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✦CHANDIGARH ✦PUNJAB✦HARYANA ✦HIMACHAL PRADESH✦DELHI✦JAMMU & KASHMIR ✦UTTARAKHAND



MUKHYAMANTRI SUKH-ASHRAY YOJANA TRANSFORMING LIVES OF ORPHAN CHILDREN WITH CARE AND OPPORTUNIT

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BOOST TO INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN STATE AS COMMITTEE APPROVES MAJOR PROJECTS

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ATHIYA SHETTY SHARES ADORABLE PIC OF DAUGHTER EVAARAH PLAYING WITH DAD KL RAHUL

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NEWS BRIEFS

Over 8,000 participate in 'run for unity' marathon organised in Jammu

JAMMU: Over 8,000 runners across age groups from eight to 80 years participated in the 'Run for Unity' marathon, organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Police here on Sunday, officials said.
The marathon was flagged off by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), headquarters, M K Sinha and ADGP Armed Anand Jain and passed through various city routes before culminating at the starting point at Gulshan ground, a police spokesman said.
He said the participants included students from various educational institutions, members of sports bodies, police and senior citizens.

SIR row: Centre provides security cover to West Bengal CEO Agarwal

NEW DELHI/KOLKATA: The Centre has provided an armed security cover to West Bengal Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Manoj Agarwal in the wake of a potential threat to him due to the ongoing SIR exercise in the state, officials said on Sunday.
A Y-plus category cover of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been accorded to Agarwal in Kolkata following an order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in Delhi on December 26, they said.
A team of 11-12 armed personnel of the CISF VIP security wing have been deployed for the personal and house security of Agarwal, the officials said.

Flour crisis deepens in Pak as corruption stalls wheat supply

KARACHI: Pakistan is witnessing a renewed surge in flour prices as the Sindh government's latest attempt to stabilise the market through subsidised wheat distribution has failed to yield results. According to reports, flour mill owners have refused to lift government wheat stocks, citing alleged demands for illegal payments by officials of the Food Department, which has further aggravated the crisis, The Express Tribune reported.According to The Express Tribune, millers claim officials demanded bribes ranging from Pakistani Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,200 per bag to release wheat from government warehouses. In protest, mill owners have chosen to source wheat from the open market at higher rates, a move that has directly burdened consumers. As a result, five-kilogramme flour bags are being sold for up to Pakistani Rs 630 in retail markets, while some mills are reportedly charging up to Pakistani Rs 650. The situation has worsened amid allegations that specific traders newly included in the subsidised wheat scheme are misusing the policy. These traders are accused of purchasing wheat at subsidised rates and reselling it in the open market at inflated prices, allegedly with the tacit support of officials within the Food Department.

North reels under intense cold,Hisar shivers at 2.5 c

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, DEC 28



Dense fog and cold breeze gripped the country as the people woke up to a chilly morning on Sunday. In the national capital, the temperature is 9 degrees Celsius, with thick smog that reduces visibility and disrupts daily life. However, services at Indira Gandhi International Airport remain unaffected as of 8 pm on Sunday, according to a travel advisory from Delhi Airport. Punjab and Haryana continued to reel under intense cold on Sunday (December 28, 2025), with Hisar district recording the lowest minimum temperature of 2.5°C. Among other places in Haryana, Ambala recorded a low of 8.5°C, two degrees above normal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

In Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, Cold wave conditions and dense fog continued. IMD has issued an orange alert for the city, forecasting a minimum temperature of 9 degrees Celsius. A thick layer of dense fog envelops Agra, making the Taj Mahal invisible from the Taj View Point ADA. In Kanpur, a cold wave prevails throughout the city, with people huddling around bonfires to keep warm. Guwahati, Assam, woke up to a layer of fog as a cold wave gripped the city. IMD forecasts a minimum temperature of 15 degrees Celsius in the city. Meanwhile, in the national capital, as AQI nears the 400 mark, the Delhi Cabinet, under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, approved a series of significant decisions to strengthen the capital's fight against pollution and improve environmental governance.The Cabinet approved an allocation of Rs. 100 crore for the rejuvenation of water bodies under the Delhi government. There are around 1,000 such water bodies in the national capital, of which 160 fall under the Delhi government's jurisdiction.Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa stated, "The rejuvenation of Delhi's water bodies will play a crucial role in pollution control.

One killed, five injured in multi-vehicle collision near Doraha

LUDHIANA: In a tragic incident, one person was killed and several others got injured after multiple vehicles crashed on the highway at Ajnaud village near Doraha in Ludhiana district due to poor visibility on Sunday morning.
The situation could have been far more disastrous had the LPG cylinders being transported by one of the trucks involved in the pile-up caught fire. While the exact circumstances of the accident and the identities of those affected were still being verified, sources said a car driver lost his life while attempting to pull a gas cylinder out from beneath his vehicle. He was struck by another vehicle while standing near his car.

PM says 2025 year of proud milestones for India

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, DEC 28



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said 2025 was a year of proud milestones for India as he highlighted Operation Sindoor, saying it became a symbol of pride for every Indian and showed the world that the country does not compromise on its security.

Addressing his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' address, the last in 2025, Modi said the country's impact was visible everywhere in the outgoing year.

"2025 was a year of proud milestones for India. Whether in national security, sports, scientific innovation or on the world's biggest platforms, India's impact was visible everywhere," he said.

The prime minister said during Operation Sindoor, images of love and devotion toward 'Maa Bharti' (Mother India) emerged from every corner of the nation and people expressed their emotions and gratitude in their own unique ways.

"Operation Sindoor' became a symbol of pride for every Indian. The world witnessed clearly that today's India does not compromise on its security," he said.

India carried out precision strikes under Operation Sindoor on terror infrastructure in Pakistan on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people.

India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the military confrontation.

Modi said the same spirit was witnessed when national song 'Vande Mataram' completed 150 years.

"I had urged you to share your messages and suggestions using the hashtag '#VandeMataram150', and our fellow citizens participated in this campaign with immense enthusiasm," he said.

The prime minister noted that 2025 has truly been a memorable year for sports, with the men's cricket team clinching the ICC Champions Trophy and the women's cricket team winning the World Cup for the first time.

Besides, India's daughters scripted history by winning the Women's Blind T20 World Cup.

The tricolour flew high with pride after a dominant victory in the Asia Cup T20 and para-athletes brought home a haul of medals at the World Championships, he said. Modi also said that India has taken a giant leap in the field of science and space, and Shubhanshu Shukla became the first Indian to reach the International Space Station.

Today, he said, the world looks toward India with great hope and the biggest reason for this expectation is the country's Youth Power.

"Nations across the globe are deeply impressed by our achievements in science, constant innovations, and the expansion of technology," he said.

The prime minister said the number of cheetahs in India has increased to more than 30 in 2025.

5,121 women victims of violence provided free support through one stop centres in Punjab : Dr Baljit Kaur

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH: The Punjab Government has provided free medical and legal assistance to as many as 5,121 women victims of violence through One Stop Centres established across the state during the current financial year up to November. This was stated by Punjab's Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr Baljit Kaur.



Sharing further details, Dr Baljit Kaur said that the Punjab Government is fully committed to ensuring that every woman in the state is able to live a life of dignity, respect and safety. With this objective, the One Stop Centres are providing comprehensive services under one roof, including free medical treatment, legal aid, police assistance, counselling and temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The Minister emphasised that every woman who approaches a One Stop Centre is not merely a statistic, but a person carrying emotional trauma, insecurity and a strong hope for justice. She said it is the moral and social responsibility of the government to stand firmly with every such woman and provide not only protection, but also confidence, emotional support and an opportunity to rebuild her life with dignity. Through these centres, the government is ensuring that no woman faces her suffering alone and that she receives justice and the right to live with self-respect. Dr Baljit Kaur further stated that under the leadership of Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Mann Government has made women's safety and empowerment a core governance priority, rather than limiting it to policies alone. The government is ensuring timely access to support for every woman affected by violence, enabling her to move forward towards justice, security and self-reliance.

World looking at India with hope as Viksit Bharat 2047 vision takes shape: Hry CM

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, DEC 28



Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that seeing India move rapidly on the path of development in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, the entire world is looking at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's work with renewed hope and optimism. Major achievements in the field of science and continuous innovations have impressed countries across the world. Today, the passion to do something new is clearly visible among the youth of the country.

The Chief Minister was listening to the 129th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat programme on Sunday at the Dharamshala located in Pipli Grain Market. Before reaching the venue of the Mann Ki Baat programme, the Chief Minister listened to the problems of the people present there and assured them of solutions by forwarding their issues to the concerned officers.

He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the National Youth Day programme is being organised on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

On the same day, the Young Leader Dialogue programme will also be organised. In this programme, the youth of the country will share ideas on subjects such as innovation, fitness, startups and agriculture, which will help in making the country developed. Participation of youth in this programme is continuously increasing.

He said that through the Mann Ki Baat programme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi shares information about people working for social welfare and national interest in different corners of the country, which inspires other citizens to move forward and make efforts to contribute. Such programmes instill a spirit of work among the youth. Hundreds of young people have started their initiatives inspired by the Mann Ki Baat programmes held so far.

Congress Foundation Day: Rahul Gandhi vows to fight for truth, Constitution

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Sunday extended greetings to party workers across the country on the Foundation Day and vowed to fight for the Constitution.Heartiest greetings to every Congressman on the Foundation Day of the Indian National Congress today, Rahul Gandhi said."Congress is not just a political party; it is the voice of India's soul - which has stood with every weak, every deprived, and every hardworking person. The resolve is to fight even more strongly the battle for truth, courage, and the protection of the Constitution against hatred, injustice, and dictatorship," Rahul Gandhi said in a post in hindi on X. "We pay homage to that historic legacy and those great sacrificers who won freedom for India, laid the foundation of the Constitution, and strengthened the values of democracy, secularism, social justice, and equality," the Congress MP added in his postCongress, on its X handle, also congratulated party members."Heartfelt congratulations to all Congress members on the Foundation Day of the Indian National Congress. The party also took a veiled dig at the BJP-led Union Government."The Congress Party fought for India's independence and worked to advance the nation. Meanwhile, today, when those in power are promoting hatred, injustice, and oppression in the country, we are still fighting against it with full vigour," Congress wrote on X.

SC to hear CBI plea against bail to Kuldeep Sengar in Unnao rape case today



UNI
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court will hear on Monday (December 29) a petition filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) challenging the Delhi High Court's order that granted bail to former Uttar Pradesh MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in the Unnao rape case.

A vacation bench, comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, Justices J.K. Maheshwari and Augustine George Masih, will hear the matter.

The CBI has approached the Supreme Court through a Special Leave Petition against the High Court's decision to suspend Sengar's life sentence and release him on bail while his appeal against conviction is pending.

Earlier this week, the Delhi High Court granted bail after holding that the stricter provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Section 376(2) of the Indian Penal Code were not applicable in Sengar's case.

The High Court reasoned that Sengar could not be treated as a "public servant" under these provisions and, on that basis, suspended his sentence.

The CBI has strongly objected to this reasoning. It has argued that the High Court's order weakens the protection provided to children under the POCSO Act and is not legally sustainable, especially considering the seriousness of the crime and established principles governing suspension of life sentences.

Great Khali wins legal battle over ancestral land dispute

UNI
SHIMLA, DEC 28



Former WWE Champion Great Khali, has secured a significant legal victory in a long-standing land dispute involving his ancestral property in Himachal Pradesh.

The case pertains to a piece of land originally owned by Khali's father, which was allegedly transferred unlawfully with the involvement of local revenue officials.

According to official sources, serious allegations were raised that the then Tehsildar and subordinate revenue staff had irregularly handed over the land to another party by manipulating revenue records. Following complaints, the district administration ordered a detailed inquiry to ascertain the legality of the land transfer.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) has constituted a special investigation team comprising a retired Naib Tehsildar and a retired Kanungo, along with a serving Kanungo and a Patwari from another revenue circle to ensure neutrality. The SDM stated that the objective is to conduct a fair, transparent, and impartial investigation, free from local influence.

The administration clarified that the inquiry would formally commence once land records and related documents are submitted by both parties. In case either side requires additional time to collect documents, they have been given the liberty to approach senior officers and seek a reasonable extension so that the investigation is not prejudiced.

After examination of the available records and preliminary findings, the authorities upheld the claim of the WWE champion's family, strengthening his legal position in the dispute. The decision has been widely seen as a reaffirmation of the rule of law and a warning against the misuse of revenue machinery.

The outcome has brought relief to Khali's family and has renewed public debate over the accountability of revenue officials in land matters across the state.

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RPS student shines in district cricket team



SULIALI (VERMA): A proud moment for Rose Public School as Shobhit Bhardwaj, a talented student of Class 8, has been selected in the Under-14 District Cricket Team.

Shobhit's exceptional skills and dedication have brought laurels to the institution. Principal Mr. Sanjay Sharma congratulated Shobhit and praised the efforts of coaches Mr. Sahil and Mr. Rahul (Level A-BCCI) for their guidance and support.

The school community wishes Shobhit the best for his future cricketing endeavors!

Renu Bala appointed Punjab state president of Rly station facility workers welfare board



SAMRALA: Ms. Renu Bala alias Sonia, a resident of the Coal Colony area of Samrala city, has been appointed as the Punjab State President of the Punjab Railway Station Facility Workers Welfare Board. The appointment letter was issued under the signatures of Chaudhary Charan Singh, National General Secretary of the Bhartiya Janta Mazdoor Sangh.

Her appointment was warmly welcomed by the city residents and representatives of various social organizations. While congratulating her, the leaders said that Ms. Sonia, who has always been dedicated to social service, will now further accelerate welfare and development work after assuming the role of Punjab State President of the Board.

FM says two major new schemes for SC families to be launched soon

SUMER GARG
DIRBA, DEC 28



Punjab Finance Minister (FM), Harpal Singh Cheema today handed over ownership certificates of plots to 96 SC families of village Khadial in the Dirba Assembly constituency (DAC) during a simple yet impactful ceremony. On this significant occasion, Cheema said that granting ownership rights to 96 families is a matter of great happiness, and these families will now be able to build their dream homes with dignity.

The Cabinet Minister said that this issue had been pending since 1988, and after more than 37 years, it has finally been resolved with the clear intentions and pro-people approach of the Punjab Government led by the Chief Minister, Bhagwant Singh Mann.

Cheema said that having a home is essential for every family, and the government is making continuous efforts in this direction. He informed that development works in village Khadial are progressing on a war footing and will be completed soon. A grid has already been established in the village, providing a major facility to the residents.

On this occasion, the FM also informed that preparations are underway to launch two more major schemes for SC families, which will greatly benefit economically weaker households. The Cabinet Minister said that due to the transformation of the education infrastructure by the Punjab Government, it is a matter of pride that 47 students from Punjab's government schools have secured admission to the prestigious IIT. This reflects the government's success in the field of education. Cheema said that the Punjab Government is providing jobs strictly on merit and that work related to roads and other infrastructure is progressing rapidly.

Centre undermining MGNREGA through new rules: Chairman Dalvir Singh Dhillon



DHURI : Chairman of the Punjab Small Scale Industries and Export Corporation, Dalvir Singh Dhillon, on Sunday alleged that the Central Government is deliberately weakening the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) by introducing new rules, with an apparent intent to eventually dismantle the scheme and deprive the poor of their right to employment. Addressing gatherings in villages Mullowal and Ghanouri Kalan, the Chairman urged villagers to unite against what he termed a misleading move by the Centre in the name of amendments to MGNREGA.

He stated that earlier the Central Government had attempted to withhold Punjab's legitimate financial dues, and is now preparing to snatch livelihood opportunities from the poor. He pointed out that the recent amendments not only alter the original spirit of MGNREGA but also place an increased financial burden on state governments. According to him, the changes in conditions indicate a clear intention to gradually shut down the scheme, causing deep resentment.

Program organized at Royal castle palace, Ghoh on birth anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh



VERMA
GURDASPUR, DEC 28

A grand program was organized at Royal Castle Palace, located in village Ghoh, to mark the birth anniversary of Sher-e-Punjab Maharaja Ranjit Singh Ji. Senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Swaran Singh Salaria attended the event as the chief guest. On this occasion, he paid floral tributes before the portrait of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Ji and urged everyone to draw inspiration from his life and ideals.

During the program, newly appointed Block Samiti member Manwal Gautam Singh Sunny was specially honoured by the Rajput Sabha Pathankot with a memento and floral garlands in recognition of his achievement.

Addressing the gathering, the speakers remembered the invaluable contributions of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Ji towards the nation and society and said that his life and leadership would always remain a source of inspiration for generations to come. At the conclusion of the event, Gautam Singh Sunny expressed his gratitude to all those present.

Classified

I, Piaro M/o JC511634Y, Rank Subedar Name Kuldeep Singh, 15 Sikh Light Infantry C/o 99APO Hasimara (WB) R/o Plot No. 6, Randhawa Road, Ajit Enclave, Kharar (Mohali) declare that my name is not Mukhtiar Kaur my actual name is Piaro. Affidavit No. 67565434847634, Dated 26 August 2025, Kharar.

100071

I, Harjit Dass S/O Gurbachan Dass, R/o Paddi Jagir, Jalandhar, Paddi Jagir, Punjab- 144409. Declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Harjit Das and Harjas Singh in my Passport No- G8760857. The actual name of Mine and My Father are Harjit Dass and Gurbachan Dass, which may be amended accordingly.

600022

I, Army No. 13777161P Rank-Hav, Name-Kuljeet Singh, presently residing at VPO. Dharson, Tehsil Narnaul, District- Mahendragarh, State-Haryana-123001 have changed my mother's name from Rajender Kaur to Rajinder Kaur Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB05881496-101202X, Dated 26-12-2025 Before District Court Jalandhar.

600022

I, Army No. JC583517K Rank-Sub/Clk Name-Yogendra Kumar, presently residing at Village Nari, PO. Nari, Tehsil Chhata, District Mathura, State-Uttar Pradesh-281401 have changed my wife's name from Chandra Kanta to Chandrakanta Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB05880420353053X, Dated 26-12-2025 Before District Court Jalandhar.

600022

I, Tarsem Lal S/o Mohinder Pal R/o House No. C-76, V.P.O. Malko, Teh. & Distt. Jalandhar (Pb.) have Changed My Son's Name Charanjit to Charanjit Bhatia. All Concerned Note.

977756

I, Charanpreet S/o Tarsem Lal R/o House No. C-76, V.P.O. Malko, Teh. & Distt. Jalandhar (Pb.) have Changed My Name from Charanpreet to Charanpreet Bhatia. All Concerned Note.

977756

I, Abinash S/o Ramesh Chand, residing at village. Jamli, P.O. Lafran Tehsil. Dhatwal at Bijhari Dist. Hamirpur. have changed my name from Abinash to Abinash chauhan

60013

I Birbal Prajapati Son of Sh. Babulal Resident of flat no. 191E A3 block silver City themes opposite focal point dera Bassi change my name Birbal Prajapat to Beer bal

60013

I, Rajinder S/o Puran Singh R/o Janakpuri Colony,Ward no 11 Karnal Road , Kaithal (Haryana) Have Changed My Name From Rajinder To Rajinder Singh. Concerned Please Note.

84451

I, Shahnaz (existing name of spouse as NOK) is legally wedded spouse of No 6498906X Rank Hav Name Khushi Mohammad of unit 874 AT BN ASC C/O 56 APO that I have changed my name from Shahnaz to Suwarni due to variation in serving documents in my husband For all purpose

524479

I, Jaspreet Kaur, wife of Gurmandeep Singh Sidhu, resident of Village Faridpur, District Patiala, hereby inform that in my passport my mother's name has been mistakenly recorded as Kulwinder Singh, whereas her correct name is Kulwinder Kaur. Therefore, it is requested that for all purposes in the future, my mother's correct name Kulwinder Kaur may be treated as final and valid.

524479

I, Sumitra W/o Virender Singh R/o House No. 1365, Sector-21, HUDA, Kaithal, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I am known with two names Sumitra and Sumitra Punia but in future I will be known by the name of Sumitra. All concerned please note.

100047

I Maikal Son of Sh. Vinod resident of H.No.63, Ward No. 01. Sarsana (21), Hisar, Tehsil & Distt. Hisar have changed my name from Maikal to Michael

989666

I, Shakuntla W/o Vinod Kumar Resident of VPO Imlota, Teh. & Distt. Charkhi Dadri (Haryana) - 127306 have changed my minor daughter's name from Riya Varma to Reena

989666

I, Sangita W/o Subhankar Biswas, R/o Village Bilanwali Gujran, P.O. & Tehsil Baddi, Distt. Solan, H.P. have changed my name from Sangita Ghosh to Sangita Biswas.

89984

I, Sunder Lal alias Varinder Kumar S/o Gian Chand R/o H.No. 439 Meera Bai Chowk Rupnagar Teh & Distt. Rupnagar have known by both names one and the same person.

63372

I, Preety W/o Arun Kumar R/o Bhai Vir Singh Nagar, Ahmedgarh Distt Malerkotla Have Changed My Name To Preeti.

63372

I, Shanker Lal S/o Mani Ram R/o Vpo. Saiyad Wala Teh-Abohar Distt. Fazilka, (Punjab) have changed the name of my minor son Vaasu, aged 11 years, and he shall hereafter be known as Vasudev Singh.

63372

I, Gursharan Kumar S/o Rura Ram R/o Patti Sekhon Jamsher Khas Teh-Jalandhar-2 Distt. Jalandhar that both names carrying equal value authenticity and legal validity, that I am Known by two names i.e. Gursharan Kumar & Gucharan.

63372

I, Manish S/o Kesar Ram R/o Vpo. Palli Uchi Teh-Nawanshahr Distt. SBS Nagar-144512, Pb, declare that my given name is Manish and surname is Sahota.

63372

I, Monika D/o Malkit Singh R/o Gujjarpur Colony Gali No. 1 Near UCO Bank Nawanshahr Distt. SBS Nagar have changed my name from Monika to Monika Chopra.

63372

I Parmjit Kaur W/o Gurdip Singh R/o Asa Patti Vpo Smalsar Distt Moga have changed my name to Karmjit Kaur.

63372

I Jagtar Singh Deol S/o Sukhdev Singh R/o Village Manwarpura Po Tihara Tehsil Jagraon Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Jagtar Singh.

63372

I Deepak Kumar Verma S/o Raj Kumar Verma R/o H.No 4038 Mohalla Mahantan Jagraon Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Deepak Verma.

63372

I Harjit Singh S/o Gurbax Singh R/o Vill-Chak Dana Teh-Nawanshahr Distt SBS Nagar 144422 Pb declared that my given name is Harjit and surname is Singh.

63372

I, Ranjit Singh S/o Major Singh Vpo Poonian, Tehsil Shahkot, District Jalandhar (Punjab) Have Changed My Name to Singh Ranjit.

63372

I, Jaspreet Kaur W/o Tarsem Lal R/o Vpo Musapur Sub Teh-Aur Distt SBS Nagar-144513 Pb declared that my given name is Jaspreet and surname is Kaur.

63372

I Deepak Mahay W/o Mohinder Singh R/o Vill-Bhanun Po Sahdra Teh-Balachaur Distt SBS Nagar Punjab have changed my name to Deepak Mahey.

63372

I Lakhwinder Kaur W/o Ram Pal R/o Vill-Jandi Po Kathagarh Teh-Balachaur Distt SBS Nagar Punjab have changed my name to Kaur Lakhwinder.

63372

I Tania D/o Charan Singh R/o Vill-Bhedian Po Kathagarh Teh-Balachaur Distt SBS Nagar Punjab have changed my name to Tania Rani.

63372

I Manpreet Kaur Sandhu W/o Kulwinder Singh R/o Bhodipura, Teh. Phul, Distt. Bathinda have the Changed My name Manpreet Kaur Sandhu To Manpreet Kaur.

63372

I, Ajaib Singh Dhillon S/O Teja Singh R/O Vpo. Ramuwala Kalan, Distt. Moga (Pb), I Have Changed My Name Ajaib Singh Dhillon To Ajaib Singh.

63372

I, Gurmail Kaur Dhillon W/O Ajaib Singh R/O Vpo. Ramuwala Kalan, Distt. Moga (Pb), I Have Changed My Name Gurmail Kaur Dhillon To Gurmail Kaur.

63372

I, Sat Paul S/O Mathura Dass R/O Ward No.02, Vpo Badhni Kalan, Distt.Moga, 142037, Punjab, India, Have Changed My Name To Satpal.

63372

I Parmjit Kaur Dhaliwal W/O Gurdeep Singh Dhaliwal R/O Vpo Minian Tehsil Nihal Singh Wala District Moga 142039 Punjab I Have Changed My Name Spelling Parmjit Kaur Dhaliwal To Paramjit Kaur Please All Note.

63372

I Dilbag Sran S/O Gurbachan Singh R/O House No.457, W No.26, Chowk Majitia, Moga 142001 (Pb.) have Changed My Name From Dilbag Sran To Dilbag Singh.

63372

I, Kudeep Kaur W/o Hakam Singh R/o Vpo. Bughipura Teh & Distt. Moga have changed my name to Kuldip Kaur.

63372

I, Gurcharan Singh S/o Jaskaran Singh Sandhu R/o Zira Road Near Teacher Colony Suraj Nagar North Distt. Moga have changed my name to Gurcharan Singh Sandhu.

63372

I, Pawawdeep Kaur W/o Gurcharan Singh Sandhu R/o Zira Road Near Teacher Colony Suraj Nagar North Distt. Moga have changed my name to Pawandeep Kaur Sandhu.

63372

I Honey Kumari D/o Gurdial Ram, Vpo. Kariam Nawanshahr Distt SBS Nagar Have Changed My Name From Honey Kumari to Honey As My Given Name And Kumari As My Surname.

63372

I, Harjit Singh S/o Roop Singh R/o Vpo. Kot Ise Khan Distt. Moga have changed my name to Harjit Singh Gharu.

63372

I Neelam Rani W/o Money Kumar R/o Vill-Lodhipur Po. Musapur Sub Teh-Aur Distt SBS Nagar-144513 Punjab, I declared that my given name is Neelam and surname is Rani.

