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NEWS BRIEFS

Haryana's sex ratio rises to 923 in 2025, highest in five years

CHANDIGARH: Haryana has seen a marked improvement in its sex ratio, which reached 923 in 2025, clocking a 13-point jump from 2024, with officials attributing the gain to several steps taken to check the practice of pre-natal sex determination and illegal abortions. Haryana recorded sex ratio at birth (SRB) at 923 in 2025, the highest in the past five years, as against 910 in 2024, officials said on Friday.

The data showed that in 2025, the state registered 5,19,691 births — 2,70,281 males and 2,49,410 females — as against 5,16,402 in 2024, including 2,46,048 females in 2024.

HP girl dies after sexual harassment, ragging in college campus

DHARAMSHALA: A 19-year-old student of Government Degree College, Dharamshala, died during treatment at a private hospital in Ludhiana, allegedly following severe trauma caused by ragging, physical assault, and sexual harassment at her college. The police have registered an FIR and started an investigation. Police said on Friday that a case has been registered against three female students of a government college in Dharamshala for ragging and intentionally causing harm, while a professor has been booked for sexually harassing the 19-year-old girl.

Govt directs Elon Musk-led X to remove vulgar unlawful content

NEW DELHI: The government on Friday issued a stern notice to Elon Musk-led social media platform X to immediately remove all vulgar and unlawful content, especially generated by its AI app Grok or face action under the law. The Ministry of Electronics and IT has issued a notice to the Chief Compliance Officer for India operations of X for failure to observe statutory due diligence obligations under the Information Technology Act, 2000, and the Information Technology.

No water sharing with continued terrorism: Jaishankar to Pakistan

AGENCY CHENNAI, JAN 2

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday called Pakistan a "bad neighbour" and said that India has the right to defend its people against terrorism.

Speaking to students at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, the minister said that "nobody can tell us what we should or should not do", in an apparent reference to Operation Sindoor. Jaishankar termed Pakistan a 'bad neighbour' and linked the future of the Indus Water Treaty to the cessation of cross-border terror.

"Many years ago, we agreed to a water-sharing arrangement, but if you had decades of terrorism, there is no good neighbourliness. If there is no good neighbourliness, you don't get the benefits of that good neighbourliness. You can't say, 'Please share water with me, but I will continue terrorism with you.' That's not reconcilable," he said.

India last year exercised its right to defend its people against terrorism through Operation Sindoor and targeted terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in the wake of the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam in April, which was perpetrated by The Resistance Front, a proxy of Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

He noted that many neighbouring nations received their first COVID-19 vaccine consignments from India and the country also provided food support during the Ukraine conflict, when supply chains



were strained. Referring to Sri Lanka, he said India extended USD 4 billion in financial assistance during its economic crisis and responded immediately during a recent cyclone with rescue and relief efforts. "That is what good neighbours do," he said. However, Jaishankar added that persistent cross-border terrorism remains a barrier to normal ties with certain neighbours. "We have the right to defend our people. If you face terrorism for decades, you cannot have a good neighbourhood relationship. You cannot share water or cooperation with someone who continues terrorism," he said. On Bangladesh, Jaishankar said India wishes the country well in its elections and hopes that "once

things settle down, good neighbourliness will continue." Jaishankar reiterated India's longstanding civilisational ties with Afghanistan, acknowledging the challenges faced by the Afghan people. He said he had a constructive discussion with his counterpart and expressed optimism that "things will improve over time." Commenting on reports that a woman from Arunachal Pradesh was harassed by Chinese immigration officials at Shanghai airport in November, Jaishankar said India had formally protested the incident. "A lady from Arunachal Pradesh was detained and harassed. We protested. Arunachal Pradesh is, and will always remain, a part of India."

Punjab all set to launch Rs. 10 lakh cashless health insurance scheme



SUMER GARG CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

In a historic move toward achieving Universal Health Coverage as promised by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Punjab Government is all set to roll out the 'Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojna' (MMSY) this month. Marking a significant milestone, an agreement was signed on Friday with the United India Insurance Company in the presence of Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Balbir Singh to provide 10 lakh cashless health insurance cover to all families of Punjab.

This development follows the recent announcement by CM Bhagwant Singh Mann to launch the scheme in January 2026, ensuring health dignity and financial protection for every household. The agreement was signed by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) State Health Agency (SHA) Sanyam Aggarwal and Executive Director United India Insurance company Mathew George.

Declaring it a landmark reform, Health Minister Balbir Singh said that the Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojna significantly expands health protection from the earlier 5 lakh coverage, which was limited to specific categories. "The new scheme aims to provide cashless treatment up to 10 lakh per family per year to all residents of Punjab, including government employees and pensioners," he said.

He said that CM Bhagwant Singh Mann and AAP National Convener of Arvind Kejriwal will formally launch this scheme on January 15, 2026.

The Health Minister emphasised that the scheme is designed for total inclusivity, featuring no income cap or exclusion criteria. "Enrolment has been made simple and accessible through Common Service Centres (CSCs) using only Aadhaar and Voter IDs, after which beneficiaries will receive dedicated MMSY health cards. A helpline will be launched soon to facilitate the process," he added.

Rohtang Pass closed for tourists after snowfall



SHIMLA: The Rohtang Pass has been closed for tourist movement after snowfall in the area. The administration has issued advisory and restricted tourist movements in the affected areas. Rain was also reported in Shimla, Solan, Una, Kangra, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Mandi, Kullu, Sirmour, Chamba, and other areas. Kufri in Shimla received light rain, while Kasauli experienced heavy hailstorms. The hailstorm in Kasauli made the roads slippery, forcing drivers to stop their vehicles. Snowfall continued on Thursday at Rohtang Pass, Shinku La, Koksar, Atal Tunnel, and all the mountain peaks. Due to the snowfall, vehicular traffic to Rohtang and Shinku La passes remained

closed. Tourists in Koksar were greeted by falling snowflakes.

Kashmir hill resorts freeze

SRINAGAR: Kashmir's popular hill resorts froze following recent light snowfall, with ski resort of Gulmarg emerging as the coldest place in the Valley, officials said on Friday. According to the Meteorological Department, Gulmarg recorded a minimum temperature of minus 7.0°C, while Pahalgam plunged to minus 6.2°C. The previous night, Gulmarg had registered minus 5.5°C, whereas Pahalgam was relatively warmer at 0.4°C, indicating a sharp overnight drop, especially in south Kashmir.

