Dentist girl from reputed family. Upper caste welcome. NRI preferred. 94175-87784. (CL24057842)

Match for Mahajan MD Pathologist (attending consultant) girl 5'-2", 1993. Upper caste preferred Doctor/ I.S./ I.P.S. 98142-64360. (CL24057844)

## SCHEDULED CASTES

Suitable match for Ravidasia/ Chamar, beautiful, B.Com girl, 5'-07/34, well educated family, vegetarian/ Radhasoami. 93162-32211. (CL24056654)

Mazhbi Sikh girl 1993, 5'-5", B.Tech. IIT Delhi, Functional Manager/ Assistant Director in Department of Industry and Commerce P.B. Govt., parents retired. Class I Officer and brother Class I Officer. Amritsar. 98789-37843, 77104-37843. (CL24057047)

Valmiki girl, 1988/ 5', BA, B.Ed. ETT, CTET, PTET, Private School teacher. Father retired B-Class, mother retired Lecturer. Tricity preferred. 98722-15748. (CL24057491)

Seeking suitable match for SC girl Dec. 1992/ 5'-3", M.A. Sociology. Father Class-I Officer in Haryana Govt. Haryana based family. WhatsApp: 98969-14052. (CL24057579)

Ravidasia Sikh girl, 1994, 5'-3", B.Sc., MBA. Seeks educated Govt. employee or businessman from vegetarian family. 98156-15794. (CL24057729)

Ramdasia Sikh girl 1990, 5'-2", Govt. Teacher Delhi, preference Gurugram job. Contact No. 98726-67399. (CL24057743)

Match for vegetarian girl 30/5'-2", B.Sc., working as RT Aims Bathinda IELTS-7, 83605-80953, 90410-21921. (CL24057751)

PQM for beautiful girl, 1988 born, 5'-2", well qualified and Govt. employee. Contact No: 82190-15458. (CL24055942)

Suitable match for Sikh Ravidasia girl March 1995 born, 5'-7", MA, B.Ed and PTET and CTET pass. 99140-38310. (CL24056087)

Punjab Govt. job, Valmikan girl 19.10.96, 5'-2", Graduate in Commerce, preferred Punjab, 88725-71664. (CL24056254)

Manglik, fair, unmarried 29.09.77, 2:25 pm, Chandigarh, 5'-3", 3 yrs diploma Elect Eng. B.A. PGDCA girl. 0172-2674466, 09461-63960. (CL24056665)

Ravidasia Sikh girl, 10/ 1990, Bank Manger in Govt. Bank, requires equivalent match, 98037-79784. (CL24057577)

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

Advt. Manager

Fair, 16.5.1986, 5:45 p.m. Chandigarh, 5'-2", M.Sc. (Nursing), Tutor GMCH-32, Chandigarh. Pursuing Ph.D. Caste no bar. 0172-2674466, 09461-63960. (CL24056666)

Radhasoami Ad-dharmi girl, 1990, 5'-5" fair B.Com., private job (Accountant). Tricity/ Punjab preferred. Bureau excuse. 88377-03010. (CL24056754)

Suitable tetotalter match for beautiful Balmiki girl in tricity. April 1996, 5'-2", M.Sc. Maths. B.Ed. CTET HTET qualified, working as PGT Maths in private school. Educated family and bright future. 74045-50931. (CL24057000)

PQSM for 87/5'-7" girl, working USA based MNC, presently posted at Bangalore, 70 LPA. Caste no bar. 98185-42779. (CL24057025)

Match for Ramdasia girl 25-02-1998, Height 5 feet, M.Lib working in CU (Mohali). Gotar Saroya, Meaho. Father working in UT Chandigarh Electricity Department. 62830-82357, 98883-69897. (CL24057278)

Match for Ramdasia Sikh girl 5'-8", 09.05.1988, MCA. Father ret'd. Professor, Mother ret'd. Lecturer. Mobile 98724-22214. (CL24057471)

Match for Doaba SC Adharmi girl convent educated BA, 1995 July 5'-7", settled in Mohali. 98158-55051, 89866-29731. (CL24057546)

SMF beautiful Ramdasia Punjab govt. regular employee, Group-A, 5'-3", 11.1.1989 girl. Tricity preferred. 94173-18362. (CL24057571)

Suitable qualified, only Himachali settled (Govt job/businessman) match for SC beautiful girl, 32 yrs, 5'-5", B.Tech. Parents Govt job. Call/ WhatsApp: 7009211759. (CL24057627)

Suitable match for SC Govt. job girl, 34/ 5'-4", Regular, seeks government employee. Caste no bar. 98889-90904. (CL24057640)

Beloved, never married Punjabi, 46, D-Pharmacy, B.A., homemaker, Adharmi girl. Hobbies: Cooking, Stitching, Travelling. Wise, helpful, exploring. Seeking well-settled, educated, ambitious groom. 94180-29516. (CL24057643)

Post Graduate Ravidasia Hindu Mohali based girl 19.12.1994/ 5'-5", ETT Govt. Teacher. Preferred Govt. Employee. 98880-44329. (CL24057669)

Suitable match for Ad-dharmi girl (Gossa Jassal/Duggal), 10.05.1997, 5'-3", M.Sc. Physics, B.Ed., Private job. Preferred Doaba. Contact: 98155-34252, Jalandhar. (CL24057801)

Ad-Dharmi girl 30/5'-5", MA, B.Ed., D.Pharmacy Ayurveda and Unani. Needs boy from Foreign. No caste bar. Bureau sorry. 99159-20510. (CL24057802)

Canadian citizen Hindu Arora girl, 1983 born, 5'-6", Engineer, earning \$200000, looking Doctor, Lawyer, businessman from Canada. 98550-39874. WhatsApp only. (CL24057712)

SM4 Canada PR beautiful Rajput girl, RN, Dec. 92 born, 5'-2" desired Canada/ USA settled match. Contact: 94637-40240. (CL24056299)

Wanted Sikh Edu. turbaned boy for Walia girl, 34/5'-5", MA Eco & BEd. Sikh Khatri, Arora & Jatt Contact: 9871961154, 9818243606. (CL24056633)

NRI looking for a suitable match preferably from a Sikh family, for our daughter who is New Zealand born 26, 5'-4", B.Sc in Medical Imaging working full time as a Radiographer. Ph: +64220247982. (CL24056655)

## AHLUWALIA

Match for beautiful Ahluwalia girl, Oct. 97, 5'-3", PGD (Nutrition and Diets). Working as dietician in Fortis, Ludhiana. 93569-06425. (CL24055642)

Wanted Sikh Edu. turbaned boy for Walia girl, 34/5'-5", MA Eco & BEd. Sikh Khatri, Arora & Jatt Contact: 9871961154, 9818243606. (CL24056633)

## NRI

Suitable match for Dubai based Himachali vegetarian Brahmin girl, 28.07.1984, 5'-8" Working as a Duty Manager in the Aviation Industry (based in Dubai) Bachelors in Tourism and an Aviation Expert Boy should be above 5'-8". WhatsApp Dubai +971506426086/India 88005-15334. (CL24056515)

Engineer/Doctor for beautiful Ramdasia Sikh girl, 1991/5'-8", B.Tech-IIT, MS (USA), working as Engineer. Reputed family, father Class I Officer. Contact USA only. Caste no bar, 1123contact@gmail.com. (CL24053429)

Seeks professional educated match for Hindu Punjabi qualified, Australian widow girl 1977 born. Australia, New Zealand preferred. 62396-48671, +614060746. (CL24056552)

Match for Canadian citizen working Goyal girl 09.09.1998, 4:49 am Panipat 5'-8". Fair complexion. Bachelors in Comp.Sc. Well-settled business family in Canada. Preference Aggarwal family from Punjab Chandigarh. WhatsApp biodata with latest photograph +1-63947-03032, +91-98145-05032. (CL24057011)

Match for Jatt Sikh vegetarian US citizen girl, Graduation in Business Administration from USA, 5'-1", born in India December 1982. Only from California match contact. WhatsApp: 98725-06444. (CL24057433)

Wanted Indian/European/overseas qualified boy from status family for PR Germany Singla Architect girl, 5'-4", 02.12.1994 Ludhiana, 16:41, decent marriage 94174-93937. (CL24057582)

Match for very beautiful Brahmin girl in Australia 1995 born, 5'-4", well educated, high status business family from Ludhiana. Khatri also welcome. 84272-70003. (CL24057636)

Ramgharia one month divorced girl from Canada, 1990, 5'-6", (Fatehgarh Sahib). Preferred only well-settled, vegetarian Canadian Sarab boy. 98555-45495. (CL24057674)

Professionally qualified match for Canadian Citizen, born November 1989, 5'-2", M.Tech, employed in IT Sector, community Ravidasia. Legally consent divorcee. NRI preferred. Other suitable can also be considered. Caste no bar. WhatsApp: +91-94177-27146. (CL24055998)

Dentist match in Canada required for Dec. 1987 born, 5'-5" Canadian Citizen Ravidasia Dentist Punjabi girl. Caste no bar. Ph. 89689-35877. (CL24056075)

Match for Australian PR beautiful Sikh Khatri girl, MBA (HR), 1996, 5'-5", working in MNC Gurgaon. 9888366377. (CL24056097)

Match for Canadian PR, slim girl, never married, Master of Physiotherapy, July 1983. Looks younger. Canada N.R.I. preferred. 95019-00297. (CL24056104)

Match for unmarried Kamboj Sikh, 87 born girl, fair, 5'-6", highly qualified, PR Canada. Seeking well educated, tall match from Canada/ India. 9876448510, 6723994855 (WhatsApp only). (CL24056459)

Suitable match for Ravidasia girl, DOB: 23.07.1989, height 5'-5", MD (Anaesthesia) from PGI Chandigarh, presently working as Sr. Clinical Fellow in Wolverhampton (United Kingdom). Father: Doctor, retired as HOD from Government Medical College, Chandigarh and presently working in Max Hospital Mohali as Director & Head. Mother working as Govt. Teacher in Chandigarh. Brother B.Tech, LL.B, MA (Psychology) and preparing for Civil Services. Residence in Mohali. Caste no bar. Kindly send profile on WhatsApp: +91-96461-21707. (CL24056576)

Match Canada citizen, divorced, Ramdasia Sikh, Software Developer, 5'-3", 1991, Boy PR Canada preferably Ontario. Caste no bar. 9501029128, 9501029129. (CL24057035)

Khatri/ Arora Anshik Manglik girl 5'-0", 01.06.94, 4:45 am Gurgaon, Vancouver based. 98110-27957, 93543-42726. (CL24057227)

Seeking suitable match for beautiful smart USA citizen Ramgharia girl, 29/ 5'-5", non vegetarian Master in Accounts working with reputed company having good salary package. Preferred from bay area California needs to correspond. WhatsApp: +15107666671. Marriage bureau excuse. (CL24057466)

Match for SC Ad-dharmi girl B.Tech. Master Canadian work permit, 1993/ 5'-3". Preferred Canadian PR/ Doaba based boy. Contact: 98782-92671. (CL24057473)

Match for Goldsmith divorcee girl 17.4.1986, 11:37 am Khanna, MBA, living in Toronto (Canada) Makeup Artistry from AOFM. 98888-09789. (CL24057530)

Required handsome boy 25 acres land owner, Ht. 6', Canada PR for Jatt Sikh Toor smart girl 1995/ 5'-8", work permit in Canada. Malwa preferred. 94171-70089. (CL24057633)

Match for Lobana Sikh beautiful US Citizen, 14.11.1994, 5'-4", (Electronics) and Communications Engineering. Working as IT Recruiter in US recruiting a staffing. Currently in Canada on visitor visa. Contact: 78887-61860. (CL24056063)

Suitable match for beautiful Bhagat girl, 25th July 1986, 5'-4", M.T

SIKH

Suitable match for Canadian PR, Rajput Sikh girl, 5'-7", 27 years, pursuing Bachelor Degree in Business Management...

Sikh 28, 5'-4", B.Tech/MBA, working MNC Company good income. Caste no bar...

Match for Ramdasia Sikh girl, 5'-3", 88 bom, B.A., LL.B., Manager in IDBI Bank...

Beautiful, smart Bhojraj Khatri Punjabi girl (3 Aug 1992) 5'-3", BBA, M.Sc Fashion Designing...

Match for Sikh beautiful girl, 27/5'-5", MBA, Private working preferred all Sikh/Punjabi...

Suitable match for Judge 91, 5'-3" Majhi Sikh Girl Smart, Educated family Caste no bar...

Suitable match for divorced Khatri Sikh girl, 32/5'-7", MCA, Working in an IT company based on Mohali...

Seeks Class-I Officer, Doctor, well settled businessman or MNC working Sikh match...

Suitable match for Majabi Sikh girl 1989/5'-4", Manager SBI Mumbai, Caste no bar...

M4 beautiful, convent educated, Sikh 28+ working Dr. BDS, MHA girl, Father, Advocate...

Beautiful Ahluwalia girl, 5'-5"/1990, B.Tech, MBA, working, Preference NRI...

Wanted suitable match for beautiful Sikh girl, Commercial Pilot, age 26, 5'-6", Father Merchant Navy...

Match for Rajput Mehra girl, 5'-3"/29.6.1991, B.Sc. Nursing Canada with work permit...

SM4 Jubha Sikh girl, 1982/5'-4", M.Lib., B.Ed., Govt. School Librarian...

Government employee match for Mazbhi Sikh girl, 31, 5'-3", MA B.Ed., private Teacher...

Ramdasia Sikh Canadian PR girl, 1996, 5'-6", B.Sc. Nursing, Childcare required...

Match for beautiful Sikh Khatri girl 1989/5'-4", Manager SBI Mumbai, Caste no bar...

Match for beautiful Sikh Khatri girl 1989, 5'-4", B.Tech, MNC, working, Chandigarh...

Match for beautiful Sikh Khatri girl, 24, 5'-5", B.Tech, all Sikh contact 93024-44391...

Beautiful 92 born, MBA (HR), 5'-8", HR, specialized in Health Care...

SIKH ARORA

Non Manglik match for Sikh Arora beautiful girl August 1993, 5'-4", MCA, Amritsar...

Required suitable match for beautiful Arora Sikh girl March 1997, 5'-5", Post Graduate handling family business...

Arora Sikh slim smart ladki 15.2.99, 5'-4", MBA, high status business family...

Australian Khatri, 29 yrs/5'-2", Banking professional, divorced 3 yrs...

Match Amritdhari Khatri Sikh girl, 5'-3", 16.12.1991, Class-I Officer Punjab Khatri...

Suitable match for smart Sikh Arora educated girl M.A, B.Ed., Jan. 1992, 5'-2", upper middle class family...

Match for Ludhiana based Sikh Bhatia very decent and beautiful girl 1997 born, height 5'-6", B.Tech (IT)...

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AGGARWAL

Wanted PQM for B.Tech. Banija girl 98 born, 170 cms fair complexion...

Wanted high class business boy for Singla Manglik beautiful girl 23 May 1989, 7.10 pm, Chandigarh...

Tricity match for singal Manglik working girl, MA, 09.01.1991, 5'-00 pm, Bhiwani...

Good looking sweet natured Gupta girl Bachelors Audio Speech Therapy P.G.I. CHD...

Suitable match for Singla (from Panipat), beautiful, fair, slim girl 5'-3", 1989, B.Tech (IT), B.Ed...

Match for Gupta girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Suitable match for Singla girl 5'-1", 22.08.1995, 5-15 pm, Fazilka, B.Com, MBA, (Working MNC Gurugram)...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

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Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

Match for Singh girl, 33 years/5'-2", Class-I officer, Public Prosecutor, Punjab...

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Chandigarh showroom second floor Main Road, Sector 35, Second Sector 8, 3.5. Shree Properties...

Chandigarh showroom freehold 50% share (ground with basement) Sector 40, vacant...

Chandigarh one kanal B-Road house with front parking space, Cheque payment...

Chandigarh showroom 40% share for sale main road Sector 35, Ground pre-rented...

Chandigarh one kanal house newly built triple storey with basement...

Chandigarh showroom freehold rented @ Rs. 3,15,000/- monthly for sale, Confirmed deal...

Chandigarh showroom freehold 20% share (second floor rented @ 80000/- monthly) for sale...

Omase Phase 3, New Chandigarh: Available 1 kanal good location kothi with rich specifications...

Showroom 3 bays (5x105) 6 storey built-up excellent location sector 17...

Match for Garg Non-Manglik girl, 29.4.1997, 4:35 am, Sangrur, 5'-3", M.Sc, B.Ed...

Match for Garg Non-Manglik girl, 29.4.1997, 4:35 am, Sangrur, 5'-3", M.Sc, B.Ed...

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Nalagarh ladies wear running showroom 37 marla approximate covered area 5000 sqft owner...

Prime location Farm house for sale with all approvals and Farm House plots in New Chandigarh...

New Chandigarh: Ecocity 2, 150 sq.yd plot, B-Road Buffers&Catalyst.com: 99901-13480...

10 marla Sector -15-21-33-34, 1 kanal Sector-18-19-21-28-31, Chandigarh...

Chandigarh: 2 kanal brand new triple with lift single line Sector 19-D and 2 kanal livable corner B-Road...

Chandigarh: HIG Upper three bedrooms, drawing dining, ground floor, first floor...

Zirakpur- Big size Showroom, Rental- 4 Lac pm. Easy installations, Outlet Village, Call Empire Estates...

Hotel Site- (88x93), huge parking outlet Village Zirakpur, front Delhi-Chandigarh Highway...

1 kanal kothi good location near park Sector 34, 21, 19 Chandigarh, confirmed, Gill Real Estate...

10 marla facing park, liveable good location Sector 34 Chandigarh, Gill Real Estate...

Double storey shop Size 12x30 on 200 ft. Airport Road in Landcheater Near IT City, Mohali...

Chandigarh: HIG first, third corner 44, HIG ground corner 45, 51, MIG first 44...

Corner facing park beautiful built HIG Upper 2nd floor with terrace garden Sector 44A...

Pre-leased property to MNC's (KFC, McDonald, CBT, Subway, Clubs etc.) with high revenues...

Commercial showroom size 34x66 rented to corporate office rent 10 lakhs per month...

3 Bedroom, 2 Washroom, Front & Back Balcony, Transfer Case, Jalvayu Society, Sector-44A, Top Floor, Chandigarh...

Freehold showroom Madya Marg & NAC, Manimajra, Three kanal freehold shed Chandigarh...

Two kanal best located plot and two kanal built-up house Sector 6, Panchkula...

Newly built property rented to multi-national fetching sixty lacs pm for sale...

22 Kanal and 11 kanal freehold best located Industrial plot Industrial Area, Chandigarh...

Modern Warehouse seven acre land rented to Govt. Agency at Pandri (Kaithal) area...

Booth Sector 38C size 8x16 expected monthly rental income 45000/- Mann Property...

Patiala North Avenue kothi, 211 gaz, 63x30 East facing, 85 Lakhs. Two storey, 4 bedrooms...