63372

I Money Kumar S/O Dharam Pal R/O Vill Lodhipur P.O Musapur Sub Tehsil Aur Distt.Sbs Nagar-144513.I Declared That My Given Name Is Money And Surname Kumar.

63372

I Malqiat Singh Cheema S/o Jagdev Singh R/o Vill-Amir Nagar (Dulma) Teh-Malerkotla Distt. Sangrur have changed my name from Malqiat Singh Cheema to Malqiat Singh.

63372

I, Satnam S/o Tarsem Lal R/o Vill-Phalpota Teh-Phillaur Distt Jalandhar declare that I have changed of my minor son name from Sukhraj to Sukhraj Singh.

63372

I, Satnam S/o Tarsem Lal R/o Vill-Phalpota Teh-Phillaur Distt Jalandhar declare that I have changed of my minor son name from Navraj to Navraj Singh.

63372

I Ramandeep Kaur W/O Sukhpreet Singh, Vill. Sadhowal, Po. Rampur Bilron Garhshankar Distt . Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name From Ramandeep Kaur To Ramandeep As My Given Name And Kaur As My Surname.

63372

I, Jasbind Kaur, D/O Vijay Pal Singh R/o Village Odhpur Post Office Tanda Urmar, Urmar, Hoshiarpur, Punjab- 144204. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Jasvir Kaur.

63372

I, Manjinder Kaur W/O Angrej Singh, R/o Post Office Chahal Kalan Tehsil Batala, VTC:Chahal Khurd, PO: Chahal, Dist: Gurdaspur, Punjab-143505. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Satnam Kaur.

63372

I, Vasu S/O Deepak Kumar, R/o H No N-378, Sunder Nagar, Batala, PO: Batala, Dist: Gurdaspur, Punjab-143505, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Vasu Gakhar.

63372

I, Muskan, D/O Harpal Singh R/o Shahpur, Jhingar Kalan, Dasuya, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-144205. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Muskan Kaur.

63372

I, Kultarn Kaur W/O Davinder Singh, R/o Vill- Chandidass, P.O- Jalota, VTC- Dasuya, Hoshiarpur, Punjab- 144205. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Kulwaran Kaur.

63372

PUBLIC NOTICES

We, Krishan Dev son of Siri Ram, and Nirmala Devi wife of Krishan Dev, residents of Shivpuri Mohalla, Dhuri (Sangrur), hereby disown our son Ashutosh Gaur from our movable and immovable property due to his being beyond our control. Anyone dealing with him shall do so at their own responsibility.

98724

I, Jagtar Singh S/o Lal Singh and Paramjit Kaur W/o Jagtar Singh R/o W.No. 14 Bedi Nagar Distt. Moga declare that our son Jashanpreet Singh are out of our control. So we disown with him from our moveable/immoveable property. If anybody dealing with him at his/her own risk.

63372

I, Sumitra Devi C/o Mohan Singh R/o Vpo. Powadra Teh-Phillaur Distt. Jalandhar declare that in my passport my father name is mentioned Mohan Lal and necessary documents have my father's name registered as Mohan Singh. that Mohan Singh alias Mohan Lal one and the same person.

63372

I, hitherto known as Dharam Singh Maan son of Gulzar Singh residence of V.P.O. Kishanpura Kalan, Bakhapur Patti, Distt. Moga, Punjab, 142058, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Dharam Singh. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

63372

PUBLIC NOTICES

I Surjit Kaur, w/o Ishar Singh, r/o # 501 Dashmesh Colony, Ward No. 10, Village Lohgarh, SAS Nagar, Mohali, my two sons, Late Gurmail Singh, Bikramjit Singh, daughters-in-law Kulwinder Kaur, Pradeep Kaur, grandson Harmanjot Singh grand daughters Tezpreet Kaur, Rajinder Kaur are out of my control so I disowned from my movable and immovable properties anybody dealing with them own risk.

524479

ਮੈਂ ਦਲੀਪ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਰਤ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਵਾਸੀ ਪੁਰਾਣਾ ਨਗਰ ਗਲੀ ਨੰਬਰ 7 ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰਬਰ 03201X ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਦਾ ਰਹਿਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਹਾਂ। ਇਹ ਕੀ ਮੇਰਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਨਿਤਿਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਉਮਰ 24 ਸਾਲ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਮਨਮਰਜੀ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਕਰਕੇ ਮੈਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਬੇਟੇ ਨਿਤਿਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚਲ ਅਚਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ । ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਖੁਦ ਜਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

524479

I, Hitherto Known as Bhajan Kaur wife of Gulzar Singh residence of Vill Taharpur PO. Bahmanian, Dist. Jalandhar, Punjab- 144702, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Harbhajan Kaur. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

63372

PUBLIC NOTICE

Original Sale Deed No. 4882 Dated 09-11-2010, executed by Darshan Singh - Baldev Singh S/O Ujagar Singh S/O Santa Singh R/o Khudi Road , Handiaya tehsil Barnala in Favour of Jagjit Singh S/O Dipa Singh S/O Kehar Singh R/o Patti Dhaliwal, village Handiaya Tehsil Barnala, Regarding Land Measuring 8 Kanal 8 Marlas da 1/2 hisa Bkdar 6 Kanal 4 Marlas, comprised in khasra No. 1426/1/0-8 Total, Khewat/Khatauni No. 135/193, a per jamabandi for the year 2008-2009, within the revenue limits of Handiaya D, Tehsil Barnala and District Barnala, currently owned by Khet Singh S/O Prabhu Singh is lost and not mortgaged with any bank or Financial institution, in the regard DDR No. 643638 dated 31.10.2025 has been got registered. Anybody having objection regarding mortgaged property with AXIS BANK LIMITED, Bathinda may respond or raise objection within 7 Days, to Sh. R.P Singh, Advocate, Mob No. 75080-11581.

78521

Public Notice

It is brought to notice of the public at large that the previous sale deed No.2022-23/BK1/1695 Dated 09.07.2022 in favour of Kuldeep Singh S/o Surender Pal S/o Kehar Singh Residence of Bhadaur Registered in the office of sub registrar Barnala. Original Sale Deed 3491 has been lost on dated 26/12/2017 in the name of harpreet kaur widow of late pal pal S/o Dev Raj residence of barnala 90 kanal 4 50 marlas .It is informed by the party the above said deed have not been mortgaged with any bank/Finance institutions/person same has missing, if any body have been objection regarding the mortgaging of the same may respond with 7 days to the undersigned after the expiry of the stipulated period of 7 days ,No claim what so ever shall be entertain.(Vide DDR NO. LR N 06343/2025dated 27/12/2025) Advocate Kamal deep Goyal, Chamber no.340 District Courts Barnala M.no.98763-00297

524479

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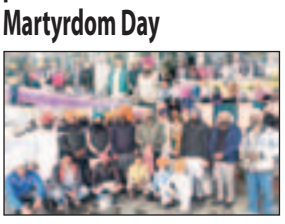
Launch of poetry collection "Main Saagar Khara – Tum Nadi Meethi"

CHANDIGARH(R N KHERA): A soulful literary evening unfolded at the Chandigarh Press Club on Sunday with the formal launch of the poetry collection "Main Saagar Khara – Tum Nadi Meethi". The book's author, Dr. Rajendra Dhawan, described the collection as a documentation of life's bittersweet realities, struggles, and emotional depth. Dr. Madhav Kaushik, President – National Literary Academy, graced the ceremony as the Chief Guest. Praising the literary merit of the work, he remarked, "Dr. Dhawan's poetry uses simple language to build deep emotions. His writing travels into the human mind and compels one to reflect. This collection will prove valuable both for its time and its readers." The event was presided over by Naresh Kaushal, who, in his presidential address, said, "Literature is not merely seen or heard — it is lived with the soul. Dhawan's pen echoes that lived experience." Renowned writer and film director Nisha Luthra, the Guest of Honour, called the poetic collection an emotional need of the current era, adding that the book lends a powerful voice to the transparency and sensitivity of human relationships.



NEWS BRIEF

Flags decorated at various places dedicated to Martyrdom Day



JAGDEEP SINGH GILL
JAITU: Dedicated to the martyrdom day at the town of Bajakhana, Mata Gajari Ji, dedicated to the unparalleled martyrdom of the four Sahijas, all the shopkeepers of Jait Road market at different places, Gardara Anandgarh Sahib Prasadam and Daadh Da Lagar Wal under the flyover and all the shopkeepers on Bhagta Bhai Ka Road jointly decorated Daal Da Lagar Wal. On this occasion, a Lagar of Daal Prasadam, Daadh and Bread Cakes were placed and distributed to the passers-by. In this Lagar, a group of Sadh Sagat, NRI With the help of the brave men and passers-by, the procession was carried out like every year. With the help of all the shopkeepers and residents of the town, the procession was carried out. The procession organizers thanked all the villagers, shopkeepers, NRI brave men and passers-by and expressed the hope of similar support in the coming times as well.

Blood donation camp held at Gurdwara Bibi Rajni Ji in memory of Chaar Sahibzaade



KULJEET SINGH HONEY
TARN TARAN: Humanity Service Blood Donation Society Patti (Punjab) organized a blood donation camp at Gurdwara Bibi Rajni Ji Patti District Tarn Taran in connection with the martyrdom day of "Chaar Sahibzaade". The blood donation camp started after the Bhog of Sri Sukhmani Sahib Ji. On this occasion, Malkiat Singh Babbal president of the organization, said that our Guru Sahib have taught us the good of humanity and keeping in mind the unparalleled martyrdom of the 'Chaar Sahibzaade', this effort was done with the cooperation of everyone. He said that the diseases have spread to a large extent in Punjab, due to which hospitals the need of blood remains common for people who are fighting for life and death and it is very difficult for people to get blood. Keeping in mind this difficulty, where the Humanity Service Blood Donation Society is present in the service of the people every day, a blood donation camp dedicated to the martyrdom of the "Chaar Sahibzaade" was also organized. He said that youth enthusiastically donated 422 units of blood in the camp. On this occasion Sarbat Da Bhala Charitable Trust Tarn Taran Unit President Prince Dhunna, Baba Deep Singh Charitable Trust Patti president Gurmeet Singh Happy, Inderpreet Singh Dhami, Vishal Sood from Shaheed Kartar Singh Sarabha Helping Hand Society.

Governor calls for strengthening higher education in Punjab's border areas

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, DEC 28



A One-Day Conference of all Vice-Chancellors of Universities in Punjab and Principals of colleges situated in the border areas of the State was organised today at Lok Bhavan, Punjab, Chandigarh. The Conference was presided over by the Governor of Punjab and Administrator, Chandigarh, Gulab Chand Kataria.

Addressing the Conference, the Governor of Punjab emphasized the critical role of higher education institutions in border areas in nation-building and social development. He laid special emphasis on promoting girls' education in border areas, stating that empowering girls through quality education is essential for social progress and long-term regional stability. The Governor underlined the need for focused policy interventions, enhanced academic support, improved infrastructure and stronger collaboration among universities, colleges and regulatory bodies to ensure equitable access to quality education in these strategically important regions.

The Governor further urged universities to adopt colleges located in border areas and mentor them, with a focus on academic upgradation, faculty development, digital learning and exposure to contemporary courses. He also encouraged universities to explore opening their campuses or extension centres in border districts to bring updated and quality higher education closer to students in these areas. The Conference witnessed in-depth deliberations on the key issues and challenges faced by higher educational institutions located in the border districts of Punjab.

Discussions focused on evolving effective strategies to strengthen academic infrastructure, enhance faculty capacity, promote research and innovation, and improve student support mechanisms in these sensitive regions.

Harivallabh sangeet sammelan connecting youngsters with rich traditional music: Gulab Chand Kataria

PARAMJIT SINGH
JALANDHAR, DEC 28



Terming classical music as a powerful medium to connect people with divinity and cultural roots, Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria on Saturday called upon youngsters to embrace India's rich tradition of classical music to truly understand one of the nation's greatest cultural treasures.

The Governor was presiding over the 150th Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan at Shri Devi Talab Mandir here. He said that the Sammelan has played a pivotal role in keeping the flame of traditional Indian music alive for the past one and a half centuries.

Accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Aggarwal, Commissioner of Police Dhanpreet Kaur, Advisor Punjab Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department Deepak Bali, Chairman Harivallabh Mahasabha Shital Vij and President Poornima Beri, the Governor said he felt privileged to be part of the landmark 150th edition of this world-renowned event.

He noted that the year holds special significance as it marks 150 years of Vande Mataram song and the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Highlighting the role of music in India's freedom movement, Mr. Kataria said that patriotic compositions played a vital role in awakening mass consciousness and strengthening the struggle for independence.

He described the Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan as a catalyst for taking India's rich musical and cultural heritage to every corner of the world.

Many memorabilia of Maharaja Agrasen will be found in Agroha mounds : Garg

SUMER GARG
HISAR, DEC 28



The meeting of representatives of the Agrawal community was held under the chairmanship of Bajrang Garg, National Executive President of Agroha Dham Vaish Samaj and Provincial President of Haryana Pradesh Vyapar Mandal. In which the development of Agroha was discussed. While addressing the gathering, Mr. Garg said that the excavation work of Agroha Dham mounds has started only on paper, but the work is not being done on the ground. It has been more than a year since the excavation work of Agroha mounds started.

Mr Garg said, "There is a lot of resentment among the public due to the slow pace of excavation work of Agroha mounds, whereas it is not appropriate to stop the excavation work of Agroha mounds three times in between. Many people of the country come to Agroha Dham to have darshan and to know the history of Agroha mounds, but due to lack of excavation of the mounds and lack of information about the history of the mounds, the public gets disappointed, which is not fair. As per its announcement, the government should complete the excavation work of Agroha mounds with immediate effect. The Agroha Tila earlier belonged to Maharaja Agrasen Ji and had been an area of 125 acres.

Garg further said, "Maharaja Agrasen Ji had given the message of mutual brotherhood while promoting socialism in Agroha. He worked to uplift the needy and the poor by helping them in every possible way. Many memorabilia of Maharaja Agrasen will be found in the excavation of Agroha mounds. There is full hope of finding innumerable valuable items during the excavation because Agroha was the capital of Maharaja Agrasen Ji".

Garg said, "Maharaja Agrasen Ji's kingdom was always full of stores of money and food grains. The government should make Agroha, the religious city of Maharaja Agrasen Ji, a tourist destination. Bajrang Garg honored the visiting representatives by giving mementos".

Sandhwan participates in bhog of the Path of Shri Sukhmani Sahib dedicated to birth anniversary of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji



SURINDER DAMDAMI
KOTKAPURA, DEC 28

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan today attended the Bhog of the Path of Shri Sukhmani Sahib organized by Bhagat Namdev Sabha Society (Regd.) and all Sadh Sangat Kotkapura at Gurdwara Sahib Shiromani Bhagat Baba Namdev Ji, Moga Road Kotkapura, dedicated to the birth anniversary of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

On this occasion, Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan praised the service being rendered by the administrators of the Gurdwara Sahib and said that religious and social services strengthen the spirit of harmony, peace and brotherhood in the society.

He also prayed for the prosperity of the entire Sadh Sangat and the prosperity of the state. Meanwhile, Speaker Sandhwan presented a cheque of Rs 5 lakh to the Gurdwara management for the services of the Gurdwara Sahib.

On this occasion, apart from Sharanjit Singh Mookker, President of Bhagat Namdev Sabha Society (Regd.) Kotkapura, Arun Chawla, PRO Manpreet Singh Dhaliwal, Simranjit Singh, Gurinder Singh Chana, Jagdev Singh, Major Singh, Nippy Joshi, Malkit Singh Deputy, Gurcharan Singh, Natha Singh, Sukhchain Singh, Jasmel Singh, Bobby Jassal, Surinder Singh, Harman Singh, Gurpreet Singh and other members of the Sabha were present.

Jimpa honoured for removing transformer from Valmiki chowk



HOSHIARPUR (DALJEET AJNOHA): The Valmiki community specially honoured MLA Brahm Shankar Jimpa today for removing the transformer from in front of Bhagwan Valmiki Chowk. During a programme at the chowk on this occasion, the Sunday Market Association also celebrated MLA Brahm Shankar Jimpa's birthday by cutting a cake. Hoshiarpur Municipal Corporation Mayor Surinder Kumar, councillors, and other dignitaries were present.

In his speech, MLA Brahm Shankar Jimpa said Bhagwan Valmiki Chowk is the city's central hub, and every possible effort is being made to enhance its beauty. He announced that Rs 5 lakh has been arranged under the Ranga Punjab scheme to beautify the chowk. Lights will be installed around the chowk to make it more attractive, he added. The transformer at the chowk was obstructing its aesthetics, which the municipal corporation got removed by paying Rs 2.93 lakh to the electricity department, he said. All demands of the Valmiki community will be fulfilled on priority, he assured, adding that their requests for a bus stand and hearse van will soon be met.

Valmiki community leaders expressed heartfelt gratitude to MLA Jimpa for prioritising the city's development and the demands of sanitation workers. A community kitchen (langar) was also organised on the occasion.

Congress party will start mazdoor bachao andolan in India from Jan 5: Nagra



BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA DEHATI, DEC 28

Congress Party celebrated Congress Foundation Day at the residence of Constituency MLA Kuldeep Singh Kala Dhillon. In which the entire leadership of the Congress Party of the district participated. During this, Kuljit Singh Nagra, Secretary of the All India Committee of the Congress Party, specially attended.

Speaking during a press conference on this occasion, he said that in the last 11 years, the way the BJP and Modi government are creating the atmosphere of the country, the way the history of the country's independence is being changed, the way the young generation can be kept away from the story of the freedom struggle, the way the names of cities are being changed, the way after the trend of changing the names of educational institutions, today after the trend of changing the names of government schemes whose purpose is to make the poor and those who have fallen behind due to various reasons abreast of the times, the practice of changing the names has also been started.

Mohali police conducts night domination at 3B2 market to strengthen Law and Order ahead of new year celebrations

MOHALI (LK BANSAL): In order to maintain a robust law and order situation in city areas ahead of the approaching New Year celebrations, and in strict compliance with the directions of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Shri Harmandeep Singh Hans, the Mohali Police conducted a Night Domination operation at the busy 3B2 Market.



The operation was led by DSP City-1 Shri Prithvi Singh Chahal and involved systematic checking, patrolling, and enforcement measures aimed at deterring unlawful activities, ensuring public safety, and instilling a sense of security among citizens and shopkeepers during late hours. During the night domination drive, police teams carried out thorough vehicle checking and verification of suspicious elements. As a result of the enforcement action, 2 cars and 1 motorcycle were impounded for violations of applicable norms, 12 traffic challans were issued for various traffic offences and 2 persons were booked under Section 128 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) for violations related to public order. SSP Harmandeep Singh Hans stated that such night domination exercises are being conducted regularly as part of a proactive policing strategy to prevent crime, curb traffic violations, and ensure a safe.

and secure environment in commercial and residential areas. He emphasized that the Mohali Police remains fully committed to maintaining peace and order, particularly in crowded market areas during night hours.

Congress party celebrates its 140th foundation day in Doraha



DORAHA (AMRISH ANAND) : The 140th Foundation Day of the Indian National Congress was celebrated with enthusiasm at the local New grain market in Doraha under the leadership of District Congress President and former MLA S. Lakhvir Singh Lakha and Payal Assembly Constituency Coordinator S. Bant Singh Doburji. On the occasion, the Congress party flag was unfurled and floral tributes were paid to Mahatma Gandhi, remembering his ideals and contributions. Addressing the gathering, the leaders highlighted the historic role of the Congress party in India's freedom struggle and its significant contribution to the nation's unity, integrity, and overall development. They stated that for the past 140 years, the Congress has remained committed to safeguarding democracy and protecting the interests of the people. The leaders also urged party workers to draw inspiration from the party's glorious legacy and work unitedly to further strengthen the organisation.Among those present on the occasion were former MLA S. Lakhvir Singh Lakha, Coordinator Chairman S. Bant Singh Doburji, congress Mandal President S. Mandeep Singh Mangat, Harinder Hinda, Chairman Ram Parkash Pappu Arrichan, BC Wing President Avtar Singh, Women's Wing President Deepy Mangat, along with Jaswinder Jassa, Sikanderpal etc.

10 Indians confirmed dead after joining Russian army: Four still missing



ARVIND PATHAK
SULTANPUR LODHI, DEC 28

Indian youths who went abroad to earn a livelihood and later joined the Russian army have suffered a tragic fate, with 10 confirmed dead. Among these, three were from Punjab.

The young men who lost their lives while fighting in the Russian army against Ukraine include three Punjabis. The other seven were from Uttar Pradesh and Jammu. To search for these youths, Jagdeep Singh, an Indian youth who had gone to Russia, searched in Moscow and other places for the Indians who had joined the Russian army but could not find any trace of them. Returning to India, Jagdeep Kumar presented all the documents to Rajya Sabha member Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal's office, which confirmed the deaths of these young men as per the Russian army.

Shockingly, the parents of these deceased youths had been waiting for their children to return safely, but they only received the news after a long time that their sons had been killed in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

Ten government schools in Bathinda district declared green schools at national level



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA
RAMPURA PHUL, DEC 28

Ten schools in Bathinda district were declared green schools at the national level for the year 2025-26. These include Government High School Chak Ram Singh Wala, Government High School Chughe Khurd, Government High School Nasibpura, Government Senior Secondary School Kotha Guru, Government High School Rajgarh, Government High School Chak Bakhtu, Government High School Khokhar, Government High School Poohli, Government Senior Secondary School Burj Gill, Shaheed Labh Singh Government Senior Secondary School Sekhu. District Education Officer (Secondary Education) Mrs. Mamta Khurana Sethi and Deputy District Education Officer (Secondary Education) Chamkaur Singh Sidhu congratulated everyone on this success and said that it is a matter of pride to be nominated at the national level in these times.

According to them, teachers of government schools are playing a commendable role as mentors in providing excellent education as well as making students aware of the society.

VB-G RAM G bill is attack on soul of MGNREGA, conspiracy to snatch livelihoods of workers: Pawan Kumar Tinu



JS SODHI
JALANDHAR, DEC 28

Adampur Constituency Incharge, Chairman of Punjab State Agriculture Department Bank, and Aam Aadmi Party Spokesperson, Pawan Kumar Tinu, strongly reacted to the Central Government's "Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission - Gramin (VB-G RAM G) Bill. He termed the bill a conspiracy to weaken the historic and people-oriented MGNREGA Act and called it yet another "black law."

Addressing a press conference held at Jalandhar, Pawan Tinu said that MGNREGA is not merely a scheme but a lifeline for crores of the poor and labourers across the country. It has provided a legal guarantee of 100 days of employment, but the BJP government's new bill is a major step towards dismantling this guarantee. He said that under the "VB-G RAM G" Bill, the duration of employment will now depend on the Central Government's budget allocation. If the budget is reduced, workers will receive fewer than 100 days of employment. This directly means that the income of poor laborers will become uncertain and rural unemployment and poverty will further increase.

Prayer meet for Uma WatiBector held in Doraha



AMRISH ANAND
DORAHA, DEC 28

A wave of grief swept across Doraha following the sudden demise of Smt. Uma Wati Bector, wife of late Shri Gyan Chand Bector and mother of social worker Ashok Bector and senior BJP leader Vinod Bector. She passed away on December 16.The Bhog of Shri Garur Puran was performed on December 28 at the Hindu Dharamshala, Railway Road, Doraha, from 1 pm to 2 pm, for the peace of the departed soul. A large number of relatives, friends, and representatives from various social, religious, and political organisations attended the condolence meeting.Prominent personalities including former Punjab Assembly Speaker S. Charanjit Singh Atwal, former MLA S. Lakhvir Singh Lakha, BJP Vice President S. Bikramjit Singh Cheema, Gurpreet Singh Lapran, Chairman S. Bant Singh Doburji, Dr.J.L Anand and District President Khanna Bhupinder Cheema paid rich tributes to Smt. Uma Wati Bector.Speakers remembered her as a simple, service-oriented.

District youth Congress to hold indefinite protest in front of SSP office against deteriorating law and order situation in Punjab



JAITU (JAGDEEP SINGH GILL): As per the instructions of Punjab Youth Congress Incharge Dr. Smriti Ranjan Lanka and Punjab Youth Congress President Mr. Mahit Mahindra, Punjab Youth Congress under the leadership of District Youth Congress Faridkat Incharge Ranjit Singh Sandhu and District Youth Congress Faridkat President Sukhchain Singh Chain, Youth Congress is holding a protest and sit-in for an indefinite period in front of SSP office Faridkat today, Monday, 29 December at 10 am against the deteriorating law and order situation in Punjab. The above information was given by Youth Congress Vidhan Sabha constituency President Manjinder Singh Happy Romana Ajit Singh while talking to reporters. He further said that the Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab has completely, completely failed to maintain the law and order system in Punjab. Law and order is being violated. Criminal forces are increasing. Massacres are happening day by day. Ransom is being demanded through phone calls. Kabaddi players and businessmen are being murdered. The people of Punjab are scared. People of every section are forced to stay in their homes due to fear today, but on the other hand, the government is lying.

He further said that during the Punjab government, the people of Punjab are unprotected. The Punjab government has failed to protect Punjab and the people of Punjab. He also said that the negligence being done by the government will not be tolerated.

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CHANDIGARH
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97 drug smugglers nabbed with 3kg heroin

CHANDIGARH: Continuing the war against drugs "Yudh Nashian Virudh" waged by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann to eradicate drug menace from state consecutively for the 302nd day, Punjab Police conducted raids at 351 locations on Sunday leading to the arrest of 97 drug smugglers after registration of 81 first information reports (FIRs) across the state. With this, the number of total drug smugglers arrested has reached to 42,203 in 302 days.

The raids have resulted in recovery of 3 kg heroin, 1 kg opium, 1.4 kg Ganja, 21 kg poppy husk, 557 intoxicant tablets/capsules and Rs 16,910 drug money from the possession of arrested drug smugglers. Notably, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann has asked the Commissioners of Police, Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendent of Police to make Punjab drug free state. The Punjab government has also constituted a 5-member Cabinet Sub Committee led by Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema to monitor the war against drugs. Over 120 Police teams, comprising over 1000 police personnel, under the supervision of 71 gazetted officers have conducted 351 raids across the state. Police teams have also checked as many as 348 suspicious persons during the day-long operation.