Haryana gears up for landmark digital census 2027 with robust planning and budget allocation

BUREAU CHANDIGARH

— The Haryana Government has formally initiated comprehensive preparations for Census 2027, which will be the first fully digital census to be conducted in the State. The first meeting of the State Level Census Coordination Committee (SL-CCC) was chaired by Sh Anurag Rastogi, Chief Secretary, Haryana, during which detailed administrative, logistical and operational arrangements were reviewed to ensure the smooth and timely conduct of this crucial national exercise.

To ensure accuracy, uniformity and credibility of data, the Chief Secretary stated that all administrative boundaries in Haryana have been frozen. No changes will be made until the completion of census operations. In line with Government of India guidelines, the House-listing and Housing Census, which constitutes Phase-I of Census 2027, will commence from May 1, 2026. To strengthen preparedness at the district level, a one-day conference of Deputy Commissioners will be convened shortly to sensitise Principal Census Officers about timelines, responsibilities and detailed operational planning.

Emphasising the importance of meticulous preparation, the Chief Secretary underlined that strong inter-



departmental coordination and timely decision-making will be key to the successful execution of Census 2027 and called upon all departments to extend full cooperation. To ensure continuity and avoid disruption, it has been decided that census functionaries will not be transferred during the census period, and necessary instructions will be issued in this regard. For close monitoring and coordination at the grassroots level, Census 2027 will be included as a standing agenda item in monthly district-level review meetings, he added.

Director Census Sh. Lalit Jain,

IAS informed the committee that Census 2027 marks a transformational milestone, as the entire exercise will be conducted in digital mode. Demonstrating Haryana's technological readiness, he said that a 100 per cent digital pre-test using mobile applications was successfully carried out in Panchkula, Hisar and Faridabad, covering a population of over one lakh. The State completed the pre-test within the stipulated timeframe, for which it received appreciation from the Registrar General of India.

For the conduct of census operations, around 60,000 government em-



ployees, preferably teachers and other government staff, will be deployed as enumerators and supervisors during the first phase, reflecting the scale and importance of the exercise.

The meeting also took note of changes in the administrative and demographic profile of the State since the 2011 Census. For Census 2027, Haryana will have 23 districts as compared to 21 in 2011, while the number of sub-districts has increased from 75 to 94. Statutory towns have increased from 80 to 88, whereas census towns have declined from 74 to 51. Urban agglomerations have increased significantly from 12 to 20. The number of villages now stands at 6,523 compared to 6,841 in 2011.

Vinay Kumar's Presidency: A test amid deep party divisions

DR. RACHNA GUPTA ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Even after one month of tenure, the Himachal Congress has not been able to form a team for its new state president. After a long wait of nearly a year, the leadership of the party has been handed over to Vinay Kumar, but his challenges are increasing with each passing day. For Vinay, running the party is like walking on burning embers. There are two main reasons for this. First, the party he has been made to lead is already divided into three major factions. Second, apart from him, no other appointments have been made in the organization. In other words, there is a commander, but the army is missing. In such a situation, how will the Congress organization—and a lone president—manage to steer the boat across? That too at a time when panchayat elections are just around the corner, and the assembly elections are only two years



some ministers. The Sukhu camp wanted Suresh to be made president, but the high command was compelled to appoint Vinay—who is associated with Mukesh's camp—as the party president.

It is worth noting that over the past three years, there have been several attempts to corner Sukhu

as chief minister. First, a few MLAs defected. Then, families of former chief ministers continued to oppose Sukhu—among them, cabinet minister Vikramaditya Singh from Holi Lodge and cabinet minister Rohit Thakur, son of former chief minister Ram Lal. After this, Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri himself aspired to become chief minister. At different points in time, all these poles, driven by their ambitions, were engaged in efforts to weaken Sukhu. Their confidence grew to such an extent that they openly issued warnings to Sukhvinder on public platforms. The statements of Vikramaditya and Mukesh were made publicly, while Rohit's dissenting voices in cabinet meetings were widely discussed in power corridors.

However, neither the Congress high command nor Sukhu could take any strict action against them. The reason is that Congress power in Himachal now survives only in a handful of states. Therefore, Congress leaders in Himachal have repeatedly dared to challenge Sukhu. Sometimes they avoided going to offices, sometimes skipped cabinet meetings on excuses, and sometimes stayed away from celebrations marking three years of the government. Yet, the chief minister did not react.

Now, party president Vinay Kumar belongs to

Sirmour and is very close to Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri. Although Vinay was close to Virbhadra Singh during his time, and Mukesh Agnihotri was also close to the Raja (Virbhadra Singh), Vinay has not been known for a tough or impactful working style. Therefore, this time it is being indirectly assumed that Vinay will function as a dummy president for Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri. That is, the actual planning and decisions related to the organization will be taken directly by Mukesh. The coming together of the Vinay-Mukesh duo has, in fact, emerged as a challenge for Sukhu as well. In other words, the Congress faces greater challenges from within its own party than from outside.

When Vinay Kumar was asked about this, he said that work would now begin—slowly. In this way, the party high command itself has divided its own team into several factions, making the organizational path even more difficult. Chief Minister Sukhu is unable to take tough and decisive steps regarding the government. At the same time, without strong organizational backing, the government too is not gaining strength. The high command is under pressure from senior leaders who keep showing their teeth, and the party also fears internal sabotage in the upcoming Rajya

Sabha seat, as the term of BJP's Indu Goswami is coming to an end. Even now, the "black sheep" within Congress could betray the Gandhi family. On top of this, the difficult phase of panchayat elections lies ahead. It is being said that due to the weak organization at the grassroots, the panchayat elections have been postponed for the time being.

Clearly, Vinay will also have to move forward by taking Sukhu along. But amid the intense infighting within the Congress, this does not seem possible. It is noteworthy that during earlier regimes, neither Sukhu nor the Gandhi family were given much importance at Holi Lodge. This remains a source of pain for Priyanka and Rahul even today. At that time, members of the Raja's team included Sudhir Sharma, Vinay, Vikramaditya, Mukesh, Rajinder Rana, and Harsh Mahajan. Today, those indirectly challenging Sukhu's government belong to these very factions. Meanwhile, Harsh and Sudhir have already joined the BJP.