Looking to sell / Buy Properties in Chandigarh, Mumbai, Delhi, Goa, Handle / Available Bank and Disputed Properties...

Chandigarh: 10 marla facing park B-Road, top location, Sector 15, 34, Bright Property...

Chandigarh: 1 kanal facing park B-Road, Sector 21, 33, 34, Bright Property...

5 marla house B-Road and facing park in Sector-22, Chandigarh, Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate...

7 marla good livable house in Sector-32, Chandigarh, Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate...

6 marla triple storey single line back big park near market Sector 20, Chandigarh, Contact S.A. Khan...

10 marla facing park, corner B-Road house in Sector-33, 34, 35 Chandigarh...

Approx 2 kanal corner livable house in Sector-8 and 2 kanal corner facing park good location in Sector-19, 21 Chandigarh...

HIG lower 2nd floor and upper 1st floor Sector 38W Chandigarh, facing park, very well renovated...

10.5 Marla, triple storey, East facing kothi with 80K monthly rental, Phase-5 Mohali...

Available Showroom No. 81 size 18x50, Sector-95-B, North East single line, Contact: The Realty Mart: Sahil Arora...

Available 4 marla Plot No. 3632, facing big park, 80 feet road, Contact: The Realty Mart: Sahil Arora...

Baddi good rental income 4000 per month for 9 years, 3 year Lock-in, investment 76 Lacs...

Chandigarh SCO 20% share with possession second floor prime location main Aroma Piccadilly road...

Booth with basement vacant facing road Sector 35-C, Chandigarh, Choice Estates, Showroom 38/37-D...

For Sale 6833 Sq. yard, Industrial Plot, Phase-VII, Mohali, Covered Area-2 Lakhs Sq.ft., Expected Rent 55 Lakhs per Month...

Plot Omase Phase-1, facing park, 300 yards, plot/kothi New Chandigarh 200, 300 yards, Ecocity I, II, Omase, DLF, Megh Estates...

Mohali Plot 300 yards Sector 82-A, IT City facing park, Owner IT City facing park, Owner IT City facing park...

One kanal kothi Sector 20, 40, 31, 38, 35, two kanal Sector 17, 14 Marla Sector 34, 37, 15, Megh Estates...

Kothi ten marla Sector 15, 34, 38, 32, 40, 42, 44, 37, 35, Megh Estates- 98159-05086...

Chandigarh Sector 19, 20, 21, 22, 38, 40, 44, Booth 35, 37, 38, 40, Megh Estate- 98159-05086...

Sector 38 West HIG independent, high ground, first, second, MIG first, second, high 39, 44, 43, 51, 63, Megh Estate...

For sale 1 kanal kothi prime location, Sector 11, Chandigarh, Contact 98140-16622...

For sale 1 kanal single storey house, Sector 34, Chandigarh, Contact 98140-16622...

For sale 1.25 kanal kothi, prime location, Sector 38, Chandigarh, Contact 98140-16622...

6 kanal kothi, prime location, northern sector 9 Chandigarh area deal, 98140-16622...

1 kanal kothi going reasonable Chandigarh All cheque contact 98140-16622...

1 kanal B-Road Sector 11, vast Sectors 10, 18, 19, 21, 33, 34, Sharan 98728-92299...

8 Marla park facing, ample parking, Sector 46 Chandigarh, 96326-88007, Contact: 98140-16622...

Double showroom Sector 35, Entire vacant main market Rented 9,00,000/- monthly Sector 34 Rent 95,000/- another 12,00,000/-...

2 kanal corner Sector 8, choice Sectors 7, 15, 18, 19, 21, 35, 36, Sharan 98728-92299...

6 kanal best deal Sector 9, four kanal prime Sector 9, selection Sectors 8, 16, 28, Sharan 98728-92299...

Chandigarh 3 acres prime plot vacant freehold Industrial Phase 1 for big commercial project...

Highway commercial property, 7 mins from Patiala, 250 feet front, 10,000 square feet covered area...

1 1/2 Kanal Duplex marbled House Sector 16, Chandigarh Rare availability, Contact Anuj Associates...

Three Bay Sector 34, first floor, rent 3.25,00,000/- monthly, single bay Sectors 19, 18, 26, 37, Sharan 98728-92299...

Himachal Pradesh Kasauli, Dagshai, Barog, Vast range independent 3, 4 BHK Villas semi/furnished Hilltop Valley View, non-Himachali can also buy @ 3,00,00,000/- to 4,50,00,000/-...

Chandigarh Society Cat-A first renovated Puspach Society-A first renovated Sector 45C, HIG second/ fourth Sector 63, MIG first Sector 61, 63 HIG second floor Sector 47C...

Chandigarh kothies five marla 22D, 38, 40, 44, 46, seven marla 32, 35, 35 eight marla Sector 19, 20, 21, 38, 40, 44, 46, ten marla 15, 27, 21, 35, 37, 38, 42, 44, 44, 21, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, Rajesh Estates...

Chandigarh 7 marla triple liveable Sector 32-A also 8 marla near Sector 20, 38, 98151-86915...

Chandigarh 10 marla house facing market Sector 21B, huge parking of 40 cars opposite commercial location, ideal for professional, Rare opportunity...

Chandigarh 10 marla triple house Sector 21A with lift, Italian marble, teakwood, modular kitchen, nicely built, Allied Realty 98140-16644...

Newly built 133 sq. yard house for sale at Dushdeep Nagar, Zirakpur, Call at 98564-65106...

Posh colony, Urban

Classifieds

Star Realty 95697-87096: 1 kanal 14 marla builder floor in MDC 6. (CL24057792)

Star Realty 95697-87096: 8, 10, 14 marla plot in Sector 26, 27, 28, 31. (CL24057793)

Satyia Estates: 2 1/2 kanal industrial Phase 2. Contact: 99157-86900. (CL24057499)

Satyia Estates: 1 kanal luxury builder floor in Sector 7 and 8. Contact: 99157-86900. (CL24057501)

Satyia Estates: 14 marla park facing plot for sale in Sector 4 MDC and 6 MDC. Contact: 99157-86900. (CL24057503)

Satyia Estates: 1 kanal B-Road plot available for sale in Sector 28. Contact: 99157-86900. (CL24057508)

Floors available 10/14/1 kanal in all Sector 1, kanal duplex 4, 16, 17, Sharma: 82888-78339, 98767-70050. (CL24057510)

2 kanal main road Command Hospital old house and 6-7 dividing road plot freehold Sector 6, Panchkula for sale. Yours Property Sanjay 98143-33330. (CL24057675)

1 kanal plot, 4 marla livable house excellent location Sector 27 (1.85). 8 marla house Sector 25. 98767-82699. (CL24057684)

One kanal excellent location B-road single liveable kothi, Phase-3B1. Genuine customers contact: 99143-27641 (CL24057514)

50 percent share of kanal house, facing park, Phase-7, Mohali. Contact only genuine buyers. 93160-12351. (CL24057520)

Hotel site for sale, 2 acre land allotted by GMADA, just 2 km from Airport, Mohali. Contact: 93160-12351. (CL24057523)

Satyia Estates: Preleased SCO floor in ALC Sector 68, rent 25000/- per month. Contact: 98726-17090. (CL24057531)

4 kanal 12 marla land VIII. Malakpur Mohali on main road Kharar to Khari 160 ft. front. Best for farmhouse. 83605-48131. (CL24057533)

1 kanal plot/mud house Phase 6, ample parking. Contact Next Invest 85588-82700. (CL24057676)

1 kanal kothi Phase 3B2, east facing. Contact Next Invest 85588-82700. (CL24057678)

Phase 10, Mohali, 16 marla kothi corner side park North East facing. Contact Next Invest 85588-82700. (CL24057681)

IT City Sector 66-B 12 marla plot corner two side open side 80' road facing East. Contact Next Invest 85588-82700. (CL24057682)

SCO 16x66, corner plot, Plan approved from MC, opposite DIPS School, Dhakoli, Zirakpur for sale. 99157-79951. (CL24057444)

Plot 350 sq.yd., single line in Wave Estate, Sector 85, Mohali for sale. Contact: Eco Estate: 93830-00005. (CL24057478)

SCO Plot size 102.07 Sq.yd. in TDI, Sector-110, Mohali for sale. Contact: Eco Estate: 93830-00005. (CL24057480)

Residential Plots sizes 300, 400, 500 sq.yd for sale in Sector 108-109, EMAAR, Mohali. Contact: Eco Estate: 99880-43802. (CL24057482)

Mohali 8 Marla plot North East B-Road four car parking near Block D Sector 66 beta IT City demand 2.35 Cr. preferred all cheque payment owner Mahajan 98760-00014. (CL24057572)

Immediately sale one kanal plot corner, adjoining park, Aerocity Mohali/ Sector 82 IT city. Contact: 70096-07964. (CL24057827)

80 MARLA COMMERCIAL PLOT FOR SALE On Nehru Garden Road, Next to Shastri Market JALANDHAR

2 kanal category plot for sale at IAS & PCS Society, New Chandigarh, Mullapur. Call: 98140-03078. (CL24057489)

Letter of Intent Durali Sector-101: Industrial park 500, 275 yds., Showroom 100 yds. 9143-27641. (CL24057519)

FLAT WANTED Wanted A Category Flat, preference 48 and 49 Sector, Chandigarh. Only Genuine sellers can contact. Mob: 96460-44242. (CL24057288)

TOILET CHANDIGARH Independent two three bedroom ground first floor 15 18 22 27 34 38, 40. 98144-43006. (CL24056401)

2 bhk and one room attached bathroom Society Flat Sector 48 Chandigarh. 88377-15671. (CL24057441)

Sector 21:- One kanal 2nd floor with lift 3 BHK attached washrooms any part. Chhadha Property: 98141-08377, 89687-51777. (CL24057668)

Kirpal Estate 89683-84838. Four three two, one kanal independent floorings, duplex, double, single all Chandigarh, New Chandigarh, Mohali, Panchkula. Lease basis. (CL24057833)

One acre farmhouse, near Sukhna Lake, Kaimbwala 4 Big bedrooms, servant, huge parking. Company lease. 89683-84838. (CL24057836)

Kanal, first floor, independent two room annexe, kitchen, store, toilet gysr, balcony, either side. Semi furnished. Ideal for students taking coaching. 613/33-B, 94630-87010. (CL24056704)

Two Kanal Independent Four Bedroom, Three baths house First floor, unfurnished, Separate Driveway Facing park Sector 36-C, Chandigarh. Whatsapp 76968-99019. (CL24057483)

Independent one large room with kitchen, toilet, open terrace & balcony. 2nd floor of 8 marla house facing park Sector 20-A, for small family. Contact: 98148-00792 (5 pm to 7 pm). (CL24057714)

Brand Salon for sale, 2000 sq.ft. pool Sunny Enclave, Kharar with 6 lacs monthly sale avg. 55 Lacs Profit annually, demand 75 lacs. Owner going abroad. 99157-77951. (CL24057445)

CBSE affiliated Secondary School for sale at Sangrur. Contact: 90416-44553. (CL24057487)

Setup Skill Development Centre in Computer, Agriculture, Construction, retail services avail subsidy upto 50%. 98155-08905. (CL24057713)

Multinational Comp. Business opportunity investment 50 lakhs, 10 lakhs, 20 lakhs. Call 98720-05620. (CL24057427)

Earn 1,00,000 - 2,00,000 monthly income regularly in 6-9 months through Smart Multi Dimensional Marketing. Learn to thing beyond and act. Contact Dr. Jasbir, retired Banker, Chandigarh. 96464-77776, 96467-77766. (CL24057544)

We required investors to our Sugar and pulses supply business. Contact/WhatsApp 70565-61155. (CL24057639)

Golden business opportunity. Take over a reputed educational brand, with a PAN India Franchisee based program. Present owner is selling due to non availability of any family member to run this business. Contact: 88725-88729. (CL24057659)

We are interested to takeover any Sick unit around Patiala with minimum 3 acre land. Call 99159-33748. (CL24057662)

Business Opportunity do you want to buy a petrol pump at a prime location on Chandigarh- Jalandhar Highway. Contact: 88722-88720. (CL24057665)

Franchise/ partnership/ lease/ purchase for hotel, restaurant, guest house, resorts sweet shop fast food Dhaba. 98150-42927. (CL24057824)

Bistro 226, established premium restaurant looking for franchisees throughout Punjab. Also provides turn key solutions to set up cafe, Restaurant, bar. Over 24 years of industry experience in India & abroad. Running two up market restaurants in Ludhiana. 84271-02626, 95920-96139. (CL24054208)

I, Tanaz Shergill D/o Navpreet Singh Shergill, R/o H.No. 1575, Sector 36-D, Chandigarh declare that I have changed my name from Tanaz Shergill to Tanaz Kaur Shergill and in future I to be identified by my new name Tanaz Kaur Shergill for all purposes. (CL24057803)

I, Rakesh Rai S/o Ram Pralsh R/o H.No. 3639, Sector 23-D, Chandigarh declare that my daughter Shivam Rai (Now settled in Canada) is out of my control. I disown her from my movable & immovable properties (Register will No. 1299 Dated 20.09.2024.) Anybody dealing with her at their own risk. (CL24057189)

I, Gurkirat Singh Sohnapal S/o Satnam Singh R/o House No. 425, Sector 3-A, Near Civil Hospital Mandi Gobindgarh, District Fatehgarh Sahib have changed my name from Gurkirat Singh to Gurkirat Singh Sohnapal. (CL24057550)

I, Sonika Badhan W/o Binod Kumar Badhan R/o House no. 447, New Sunny Enclave, Sector-123, Kharar, distt S.A.S Nagar Mohali (Punjab) have changed the name of my minor son from Rohinish to Rohinish Badhan. In future he may be known as Rohinish Badhan for all intents and purposes. Concerned please note. (CL24057810)

I, Mohinder Kaur alias Mamta W/o Krishan Lal mother of Sanjeev Arora R/o Amloh District Fatehgarh Sahib have changed my name as Mamta. (CL24057626)

I, Smt. Parkasho W/o Prithvi Raj R/o Ward No. 21, Ravidas Nagar, Malerkotla, Punjab, have change my name to Parkash Devi. (CL24057719)

I, Divyanshu son of Raj Kumar Village Guthan, PO Salogra, Tehsil and District Solan, have lost at Solan my 10th Class marksheet (CSE Board) UID No. 7622579 Index No. 123765060 Passing year 2022 ICSE Board School name Dayanand Adarsh Vidyalaya Sunny Side Solan. If found please return to above address. (CL24057806)

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Tejinder Preet Kaur Civil Judge (Jr. Division), Jagraon Amandeep Kaur Vs. Nirbhai Singh CNR No. PBLDDB0-000412-2024 Next Date: 14.10.2024 Publication issued to: Nirbhai Singh s/o Sadhu Singh s/o Ajaib Singh r/o Village Bazurgar, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 14.10.2024 at 10.00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=ludhiana Dated, this day of 19.09.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge (Junior Division), CL24057506 Jagraon

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms Rekha Panchkula CNR No. HRPK02-001092-2023 Next Date: 13.12.2024 Jyoti Negi & Another Vs. Saroj Gupta Suit for recovery Notice to: Ms. Saroj Gupta d/o Shri Devi Chand r/o House No. 710, Second Floor, Sector 7, Panchkula. In above titled case, the defendant could not be served. It is ordered that the defendant should appear in person or through counsel on 13.12.2024 at 10.00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=panchkula Dated, this day of 20.09.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge (Senior Division), CL24057517 Panchkula

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Deepak Kumar Choudhary Principal Judge (FC), Bamala HMA/639/2023 Amandeep Kaur Vs. Kuldeep Singh CNR No. PBBR01-004981-2023 Next Date:- 24.10.2024 Publication issued to: Kuldeep Singh Father:- Major Singh Mubarakpur, Teh. and Distt. 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 24.10.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=bamala Dated, this day of 18.09.2024. Sd/- Principal Judge (FC), CL24057552 Bamala

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Ms. Manpreet Kaur-II Addl. Civil Judge (Senior Division)-I S.A.S Nagar CNR No. PBA02-000620-2023 Next Date:- 16.10.2024 Bank of India Vs. M/S Amit Collections Suit for Recovery of Rs. 717078/- Notice to: M/s Amit Collections Booth No. 427, Janta Market, Phase 3B1, Mohali through Amit Kumar S/o Ashok Kumar. Second Address: H.No. 2527/1, Sector 38-C, Chandigarh. Third Address: Booth No. 203, Sector 22-C, Chandigarh. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 16.10.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=mohali Dated, this day of 18.09.2024. Sd/- Addl. Civil Judge (Senior Division)-I, CL24057559 S.A.S Nagar

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Harimranjit Kaur Civil Judge (Junior Division) Phillaur Baljit Singh (deceased) S/o Paras Rani S/o Harbals through LRs: Usha Rani, W/o Baljit Singh R/o Village Nagar, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar. Versus Hans Raj S/o Dyal R/o Village Nagar Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar. CNR No. PBJLB0-000033-2022 Next Date: 23.10.2024 Publication issued to: 1. Hans Raj, 2. Mandeep, 3. Bhubinder Rani both S/o and D/o Dyal S/o Arjun Singh, 4. Tarsem Kaur W/o Dyal, 5. Benny Marshall, 6. Tejinder Kaur both S/o and D/o Baljit Singh, all R/o Village Nagar Tehsil Phillaur District Jalandhar. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 23.10.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=jalandhar Dated, this day of 21.09.2024. Sd/- Civil Judge (Junior Division), CL24057667 Phillaur

COURT NOTICES (U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Rana Kanwardeep Kaur Chahal Additional District and Sessions Judge-II, Kapurthala. The Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. Vs. M/s Shiv Shanker Rice Mills etc. CNR No. PBKP01-004279-2021 EXE-117-2023 Next Date: 10.10.2024 Publication issued to: 1) M/s Shiv Shanker Rice Mills Village Harbanspur, Hoshiarpur Road, Phagwara District Kapurthala, Punjab through its Partners. 2) Sh. Jitesh Verma s/o Sh. Ranbir Rai. 3) Sh. Raman Rishi s/o Sh. Ranbir Rai, r/o Village Harbanspur, Hoshiarpur Road, Phagwara District Kapurthala, Punjab. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 10.10.2024 at 10:00 a.m. For details login to: https://highcourthd.gov.in/?mod=district\_notice&district=kapurthala Dated, this day of 28.08.2024. Sd/-Additional District and Sessions Judge-II, CL24057742 Kapurthala.