NEWS BRIEF

Avtar Parocha thanks Barinder Goyal and voters



GURMAIL SINGH SANGATPURA LEHRAGAGA: During the recently held Block Samiti and Zila Parishad elections, Aam Aadmi Party senior leader Avtar Singh Parocha was elected as Block Samiti member from Bhutal Kalan zone of Lehra Gaga assembly constituency. Sukhpreet Kaur, wife of Lovejit Singh Babbi, was elected as Zila Parishad member. District President Sham Singla gave special congratulations to the newly elected Block Samiti member and Zila Parishad member. While talking, Avtar Singh Parocha and Lovejit Singh Babbi said that people voted happy with the work of the Aam Aadmi Party government and the party has got a big victory.

Awareness seminar on drugs held at Hoshiarpur Rehab Centre



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR: In compliance with orders from the Punjab Legal Services Authority and under the directions of District and Sessions Judge-cum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Hoshiarpur, Rajinder Agarwal, Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Hoshiarpur, Neeraj Goyal organised an awareness seminar against drug abuse at the District Drug De-Addiction Rehabilitation Centre here today.Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel Advocate Vishal Kumar Nanda and Deputy Legal Aid Defence Counsel Advocate Sandeep Bhardwaj conducted the session in the presence of centre counsellor Prashant Adia. They provided detailed information to the patients about free legal aid services and highlighted the toll-free number 15100. The officials also listened to the patients' grievances and administered an oath against drug abuse.Gursimaran Singh, staff nurse, and patients were present on the occasion.

SSP Khanna honours SHOs for outstanding performance and integrity



AMRISH ANAND
DORAHA : Honourable SSP Khanna, Dr.Jyoti Yadav Bains along with senior police officers of Khanna, honoured SHO Doraha, Akash Dutt, SHO Sadar, and SHO Payal by awarding them CC-1 certificates and cash rewards in recognition of their exemplary service. The honours were conferred for performing their duties with integrity and for their significant contribution to recent successful operational recoveries.On the occasion, the SSP Madam appreciated the dedication and professionalism displayed by the officers and stated that such commendable efforts play a vital role in strengthening law and order. The recognition was aimed at motivating police personnel and encouraging a culture of honesty, efficiency, and accountability within the police force.Senior officers present also lauded the awardees for their commitment to duty and expressed confidence that such acknowledgements would further inspire officers to continue delivering effective and responsible policing.

Rotary Club Rupnagar starts third traffic awareness drive



BAHADURJEET SINGH
RUPNAGAR: In association with Traffic Police Rupnagar, Rotary Club Rupnagar has started traffic awareness campaign from Police Lines crossing under project TARA – Traffic Awareness & Rotary Awareness. The campaign started by SP headquarter Rupnagar Shri Arvind Kumar Meena, IPS. In this project, 1000 reflective stickers & 100 big size reflectors got installed with machine on the three, four wheelers, Buses, Trucks, Tractotor Trolleys & JCB Machines passing thru Rupnagar city at the bypass road. The traffic police in charge of Ropar District Sub Inspector Sarabjit Singh along with his staff assisted in the successful execution of the reflector installation. Club President Rotarian Sudhir Sharma & Secretary Dr Ankur Wahiextended sincere thanks to the SSP Rupnagar under whose directions, traffic police wing of the Rupnagar Police department for their association in this project. They further told that about three thousand reflectors will be installed in the months of December & January. Shri Meena appreciated this initiative of Rotary Club Rupnagar & requested the club leadership to organize such project in the NangalSub division also. He assured complete assistance for this noble cause.

Year 2025: Primary care to liver transplant; Punjab scales new heights in healthcare

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, DEC 28



The state Government has undertaken transformative steps in 2025 to ensure accessible, affordable, and advanced healthcare for every citizen. From primary healthcare to liver transplants, the year has witnessed unprecedented expansions in infrastructure, coverage, and human resource strengthening.

Punjab Health and Family Welfare and Medical Education & Research Minister Dr Balbir Singh, stated that the flagship Aam Aadmi Clinics have revolutionised primary healthcare, with 881 clinics recording over 4.59 crore patients' visits, which includes 1.59 crore unique patients since established.

A total of 107 medicines and 47 diagnostic tests are being provided free of cost at these clinics, significantly reducing out-of-pocket expenditure of the Punjabis. "An additional 235 Aam Aadmi clinics are in the pipeline, ensuring even wider reach," he said. In a landmark decision, the Mukh Mantri Sehat Bima Yojna coverage is all set to be enhanced from Rs 5 lakh to ?10 lakh per family per year in coming month, providing cashless treatment at government and empanelled private hospitals across Punjab and Chandigarh, said the Health Minister, while adding, "This is a step towards providing universal health care and ensuring that people get cashless treatment worth ?10 lakh. Punjab will be the first state in the country where every family will be entitled to cashless treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh."

Dr Balbir Singh said that the Free Drug Initiative has been strengthened with the Essential Medicines List expanded from 276 to 360 medicines. Over Rs 104 crore worth of medicines and supplies have been procured since April 2025, he said, while adding that CMOs/SMOs has been authorised to procure EDL- Non EDL drugs at local level and funds to the tune of Rs 16 crores have been utilised for this purpose since 01-04-2025, ensuring uninterrupted availability of medicines across health facilities, he added. Similarly, the Health Minister said that under the Diagnostic Initiative, X-ray and ultrasound facilities are being provided at all secondary healthcare facilities or empaneled diagnostic centres at nominal government fixed rates. To bridge the human resource gap, he said that 3,620 health professionals have been recruited over the last three years, including specialists, medical officers, nurses, and frontline workers. Special initiatives such as re-employment of specialists up to 65 years and hiring on empanelment basis are further boosting specialist availability, he added. In the field of medical education and research, Dr Balbir Singh said that Punjab achieved a historic milestone with the first successful liver transplant in the public sector at the Punjab Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (PILBS), Mohali. Additionally, PG and MBBS seats have been increased across government medical colleges in Amritsar, Patiala, Mohali, Faridkot, and Chandigarh, enhancing tertiary care training capacity.

Central govt conspiring to snatch livelihood of poor: Kuldeep Dhaliwal

CHARANJIT SINGH ARORA
SRI AMRITSAR SAHIB, DEC 28



The Aam Aadmi Party launched a sharp attack on the BJP-led Central Government over the changes made to MGNREGA. AAP MLA and Punjab's Chief Spokesperson Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal said that the BJP-led Central Government is conspiring to snatch the livelihood of the poor by making changes to MGNREGA. He said the government should withdraw the VB-G RAM G Bill and restore MGNREGA.

He stated that through this Bill, the Centre has withdrawn from 100 percent funding and imposed a 40 percent financial burden on the states. The Aam Aadmi Party will wage a major agitation for the rights of labourers and will not allow their employment to be taken away.

Addressing a press conference on Sunday, Aam Aadmi Party MLA and Punjab's Chief Spokesperson Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal strongly condemned the changes being made to MGNREGA by the BJP-led Central Government and said that the BJP's new anti-labour policy is a conspiracy to snatch bread from the mouths of the poor.

He said that the BJP government has changed the name of MGNREGA to the 'VB-G RAM G Act' and whatever is being done under this new name is extremely dangerous. He explained that earlier, the Central Government provided 100 percent of the MGNREGA budget, but now it has been divided in a 60-40 ratio. Now the Centre will give 60 percent and the states will have to contribute 40 percent. He questioned that when the states' GST already goes to the Centre, from where will the states arrange this 40 percent share? Expressing serious concern, MLA Dhaliwal said that under the new policy, MGNREGA work will not be provided employment during the sowing and harvesting agricultural seasons.

He asked where poor labourers, who do not own even one kanal of land and have not sown even two marlas of wheat, will get food from during these two months. Earlier, there was a guarantee of 100 days of work and labourers could work whenever they wished, but now this guarantee is also being taken away.

Congress marks 140th foundation day at Machhiwara Sahib



SRI MACHHIWARA SAHIB (DEEPAK KUMAR): The 140th foundation day of the Indian National Congress was celebrated at Machhiwara Sahib in accordance with the directions of the All India Congress Committee. Party workers gathered to commemorate the occasion and reaffirm their commitment to the party's ideology and public service.

Addressing the gathering, Congress urban president Kapil Anand said that since its inception, the Congress has consistently worked to safeguard the interests of the people. He said that even though the party is not currently in power, it continues to raise its voice firmly in support of public welfare. He added that under the leadership of constituency in-charge Rupinder Singh Raja Gill, all party workers are united and actively working for the strengthening and growth of the Congress. The programme was attended by Congress urban women's president Manjeet Kaur, councillors Surinder Kumar Shindi and Rashmi Jain, along with senior party leaders and workers including Chetan Chauraya, Parmjeet Pammi, Amarjeet Singh Kala, Harchand Singh, Balwinder Soni, Budh Raj (all former councillors), Sukhdeep Singh Soni, Parmjeet Singh Neelon, Sanjay Jain, advocate Inderjeet Singh Bangar, Rajinder Kumar Gaggi, Pawan Kumar Batra, Nand Kishore, Devinder Kumar, Subhash Beetan, Rinku Singla, Rajesh Bansal, Veenu Aggarwal, Saurabh Nagpal, Harjeet Singh Kaka, Jaskaran Makkar and Gurmel Singh. Party leaders said the foundation day celebrations served as a reminder of the Congress's long legacy and its continued resolve to work for democracy, unity and the welfare of the people.

Dhuri emerges as 'Axis of development' during 2025

RAJESHWAR PINTU
DHURI, DEC 28



The year 2025 marked a defining phase for the Assembly Constituency of Dhuri, witnessing unprecedented progress in development works, infrastructure strengthening and people-centric initiatives. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, development projects worth ?329 crore were executed in a planned and need-based manner across the constituency, bringing visible and lasting improvements to both urban and rural areas.

Holding a distinct identity as the home constituency of the Chief Minister, Dhuri further strengthened citizen-centric governance with the establishment of the Chief Minister's Facilitation Centre in May 2025. The centre has emerged as an effective platform for direct interaction between residents and their elected representative, enabling prompt grievance redressal and participatory governance. Public representatives and government officials have worked in close coordination at the centre, while the Chief Minister has personally visited on several occasions to hear public concerns and hold deliberations with sarpanches and councillors, leading to the formulation of new development initiatives for villages and towns. Significant strides were also made in the fields of education and sports during the year. A state-of-the-art public library, constructed at a cost of ?1.59 crore, was dedicated to the public. Spread over 3,710 square feet, the facility is equipped with Wi-Fi, digital reading resources and solar power, offering a modern learning environment for students and readers.

In parallel, the plan for a modern sports stadium in Dhuri was taken forward, enhancing sporting opportunities for youth, while a fully equipped gymnasium with advanced machinery was established at village Benra to promote physical fitness among all age groups. Healthcare infrastructure in the constituency received a substantial boost with 10 Aam Aadmi Clinics providing accessible and quality medical services close to people's homes.

Farmers can avail up to 40% subsidy for planting new orchards : Mohinder Bhagat

PARAMJIT SINGH
JALANDHAR, DEC 28



Punjab Horticulture Minister Mr. Mohinder Bhagat today said that the Punjab Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann, is actively promoting crop diversification by encouraging farmers to adopt horticulture through attractive subsidy schemes.

The Minister informed that under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), farmers can avail upto 40 percent subsidy for planting new orchards as well as for other horticulture activities. He said the initiative aims to reduce dependence on the traditional wheat–paddy cycle, conserve groundwater and enhance farmers' income through high-value crops.

Explaining the application process, the Horticulture Minister said that interested farmers can apply for the subsidy through their respective District Horticulture Offices. Farmers may also seek guidance from departmental field staff, who will assist them in preparing applications, fulfilling eligibility conditions and completing required formalities.

Bhagat emphasised that the Mann Government is fully committed to ensuring that the benefits of all farmer-centric schemes reach the farmers at grassroots level in a transparent and timely manner.

He urged farmers to take maximum advantage of horticulture schemes and diversify towards fruit and vegetable cultivation for better returns.

Second Meeri Peeri football cup tournament kicks off in Paddi Sura Singh



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR, DEC 28

The second Meeri Peeri Football Cup Tournament commenced at Paddi Sura Singh, organized by Meeri Peeri Sports Club and Sahibzada Ajit Singh Sports Club, Paddi Sura Singh. The event received support from the Gram Panchayat, village residents, NRI,s and school staff.At the inauguration, Sant Baba Harjinder Singh offered an ardass for the welfare of all. Arjuna awardee Gurdev Singh Gill served as the chief guest and formally launched the tournament.Day 1 MatchesIn the opening Academy Under-17 match, Baddon Academy defeated Paddi Sura Singh Academy 2-1.In the village category: Moranwali beat Sailla Khurd 3-2 via penalty shootout.Kukran defeated Khera 1-0.Panam overcame Kittna 1-0.All winners advanced to the next round.Day 2 Matches and DignitariesProminent attendees on the first day included Iqbal Singh Khera, Harjinder Singh Khalsa (president, Gurdwara Ramsar Sahib), Prof. Kripal Singh, Kulwant Singh Kanta, Prof. Sukhinder Singh Minhas, sarpanch Jarnail Singh Paddi Sura Singh, Coach Bandhana Singh, sports promoter Talwinder Singh Heer.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World university organises Physiotherapy camp during Shaheedi Jod Sabha



AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, DEC 28

The Department of Physiotherapy, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, successfully organised a Physiotherapy Camp from 25th to 27th December 2025 on the occasion of the Shaheedi Jod Sabha. The camp witnessed an overwhelming response from devotees and members of the general public, with over 800 patients assessed and treated for a wide range of musculoskeletal, neurological, and lifestyle-related conditions. In addition to providing hands-on physiotherapy interventions, the camp emphasised patient education and preventive healthcare. Participants received guidance on posture correction, therapeutic exercises, pain management strategies, injury prevention, and the adoption of healthy lifestyle practices aimed at long-term physical well-being. The camp was organised under the leadership of Dr. Supreet Bindra, Head, Department of Physiotherapy, with the guidance.

Congress opposes Centre's decision to rename Mahatma Gandhi National rural employment guarantee scheme

SHARANJEET
PATHANKOT, DEC 28



The District Congress, under the supervision of Mayor Panna Lal Bhatia, held a special press conference to protest against the decision of the BJP government at the Centre to change the name of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Aruna Chaudhary, MLA of Dinanagar constituency, was specially present.

During the press conference, he criticized the central government and said that it is changing the names of the schemes started by the Congress party. Late former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had a dream of strengthening the Panchayati Raj system, so to strengthen this vision, this scheme was introduced, In which a 100-day guarantee of work was given upon request. This guarantee was that anyone willing to work would receive it upon request. The same thing happened to them. Whenever they needed to clean the fields, clear the drains or do any other work in the village, the village workers would work with them. It used to be that 10 percent was provided by the state government, 90 percent by the Government of India or the Central Government, and the Panchayat would decide which work to do if work was not available in the village. So there was a full guarantee of 100 days of work but unfortunately like other schemes, this scheme has also been renamed, which violates the rights of the workers. Now its name has been changed to Ji Ram Ji Yojana. There is no guarantee of work in this scheme. The period has been increased to 125 days instead of 100 days and the Panchayat canonly take up projects approved by the Central Government.

BJP workers hold meeting regarding upcoming MC elections



RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA, DEC 28

A special meeting of BJP workers regarding the upcoming Municipal Council elections was held at Lions Bhawan located at Mehs Gate, Nabha under the leadership of Mandal Nabha President Parminder Gupta. Senior leader of Punjab BJP Rajesh Bansal Babu and Chief Servant of BJP Nabha Barinder Kumar Bittu attended this meeting. A large number of BJP workers were present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, the senior leaders said that the Municipal Council elections are approaching, and any BJP worker who wishes to contest from any ward should submit his application so that a suitable candidate can be fielded by giving a ticket. They said that BJP will contest the elections strongly in all 23 wards of Nabha and will win.

They said that BJP workers have no need to fear anyone, just as BJP fought the Block Samiti and Zila Parishad elections with strength, similarly the Municipal Council elections will also be fought with strength and this time the Municipal Council Nabha will be formed by BJP.

"Sri Fatehgarh Sahib – land of Supreme sacrifices" book by Dr. Hitender Suri presented to Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, DEC 28



A spiritually uplifting and emotionally resonant 'Shaheedi Sabad Kirtan' was organised at the Guru Nanak Dev Auditorium, Lok Bhawan, Chandigarh, in solemn remembrance of the supreme martyrdom of Sahibzada Baba Zorawar Singh Ji and Sahibzada Baba Fateh Singh Ji. The event was graced by the august presence of Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT Chandigarh, who presided over the ceremony. A moment of distinguished honour unfolded during the programme as Dr. Hitender Suri, MD, Rana Hospital, Sirhind, and author of the book "Sri Fatehgarh Sahib – Land of Supreme Sacrifices," presented his meticulously written work to Hon'ble Governor Shri Gulab Chand Kataria. The gesture marked a proud milestone for the publication, symbolising its recognition at the highest constitutional level. The ceremony witnessed the presence of several eminent dignitaries, including Shri Harvinder Kalyan, Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha; Shri Satya Pal Jain, Senior BJP Leader and Supreme Court Advocate; Shri Didar Singh Bhatti, BJP President, Fatehgarh Sahib; Shri Ramvir Bhatti, BJP General Secretary; Smt. Harpreet Kaur Babla, Mayor of Chandigarh; and Shri Shiv Dular Singh Dhillon, IAS, Secretary & Chief Executive, Punjab Red Cross. Profound gratitude was expressed to Prof. Acchru Singh (Shrimoni Shahitkar) for his scholarly and meticulous editing of the book, to Prof. Ashok Sood Ji for his unwavering support, and to Padma Shri Jagjit Singh Dardi Ji, Owner of Chardikala Time TV, for his guiding encouragement throughout this literary endeavour.

Elderly people should take special care of their health in winter: Dr. Devan Mittal



BARNALA DEHATI (BALWINDER AZAD): Due to the dry winter that has been prevailing for the last few weeks of December, the number of children and elderly people visiting hospitals is increasing day by day, and there are signs that this winter will increase even more in the coming days. In this regard, what precautions should be taken for children and elderly people in this ongoing winter season, a special discussion has been held with Dr. Devan Mittal, head of the renowned Mittal Hospital of Barnala district.

Question- How much can this dry winter affect children and people of any age?

Doctor- By the way, in the winter months, children are often seen suffering from common cold, cold, and chest congestion. Some of this is due to the cold, the rest is due to the neglect of the family towards the children. This is because we mostly travel by making children sit in front of two-wheelers or standing up, due to which due to cold air and not wearing necessary warm clothes, children fall prey to diseases like cold and dry cough. Therefore, children should be given warm clothes, boots, socks, hats, etc. and taken out of the house.

Question - If we talk about the youth and the elderly, what should they wear during the winter season?

Doctor - This question of yours is very important. It is very important for people over 33 years of age to be careful during the winter season because due to lack of sweating in the winter season, the excretion of salt in the body decreases.

YUGMARG
Himachal
CHANDIGARH
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Paragliding accident in Billing claims pilot's life, tourist injured

AGENCY
DHARAMSHALA: One person was killed and another injured in a paragliding accident at the Billing take-off site under Bir police station in Kangra district on December 26, police said here on Sunday. Kangra district superintendent of police Ashok Rattan told UNI that Mohan Singh, a resident of Lachhayan village under Bardhan post office in Padhar tehsil of Mandi district, was flying a paraglider allegedly in a negligent manner when it crashed shortly after take-off at Billing. In the incident, Parth Dave, a resident of 110/2C, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Sarani, Amherst Street, Kolkata (West Bengal), sustained injuries. The injured was rushed to Vivekanand Hospital, Palampur, for treatment. However, the paraglider pilot Mohan Singh succumbed to his injuries. Police have registered a case under Sections 125 and 106 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at Bir police station and initiated further investigation.

NEWS BRIEF

Children should resolve to read educational books in New Year

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Chairman of the Himachal Pradesh School Education Board, while interacting directly with school children on the arrival of the year 2026, said that we must remember that the beginning of the year inspires us to open new doors for the future and find the path to success. For this, Dr. Rajesh has asked the children to take five resolutions. These New Year's resolutions shape one's personality in the long run. Dr. Rajesh said that we should not consider the arrival of this new year merely as an occasion for partying. Therefore, we need to take some resolutions today. The first resolution is to distance ourselves from mobile phones in the new year. Because spending more time than necessary looking at screens affects sleep and eyesight.



Mukhyamantri Sukh-Ashray Yojana transforming lives of orphan children with care and opportunity

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, DEC 28



Governance finds its true purpose when it reaches those who have remained unheard for decades. Guided by this belief Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has placed inclusive and compassionate governance at the centre of the state's development agenda. Under his visionary leadership, the state government is firmly committed to ensure that the benefits of growth reach each and every person in the society, particularly children and youth who have been deprived of parental care, social security and opportunity. A defining reflection of this vision is the Mukhyamantri Sukh-Ashray Yojana, the most special and path-breaking initiative of Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. Through this scheme, Himachal Pradesh has emerged as India's first state to enact a dedicated law for orphans and vulnerable children, legally adopting them as "Children of the State". This historic step has transformed the role of the government from a welfare provider into a lawful guardian, ensuring dignity, security and rights-based protection. Under this pioneering initiative, nearly 6,000 orphan children have been formally adopted by the state government as their guardian. The legal framework guarantees comprehensive care, including free education up to the age of 27, skill development, higher education, entrepreneurship support, housing assistance and exposure visits to places like Goa, Amritsar and Delhi with train, air travel along with five star lodging facilities. The government has converted welfare benefits into legal entitlements and has ensured that these children grow up with confidence, self-respect and equal opportunities to succeed.

Complementing this effort, the government has extended higher education academic assistance to 371 students, amounting to Rs. 1.53 crore, while 238 beneficiaries have received support for vocational training. Coaching assistance, skill development grants and professional training programmes have further equipped young beneficiaries to compete confidently in today's employment landscape. Beyond education, the state government has also adopted a holistic life-cycle approach to social security of the beneficiaries under Sukh-Ashray Yojana. Over the past three years, beneficiaries have been provided nearly Rs. 28 crore as pocket money. Clothing allowance for 2,635 children, festival grants for 3,268 beneficiaries, nutrition grant for 2,471 children and post-care assistance, including start-up aid, have been provided to the Children of the State for their smooth transitioning into independent adulthood. Marriage grants amounting to Rs. 5.16 crore have also been extended to 264 eligible young beneficiaries, strengthening their social and economic stability, while Post-Care Support has been extended to 136 youth, totalling Rs. 46.72 lakh.

Mercury levels remain above normal across Himachal Pradesh



AGENCY
SHIMLA, DEC 28

Eluding the state from winter snowfall and rain for two months, weather continued to remain on reverse trajectory in the state of Himachal Pradesh as Mercury continued to nudge upwards across the state. Himachal also recorded two to three degrees above normal barring freezing conditions persisting in some places in the high-altitude. According to the latest morning bulletin, capital town Shimla recorded a minimum 9 degrees (about 5 degrees above normal), Manali 3.5 (around 3.7 degrees above normal), Dharamshala 9.6 (3.6 degrees above normal), Solan 2.2 degrees, Mandi 3.9, Palampur 5, Kangra 5.6, and Una 4.4, all remaining above their seasonal averages. In the higher hills, Kalpa recorded 0.6 degrees, Narkanda 4.3, and Reckong Peo 2.9. The coldest conditions prevailed in tribal and high mountain areas, with Kukumsari registering –5.4 and Tabo close behind at minus 5.3 degrees, indicating continued sub-zero conditions in upper reaches. Meanwhile, dense to very dense fog along river belts in low hills and plains disrupted vehicular movement, even as successive western disturbances and approaching weather systems continue to keep hopes alive for rain or snowfall towards the end of the year.

Bollywood night enthralls crowd on fourth evening of Kangra Valley Carnival

AGENCY
DHARAMSHALA: The fourth evening of the Kangra Valley Carnival 2025 came alive with a grand second Bollywood Night, captivating audiences with a vibrant blend of music, dance and colourful performances. Youth Services and Sports Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Yadvinder Goma, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, Goma said that events like the Kangra Valley Carnival provide a strong platform to showcase the state's rich cultural diversity. Such festivals, he noted, not only give recognition to local artists but also promote tourism, creating employment and self-employment opportunities for the youth. He said the carnival has emerged as a powerful stage for Himachal's folk culture, traditions and modern art, strengthening cultural heritage while boosting the local economy. Goma urged the youth to stay connected with their folk traditions and actively contribute to preserving and promoting them. The highlight of the evening was the energetic performance by Kumar Sahil, whose powerful vocals and lively stage presence kept the audience dancing late into the night on his popular numbers. Equally impressive were the performances by Nidhi Rastogi, Tanoora Dance, Nitish Rajput and Divya Bhatt, which drew loud applause for their rhythmic moves, engaging choreography and stunning stage presentation. Traditional folk dances like Sirmaur Naati and Mandi Naati mesmerised the audience, offering a vivid glimpse into Himachal Pradesh's rich cultural heritage. The traditional attire, folk music and graceful dance rhythms filled the pandal with thunderous applause, creating an atmosphere steeped in vibrant folk culture.

Multiple roads closed to traffic in Lahaul-Spiti due to unsafe conditions

AGENCY
KEYLONG: The District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Lahaul Spiti in Himachal Pradesh has issued an advisory urging tourists and local commuters to avoid driving on frozen and risky roads, as a number of routes in the tribal district have become unfit for vehicular movement due to snow, ice, and frost. As per the latest status report, several key roads remain closed or restricted. The Gramphu–Rohtang Pass, Gramphu–Batal, and Darcha–Sarchu stretches are closed for traffic, while the Darcha–Shinkula road is open only for 4x4 vehicles fitted with snow chains. On the Sumdo–Kaza–Gramphu stretch of NH-505, vehicular movement is partially restricted, with the Lossar–Batal sector remaining closed. The administration noted that traffic snarls are frequent because of icy surfaces and reduced road width caused by accumulated frost. The DDMA cautioned that driving on frozen roads is extremely dangerous, as ice-covered patches are often mistaken for snow, leading to sudden skidding and loss of vehicle control. Tourists heading towards and have been specifically advised to clearly distinguish between frost sheets and snow sheets, with the former posing a far greater hazard. Meanwhile, a yellow alert has been issued for mild to light snowfall in parts of the district, which are likely to receive light snowfall over the next 48 hours, while similar conditions are expected. Though no severe weather warning is in force, officials cautioned that even light snowfall can rapidly worsen road conditions in high-altitude regions. Tourists have been advised to postpone unnecessary travel, carry adequate winter clothing, use snow chains where permitted, and strictly follow official weather and road advisories issued by the district administration.