In such a scenario, the Gandhi family's trust remains firmly with Sukhu. This becomes Vinay's biggest challenge—to manage his own camp and also build the organization. But how?

Manish Tewari offers prayers at Sri Harmandir Sahib, seeks peace and prosperity for Punjab in 2026



CHANDIGARH: Former Union Minister and Chandigarh MP Manish Tewari paid his obeisance at Sri Harmandir Sahib, here today. Later, speaking to the media persons, Tewari said, "Today, we have come to Sachkhand Sri Harmandir Sahib to seek blessings of Sri Waheguru Maharaj ji and to pray for the well-being of all, that the year 2026 brings happiness to the world, the country and especially to Punjab. May people live in peace, prosperity and happiness." Tewari further said that there is a lot of internal conflict in the world, while adding, "There is an atmosphere of conflict everywhere. Therefore, we have come to Sachkhand Sri Harmandir Sahib with all our colleagues to pray for the well-being of all. And I pray to God that there be peace in the world, our country progresses and especially that Punjab remains in Chardi Kala (high spirits)." Responding to a media query about the loss suffered by Punjab last year, particularly during floods, Tewari said, "This year, there is a hope for high spirits and well-being."

Jakhlan witnesses rapid development; Rs 2.5 crore projects underway

SUMER GARG SANGRUR, JAN 2

In keeping with the commitment of Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann towards ensuring holistic and sustainable development of villages, development works are progressing at a rapid pace across the villages of the Dhuri constituency.

Under this initiative, multiple key development projects amounting to nearly Rs 2.5 crore are currently being executed simultaneously at a war footing in Village Jakhlan, situated on the Dhuri-Chheetanwala main road.

Village Jakhlan Sarpanch Binder Kaur stated that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the approximately 3.80-kilo-



metre-long road connecting the Dhuri-Chheetanwala main road to Village Jakhlan is being widened from 10 feet to 18 feet. Alongside this, both internal ring roads (phirnis) of the village are also being expanded from 10 feet to 18 feet to facilitate smooth vehicular movement and provide enhanced convenience to residents. This project is being carried out by the Punjab Mandi

Board at an estimated cost of Rs 2.13 crore.

She further informed that the widened roads will significantly strengthen connectivity between Village Mimsa and Village Bhalwan, thereby improving transportation, boosting commercial activities and easing daily commuting for the local population. The Sarpanch added that, in addition to road infrastructure de-

Civil Surgeon conducts surprise inspection of Aam Aadmi Clinics in Ferozepur; reviews health facilities

FEROZEPUR: In a bid to ensure the delivery of quality healthcare, Civil Surgeon Dr Rajeew Parashar conducted surprise inspections at Aam Aadmi Clinics located in Basti Tankan Wali, Ferozepur Cantt, and Mallwal village. The visit was aimed at reviewing the medical facilities being provided to the general public.



During the inspection, Dr Parashar interacted with patients to gather first-hand feedback and suggestions for further improving the clinics' services. He inspected various sections of the facilities, including the OPD services, availability of free medicines, general cleanliness, and the condition of medical equipment.

He stated that the primary objective of these visits is to monitor the operational efficiency and ensure that health services are reaching the public effectively.

BJP delegation meets Governor over alleged irregularities in new ward delimitation, assured of action: N.K. Verma

J.K. BATA CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Today, a high-level delegation of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Punjab, met the Hon'ble Governor of Punjab, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, over the issue of new ward delimitation and submitted a memorandum seeking his intervention in the matter. The delegation was led by the President of BJP Punjab, Shri Ashwani Sharma. The delegation included former Union Cabinet Minister Shri Som Parkash; In-charge of the BJP Legal Cell and senior advocate Shri N.K. Verma; former Punjab Cabinet Minister Shri Manoranjan Kalra; Shri Shwet Malik; Shri Keval Singh Dhillon; BJP General Secretary Shri Parminder



Singh Brar; Vice President Shri Subhash Sharma; Shri Fatehjang Singh Bajwa; Shri Ranjit Singh Gill; and Shri Vireet Joshi. The delegation informed the Governor that the state government is indulging in large-scale irregularities and manipulation in the delimitation of wards of municipal corporations and municipal councils.

Wards are being constituted without conducting door-to-door surveys and based on unauthenticated

and dubious population data. In several proposed wards, the population has been shown as abnormally low, raising serious questions about the transparency and credibility of the entire process.

BJP leaders pointed out that geographical continuity and administrative convenience have been completely ignored in the delimitation exercise. Distant and disconnected areas have been forcibly merged.

Classified

I, Bhupinder Singh Dhaliwal S/o Romeshar Singh R/o Vill Kangar, PO Salabatpura, Tehsil Phul, Distt Bathinda, Punjab declare that my father was known by two names Rameshwar Singh and Romeshar Singh

I, Kulwinder Singh S/o Narinder Singh R/o Patti Uchand, Vpo Gharuan, Distt Sas Nagar Mohali Have Changed My Name To Kulwinder (Singh) As A Surname

I, Swaran Kaur, wife of Karam Singh, village Mallowali, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur, state that both my names are Swaran Kaur and Harnek Kaur. I wish to be known by both names.

I Harvinder Kumar S/o Janak Raj R/o Vpo Rasulpur Teh-Nawanshar Distt SBS Nagar Pb declared that my given name is Harvinder and my surname is Kumar.

I, Sandeep Kaur Basra W/o Satnam Singh Pahal R/o Vill: Gumtala Teh-Phillaur Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name from Sandeep Kaur Basra to Sandeep Kaur, Sandeep is my first name and Kaur is my surname.

I, Sagar Diliprao Dhande S/O Dilip Nagorao Dhande R/O Flat No. 398, A1-26, Hmel Township, Refinery Road, Raman, Distt. Bathinda, Punjab. I Have Changed Name From Sagar Dhande To Sagar Diliprao Dhande.

I, Balvir Singh S/o Karamjit R/o VPO: Panam, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab India, I have change my name spelling from Balbir Singh to Balvir Singh, Please all concern note.