LAND FOR SALE

5/15/ 50/ 125 Acre Landran, Chummi, Morinda, Ropar, Balachar, Nawanshahr, Garhsahib, Hoshiarpur, Thanda, Mukerian, Amloh, Malerkotla, Phillaur, Bamala, Abohar, Muktsar, Amarjot 70870-88796, 97804-60006. (CL24056200)

FLAT WANTED

Wanted A Category Flat, preference 48 and 49 Sector, Chandigarh. Only Genuine sellers can contact. Mob: 96460-44242. (CL24057288)

TOILET

Independent two three bedroom ground first floor 15 18 22 27 34 38, 40. 98144-43006. (CL24056401)

CHANDIGARH

2 bhk and one room attached bathroom Society Flat Sector 48 Chandigarh. 88377-15671. (CL24057441)

Sector 21:- One kanal 2nd floor with lift 3 BHK attached washrooms any part. Chhadha Property: 98141-08377, 89687-51777. (CL24057668)

Kirpal Estate 89683-84838. Four three two, one kanal independent floorings, duplex, double, single all Chandigarh, New Chandigarh, Mohali, Panchkula. Lease basis. (CL24057833)

One acre farmhouse, near Sukhna Lake, Kaimbwala 4 Big bedrooms, servant, huge parking. Company lease. 89683-84838. (CL24057836)

Kanal, first floor, independent two room annexe, kitchen, store, toilet gysr, balcony, either side. Semi furnished. Ideal for students taking coaching. 613/33-B, 94630-87010. (CL24056704)

FINANCIAL

Find solution of NPA problems to stop sarfasi action/possession/ sale of properties. Aggarwal 79730-50542. (CL24051744)

INVESTMENT

Pension from 2025 (72000 and 144000), for husband and wife, term plan, children plans. 76964-33777. (CL24056520)

MACHINERY FOR SALE

The complete unit of PRECIPITATED SILICA is for sale in Alwar Rajasthan. It has Digesters, Reactor, Spray Dryer, ACM Mill, Storage tanks, Packing Machines, High Pressure Boiler, CG, VFDS, Air Compressors, Motors and Gear Boxes. All the equipments are of reputed makes & in running condition. Buyers can approach for Entire Plant / individual equipment. Interested parties may call 8588044881, 8588044882. (CL24057767)

FOR SALE

Business for Sale/ Partnership. (Offices in Chandigarh & Haryana). Owner moving abroad. Interested parties can call at 9350562234 WhatsApp +6476144495. (CL24056615)

NURSERY/PLANTS

Available popular nursery plants for sale Colone W 108, 109, 110, 111, 112. High discount for advance booking till Nov. 2024. Worldwide Complex, Kailon Hoshiarpur. 98140-74178, 73475-01818. (CL24057468)

CAR FOR SALE

Audi Q7 2022 petrol white Pb Number, brand new tyres, mint condition. Owner. 99307-00005. (CL24057760)

2014 Ford EcoSport Petrol for sale. Single hand driven. Chandigarh number. Contact 98145-25709. (CL24056274)

Yerna Diesel Manual Oct. 2010, Top model, Power steering, Power windows, Climate Control, ABS, Alloy, Fog lights, First owner, Chandigarh number, well maintained. Dealers excuse. 98763-19876. (CL24056638)

Toyota Fortuner 4x4 Automatic 2017 Model Grey Colour Vp Number Brand new condition. 81460-97853. (CL24056652)

RENT/LEASE

Furnished office space for rent at Centra Mall, Chandigarh. Area 4000, 2000, 1000 sq.ft. Contact: 96549-67300. (CL24057147)

2000 sq.ft. carpet area each. Ground floor and First floor. Opp Jammu Hospital, Kapurthala Road, Jalandhar available for rent/lease. Contact: 9796502789. (CL24056099)

14 Kanal 7 Marla at Jhansla (Rajpura), on highway, 11,000 sq.foot covered area. Ideal for warehouse. Contact 97200-05380, 91203-88888. (CL24057267)

Furnished Office Space in Betsch Business Tower-B Sector-66 Mohali. 1465 Sq. ft. (super area), 4th floor. Owner: 98722-85769. (CL24057583)

Space for rent/partnership available for Doctors in a well established Hospital in Ludhiana. 78146-66248. (CL24057597)

Different sizes of godowns are available on rent/lease at GT. Road, Mohra, Distt. Ambala Cantt. 98960-45063, 70270-35063. (CL24057637)

MD Radiologist part time, Gynaecologist/ obstetrician for hospital in Sector 13, Chandigarh. Contact Dr Chopra 94170-69175. (CL24056735)

Get Multiplespecialty Hospital on rent OPD, Indoor, OT Lab, Labour room, X-ray, Ultrasound. 97299-84607 (Kunukshetra). (CL24056070)

Hospital site (New Chandigarh) Hospital site in Heart of New Chandigarh invites proposals from established hospital chains/healthcare providers for JV, Collaboration, lease etc. Total land area 2613 sq. yd. Contact: mediplex@alliedrealty.co.in (CL24056585)

MEDICAL/SURGICAL

Diagnosic Scan Centre for urgent sale Distt. Rupnagar running well. 81958-65055. (CL24057644)

Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), CL24057465 Gurdaspur.

BRIEFLY

**LEEDS**  
**Rashid first English spinner to reach 200 ODI wickets**  
 Adil Rashid has registered his name into the record books during the ongoing One-Day International series against Australia, by becoming the third English bowler and first spinner to take 200 wickets in the 50-over format. Rashid achieved the feat when he dismissed Glenn Maxwell (7) in his sixth over in the second England-Australia ODI at Headingley.

**BEIJING**  
**Top-ranked Iga Swiatek withdraws from China Open**  
 World top-ranked and defending champion Iga Swiatek has withdrawn from next week's China Open in Beijing, citing personal reasons. "Due to personal matters, I'm forced to withdraw from the China Open in Beijing. I'm sorry I won't be a part of it this time," Swiatek said.

**NEW DELHI**  
**Harmanpreet nominated for FIH Player of the Year**  
 Skipper Harmanpreet Singh, who powered India to a second successive bronze medal in hockey at the Olympics in Paris, was on Saturday nominated for the FIH Player of the Year Award. The 28-year-old ace dragflicker, who was the top scorer at the Paris Olympics with 10 goals from eight matches, had previously won the award twice in a row from 2020-22. "It is a great honour to be nominated for the FIH Player of the Year Award again," the Indian defender stated.

**NEW DELHI**  
**Kalikesh Singh Deo elected NRAI president**  
 Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo was elected president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) after he beat his rival VK Dhall 36-21 in the polls held at the Constitution Club of India here on Saturday. Kalikesh, a former MP from Odisha, was taking care of the day-to-day functioning of the NRAI after the position fell vacant last year following the resignation of Raninder Singh as per the government's National Sports Code (NSC).

**BERLIN**  
**Tiafoe beats Medvedev to put Team World ahead at Laver Cup**  
 Frances Tiafoe put Team World ahead at the Laver Cup with a victory over Daniil Medvedev on Saturday. The American, who reached the semifinals at the U.S. Open, won 3-6, 6-4 and 10-5 in the third set, which is a match tiebreaker. Each match win is worth two points on Saturday and three points on Sunday. The first team to 13 points wins in a format reminiscent of golf's Ryder Cup. Tiafoe's victory gave his side a 4-2 lead over Team Europe ahead of Carlos Alcaraz's match against American Ben Shelton.

**RIYADH**  
**Ronaldo helps Al-Nassr deliver win**  
 Cristiano Ronaldo opened the scoring as Al-Nassr defeated Ettifaq 3-0 and gave Stefano Pioli victory in his first game as coach of the Saudi Arabian club on Friday. The Italian, who led AC Milan to the Serie A title in 2022, was appointed on Wednesday to succeed Luis Castro. The Portuguese coach was dismissed the previous day due to Al-Nassr's slow start to the season with just one win in three Saudi Pro League games.

**NEW DELHI**  
**Prashanth-Nedunchezhiyan and Yuki move to semifinals**  
 India's Vijay Sundar Prashanth and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan found a way to prevail over second seeds Julian Cash and Lloyd Glasspool in a tough battle in the Hangzhou Open quarterfinals while Yuki Bhambhani progressed to the Chengdu Open semifinals with his partner on Saturday. AGENCIES

# Pant, Gill put India in command

Set mammoth 515-run target for Bangladesh to win 1st test, visitors lose early wickets

**CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill cleansed months of hurt, anxiety and disappointments of varying nature with emotional hundreds on the third day to place India in a prime position to win the first Test against Bangladesh here Saturday. Gill (119 not out) and Pant (109 led the hosts' run glut with an alliance of 167 for the fourth wicket that helped India, overnight 81/3, declare their second innings at 287 for 4 for an overall lead of 514.

Bangladesh showed some spunk in their second innings to reach 158 for four when play was called off at 4.25 pm due to bad light. They still need a whopping 357 runs for the result to be in their favour.

Skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto (51) and Shakib Al-Hasan (5) were manning the crease for the visitors, and the day could have ended on a better note for them have they been a slightly more judicious in shot selection against star off-spinner R Ashwin (3/63).

But let's forget the match situation and those dreary numbers for a while to cast a deeper look into the story of the day.

The hundreds by Pant and Gill stood as a testimony of these two fine young men's will to rise above towering personal obstacles that would have strangled the ordinary.

Pant stood near the middle of the pitch with closed eyes, an upward tilted head and a raised bat - offering a silent prayer; perhaps, to the Lord



Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill completed their centuries on Day 3 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. PTI

**6**  
 Rishabh Pant levels Dhoni's record of Test centuries by Indian wicketkeeper

**96**  
 Ashwin overtakes Kumble (94) to have most 4th innings Test wickets for India

“Yeah, scoring runs against any opposition gives you a lot of confidence and that's what I have been working on. So, it gives me a lot of satisfaction. I had certain plans, I executed them. It's about having a good defence and also not missing out on the opportunities that you get as a batsman. Shubman Gill

above for returning life and cricket to him.

Gill watched the whole scene from a fair distance, as he did not want to invade into an intensely private moment of his partner.

Soon, the two brave-hearts melted into a warm embrace as Chepauk erupted.

Perhaps, the moment stood also as a tribute to Pant equalling Chennai's very own 'Thala' MS Dhoni's

record for the most Test hundreds by an Indian wicketkeeper-batsman - six.

Compared to Pant's, the struggles of Gill have been less pronounced as they were more mental than physical in nature, stemming primarily from the lack of confidence in himself in the traditional format. However, since making that hundred against England at Visakhapatnam earlier this year, Gill seemed to have

tuned a corner and he further validated that journey upwards with his fifth Test hundred, fetched through a single off Mehidy Hasan Miraz.

But while Gill, beginning from overnight 33, and Pant, starting from 12, were in the office, all these feelings were hidden as it was time to enjoy the sight of them taking down Bangladesh bowlers in their contrasting methods.

The left-hander started

rather sedately, looking to get his eye in before opening up.

The breakaway moment came when Pant pulled off-spinner Miraz for a four around the first drinks break of the day. Since that point, Pant's dismantling of Miraz became a feature of the innings as he brought up his fifty off 88 balls. Once the fifty was achieved, the 26-year-old unfurled some of those typical Pant shots. —PTI

INDIA 1ST INNINGS		376	BANGLADESH 2ND INNINGS								
Y Jaiswal c Das b Rana		10	S Islam c Gill b Ashwin		35						
R Sharma c Hasan b Ahmed		5	Z Hasan c Jaiswal b Bumrah		33						
S Gill not out		119	NH Shanto not out		51						
V Kohli lbw b Miraz		17	M Haque b Ashwin		13						
R Pant c & b Miraz		109	M Rahim c Rahul b Ashwin		13						
KL Rahul not out		22	SAI Hasan not out		5						
Extras: (LB 4, W 1)		5	Extras: (LB 4, B 4)		8						
Total: (4 wickets, 64 overs)		287	Total: (4 wickets, 37.2 overs)		158						
FOW: 1-15, 2-28, 3-67, 4-234			FOW: 1-62, 2-86, 3-124, 4-146								
Bowling		O	M	R	W	Bowling		O	M	R	W
Taskin Ahmed		7	1	22	1	Jasprit Bumrah		7	2	18	1
Hasan Mahmud		11	1	43	0	Mohammed Siraj		3	2	20	0
Nahid Rana		6	0	21	1	Akash Deep		6	0	20	0
Shakib Al Hasan		13	0	79	0	Ravichandran Ashwin		15	3	63	3
Mominul Haque		2	0	15	0	Ravindra Jadeja		6	0	29	0
Mehidy Hasan Miraz		25	3	103	2						



R Ashwin celebrates the dismissal of Bangladesh's Mominul Haque on the third day of the first Test cricket match in Chennai. PTI

## Sachin, Pathan heap praises

**NEW DELHI** Legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar on Saturday heaped praise on Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill's performance against Bangladesh in the first Test match in Chennai. Taking to his official X handle, Tendulkar said that he loved watching Gill score his century. The 51-year-old also praised Pant for smashing his century and said that the India wicketkeeper-batter looked "sharp as ever". "Loved watching @ShubmanGill glide his way to a hundred. And @RishabhPant17, despite being away from the longer format for quite some time, looks as sharp as ever. Great to see both of them in such fine rhythm," Tendulkar wrote on X. Former cricketers Irfan Pathan and Michael Vaughan lavished praise on Rishabh Pant for his splendid outing in the second inning of the opening Test against Bangladesh.

## Manassero leads PGA, 11 years after winning as 20-yr-old prodigy

**VIRGINIAWATER, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 Eleven years after winning the title as a 20-year-old prodigy, Matteo Manassero moved into position to capture the prestigious BMW PGA Championship again on Saturday.

Manassero shot 9-under 63 to take a three-stroke lead after the third round.

Victory would cap a career revival for Manassero, who as a teenager was widely expected to become a golfing superstar. His game went into freefall, dropping the Italian onto the third-tier Alps Tour and to a world ranking of 1,705.

Back on the European tour this year, he won in South Africa in March and is in sight of a victory over a stacked field - containing Rory McIlroy - at the tour's flagship event.

"Thinking of the difficult



Italy's Matteo Manassero in action during the third round. REUTERS

years, to be standing here right now in the lead - it feels amazing," Manassero said.

"My perspective has changed. I'm going to go out and enjoy tomorrow." Manassero, now ranked No. 101, pumped his fist after curling in a 12-foot putt at

the last to seal a birdie-birdie finish and a back nine of 31 on the storied West Course that was drenched in heavy rain for much of the round. He made seven birdies and an eagle 3 at No. 4, and was 18 under for the tournament. —Reuters

## Vantika's win helps India draw with US

### CHESS OLYMPIAD

**BUDAPEST, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 International Master Vantika Agrawal delivered the goods when it was badly needed, defeating Grandmaster Irina Krush to force a 2-2 draw against the United States while the Indian men stayed in sole lead after splitting points with Uzbekistan in the ninth round of the of the 45th Chess Olympiad currently underway here.

The Indian think-tank rested an out-of-form Grandmaster D Harika but it did not change the fortunes on the top board as R Vaishali went down to Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova.

On the second board, Divya Deshmukh settled for the peace result in an uneventful game with black against Carissa Yip.

On the fourth board, Tania Sachdev had almost everything going in her favour but could not find the



Vantika Agrawal

knock-out blow when the opportunity came to share the point with Alice Lee.

It was left to Vantika to equalise the score and the young girl played with a lot of heart and commitment to beat her higher-rated opponent. For the record, Krush blundered in mutual time pressure and Vantika was remorseless in her attack.

The draw took India to 15 points, and they will now

probably need two victories in the last two rounds to keep the gold medal chances alive.

Kazakhstan emerged as the new sole leader in this section on 16 points, defeating Poland 2.5-1.5. Alua Nurman played the star performer for Kazakh women as she won on the fourth board against Alicja Sliwicka after the top three boards had ended in draws.

With Kazakhstan in front, India is in sole second position and they are trailed by as many as nine teams on 14 points each. In the penultimate round, Kazakhstan will face another stiff test against second seed Georgia, while the Indian women will take on a depleted China.

In the Open section, the Indian men conceded the first point with four draws against defending champions Uzbekistan. After eight straight victories, the ninth win, which would have

almost sealed the gold medal, was pretty much on the cards when Arjun Erigaisi's opponent Shamsiddin Vokhidov blundered. It was a mutual oversight by both players as Arjun failed to spot a tactic which he would have normally found in a few seconds.

Once Arjun slipped, Shamsiddin did not give another chance and drew rather comfortably.

At the top of the tables, D Gukesh played out an easy draw with white pieces against Nodirbek Abdusattorov. The Sicilian defense did not yield the usual complications and the game petered out into a draw in just 32 moves vide repetition.

On the second board, R Praggnanandhaa also got the same result against Javokhir Sindarov while on the fourth, Vidit Gujrathi was the first to finish his game against Jakhongir Vakhidov. —PTI

## Jackson hits brace as Chelsea hammer West Ham 3-0

### PREMIER LEAGUE

**LONDON, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 Enzo Maresca's Chelsea blew past West Ham United in the Premier League with a 3-0 win away at the London Stadium here on Saturday thanks to a quickfire brace by Nicolas Jackson and a second-half goal by Cole Palmer.

Chelsea flew right out of the floodgates and had their opening goal in the fourth minute of the game. After taking a quick free-kick, the Hammers were caught sleeping which allowed Jadon Sancho, who made his first start for Chelsea in the game, to lay it off to the incoming Jackson who managed to slot it in for an easy finish.

It did not take too long for Chelsea to double their advantage when Caicedo's through ball cut open the West Ham defence and saw Jackson bury it past Alphonse Areola in goal to make it four goals for the striker in five league games this season.

West Ham came back to



Chelsea's Pedro Neto in action against West Ham United. REUTERS

life at the end of the first half which saw them trouble the Chelsea defence. The Hammers were unlucky as a controversial decision by referee Sam Barrott denied them a penalty after Sumnerville was brought down

in the box by Levi Colwill. Just minutes later Kudus scored a goal which was adjudged offside.

West Ham were once again caught napping in the second half as Cole Palmer scored the third goal of the

day just two minutes into the second half through a neat finish which was set up by Nicolas Jackson.

It will be a cause for concern for West Ham as new head coach Julen Lopetegui's start to the season has seen them

## Fulham beat Newcastle 3-1

**LONDON** Fulham's Raul Jimenez, Emile Smith Rowe and Reiss Nelson all scored in a 3-1 victory over Newcastle United at Craven Cottage on Saturday. Newcastle celebrated what they thought was an early lead through Joelinton but his goal was ruled offside. Fulham capitalised on the visitors' error with a goal less than a minute later when Adama Traore found Jimenez inside the box and the Mexican fired home. Smith Rowe extended Fulham's lead in the 22nd minute when Alex Iwobi threaded a pass to the former Arsenal midfielder, whose shot hit the hand of keeper Nick Pope before trickling over the line.

lose three out of the five games and has currently placed the side in 14th place in the table. Chelsea on the other hand have won three of their five games and currently sit second in the points table. —Reuters

## Bhui 10 runs short of ton, Iyer hits 50

### DULEEP TROPHY

**ANANTAPUR, SEPTEMBER 21**  
 Ricky Bhui was 10 runs short of his second successive hundred as India D's overall lead swelled to 311 against India B, when stumps were drawn on the third day of the Duleep Trophy encounter here on Saturday.

Shreyas Iyer also showed some form with a purposeful half-century for India D, scoring 50 off 40 balls.