Haroli transformed on every development front, says Dy CM

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, DEC 28



Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri on Sunday said that Haroli, which once faced prolonged shortages of water, electricity and roads, has now entered a decisive phase of development. He said sustained work in education, healthcare, drinking water, irrigation and basic infrastructure has transformed the region on all fronts, providing children with a safer and better-equipped environment. He attributed this change to public support and continued cooperation.

The Deputy Chief Minister was speaking as the chief guest at the annual prize distribution function of Swarn Jayanti Government Senior Secondary School of Excellence, Lallari, in the Haroli Assembly constituency. On the occasion, he honoured students for outstanding achievements in academics, sports and cultural activities. Students presented colourful cultural programmes, and he announced a grant of Rs 31,000 from the Dr Simmi Agnihotri Foundation to encourage such activities.

He directed that the remaining work of the science laboratory, being constructed at a cost of Rs 1.30 crore, be completed at the earliest and that formalities for handing it over to the school be finalised without delay. He said the executive engineer of the Public Works Department and the school principal should coordinate closely to ensure early utilisation of the facility in the interest of students. Speaking on Haroli's changing profile, the Deputy Chief Minister said the region, which once struggled for basic amenities, has now carved out a new identity in education, health, drinking water, irrigation, roads and infrastructure. He said Haroli is being developed not just to meet present needs but in a planned manner to secure and empower future generations. He announced a grant of Rs 25 lakh for the construction of a Shri Guru Ravidas temple at Lallari. He also said construction of the Sheetla Mata temple at Ispur, at a cost of Rs 6.50 crore, is underway.

AIIMS Bilaspur set to transform surgical care with advanced radiofrequency technology, promising safer and bloodless operations



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: In a major boost to advanced healthcare services in Himachal Pradesh, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur, is set to introduce state-of-the-art radiofrequency (RF) generator technology equipped with vessel sealing and bipolar systems. This cutting-edge facility will significantly reduce blood loss during surgeries and enhance the overall quality and safety of complex surgical procedures.

The AIIMS administration has initiated the procurement process for three advanced RF generator machines, with the tendering process already underway. Once installed, this technology will mark a new era in surgical excellence at AIIMS Bilaspur and bring immense relief to patients suffering from serious and critical illnesses.

Traditionally, surgical procedures involve considerable blood loss, often requiring families to urgently arrange blood donors. The introduction of RF generator technology will largely eliminate this challenge. Using radiofrequency energy combined with bipolar technology, the system enables precise and secure sealing of blood vessels during surgery, thereby minimizing bleeding and reducing surgical complications.

Improving quality of education is govt's top priority: Chandra Kumar

DAULAT CHAUHAN
JAWALI, DEC 28



State Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Chandra Kumar on Sunday said that improving the quality of education remains the government's foremost priority. He was addressing students and staff while presiding as chief guest at the annual prize distribution of Government Senior Secondary School, Jawali, where he honoured meritorious students for their achievements. The minister urged students to set clear goals, move ahead with consistency, stay away from drugs and actively participate in sports along with academics. He said the state government was committed to providing quality education to children and, in this direction, day-boarding schools were being opened in every Assembly constituency. He added that from the next academic session, the CBSE curriculum would be implemented in 100 government schools across the state to prepare students for a competitive future.

He also informed that vacant teaching posts were being filled in a phased manner. Chandra Kumar said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, public welfare has been accorded the highest priority and crores of rupees are being spent in the Jawali region on strengthening roads, drinking water supply, electricity, education and healthcare facilities. On the occasion, he also formally inaugurated an additional school building constructed at a cost of Rs 10 lakh.

The minister further informed that Rs 15 lakh has been sanctioned for the development of the school playground. Construction of a retaining wall along the nallah and levelling of the ground is underway at a cost of Rs 10 lakh, while the remaining Rs 5 lakh will be utilised for providing gym equipment, enabling students to access improved sports and fitness facilities.

State govt and MLA of Kullu are misleading public by lying about water bills: Amit Sood

ASHISH SHARMA
KULLU, DEC 28



The people of Himachal Pradesh are already troubled by the false guarantees of the Congress government, and now the increased water bills in Kullu and Manali have added to their woes. Although Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri had assured the public during the Dussehra festival that water bills would be reduced, no improvement has been made so far. District Kullu BJP President Amit Sood in a press release issued here criticized the Congress government and Kullu MLA Sundar Singh Thakur, saying that people did not pay their water bills based on the assurances of the Deputy Chief Minister and MLA Sundar Singh Thakur, and now the department is imposing heavy fines for non-payment.

He questioned who the public should trust now. He said that the local people had raised this issue forcefully with the administration and the government, and they hoped that the government would protect their interests. But the water bills have not been reduced at all. The public is already troubled by the government's wrong policies, and now the increased water bills are causing them further hardship.

He said that where the water bill used to be one thousand rupees every three months, it has now reached up to 10,000 rupees. In addition, several institutions in Kullu and Manali are receiving water bills exceeding one lakh rupees. When the public discusses this with the officials of the Jal Shakti Department (Water Resources Department), the department claims that they have not received any notification regarding this.

He said that if the government had issued a notification, the people would not be facing such difficulties today. He demanded that the government and the Deputy Chief Minister immediately withdraw the increased water bills, considering the seriousness of the matter and the interests of the common people.

Cong is not just political party but soul and voice of India, says Vinay Kumar

ANWAR HUSSAIN
NALAGARH, DEC 28



Pradesh Congress president Vinay Kumar on Sunday said that the Congress is not merely a political party but the soul, voice and the strongest pillar of Indian democracy. Addressing a gathering at Indira Anaj Mandi in Nalagarh on the occasion of the 140th foundation day of the Indian National Congress, he said that the freedom to speak, write and live with dignity in the country is the result of the sacrifice, penance, struggle and martyrdom of countless Congress leaders and workers. He said the journey from independence to the Constitution and from the Constitution to modern India is not a gift of power, but an immortal saga written with the blood and sweat of the Congress. Vinay Kumar alleged that democracy is under attack today and there are attempts to weaken the soul of the Constitution. He said inflation is soaring, unemployment is swallowing the future of youth, and farmers, labourers, women and young people are struggling every day, but those in power are unwilling to face the truth or provide answers.Calling upon Congress workers to remain steadfast with truth, courage and the Constitution, he said that every Congress worker is the party's real strength. He urged strengthening the organisation from the booth level to the state level, promoting youth leadership, and standing with people in every hardship.

Bhoranj MLA Suresh Kumar inaugurates ration depot and public welfare building

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR, DEC 28



Bhoranj MLA Suresh Kumar on Saturday inaugurated a fair price ration depot and a Panchayat public welfare building in Gram Panchayat Lag Manwin of Bhoranj subdivision, giving fresh momentum to development works in the area.

During the inauguration, Kangra Cooperative Primary Agriculture and Rural Development Bank chairman Ram Chandra Pathania and Block Congress president Vijay Banyal were also present.

Addressing villagers, MLA Suresh Kumar said that with the opening of the ration depot, local residents would no longer have to travel long distances to procure ration and essential commodities, resulting in savings of both time and money. He said resolving basic issues and delivering facilities at people's doorstep remains the government's priority.

He further said that the newly constructed Panchayat public welfare building would serve as an important centre for community meetings and significant events. The building, he added, would help promote social activities at the Panchayat level and support the effective implementation of government schemes.

The MLA congratulated and extended best wishes to all residents of Lag Manwin on the new facilities, describing them as a meaningful step towards strengthening rural infrastructure and public convenience.

Science exhibition held at SVN International Public School



ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: A science exhibition was organised at SVN International Public School, Tarkawadi, where students showcased innovative projects and models prepared by them. The exhibition highlighted students' understanding of scientific concepts and their practical applications. The event was attended by chief guest Balveer Singh Thakur, Superintendent of Police, Hamirpur. Rajeev Sharma, president of SVN Educational Society, Vinod Suman, school coordinator, and Vandana Dhiman, science in-charge, were also present on the occasion. A wide range of projects were displayed during the exhibition, reflecting creativity, innovation and a clear grasp of scientific principles. Students presented their projects with confidence and clarity, explaining the ideas and applications behind their models. Addressing the gathering, SP Balveer Singh Thakur appreciated the efforts of the students and the school management. He stressed the importance of promoting a scientific outlook and innovation among students, stating that science education plays a crucial role in shaping the future of the country. The exhibition proved to be highly successful and provided students with a platform to showcase their talent, while motivating them to explore future careers in science and technology.

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Campaign against illegal weapons and criminals yielded fruitful results in 2025



ASHOK CHUGH
PANIPAT: Under the leadership of Superintendent of Police Bhupendra Singh, the campaigns launched from time to time in the year 2025 by the district police to nab illegal weapons and criminals have yielded fruitful results. In the year 2025, 63 cases under the Arms Act were registered and 87 accused were arrested. 62 illegal country-made pistols, 24 live rounds and two magazines were recovered from them. Along with arresting the accused along with illegal weapons, the police have also succeeded in breaking the supply chain of weapons compared to the year 2024, 92 cases were registered under the Arms Act and 131 accused were arrested and 82 illegal country-made pistols, 19 live rounds and one magazine were recovered from them. As a result of this campaign, there was a decrease in the use of weapons in robbery and snatching incidents in 2025 compared to 2024. In 2024, weapons were used in 19 robbery and snatching cases.

NEWS BRIEF

Mahant Deepak Prakash appoints Mandal President of BJP Kisan Morcha Pehowa



YAGYA DUTT SHASTRI
PEHOWA: Councilor from ward number 13 of Nagar Palika, Mahant Deepak Prakash has been appointed as the Mandal President of BJP Kisan Morcha. On Sunday in the presence of senior BJP leaders, the new executive committee of Kisan Morcha was formed. In which Mahant Deepak Prakash was appointed as Pehowa Mandal President of Kisan Morcha, Arjun Malik Sarasa as President of Sarasa Mandal, Balwan Singh Bodhni as President of Bakhli Mandal and Rajesh Sarpanch Jalbehra as President of Ismailabad Kisan Morcha Mandal. Mahant Deepak Prakash said that his effort would be to work as a link between the government and the farmers by bringing government schemes to the reach of the farmers.

Former BJP MLA Kamlesh Kumari listens to 129th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'



ANIL KUMAR
BHORANJ: Former BJP MLA from the Bhoranj Assembly constituency and state general secretary of the BJP Mahila Morcha, Kamlesh Kumari, listened to the 129th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popular radio programme Mann Ki Baat along with her supporters at Booth No. 101, Rathwani. Addressing villagers after the programme, Kamlesh Kumari said that Mann Ki Baat consistently inspires citizens to actively participate in nation-building with a positive mindset. She expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for providing financial assistance of Rs 601.92 crore to Himachal Pradesh under the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for disaster relief.

Looking forward to Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue': PM Modi in Mann ki Baat

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, DEC 28



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his monthly edition of Mann Ki Baat on Sunday, said he is "looking forward" to the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) to be organised on January 12, 2026. PM Modi also confirmed his participation in the event.In the 129th edition of Mann Ki Baat, PM Narendra Modi said, "Many young people ask me how they can give a presentation of their ideas to me? The solution to this curiosity of young minds is the 'Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue'... On the 12th of next month, 'National Youth Day' will be celebrated on the occassion of Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. The 'Young Leaders' Dialogue' will also be organised on that day, and I will definitely participate in it as well... I am looking forward to this event."Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2.0 will be held from January 10-12, 2026, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.The first edition of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue was held in January 2025 at Bharat Mandapam.Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed Operation Sindoor in the 129th episode of Mann Ki Baat, saying that "today's India does not compromise on its security."Addressing the nation in his radio show, PM Modi said that pictures of "love and devotion" towards the country emerged from all across the country.Acknowledging the nation's achievements in 2025, the Prime Minister said, "2025 gave many moments that made every Indian proud. From national security to sports, from scientific laboratories to the world's biggest stages, India has left its mark.""This year, Operation Sindoor became a symbol of pride for every Indian. The world clearly saw that today's India does not compromise on its security. During Operation Sindoor, pictures of love and devotion towards Mother India emerged from every corner of the country. People expressed their feelings in their own way," he added. Vivekananda, born Narendranath Datta, was a key figure in the renaissance of Hinduism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His fiery eloquence, profound understanding of Eastern and Western philosophies, and unwavering belief in the potential of youth resonated deeply with audiences worldwide.

CM Nayab Singh Saini listens to 129th episode of PM 'Mann Ki Baat'

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, DEC 28



Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said that the entire world was looking with renewed hope and optimism to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a developed India by 2047 and India's rapid progress on the path of progress. This young India's significant achievements in the field of science and new inventions have impressed many countries around the world. The passion for innovation is clearly visible in this country's young generation. Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini was listening to the 129th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat program at the Dharamshala located at Pipli Grain Market on Sunday. Before arriving at the Mann Ki Baat program, Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini listened to the problems of the people present at the scene and assured them of a solution by referring them to the officials. He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the National Youth Day program was being organized on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda Jayanti. A Young Leader Dialogue program will also be held on the same day. In this program, the country's youth will share ideas on topics such as innovation, fitness, startups and agriculture which will help build a developed India. Participation among our youth in this program was increasing. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, through the "Mann Ki Baat" program, shares information about people working for the welfare of society and the nation in different parts of the country to inspire the countrymen. Citizens from other states also take inspiration from them and move forward. These programs instill a passion for work in the youth. Hundreds of young people have started their work through the "Mann Ki Baat" program so far.

Joginder Singh appointed state general secretary of All India Journalist Unity Association

DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA, DEC 28



The monthly meeting of the All India Journalists' Unity Association was held in Kurukshetra on Sunday. In the meeting special emphasis was on strengthening the organization and connecting fellow journalists. The meeting was held at the association's provincial office in Sector 17. The meeting was chaired by Haryana State Chief Patron Dalbir Singh Malik, while guidance was provided by State Patron Sushil Sharma. On this occasion, Joginder Singh was appointed State General Secretary of the Haryana State Unit. Rajkumar Kaushik was appointed District Organization Secretary, Satnam Singh Chattha was appointed District Senior Vice President and Satyanarayan Gupta was appointed Pehowa Block President. Local executive members and all office bearers and members of the District Kurukshetra Unit were present on this occasion.

The meeting discussed the expansion of the organization's activities and future action plans in detail. State Chief Patron Dalbir Singh Malik and State Patron Sushil Sharma emphasized the need to strengthen the organization at the grassroots level. They urged all members to strengthen the organization by connecting with fellow journalists they come into contact with. In the meeting, State Vice President Des Raj Bhatnagar, Chief Advisor Rajkumar Walia, District President Surendra Kaushik, District Vice President Sanjeev Goyal and other officials also expressed their views and urged active participation in organizational activities.

DC's night stay programme to be held in Bagwali village on Dec 29



JITENDRA KAUSHIK
PANCHKULA: Under the programme launched by the Haryana government to address the problems of villagers, a night stay program will be organized on December 29 in Bagwali village of Raipur Rani block. The programme will be held in the premises of the Government Secondary School. During the night stay, Deputy Commissioner Satpal Sharma will be present in the village to listen to the problems of the villagers and resolve them on the spot. This program will establish direct communication between the administration and the villagers, enabling quick resolution of public grievances. During the programme, information and service stalls will be set up by various departments. Through these stalls, officers and employees will provide villagers with information about the government's welfare schemes and also provide benefits of the schemes to eligible beneficiaries. Instructions have been given to the concerned departments to ensure necessary arrangements for the successful organisation of the night stay program. The Public Health Engineering Department will ensure adequate provision of drinking water, while the Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam will ensure uninterrupted power supply. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Raipur Rani, will arrange for temporary toilets and public announcements will be made to inform the general public about the programme.

Mayor Neenu Sharma flags off cycle ride



SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: The cycle ride organized in Dharamshala was flagged off today in an enthusiastic and vibrant atmosphere. Dharamshala Mayor Neenu Sharma officially inaugurated the event as the chief guest. Participants of various age groups enthusiastically participated in the cycle ride and displayed excellent sportsmanship. Kangra Deputy Commissioner Hemraj Bairwa, in his address, said that such events increase health awareness among the youth and promote a culture of sports. The Deputy Commissioner then presented awards to the winners of the various categories of the cycle ride. In the 10-kilometer category, Akash Verma secured first place, Vaibhav Kapoor second, and Aarav Kapoor third in the men's category, while Bhagyashree Khanka secured first place in the women's category. In the 20-kilometer category, Venkateshan secured first place, Vishal Sharma second, and Satvik Basta third in the men's category, while Sunita secured first place, Ashmita second, and Muskan third in the women's category.

LIC's Manoj Kanwar inspires students at GGDSD College cultural festival, Palampur

KISHORI LAL BAINS
PALAMPUR, DEC 28



On the first day of the two-day Cultural Festival organized at Goswami Ganesh Dutt Sanatan Dharam College, Rajpur (Palampur), senior business associate of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Palampur, Shimla Division, Mr. Manoj Kanwar graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The two-day cultural festival was dedicated to the fond memory of late Pt. Amar Nath Sharma, late Principal Nand Kumar Sharma, late Dr. Shiv Kumar, and late Mr. Manohar Sagar. On the first day, the Inter-College Quiz Competition was specially dedicated to the memory of late Dr. Shiv Kumar (former President, SDP Sabha, New Delhi and GGDSD Education Society, Baijnath). Addressing the gathering in the presence of the college Director and Principal Dr. Vivek Sharma, faculty members, participants, and students, Chief Guest Mr. Manoj Kanwar emphasized that student life should not be confined merely to obtaining degrees, but should focus on acquiring knowledge, values, and skills to become responsible and useful citizens of society. He highlighted continuous hard work, discipline, and positive thinking as the keys to success, adding that such competitions help develop self-confidence, leadership qualities, and team spirit among students. Appreciating the role of teachers, he stated that educators play a crucial role in shaping the direction of students' lives. Concluding his address, he extended his best wishes to all participants and encouraged them to set high goals, work with honesty, and keep moving forward by learning from failures.

KU strengthening startup ecosystem through KUTIC: VC

DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA, DEC 27



Kurukshetra University took a significant step towards strengthening its startup ecosystem by signing a tripartite incubation agreement with three emerging startups and the Kurukshetra University Technology Incubation Centre (KUTIC) on Wednesday. On this occasion, while congratulating the startups on their induction, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Som Nath Sachdeva said the University remains committed to nurturing technology-driven entrepreneurship and promoting innovations that address real-world challenges. He urged the startups to pursue their ventures with innovation, integrity and a strong sense of societal responsibility.

Registrar, Lt. (Dr.) Virender Pal said that the agreement formalises the induction of the startups into KUTIC for a period of two years, during which they will receive structured incubation support, mentoring and access to the University's institutional resources. Lt. (Dr.) Ajay Jangra, Coordinator, KUTIC, said the newly inducted startups work in diverse and high-impact domains, including agricultural innovation, healthcare technology and environmental protection. He added that KUTIC would extend comprehensive support in the form of mentoring, infrastructure, industry linkages and strategic guidance to help the startups scale sustainably. Deputy Director, Public Relations, Dr Jimmy Sharma informed that the startups inducted under the agreement include Joita BioseedAI Pvt. Ltd., which is working on nano zinc and nano iron-based fertilisers to improve agricultural productivity and soil health; Suksma Medtech Pvt. Ltd., which is developing a microneedle-based drug delivery patch offering a minimally invasive healthcare solution.

Pratap Public School students learn human values by serving in old age home and Gurudwara



KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI: Pratap Public School, Taraori organised an inspirational tour of the Nirmal Dham Old Age Home and the Nirmal Kutiya Gurudwara to inculcate social service, compassion, and human values in students. On this occasion, the students demonstrated social responsibility by donating with enthusiasm, devotion, and a spirit of service. At the Nirmal Dham Old Age Home, the students donated clothes, blankets, and food items to the elderly. The children interacted cordially with the elderly, inquired about their well-being, and received their blessings. The children's spirit of service clearly reflected happiness and contentment on the faces of the elderly. The students then proceeded to the Nirmal Kutiya Gurudwara, where they contributed to the ongoing langar service and provided food items. The students closely understood the fundamental principles of service, equality, selflessness, and brotherhood. School Director Pithi Chaudhary stated that service and charity purify the mind. Helping the needy is true humanity. School Principal Vikas Utreja, while inspiring the students, said that respect for the elderly and the spirit of service to the Gurudwara play an important role in shaping children's character.

New Recruitment Process removes 35 percent minimum marks requirement: Yogendra Yogi

DINKAR GAWADI
HANSI, DEC 28



New recruitment process recently implemented by Haryana Public Service Commission is proving to be contrary to spirit of social justice and constitutional reservation. Yogendra Yogi, former Chairman of the Haryana Hair Art and Skill Development Board and National Coordinator of All India National Congress Party, stated that this process includes three stages: screening, main examination, and interview. Mandatory condition of a minimum of 25% marks in the screening and 35% in main examination has created a serious obstacle, especially for candidates from OBC (BC A, BC B), Scheduled Caste (SC) and EWS categories. As a result, thousands of reserved posts have remained vacant, reflecting government's discriminatory and insensitive policy. Yogi gave following details regarding vacancies:220 posts of BC A remained vacant, 108 posts of BC B remained vacant and 350 posts of SC remained vacant.In OBC category alone, 328 posts remained vacant, which shows that the 35% condition is having the most impact on the underprivileged classes.

84 posts of BC B remained vacant, 251 posts of BC A remained vacant, and 363 posts of SC remained vacant. In the Assistant Professor recruitment, 335 posts of OBC category alone remained vacant.A total of 663 OBC posts have remained vacant. Yogendra Yogi said that the OBC organizations have following demands:

Condition of 35% minimum marks in main examination, which is being used to exclude OBCs, should be immediately abolished or reduced.

Prem Vahini Rath given warm welcome

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR: "Prem Vahini Rath" (Chariot of Love) journey, which has traveled through several states, arrived in Yamunanagar today. Upon its arrival in Yamunanagar, journey was given a grand welcome by devotees and members of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samiti. Sunil Kumar, president of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samiti, informed that this journey is passing through various states of country, with main objective of spreading message of love, service, truth and humanity of Sri Sathya Sai Baba to every person. He said that Baba's teachings continue to guide society in a positive direction. During journey, messages based on service, harmony, and human values were propagated. A large number of devotees participated in program and received blessings by welcoming journey.



Martyrdom Fortnight observed at Bhartiya Kisan Union Lakhowal office, Moga: Daulatpura

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA
MOGA, DEC 28



Shaheedi Fortnight dedicated to the martyrdom of Sahibzade Baba Ajit Singh, Baba Jujhar Singh, Baba Zorawar Singh, Baba Fateh Singh, Mata Gujar Kaur and all the Shaheed Singhs and Singhniyas was celebrated with devotion at the District Office of BKU Lakhowal, Moga. On this occasion, Sukhmani Sahib was chanted by the Guru Gobind Singh Study Circle, followed by a Katha discussion by Giani Satnam Singh from Janer Taksal. After the Ardas, Guru ka Langar was served in abundance. On this occasion, District President Bhupinder Singh Daulatpura, District General Secretary Ravinder Singh Bhola, Media Incharge Balkaran Singh Dhillon, State Leader Mohan Singh Jindran, Block President Gurmail Singh Droli, Modhan Singh Nidhanwala, Jagsir Singh Jaggi Bagha Purana, Iqbal Singh Gloti, Gurjant Singh Numberdar Gagra, Parkash Singh, Inderjit Singh Star Wale, Journalist Lachhmanjit Singh Purba, Journalist Jagraj Singh Sangha Dosanjh Harnek Singh Fatehgarh, Lakhvir Singh Sandhu, Baldev Singh Moga, Manderjit Singh Manawan, Harjit Singh Sodhi Manawan, Gurbachan Singh Channuwala, Nirmal Singh Manawan, Satinder Pal Singh Block President, Ajmer Singh Manawa, Mohan Singh, Surinder Singh Manuke, Malwinder Singh Manuke, Harpal Singh Manuke, Major Singh Droli, Amarjit Singh Droli, Buta Singh, Bant Singh Nidhan Wala, Hamir Singh Nidhan Wala, Gurtej Singh, Journalist Bhawandeep Singh Purba, Prem Lalpuri Daulatpura, Jaspal Singh Daulatpura, Gurjinder Singh, Jasvir Singh.

NEWS BRIEFS

Light will come into the lives of two visually impaired people

MEGH RAJ LUTHRA

KACHHWA: Usha Rani, a resident of Kachhwa village, passed away on Friday, but by donating her eyes, she will continue to see this world even after her death.



80-year-old Usha Rani was sociable, religious, and soft-spoken. Visiting village gurdwara was a daily ritual for her. When she became unable to walk in her final days, she would call the gurdwara's priest home, inquire about dates of Sankranti and Amavasya, and give donations. She passed away suddenly. Upon receiving the news, when members of the Madhav Eye Bank proposed to her son, Mahendra Pal, that his mother's eyes be donated, he, along with his wife Rajni Bhugra, Usha Rani's grandson Keshav, and her five daughters Lakshmi Devi, Santosh, Pinky, Geeta, and Rajni, immediately gave their consent.

Boost to infrastructure development in state as committee approves major projects

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, DEC 28

A meeting of the High Powered Works Purchase Committee (HPWPC) was held on Saturday at Haryana Niwas under the chairmanship of Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini. During the meeting, proposals related to important infrastructure and development projects of various departments were deliberated upon, and key decisions regarding procurement of services and works were taken.