I, Sukhtej Singh S/O Balvir Singh R/O Baghapurana Road Near Petrol Pump Nihal Singh Wala Distt. Moga have changed my name to Sukhtej Singh Sound.

I, Darshan kaur D/o Tek Singh W/o Darshan Singh Brar R/o #MCB -25-00303, St no 17/2, Guru Gobind Singh Nagar Bathinda have changed my name to Darshan Kaur Brar

I, Mamta Kumar, W/o SANDEEP, resident of House No 1029, Sector 16, PANCHKULA, Haryana, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Mamta Agastya for all official and legal purposes.

I, Manjit Kaur W/o Rakesh Kumar R/o Vill. Patti Takhar Po. Shankar Teh-Nakodar Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab, Pincod-144042, have changed the name of my minor daughter namely Ekta aged 15 year and she shall hereafter be known as Ekta Rani for all future purposes.

I, Satvinder Kaur W/O Paramjit Singh R/O Bir Bhamarsi, (Fatehgarh Sahib) changed my name Satwinder Kaur.

I Chiranshu Alias Arim Sharma Rattan S/O Varinder Kumar Sharma R/O #68, Gib Nagar, Near Bus Stand, Khanna, 141401 Have Changed My Name To Chiranshu Rattan.

I Simranjeet Kaur Chahal D/O Parmjit Singh R/O Vpo Killi Chahlan, Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Simranjeet Kaur.

I Arwinder Singh Mahey S/O Hardev Singh R/O Vpo Jassowal Tehsil Jagraon Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Arwinder Singh.

I, Ruchika W/o Rajan Bansal R/o H.No. 229 W.No. 19 St.No. 01 Krishna Nagar Moga Teh & Distt. Moga have changed my name from Ruchika to Ruchika Bansal.

I, Santosh Kumari W/o Late: Mukesh Kumar R/o Vill: Padiala SAS Nagar (Mohali) declare that my son Ravi Kumar is out of my control. So I disown with him from my moveable/immovable property. If anybody dealing with him at his/her own risk.

I, Parvinder, W/o Sandeep Chaudhary resident of House no 184, Harmilap Nagar 1, Baltana, SAS Nagar, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Parvinder Chaudhary for all official and legal purposes.

I, Manjit Kaur W/o Rakesh Kumar R/o Vill. Patti Takhar Po. Shankar Teh-Nakodar Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab, Pincod-144042, have changed the name of my minor daughter namely Kavita aged 12 year and she shall hereafter be known as Kavita Rani for all future purposes.

I, Daljinder Singh Bhangu S/o Prem Singh R/o Vill-Khattran Teh-Samrala Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Daljinder Singh.

I, Rajbir Singh S/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Vill. Sekhwan, PO. Jaito Sarja, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur, Have Changed My Name From Rajbir Singh To Rajbir (As A Given Name) And Singh (As A Surname).

I, Sharanjit Kaur W/o Satpal Singh R/o Vill-Bhattia Dhaha, Distt Ludhiana declare that I am known by both the names Sharanjit Kaur and Sharanjeet Kaur. Both the names are mine.

I Leena Goyal W/o Rohit Goyal R/o H.No 529 Part 2 VIII-Sandhaur Distt Malerkotla Have changed my name Leena Goyal to Leena Rani . Please concored Note.

I, Gian Singh Saini S/o Kartar Singh R/o Cheema Patti Saffuwala Distt. Moga have changed my name to Gian Singh.

I, Jasveer Singh S/o Dalip Singh and Jaswinder Kaur W/o Jasvir Singh R/o Vill: Sahauli Teh & Distt. Ludhiana declare that our son Bhinder Singh alias Shanty (Unmarried) is out of our control. We disown with him from our moveable/immovable property. If anybody dealing with him at his/her own risk.

I, Balvir Singh S/o Mukhtiar Singh R/o Vill-Baghour Teh-Samrala Distt. Ludhiana have changed my minor daughter name from Harsimran Kaur to Jaismeen Kaur.

I, Meor Singh Cheema S/o Kartar Singh R/o Vill and P/o Rachhin Teh-Raikot Distt Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Meor Singh Cheema.

I, Daljinder Singh Bhangu S/o Prem Singh R/o Vill-Khattran Teh-Samrala Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Daljinder Singh.

I, Harpal Singh Dhaliwal S/o Sant Singh R/o Mehal Kalan (Barnala) have changed my name to Harpal Singh.

I, Kamaljit Singh S/o Buta Singh R/o H No.15866 St No.3 Ward No.3 Barnala Road Guru Gobind Singh Nagar Bathinda have changed my name to Kamaljit Singh Sidhu S/o Buta Singh Sidhu.

I, Jagsir Singh Dhaliwal S/O Jarnail Singh R/o Dasaundha Singh Wala Distt Malerkotla have changed my name to Jagsir Singh.

I, Shinderpal Kaur Alias Surinder Kaur W/O Sukhpal Singh R/O Vpo-Mandi Kalan Distt Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Gurjeet Kaur.

I, Rajni Kumari W/o Joginder Pal R/O Vill: Sai Kalan Po. Arnia Teh-R.S Pura Jammu Jammu and Kashmir that my name Rajni Kumari was called by two names i.e. Rajni Kumari and Rajni Devi during her life that above both names i.e. Rajni Kumari and Rajni Devi belongs to one and same person. please read in all documents Rajni Kumari and Rajni Devi same person.

I, Nirmal Ram Son Of Amar Chand R/O Vpo Dhuleta Distt Jalandhar Have Changed My Name From Nirmal Ram Ro Nirmal Kumar.

I, Gurmit Kaur Wife Of Nirmal Kumar R/O Vpo Dhuleta Distt Jalandhar Have Changed My Name From Gurmit Kaur To Meeto.

I, Amarjit Kaur Khosa W/o Harnek Singh R/o VPO Daroli Bhai (Moga) Have Changed My Name To Amarjit Kaur.

I, Jagdeep Singh Shergill S/o Lakhwinder Singh R/o Kot Ise Khan (Moga) have Changed My Name To Jagdeep Singh.

I, Rajinder Singh @ Harjinder Singh S/o Mohtam Singh R/o Chughe Khurd District Bathinda one and the same parson.