At stumps, India D scored 244 for 5 in their second innings with Bhui unbeaten on 90 off just 87 balls with 10 fours and three sixes to his credit.

Earlier, India B were all out for 282 in their first innings in reply to D's first essay of 349. Starting the day at 210 for 6, Washington Sundar (87) ran out of partners as none of the tail-enders stayed long enough to give him an opportunity to complete his hundred. Washington's 140-ball knock was studded with sev-

en fours and a six. Left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar, who has been on the fringes for a long time finished with 5 for 73 while Arshdeep Singh couldn't add to his overnight tally of three victims. In the second innings, India D had quickly slumped to 18 for 3 by the start of the fourth over but Iyer and Bhui counter-attacked with great disdain, adding 75 runs in just 10.3 overs.

**Parag, Rawat shine for India A**  
 Riyan Parag and Shaswat Rawat struck fluent half-centuries to help India A tighten their grip over India C on the penultimate day of the four-day Duleep Trophy final round match. Parag made 73 with the help of five fours and one six, while Rawat hit 53 laced with four boundaries and one hit over the fence to take India A to 270 for six in their second innings. —PTI

**TODAY ON TV**  
**FIRST TEST**  
**INDIA VS BANGLADESH**  
**SPORTS18 9:30AM**  
**EPL**  
**BRIGHTON VS NOTTAM FOREST 6:30PM**  
**MAN CITY VS ARSENAL 9PM**  
**STAR SPORTS**

# FIR against Rahul for statement on Sikh rights

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
The Karnataka BJP on Saturday filed a formal police complaint at the High Grounds police station in Bengaluru against Congress MP Rahul Gandhi over his recent remarks in the US, where he claimed that the fight in India was about whether Sikhs would be allowed to wear a turban, kada, and visit a gurdwara. Amit Malviya, the BJP IT cell chief, later confirmed that an FIR had been lodged in connection with the complaint.

The FIR calls for action against Gandhi for making "divisive and provocative remarks" that allegedly targeted Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), and endanger India's internal security, sovereignty, unity, and integrity by his comments about Sikhs.

The BJP's Karnataka state unit has demanded a police investigation into Gandhi's statements and legal action

against him.

The complainant, BJP leader and former Bengaluru Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao, stated, "The BJP has filed a criminal complaint against Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi for offences that bring divisiveness among communities through his remarks against OBCs and SCs. He even claimed in the US that Sikhs are not safe in our country. Such statements paint a very poor picture of India by someone holding such an important constitutional position. When his grandmother, Indira Gandhi, was confronted on foreign soil about her actions in India, she firmly responded that these were internal matters. Rahul Gandhi should learn from her example."

Rao added that the BJP's complaint asserts that Gandhi has incited division and spread hatred among communities. "This is a non-bailable and cognisable offence, warranting the registration of an FIR," he said.



Members of various Sikh committees with Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai. MUKESH AGGARWAL

## Sikh organisations want remarks retracted

**NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
A delegation of Sikh committees and organisations on Saturday petitioned Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai demanding that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi withdraws his recent remarks about Sikhs. Gandhi had stated during a visit to the US that the fight in India was about whether Sikhs would

be allowed to wear turbans, kadas, and visit gurdwaras. "Such hate-filled statements are creating an atmosphere of fear in the country," said BJP spokesperson and national secretary Manjinder Singh Sirsa. "In the 1980s, similar rhetoric was used before the Asian Games when Congress officials warned that if Sikhs attended, their turbans would

be removed. We all know how that led to the anti-Sikh riots in 1984. Today, such statements from abroad suggest that Sikhs in India are being mistreated and restricted in their rituals, once again instilling fear in the Sikh community."

Meanwhile, Gandhi doubled down on his remarks, questioning Sikhs whether what he said was wrong. — TNS

# After 42-day hiatus, docs resume duties partially

**KOLKATA HORROR**

**KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Junior doctors on Saturday rejoined their duties partially at various government-run hospitals in West Bengal after a hiatus of 42 days.

'They were on 'cease work' in protest against the rape and murder of an on-duty woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. The junior doctors rejoined their duties in essential and emergency services at all state-run hospitals but not in the out-patient departments (OPDs). "We have started rejoining duties today. Our colleagues have started returning to their respective departments since this morning only in essential and emergency services, but not at the OPDs. Please do not forget that this is only a partial resumption of duties," Aniket Mahato, one of the agitating doctors said.

**AIDE OF EX-PRINCIPAL QUESTIONED**

CBI sleuths on Saturday started questioning another doctor, allegedly close to arrested former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital Sandip Ghosh. Birupaksha Biswas was seen at RG Kar Hospital on August 9, when the body of the woman medic was found, the CBI officer said.

He said his other colleagues have already left for flood-hit districts of the state where they would start 'Abhaya clinics' (medical camps), to demonstrate their commitment to public health even amid ongoing protests.

Emergency services returned to normalcy at various state-run hospitals, with the doctors rejoining work. "It is a great relief for us. We support their cause but it had

become very difficult for regular patients like us to get treatment for the last one month or so because of the 'cease work'," Dipankar Jana, a patient at Bankura Medical College and Hospital, said.

Several patients were seen pouring in at an 'Abhaya clinic' in flood-hit Panskura in Purba Medinipur district. "We have received very good response in these clinics. Several people have visited the clinics and our colleagues have attended to them. We are ready to provide 24/7 service... it is our commitment," Aheli Chowdhury, a junior doctor manning one such clinic, said.

The agitating doctors said they would wait for another seven days for the administration to fulfill their demands for justice for the deceased doctor and the removal of state health secretary or else they would start another round of 'cease work'. — PTI

# 'Modi not welcome' posters in US: BJP slams Rahul

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
A fresh row erupted on Saturday over Rahul Gandhi's remarks about Sikhs with the ruling BJP blaming the Congress leader's statements for an anti-Narendra Modi poster that has appeared in the US timed with the PM's visit there.

BJP IT cell chief Amit Malviya shared the protest poster on X. It read "Protest: Modi you are not welcome in New York" and bore the details of a protest march planned in New York on Sunday by an organisation which called itself "Coalition for Reclaiming Democracy in India."

Senior BJP leader Sudhanshu Trivedi slammed Rahul for the poster. He said, "The poster is utterly condemnable. Indians are wondering if this is the culmination of Rahul hobnobbing with established anti-India forces. He has just returned from the US after

playing politics with his sponsored pawns. Or is this a lobby which was arranging meetings of pawns of anti-India forces with Rahul Gandhi recently. This advertisement is the advertisement of an anti-India hate shop (nafrat ki dukaan)."

Malviya said every time Rahul goes abroad, he indulges in the most divisive anti-India politics, including hobnobbing with agencies and collaborating with forces inimical to India's interest.

"He has gone to the extent of pleading with western powers to interfere in Indian politics. The Congress will never succeed in a different matter. But now, Sam Pitroda and his cohorts are planning a protest against the PM, when he visits New York. Rahul should remember he is seeking political relevance in India and people of Bharat will give him a befitting reply, when the time comes," said Malviya.

# Modi represents 140 cr Indians abroad: Anurag

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21**  
BJP MP Anurag Thakur criticised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his recent comments in the US, shortly before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country. Thakur emphasised that Modi represents all 140 crore Indians when he goes abroad, and urged the Congress party to recognise this.

Speaking to a news agency in Jammu on Saturday, Thakur said, "It seems the Congress ecosystem has failed to understand that during his visit to the US, PM Modi is representing India as the Prime Minister of 140 crore Indians. If Congress continues to oppose Modi in this way, the country

will never accept them."

Thakur's remarks come in the wake of protest posters targeting Modi, with slogans such as "Modi, you're not welcome in New York" being circulated by an organisation, Coalition for Reclaiming Democracy in India. The group has called for people to gather at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in New York on September 22 to protest Modi's visit.

Thakur also drew attention to a recent statement by Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, who sparked controversy by saying that the Pakistan government and the Congress-National Conference alliance in Jammu & Kashmir were on the same page regarding the restoration of Article 370.

# J&K, West Bengal get new PCC chiefs

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 21

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday appointed Subhankar Sarkar as the new president of the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee, replacing Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

A press note issued by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) expressed appreciation for Chowdhury's contributions during his tenure as the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee president. Sarkar, who was previously serving as the AICC secretary, has been relieved of his current position to take on this new role.

In addition to this, Kharge also appointed MK Bhardwaj and Bhanu Mahajan as the acting working presidents of the Congress unit in Jammu & Kashmir, where Assembly elections are currently underway. — TNS

# PMLA restrictions can't override right to liberty: Bombay HC

MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 21

Stringent conditions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act cannot override the fundamental right to liberty under Article 21, the Bombay High Court has said while granting bail to a 72-year-old man.

The trial in the case of alleged bank fraud, for which applicant Suryaji Jadhav was arrested, was not likely to conclude any time soon and he was suffering from cancer, Justice Madhav Jamdar noted in his order of September 19. The copy of the judgement became available on Saturday.

Restrictions imposed by laws such as the PMLA 'melt down' where an accused has suffered long incarceration and the trial is inordinately delayed, the judge said. "Despite the restrictive statutory provisions like Section 45 of the PMLA, the right of an accused under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution cannot be allowed to be infringed," Justice Jamdar held.

Under Section 45 of the PMLA, a court, while granting bail to an accused in a money laundering case, must be satisfied that there are reasonable grounds to believe that he is not guilty, and/or is above

60 years of age, or a woman or is sick or infirm. Article 21 protects the fundamental right to life and personal liberty.

Jadhav was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for alleged fraud at the Pune-based Shivajirao Bhosale Sahakari Bank in March 2021. He and others were accused of misappropriating funds and fraudulent disbursement of loans.

Jadhav had sought bail on the grounds of long incarceration and delayed trial. The court noted that more than 250 witnesses were proposed to be examined by the prosecution, and the trial was yet to start. Jadhav had completed more than half of the maximum punishment he could get in the case, the HC said.

"In such a situation, statutory restrictions will not come in the way of the court to grant bail to protect the fundamental right of the accused under Article 21," the court said.

Courts are expected to appreciate the legislative policy against grant of bail under the PMLA, but "the rigours of such provisions will melt down when there is no likelihood of trial being completed within a reasonable time," the HC said. — PTI

# Eastern Bridge



Indian Air Force personnel after the completion of Exercise Eastern Bridge VII with the Royal Air Force of Oman at an airbase in Masirah, Oman. PTI

# Naidu: Will consult pontiffs, experts over action on laddoo row

AMARAVATI, SEPTEMBER 21

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday said the government will consult pontiffs, sages, priests and other top Hinduism experts on the future course of action to be taken following allegations of animal fat adulteration in Tirupati laddoos.

During a recent NDA legislative party meeting, Naidu claimed that the previous YSRCP government did not even spare Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple and used substandard ingredients and animal fat for making the popular Tirupati laddoos, known for their unique taste.

# B'loru woman murdered, chopped body pieces found in fridge at home

BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 21

A 29-year-old woman's dismembered body was found in a house in Malleswaram here, police sources said on Saturday. According to the police, Mahalakshmi's body, cut into over 30 pieces, was stuffed in a refrigerator.

Police officers reached the spot and barricaded the road leading to the building where the body was found in a single bedroom house, where the victim was staying alone.

The police suspect it to be a case of murder, which took place about a week ago. An investigation has been launched into the case. Additional Commissioner of Police (West Zone) N Satheesh Kumar said, "A woman's body was found chopped into pieces and stored in a fridge at a

house within the Vyalikaval police station limits. It appeared to have been done four-five days ago."

"The probe is going on. We will give more information after the investigation. She was settled in Karnataka, but is originally from another state," Kumar told reporters.

It is learnt that the woman was living separately from her husband. While Mahalakshmi lived in Malleswaram and was working in a mall, her husband worked in a hermitage away from the city. After learning about the incident, he too came to the spot.

The incident was a stark reminder of the brutal murder of Shradha Walker by her live-in partner Aftab Poonawalla on May 18, 2022 at Mehrauli in Delhi. — PTI

# Sanctity restored

Amid concerns among devotees on the quality of ghee used in the famous Tirupati 'laddoo prasadam', the TTD has said sanctity of the sacred sweetmeat has been restored. — PTI

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

Annexure-1  
ABRIDGED FORM OF DISCLOSURE OF PETITION FOR ANNUAL REVENUE REQUIREMENT FOR 5TH MYT CONTROL PERIOD FY 2024-25 TO FY 2028-29 FOR GENERATION BUSINESS OF 13 NOS. OF HYDRO GENERATION PLANTS, AS FILED BY THE HPSEBL BEFORE THE HIMACHAL PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION.

The HPSEBL has filed the Petition for Annual Revenue Requirement for 5th MYT Control Period FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29 for Generation Business of 13 Nos. of Hydro Generation Plants, under Section 62 read with Section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003. The Salient features of the Petition submitted by the HPSEBL are as follows:-

**Details of the Energy and projections:**

Generating Stations	MW	FY 2023-24 RE (MUs)	FY 2024-25 Proj. (MUs)	FY 2025-26 Proj. (MUs)	FY 2026-27 Proj. (MUs)	FY 2027-28 Proj. (MUs)	FY 2028-29 Proj. (MUs)
Andhra	16.95	71.26	71.26	71.26	71.26	71.26	71.26
Baner	12	40.23	40.23	40.23	40.23	40.23	40.23
Bassi	66	318.23	318.23	318.23	318.23	318.23	318.23
Bhaba	120	464.70	464.70	464.70	464.70	464.70	464.70
Birwa	6	29.25	29.25	29.25	29.25	29.25	29.25
Chaba	1.75	5.67	5.67	5.67	5.67	5.67	5.67
Chamba	0.45	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44
Gaj	10.5	38.31	38.31	38.31	38.31	38.31	38.31
Giri	60	231.27	231.27	231.27	231.27	231.27	231.27
Larji	126	231.32	231.32	586.85	586.85	586.85	586.85
Nogli	2.5	4.73	4.73	4.73	4.73	4.73	4.73
Rongtong	2	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05
Rukti	1.5	4.59	4.59	4.59	4.59	4.59	4.59

**Details of the availability of the plant:**

Generating Stations	MW	2023-24 (Proj.)	FY 2024-25 (Proj.)	FY 2025-26 (Proj.)	FY 2026-27 (Proj.)	FY 2027-28 (Proj.)	FY 2028-29 (Proj.)
Andhra	16.95	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Baner	12	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Bassi	66	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Bhaba	120	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Birwa	6	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Chaba	1.75	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%
Chamba	0.45	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%
Gaj	10.5	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Giri	60	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Larji	126	33%	47%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Nogli	2.5	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%	65%
Rongtong	2	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%
Rukti	1.5	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

**Details of Annual Fixed Charges for each of generating stations & proposed tariff:**

Plant Name	Description	Unit	FY 24(RE)	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29
Andhra	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	15.74	16.27	17.26	20.75	22.13	27.07
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.12	1.15	1.22	1.47	1.57	1.92
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	7.87	8.13	8.62	10.37	11.07	13.54
Baner	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	11.17	12.88	13.76	14.64	15.38	16.27
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.59	1.83	1.95	2.08	2.19	2.31
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	5.58	6.44	6.87	7.32	7.69	8.14
Bassi	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	35.86	39.72	43.00	44.70	45.62	46.56
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	0.57	0.63	0.68	0.71	0.72	0.74
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	17.93	19.86	21.49	22.35	22.81	23.28
Bhaba	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	67.35	79.97	84.85	89.36	92.27	95.60
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	0.73	0.87	0.92	0.97	1.00	1.04
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	33.68	39.98	42.41	44.68	46.14	47.80
Binwa	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	7.68	7.41	8.00	9.86	12.16	13.75
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.32	1.28	1.37	1.70	2.09	2.37
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	3.84	3.71	3.99	4.93	6.08	6.88
Chaba	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	2.75	3.15	3.92	4.23	4.53	4.89
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	2.45	2.81	3.48	3.77	4.03	4.36
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	1.38	1.58	1.95	2.12	2.27	2.45
Chamba	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	0.41	0.50	0.52	0.56	0.60	0.64
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.44	1.75	1.76	1.96	2.11	2.26
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	0.21	0.25	0.25	0.28	0.30	0.32
Gaj	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	10.49	11.55	12.93	14.51	15.22	15.76
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.57	1.73	1.93	2.17	2.28	2.36
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	5.24	5.78	6.45	7.26	7.61	7.88
Giri	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	35.17	38.19	44.68	51.52	58.38	72.09
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	0.77	0.83	0.98	1.13	1.27	1.57
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	17.59	19.10	22.33	25.76	29.19	36.05
Larji	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	69.77	106.12	114.25	116.32	118.58	121.02
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.73	2.64	1.12	1.14	1.16	1.19
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	34.88	53.06	57.11	58.16	59.29	60.51
Nogli	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	4.17	4.45	4.89	5.16	5.54	5.86
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	4.45	4.75	5.20	5.51	5.92	6.26
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	2.09	2.23	2.44	2.58	2.77	2.93
Rongtong	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	1.96	2.36	2.58	2.76	2.03	2.15
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	9.41	11.32	12.31	13.24	9.74	10.35
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	0.98	1.18	1.28	1.38	1.01	1.08
Rukti	Annual Fixed Cost	Rs. Cr	1.39	1.17	1.33	1.44	1.61	1.75
	Energy Charges	Rs./kWh	1.52	1.29	1.44	1.58	1.77	1.92
	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr	0.69	0.59	0.66	0.72	0.80	0.87
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES</b>			<b>263.91</b>	<b>323.75</b>	<b>351.97</b>	<b>375.82</b>	<b>394.04</b>	<b>423.43</b>

**Proposed Generation Tariff (in Rs Cr)**

S. No.	Particulars	Unit	FY 23 24 (RE)	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29
A	Gross Generation	MU	1,442.06	1,442.06	1,797.59	1,797.59	1,797.59	1,797.59
B	Auxiliary Consumption (MU)	MU	14.65	14.65	18.91	18.91	18.91	18.91
C	Net Generation(A-B)	MU	1,427.42	1,427.42	1,778.68	1,778.68	1,778.68	1,778.68
D	Less: Free Power to GoHP	MU	36.77	36.77	78.92	78.92	78.92	78.92
E	Energy Available for (C-D)	MU	1,390.65	1,390.65	1,699.76	1,699.76	1,699.76	1,699.76
i	O&M expenses (Rs. Cr.) (i+ii+iii+iv)	Rs. Cr.	153.11	191.17	205.22	217.67	230.91	244.99
ii	R&M Expenses	Rs. Cr.	29.10	31.22	36.18	39.04	42.12	45.44
iii	Employees Expenses	Rs. Cr.	108.69	134.59	141.87	149.54	157.62	166.15
iv	Pension Contributions	Rs. Cr.	11.89	21.66	23.17	24.79	26.53	28.39
v	A&G Expenses	Rs. Cr.	3.43	3.70	3.99	4.30	4.64	5.01
b	Depreciation	Rs. Cr.	36.39	44.03	48.43	55.25	54.55	61.38
c	Interest & Finance Charges	Rs. Cr.	23.53	24.62	30.80	32.19	33.74	36.43
d	Return on Equity	Rs. Cr.	41.71	52.60	55.28	57.66	61.09	65.94
e	Interest on Working Capital	Rs. Cr.	9.17	11.33	12.25	13.04	13.75	14.69
f	Annual Fixed Charges	Rs. Cr.	263.91	323.75	351.97	375.82	394.04	423.43
g	Energy Charges	Rs/kWh	0.95	1.16	1.04	1.11	1.16	1.25
h	Capacity Charge	Rs. Cr.	131.95					



Statistics cannot define the greatness of Lata Mangeshkar

ARTS PAGE 3



Soaking in the election atmosphere as Jammu & Kashmir votes after 10 years

INDEPTH PAGE 6

CHANDIGARH | 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

On his birth centenary, remembering the quiet genius of Shimla-born abstractionist Ram Kumar

# THE ART OF STILLNESS

SARIKA SHARMA

"The artist today is often tempted to add to the noise of the time by proclaiming all too loudly his presence in his work. Ram Kumar, on the other hand, hides himself in his paintings. It is a presence so shy and unobtrusive as to come very near to an absence..."