A total of 58 tenders with an estimated cost of approximately Rs 4216 crore were considered in the meeting. Out of these, it was decided to order re-tendering for 2 projects. For the remaining 56 tenders, with an estimated cost of about Rs 4166 crore, detailed negotiations were held with the bidders, after which the total agreed value of works was finalized at approximately Rs 4016 crore. Thus, through the negotiation process, an estimated saving of about Rs 150 crore was ensured, strengthening the State Government's financial management, transparency and efficient utilization of resources.

Energy Minister Sh. Anil Vij, Education Minister Sh. Mahipal Dhanda, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Sh. Vipul Goel, Public Works Minister Sh. Ranbir Gangwa, and Irrigation and



Water Resources Minister Smt. Shruti Choudhry were present in the meeting.

To strengthen the power distribution sector, proposals submitted under the Revamped Reforms-based and Results-linked Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) were approved. Under this, approval was granted for awarding works to firms/agencies that have completed the tender process for distribution infrastructure development, reduction of line losses, establishment of new 33 kV substations, and expansion and strengthening of existing substations in various areas of Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam and Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam.

Under Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam, works related to distribution infrastructure development and substation strengthening were approved for the Dabwali, Narwana, Sohna, Sirsa, Gurugram-II, Fatehabad, Hisar, Narnaul and Rewari areas.

Similarly, under Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam, works related to strengthening of the distribution system and expansion of substations were approved in various areas of the Panchkula, Pinjore, Barwala, Raipur Rani, Panipat, Karnal, Samalkha and Rohtak zones.

The proposal related to implementation of SCADA and DMS/OMS systems in Gurugram was also approved in the meeting.

Regarding the agenda item, it was decided to re-tender the tender for works related to strengthening and modernization of 11 kV urban and industrial feeders connected to 66 kV substations in Faridabad and Gurugram under the RDSS scheme.

In addition, several other important projects related to urban development and basic infrastructure were approved in the meeting. These include the four-laning and improvement of the remaining stretches of master roads between Sectors 5/6, 6/9 and 5/10 under the Sonipat Metropolitan Development Authority; construction of a new high-level bridge near the existing bridge close to Panchkula Golf Club on the road connecting Sector-3 and Sector-21 with Sector-23 .

Kirtan samagam held in Karnal to mark Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, DECEMBER 28

As part of celebrations marking the birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh, prabhat pheris being taken out from various gurdwaras across Karnal were brought together on Sunday for a grand kirtan samagam at Gurdwara Shri Sukhmani Sahib.

As many as 15 prabhat pheris reached the gurdwara while performing shabad kirtan, where they were warmly welcomed by the management committee and the local sangat with flower petals. A devotional atmosphere prevailed throughout the area as the combined congregations participated in the religious programme.



Providing details, Gurdwara management committee president Inderjit Singh Dua said that the Shri Sukhmani Sahib Seva Society was established in 1985 and has been organising various religious programmes since then. He said that since 1990, the society has been annually bringing together prabhat pheris from different parts of Karnal to collectively observe Guru Gobind Singh Ji's prakash parv through kirtan samagams.

This year too, prabhat pheris from gurdwaras including Gurdwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Ram Nagar, Stree Satsang Sabha Gurdwara Manji Sahib, Shri Guru Hargobind Sahib Seva Society Sector 5, Gurdwara Mai Bhago Ji Karan Vihar, Gurdwara Singh Sabha Basant Vihar, Prem Nagar, Sant Nagar, Baba Dhanna Ji Subhash Gate, Shishiyan Wala Baba Gola Ji and others arrived at the venue singing shabads in unison.

On the occasion, office-bearers of various societies were honoured with siropas by the gurdwara management committee led by Inderjit Singh Dua along with Gulzar Singh Cheema, Jaspal Singh Saggu, Manjeet Singh Mally, Jaswinder Singh Chawla, Jagpal Singh, Sanjay Arora, Paramjit Singh Rower, Jasbir Singh, Sukhwinder Singh Virk and Baljit Singh. An uninterrupted langar, including tea and biscuits, was arranged for the sangat. The programme concluded with ardas and hukamnama by head granthi Raj Bahadur Singh. Thousands of devotees were present during the samagam, which concluded in a deeply devotional and peaceful atmosphere.

Susham Kapoor assumes office; members collectively listen to PM Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat'

RANVIR PARASHAR
KAITHAL, DEC 28

Susham Kapoor, newly appointed President of the Punjabi Welfare Sabha, formally assumed office on Sunday. Atmosphere at Sabha's office throughout day was filled with enthusiasm, devotion and organizational energy. Oath-taking ceremony began with a Havan Yagna in morning, where all the members of Sabha offered prayers for the happiness, prosperity, unity and welfare of the community. Following the Havan Yagna, a Kirtan (devotional singing) session was held. Bhajans and kirtans created a devotional atmosphere and members present experienced spiritual peace. Afterward, under chairmanship of Kailash Bhagat, Chairman of Punjabi



organizations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popular program 'Mann Ki Baat' was listened to collectively. Prime Minister's thoughts on social issues, nation-building, service, and culture inspired members. In his address, Chairman Kailash Bhagat said that programs like 'Mann Ki Baat' connect every section of society. He said that Prime Minister repeatedly emphasizes social participation, volunteerism, and role of citizens in nation-building, which serves as a guiding principle for organizations. He expressed hope that new executive committee would be inspired by Prime Minister's ideas and make service activities even more effective. Newly appointed President Susham Kapoor also announced the new executive committee of the Sabha. He said that the committee has been formed keeping in mind experience, dedication, and the spirit of social service. Kailash Bhagat has been appointed as patron and chairman of Sabha. Inderjit Sardana, Tulsi Das Sachdeva, Sudhir Mehta, Kamal Ahuja, Rajendra Khurana, Ram Kishan Digani, Narendra Nijhawan, Rajkumar Mukhija, and Satish Rajpal have been included as patrons.

Shaheedi Samagam held in memory of the four Sahibzadas and Mata Gujri Kaur

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, DECEMBER 28

A Shaheedi Samagam was organised with deep reverence at Gurdwara Shaheed Baba Deep Singh, located in Sector 32, Karnal, to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of the four Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Gujri Kaur. The religious congregation continued from morning till evening, drawing a large number of devotees.

According to the organisers, the samagam was held in memory of Sahibzada Ajit Singh, Sahibzada Jujhar Singh, Sahibzada Zorawar Singh, Sahibzada Fateh Singh and Mata Gujri Kaur. The programme began at 9 am with the completion and bhog of 425 Akhand Path Sahib. Thereafter, as per the weekly tradition, Chaupahra Sahib was performed from 11 am to 3 pm.

From the early hours of



the morning, tea, bread, pakoras and uninterrupted langar were served to the sangat. Jathedar Baba Gulab Singh expressed gratitude to the sangat who arrived from far-off places, Gurupurab Prabandhak Committee general secretary Inderpal Singh, Haryana Chamber of Commerce secretary Harmeet Singh Happy, and other distinguished guests for their participation and support.

A steady stream of devotees was witnessed throughout the day, with thousands paying obeisance and remembering the unparalleled sacrifice of the Sahibzadas and Mata Gujri Kaur in an atmosphere filled with devotion and faith.

Farmer identity cards issued through special camp in Amar Garh village

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

NILOKHERI: A special camp was jointly organised by the Agriculture Department and the Revenue Department in village Amar Garh to issue farmer identity cards. Officials from both departments visited the village to create awareness among farmers about the importance and benefits of the farmer ID.



Agriculture Department ATM Mahipal and Revenue Department patwari Dheeraj Sethi interacted with villagers and explained that the farmer identity card would serve as an official identification for farmers and would be mandatory in the future to avail various government schemes and benefits. Mahipal urged farmers to get their identity cards made by visiting the camps being organised by the government from time to time.

Patwari Dheeraj Sethi also appealed to residents, stating that every person in whose name agricultural land is registered should □□□ get their farmer identity card prepared. Village sarpanch Harish also encouraged villagers to participate actively in the process and ensure timely registration.

During the camps, Block Agriculture Officer Rampal and Naib Tehsildar Bharat Bhushan also visited villages and motivated people to get their farmer identity cards made in large numbers. Several farmers, including Bijender Singh, Ajay Kumar, Sultan, Shamsher Singh, Mange Ram, Asa Ram, Ramesh Kumar, Kamal, Ram Kumar and others, were present during the camp.

Congress workers celebrate foundation day with Pomp and Show, hoisting arty flag



RAHUL KOHLI

YAMUNANAGAR: Congress workers celebrated the party's foundation day with great enthusiasm at INTUC building on Sunday. Program, jointly organized by urban and rural units, began with hoisting of party flag. Sweets were distributed and greetings were exchanged. Addressing workers, district president of rural unit, Narpal Singh, and urban district president, Devendra Singh, said that Congress party was founded with the objective of ensuring equal progress for the nation and society. Party continues to operate on same principles today.They said that country's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had a very far-sighted vision. His vision was for overall development of nation. They said that institutions like IITs, Nangal Dam and AIIMS are all contributions of Congress government. District presidents accused the BJP of attempting to disrupt social harmony. They said that the Congress would not allow injustice to be done to anyone. Those who commit injustice will be strongly opposed. They also accused the BJP of taking vindictive action against those who oppose them.

Fulfilling duties is essential: Virender Pal

HANS RAJ
KURUKSHETRA, DEC 28

A district-level monthly orientation program was organized on December 27 at 3:00 PM at Geeta Kanya Senior Secondary School, located on Amin Marg and run by Vidya Bharati Haryana and Hindu Shiksha Samiti. Program was attended by Dr. Virender Pal, Registrar of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra; Chetram Sharma, Senior Vice President of Hindu Shiksha Samiti Haryana; Shri Rajesh Goyal, District Committee Convener; committee members; management committee members of district schools; principals; and department heads. Program began with lighting of a lamp before the idol of Goddess Saraswati. Program was conducted by Nirmal Gupta. Following prayer, welcome and introductions were given by District Convener Shri Rajesh Goyal. Somdutt Sharma, Provincial Head of Shishu Vatika, paid tribute to martyrdom of four Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh and conducted a quiz on these young heroes, which was answered enthusiastically by all. Shri Jeevan Mudgil, President of VBITR and Manager of Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Primary School (Balghar), said that Vidya Bharati schools give more importance to Hindi than English which sometimes puts them at a disadvantage. Keeping this in mind, Vidya Bharati organized an English training workshop, in which teachers from province participated and learned.



He suggested that these teachers should then teach what they learned to all other teachers so that everyone's English language skills improve and it becomes mandatory for all. Ideas were sought from everyone on how to implement this effectively. Balveer Sharma, Manager of Geeta Kanya Senior Secondary School, commemorated the martyrdom of four Sahibzadas through a solo song. Chetram Sharma, Senior Vice President of Hindu Shiksha Samiti, said that they are not against English language; they believe that everyone should have knowledge of all languages. We are not against the English language; we are against Anglicization. He explained that Vidya Bharati is a non-governmental educational organization in the world, under which 25,000 schools operate. In these schools, formal and informal education is provided along with character development. Organization is doing a service of national interest by providing education to children living in underprivileged areas. With aim of educating even underprivileged, school organizes "Samarpan Program" annually. For this, they receive cooperation from social workers and people from various sections of society to complete this noble task of education. School principal, Suman Bala, presented a brief overview of school, stating that it was established in 1956 by Lala Ruliyaram and Lala Sadhu Ram. School provides education to students from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Narsingh Das Public School imparts lessons of service, compassion, and values



KAMAL SHARMA

TARAORI: Narsingh Das Public School, Taraori, set a commendable example of social responsibility by undertaking a humanitarian initiative. The school management, teachers, and students jointly distributed blankets to the needy in Taraorti, Saga Bhatta, and Nirmal Kutiya areas, fulfilling their social obligation. All the school staff members actively participated in this service activity, demonstrating their sensitivity towards society. School Director Dharmendra Khera said that fulfilling one's responsibility towards society is the moral duty of every individual. Helping the needy is an integral part of our culture, and schools should make CSR activities an essential part of education so that the coming generation develops human values such as kindness, compassion, and non-violence. He said that such activities not only make students better human beings but also give a positive direction to their thinking towards society. On this occasion, Munish, Sunita Gaba, Dimple Sachdeva, Savita, Harish, Dinesh Rana, Bhavnish, Payal, Tanu, Anju, Shailja, and Kavita, along with other staff members, made significant contributions, embodying the spirit of service.

Congress's role in freeing India from British rule is a matter of pride for every citizen: Dr Rajesh Vaidh Valmiki

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
NILOKHERI, DECEMBER 28

The 140th foundation day of the Indian National Congress was celebrated with enthusiasm at the District Karnal Congress (Rural) office in Nilokheri. On the occasion, district president of Karnal Congress (Rural) and former member of the Haryana Public Service Commission, Dr Rajesh Vaidh Valmiki, said the Congress party played a historic role in liberating the country from British rule and every Indian should take pride in this legacy.

Addressing party workers, Dr Valmiki said the Congress has made several landmark contributions to nation-building, including the Right to Information, Right to Food, Right to Service and Right to Education. He said the party laid an extensive network of railways, roads and air connectivity across the country and strengthened India's defence capabilities.

He further said it was the Congress that led the country during the 1971 war, resulting in the creation of Bangladesh after the division of Pakistan. Highlighting these achievements, he said the Congress's contribution to the nation remains unmatched and its ideals continue to guide



the path of progress. The foundation day celebrations included flag hoisting at the Nilokheri office, followed by the national anthem and slogans in support of the party. Senior leaders and workers paid homage to the party's legacy and extended greetings to one another. Those present included district coordinator Sardar Satnam Singh, former minister Bhim Sen Mehta, former MLA Rakesh Kamboj, former national secretary Virender Rathore, Indian National Overseas Congress delegate Tezi Mann, former Zila Parishad chairman Sanjay Mehla, Dr Navjot Kashyap, Raghuveer Sandhu, Nahar Sandhu, district councillor Sachin Budhanpur, councillor Pappu Lathar, Ramphal Kamalpur, Rajesh Chaudhary, Amarjeet Dhiman, Krishna Sharma Bastanga, Mehal Singh, Robin Michael, Satpal Kashyap, Gurubaksh Singh, Subhash Premkhera, Ankit Chauhan, Soni Sharma, Rajender Pujam, Rajpal Sharma, Naresh Sharma and hundreds of Congress workers, who saluted the party flag and participated in the celebrations.

Congress's great contribution to freedom struggle: Parag Gaba

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, DECEMBER 28

The Congress party celebrated its 140th Foundation Day with enthusiasm and fervor in Karnal. Party workers and leaders gathered outside the District Congress office and hoisted the flag. Following this, Congress leaders highlighted the party's history and ideology. Addressing the workers, District Congress President Parag Gaba said that the Congress party was founded to lay a strong foundation for democracy, equality, secularism, and social justice in the country. He said that from Mahatma Gandhi's path of truth and non-violence to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's vision of modern India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's unity, Indira Gandhi's historic decisions, and Rajiv Gandhi's foresight, the Congress party has led the country in every era. Today, the country is going through serious crises such as inflation, unemployment, farmers' problems, and attacks on democratic institutions. At such a time, the Congress party, under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, is working to save the Constitution, open a shop of love in the market of hatred, and raise the voice of the common people. The Congress party's politics is about uniting, not dividing. We will continue to fight for the rights and dignity of every section of society – the poor, farmers, laborers, youth, women, Dalits, backward classes, and minorities – with full strength, from the streets to Parliament. He said that even after independence, the party has played a significant role in the nation's building and development. Parag Gaba said that the Congress has always raised its voice for the rights of farmers, laborers, youth, women, and the weaker sections of society, and will continue to do so. He urged the workers to take the party's policies and welfare programs to the common people and strengthen the organisation at the booth level. On this occasion, Congress leaders also discussed the current political situation and stated that the Congress party is the only party that can keep the country united and protect democratic values. Seva Dal President Anil Sharma, OBC District President Pankaj Pal, Scheduled Caste Cell District Presidents Rohit Joshi and Sachin Mandal, former minister Bhim Mehta, All India Congress Committee members Kamal Maan, Binder Poswal, Nishchay Sohi, Rakesh Nagpal, Pankaj Gaba, advocate Ramkumar Taya, Vinod Titoria, Soni Sharma, Sandeep Mahajan, Kapil Thakur, Rahul Gupta, Sharda Sindhu, Lalit Ahuja, Lalit Arora, Dilsher Dacher, Tarun Chauhan, Om Prakash Saluja, Bijender Khokhar, Harpal Kalampura, Ashok Jain, Mukesh Chaudhary, Parveen Punia, Jasbir Panu, Leena Arora, Gurmeet Singh, Vinod Sharma, Satish Bhardwaj, Joga Aghi, Baljit Chauhan, Jitendra Panchal, Sunita Devi, Kulbir Maan, Deepak Chaudhary, Daya Prakash, Rajendra Nishad, Hardeep Kaur, Hemant Sindhu, Isham Singh, Nippy Maan, Paramjit Valmiki, Karan Azad, Yogesh Gulia and a large number of Congress workers were present.



YUGMARG

CHANDIGARH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

Opinion

God, our Creator, has stored within our minds and personalities, great potential strength and ability. Prayer helps us tap and develop these powers.

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

EDITORIAL

Dharavi redevelopment shifts from aspiration to action in 2025

The Dharavi Redevelopment Project undertaken by the Adani Group reached a significant milestone in 2025, as the multi-decade plan transitioned from conceptualisation to physical construction. According to a press release, the year saw the start of construction on 6.5 acres of railway land, marking the first tangible progress in over 40 years. This development follows the Maharashtra government's allocation of multiple land parcels across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region to house residents ineligible for on-site rehabilitation.

The project is being managed through a special-purpose vehicle that functions as a public-private partnership between the state government and a private partner. Under this framework, the state government maintains full ownership of the land while the special purpose vehicle pays a development rights premium to execute the renewal mission. This structure was designed to create an "executable pathway for a project historically considered too complex to start".

A major technical milestone achieved this year was the near-completion of a four-stage scientific survey of the area. To manage this data, the project introduced Dharavi's first digital twin, which is a computer model used for "faster dispute resolution, transparent decision-making, and future-proof governance". This digital system works alongside a new masterplan submitted to the state government in 2025. The plan aims to integrate the existing "live-work ecosystem" and industrial identity of the area into a modern urban layout with updated infrastructure and logistics.Beyond construction and planning, the project launched the Dharavi Social Mission to provide immediate assistance to the local population. This initiative has reportedly reached 7,000 people through various welfare programs.

These efforts included vocational training and job placements for youth, as well as healthcare services such as eye-screening camps and cataract surgeries. The mission also helped residents access government schemes for pensions and education aid.The master plan includes frameworks for a sustainable township, focusing on water and waste systems, energy use, and transit corridors. While the project is still in its early stages, the release noted that 2025 was the year the effort moved from "blueprint to execution".

From landlines, touchscreen to AI: How India transformed in quarter century



Japan's Yurina Noguchi (32), a call centre operator, married her AI-generated boyfriend in November; street vendors, rickshaw pullers, vegetable sellers accepting digital payments – the world has witnessed a tectonic shift in the last 25 years, redefining how humans communicate, work, live and most importantly, think.

The digital revolution redefined economics, social media interaction and introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) that reprogrammed lives. The transformation has been vast, profound, and irreversible. As the world crosses a quarter-century, we take a look at the most significant epoch-making moments that shaped the new India.

LAND PHONES TO 5G Landlines ruled the domain of direct communication till 1990s. In 1995, the first call was made between then union minister Sukh Ram and West Bengal CM Jyoti Basu, using a Nokia phone on Modi Telstra's network.

However, since last 90's, mobile phones started appearing among the richer sections of society. From 2003 onwards, the price gradually came within the reach of the common man.

The revolution truly began in 2010, with smartphones and increased network coverage changed the game. Reliance Jio's entry into the arena with affordable data around 2016 played an instrumental role in making mobile phones more accessible than ever, with an increasing number of mobile data networks.

DIGITAL ECONOMY/CASH TO CLICKS Commenced with the concept of 'less cash', the NDA government's push towards 'Digital India' programme towards 2014-15 propelled India into the sphere of digital economy. However, the real thrust was decisively accelerated by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Lockdowns, social distancing, and safety concerns pushed millions to embrace digital payments almost overnight, turning QR codes, UPI apps, and online banking into everyday essentials rather than optional tools.

RISE OF SOCIAL MEDIA In 2004, Orkut emerged as the maiden social media platform in India that reigned the domain till 2010 before paving its way to Facebook, which increasingly became popular. Today, India is the largest user of Facebook with 581.6 million users. However, currently, Instagram rules the scenario with 430-480 million users.

But WhatsApp lead the number with well over 500 million, possibly reaching over 850 million users in 2025, making it a crucial market for Meta. It long surpassed YouTube which has nearly 500 million monthly users.

INFLUENCERS' ERA The escalation of social media has redefined human interactions. The social media influencers have gained a base through all sorts of eye-catching content. Also known as virtual humans, the AI influencers are stealing the show with eye-catching presentations that penetrate deep into the minds of people.

From advertising brands to political parties to highlighting social issues, the influencers ruled. Recently, India's influencer economy came under a regulated industry.

24X7 FLOW OF NEWS Since the advent of digital media, digital-first strategy has transformed the news cycle into a 24x7 news flow with real-time updates. Moreover, multimedia and interactive storytelling have emerged as the new way of telling the news with more usage of digital feeds and algorithms.

INTRODUCTION OF AI Accelerated with the 'Digital India' initiative during 2010s, Artificial Intelligence has seen widespread, transformative adoption in daily lives since 2020. AI now powers search engines, recommendations, language translation, medical diagnostics, creative tools, and automation across industries.

Machines learned to see and listen, and generate content, changing how humans work and learn. However, although AI boosted productivity and innovation at a next level, it raised crucial questions about jobs, ethics, bias, and the meaning of human creativity in an automated age.

IndiGo, SpiceJet continue to rely on leased foreign aircraft

Indian airlines IndiGo and SpiceJet continue to rely on foreign aircraft leased on "Wet/Damp Lease" arrangements to shore up capacity amid fleet constraints and delivery delays, according to details of aircraft currently operating and scheduled for induction. IndiGo, the country's largest airline,



currently operates 15 foreign-leased aircraft and plans to induct eight more in the coming months.

Among the major lessors is Turkish Airlines, which has provided two Boeing 777 aircraft under a lease valid until February 28, 2026, following a six-month extension granted in August.

Norse Atlantic Airways of Norway operates five Boeing 787 aircraft for IndiGo, with one additional aircraft proposed to be inducted in January 2026.

"Additionally, the airline has leased one Airbus A320 from SmartLynx Airlines, based in Latvia, with operations approved until March 2026. Qatar Airways has supplied two Airbus A321 aircraft, while two more are scheduled to join the fleet in December 2025 and January 2026," a statemnet said.

Turkish carrier Corendon Airlines is operating five Boeing 737 aircraft for IndiGo until March 31, 2026. In addition, five Airbus A320 aircraft from Freebird Airlines of Turkey are yet to be inducted.

Furthermore, SpiceJet, which has been using wet-leased aircraft to stabilise operations, currently has 17 foreign aircraft in service.

Czech carrier SmartWings operates five Boeing 737 aircraft for SpiceJet, with leases running until May 2026. Meanwhile, Ireland-based Fly4 Airline provides three Boeing 737 aircraft under a similar timeline.

Corendon Airline Europe, based in Malta, operates five Boeing 737 aircraft for SpiceJet until March 2026, while Ascend Airways of the UK supplies three Boeing 737 aircraft approved until April 2026. Romanian carrier Legend Airlines operates one Airbus A340 for SpiceJet, with the lease valid until December 2025.

A 'wet lease' provides an aircraft with crew (flight and cabin), maintenance, and insurance (ACMI), operating under the lessor's certificate. A 'damp lease', often a UK term, is similar, but the lessee provides the cabin crew, while the lessor supplies the aircraft, flight crew, maintenance, and insurance, adding a layer of control for the lessee. Essentially, a damp lease is a wet lease minus the cabin crew.

How to stay sensible in a non-sense environment

In life, some times, it feels life is surrounded all around with challenges and so much so that the environment seems to make no sense. However, in the midst of this chaos, it is still possible to stay sensible by embracing learnings from happiness science. Following are seven simple but practical ways to maintain the sense of stability.

1. Build daily small routines to stay grounded

In The uncertain non sense environment, try to keep small simple daily routinues to stay grounded. The daily simple routines reassures that not everything is out of control.

2. Do not take it personal

Life throws challenges at everyone. It has happened in the past. It will happen in future. Do not take it personal which will help in keeping calm and making better sense of things and better decisions.



3. Laugh it out

Humour is a great remedy and it can help in reducing the tense situations. It releases a happiness harmone endorphine which helps in reducing stress and raising happiness.

4. Do not analyse too much

Life doenot run by logic in every step or sometimes the logic is not visible . Donot try to analyse every situation too much and try to find logic in everything. Too much analysis leads to paralysis in thinking. Instead try to accept it and take learnings from it for future.

5. Keep purpose of life clear

Even in wrost situations, when one has a clear purpose or meaning of life, one can find balance in life and can survive and keep moving. Ignore short term challenges and pains on the path of purpose.

6. Seek help and stay connected

The problems one is facing are not fundamentally new. Stay connected with good people. The longest study in happiness done at Harvard University shows that relationships are the most effective source of happiness. Sharing one's problems with trusted people helps in feeling better. Ask others for help and learn from them.

7. Stay optimistic

Every thing is temporary and the times change. Keep an optimistic approach to life. Even when there is a lot of chaos and non-sense, one can look inside and work on oneself to stay calm, composed and optimistic.

The overall control still stays in one's hand on what to focus on, how to react and how to use the limited resources of time, energy and attention to stay focused on living a good life.

The author is a Professor of Strategy at the Management Development Institute, Gurgaon. He is popularly known as India's Happiness Professor and India's Happiness Guru.

Dr Rajesh K Pillania, Professor, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon.