I, Harvirinder Singh Sidhu S/o Iqbal Singh R/o Near Baba Jiwan Singh Da Gurudauara Bhullar Patti Vpo. Buttar Teh & Distt. Moga Pb-142040, have changed my name from Harvirinder Singh Sidhu to Harvirinder Singh.

I, Sandeep Singh S/o Jaswinder Singh R/o Village Rajpur Kandhi, PO Garhdiwala, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab, India declare that I have my name Sandeep Singh changed to my first name Sandeep and surname as Singh.

I, hitherto known as Paramjit Lochan son of Jaswinder Residence of Vill Jadla, Distt Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar , Punjab- 144515, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Paramjit. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, hitherto known as Gagandeep Singh son of Amrik Singh Residence of Vill Rukanpura Urf Khui Khara, Distt Ferozpur , Punjab- 152116, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gagandeep Singh. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, hitherto known as Gagandeep Singh son of Amrik Singh Residence of Vill Rukanpura Urf Khui Khara, Distt Ferozpur , Punjab- 152116, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gagandeep Singh. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

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NEWS BRIEF
Legal action warned against printing deity photos on firecrackers


RAJESHWAR PINTU DHURI: Taking a tough stand against the practice of printing images of Hindu deities on firecrackers, the Law and Justice Council has warned of strict legal consequences for manufacturers. Senior Advocate Mukesh Kaushal, Chairman of the Council and a prominent social activist, along with President Harvinder Singh Tiwana, termed the trend a "violation of religious sentiments." The duo has dispatched a memorandum to the Prime Minister of India, demanding immediate directives for firecracker manufacturing units across the country. They have urged a total ban on the use of images of Goddess Lakshmi or any other deity on firecrackers and their packaging. Advocates Kaushal and Tiwana stated that during the bursting of crackers, these religious images end up in fire, smoke, and garbage, which deeply hurts the sentiments of the public.

Malender Rajan attends block Congress Indora meeting, extends new year greetings


INDORA: MLA from Indora, Malender Rajan, attended the Block Congress Indora meeting and extended heartfelt New Year greetings and best wishes to all Congress workers and office bearers. During the meeting, he expressed sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the successful organization of the recently held Indora Festival, stating that the event symbolized cultural unity and organizational strength in the region.

MLA Rajan informed that due to rainfall, the meeting venue had to be changed and some adjustments were made to the program. Despite these challenges, the meeting was conducted successfully with the full cooperation of party workers. He thanked all workers for their dedication, discipline, and support. Taking an important decision during the meeting, the MLA announced that the Block Congress Indora meeting will now be held regularly on the first day of every month in Indora. These meetings will serve as a platform for direct interaction and dialogue between Congress office bearers, workers, and the public. He emphasized that regular meetings would help further strengthen the organization and ensure that public issues are heard on priority and resolved in a timely and effective manner.

MCM observes International Day of persons with disabilities with GRIID

CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

NSS Units, Equal Opportunity Cell and Internal Committee for Persons with Disabilities at Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, in collaboration with GRIID, Chandigarh,

observed International Day of Persons with Disabilities through a three-day outreach programme. The initiative aimed to sensitise students to the needs, abilities and rights of persons with disabilities while fostering empathy, awareness and inclusive community engagement.

The programme commenced with a hands-on

training session at GRIID, wherein 20 student volunteers gained practical exposure to disability assessment and rehabilitation services. Dr Reena Jain acquainted the volunteers with GRIID's mission, certification procedures and person-centric approach to care, highlighting the importance of customised interventions for diverse conditions, including autism. Students also observed assessment techniques in the Speech Therapy Department and learned effective, supportive communication strategies essential for working with persons with disabilities.

Gulshan Kumar Tyagi joins Shiv Sena Punjab along with his associates

TILAK RAJ MOHALI, JAN 2

National President Shri Sanjeev Ghanauli. He said that the participation of such educated and aware individuals in promoting and propagating Sanatan Dharma is a highly commendable step.

On this occasion, Shri Gulshan Kumar Tyagi stated that whatever responsibility the party entrusts to him, he will fulfill it with full dedication of body, mind, and resources, and will continue to work tirelessly for the unity and integrity of the nation.

Mayor releases MCC wall calendar 2026 emphasising waste segregation at source
RN KHERA CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

City Mayor Smt. Harpreet Kaur Babla today released the Annual Wall Calendar-2026 of the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh in the presence of MC Commissioner Sh. Amit Kumar, IAS, Special Commissioner Sh. Pardeep Kumar, IAS, Medical Officer of Health Dr. Inderdeep Kaur and MC Councillors.

The wall calendar for the year 2026 has been thoughtfully designed with a strong focus on the theme of segregation of waste at source. Through impactful visuals and messages, the calendar highlights the importance of using four-colour bins for proper segregation of household waste, namely dry waste, wet waste, sanitary waste and hazardous waste. Releasing the calendar, the



Mayor appealed to the citizens of the City Beautiful to take a collective pledge to segregate waste at the household level. She emphasized that citizens' active participation is crucial in maintaining cleanliness and making Chandigarh a top performer in Swachhata rankings.

She added that waste segregation at source is the found-

ation of an efficient solid waste management system.

MC Commissioner Sh. Amit Kumar, IAS stated that during the year 2026, the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh will give special thrust to segregation of waste at source.

He informed that MCC will undertake extensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities

Nitu Singh appointed president of Amit Shah Yuva Sangathan Mahila Morcha

DORAHA (AMRISH ANAND): The appointment of Nitu Singh as the President of the Punjab State Mahila Morcha by the Amit Shah Yuva Sangathan has created an atmosphere of joy and enthusiasm in the region. Along with Bharatiya Janata Party workers, common citizens have also expressed their happiness over this appointment.



While interacting with the media, Madam Nitu Singh expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the party high command and stated that she would fulfill the responsibility entrusted to her with complete honesty and dedication. She said that as President of the Mahila Morcha, she would work to unite women across Punjab, safeguard their rights, and come forward to serve and support every needy person. She further added that strengthening the organization at the grassroots level and taking the party's policies and programmes to the people would remain her top priorities.