— Sham Lal in his essay 'Between Being and Nothingness' in 'Ram Kumar: A Journey Within' (Vadehra Art Gallery, 1996)

All-pervading quietude was the hallmark of artist Ram Kumar's work. Whether he was painting the turmoil at the refugee camps in Delhi post-Partition or the bustling Banaras (now Varanasi), the silence never left his works. Six years after his death, on his birth centenary tomorrow, that silence still seems unsettling.

Born at Kaithu in Shimla on September 23, 1924, Ram Kumar came to Delhi to pursue MA in economics at St Stephen's College. He harboured the desire to be a writer. But one day, in 1943, while "loitering around Connaught Place", he happened to see a board of Sarada Ukil School of Art, which was run by an eminent artist of the time, Sailoz Mukerjee. On a whim, he joined the evening classes. After finishing his degree, he returned to Shimla to join his uncle's bank, but the drab ledgers were not to hold his attention for long. An international exhibition held at Delhi in 1946 was to be the turning point. He hadn't seen anything of that sort; he found himself returning to it again and again. Around this time, he was both writing and painting, holding exhibitions, solo and as part of Silpi Chakra Group, an organisation formed to support artists in the aftermath of Partition. His first solo show was held at the YMCA in Shimla in 1949 where the only art work sold was bought by Dr Zakir Husain, his teacher at St Stephen's and the future President of India.

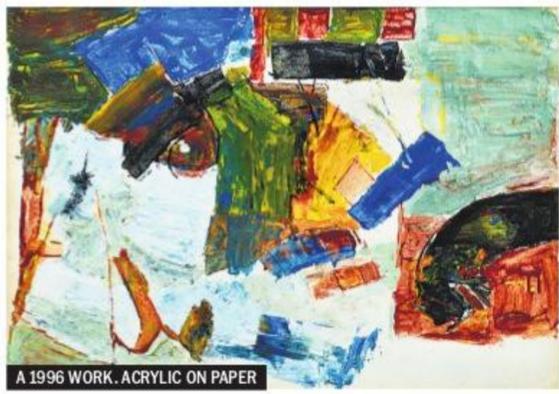
One of his early friends in the art circle was SH Raza. The two travelled to Bombay where, to quote art critic Geeta Kapur from her seminal work 'Contemporary Artists of India': "...Raza's virtual guru, (Walter) Langhammer, a commercial artist who lorded it over the Bombay scene, told Ram Kumar to pack up as an artist, as he had no natural talents and acquired skills for the job."

But Ram Kumar had already decided his calling. With ₹1,000 borrowed from his father for the travel and ₹500 scholarship from the French government, he went to Paris in 1949 to study art. He apprenticed under Andre Lhote and Fernand Leger, two of the biggest names in art then. Those were heady days in Europe. Existentialist fervour had gripped Paris. Kumar could not have remained untouched. He encountered poets like Louis Aragon and Paul Eluard, sending their poetry books back home to younger brother Nirmal Verma, the writer. But unlike his contemporaries Raza, FN Souza and Akbar Padamsee, he didn't settle in Europe, notes Kapur. He returned to India in 1951, and began exhibiting through Alliance Francaise his figurative works that drew on post-Cubism.

Ram Kumar's turn towards abstractionism was accidental. The year was 1961. He went to Banaras with MF Husain. There, every morning, the two would go into opposite directions and come back in the evening and compare notes. It is here that the human figure began retreating from his paintings, "almost merging with the dark greys and browns of the horizons. And what till then only vaguely lurked in the background — the shadowy outlines of dilapidated houses, a floating glimpse of the city roofs, the vertical thrust of an electric pole suddenly surged forward", as Nirmal Verma writes in his essay in 'Ram Kumar — A Journey Within'. The city exposed Kumar "to a wholly new kind of human suffering that lay at the intersection of faith and torment" (Saffronart.com).

In his own words: "I thought I could not paint human being... the suffering of the human being was so acute... That is when I became a little bit abstract and tried to show that agony through abstract forms. It was almost too strong, too overpowering."

Art critic Richard Bartholomew had realised the man's quiet genius early on. "Ram Kumar thus remains the leading figure in this style, unmatched too. Among Indian painters, Ram Kumar is perhaps the only one who has



A 1996 WORK. ACRYLIC ON PAPER



UNTITLED (TWO SISTERS), 1958 PHOTO: DAG

## SILENCE IN WORDS

Ram Kumar the writer preceded Ram Kumar the painter. His brother Nirmal Verma wrote ('Ram Kumar: A Journey Within') that with time, the two drifted apart and Ram Kumar increasingly became a 'painterly painter' rather than a narrator of things. However, his sensitivity towards the minutest of things around him made him special, says Prayag Shukla, who edited an anthology of his stories for Vadehra Art Gallery. "Ram Kumar was able to listen to low voices. Like that of crickets, who figured in a lot of his stories," he says. Kumar published eight collections of short stories, two novels and a travelogue, besides writing for several magazines. Over the years, his writings have been translated into English by the likes of Sara Rai, granddaughter of Munshi Premchand, and Giridhar Rath.

## RESTORING RAM KUMAR

In 2014, six Ram Kumar paintings were received at the INTACH Conservation Institute (ICI), New Delhi. Nilabh Sinha, Principal Director of ICI, says the paintings (mostly from the 1960s) depicted paint layer loss and flaking, uneven coating, stains, and dust and dirt build-up. The conservation treatment included detailed scientific documentation and analysis, local consolidation of flaking paint layer, careful cleaning of the painting from front and reverse to remove layers of dirt and varnish, which had become dull and yellow with time. Stains and uneven coatings were removed. To get rid of the bulges and waviness, the paint layer was fully consolidated and flattened, besides changing old stretchers, reintegrating colours in the regions where there were losses.

no imitators and no followers, for both his themes and his method are simple. They are so simple and sincere that imitation is practically impossible," he had written in *Hindustan Times Weekly* (October 23, 1955). Bartholomew was to become a lifelong friend of Ram Kumar and a valued critic.

His palette was dark, dominated by greys and browns; "burnt umber touched with grey, grey-green, green-blue, and olive, with sometimes a base of red, usually of ochre..." Kapur lists. The melancholy pervaded his canvas, even when the colours were red. "Laal rangbhi udaas ho sakta hai," he had told art critic Prayag Shukla once, but wished, while talking to an interviewer, that the colours in his paintings were "more vibrant, more eloquent".

Shukla, who knew Ram Kumar for more than five decades, says travel played a huge role in his journey as a painter. "Banaras, Greece, Ladakh, New Zealand, Australia... Whenever he returned, he would come and show



Ram Kumar (in the front) with (L-R) artists Jeram Patel, MF Husain and Bal Chhabda at Jantar Mantar, 1971. PHOTOS COURTESY: AAKRITI ART GALLERY

his paintings from the travels at Vadehra Art Gallery and I would always tell him, 'Your colours have changed so much.' For instance, when he returned from New Zealand, his works turned blue. He told me that the sky there, its lakes and the sea had changed him a lot. In 2007, he took his 12-year-old grandson, Avimukt Verma, to all the places he frequented in Paris and all the cafes he avoided because the smell made him desire for coffee and he didn't have the money to buy," Shukla shares.

The two first met in Kolkata in the early 1960s. Kumar was travelling with his artworks, but for Shukla, he was more famous as an author. Sometime later, when they met again in Delhi in 1964, Shukla was 24 and still a newcomer in the field of writing. "Ram Kumarji allowed me to stay at his Gole Market studio for several months. And it is due to him that I turned an art critic," he gushes.

Aakriti Art Gallery, Kolkata, hosted several exhibitions featuring Ram Kumar's works, including 'Ram Kumar Lines and Colours' in 2016 and 'Drawings from the '60s' in 2014 and 2015. Vikram Bachhawat, director of the gallery, says Kumar's distinction in his early career stemmed from his ability to bridge Indian sensibilities with modernist techniques. "His works are marked by their fluid, dream-like landscapes, organic forms and an evocative use of colour that is different from the rigid structures of geometric abstraction. What set him apart was his ability to convey the presence of essence rather than mere absence of form, capturing fleeting moments, the transient beauty of nature, and the subtleties of the human soul. His connection with the Progressive Artists' Group and his philosophical exploration through art made him a star in the Indian modernist movement," he shares. While Kumar showcased his works with PAG, he never formally joined it.

Delhi-based critic and curator Georgina Maddox recalls Kumar as "a man of few words", someone who spent more time showing his work and allowing his canvases to do the speaking. "Ram Kumar was a rather quiet personality and not as outgoing as the other Progressive artists — whether it was Souza who was very verbal, Raza who was no doubt living in Paris but approachable and very articulate when he chose to speak, Husain who was a larger-than-life popular character or, for that matter, Ara, who was also outgoing. Gade was also reserved and we have not heard much of him or seen his work either." She feels that Ram Kumar is yet to be recognised for his true potential and it was his reserved nature that led to lesser number of people knowing about him or his work.

Nonetheless, Ram Kumar's works keep featuring in exhibitions, including 'India's Rockefeller Artists: An Indo-US Cultural Saga', on view at DAG in New Delhi till October 12. These also mark their presence at art auctions. Last week, Christie's set a new record for a work on paper by the artist, with a sketchbook from his days as a student in the Paris atelier of Leger. It sold for \$201,600 (approxi-



UNTITLED, OIL ON CANVAS, 1992

ASTAGURU

mately ₹1.68 crore). In the coming week, AstaGuru's Manifest auction will feature works highlighting both his figurative and abstract phases. "It will celebrate his mastery across various mediums, including works on canvas and paper as well as a sculpture, illustrating his ability to convey profound emotional and philosophical depth through colour, form and texture," says Sneha Gautam, senior vice president, client relations, AstaGuru Auction House. A work by Kumar was also sold for ₹2.28 crore at their Modern Odyssey auction in December 2023.

So far, the highest price for the artist — ₹5 crore — has been fetched by his 1959 figurative work 'Vagabond' at a 2008 Christie's auction. This was a time when the art market was booming. The work referred to the miscreant youth of India, misdirected and disenfranchised, trapped in a spiral of a false system of belief. Nishad Avari, head of the Department of Indian Art at Christie's, believes that the record for Ram Kumar lies unmatched since there are very few works of the same quality and importance. "As most of his works are in museum collections, nothing similar has been offered on the market since then," he says. Abstractionism was not a popular art form in India, it still isn't. Maddox feels his abstracts are yet to be valued for the price they could fetch at the auctions. "I think it's a matter of time and availability of work. While his figurative work is rarer, there are more abstract landscapes which he painted towards the later half of his career. Hence, as the abstracts get bought off from the primary market, i.e. galleries, they will increase in value in the secondary market — auction houses — when they are resold and this will definitely pump up his market."

Early on, in 1961, Bartholomew wrote of him: "I know he is facing a canvas, or a book, or some quiet corner of himself. Or he must be writing, in that small, neat, feminine hand, letters... If he is not doing any of these routine things, he must be talking passionately but with that calm so characteristic of him. That is because he is sincere and serious. There are a hundred other things that he might be doing, of course. Things that we do. But with what consequence? A quiet man, a quiet painter, and a painter of the remembrance of things past, this is life for Ram Kumar." That's how he remained for the next five decades. And that is how he is remembered.



Untitled, ink on paper, 1974; (right) Untitled, Bronze, 2015

COURTESY: ASTAGURU



Siberian Crane

PARTH JOSHI

IT was a warm and hazy winter afternoon as we sat on a muddy embankment along Sambhar Lake in Rajasthan, watching hundreds of Pink Flamingos and a variety of migrant birds foraging through the shallow waters. Zooming in on them through our cameras and binoculars, we couldn't help but marvel at the astounding abilities that hid beneath their humble exterior, flying thousands of kilometres back and forth across continents every year.

Bird migration, a phenomenon that has captivated human imagination for centuries, involves the annual movement of birds across large distances. Majority of these species tend to breed and rear their young in regions with relatively fewer



Pallid Harrier



Greater Flamingos forage through the muddy waters at Sambhar Lake. PHOTOS BY THE WRITER AND ISTOCK

What's remarkable is how migratory birds follow the same route every year, relying on genetic memory and cues from nature

# Long-distance flyways



Jacobin Cuckoo

predators. These regions usually have colder climates. When harsh weather limits the availability of food, they instinctively migrate to warmer climes, returning again during the breeding season. It is estimated that around 1,800 of the world's 10,000 bird species are long-distance migrants.

While physical strength and resilience is one aspect of these incredible journeys, what is also remarkable is how migratory birds tend to follow the same route year after year with an uncanny accuracy, relying on genetic memory or cues from nature for navigation. These routes, known as flyways, provide birds with essential stopover sites where they can rest, refuel and find shelter. The health of these flyways directly impacts the survival of migratory species.

Flyways also play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and biodiversity. Migratory birds disperse seeds, pollinate plants, and control insect populations. For instance, the Bar-Headed Goose, a remarkable migrant that is believed to undertake one of the hardest migration routes on the planet, crossing the Himalayas and flying over Mount Everest, plays a vital role in dispersing alpine plants in high-altitude regions. From an evolutionary perspective, flyways connect individuals across different regions, facilitating genetic exchange that is important for the long-term survival of the species as a whole.

They also have immense cultural and economic significance. In traditional societies, bird migrations are an indicator of seasonal changes, affecting livelihood activities like agriculture and pastoralism.



BAR-HEADED GOOSE



AMUR FALCON

Many cultures have deep-rooted connections with the birds, and their movements have inspired art, literature and folklore.

## INDIAN STOPOVER

There are nine flyways globally, most of them running from north to south and vice-versa, termed latitudinal migration, although some flyways in Europe and North America also show longitudinal patterns, running east to west and vice-versa. India is an integral part of three major flyways — the Central Asian Flyway (CAF), East-Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF),

and Asian East African Flyway (AEF). These flyways support a wide range of migratory bird species, including storks, cranes, geese, ducks and raptors.

The CAF stretching from Europe to East Asia, is a crucial flyway for numerous bird species. India serves as a critical stopover point for many of these birds. The EAAF, extending from East Asia to Australia, is another important flyway, passing through the biodiversity-rich northeastern part of the country, while the western and southern regions of India constitute a part of the AEF, connecting Asia and Africa.

## THREAT TO SURVIVAL

Unfortunately, many flyways are facing significant threats today due to human activities and climate change. Habitat loss, pollution and unsustainable land use practices are disrupting migration patterns and reducing the availability of suitable breeding and wintering grounds. Climate change is also altering migration timing and affecting food availability along flyways. These threats pose a serious risk to the survival of many migratory bird species. For example, the Siberian Crane, once a well-known winter visitor to North India, has not been sighted since 2001. Similarly, the migrating populations of Amur Falcon were decimated by illegal hunting in Nagaland.

A report by 'The State of India's Birds', an initiative between the country's leading conservation organisations and citizen scientists, notes that the population of long-distance migrants from Eurasia and the Arctic has experienced a decline

## BIRDWATCHERS' PARADISE

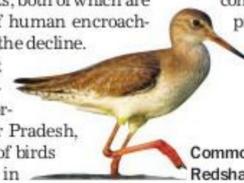
- India is a crucial stopover for migratory birds travelling along major flyways, offering diverse ecosystems.
- Wetlands in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra attract Greater Flamingos and Bar-Headed Geese, key species of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF).
- Grasslands and open fields in the Northeast, such as Nagaland and Manipur, witness the annual arrival of Amur Falcons from the East-Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF).
- Raptors, including Steppe Eagles from the Asian East African Flyway (AEF), favour the arid regions of Rajasthan and Gujarat, and Himalayan foothills.
- Wetlands across the country attract waterfowl, waders and shorebirds, while grasslands and forests host a variety of raptors, songbirds, and other avian wonders.
- The best time to observe migratory birds is typically from October to February.

by more than 50 per cent. Migratory birds like waders and ducks depend on wetlands, while raptors like eagles prefer open grassland habitats, both of which are seeing a high level of human encroachment, a key reason for the decline. A census conducted at the Okhla Bird Sanctuary, lying at the border of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, saw the total number of birds decrease from 9,143 in

2022 to 6,083 in 2023 and 3,380 in 2024. The survey was a part of Asian Waterbird Census, a voluntary bird census exercise that takes place across Asian countries in January each year.

To effectively conserve flyways, a multi-tiered approach is necessary. The very nature of bird migration makes cross-border cooperation critical. The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals is an environmental treaty within the United Nations framework working specifically for the conservation of migratory animals and their habitats. At the 14th meeting earlier this year, India led the adoption of the Initiative for the Central Asian Flyway, aimed at promoting cooperation among countries along the CAF to address the challenges facing migratory birds and their habitats.

Protecting and restoring critical habitats along flyways is essential, which includes establishing protected areas, ensuring sustainable land-use and infrastructure development, and reducing pollution. Participatory conservation programmes can foster community stewardship. In the case of Amur Falcons in Nagaland, concerted efforts by conservation organisations and the government in convincing local communities played a pivotal role in protecting these migratory birds. Establishment of community-managed protected areas and promotion of sustainable livelihoods like nature-based tourism incentivised the conservation of the birds and their habitats.



Common Redshank

## CAPTION CONTEST 1477

PAWAN SHARMA



Entries are invited to suggest a caption for the photograph. The caption should only be in English, witty and not exceeding 10 words, and reach Spectrum, The Tribune, Chandigarh, 160030, by Thursday. The best five captions will be published and awarded ₹300, ₹250, ₹200, ₹150 and ₹100, respectively. Each caption must be accompanied by a clipping of the caption contest and its number. Photocopies or scans of the caption photo won't be accepted. Online subscribers may attach an e-paper clipping at captionpics@tribunemail.com or a scanned copy of the e-paper clipping. Please mention the pin code and phone number in your address.