POEMS

33rd Poem on Air

The country with the face of its mother
tattooed across its chest searched
for connection like the coiler
of telephone coils unemployed
in the wireless era
The person whose frequent word
was free looked up at the same spot
On the ceiling as the person
whose common word was not
As the performance kicked off
& the subject took the stage
The voluptuous sadness of Friday
was colored by rain
The bearded people turned
to the unbearded people
When diversity equity & inclusion
became unlawful
The subject returned to the park
handcuffed in air littered
with bits of night
The stars outdoors beyond the air
performed a kind of sequined panting
like the subject's panic dancing
under twisting colored lights

By Terrance Hayes

Parveen Shakir: The Poetess of fragrance, reigning on throne of belovedness

Like a delicate fragrance, she entered the garden of Urdu literature and swiftly permeated minds and hearts with the beauty of her personality, her self-confidence, the softness and sweetness of her expression, and poetry that sank deep into the soul. At a very young age, she attained a level of fame, popularity, and indeed, belovedness that only a fortunate few ever experience.

This extraordinary figure was Parveen Shakir, the poetess of Khushbu (Fragrance), who committed feminine emotions and sensitivities to paper with complete honesty and brilliance.

Although strong voices such as Ada Jafri and Fehmida Riaz had already existed before her, each writing in her own distinct tone and rhythm, Parveen Shakir's distinction lies in the fact that her poetry fully embodies a woman's emotions in all their shades and hues. Colours, fragrance, breeze, clouds, the laughter of rain, the smiles of flowers, the songs of birds, and her own whispers that at times become self-dialogue, sometimes a sob, sometimes a groan, and sometimes a silent scream.

Parveen Shakir was born on November 24, 1952, in Karachi, into a scholarly and literary family. Her father, Syed Shakir Hussain Saqib, hailed from Laheriya Sarai in the Darbhanga district of Bihar and migrated to Karachi after the creation of Pakistan, where he settled permanently. Parveen began composing poetry at a very young age, encouraged and guided by her father, who himself was a poet and used the pen name "Shakir."

She completed her matriculation from Razvia Girls School, Karachi, and earned her bachelor's degree from Sir Syed College. In 1972, she obtained her master's degree in English Literature from the University of Karachi, followed by another master's degree in Linguistics. In addition, she earned a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. After completing her education, she joined Abdullah Girls College, Karachi, as a lecturer, and later taught at Jamia College and Trinity College for nine years.

After clearing the Central Superior Services (CSS) examination, she was appointed Second Secretary at the Central Board of Revenue in Karachi in 1982 and later served as Deputy Collector in Islamabad.

At the age of 25, her first poetry collection, Khushbu (Fragrance), was published and created a sensation in



literary circles. For this collection, she was awarded the Adamjee Award. In 1982, while she was appearing for the CSS examination, a question in the Urdu paper was based on her poetry, an unprecedented honour that Parveen Shakir cherished with pride throughout her life.

Her debut collection, Khushbu, was like a perfumed breeze in the garden of Urdu poetry, startling both critics and readers alike. While feminine modes of expression already existed, the art of portraying women's emotions with cultural grace, delicacy, and refinement truly entered the literary world through her poetry. Parveen Shakir's work charts the emotional journey of a young girl's vibrant and tender feelings through the stages of being a life partner, a mother, and finally a mature, conscious woman.

She was the "girl of fragrance," in whose inner city love enters quietly, leaving her caught in a state where she can neither hide it nor express it. Alone, she trembles at the thought that her face might betray her heart. Dreams shatter into fragments, the lanes of the heart grow desolate, and behind half-open windows, the same season lingers for ages, the season of waiting.

From the beginning of time, displacement has been a woman's fate. She has little control over joy and sorrow, happiness and grief, coercion and choice. Bound by male permission, she is confined within the limits she is allowed, living and dying within that boundary. Within this circle, she fills the canvas of her life with dark and light shades of sorrow and joy. This vulnerability, exposure, separation, and longing also became Parveen Shakir's share. "How can I say he has left me?

It is true, but the truth is humiliating." Yet, only in Parveen Shakir's poetry does one find the courage to pray for the beloved even while bearing the devastation of lonely nights:

"May your world remain as inhabited as your heart,

May the catastrophe of lonely nights never befall you."

The anguish of solitude, the sorrow of losing by speaking the truth, wandering pain, brokenness, and rainbow-coloured dreams turning to ashes recur in various forms in her poetry:

"Let my dreams burn, let the flame of longing in my eyes die out

Like henna's colour slipping softly from the palm."

"Let there be a season of breaking and scattering A flower's prayer, a breeze's wave, softly." By the time Sad Barg appeared, both her life and poetry had undergone a transformation. After fighting many battles in the arena of the soul, weariness filled her eyes, fatigue settled into her body, and the sorrow of lost gentle dreams followed her. Difficult paths, journeys under harsh sunlight, longing for freedom in a city bound by chains, unkind seasons, rebellion in the soil, the politics of winds, and scattered flowers became her destiny. She yearned for rain all her life, yet received only the season of barren trees.

"In prayers for rain, the moisture of an eye would suffice Such companionship of emotion was once enough." Beyond ghazals, Parveen Shakir's poems also powerfully address women's emotional and psychological issues. Works like Khwab, Shehr-e-Chara-Garan, Larkiyan Udaas Hain, Masla, Stenographer, and Working Woman stand as strong examples. In an era when rulers sealed lips, she voiced protest through symbols, metaphors, and myths, sometimes in ghazals, sometimes in free verse. Poems such as Taqiya, Iran, Roz-e-Siyah, Ek Ma'qul Nikah, and Phir Wohi Farman reflect this resistance.

YUGMARG
News
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Sixth evening of the Kangra Valley Carnival will be dedicated to Babbu Maan

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: Deputy Commissioner Kangra, Hemraj Bairwa, informed that the sixth evening of the Kangra Valley Carnival 2025 will be held on Monday, December 29th, from 5:00 PM onwards, as a grand Punjabi Star Night. The chief guest for this evening will be the Chairman of the Tourism Development Corporation (Cabinet Rank), RS Bali. The Deputy Commissioner stated that the biggest attraction of this special evening will be the renowned Punjabi singer Babbu Maan. Babbu Maan's presence will make the sixth evening of the carnival even more memorable. In addition, other artists including Suchi, Rohit Vohra, and Varsha Katoch will also present their captivating performances. He further informed that a women's group competition will be organized on this day, and the final match of the football tournament will also be played. Deputy Commissioner Hemraj Bairwa said that the Kangra Valley Carnival is not only providing a platform for the district's rich cultural heritage but is also giving opportunities to local artists and promoting tourism. He appealed to the residents of the district and tourists to attend in large numbers and enjoy this grand Punjabi Star Night and make the event a success.

NEWS BRIEF

MP Mobile Health Service in Haroli



AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB: The "Sansad Mobile Health Service" team, Haroli, achieved remarkable success in rural health in 2025. According to data released by the team, a total of 21,601 health checkups and 11,201 medical tests were conducted free of charge throughout the year. This service has become a lifeline in areas where healthcare facilities are limited. By providing medical care to the elderly, disabled, and those with mobility impairments at their doorsteps, the team has instilled both confidence and relief in the community. The annual report specifically highlighted that women benefited the most. In rural areas, women often neglect their illnesses due to household chores and livelihoods. In such a situation, this service reached their doorsteps, providing both health awareness and testing. Regular health camps – in panchayats, schools and Anganwadi centres. Free tests – Diabetes, BP, Children's blood group etc.

CM Dhami inaugurates, lays foundation for development schemes worth over 114 cr

AGENCY
NAINITAL, DEC 28

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 13 development projects worth Rs 121 crore 52 lakh 46 thousand in Nainital on Thursday. The foundation stone was laid for the long-awaited Metropole Surface Parking Project, to be constructed at a cost of Rs 42 crore 77 lakh 31 thousand.

Out of the total projects, two schemes worth Rs 30 crore 66 lakh were inaugurated, while 11 schemes worth Rs 90 crore 86 lakh 46 thousand were laid with foundation stones.

In a post on X, CM Dhami shared, "In Nainital district today, giving a new momentum to regional development, inauguration and foundation stone laying of various development projects costing Rs 121.52 crore was done. Along with



this, the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of surface parking in the Metro Hotel complex (enemy property) was also performed, with an estimated cost of Rs 42.77 crore. This project is an important step towards making the city's traffic system smoother and resolving the long-term parking problem. On this occasion, Honourable MLA Sarita Arya BJP ji, BJP District President Shri Pratap Bisht ji, along with other dignitaries, were present."

Under the inaugurated schemes, Sukha Tal Lake has been developed as a recharge zone and tourist destination at a cost of Rs 29 crore 16 lakh. The project included conservation and beautification of Sukha Tal Lake, construction of two lakes with a duct between them, installation of an aeration plant to maintain water purity, construction of nine shops and a toilet block, development of a lift and transit building connected to the main road for site access, and construction of a pedestrian pathway around the lake. Additionally, structural strengthening and restoration work of the library at Government Girls Inter College, Kaladhungi Road, Haldwani, approved under the District Mineral Trust Scheme, was completed at a cost of Rs 1 crore 50 lakh.

The Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for 11 development projects across various areas of the district.

PM Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' focuses on youth, health and solar energy: Anil Vij

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
AMBALA, DEC 28

Haryana's Energy, Transport and Labour Minister, Sh. Anil Vij said that Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi's last 'Mann Ki Baat' programme of the year 2025 was broadcast today, during which he, as always, engaged meaningfully with the nation on several important information. He said that through every episode, the Prime Minister shares useful and inspiring information to make citizens more aware and informed.

Sh. Anil Vij was responding to questions from media persons after listening to and watching the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme. He said that in today's episode, the Prime Minister laid special emphasis on the youth, appreciating their hard work, innovation, and achievements across various fields. The Energy Minister said that the



Prime Minister also highlighted the advisory issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), urging people to avoid the unnecessary use of antibiotics. He clarified that consuming antibiotics without proper medical tests and a doctor's advice can lead to serious health problems in the future, as excessive use reduces the effectiveness of these medicines. Vij further said that the Prime Minister placed special focus on the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. He said that in Haryana, the government is providing a grant of Rs. One lakh and 10 thousand for installing solar systems of up to 2 kilowatts, and the system can be installed at nearly the same cost. Once installed, households get almost complete relief from electricity bills. He appealed to all eligible citizens to avail the benefits of this scheme.

Cong flags unfurled at Rajiv Bhawan as party marks 140th foundation day



DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA: The 140th foundation day of the Indian National Congress was marked at the party's state headquarters, Rajiv Bhawan, on Saturday with flag hoisting led by the Seva Dal. Horticulture and Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi unfurled the party flag and took the salute from the Seva Dal contingent. He also congratulated Seva Dal members on their foundation day, describing the organisation as an integral arm of the Congress that has always stood at the forefront. Addressing party workers at Rajiv Bhawan, Jagat Singh Negi said the Congress has a legacy of sacrifice and has made a major contribution from India's freedom struggle to the building of modern India. He underlined Shimla's historic association with the Congress, noting that several national and international agreements were concluded in the city. Emphasising the need to preserve this legacy, he advocated the establishment of a Congress museum in Shimla to pass on the party's history and ideology to future generations. Criticising the BJP, Negi said the erstwhile Jana Sangh had no role in either the freedom movement or nation-building. He alleged that the Constitution and democracy had been weakened under the present dispensation and called upon party workers to unite to safeguard democratic values. Earlier, Chief Minister's Principal Media Adviser Naresh Chauhan said the Congress has been led by towering leaders who made supreme sacrifices to preserve the unity and integrity of the nation.

Annual programme organised at Kalsia Senior Secondary School



R K KASHYAP
CHHACHHRAULI: An event was organised at Kalsia Senior Secondary School in the town to celebrate the school's 25th anniversary. The chief guests at the event honored the students who had performed exceptionally well in the school. The students also presented a colorful cultural program. The program began with the lighting of the lamp by the chief guests. During the program, the younger students captivated everyone with their vibrant performances. The children gave excellent performances of Haryanvi songs in traditional Haryanvi attire. The colorful program included patriotic songs and a dramatic portrayal of the martyrdom of our brave soldiers who lost their lives in the Uri attack in Jammu and Kashmir. The chief guests and parents present at the event were deeply moved by the children's excellent performances. Similarly, former CDPO Satpal Kaur also sang a Punjabi song, "Babul Meriya Gudiya Tere Ghar Reh Gaiya," which made everyone emotional for a few moments. The school principal, Ashok Chauhan, welcomed and thanked all the chief guests. He said that Kalsia Senior Secondary School has been continuously providing quality education to children for the past 25 years.

Dr. Suneet Anand receives Honorary Doctorate from Frankford International University



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: At the National Corruption Free India Seminar organised by the Anti-Corruption Foundation of India, registered with the Government of India, Dr. Suneet Anand, the International Chairman of the Foundation from Indore district of Madhya Pradesh, was presented with a certificate and trophy for the Honorary Doctorate he received from Frankford International University, USA, for his contributions in the field of social service. The Honorary Doctorate trophy and certificate were presented to Dr. Suneet Anand by the Foundation's National Chief Supremo Narendra Arora, National Chief Director and BSF Assistant Commandant Naresh Kumar, and National President of the Political Cell, Gaurav Gaba. On this occasion, Narendra Arora said that Dr. Suneet Anand, a resident of Indore district in Madhya Pradesh, is a renowned senior social worker who has been actively working in the field of social service for a long time. Considering his social service work, Frankford International University in the USA has honored Dr. Suneet Anand with an Honorary Doctorate in the field of social service. He said that Dr. Suneet Anand is also the International Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Foundation of India and is playing a key role in the field of anti-corruption awareness.

Alumni meet organised at Indira Gandhi PG Women's College



SANJAY SHARMA
KAITHAL: A grand alumni meet was successfully organized for the former students of Indira Gandhi P.G. Women's College, Kaithal. The event was graced by the presence of the college's management committee, the college principal, and faculty members, along with special guests Amita Khurania, Anita Khurania, and Avani.The alumni present at the ceremony expressed immense joy at returning to their alma mater. They introduced themselves and shared their experiences related to the college. Meeting their old friends, they refreshed their memories and shared their life experiences with each other. Many former students captivated everyone with their cultural performances. Alumni from batches ranging from 1973 to 2024 participated in the event. They toured the college and took selfies with their friends, reminiscing about the old days, creating a very pleasant atmosphere throughout the campus. The ceremony was presided over by Ram Bahadur Khurania, President of the college's management committee. In his address, he said that alumni are the identity and pride of any educational institution, and their achievements take the college to new heights.

Dispute over children turns fatal in Tapa Mandi, elderly man dies; two cousins booked

KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: A fight between two parties over children in Bazigar Basti of Tapa Mandi resulted in the death of an old man. On which the police have registered a case against two cousins. Giving information about the case, Police Station Chief Sharif Khan said that the plaintiff Rajwinder Singh alias Sallu son of Ram Ji Das, resident of Bazigar Basti Tapa, wrote a statement to City Incharge Karamjit Singh that my father Ram Ji Das (60) who was a hard worker. In our neighborhood, Ravi Kumar son of Jagsir Ram and Ajay Kumar son of Gurdev Ram, resident of Bazigar Basti Tapa, who are cousins. My daughter Sunita Devi and Ravi Kumar's sister Renu are friends. On December 25, my daughter Sunita's friend Renu came to her, followed by her brother Ravi Kumar. He grabbed his sister Renu and took her to his house and started beating her. Then Ravi Kumar brought an iron rod from his house. As soon as he came, he started abusing my daughter Sunita Devi who was standing in the street. Hearing the noise outside, my father came out of the house. When Ravi Kumar stopped my daughter from abusing her, he got angry and hit my father on the head with the rod he was holding.



Committee alleges DMFT fund diversion, warns of major public movement



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: Accociate Cement Company (ACC) Gagal run under Adani Group Affected Area Struggle Committee has raised serious allegations against the district administration, accusing it of misusing and diverting funds of the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) meant exclusively for mining-affected regions. The committee has strongly objected to any attempt to amend DMFT rules and divert funds to non-affected areas, warning that such actions will not be tolerated. Addressing a press conference on Sunday, Chief Advisor and senior advocate of the ACC Affected Area Struggle Committee, Bhagat Singh Verma stated that villages such as Dhoun Kothi and Panjgain Kunnu in the Gram Panchayat have been severely impacted by the establishment of the ACC Cement Factory.

Sanitation Workers warn of complete strike over garbage disposal issue

SUKH NAHAR
JAGRAON: The issue of garbage disposal in Jagraon city has been prominent this year as the municipal council fails to deal with waste management issues. District President of Safai Sewak Union Punjab, Arun Gill, stated that the problem of garbage disposal in the city of Jagraon has been ongoing for a long time. Due to this issue, city residents have staged protests, leading to the closure of several secondary garbage collection points at different locations. "As a result, following verbal directions from senior officials, MC Jagraon had been collecting garbage from various wards of the city and dumping it within the premises of the Nagar Council. However, a few days ago, residents staged a protest to stop garbage dumping inside the Nagar Council, after which dumping garbage there was also prohibited," he added. Gill further said that consequently, the sanitation workers of Nagar Council Jagraon have stopped lifting garbage from the city. However, cleaning work such as sweeping, cleaning of drains, and desilting of nullahs and vacant plots is still ongoing. Arun Gill warned that if within the next two to four days the senior officials of Nagar Council Jagraon fail to make proper arrangements for garbage storage and management, and if secondary collection points are not made operational, the Safai Sewak Union will be compelled to go on a complete strike.



Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Shiksha Vikas Trust enrolls 2 daughters in memory of younger Sahibzadas: Ranga

DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA: In the sacred memory of the younger Sahibzadas, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Shiksha Vikas Trust enrolled two daughters awoke the cause of education. Trust Chairman Miha Singh Ranga said that the Trust has always been dedicated to the education of girls and constantly strived to help those daughters who were without parents or fathers to progress in the field of education. On Sunday, in the sacred memory of the younger Sahibzadas, my mother, Mrs. Risali Devi, did a sacred deed by enrolling two daughters. This act of mother is very commendable and we salute her. Trust President Mrs. Sweety Ranga said that today daughters were ahead in every field and they should be educated as much as possible so that they too can make their own future. Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Trust has always been dedicated to the education of girls.



Jat Sevak Sangh conducts talent search examination successfully across Haryana



HANS RAJ YADAV
HISAR: The Jat Sevak Sangh successfully conducted a talent search examination for Class 10 students of the Jat community across Haryana on December 28, 2025. Thousands of students participated enthusiastically in the OMR-based examination, which was held smoothly and peacefully at centres set up in Hisar, Bhiwani, Kurukshetra, Fatehabad, Faridabad, Kaithal, Rohtak, Jind, Sirsa and Sonipat. Sharing details, Sangh spokesperson Surendra Panu Hindustani said the examination comprised 60 multiple-choice questions and was held from 12 noon to 2 pm. He said the initiative aimed at identifying and encouraging meritorious students from the community at an early stage. According to the organisers, the top seven performers in the examination will be awarded cash prizes, while the next 50 participants will receive consolation prizes. In addition, the Sangh has decided to bear the complete educational expenses for the next two years of 10 needy students selected from among the participants, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder their academic progress.

Congress will fight assembly elections unitedly: Aujla



KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: The Congress party will contest the 2027 assembly elections with full strength and plan and the next government in Punjab will be of the Congress. The Congress will take the failures of the AAP government to the people's court and with the cooperation of the people, will eradicate the anti-people thinking of the Aam Aadmi Party from the map of Punjab. These things were said by Gurjit Singh Aujla, Member of Parliament from the Amritsar Lok Sabha constituency, while talking at the residence of MLA Kuldeep Singh Kala Dhillon. On this occasion, Aujla attended a brief function on the death anniversary of the country's late Prime Minister and economist Sardar Manmohan Singh at the residence of MLA Kala Dhillon and paid tributes. Talking to reporters, Mr. Aujla said that the BJP government at the center has insulted the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi by changing the basic form of the MGNREGA scheme and removing the name of Mahatma Gandhi from it, while also stopping the scheme of the world famous economist late Prime Minister Sardar Manmohan Singh that guaranteed employment for the workers of the country.

`Sava lakh se ek ladaun tabe Gobind Singh Naam Kahaun': Gurmat Samagam held on Prakash Parv

DINKAR GAWADI
HANSI: Today, the Prakash Parv of Sarbans Dani Tenth Guru Gobind Singh was celebrated with great devotion at Gurdwara Baba Banda Singh Bahadur, Sabzi Mandi, Hansi. Satwant Singh Ghai, the secretary of the Gurdwara Management Committee, said that despite the morning chill, the devotees enthusiastically participated in the early morning processions (Prabhat Pheris) that had started on December 17th, culminating in today's procession. After the completion of the Akhand Path (continuous recitation of the Guru Granth Sahib) at 9 AM, a grand Gurmat congregation commenced. Bhai Satwinder Singh captivated the congregation with his melodious rendition of the hymn "Waho Waho Gobind Singh." Following this, the Panthic Dhadi Jatha from Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar, comprising Bhai Raghubir Singh Khalsa and his associates Bibi Manjit Kaur, Bibi Sukhvir Kaur, and Bibi Gurvinder Kaur, enthralled the audience with their melodious singing of poems depicting events from Guru Gobind Singh's life. Katha Vachak Bhai Navjot Singh from Gurdaspur, Punjab, narrated the history of the Guru, describing how Guru Sahib, at the age of nine, requested his father, Guru Tegh Bahadur, to be martyred in Delhi, and how he sacrificed his two elder sons in the Battle of Chamkaur and his two younger sons by having them bricked alive in Sirhind, thus sacrificing everything for the protection of the country and religion.



Shri Hindu Takht delegation raises concern over attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh, crime and extortion in Punjab



RADHE SHYAM SHARMA
MORINDA: A delegation of Shri Hindu Takht, led by Punjab pracharak Om Gautam, held a meeting here with the organisation's national president Parveen Sharma and national pracharak Ravinder Sharma, during which serious concerns were raised over attacks on the Hindu community in Bangladesh, the killing of traders and incidents of extortion in Punjab, and cases of cow slaughter. During the interaction, national president Parveen Sharma urged the Central government to take up the issue of attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh with the Bangladesh government and adopt stringent measures to ensure the safety of the minority community there. He also expressed concern over the recurring killings of traders and extortion rackets in Punjab, demanding that the Punjab government take strict action against gangster groups involved in forced extortion so that fear among traders is eliminated.

CHANDIGARH

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Pernod Ricard India launches seagram's Xclamat!on in Haryana

PANIPAT : Pernod Ricard India announces the launch of Seagram's Xclamat!on in Haryana, marking the company's most ambitious innovation in 30 years. Seagram's Xclamat!on is India's singular brand portfolio having five distinct spirit categories, Whisky, Vodka, Gin, Rum, and Brandy, all at a uniform price point, in the premium admix segment. The brand is strategically positioned in a sizeable white space at the entry-level premium price segment, catering to India's rapidly growing young adult consumer base. The target consumer is 26 – 30 years. These consumers are effortless statement makers and gravitate towards what's distinct. They connect in tribes and when they get together in mixed gender gatherings, everyone has a different preference of beverage. That explains the growth of categories beyond Whisky, such as Gin, Vodka, Rum and Brandy. With over 20 million consumers entering the legal drinking age category annually, Xclamat!on addresses an unmet market need for quality spirits at accessible premium pricing. The brand's proposition, "It's time for Xclamat!on", positions it as a catalyst that transforms ordinary moments into extraordinary experiences, for India's new generation of consumers.

NEWS BRIEF

THINK Gas Slashes CNG Prices in Kangra

KANGRA: Following the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board's (PNGRB) revision of the Unified Tariff, THINK Gas has announced a reduction CNG prices in Kangra making clean transport fuel even more affordable for the families in the region. The revised prices will come into effect from 1 January 2026. CNG prices in Kangra will be revised under the new tariff framework, benefiting daily commuters, auto drivers, taxi operators, and public transport users. Under the revised pricing, CNG will be available at Rs, 83.75 per kg, ensuring that the benefit of the tariff revision is passed on directly to THINK Gas consumers. Vinukumar Balakrishnan, Chief Marketing and Commercial Officer, THINK Gas said that the Unified Tariff revision by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board allows us to pass on better pricing to consumers.

Samsung to Unveil Next Phase of AI Appliances, Push Boundaries of Tvs at CES: JB Park

CHANDIGARH: Samsung is all set to rollout its vision for the Device eXperience Division in 2026 and its new AI-driven customer experiences at CES, the world's largest IT and home appliance exhibition.JB Park, President and CEO of Samsung Southwest Asia, said, "Samsung AI appliances are approaching another turning point, delivering differentiated experiences that more deeply understand users' daily lives and significantly enhance the value of everyday living. The next phase will be unveiled at CES 2026, the world's largest consumer electronics and IT exhibition. We will also push boundaries of TV at 'The First Look' event on January 4, 2026 at Las Vegas."

Samsung to Operate a Standalone Exhibition Hall at CES 2026 That Delivers an AI Ecosystem Experience

CHANDIGARH: Samsung, India's leading consumer electronics brand, today announced that it will boldly break away from the conventional exhibition framework and present a new exhibition paradigm with The First Look at CES 2026, the world's largest consumer electronics show, to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on Jan. 6–9.For The First Look, the company is shifting from operating a public booth within the Las Vegas Convention Center (LVCC) to establishing a standalone exhibition hall at The Wynn Las Vegas. There, Samsung will curate an experience that adopts techniques used in art galleries and museums to unveil its new products and technologies.

Cardiologists Call for Science-Led Reassessment of Saturated Fats and Palm Oil at IMA NATCON 2025

CHANDIGARH : At the 100th National Conference of the Indian Medical Association (IMA NATCON 2025), cardiologists called for a more evidence-based understanding of dietary fats and cardiovascular health, emphasising that long-standing assumptions must be reviewed in light of evolving scientific evidence. The centenary edition of IMA NATCON brought together thousands of doctors, researchers, and healthcare leaders from across India, reinforcing its role as a key platform for shaping clinical and public-health perspectives. Two expert-led sessions by Dr Varun Bansal and Dr Ketan Mehta provided clinical clarity on topics often clouded by misinformation, examining the role of dietary fats, palm oil and emerging cardiometabolic interventions through the lens of clinical evidence and global research.