Guv releases Chandigarh administration's calendar 2026

SHASHI PAL JAIN CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

The Chandigarh Administration's Calendar for 2026 was officially released today by Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh, at Lok Bhavan, Punjab. The ceremony witnessed the presence of

esteemed dignitaries, including Shri H. Rajesh Prasad, Chief Secretary, UT Chandigarh Administration; Shri Vivek Pratap Singh, Principal Secretary to Governor; Ms. Prerna Puri, Secretary Public Relations, Sh. Abhijit Vijay Chaudhari, Special Secretary to the Administrator; Sh. Nishant Kumar Yadav, Deputy

Commissioner; Ms. Kanwardeep Kaur, SSP Chandigarh and Sh. Rajiv Tewari, Director Public Relations, UT Chandigarh. The Governor praised the Department of Public Relations for creating a practical and visually appealing one-page calendar, highlighting its role in promoting public engagement.

New office bearers elected for Hindustan Scouts and guides, Chandigarh unit
CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Dr. Harish Vashishth will be Chairman, Principal Girish Sachdeva President, and former Mayor Daves Moudgil will be the State Secretary.

The election of the Union Territory Chandigarh unit of Hindustan Scouts and Guides was conducted, followed by its reconstitution and official announcement. This election was held at Modern Way Model School, Sector 29, Chandigarh.

Due to the condition fixed by the Government of India regarding the maximum age limit of seventy years for remaining as office bearers in the organization, the old Chandigarh unit of Hindustan Scouts and Guides was dissolved and a new executive body was constituted and announced.

In the election of HSG, today Election Officer Dr. Gaurav Gaur, Nodal Officer HSG, declared Dr. Harish Vashishth, Dean Sciences, Nilim University Kaithal, as elected unopposed to the post



of Chairman, Girish Sachdeva, Principal, to the post of President, Daves Moudgil, Advocate and former Mayor of Chandigarh, to the post of State Secretary, Dr. D. P. Lochan, former Director General Health Haryana, to the post of State Chief Commissioner and Sarvesh, Education Consultant, to the post of Treasurer. Six Vice Presidents—Sardar Jasjyot Singh Almast, President Fire Awareness and Safety Association, Dr. Nisha Gupta, Principal, K. S. Bharti, former Deputy Director of Sports, Roop Lal, National Vice President Softball Association, Rajesh Kamal, Principal

and Adishwar Chandel, social worker were declared elected. On this occasion, six National Council Members Mrs. Veena Garg, teacher, Ms. Isha Bhardwaj, psychologist, Amrit Prakash, teacher, Sartaj Singh, Research Scholar, PU, Neha Kashyap, Principal and Mr. Karamveer, social worker were declared elected. On this occasion, HSG Chairman Dr. Harish Vashishth and President Girish Sachdeva welcomed the workers who had come and spoke about soon starting the work of HSG and establishing its units in all educational institutions of Chandigarh.

Bibi Amandeep Kaur Mand resolves water problem in her ward 13

J.K. BATTA CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Councillor Bibi Amandeep Kaur Mand of Nayagaon Municipal Council resolved the water problem in her ward, Ward 13.

This means she took notice of the citizens' water-related complaints and water shortage issues, and contacted the concerned Junior Engineer (JE) Dipansh of the water department or visited the site herself to find a solution.

This improved the water supply in the area and brought relief to the people of

Ward 13. This is part of her responsibility as a local representative, ensuring water management and basic amenities.

The people of Ward 13 thanked their ward councillor, Bibi Amandeep Kaur, and said that whenever there is any problem in their ward, the councillor herself comes to the spot, stands there, and calls the officials of the concerned department to get the problem resolved.

Councillor Bibi Amandeep Kaur Mand also thanked JE Dipansh of the water department.

CMD, NHPC reaffirms commitment to clean energy, nation-building in 2026 vision

CHANDIGARH: Shri Bhupender Gupta, CMD, NHPC, outlined his vision for NHPC for the year 2026 during a special programme organised on 1st January 2026 at the NHPC Corporate Office, Faridabad. The function was graced by Shri Uttam Lal, Director (Personnel), Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Director (Projects), Shri Suprakash Adhikari, Director (Technical) and Shri Mahesh Kumar Sharma, Director (Finance) alongwith other senior NHPC officers and employees.

In his address to employees, Shri Gupta extended his heartfelt New Year greetings to all NHPCians and highlighted the significant achievements of the organisation. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Bhupender Gupta shared messages of motivation, reflecting on NHPC's remarkable milestones achieved despite numerous difficulties and challenges during the past year and outlined NHPC's vision for sustainable growth, innovation and excellence in the coming year. He also emphasised on NHPC's continued commitment to nation-building, clean energy transition and community development. He concluded by reiterating NHPC's pledge to work with renewed dedication and collective responsibility to achieve organisational goals while contributing to the country's energy security and sustainable development. Sharing his views on the occasion, Shri Uttam Lal, Director (Personnel), emphasized the pivotal role of human capital in NHPC's success and highlighted the organization's focus on employee welfare, capacity building and fostering a positive and performance-oriented work culture. Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Director (Projects) underlined NHPC's commitment to timely execution of projects and strengthening project management systems to support capacity addition.

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training session at GRIID, wherein 20 student volunteers gained practical exposure to disability assessment and rehabilitation services. Dr Reena Jain acquainted the volunteers with GRIID's mission, certification procedures and person-centric approach to care, highlighting the importance of customised interventions for diverse conditions, including autism. Students also observed assessment techniques in the Speech Therapy Department and learned effective, supportive communication strategies essential for working with persons with disabilities.

Kewal Bansal of Motia Group donates 240 bags of cement for under-construction Shri Ram Temple

KHARAR (SHASHI PAL JAIN): Kewal Bansal, owner of Motia Group, today donated 240 bags of cement for the under-construction Shri Ram Temple in Kharar.

It is worth mentioning that the lantern of the Mandapa Dome of Shri Ram Temple is to be cast on January 4 and about 500 bags will be used in it. Today, Kewal Bansal saw the Mandapa Dome and while looking at the construction of the temple, said that he will continue to contribute in the future as well.

On this occasion, apart from others, the members of the temple's management committee, Vinod Singla and Anand Bansal, were present who thanked Kewal Bansal and prayed to Shri Ram Chandra Ji that he may progress more and contribute for the construction of Sri Ram Mandir.

Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadour holds various activities dedicated to Shaheedi Jor Mela

BHADOUR (BALWINDER AZAD): As per the guidelines of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee and Dharam Prachar Committee, Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadour Barnala organized a Chetna March dedicated to Mata Gujjar Kaur and the younger Sahibzadas on December 24, 2025 at Bhadour market by all the staff and students of the institution. The Chetna March was started by all the staff and students after reciting Japji Sahib and Chaupai Sahib. During this, S. Paramjit Singh Khalsa, Member Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Sri Amritsar Sahib, shared invaluable thoughts with the students about the martyrdom of Mata Gujjar Kaur and the younger Sahibzadas. On this occasion, Prin. S. Malwinder Singh, Beant Singh, Manpreet Singh (Recordkeeper), Jaspal Singh (Pali) Accountant Gurdwara Sahib Patshahi Cheevin/Dasvin (Bhadour) and the entire staff also participated. During this, students sang Kavishri and Vars dedicated to the martyrdom of Mata Gujjar Kaur and the younger Sahibzadas at different stages of Bhadour.

Development works worth crores of rupees approved in areas under Kharar Municipal Council

SHASHI PAL JAIN KHARAR, JAN 2

Due to the hard work of Kharar Municipal Council President Anju Chander and Constituency MLA Anmol Gagan Mann, development works worth about Rs 6 crore have been approved in villages Jandpur, Harlalpur and other areas under ward number four.

Talking to reporters in this regard, Ward number four councillor Gobinder Singh Cheema said that a council meeting was held in March 2025 and the resolutions passed in it were pending with the government.

In the meeting, he gave information about the resolutions passed for the construction of two welcome gates in villages Jandpur, Harlalpur, beautification of the ground pond with modern technology for kabaddi,

basketball and volleyball, swings for children, open gym, boundary of the entire village, repair of old streets of the villages and new streets etc. He thanked MLA Anmol Gagan Mann and said that the area under ward number four will soon be provided with drinking water facility from Kajoli Water, the work of which is in progress. He said that he will soon get the tenders for the approved works floated and the work will be started for the all-round development of his ward.

DBU International students celebrate christmas with cultural harmony

AJAY MALHOTRA FATEHGARH SAHIB, JAN 2

Desh Bhagat University (DBU) celebrated Christmas with great enthusiasm as international students from various countries came together to share the joy of the season and promote cultural harmony. The campus was beautifully decorated, reflecting the universal message of peace, love, and global unity.

The celebration was conducted peacefully and in an orderly manner. The programme featured prayers, worship songs and a Bible exhortation delivered by Deacon J. Samuel Kamanda on the theme "The Power of Believing." Students

also presented melodious songs, adding vibrancy and warmth to the festive atmosphere. University officials, including representatives from the Office of the Dr Zora Singh Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor Dr. Tarjinder Kaur, Dr Harsh Sadawarti Vice-Chancellor, Dr Surjit Kaur Patheja Director Performing Arts and Media extended Christmas greetings and lauded the enthusiastic participation of international students. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to acknowledge their contributions. The event concluded with fellowship and refreshments, reinforcing DBU's commitment to fostering cultural harmony, inclusivity.

DA resolves 774 complaints received on action helpline

JS SODHI JALANDHAR, JAN 2

By effectively resolving 774 complaints received on the Action Helpline WhatsApp number 96462-22555 issued by the district administration to solve the problems of the people, relief has been provided to the citizens, while the residents are also contributing to the efforts being made to keep the city clean. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Agarwal, while chairing a review meeting today regarding the disposal of complaints received on the Action Helpline, expressed satisfac-

tion over the efforts of the concerned officers and asked them to work more resolutely. He said that 473 complaints received by the district administration on the Action Helpline WhatsApp number regarding the cleaning of vacant plots have been successfully resolved so far. While taking strict action against the owners who do not clean the plots, notices have been issued to 204 plot owners and in 23 cases, recommendations have been made for red entry. Dr. Agarwal said that the plot owners are also supporting the campaign launched by the administration.

Thalassaemic Charitable Trust welcomes new year 2026

CHANDIGARH: Thalassaemic Charitable Trust (TCT) began the new year with a ceremony at the office of the Hon'ble Director, PGIMER Chandigarh, Prof(Dr) Vivek Lal by presenting Bouquet of flower. Dr. Vivek Lal welcomed Sh. Rajinder Kalra-Member Secretary, Sh. AP Singh, Sr. Vice-President, Sh. ML Gandhi, Executive Member and staff of TCT with open arms and offered words of appreciation for TCT's ongoing working. Dr. Lal highlighted and discussed the long-standing dedication of Sh. Rajinder Kalra towards thalassaemic patients, praised TCT's unwavering commitment.

As part of the celebration, TCT extended an invitation to Prof. (Dr.) Sadhna Lal, Head of the Department of Paediatric Gastroenterology & Hepatology, PGIMER Chandigarh, to grace the occasion. She joined the cake-cutting ceremony along with her team of doctors and was warmly welcomed with bouquets, followed by a high-tea.

During her address, Dr. Sadhna Lal highly appreciated the outstanding and selfless contributions of Sh. Rajinder Kalra, Member Secretary, acknowledging his unwavering dedication to serving humanity since 1990. She delivered a highly commendatory speech to the assembled doctors, emphasizing the importance of compassion, selfless service, and commitment towards the welfare of society.

Jalandhar premier league cricket matches organized under 'War Against Drugs' campaign

JALANDHAR (PARAMJIT SINGH): Under the campaign 'War Against Drugs' launched by the Punjab Government to connect the youth and students with sports and keep them away from drugs, a series of matches were organized under the Jalandhar Premier League under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Agarwal today at CT Shahpur Campus between Cambridge International School and Police DAV Public School. On this occasion, Assistant Commissioner (General) Rohit Jindal and Chief Minister Field Officer Navdeep Singh encouraged the players and motivated them to join sports and stay away from drugs. He said that while the state government led by Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Bhagwant Singh Mann is making serious efforts to encourage the youth towards sports, the district administration is also providing an environment for the players to excel in the field of sports.