## SELECTED ENTRIES FOR CAPTION CONTEST 1476



SPECTRUM SEPTEMBER 15 ISSUE (SEE PHOTO)

- Lords of the Rings — Harshita Jain, Shimla
- Two wheelers — Shashikala, Shimla
- Untyreing joy — Alisha Chandra, Chandigarh
- Ring roadies — Sanjeev Trikha via epaper, Fatehabad
- Street-lympics — Tejwinder Singh via epaper, Gurugram

# Crepes from the Indian dessert counter

RAHUL VERMA

YOU may have heard about a diner who went to a fancy restaurant, looked at the elaborate menu and ordered a dish that sounded most appetising: baby spuds sauteed in mustard seeds and curry leaves, cocooned inside a crisp and lacy crepe. The dish turned out to be a *masala dosa*.

The description is exotic, but a *dosa*, indeed, is a kind of crepe. Generally described as a thin, light pancake, crepes are prepared with a batter spread and cooked on a hot griddle, pan, or even a *tawa*. But that is putting it simplistically, for it is actually a very versatile dish, sweet or savoury, that comes with various flavours. Some eternal cribbers may insist that pancakes and crepes are not the same, but I believe they come from the same family.

The batter used for a crepe varies. You can use wheat flour, all-purpose flour, rice flour, gluten-free flour, buckwheat flour, semolina, different kinds of *dals*, etc. A chef once told me that he often prepared his crepes with potato starch, which added taste and crunch to his dish. Another chef used an egg batter for his *egg foo young* and *hoisin-braised roast duck crepes*, which worked especially well for people allergic to wheat or other carbohydrates.

You get different kinds of crepes across the world, from French crepes to Japanese pancakes and Vietnamese rolls. India has various



ISTOCK

## PATISHAPTA

### INGREDIENTS

For the batter	
Flour	100 g
Rice flour	50 g
Milk	220 ml
Oil	To shallow fry
For the filling	
Coconut (grated)	100 g
Sugar	50 g
Palm jaggery	50 g
Thickened milk	100 g

### METHOD

- Mix the two kinds of flour in a bowl. Add milk. Stir the mixture well, ensuring that there are no lumps. Keep it aside while you prepare the filling.
- In a pan, cook grated coconut, with sugar, jaggery and thickened milk. Cook till it thickens, and then take it off the pan. Let it cool.
- Heat a well-greased pan, put a dollop of the batter on it, and spread it out into a circle. Put some of the filling on the pancake and fold it. Roll it once more, and take it off the stove. Serve hot or cold. You can also add some thickened milk on top of the *patishapta* before serving.

regional versions, too — from the much-loved folded *dosa* to the Maharashtra *ghawan* (made with ground rice batter) and East Indian *patishapta*, prepared with flour, rice flour or semolina, with a delicious filling of thickened milk and grated coconut. We all know our *Crepes Suzette* — said to have been named (though later contradicted) after a beautiful young woman. It is a delightful French dessert of citrus-flavoured crepes with a sauce of caramelised

sugar and butter, topped with brandy or liqueurs and flambéed. Russia's wheat flour *blini* has all sorts of fillings — from minced meat to cheese and fruit. And I, for one, cannot forget a superb *Belgian crepe* I had at a friend's place long years ago. Enveloped inside the soft crepe, prepared with a thin, flour-based batter, was a mouth-watering mix of ham and cheese.

Asia has some superb crepes. The Indonesian *dadar gulung* is a street

food favourite, prepared with coconut and rice powder. Malaysia has its *apam balik*, flavoured with crushed peanuts and sweet corn. Vietnam is known for its *banh xeo*, a rice powder pancake with coconut cream, and I cannot forget a crepe that a Vietnamese friend prepared for us with shrimp, peppers and ripe mango. The bottom of the translucent, rolled rice paper showed a strip of orangish-red mangoes, topped with thinly cut green and red capsicum, shreds of basil and mint leaves and finally, a layer of steamed shrimps.

North India's *chilla* or *cheela* is a crepe, even though it is not rolled. So is *pesarattu*, prepared with a green gram batter. I remember how I looked forward to my breakfast of *pesarattus*, with a dollop of *upma* wrapped inside, at Delhi's Andhra Bhavan when I lived in the neighbourhood.

The wonderful bit about crepes is that you can experiment with the filling as you wish. And there are enough options for vegetarians. I remember in particular a crepe with a filling of mushrooms, spinach and cheese, layered with a nutty sauce tempered with sauteed garlic.

A chef from Kolkata once served a superb crepe that stays etched in my heart. He had reduced grated *aam papad*, mango juice and lime juice into a thick syrup — and then stuffed it into fluffy wheat crepes. He did a *Cointreau flambe* while serving it, too. "I have an aunt called Sujata, and I thought that Crepe Sujata, and I thought that was a nice name," he said. "It's our very own Indian version of the French *Crepe Suzette*."

ARTS



A still from 'Gar tum bhula na doge'.

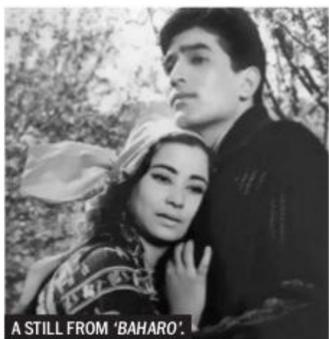


Meena Kumari in 'Mausam hai aashiqana'.

# Voice of INDIA



75-year career, 50,000 songs in 14 languages — statistics, however, cannot define the greatness of Lata Mangeshkar, whose 95th birth anniversary falls this week



A STILL FROM 'BAHARO'.

SUMIT PAUL

IT'S aptly said that comparisons are often odious because 'har zarra apni jagah pe aaftaab hai' (every particle is the sun in its own right). Yet, one name that has become almost synonymous with playback singing is that of Lata Mangeshkar, whose 95th birth anniversary falls on September 28.

Her voice was one of the unifying elements of the people of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. Her contribution to the Indian music industry in a career spanning eight decades gained her honours such as the 'Queen of Melody', 'Nightingale of India' and 'Voice of the Millennium'. Years ago, an Urdu critic of film music wrote, 'Aawaaz jo dil ke andar tak utar kar chhoo jaaye rooh ko hai wahi aawaaz' (The voice that traverses into the

heart and touches the soul is the voice). Lata had that kind of ethereal voice that touched the souls: 'Rooh se nikal kar roohon mein sama gayee/Aawaaz meri kai khwaab jaga gayee' (Emanating from my soul, it got merged into numerous souls/My voice evoked many dreams). Her evocative voice awakened dreams and emotions in the hearts of her countless admirers and qadradaan (cognoscenti).

In Lata's case, it's not at all important that in a span of 75-plus years, she recorded 50,000 songs in 14 languages. Statistics cannot define her genius. She was a phenomenon. Lata was beyond all the superlatives, adjectives, epithets and attributes. Since tomes have been written on her and almost all the aspects of her singing as well as persona have been discussed threadbare and ad nauseam, it seems nothing new is left. But greats like Lata are unfath-

omably great. So, many facets still remain to be explored for, veil after veil will lift, but there must be veil upon veil behind.

There's a general tenor that Lata Mangeshkar was haughty, a trifle toffeenosed and was not amenable to suggestions. Remember her immortal number, 'Baharo, mera jeevan bhi sanwaro' (Aakhri Khat, 1966)? The lyricist was the redoubtable poet-lyricist Kaifi Azmi and the composer was Khyyaam. Khyyaam told me that when Lata sang it, Kaifi Azmi politely suggested that it was 'baharo' not 'baharon' because in Urdu/Hindi, a plural word is uttered without a nasal sound when it's used as an address or ode. Moreover, 'baharo' gets and rhymes with 'sanwaro'. Lata understood, apologised and sang 'Baharo, mera jeevan bhi sanwaro', immortalising it!

Lata was ever willing to learn and imbibe

the nuances as well as enunciations. While singing her evergreen number, 'Rahen na rahen hum' (Mamta, 1966), she was clueless about the actual meaning of these two lines: 'Mausam koi ho iss chaman mein rang banke rhenge hum khiraamaan/Chahat ki khushboo yoon hi zulfon se udegi khizaan ho yaa baharaan' (Let there be any season, I'll be eternally here in this garden/The fragrance of desire will emanate from the tresses, whether autumn or spring). Majrooh Sultanpuri, who penned the songs of 'Mamta', explained it to Lata. She fully understood the meaning and sang it soulfully. "Until I understand a song completely, I don't sing it," she once said. That's why, when you listen to her Bengali numbers, you think as if a native speaker is singing whereas Lata didn't know Bengali!

She believed in comprehending the essence and import of every song irrespec-

tive of the language. One more example can be cited to buttress the point. Anand Bakshi wrote a song, 'Tu kitni achhi hai, tu kitni bholi hai, pyari pyari hai, oh ma' (Raja Aur Runk, 1968). There's a line in the last stanza, 'Woh qismat wale hote hain jinke ma hoti hai'. Lata was singing 'jinko' or 'jinki ma hoti hai'. Anand Bakshi told her that in Urdu and Hindi, possession (has/have) is expressed by ke, not ko or ki. Lata was glad she had learnt a new thing.

While singing the famous duet, 'Gar tum bhula na doge' with Rafi ('Yaqeen', 1969), Lata uttered 'hargij', in lieu of 'hargiz'. She later realised her mistake and even offered to pay for the re-recording, but the song was okayed as it is. It's worthwhile to mention that when Lata was new to the music industry, the great Dilip Kumar wondered whether a daal-rice eater, slip of a Maharashtrian girl would be able to speak impeccable Urdu. Lata proved her Yusuf Bhai wrong, much to his delight.

That Lata sabotaged the career of many female singers is a humongous lie. When you already have the best voice available in the industry, why should producers, directors, lyricists and composers opt for the next best? It's so simple and obvious. Iqbal Masood wrote of Lata Mangeshkar, "When you're used to the very best, why should you go for the second best?" Though Lata imitated Noor Jahan during the beginning of her career, she soon found her own voice and eclipsed her. A Pakistani poet said, "Had Partition not taken place and Noor Jahan stayed put in India, Lata would have surpassed her." I have seen the delirious craze for Lata during my visits to Pakistan.

On the flip side, some composers found Lata's extremely dulcet and soft voice to be unsuitable for ghazal singing as it requires a slightly husky and heavy voice like that of Asha Bhosle, Farida Khanum, Begum Akhtar, etc. Though Lata sang many filmi ghazals under the baton of Madan Mohan, such as, 'Na tum bewafa ho', 'Hai tere saath meri wafa' and 'Do dil toote, do dil haare', they were all geetnuma ghazals, not typical ghazals.

Composer OP Nayyar never gave Lata an opportunity to sing. He preferred Asha. But that doesn't dwarf her status as one of the greatest voices ever to have graced the world of playback singing. Who can forget her songs like 'Duniya kare sawaal toh hum kya jawaab dein', 'Phaili hui hain sapnon ki baahain', 'Ajeeb daastaan hai ye', 'Mausam hai aashiqana', 'Rahte thay kabhi jinke dil mein', 'Humne dekhi hai in aankhon ki', 'Dil ka diya jala ke gaya', 'Ye dil aur unki nigahon ke saaye', 'Aap yoon fasaan se guzarte rahe', 'Dheere-dheere machal ae dil-e-begaraar', 'Chalte-chalte yoon hi koi', to name but a few.

Like Mohd Rafi, Lata Mangeshkar, who passed away in 2022, observed the styles of the actresses and characters she sang for. She was an extremely discerning, dedicated and committed singer who practised till the end. She hated complacency. Hers was a once-in-a-millennium voice.



FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

Aashish Bhat's 'Expansion' puts onlookers upfront with the threat posed by the expanding glacial lakes of Lahaul.



KESANG THAKUR

LAHAUL valley has been witness to intense socio-cultural and ecological transformation since the opening of the geostrategic Atal Tunnel in 2020. At this crucial juncture, how are Lahauli artists contemplating the future of their home? Hopes, desires, fears, aspirations — what do these look and feel like? What role can Lahauli artists play in fostering dialogue and collective reflection as we walk towards a future that holds many promises as well as immense uncertainty? To address these questions, Tanzin Bodh and I began working on putting together an art exhibition. 'Lahaul Futures' was organised as a joint initiative of Life and Heritage of Lahaul (LAHOL), Tanzin's organisation that works on trans-Himalayan heritage preservation, and Filming Lahaul Project, a visual ethnography project I co-founded in 2015.

We invited 10 local artists to offer their interpretations — their personal imprints on what the future could look like, and shouldn't look like for Lahaul. The exhibition gained further relevance as its opening coincided with the Leh to Delhi climate march of Ladakhi environmentalist Sonam Wangchuk. As he crossed Keylong, the district headquarter, with his fellow *padayatri*s, he accepted our invitation to see the art works and interact with artists.



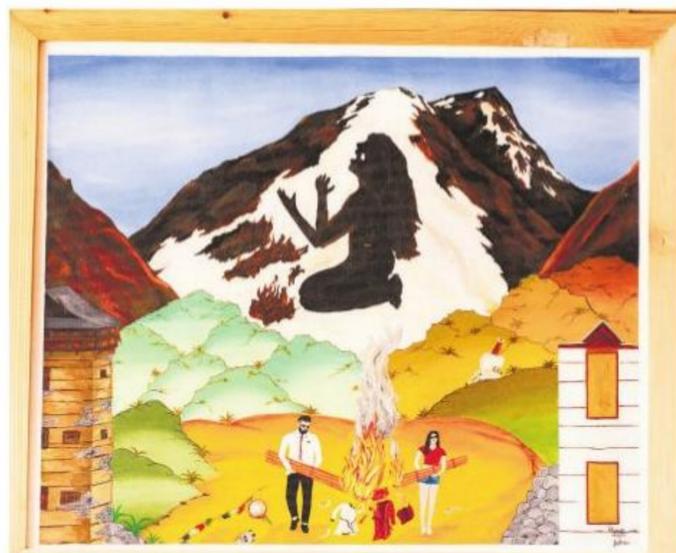
Yashika, 11, imagines a connected future.

A community art exhibition delves into what the tribal region could, but should not, look like

## Lahaul's true colours

The exhibition includes paintings and a sculpture with the participation of artists across different age groups. Young artists like Suryansh Barpa and Yashika, 14 and 11, respectively, imagine a future for locals with enhanced connectivity, and equally for the world to come and experience Lahaul's beauty. At the same time, they express caution about social and environmental costs, and advocate knowledge about Lahaul's fragile ecology. Alongside the prospects of growth, their paintings are coloured in fear, anxiety and loss. The concern of pollution post the opening of the tunnel is depicted in toxic emissions, whereas the devaluing of traditional knowledge systems is represented through the demise of vernacular architecture, and the rapid concretisation of Lahaul.

Yangchan's perspective, however, infuses



A work by Priyanka Bodh and Abhimanyu Sharma; (below) Rinchen Dolma's 'Kiri Miri'.

hope by proposing the future as a pathway where development and indigenous lifeworlds coexist. A future wherein rivers and streams continue to flow freely, with snow in abundance. Similarly, Sheetal imagines a Lahaul where sustainable planning and traditional aesthetics go hand in hand.

For Priyanka and Abhimanyu, the transformation of the resilient 'Lady of Keylong' glacier into one grieving with pain became a guiding thread to narrate the story of their 'burning' home. As though their paintings ask: with mountains eventually engulfed in fire as a result of unsustainable human activities, what will fuel Lahaulis in future? The artist duo urges us to think about our changing relationship with land, commercialisation of natural resources, climate change, desires to embrace modernity, and our inner battles of being an individ-

ual and collective at the same time.

Rinchen Dolma's mixed media piece 'Kiri Miri' provokes us to confront this overwhelming sense of confusion and restlessness — who are we and what are we becoming? This masculine representation rooted in both the present and future is a potent reminder of the temptations and pressures of modernisation. The artist appeals that we together build bridges strong



Stanzin Nyentak's 'Aage School'.

enough to sustain our core values as we walk into an unknown future.

Stanzin Nyentak's 'Aage School' (School Ahead) alerts us about what lies ahead. The changing essence of the Himalayas is conveyed through the stark transformation of its non-humans. The artist portrays the slow erasure of Himalayas and its inhabitants through the inability of the Himalayan yak to recognise

itself in the mirror, forced to dwell by the ocean in future. Krishna Tashi Palmo's 'Jumi' depicts the gathering before the final moment of destruction. With humans turning away from responsibilities, mountains have been forced to take it upon themselves to contemplate their future. Palmo's piece depicts the ageing of the young Himalayas as they get consumed under all kinds of pressures, eventually submerging in their own waters from melting glaciers.

Aashish Bhat's illustration 'Autumn Colours' is a succinct reflection on post-tunnel extractivism in Lahaul. Heavy construction overtaking the crisp golden sight of autumn foliage tells the story of a changing landscape. 'Expansion' puts us upfront with real data — the threat posed by the expanding glacial lakes of Lahaul.

On at Keylong's Shur Restaurant till Oct 10



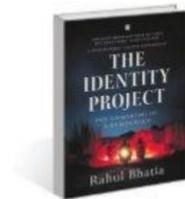
## BOOKS

## The danger of majoritarianism

AVIJIT PATHAK

HERE is a book which, as the author has rightly said, "pieces together fragments of history to bring the present into focus". The intensity of intellectual labour that has made a work of this kind possible is simply amazing. In fact, in order to comprehend the devastating consequences of the rise of triumphant Hindutva, Bhatia has moved around the country, visited the archives and libraries, understood the functioning of politico-cultural organisations like the Hindu Mahasabha and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, made sense of the genealogy of contemporary Hindutva, and examined carefully the social implications of the entire 'identity project'.

No wonder, in this "investigative memoir", the reader comes across a spectrum of events — say, the protest against the Citizen Amendment Act, and the cops entering the library of Jamia Millia Islamia on December 15, 2019; the outbreak of riots in East Delhi in February 2020; the ethnography of an RSS *shakha*, and, for that matter, the vivid description of a conversation organised by the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, in October 2009 — yes, the way a group of leading social scientists (the ones who feared that the project called Aadhaar would eventually change "the balance of powers between citizens and the State") interrogated the savvy technologist Nandan Nilekani, the first chairperson of the Unique Identifica-



**THE IDENTITY PROJECT: THE UNMAKING OF A DEMOCRACY**  
by Rahul Bhatia.  
Westland.  
Pages 449.  
₹899

The book aims to make sense of the genealogy of contemporary Hindutva, and the social implications of the 'identity project'

tion Authority of India. There are two reasons why I wish to recommend this book to all those who are genuinely concerned about the fate of the nation tormented by the aggression of hyper-nationalism. First, I admire Bhatia's power of empathy or the art of listening that characterises his 'nar-

ative reportage'. Think of, for instance, the way Bhatia followed Nisar, a witness to the riots in East Delhi. He visited his residence in Mustafabad, travelled with him to his ancestral village in Uttar Pradesh, witnessed his determination and courage even when he was passing through the mental trauma in Court no. 71 of the Karkardooma Court Complex in Delhi. Possibly, this sincere engagement enabled Bhatia to understand the intensity of pain and agony Nisar passed through as he saw the mob shouting slogans like "Kill the mullahs", or "Set their houses on fire". Think of Nisar's state of consciousness as he saw the goons with "iron rods and wooden sticks" entering his locality, and shouting slogans such as "Long live Hindu unity", and checking people's IDs in search of Muslims in the locality!