Ramraj Cotton Expands Its Premium Offering with Elite White Cotton Fabric Collections

AMRITSAR:-- India's leading name in traditional menswear textiles Ramraj Cotton celebrates the timeless appeal of the colour white, an enduring symbol of tradition, purity and premium appeal. Known for its unmistakable brightness, Ramraj White stands apart in the market, a signature bright white that has come to define the brand's identity. Speaking about the new fabric collection, Shri K.R. Nagarajan, Founder and Chairman of Ramraj Cotton, said, "At Ramraj Cotton, we have always remained rooted in traditional textile craftsmanship while continuously enhancing our offerings with premium and globally respected cotton varieties. When people think of pure cotton or white fabrics, they naturally think of Ramraj. Along with our 4,000plus dhoti varieties, these white fabrics stand as a continuation of the legacy we have built, a legacy where every weave carries the pride of our people, the skill of our weavers and the purity that defines Ramraj."

Prestigious National Cricket Coaches Award 2026–27 Announced by GMCL & GMBCA

NEW DELHI: A Press and Media meet was held at the GMCL Headquarters, where the Prestigious National Cricket Coaches Award 2026–2027 was formally announced by the GM Box Cricket Association (GMBCA) and the Gali Mohalla Cricket League (GMCL). Addressing the media, Baba Inder Preet Singh, Founder of GMCL, said that the initiative is a heartfelt tribute to recognise and acknowledge the tireless efforts of local cricket coaches working at the grassroots level, who play a crucial role in shaping the future of Indian cricket. He added that these Pan-India, state-wise awards aim to bring coaches into the spotlight and create public awareness about their years of dedication, struggles, and commitment in laying a strong foundation for the country's aspiring young cricketers. Students can nominate their coaches by referring their profiles, or coaches can directly submit their brief profiles through www.gmbca.org or www.gmcricketleague.com. After a shortlisting process, selected coaches will be honoured with the award. In addition to the recognition, their profiles will also be promoted nationally.

Grand Christmas Celebration Unites Thousands at Kanchan Mittal Ministries

CHANDIGARH: Kanchan Mittal Ministries hosted a magnificent Christmas celebration as thousands of believers from more than 20 states across India gathered to joyfully commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ.
The grand gathering was marked by an atmosphere of heartfelt worship, unity, and celebration, drawing families, youth, church leaders, and ministers from across the nation.
The powerful Christmas service was led by Pastor Kanchan Mittal, Apostle Abhishek Mittal, and Pastor Ashish Mittal, who ministered together with inspiring messages centered on hope, salvation, and the boundless love of Christ.
The celebration began with vibrant worship and praise, setting a spirit-filled tone for the evening. This was followed by a special Christmas message reminding the congregation of the true meaning of the season. Quoting Scripture, the leaders proclaimed:

Yogi Adityanath pushes for 'Smart policing', Vision 2047 at police meet



AGENCY

LUCKNOW : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday attended the second day of the 'Police Manthan' Senior Police Officers' Conference-2025 at the Police Headquarters, emphasising the state's commitment to strengthening law enforcement.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister highlighted the significance of implementing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of smart policing and Vision 2047, noting that the comprehensive roadmap developed over the past two days would serve as a key reference for building a modern, efficient, and self-reliant police force in Uttar Pradesh.

"To realise the Prime Minister's vision of smart policing and Vision 2047, the roadmap developed over the past two days outlines the type of police force needed for a developed and self-reliant India. This will be critically important. For this, the 11 sessions, which we have deliberated upon and examined closely here, will prove to be a crucial document for our future action plan and strategy," he said.

"This felicitation ceremony today is also a ceremony to honour the officers of the UP Police and its various wings, who have been awarded the Chief Minister's Excellence Award in different years. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of them," the Chief Minister added.

Yogi Adityanath highlighted the UP Police's commitment to modern challenges, citing the 2020 launch of the "Mission Shakti" program. He further said that the initiative was focused on crimes against women and children, cybercrime, police ethics, infrastructure for a four lakh-strong force, disaster management, intelligence, Nepal border security, terrorism, and human trafficking. "The Uttar Pradesh Police is committed to the times we live in. In 2020, the "Mission Shakti" program was launched, which included presentations on crimes against women and children. Discussions were also held on the present structure of our police stations, cybercrime-related issues, and the infrastructure and arrangements required for a civil police force of 400,000 personnel.

SS Innovations International Hosts India's First Robotic Telesurgery Marathon



Chandigarh, 28th December 2025: SS Innovations International Inc, the developer of India's first indigenous surgical robotic system, SSII Mantra announces a landmark achievement with the successful completion of 100 robotic telesurgeries. This milestone marks a significant step forward in the evolution of technology-enabled healthcare, demonstrating how advanced surgical expertise can be delivered reliably across distances through indigenous innovation.

To commemorate this achievement, SS Innovations International hosted India's first Marathon Robotic Telesurgery, during which 20 plus tele-enabled robotic surgeries were performed in a single day. This initiative serves as a real-world clinical validation of the SSII Mantra platform, showcasing its precision, safety, and scalability across multiple surgical specialties. It further highlights the growing role of robotic telesurgery in strengthening healthcare infrastructure and extending specialist driven care to regions beyond major metropolitan centres.

The milestone underscores the transformative potential of telesurgery for a nation of 1.4 billion people where access to advanced surgical care remains uneven. By enabling expert surgeons to operate remotely, SSII Mantra helps bridge critical healthcare gaps, reduces geographic inequities, and supports the creation of a more inclusive and resilient healthcare ecosystem while reinforcing India's emergence as a global leader in medical technology and surgical innovation.

"Completing 100 telesurgeries with SSII Mantra represents a defining moment for Indian medtech innovation," says Dr Sudhir Srivastava, Founder, Chairman and CEO of SS Innovations International, Inc, "This Marathon Robotic Telesurgery is a real clinical demonstration of scale precision and reliability. Our mission is to ensure that advanced surgical care is no longer restricted by geographies and that world class expertise developed in India can reach patients everywhere through safe and dependable technology."

The Marathon Robotic Telesurgery features leading surgeons from across specialties.

Dr Sudhir Rawal, Medical Director and Chief of Uro Genito Oncology Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre commented, "Robotic telesurgery using SSII Mantra enables precise and timely cancer care for patients who may otherwise lack access to specialized surgical expertise. This milestone reflects a meaningful shift in how oncology care can be delivered at scale."

Dr Mohit Bhandari, President IRCAD India and Director of Bariatric Surgery Mohak Bariatrics and Robotics added, "This achievement establishes telesurgery as a practical and scalable solution rather than a future concept. It demonstrates how complex procedures can be decentralized without compromising clinical outcomes."

"Safar-e-Shahadat" Free Bus Service Concludes; 12,000 Devotees Pay Homage to Sahibzadas at Fatehgarh Sahib



CHANDIGARH/AMRITSAR: Dedicated to the unparalleled martyrdom of the four Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Gujri Ji, the "Safar-e-Shahadat" free bus service, initiated from Halka North by social worker and BJP leader Akshay Sharma, concluded today with a powerful message of communal harmony, unity, and brotherhood.
During the seven-day service, nearly 12,000 devotees were transported to Sri Fatehgarh Sahib through a total of 150 buses to pay obeisance. On the final day, 40 buses were flagged off, marking the successful culmination of the initiative. The service witnessed enthusiastic participation not only from Sikh devotees but also from members of the Hindu, Muslim, and Christian communities, who appreciated the spirit of inclusiveness and unity behind the initiative. Speaking on the occasion, Akshay Sharma said that the primary objective of launching the service was to connect today's younger generation with the glorious and inspiring history of Sikhism. He emphasized that the extraordinary courage and supreme sacrifice of the Sahibzadas for the protection of faith should not only be remembered but deeply understood and internalised. He shared that the journey was initially planned with a limited number of buses, but overwhelming support from volunteers and well-wishers transformed it into a large-scale movement.

Amit Shah inaugurates development projects worth Rs 330 crore in Ahmedabad

GANDHINAGAR: In the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation organised a programme in which Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated and e-inaugurated various development projects worth Rs 330 crore, unveiled the idol of Lord Ganesh, and distributed sanad (certificates) to the rehabilitated residents of Nava Vanzar village.
As part of the programme, the Western Trunk Main Line Project, an important initiative for the western and south-western areas of Ahmedabad city, was also inaugurated.
On this occasion, the Union Home Minister said, "This is a small yet extremely important programme that brings joy to the heart. Citizens who lost everything in the Sabarmati flood tragedy of 1973 have today, after 50 years, received the right to ownership of plots. In a large city like Ahmedabad, 173 beneficiaries may seem few in number, but for them, this moment is extremely historic and emotional."



He congratulated local public representative Amit Thakar, the Mayor of Ahmedabad, and the Municipal Commissioner for this sensitive decision. He said that a problem that has persisted for five decades has now found a permanent resolution, reflecting sensitive governance. He stated that earlier, there was no systematic arrangement for sewage disposal for nearly 15 lakh citizens of western and south-western Ahmedabad. Between 2000 and 2005, areas from Shela to Chandkheda witnessed rapid urbanisation, but developing a complete drainage system required substantial financial resources and a long period of time. He added that, as a Member of Parliament, he was deeply concerned to see sewage overflowing in certain areas.

Mount Carmel Winter Carnival 'MCC 2025' Draws Huge Crowd from Tricity, Celebrates Talent, Creativity and Festive Spirit

CHANDIGARH: Mount Carmel School's much-awaited Winter Carnival MCC 2025 turned out to be a grand success, attracting a large number of parents and local residents from across the Tricity. Organised under the able guidance of the Founders and Directors of Mount Carmel Schools, Dr Earnest Charles J. Samuel and Dr Annie Charles Samuel, along with Principal Dr Parveena John Singh, the two-day carnival was a vibrant celebration of talent, creativity, and festive joy.
Hosted at Mount Carmel School, Sector 47, Chandigarh, the campus witnessed an impressive footfall on both days. Students enthusiastically took responsibility for decorating and managing the stalls, transforming the school premises into a colourful and lively carnival space. A wide variety of food stalls, thrilling rides, and entertaining games catered to visitors of all age groups. The stage remained abuzz with energetic dance and music performances, while students from various schools across the Tricity showcased their skills in events such as the Inter-School Rock Band Competition, Inter-School Solo Mime Competition, and a specially curated Talent Show for Parents, which received immense appreciation. The first day of the carnival was graced by Mr Rajinder Singh, IPS, Former Director General of Police, Punjab, as the Chief Guest, while Dr Sumit Srivastava, Principal, Dhanwantry Ayurvedic College and Hospital, Chandigarh, attended as the Guest of Honour. One of the major highlights of the carnival was the MCC Fashion Show, featuring the much-awaited Mr & Miss MCC 2025 contest for Class X students.
Seher Kaushal was crowned Miss MCC 2025, while Jairaj Singh Lathar won the title of Mr MCC 2025, drawing thunderous applause from the audience.

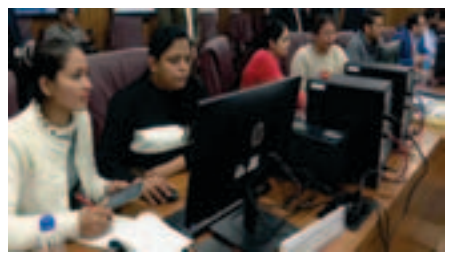


Ramraj Cotton Expands Its Premium Offering with Elite White Cotton Fabric Collections

CHANDIGARH: Ramraj Cotton, India's leading name in traditional menswear textiles, celebrates the timeless appeal of the colour white, an enduring symbol of tradition, purity and premium appeal. Known for its unmistakable brightness, Ramraj White stands apart in the market, a signature bright white that has come to define the brand's identity.
What truly sets Ramraj Cotton apart is its ability to deliver the same radiant white, day after day, all year round. With uncompromising consistency in shade, quality and finish, the brand offers one of the most extensive white fabric portfolios in the industry, over 500 varieties spanning 100% cotton, Giza blends, linen cotton, poly viscose, 100% Giza cotton, pure linen, cotton with paper finishand 100% Supima cotton.
Speaking about the new fabric collection, Shri K.R. Nagarajan, Founder and Chairman of Ramraj Cotton, said, "At Ramraj Cotton, we have always remained rooted in traditional textile craftsmanship while continuously enhancing our offerings with premium and globally respected cotton varieties. When people think of pure cotton or white fabrics, they naturally think of Ramraj.

Civil Aviation Ministry launches 24x7 Control Room, resolves over 14,000 grievances

NEW DELHI The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has operationalised a dedicated 24x7 control room in Delhi to strengthen passenger support and streamline grievance redressal across airports and airlines. Pramod Kumar Thakur, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, said the control room has been functional since the night of December 9 and brings all key stakeholders under one roof. "This control room has been operational since the night of the 9th, and we have brought together all the stakeholders - all our airlines, airport operators, our MoCA team, our DGCA team, our development team - all the teams are seated here in one place.", Thakur said. He added that the initiative is aligned with the Ministry's "Passenger First" vision. "We are implementing the 'Passenger First' vision of our Ministers and our Secretary. Earlier, the Ministry operated an operations room; now the control room will operate 24x7 to assist passengers. We have resolved over 14,000 grievances.", he said. The control room monitors passenger complaints, airline service issues, operational challenges, and airport facilitation in real time to ensure quicker coordination and response. Thakur also highlighted the Air Sewa portal's role as a key interface for travellers. "Air Sewa is our dedicated portal where any passenger can report any kind of inconvenience they face at the airport, whether related to the airline, the airport itself.



Swiggy and Chandigarh Traffic Police organize Road Safety Awareness Training for Delivery Executives



CHANDIGARH: Swiggy (Swiggy Ltd, NSE: SWIGGY / BSE: 544285), India's pioneering on-demand convenience platform, partnered with the Chandigarh Traffic Police to organize a session on Road Safety and Traffic Awareness for its delivery partners, under the ambit of Delivering Safely, its road safety charter. The session, held on December 26, 2025, at Traffic & Security Lines, Sector 29-B, Chandigarh aimed to sensitize delivery partners on safe driving practices, adherence to traffic rules, and the consequences of traffic violations.
The sessions were organized Under the leadership of Dr. Sagar Preet Hooda, IPS, Director General of Police, U.T., Chandigarh, and the guidance of Sh. Pushpendra Kumar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, U.T., Chandigarh, Sh. Sumer Partap Singh, IPS, Senior Superintendent of Police (Security & Traffic), and under the close supervision of Sh. Lakshay Pandey, DANIPS, DSP/Traffic (R&D) Road Safety, which saw participation from over 110 delivery executives.
Under the Delivering Safely charter, Swiggy has been actively running road safety awareness programs across India in collaboration with local police departments.

Think Gas Slashes PNG and CNG Prices in Punjab

JALANDHAR : Following the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board's (PNGRB) revision of the Unified Tariff, Think Gas has announced a reduction in PNG and CNG prices in Bihar making clean cooking and transport fuel even more affordable for the families in the region. The revised prices will come into effect from 1 January 2026.
Effective from the revised tariff date, the price of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) for domestic consumers has been reduced to Rs. 42 per standard cubic metre (SCM), a drop of Rs. 2 per SCM. The revised pricing improves household savings and supports more economical everyday cooking.
CNG prices in Punjab will also be revised under the new tariff framework, benefiting daily commuters, auto drivers, taxi operators, and public transport users. Under the revised pricing, CNG will be available at Rs. 84.25 per kg, ensuring that the benefit of the tariff revision is passed on directly to consumers.

Cardiologists Call for Science-Led Reassessment of Saturated Fats and Palm Oil at IMA NATCON 2025



CHANDIGARH: At the 100th National Conference of the Indian Medical Association (IMA NATCON 2025), cardiologists called for a more evidence-based understanding of dietary fats and cardiovascular health, emphasising that long-standing assumptions must be reviewed in light of evolving scientific evidence. The centenary edition of IMA NATCON brought together thousands of doctors, researchers, and healthcare leaders from across India, reinforcing its role as a key platform for shaping clinical and public-health perspectives. Two expert-led sessions by Dr Varun Bansal and Dr Ketan Mehta provided clinical clarity on topics often clouded by misinformation, examining the role of dietary fats, palm oil and emerging cardiometabolic interventions through the lens of clinical evidence and global research.

United Sikhs Presents 2025 Global Report Honoring Shaheed Jaswant Singh Khalra's Legacy



CHANDIGARH/ MOHALI : UNITED SIKHS marked a historic moment in its global advocacy journey by presenting the UNITED SIKHS 2025 Global Report to Bibi Paramjit Kaur Khalra, widow of the legendary human rights defender Shaheed Jaswant Singh Khalra, during the solemn commemoration of the 30th anniversary of his martyrdom held at the Grand Empire Banquet Hall in Surrey on Sunday, December 21st.
The ceremony honored the enduring legacy of Jaswant Singh Khalra, who courageously exposed thousands of extrajudicial killings and disappearances in Punjab, paying the ultimate price for his commitment to truth and justice. His sacrifice continues to inspire generations of human rights defenders worldwide.
The presentation of the Global Report to Bibi Khalra symbolizes the continuation of his mission: amplifying voices against injustice, advocating for the dignity of marginalized communities, and strengthening global solidarity. The report highlights UNITED SIKHS' and advocacy work across continents, including disaster relief, civil rights campaigns, and youth empowerment initiatives. "This is a reaffirmation of our collective pledge to carry forward the vision of Shaheed Jaswant Singh Khalra," said Gurvinder Singh, International Humanitarian Aid Director, UNITED SIKHS. "His courage reminds us that truth must never be silenced, and justice must always be pursued."

Neighbourhood Development Association holds cleanliness drive in Sector 27



CHANDIGARH: Neighbourhood Development Association organised Cleanliness Drive in collaboration with Health Department, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh in Sector 27 Chandigarh.
Shikha Nijhawan, Convenor and Jasjot Singh Almast, Co-Convener of Neighbourhood Development Association in a joint statement said that the drive aimed to bring together the volunteers and residents, to revitalise public spaces. They also said that the event focused on waste collection and the beautification of the neighborhood. Dr Inderdeep Kaur, Medical Officer of Health (MOH) said that the goal of the drive is more than just picking up trash, it's about fostering a culture of collective responsibility. She further stated that when we take care of our physical environment, we improve the quality of life for every resident and set a powerful example for the next generation.
Team of residents including Mohan Singh, Tanu Arora, Rajiv Kataria, Naresh Gautam, Amardeep Sehgal, Gurdeep Chauhan, Manjit Singh Bakshi, Subhash Palta, Karuna Arora, Rama Narula, Anil Thakur, Harpreet Singh, Pushparaj Sharma, HR Dhingra, volunteered in the drive. Participants pledged to take the Cleanliness drive to other areas of the city also. Darshan Singh, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Parveen Kumar Sanitary Inspector were also present.

Langar Seva Organised on Shaheedi Dihara, A Noble Initiative by Social Workers

CHANDIGARH: On the sacred occasion of Shaheedi Dihara, a Langar Seva is being organised with the message of service, dedication, and brotherhood in society. The service programme will commence on 27 December 2025 from 9:00 AM onwards. The venue has been fixed Main Road, Sector 33–45 Dividing Chandigarh
This noble initiative is being organised under the leadership of social workers Rajeev Mittal and Lucky Singh, who have been actively involved in social and religious services for a long time. They stated that Shaheedi Dihara reminds us of the great martyrs who sacrificed their lives for humanity, faith, and justice. Paying tribute to their sacrifices through Langar Seva is the primary objective of this programme.



Langar Seva is a proud tradition of Sikhism, symbolising equality, where people from all walks of life sit together and partake in food without any discrimination. This event conveys a strong message of social harmony, equality, and mutual brotherhood.
The organisers have appealed to all members of the Sangat and local residents to grace the occasion with their esteemed presence, contribute to the success of this service, and pay homage to the revered martyrs.

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NEWS BRIEF

Gujarat Titans' bet on Holder is interesting, his six-hitting abilities have improved, says Pathan

New Delhi: Former India left-arm pacer Irfan Pathan said Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 champions Gujarat Titans (GT) have shown immense faith in West Indies' fast bowling all-rounder Jason Holder, noting that his improved six-hitting ability alongside his new-ball bowling will benefit the side in the 2026 season.

Holder has been a familiar face in the Indian Premier League, having previously represented Chennai Super Kings, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Kolkata Knight Riders, Lucknow Super Giants, and Rajasthan Royals. In the auction held in Abu Dhabi, GT aggressively pursued Holder and eventually got him for Rs 7 crore after a prolonged tussle with CSK.

"Their bet on Jason Holder is interesting. He is an amazing bowler with the new ball, but his batting has improved, especially his six-hitting abilities. GT has put a lot of faith in that. Their main strength is their top three batters: Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan, and Jos Buttler.

"How they use Washington Sundar will be important, as his batting has gotten better, too. The role of Glenn Phillips, or whoever plays at number four or five, will also be very big," said Pathan on JioStar.

Ex-India opener Abhinav Mukund explained the reasoning behind GT's preference for left-arm pacers and all-rounders like Holder in making their IPL 2026 squad. "Gujarat Titans love fast bowlers, especially left-arm pacers like Prithviraj Yarra and Luke Wood. Ashok Sharma had a great Syed Mushtaq Ali season.

"But Jason Holder is there because they need someone to bat and finish innings at number six or seven, and bowl a couple of overs. They want someone to finish at the death. The team is so strong at the top that they felt they needed this.

Had it been 2mm shorter, it might have been alright: Smith gives his take on under-fire MCG pitch

Melbourne: Australia stand-in skipper Steve Smith gave his take on the MCG wicket after the Boxing Day Test lasted just two days, with England winning by four wickets. He said that had the 10mm grass been 2mm shorter, it might have made a difference in the match.

The Melbourne Cricket Ground pitch came under the scanner after the Boxing Day Ashes Test between Australia and England finished in two days. As many as 36 wickets fell in 142 overs. It lasted for 952 balls, just five more than the series opener in Perth.

"It obviously offered a lot, 36 wickets in two days, it offered plenty. Had it been either 2mm shorter or a little less thatchy with 10mm, it might have been alright, but I'm not a groundsman, so it's hard to judge. But it did look like it was going to offer a fair amount, probably a little more than I thought it would. I think the groundsman is always learning, but he's produced some pretty good wickets in the last two years," Smith told SEN Cricket.

The MCG has previously been criticised for producing flat wickets that favoured batting, most notably during the 2017 Ashes Test, when only 24 wickets fell over five days. That surface drew widespread criticism, prompting match referee Ranjan Madugalle to issue a "poor" rating in his official assessment report.

"I think when I started, we didn't have too many wickets like this, when I started, the MCG used to be run tickets, but that's changed a bit over the last four or five years. It's probably changed more into a better cricket wicket where bat and ball are competing against each other. The game's changed in terms of the aggression batters use... if 10 years ago you saw Harry Brook come out and bat like that, you'd think.

Brett Lee inducted to Australian Cricket Hall of Fame

New Delhi: Former fast bowler Brett Lee has been inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame. The announcement was made on Sunday, honouring his impressive international career characterised by exceptional pace, durability, and notable sportsmanship.

At 49, Lee is considered one of the quickest bowlers in history, alongside Shoaib Akhtar. He represented Australia from 1999 to 2012, playing 76 Tests, 221 ODIs, and 25 T20Is. Throughout his career across all formats, he took a total of 718 wickets. In Tests, he claimed 310 wickets, while in ODIs and T20Is, he took 221 and 38 wickets respectively.

The former pacer was a significant pioneer of the early years of the T20 format, playing for several teams globally, including the Sydney Sixers in the Big Bash League. He was part of the Sixers team that secured the first Big Bash League title. During his career in Australia, Lee contributed to three World Cup-winning teams in 1999, 2003, and 2007.

Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team cap off a successful 2025 with two major international medals



AGENCY

NEW DELHI : The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team signed off 2025 as a highly successful year, marked by two major international medals and a structured build-up towards the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025 held in December.

The foundation of the campaign was laid through a series of intensive national training camps held throughout the year under the guidance of PR Sreejesh. Through these camps, the coach built a squad and prepared the players to be at their best as the season progressed towards the Junior World Cup in December, as per a press release from Hockey India.

India's competitive build-up began with the Four Nations Tournament in June, which served as an important preparatory assignment against quality European opposition. Facing hosts Germany along with Spain, and Australia, the Indian junior side tested their systems against heavyweights and finished the tournament in third place, registering a key 2-1 victory over Australia in the 3rd/4th place match. The tournament provided valuable match exposure and clarity on combinations as the team continued its World Cup preparations.

Next, they carried the momentum and learnings into the 2025 Sultan of Johor Cup in October, where India produced a strong and consistent run to claim the Silver Medal. The team registered important victories over Great Britain, New Zealand and Malaysia and also played out a 3-3 draw against Pakistan, and progressed to the Final after a composed league stage performance. In the title clash, India conceded an unfortunate goal in the 59th minute and lost 1-2 to Australia and settled for the Silver Medal.

All the preparation led the side to the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025, the most important assignment of the season, where India delivered a memorable campaign on home soil. India began their campaign with three comfortable wins in the Pool Stage over Chile, Oman and Switzerland, respectively and entered the knockout rounds.

The Quarter-Final proved to be a defining moment, as the Indian team held their nerve and defeated Belgium 4-3 in shootout to book a place in the Semi-Finals. Goalkeeper Prince Deep Singh showed incredible class and valour with two crucial saves in the shootout to ensure India progressed ahead in the tournament.

Unfortunately, India lost 1-5 in the Semi-Final against champions Germany but responded with character in the 3rd/4th place playoff, producing an incredible comeback against Argentina to secure the bronze medal.

Jemimah unavailable for selection due to weakness from mild fever, says BCCI



Thiruvananthapuram: India batter Jemimah Rodrigues was ruled out of selection for the fourth women's T20I against Sri Lanka at the Greenfield International Stadium due to weakness from a mild fever, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said on Sunday.

"Ms Jemimah Rodrigues was unavailable for selection in the 4th T20I in Thiruvananthapuram due to weakness arising from mild fever. The BCCI Medical Team is closely monitoring her progress and recovery," said the BCCI in a statement. In place of Jemimah, batting all-rounder Harleen Deol has come into the playing eleven for the match, where India will bat first against Sri Lanka for the first time in the ongoing series, with the hosts having an unassailable 3-0 lead. Jemimah made scores of 69 not out, 26, and nine, and sits as the second leading run-getter in the series after opener Shafali Verma. The unbeaten 69 also led to Jemimah jumping five places to be at number nine in the women's T20I batting rankings.