Likewise, an accidental discovery of a book on the functioning of the RSS led Bhatia to travel to Kolkata, and meet the author, Partha Banerjee, in July 2022. There was a time when Partha was a committed member of the RSS. In fact, when he was merely six years old, his father, who was known for his "racist, Islamophobic and fascist nature", led him to an RSS *shakha*. But then, as he grew up, he began to read Tagore, and watch the films of Satyajit Ray and Ritwik Ghatak. He went to America for higher studies, reflected painfully on the demolition of the Babri mosque, and eventually wrote a book — an 'insider's story' that debunks and critiques the 'Hindu supremacist ideology of the RSS

and the BJP'. My second reason for recommending this book is the power of critical enquiry that characterises Bhatia's way of looking at history. It can be seen in the way Dayanand Saraswati's passionate plea for cow protection led to a potentially dangerous duality or division — Hindus as 'nature-loving protectionists' versus Muslims as 'carnivorous slayers'. Likewise, he could trace the seeds of militaristic/fascist thinking in Balakrishna Sheuram Moonjee, a leading figure of the Hindu Mahasabha. Moonjee, as the reader is reminded, adored Benito Mussolini, and even met him in March 1931. "The universe," Moonjee thought, 'is sustained and maintained by sword.' No wonder, Mahatma Gandhi's doctrine of *ahimsa* frustrated him; instead, as Bhatia points out, Moonjee believed that "peace had atrophied the Hindu instinct for war". The tradition continued. While Hedgewar, the founder of the RSS, pleaded for 'Hindu unity' to cope with 'Muslim riots', Golwalkar saw "valuable lessons in Hitler's treatment of Jews". No wonder, Golwalkar asked for "nothing less than total submission from Muslims".

Well, a cynic might complain that Bhatia is one-sided, and has not uttered a single word about the existence of 'Islamic fundamentalism' in contemporary India. But then, if you choose to see beyond the 'blame game', you cannot deny what the book reveals — the tyranny of majoritarianism further damaging the spirit of secularism.

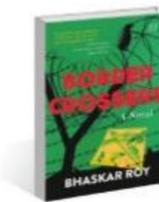


BACKFLAP



**DID I REALLY DO ALL THIS?**  
by Vijay Raman.  
Rupa.  
Pages 251. ₹695

IPS officer Vijay Raman was a legendary figure in Indian policing, celebrated for spearheading the elimination of dacoit Paan Singh Tomar and his gang in Chambal, and later leading operations that liquidated the dreaded terrorist Ghazi Baba. This first-hand account also takes readers through the surrenders of Daku Malkan Singhand Phoolan Devi and the investigation of the infamous Vyapam scam. In the line of duty, he was one of the hand-picked officers of the Special Protection Group.



**BORDER CROSSERS**  
by Bhaskar Roy.  
Hachette.  
Pages 344. ₹599

Called "prophetic and optimistic" by Booker-longlisted Paul Pickering, 'Border Crossers' is the story of Rita, who is desperate for survival in the rude city. She gets hired as a household help by a retired diplomat, but at that moment, Arijit Basu does not know that she is an undocumented migrant. Convulsed by a marauding tide of events, the two are reduced to wrecks. Arijit's fiancée, Nandita, fights to recover the vulnerable girl from the circles of evil. The outcome of this struggle irrevocably impacts their lives.



**THE INTERLOPER**  
by Manoranjan Byapari.  
Translated by V Ramaswamy.  
Westland.  
Pages 351. ₹599

This is the last in Manoranjan Byapari's 'Chandal Jibon', his trilogy of autobiographical novels. A youth walks into Jadavpur railway station. People recognise him as Jibon, the daring young man who had done them many a good turn. He has lost his memory and finds himself stuck in a relentless cycle of destitution, oppression and hatred. And yet, his veins throb with an inexplicable will to move forward. Earlier books in the series include 'The Runaway Boy' and 'The Nemesis'.



**CHICANERY**  
by Timeri N Murari.  
Niyogi Books.  
Pages 424. ₹695

'Chicanery' is a tale about how personal ambition and rivalry lead to the downfall of the men in power: David Richelieu returns to his homeland after 20 years in exile. At the border, he is identified as the ex-Prime Minister of that once democratic nation, and he is arrested by the assistant to the Minister of Culture. The minister suspects that he has been helping the Others to overthrow the despotic government. How the Others break surveillance and control of the oligarchs and restore people's freedom is revealed in this book.

## A tale of two women, bonded by blood, free spirit

BINDU MENON

SEATED on a park bench in the Mexican city of San Miguel de Allende, Bonita, a young language student from India, savours the scene: children playing around the bandstand, a wandering balloon seller, and the pigeons strutting and bowing to each other, "muttering greetings like old gentlemen on their morning constitutional". Reading the opening passage of Anita Desai's new novella, 'Rosarita', one is bound to agree with poet Keki N Daruwalla's observation that Desai is as much a poet as a novelist.

The calm of the opening scene is brazenly interrupted when a flamboyant elderly woman accosts Bonita, claims she is the spitting image of an old friend and conclusively decides that Bonita is indeed the daughter of that friend, "the Oriental bird" Rosarita, who had decades ago journeyed to the very same city to study art. This revelation both unsettles and intrigues Bonita for she had never known her deceased mother Sarita to paint or ever set foot on foreign soil. She is at first almost dismissive of this claim by the woman, Vicky, who will thereafter be

referred to as Stranger and then Trickster. But strangely, Bonita finds herself compelled to give "credence to a past that had never been mentioned or guessed at" and wonders whether the Stranger could, "like a wizard or a magician, bring your mother to life again even if it is a life you never knew or suspected?"

The second-person narrative pulls the reader deeper into the vortex within Bonita's mind as she tries to piece together the life and journey, real or imagined, of Sarita/Rosarita. Bonita stitches together a



**ROSARITA**  
by Anita Desai.  
Pan Macmillan.  
Pages 96.  
₹499

what-might-have-been story of Mother's flight to Mexico, aided by some hazy recollections, some highly imaginative but probable situations and some knotty questions she alone must try to answer. What was the trigger for Mother's quite unexpected journey? Was it a lecture she attended on the connection found in the art during India's Partition and the Mexican revolution? Did the unspeakable horrors of the two tragic chapters in history documented at the event open up "some wound that had been stitched up" or a suppressed but carefully guarded family history? "Were those trains she saw on the screen with their unspeakable cargoes, the ones that could have carried the Muslims of India to Pakistan and the Hindus of Pakistan to India, also the ones that carried her family across some savage new border from which few arrived alive?"

The novel then is also about memories, of the ones that haunt and stay, of the ones that are shuttered but will eventually break free too. Bonita recalls her own rather subdued childhood at the sprawling bungalow of her grandparents, where the presiding deity was Grandfather. Grandmother was the woman who "set

her household on wheels" with well-trained servants and zero domestic crisis. Bonita also recalls Mother slipping into the same obligatory duty of "a company wife", though she showed no sign of pride in such a role, only an "unwilling martyrdom" to Father's daily unbreakable executive routine. When Father returned to his "well-ordered home, he expected to be met by a wife prepared for the evening and the obligatory party (without which they would have been deemed social failures)".

In his reflective piece for *Indian Literature*, after Desai was conferred the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship in 2007, Daruwalla wrote that she brilliantly excavated the griefs of Indian women and brought them to light, "neither too gently nor with a scalpel". The lyrical quality, rich imagery and flawless eye for detail that inform much of Desai's novels can be seen in 'Rosarita' too — essentially a tale of two women, bonded by blood, fierce determination and a free spirit.

In Bonita's quest to see her mother in a way she had never seen, she is, as she acknowledges, allowing her own experience of the journey to substitute her mother's. One that may eventually set her free.

## Complexities, contradictions of Mughal emperors

SALIL MISRA

ALL empires in human history have been formed and sustained by conquest, violence and bloodshed. They can survive only by expansion. After some time, the same expansion becomes a liability for the empire and a catalyst for its decline and dissolution. This generic story of the empires is also applicable to the great Mughal Empire. This story has been told in great detail by GS Cheema in his book on the formation and expansion of the Mughal Empire.

The story of the great Mughals can be neatly divided between the first six rulers (Babur, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb), who left a deep impact on their times and also on times that followed, and the rest who came and went without leaving much of a trace. Finally, it was all over in 1857 when the British displaced the Mughals and became the new rulers of India.

It all started with Babur, who came from Central Asia and with the help of guns and artillery defeated the army of Ibrahim Lodi and established the new empire. Babur may have been the first in the subcontinent to use gunpowder. Between 1526 and the 18th century, the story of the Mughals is, on the one hand, of many cultural achievements in the fields of literature, paintings and translations. On the other hand, however, it is the story of war and destruction. These two dominant imaginings of the Mughals, of war and plunder and of cultural efflorescence, are epitomised fairly neatly by Akbar and Aurangzeb, two of its tallest emperors,



**GREATER MUGHALS: THE FIRST SIX EMPERORS OF THE HOUSE OF BABUR**  
by GS Cheema.  
Manohar Publishers.  
Pages 438.  
₹2,495

Between 1526 and the 18th century, the story of the Mughals is of many cultural achievements as also one of war and destruction

who also ruled for the longest period of time, each one for nearly half a century.

All rulers use coercion and diplomacy, and sometimes a possible combination of the two in order to establish their control. The difference between Akbar and Aurangzeb was that Akbar used more of diplomacy and less of coercion. Aurangzeb, by contrast, relied much more

on coercion and intimidation. Akbar also showed a great keenness in understanding the true essence of religion. He set up *ibadatkhana*s (places of worship) where he held weekly discussions between different faith systems. He invited representatives from different religions — Hinduism, Christianity, Judaism — and initiated a dialogue amongst all of them to eventually arrive at the true meaning of religion. Akbar's quest was for a pure religion, shorn of all excessive ritualism and based entirely on man's relationship with the Supreme Being. Deen-e Ilahi, the religion he founded, was very similar to Ashoka's Dhamma. Just as Ashoka's Dhamma was larger than Buddhism, Akbar's Deen-e Ilahi was larger than Islam. There was a quest for a universal religion that would be above the various denominational faith systems.

Akbar was also very sensitive to the feelings of his non-Muslim subjects. He abolished *jajya*, a religious tax that was imposed only on non-Muslims. Hindus resented it and so Akbar abolished it. However, a century later, Aurangzeb re-imposed it, much to the annoyance of Hindus. The re-imposition of *jajya* by Aurangzeb was not the only act that antagonised Hindus. He also imposed many other taxes that were discriminatory in nature. Aurangzeb issued many orders for demolition of Hindu temples, particularly the ones in Mathura and Banaras. The book argues that Aurangzeb's policies were completely in contrast with the general existing norm of non-interference by the State in religious matters, practised by earlier rulers. These then are the two contrasting

images of the Mughal Empire. One is that of the first pan-Indian empire that promoted trade and agriculture, practised non-interference in matters of religious faith, and achieved great cultural efflorescence, particularly in the fields of painting, music, literature and architecture. The other image, exemplified mainly by Aurangzeb, is that of coercion and violence, religious intolerance and discrimination in matters of religious faith. Which of the two images is the dominant one that should constitute an enduring picture of the Mughals? The book refrains from answering this question and prefers to present the Mughal Empire in all its complexities and contradictory possibilities.

However, one possible weakness of the book is that it tends to reduce the story of the Mughals only to conquests and warfare. There is actually much more to that story. The Mughals set up the first pan-Indian empire and created a comprehensive structure of governance and bureaucracy. All the yardsticks of economic development were put in place. It was also a period in which great efforts were made towards creating public works, road networks, river transport, bridges, *seais* and big cities. Trade and manufacturing picked up like never before. In other words, India, at the end of its middle ages, was well on course to take the next big step towards a modern economy. That, however, was not to be. The possibilities of independent modern economic development were thwarted because of British colonialism. But that is another story.

The book under review is a much welcome effort to give the pioneering six Mughal rulers their due.

## Playing for country, for money



GOOD SPORT  
ROHIT MAHAJAN

**R**IO DE JANEIRO 2016. The Olympics mixed doubles semifinal is on, and an Indian tennis legend is getting a bit anxious, for there looms the real possibility that Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna would beat Venus Williams and Rajeev Ram.

Sania and Bopanna won the first set 6-2, and we — fans, sports writers, coaches, Indian sportspersons — were hoping for an encore in the second... All except the anxious legend. He didn't want Sania and Bopanna to win a silver — or any medal! — because he had not been picked to partner Sania in the Olympics. Sania-Bopanna were, also, foes to him, for they were members of the camp of his former male doubles partner. Thus, he was willing hard, with all his heart, for Sania-Bopanna to fail, to lose in the semifinals, to not win a medal — the Indian medal count be damned.

In the event, Sania and Bopanna lost the second set 2-6 and the third 3-10 to Venus-Ram; they still had the opportunity of winning a medal, a bronze, but they lost the third-place playoff 1-6, 5-7 to Radek Stepánek and Lucie Hradecká. It was a heartbreaking loss for Sania-Bopanna, for the Indian media pack, for the Indian fans — but not so for the aforementioned legend.

This surreal episode — the anxiousness of this great player at the possibility of a medal for Sania-Bopanna, and then the glee at them missing it — came to one's mind when controversy broke out over India No. 1 Sumit Nagal demanding \$50,000 from the All India Tennis Association to play for India in the Davis Cup tie against Sweden. India, missing top singles stars Nagal, Sasikumar Mukund and Yuki Bhambri, got a 0-4 hammering from Sweden.

Sportspersons are human, not exemplars of



India No. 1 Sumit Nagal demanded \$50,000 from the All India Tennis Association to play in the Davis Cup tie against Sweden. REUTERS

morality, rectitude, patriotism. They're just like us — and possibly we're a bit better, because we're never exposed to the temptations that some sportspersons, especially cricketers, face every day of their lives. And if they do give in to temptation, those watching from the sidelines start booing.

Sportspersons turn cynics when quite young, for their experience, of fellow players and coaches, tells them that the sports administrator is venal and undependable — often a politician or bureaucrat or businessman who joins up for clout in his city, then country, then the world. Once they have the vote in, say, the

**Sportspersons turn cynics when quite young, for their experience tells them that the sports administrator is venal and undependable**

global governing body of a sport, or in the Olympics, such men are like kings — feted and lionised at the biggest sports events in the world. Power can be difficult to digest for the petty — they turn autocrats, treating athletes like menials.

Some of these men turn up at, say, the tennis event at the Olympics, sozzled silly, courtesy complimentary alcoholic beverages. We in the media have seen them countless times, as have athletes. Sportspersons have utter contempt for such freeloaders. Somdev Devvarman, the former India No. 1 who had a highest global ranking of No. 61, said in 2017 about certain AITA officebearers who had missed the fourth and fifth sets of his Davis Cup match in 2014: "They were getting late for their single malt party down at the club as they thought my match was done and I had no chance of coming back. This information certainly didn't come as a surprise to me. I expect them to be unpolished. I also got a solid whiff of their single malt Scotch as they poured over me with congratulations after the match."

Nagal, facing criticism for asking for money to play for India, clarified: "It is standard practice in professional sports for athletes to be compensated for their participation in events, even when representing their country."

Nagal also said he was undergoing rehab after an injury, and had informed "AITA well in advance about my inability to participate" in the Davis Cup.

It must be stated that playing tennis as a pro — with the need for a team of coach, physio, trainer, doctor, etc — is a very expensive proposition, and players do need to focus on their bread and butter, the ATP tournaments.

AITA officials did not reveal that the association does get money from the International Tennis Federation with which to compensate Nagal — that players do get paid for playing in the Davis Cup.

To make matters worse, trust between players and AITA officials is dust — that has been the case for quite some time.

Instead of plotting the rise of Indian tennis, they seem to be working at cross-purposes, taking potshots at each other through the media.

If former players fear Indian tennis is dying, they're not far off the mark.

## Write way of right or wrong choices



RAAJA BHASIN

**S**O, what should a column contain and how much of a columnist's life should it be permitted to hold? How many skeletons should trundle out of hidden closets to be aired in public? What are the limits of anguish and happiness that have a right to appear? How many bags of everyday events and everyday things should sidle up and move into written spaces that take up a weekend? While we are at it, are bits of bone and other pieces of people that we have known, entitled to a place in these lines or should they, and their secrets, be left in quiet peace? Is this a dialogue between the writer and the reader, or must it remain, perforce, a one-way flow of words, ideas and experiences? Will it be appropriate to talk of spending week after week in a hospital, knowing deep inside that a loved parent is not going to make it? Having one's own close brushes with death. Getting a glimpse of its finality and for the moment, escaping it. Those questions, silly or grandiose as they may sound, are something that take attention the moment a column is due — and in a vast maw, they must cover the range of birth to death, and all the drama and detail that lie in between.

Placing this aside for another day and another moment to vent, apart from other bits and pieces of writing that one has done, in years long gone, there were two regular columns. The first stemmed from my childhood fascination with different architectural forms, decor and design. Of the reasons why we lived the way we did — and do. This was for a now-defunct but glossy and well-respected design magazine. Here, one wrote about things as varied as mud walls plastered with cattle-dung or of how fine wall finishes were once achieved by a mix of lime-wash, egg-whites and shellac which was smoothed over using a large sea-shell. One spoke of formal gardens and weed-patches that passed as gardens. One compared the merits of the open garden with the closed courtyard and examined the origins and merits of both. The editor, bless her sense of humour, however, had a grouse. Every time the piece reached her by 'snail mail' of those days, I'd get a call on the landline — which was all that existed then. "When will I get a decent looking photograph where you are not wearing an oversized football referee's shirt for your profile picture?" she would complain. Before the paunch expanded and the shirt sort of began to fit, that fine magazine was closed by its publishers.

The other column was for a national paper that still focuses on economic

affairs and on the weekends, carried a travel page. Here, one wrote on heritage hotels — and this was at a time when the concept was just getting off the ground. Hundreds of ruins were waiting to be rescued. As places that offered both hospitality and history, these places were still few and far between — and this was a market that was barely emerging.

Sometimes lugging a backpack and walking from a bus stand, and more rarely, arriving in a car, one visited many without telling them what one was doing. Once, just once, one cheated and sent a friend over to take pictures and elicit information. But, more often than not, one went there, wandered around, talked, ate and sometimes stayed, and then wrote what one had to. This was all fairly straightforward. One wrote with hon-

**What exactly should a column contain, or proclaim, or aim for? It's a task that has its own challenges**

esty, paid one's bill and if one could help it, did not criticise a place simply for the sake of criticising. Today, as some of my hotelier friends tell me, things are more complicated. As one said, "Apart from the occasional inspector, who, if he takes a sample of curd, you know you are in for trouble as that will never pass the purity test, there are three categories of people we have to watch out for. These are bloggers, influencers and small children."

Some of the first two categories, and 'only some' one should strongly emphasise, will tell you in advance that they are going to write a bad review in all sorts of places unless you provide this and this and also that, gratis, of course. The expense and the headache are factored into good hospitality and public relations by the hotel, while an unethical blogger or social-media influencer stands to lose credibility. The most vulnerable to this blackmail are young entrepreneurs who have barely started off and are terrified of bad reviews, and have to stretch every publicity-gathering rupee to its maximum.

The trickiest ones are children. For one, they are ruthlessly honest. And if they are what one bluntly calls 'ill-behaved brats', then patience, goodwill and the benign presence of various deities is required. As the above-mentioned hotelier friend said, "You have to keep the child happy. If the child is happy, then the mother is happy. If the mother is happy, the father is happy. And the father pays the bill." Well, here is another stereotype and one that stems from a friend's lifelong experience in hospitality — of keeping a smile on the face while hiding the scowl within.

## C'mon, cycle or walk this car-free day

BRIG ADVITYA MADAN (RETD)

**A** FEW days back, we had invited our friends over, along with their teenage son, for evening tea. Suddenly, in the middle of the getting-together, their son was reminded of the Maths tuition that he had scheduled. The tutor's house was just a stone's throw from our home. His father told him to go walking as it was nearby. The son had none of it. Rather, he felt denigrated and insisted that he be dropped in the car. My friend had to give in and was constrained to drive him for 200 metres or so.

Many of us don't think twice before using our cars to run even small errands which we can do with a little bit of walking or cycling. The other day, my wife was driving with the family and we got caught up in bumper-to-bumper traffic. Since I was the co-driver, I decided to walk along the stranded vehicles to check out the cause of this major hold-up.

I was stupefied to find that the majority of the cars had just one occupant-cum-driver occupy-

ing a disproportionate space on the road. I was reminded of the wisdom of the odd-even rule that was briefly implemented sometime back in Delhi. However, it didn't last long, thanks to our self-centred society.

All of us need to take ownership of improving our traffic ecosystem. After all, any city is a highly complex self-adaptive system formed by the conduct of the people who live in it. We all contribute to the unwritten rules that make a city run. It is in our 'rational self-interest' to follow (or break) rules to make our own lives easier. It all boils down to the culture we set in, be it a car-free day or for that matter the traffic rules.

With a burgeoning population and an

**We need to take ownership of improving our traffic ecosystem**

increase in the financial capacity to buy a car, the space on Indian roads has shrunk considerably. The poor food delivery boys have become mindless robots, driving at break-neck speed to deliver the goodies to their customers to meet the deadlines laid down by their corporate honchos, who are focused on generating profits. It is a perfect recipe for accidents.

We can take a leaf out of the meticulous implementation of 'dry days' in our Army peace stations. In my unit, 15 Punjab, we strictly observed Fridays and Sundays as 'dry days'. Not a single vehicle moved, except in case of a medical emergency. All officers had bought cycles and went about their duties on the cycle right from the morning PT, to the training area and night till the night duty checks, irrespective of the rank.

We, as a responsible society, must support hard decisions by the Central or state governments. Whether it's dictated or not by the authorities, wherever possible, let's all give up our cars on September 22, the World Car-Free Day.

## Let's face it, violence is literally everywhere around us

SIDDHARTH PANDEY

**M**ANY years ago, while preparing for the National Eligibility Test (NET) from one of those unpalatable 'guidebooks', I had come across a question that referred to an aggressive social event. The four multiple choices that followed asked us to shed light on the larger 'reason' undergirding the occurrence, one of them arguing that 'we as a society have often been violent'. As much as I wanted to select that option, the answer-sheet proved it to be wrong. And yet, even after more than a decade, I cannot help but mull its validity, notwithstanding the essentialism that the statement might connote to some. For, violence is literally everywhere around us, and in us too.

As Indians, however, we are often quick to dismiss this reality. Two opinions frequently rise up as defence: one, that coming from the land of the Buddha and Gandhi, there is no truth to our inherently violent character; and two, that things are far worse in 'such and such country' (by which fanatics usually imply an Islamic nation), which should only make us feel 'more proud' of our 'peace-loving' heritage. Both of these perspectives are of course simplistically convenient positions at best, and

laughably apathetic viewpoints at worst.

I was compelled to dwell on the matter after recently encountering a spine-chilling viral video of a couple of seniors mercilessly ragging a junior student at a private university in Solan (Himachal Pradesh). In it, the junior student is seen refusing alcohol upon being ordered by his seniors, as a consequence of which he is both slapped and belted multiple times by an uncontrollably angry man. The latter is seemingly placated once the junior relents under excruciating pain. The only 'positive' thing about the video was that it got made in the first place (almost secretly, it appears), though I worry for the one who recorded.

Out of the many contexts that we associate with arenas of violence, the field of education strikes as particularly poignant and deeply depressing. Despite the rise of legislations, committees and rule-books over the years forbidding inhuman acts like the above, we are routinely confronted with instances that make us question our humanity. Only last year, a viral video of a school principal in Uttar Pradesh exposed her ordering primary class students to 'slap' a seven-year-old Muslim boy turn by turn. Around the same time, in the city of Kota, known for its coaching centres, the increasing frequency of student suicides by hanging from the fan

forced the authorities to take cognisance. But instead of delving into the root causes, the administration offered the preposterous solution of installing spring-loaded fans in student-residences, making a mockery of the matter.

Indian popular culture has done an honest if underrepresented job in portraying such horrors. Films such as 'Rockford' (1999), 'Tare Zameen Par' (2007), 'Noblemen' (2018) and more recently an aptly titled web-series 'School of Lies' (2023) have explored the dynamics of pedagogic cruelty and sadism in different ways, exposing the hypocrisy of distinguished boarding schools' commitment towards 'excellence' and 'progress'.

'School of Lies' especially presents a

**The Solan ragging incident is yet another episode where the desire for aberrant superiority unleashes in the most vile form**

nuanced portrayal of the many levels of aggression that exist in these supposedly 'best' schools, where not only teachers but students themselves bask in the air of superiority over their juniors, brutally punishing them at will.

Eminent writer Pankaj Mishra also illustrates the banality of such violence in his novel 'Run and Hide' (2022). In what might rank as among the most harrowing descriptions of ragging in contemporary literature, the novel's opening pages show three IIT-Delhi freshmen from the 1980s engage in perverse sexual acts forced upon by seniors. A disturbing emphasis on caste underlines the whole ordeal, with the students being doled out demeaning activities in accordance with their backgrounds. But the persecution leaves none untouched. "After four hours of this," writes the narrator, "punctuated by deafening and spine-chilling screams from elsewhere in the hostel, where other freshers were being ritually humiliated, we returned to our room... [but] our ordeal continued a few more nights".

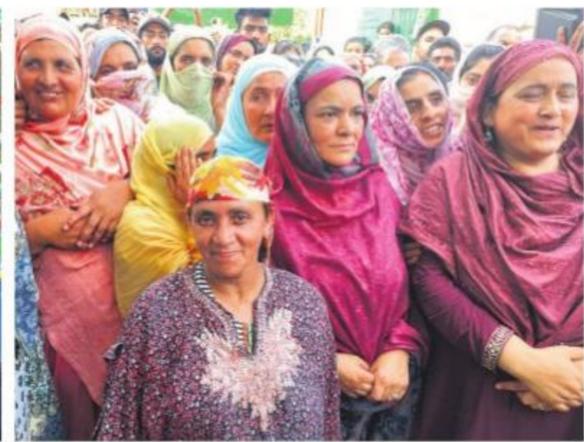
In all of these examples and the many thousands that occur every day, what repeatedly gets demonstrated is a complex acting out of a troublesome legacy of entitlement, patriarchy, personal trauma, and an unwavering allegiance to 'hierarchy' in

the country's social set-up. This hierarchy refuses to recognise the individual dignity of children, young adults and adults as well. While bullying endures in the West, too, it largely disappears at the university level. The Wikipedia entry on 'ragging' highlights this parochial form of cruelty as being almost entirely endemic to the countries of South Asia, especially India.

Social commentator Santosh Desai remarked that in our country, "instinctively, we feel little need for equality, [for] everyone knows who stands where". The Solan incident is yet another episode where the desire for aberrant superiority unleashes in the most vile form. Tellingly, the video also shows another senior bragging about the extensive beating that he too received in his time. This reminded me of Mishra's novel, where a Dalit character's ragging doesn't make him automatically empathetic; instead, it turns him into a harasser as soon as he reaches seniority.

In here lies the most worrisome win of violence: victims becoming victimisers, almost as a rule of thumb. Unless we learn to dissect and treat this equation in all its intricacy, such incidents shall only continue to rip apart our social fabric.

— The writer is a historian, artist and cultural critic



It's a melee in Jammu and Kashmir these days. While Jammu, despite the discontent, may yet steel itself to push the lotus button when it votes on October 1, people in Kashmir are flocking to rallies and processions in the hope of electing leaders who will speak up for them.

Jyoti Malhotra, Adil Akhzer & Arjun Sharma soak in the lively Assembly election atmosphere as J&K votes after 10 years

# CLOCK TURNS



FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS Across the UT, there seems a collective resolve to participate and make every vote count. PHOTOS BY JYOTI MALHOTRA

At a community election meeting in Palipora, a village so small in the Ganderbal constituency you would never suspect that behind the row of higgledy-piggledy houses on the main road, a bright red *shamiana* with a white cloth flower has been strung up over the stage on which Farooq Abdullah is sitting. Men are in the front and women at the back. The area's upstanding citizenry is on either side of Farooq, and his grandsons, Zahir and Zamir Abdullah, somewhere on the side. In glass goblets, dry fruit is passed around. Farooq, himself a large and lumbering man, rests one extended hand on a walking stick. Sometimes, he cups his face in his hand. He listens — first, as a thin man in dark green recites the opening prayer in front of the microphone, and then, many men, one after the other, have their say. Only then, he speaks. It is his turn.

"In Manipur, *kal-e-aam* (a massacre) is taking place. Here, in Kashmir, we have an election. This is our opportunity to vote and elect our leaders," he says, in words to that effect.

Everyone listens carefully, imbibing the wisdom of this ageing man. He is asking them to vote for his son, Omar Abdullah, of course, who is standing from the Ganderbal (and Budgam) constituency, but that's only part of the message. Amar Singh Dulat, the former head of India's external intelligence agency, R&AW, once said that nothing in Kashmir is straightforward, except the poplar tree.

But here in Palipora, on this clear, end-of-summer morning, the story is absurdly simple. Vote. Exercise your undeniable, constitutional right. No one can prevent you from doing so. Vote and elect the people who will speak up for you. Hear the cries from Manipur, so far away because they resonate right here in Kashmir.

"I speak about Manipur because it is a part of me, a part of India," Farooq Abdullah tells *The Tribune*, softly banging his chest with his fist, adding, "I want people in Jammu and Kashmir to know that we are all fighting for the same thing."

Across the five-year-old Union Territory, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised again in Srinagar last week that the BJP will restore to statehood, people are flocking to election rallies, participating in village processions, chattering with strangers — journalists, even — willing to listen about their suffocating grief during the last many decades. The first phase of the three-phase polls has just taken place in south Kashmir, and it has not just gone off smoothly, it has clocked an inspiring 60 per cent turnout.

The chatter is nonstop. In Narwa, a Pulwama village, women in brightly coloured *pherans* and matching *dupattas* sing along in the vanguard of PDP candidate Waheed Para's election campaign and announce his arrival, "*Sher aaya, sher aaya*."

In Kulgam, young men participating in CPM candidate Yusuf Tarigami's rally are ready with their rebuttals ("until yesterday, the banned Jamaat said the vote was *haram*, how has it suddenly become *halal* today?"). Tarigami's main opponent, the moon-faced Sayar Reshi, a pro-Pakistan Jamaat-i-Islami member-turned-Independent candidate, tells *The Tribune*, "I am a political science scholar and I believe in

and will abide by the Constitution', even as his supporters scream out his election symbol aloud, "Top, top, laptop."

In fancy tea-rooms overlooking the placid trickle that is the Jhelum in Srinagar, women in black, Arabic-inspired *hijabs* spoon-feed Nutella crepe to their male partners and nod seriously as the men speak — "the best thing that has happened to Kashmir is the L-G rule and Modi these past five years".

In Rasana village in the Jammu region, where an eight-year-old Gujar girl was brutally raped and murdered in 2018, in nearby Kathua and in Jammu city itself, traders, political analysts and taxi drivers, best friends of parachuting journalists, echo their confusion over why the BJP seems to have abandoned its stronghold. With the deletion of Article 370 from the Constitution, they ask plaintively, "*Hum ko kya mila*?" (What did we get?)

It's a melee in Jammu and Kashmir these days. It's also called an election. Pro-separatist leaders like MP Engineer Rashid — an engineer in the state administration aeons ago who fought the Baramulla Lok Sabha election from inside his jail cell in Tihar, defeating Omar Abdullah, and has been released by the courts to campaign for his candidates — have never had it so good. He openly talks about how awful the "Government of India" is, to every print, TV and online journalist in town. He has been held under the dreaded UAPA, an Act that believes you are a terrorist and doesn't need proof to make the arrest, and will return to jail the day after the last phase of the Kashmir election on October 1.

Jamaat candidates, now Independents, because their organisation remains banned — a ban that was extended only this February — are tying up with Rashid and have called their coalition the Awami Independent Party, in the hope that pro-separatist sentiment in the Valley will send them romping home to the new Assembly.



Sayar Reshi of the pro-Pakistan Jamaat-i-Islami, who is contesting as an Independent from Kulgam.



PDP's Pulwama candidate Waheed Para addresses supporters at an election rally.



AGPS tracker clipped around his ankle, Mohd Sikander Malik is contesting as an Independent from Bandipora.

One of them, Mohammed Sikander Malik, fighting from Bandipora, shows the GPS tracker clipped around his right ankle — a thick, rubberised contraption that will set off an alarm in the intelligence agency offices, if the gent in question so much as steps outside the territory that he has been allowed to roam around and campaign in, just like in American TV serials. He insists that he and the Jamaat have never been "pro-Pakistan", never mind that the organisation's ideologue, the fiery late Syed Ali Shah Geelani, spent his life fighting to be united with the Islamic republic next door. Malik, arrested in 2019, was recently let out to campaign for his election.

In Shopian, once part of the heart of the Kashmiri insurgency, BJP flags flutter in the shadow of the quietly beautiful Jama Masjid. Women must pray in the women's section, but one Kashmiri woman ignores the unspoken convention, as the muezzin calls for afternoon prayer, so you must follow. It is serene in the quadrangle inside. Outside, young men in black uniform from the once-dreaded Special Operations Group — Kashmir valley's many dreaded agencies are all very much around — are directing traffic away because "the BJP candidate is coming". A young shopkeeper, returning with half a bowl of borrowed curd from a neighbour to ferment more at home, points to one of the black-uniformed men in a ponytail and asks, "Do these men think they are in Afghanistan? Just look at the way they are dressed and walk around with their assault weapons." The BJP candidate doesn't show up. Perhaps, he will come later.

Driving around the Kashmir valley looking at its first election in 10 years has been like witnessing a *National Geographic* documentary — everything is so beautiful, it's almost a cliché. Village roads lined with poplar and weeping willow, the golden paddy ripening in the fields on either side,

labourers bent over their bundles, small figures against a giant mountainside. By the middle of October, the saffron in Avantipora will be ready to cut — pale purple flowers bobbing their tiny heads in the wind, while the handful of rock-cut temples stand guard close by. You cross the stretch where the attack against the CRPF convoy took place in February 2019, which killed all 40 personnel in the bus and provoked the Balakot missile attacks later that month, which in turn led to the gravest India-Pakistan tension in recent decades — and you realise how fragile this peace is.

Few outsiders care. The tourists have been coming in droves, as many as 2.5 crore in the last two years, hooked by both Amir Khusrau and Hindi cinema. If there is *jannat* on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this. You hear Malayalam on the Jhelum *bunthi* in Srinagar and Punjabi on the jam-packed flights. Butter chicken has made it to the restaurants that line the Dal Lake. The magic of Kashmir valley, overwrought by insurgency over the past 30 years and uncertainty and chaos through large parts of the previous decades, is still a charm that is a permanent keepsake, a memory that makes you want more.

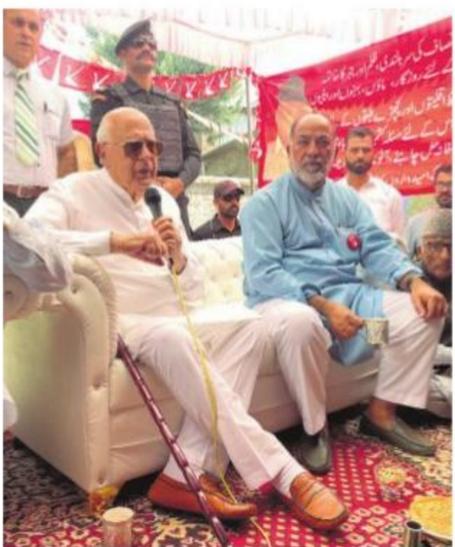
That one fact is enough to gnash the teeth of the Jammu folks. Where are the tourists, they wail; most trains (15 out of 25) that used to touch Jammu, where the devout would get down for Vaishno Devi, now go straight to Katra. Those trains are believed to be full for weeks and it's tough to get a ticket — great for the pilgrims themselves, but not so great for Jammu's forlorn hoteliers and traders, grappling with terrible traffic, open drains and other unsmart city-like credentials. The Durbar Move, when the entire administration in Srinagar moved to Jammu for nearly six months every winter, has given rise to much discontent. It was an anachronism that belonged to a wilful and whimsical Maharaja in a bygone era, that was inherited and kept by the determinedly secular governments that followed, but was discontinued in 2021.

That's because Jammu used to prosper from rentals and trade and such like. Now that big shot in the arm, ostensibly to cut costs, has been dealt a fell blow. If the charms of abrogating Article 370 in real terms were enough to replace all these small things that make up the economy — such as consolidating the Hindu population and make them one cohesive unit — then many might not be as confused as they are now. They continue to like the BJP, agree with its ideology and want to vote them back to power; but then the question confronts itself: what else has the BJP done for Jammu, besides abrogating Article 370?

Jammu may yet steel itself to push the lotus button when it votes on October 1. If it does and gives the BJP enough seats, and if the National Conference-Congress coalition doesn't get enough to win a majority in the 90-member Assembly, then the post-election game is wide open. After all, politics is the art of the possible, never mind NC vice-president Omar Abdullah telling *The Tribune* that he and his party "will never ally with the BJP".

And so, Jammu and Kashmir is voting again, for the first time in 10 years. For better or for worse, people are going to the polls. For the moment, that is enough.

Farooq Abdullah addresses an election rally in favour of son Omar Abdullah, who's contesting from Ganderbal (and Budgam).



The CPM candidate from Kulgam, Yusuf Tarigami (left), with supporters.