Despite missing out on Sunday's clash, Jemimah has enjoyed a standout 2025, ranking third among India's run-scorers – 771 runs in ODIs and 212 runs in T20Is. She played a pivotal role in India's maiden ODI World Cup triumph, striking an unbeaten 127 against Australia in the semi-final before the team overcame South Africa in the final to lift the title at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. Earlier this month, Jemimah was appointed as captain of Delhi Capitals ahead of the fourth season of the Women's Premier League (WPL), replacing Meg Lanning in the role. Meg had led DC to the final in each of the first three editions of the tournament, where Jemimah was the vice-captain, but was not retained by the franchise for the upcoming season.

Head reveals he reached out to Duckett after Noosa backlash 'to see if he was going alright'



AGENCY

MELBOURNE: Australia opener Travis Head said he reached out to England's Ben Duckett after a social media video surfaced before the Melbourne Test that appeared to show Duckett intoxicated.

England's managing director, Rob Key, had mentioned that the board had initiated an investigation following reports of players drinking heavily during a break in Noosa, a beach town, between the second and third Tests.

A viral social media video also appeared to show England opener Duckett intoxicated, prompting increased scrutiny of the team and the batter in particular.

"I get on with Ducky well and reached out to him to see if he was going alright. Everyone is still human. What you do in your personal time is up to you. I know we live a high profile life and some people are more high profile than others. At the end of the day, it is a bit stiff but I don't think there is any real issue."

England's four-night trip to Noosa followed their 2-0 deficit in the Ashes series, after losses in Perth and Brisbane.

It was reported that several players spent a significant amount of their time drinking on the Queensland coast and also on two prior days in Brisbane, where the second Test was held.

Although England played the second Test better than the Ashes opener, they lost the following Test in Adelaide, which led to Australia winning the series.

England ended an 18-match winless streak in Australia and prevented an Ashes clean sweep during a remarkable and bizarre two-day Test in Melbourne. During one of the most unusual matches in cricket history, England needed 175 runs to win on the second evening of the fourth Test, bringing the series to 3-1 ahead of the final match in Sydney.

In tough batting conditions, England's Bazballers thrived in the chaos, finally finding a situation in Australia that suited their freewheeling style. They achieved their target in 33 overs, with England's four-wicket win thrilling the thousands of travelling fans who now have something to celebrate after a largely disappointing tour.

Novelty of Rashid Khan has worn off a little, not as intimidating as before, says Kumble ahead of IPL 2026



NEW DELHI: Former India captain Anil Kumble believes IPL 2022 winners Gujarat Titans (GT) can no longer lean heavily on leg-spinner Rashid Khan, saying that the Afghanistan star's impact has diminished and the novelty factor has 'worn off a little'.

GT, who bowed out in the Eliminator of IPL 2025, boasted one of the strongest bowling units, but Rashid endured his poorest campaign in the competition. He managed to pick only nine wickets at an average of 57.11 and an economy rate of 9.35. Rashid also conceded 33 sixes - the most by any bowler in a single IPL season - as batters found ways to dominate him.

Kumble also felt the Shubman Gill-led franchise would need greater contributions from left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore, as well as off-spin bowling all-rounders Washington Sundar and Rahul Tewatia, to remain competitive in IPL 2026.

"I think the novelty of Rashid Khan has worn off a little. There are many similar bowlers available now, so he is no longer as intimidating as he was before. His workload has to be managed more, along with bowlers like Sai Kishore. Even Rahul Tewatia and Washington Sundar can contribute more for GT this season," said Kumble, a former RCB player and ex-Punjab Kings head coach, on JioStar.

Rashid's returns for GT in IPL 2024 were also modest, picking 10 wickets in 12 matches at an average of 36.70 and an economy rate of 8.40. He started his journey in the IPL with Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in 2017, before moving to GT in 2022, and played a pivotal role in them winning the title in their debut season.

Rashid has linked his prolonged struggles in T20 cricket to the back surgery he underwent in 2023, following his participation in the Men's ODI World Cup in India. He returned to action only months after the operation, never giving himself sufficient time to regain his bowling rhythm and accuracy.

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Notice is hereby given that the office of Bajaj Life Insurance Limited located at Third Floor, SCO 12, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar, Punjab - 143001 will be shifted to its new address at Bajaj Life Insurance Limited, 1st Floor above Mezzanine Floor, Almas Tower, SCO 7, Block 97 ACRE Scheme, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar - 143001 (Punjab) with effect from 05-03-2026.

Yuvraj Sandhu makes it a record seven titles in 2025 after thrilling one-shot triumph



AGENCY

JAMSHEDPUR: Yuvraj Sandhu, who had already secured the 2025 PGTI Order of Merit crown following his sixth victory of the season two weeks back, added another feather to his cap with a one-stroke triumph in the Tata Open 2025 to make it a record seven titles in the season.

The 28-year-old Yuvraj (67-64-68-65), the overnight joint leader, shot a final round score of six-under 65, highlighted by his match-winning birdie on the last hole to total 20-under 264 for the week at the INR 2 crore event, the PGTI's season finale, played at the Beldih and Golmuri Golf Courses in Jamshedpur on Sunday. Chandigarh-based Sandhu, who has now earned his card for the DP World Tour for 2026 by virtue of topping the PGTI Ranking, set a new record for most wins in a single season on the PGTI. Two weeks back in Delhi, Yuvraj had equalled the previous record of six wins in a season held by Manu Gandas since 2022.

The 21-year-old Shubham Jaglan (68-66-65-66), the overnight joint leader along with Yuvraj, came up with a bogey-free five-under 66 in round four to total 19-under 265 for the week and register his second runner-up finish on the PGTI in only his third appearance on the tour. Khalin Joshi (66) and Veer Ahlawat (66) finished tied third at totals of 14-under 270.

Yuvraj Sandhu picked up the winning cheque worth INR 30 lakh to take his season's earnings to a whopping INR 1,91,67,100, thus smashing the previous record for season's earnings on the PGTI set at INR 1,56,35,724 by Veer Ahlawat in 2024. Yuvraj, who hails from the Chandigarh Golf Club, won seven titles and posted seven other top-10s this season, including three runner-up finishes.

Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja, a three-time winner on the PGTI this year, finished a distant second on the PGTI Ranking with season's earnings of INR 1,18,21,821. Thangaraja secured fifth place at Jamshedpur this week as he totalled 13-under 271. In rounds one and two, one half of the field played its 18 holes at Beldih Golf Club while the other half of the field played its 18 holes at the Golmuri Golf Club. In rounds three and four, the leading groups played their front-nine at Golmuri before moving to Beldih to play their back-nine. The par for Golmuri and Beldih combined was 71.

Yuvraj Sandhu was quick off the blocks with birdies on the first two holes. Yuvraj, who kept converting putts from a range of seven to eight feet with relative ease, then collected two more birdies on the sixth and ninth. Sandhu's two bogeys on the back nine could not upset his rhythm as he earned three birdies courtesy of his immaculate ball-striking and before delivering the knock-out punch with his 15-foot birdie conversion on the 18th.

Gurugram-based Shubham Jaglan, who turned professional earlier this year, was neck and neck with Sandhu for most of the day as the former made three birdies on the front nine and added two more on the back nine. Shubham, who had played at Golmuri as a junior but never played at Beldih earlier, was edged out of title contention by Yuvraj's decisive birdie on the 18th. "I was determined to end the season with a good performance, and I'm glad that I managed to achieve that today. Hats off to Shubham for competing hard and pushing me till the end. He played really well and is destined for bigger things, Yuvraj said. "Standing on the birdie putt on the last hole, I just wanted to put enough pace on it as I had left some putts short earlier in the week. The line and speed of the putt turned out to be perfect. "This has been my best season ever, and winning a record seven titles has been special. It's yet to sink in. It is always good to have records in your name.

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AUCTION NOTICE

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of the cases are as under.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortagors	Dues As on	Date & Amount of 13(2)Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of Auction	Place of Tender Submission, Tender Open & Auction at Aavas Financiers Ltd.
GEETA GEETA, PRADEEP PRADEEP, RAMDIYA RAMDIYA (AC NO.) LNKRK00619-200123597	Rs. 9,18,501.00/- DUES AS ON 23 DEC 2025	06 JUN 2025 Rs. 821019/- DUES AS ON 04 JUN 2025	4 NOV 25	1/3 PART OF THE MINJUMLA LAND 0 KANAL 10 MARLA , KH. NO-983-984 MANDRAJ KHEWAT NO-0-1796 JAMABANDI YEAR 2013-14 INTKAL NO-10514 , WAKA BHOOMI GRAM- KEORAK TESHIL & DIST- KAITHAL HARYANA 136027 ADMEASURING 100 SQ .YRDS	Rs. 1084500/-	Rs. 108450/-	11.00 AM TO 01.00 PM 29 JAN 2026	2ND FLOOR, SCO-4, SECTOR-17, KURUKSHETRA-136118,HARYANA-INDIA

Terms & Conditions: 1). The person, taking part in the tender, will have to deposit his offer in the tender form provided by the AFL which is to be collected from the above branch offices during working hours of any working day, super scribing "Tender Offer for name of the property "on the sealed envelope along with the Cheque/DD/pay order of 10% of the Reserve Price as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in favour of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED payable at Jaipur on/before time of auction during office hours at the above mentioned offices. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of the available interested parties at above mentioned office of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED The inter-se bidding, if necessary will also take place among the available bidders. The EMD is refundable if the bid is not successful. 2). The successful bidder will deposit 25% of the bidding amount adjusting the EMD amount as initial deposit immediately or within 24hrs after the fall of the hammer towards the purchase of the asset. The successful bidder failing to deposit the said 25% towards initial payment, the entire EMD deposited will be forfeited & balance amount of the sale price will have to be deposited within 15 days after the confirmation of the sale by the secured creditor; otherwise his initial payment deposited amount will be forfeited. 3). The Authorised officer has absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale process without assigning any reason therefore. If the date of tender depositing or the date of tender opening is declared as holiday by Government, then the auction will be held on next working day. 4). For inspection and interested parties who want to know about the procedure of tender may contact AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED 201,202, IInd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, jaipur-302020 or Ramesh Choudhary – 8690001158 or respective branch during office hours. Note: This is also a 15/30 days notice under Rule 9(1)/8(6) to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagor of the above said loan accounts about tender inter se bidding sale on the above mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their out standing duesare not repaid in full.

Place : HARYANA Date : 29-12-2025 Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited

Athiya Shetty shares adorable pic of daughter Evaarah playing with dad KL Rahul





As the year comes to a close, actor Athiya Shetty has shared a glimpse of her family life, giving fans a look at how they are spending their holidays.Taking to Instagram on Sunday, Athiya shared a series of pictures from what she called "the last of 2025." The photos show her daughter Evaarah spending time with her father, Indian cricketer KL Rahul.In one of the pictures, KL Rahul is seen holding baby Evaarah close. While their faces are not visible, the moment looks adorable. Evaarah is dressed in a red-and-white outfit, while Rahul is wearing a grey co-ord set.Take a look

Fans were quick to chime in on the comment section. One user wrote, "Baby... evaru...." Another fan commented, "Eva is growing up so fast, our lil Christmas babyyy."Athiya Shetty, who has been away from the film industry for some time, tied the knot with Indian cricketer KL Rahul on January 23, 2023, in an intimate ceremony at Suniel Shetty's farmhouse in Khandala.The couple announced their pregnancy in November 2024 on Instagram and welcomed their first child, a daughter named Evaarah, in March. On Instagram, the couple later shared an adorable picture of themselves with their newborn and revealed her name: Evaarah."Our baby girl, our everything. Evaarah/Ivaaraa ~ Gift of God," read the caption of their post. Athiya made her acting debut in 2015 with 'Hero'. Later, she appeared in films such as 'Mubarakan' and 'Motichoor Chaknachoor'.

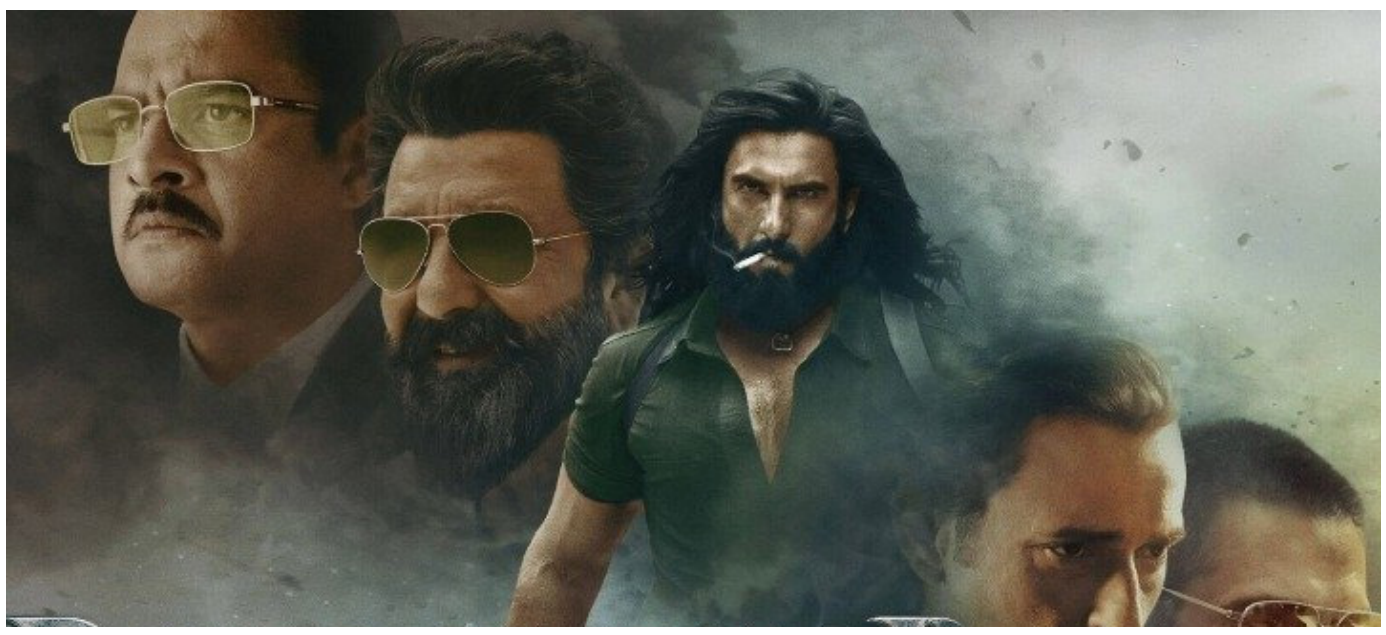
Lindsay Lohan says she feels 'emotional when people are nice' to her

Hollywood actress Lindsay Lohan has shared that she feels "the most emotional when people are nice" to her. As the 39-year-old actress' astrological sign is cancer, she is a naturally "very sensitive", protective and home-loving person, reports 'Female First UK'.
During a conversation, the actress shared, "When I get the most sensitive and feel the most emotional, is when people are nice to me".



Tearing up, she added, "Which is wild. I notice as I get older, when people are kind to me, or I'm doing an interview, and someone says something nice, I'm like, 'Oh my God, I'm going to cry, thank you'. I'm a Cancer. I'm very sensitive".
As per 'Female First UK', the 'Freakier Friday' star, who, at the event, spoke to a crowd about how she deals with the likes of balance and self-care, also noted that "being truly seen for who you are" makes her emotional.
Meanwhile, having downtime keeps Lindsay grounded. She said, "It's important to always take a moment because everything is moving so fast all the time. You are your own vessel, if you don't nurture yourself, anything can distract you in a second". The Parent Trap performer and her 38-year-old husband, Bader Shammas, welcomed their son, Luai, two, into the world in 2023.

Taran Adarsh calls 'Dhurandhar' a class entertainer



Ranveer Singh's spy-action-thriller 'Dhurandhar' is rewriting the box office rulebook in 2025.The film has not only sustained a powerful run across theatres but has also emerged as one of the biggest Indian hits of the year, signalling a renewed audience appetite for large-scale, content-driven cinema. As trade analysts weigh in on the film's success, veteran film trade expert Taran Adarsh believes Dhurandhar is a "class entertainer"."Dhurandhar is a true class entertainer; it's a very good film, and at the same time, there are many things discussed in it that we haven't seen before on the Hindi cinema screen. In this film, every artist, whether it's Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan, or Arjun Rampal, each actor has performed brilliantly," Adarsh told ANI.Adarsh went on to add that the film's record-breaking box office numbers explain that movie lovers want to flock back to theatres and are even willing to pay premium prices, but only if the "content" is "good"."This film is breaking old records and setting new ones, which clearly shows that audiences want to come to cinemas. They are willing to reach into their pockets and buy expensive tickets, but the condition is that the film's content must be good. If the content of the film isn't good, no one will go to watch it. No one will waste their precious time on it," he added.The first instalment tracks a decade-long Indian intelligence operation, where an undercover agent infiltrates Karachi's criminal and political underworld.The sequel is set to pick up right where the cliffhanger left off, continuing the high-stakes drama. The second instalment will release on March 19, 2026.

Zoe Saldana is focused on learning Generation Alpha slangs

LOS ANGELES: Hollywood actress Zoe Saldana is trying to wrap her head around the Generation Alpha slang. The actress is "hyper-focused" while trying to understand the slangs.
The 47-year-old actress' favourite pop culture moment of 2025 is "6-7", an internet meme and term that went viral on TikTok and Instagram Reels in October, which stemmed from the song Doot Doot (6 7) by rapper Skrilla, 26, which features the recurring lyric "6-7", but has no clear meaning, reports 'Female First UK'.



Speaking about the trend, pronounced "six seven", and was even declared the word of 2025, Zoe told 'People' magazine, "This whole 6-7 thing has been, oh God, an absolute anomaly. I am just so hyper-focused on this Gen Alpha lingo, and I'm gonna get it".
As well as the "6-7" meme, which NBA player LaMelo Ball, 24, is often associated with because he stands at 6 feet, 7 inches, the Oscar-winning star has started to use the word "aura", which refers to the "cool factor" in someone.
As per 'Female First UK', Zoe, whose sons, 10-year-old twins Cy and Bowie, as well as Zen, nine, are Generation Alpha because they were born between 2010 and 2024, jokingly said, "But, every time I think that I'm preserving my aura, that's when I'm told that I lost it".
In June, the 'Avatar: Fire and Ash' performer admitted she wished her sons, whom she has with her 46-year-old husband, filmmaker Marco Perego-Saldana, were oblivious to her fame. Zoe said, "I wish I had kids that didn't really know what I do or understand what I do, but my kids have grown up with me on-set. My husband and I really made that decision to not separate our lives.

'Drishyam 3' producer Kumar Mangat Pathak confirms Jaideep Ahlawat's arrival in film's cast



Producer Kumar Mangat Pathak has confirmed that actor Jaideep Ahlawat has joined the lead cast of 'Drishyam 3' following the alleged abrupt exit of Akshaye Khanna from the film. While talking to a news agency, Pathak stated that Jaideep Ahlawat has been cast in a new role, taking over the part previously played by Akshaye, but in a new form."We have cast Jaideep Ahlawat. We have added a new character. He is doing it now. He will do what Akshay was doing, but he will come in a new form. We are presenting him in a very good way," said the Drishyam 3 producer. This new update came amid the ongoing legal dispute between Akshaye Khanna and Drishyam 3 makers after producer Mangat Pathak sent a legal notice to Akshaye for allegedly walking out of the film 'Drishyam 3' after accepting the signing amount and committing dates for the project.While speaking to ANI, Pathak alleged that actor Akshay Khanna exited the film because of his demand to wear a "wig", which didn't align with the film's continuity and schedule.When asked about the reason behind his legal action, Kumar Mangat Pathak said, "He signed our film, he signed the script, took the signing amount, signed the agreement, and then he walked out of the film. We have sent him a legal notice. If we don't get a response by the end of the day, our legal team will take action, and we will take action in court.""We had an agreement, we had given the money to make the dress, he had given us the dates, suddenly he felt that he had to grow his hair, whereas the film is a continuation film. The day the old film ends, it starts at night, so how will he grow his hair in 4 hours? Then he agreed, but again he felt he had to grow his hair, so he created confusion and left the film. The people around him put it in his mind that by wearing a wig, you will look very beautiful," Pathak said.'Drishyam 3' producer demands compensation from this legal action after the actor's alleged abrupt exit from the film, citing financial losses."Now, we will move to the court, and we will demand compensation from them, because we had a set in Yash Raj, so the cost of the set, the other losses that we have incurred, if there is any loss, then we will definitely ask for it and will pressurise for our reputation," said Kumar Mangat Pathak.Actor Akshaye Khanna has not yet issued a statement on the matter.Drishyam 3 is slated to release in theatres worldwide on October 2, 2026. It stars Ajay Devgn in the lead role. The film is directed by Abhishek Pathak. Portrayed brilliantly by Ajay Devgn, Vijay Salgaonkar is a simple, middle-class man who stands firm against every adversity, not with violence, but with sheer willpower, intelligence, and an unshakeable love for his family.Vijay Salgaonkar emerged as an iconic on-screen father, standing up against every adversity through sharp thinking and emotional strength.According to the makers, the film is being shot across multiple cities and locations. The story will advance within the established 'Drishyam' timeline, introducing new and unexpected twists in the lives of the Salgaonkar family.The original ensemble cast, including Ajay Devgn, Tabu, Shriya Saran and Rajat Kapoor, will reprise their roles, along with other celebrated actors.

Rashmika Mandanna's 'Mysaa' releases first glimpse of theme music



Actor Rashmika Mandanna's upcoming film 'Mysaa' has taken a step forward with the release of the first glimpse.The video was shared on Instagram by Mandanna, giving an early sense of what the film is about.Earlier, the first visual glimpse of Mysaa showed Rashmika Mandanna in a strong action role, which seems quite different from her previous films.Now, the makers have shared the first glimpse of the original soundtrack theme. The soundtrack is composed by Jakes Bejoy, who is known for creating powerful background music in many films. For Mysaa, he has worked with different artists and drawn inspiration from tribal sounds and culture.The makers announced the theme music on social media and shared a post asking listeners to experience it with headphones."Plug in your headphones Turn the volume up, and let the madness take over #RememberTheName - #MYSAA First Glimpse THEME OST out now -- https://li.sten.to/MysaaFirstGlimpse A @jakes_bejoy trance In cinemas 2026. @iamRashmika @rawindrapulle @kshreyaas #AndyLong @unformulafilms #SaiGopa @AjaySaipureddy #AnilSaipureddy @srikanthsathi10 @ayeshamariam9 @TSeries @tseriessouth #RashmikaMandanna" the makers wrote.
Mysaa is directed by Rawindra Pulle and produced by Unformula Films. The film is set in tribal regions and is described as an action drama with emotional depth. Rashmika Mandanna plays the lead role, and the film marks her return to the big screen in a new and intense character.The film is set to release in cinemas in 2026. More details about the film are expected to be shared in the coming months.

Alia Bhatt's 'Alpha' avoids clash with 'Battle of Galwan', makers to decide on new date



Moviegoers who were hoping to witness a high-voltage box office clash between Alia Bhatt and Salman Khan might not be able to, at least not in April 2026. According to Trade Analyst Taran Adarsh, they have decided to postpone the release of Alia Bhatt's much-awaited spy thriller 'Alpha,' to avoid a clash with Salman Khan's upcoming war drama 'Battle of Galwan.' 'Alpha' was originally scheduled to release on April 17, 2026. However, the makers have opted to move the film to a later date to prioritise a smoother theatrical window.
"#BreakingNews... ALPHA AVOIDS CLASH WITH BATTLE OF GALWAN – YRF TO DECIDE ON A NEW DATE... #AdityaChopra steps aside for #SalmanKhan, moving Alpha from its previously announced release date of April 17, 2026, to avoid a direct clash with BattleOfGalwan. #YRF had locked April 17, 2026, for Alpha, but the makers will now announce a new release date after assessing the theatrical release calendar over the next couple of months," Adarsh wrote on X.
This is not the first delay for Alia Bhatt's 'Alpha.' The film was initially slated for a Christmas 2025 release but was pushed to April 17, 2026. With the latest postponement, the film is expected to arrive later in 2026, though the exact date is yet to be announced.

Huma Qureshi's first look as Elizabeth unveiled from Yash's Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups'

The intrigue surrounding one of the most anticipated films of 2026, Rocking Star Yash's Toxic: A Fairytale for Grown-Ups, deepens as the makers unveil the striking first look of Huma Qureshi as Elizabeth. Known for constantly defying expectations, Qureshi's entry into the dark world of Toxic hints at a character layered with mystery, allure, and quiet menace—one that promises to leave a lasting impact.



Over the years, Huma Qureshi has carved a formidable body of work across films and series, seamlessly shifting between hard-hitting dramas, unapologetic narratives, dark thrillers, and mainstream spectacles. From commanding, rooted performances to fearless genre-bending choices, she has emerged as an actor who brings both gravitas and unpredictability to the screen.
The first look of Huma as Elizabeth is arresting in its contradiction. It places the character in a graveyard setting, with weathered tombstones and looming stone angels framing the background. She stands beside a sleek vintage black car, dressed in an elegant off-shoulder black ensemble with dramatic sleeves, exuding old-world glamour, while the gothic surroundings and muted tones lend an ominous, foreboding edge to her presence. In a never seen before role, Huma appears calm and graceful, masking a morbid interior. There is an unsettling power in her gaze, hinting at a woman who doesn't need overt violence to dominate—her elegance itself is a tool in a morally ambiguous fairytale.
Speaking about casting Huma Qureshi as Elizabeth, director Geetu Mohandas said, "Casting for this role was perhaps the trickiest. The character demanded a performer with high octane caliber and an undeniable presence. From the moment Huma entered my frame, I witnessed that she possessed something rare. She carried an effortless sophistication and intensity that immediately brought the character of Elizabeth alive for me.

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