Appeal to traders to avail maximum benefit of extended deadline till March 31

SURINDER DAMDAMI
FARIDKOT, JAN 2

The trading and business community of Punjab has welcomed the Punjab Government's decision to extend the Punjab One-Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme-2025 till March 31, 2026, terming it a highly progressive and trader-friendly step.

Expressing gratitude on behalf of traders across the state, Shri Anil Thakur, Chairman, Punjab State Traders' Commission, thanked Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann and Finance Minister S. Harpal Singh Cheema for their sensitive and pragmatic approach towards resolving long-pending tax-related issues of the business community.

He said that the demand of the trading community in this regard was duly conveyed to the Punjab Government, with the objective of ensuring that the maximum number of traders are able to benefit from the extended period. Shri Anil Thakur said that the extension of the OTS Scheme demonstrates the State Government's deep un-



derstanding of the practical difficulties faced by traders and industry, particularly the heavy compliance burden and procedural challenges witnessed during the last quarter of the year. He added that the scheme has emerged as a major relief for businesses dealing with legacy disputes under pre-GST laws, including VAT and Central Sales Tax.

"The decision to extend the OTS Scheme till March 31, 2026, reflects the Punjab Government's commitment to creating a pro-business environment and promoting voluntary compliance.

The substantial waivers on interest, penalties, and eligible tax amounts have instilled confidence among traders and encouraged them to come forward and settle long-pending dues," said Shri

Thakur. The Chairman further noted that the large number of applications received under the scheme clearly indicates the trust of the trading community in the policies of the present government. He said that the extension would allow remaining eligible traders to accurately assess their liabilities and take advantage of this one-time opportunity without undue pressure.

Shri Anil Thakur appealed to all traders, industrialists, and rice millers in Punjab to make judicious and benevolent use of the extended period and opt for the OTS Scheme within the revised timeline. "This is a valuable opportunity to clear outstanding arrears, avoid future litigation, and start the new financial year with a clean slate.

CM Mann bats for more international flights from Mohali Airport

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Pitching global connectivity as a driver of economic growth rather than symbolism, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Friday batted for starting more international flights from Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport, asserting that expanded overseas operations would significantly boost economic activity, tourism and investment across the region.

The remarks came as Chandigarh International Airport Limited (CHIAL) handed over a Rs 19 crore interim dividend to the Punjab government, a development the Punjab CM cited as evidence of the airport's steady growth and a functional Centre-Punjab partnership.

He said stronger global air links from Mohali would ease access for entrepreneurs and traders, generate employment for the state's youth, and position Punjab as a competitive destination for international business and tourism. Interacting with officers of Chandigarh International Airport Limited



(CHIAL) who presented an interim dividend cheque amounting to Rs 19 crore to him, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said that the sustained growth of Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport reflects the strong partnership between the Centre and Punjab governments.

"The Punjab government is committed to expand international operations from Mohali to connect the vibrant state with global destinations. It will help in creating new job opportunities for the youth of the state thereby giving fillip to the economy of Punjab," he added. The

Punjab gov't's diary & calendar for year 2026 unveiled

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Friday unveiled the official diary and calendar of the Punjab Government for the year 2026 at his official residence, marking the formal release of a key institutional publication that guides the government's day-to-day functioning. Disclosing this, the Chief Minister's Office said that the layout design of the calendar and diary had been conceptualized and prepared by the Information & Public Relations Department and printed by the Controller Printing & Stationery Punjab. Prominent amongst others present on the occasion included Chief Secretary KAP Sinha, Secretary Information and Public Relations Ramvir Singh, Director Information and Public Relations Vimal Setia and others.

Chief Minister said that it will help in easy movement of the entrepreneurs, traders and industrialists of the region and



from across the globe to the state thereby boosting trade, commerce and economic activity in the region.

Punjab gov't takes steps to protect Moonak area from floods : Goyal



MOONAK (SUMER GARG): In a significant boost to farmers and underprivileged families in the Moonak area, Punjab's cabinet minister for water resources and mining, Barinder Kumar Goyal, undertook two major initiatives today aimed at flood protection and housing security. At village Karail, the Minister laid the foundation stone for an inlet gate on the Ghaggar river at Burji 3900 RD. The Rs 32.80 lakh project, to be completed within one and a half months, will allow direct and immediate discharge of rainwater into the river, preventing waterlogging that previously damaged over 1,000 acres of farmland and caused heavy financial losses to farmers.

The new facility will eliminate the need for costly motor pumping, reduce electricity and diesel expenses, and ensure timely sowing of subsequent crops. While addressing the gathering, Barinder Goyal highlighted that the area faces annual flood threats from the Ghaggar River, but proactive measures taken under the leadership of Chief Minister, Bhagwant Singh Mann averted major damage last monsoon despite water levels reaching 753 feet.

He, however, sharply criticised the Central Government for withdrawing from its responsibility to resolve the inter-state Ghaggar issue between Punjab and Haryana, stating that the Punjab Government will vigorously defend the state's water rights at every forum.

DC releases IVF calendar & distributes Diwan Todar Mal award

SUMER GARG
LUDHIANA, JAN 2

The International Vaish Federation (IVF), has organized 'Vaish Shiromani Dewan Todar Mal Award' distribution ceremony at Sarabha Nagar here.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Ludhiana, Himanshu Jain joined the event as Chief guest. Mr. Harkesh Mittal, State Secretary of the IVF, said that at the inauguration of the event, a blood donation camp was organized on the occasion of the 59th birthday of the organization's national patron member, Vipin Jain Shraman.

All the officials, including the state president of the organization, Surinder Singla presented bouquets to Vipin Jain Shraman and wished him a happy birthday. Mr. Singla also honored Vipin Jain Shraman by presenting him a shawl along with the Vaish Shiromani Dewan Todar Mal Award. In the blood donation camp, a team from DMC, hospital Ludhiana has collected 59



units of blood from men/women. All the blood donors were honored with appreciation letters and gifts. Mr. Singla added that DC, Himanshu Jain has released the calendar for the year 2026 published by the International Vaish Federation. He said that the IVF is doing very good social work for the nation and society from time to time, hence all the officers and workers of the organization deserve congratulations. The DC honoured the representatives of various organizations of the city with 'Vaish Shiromani Dewan Todar Mal

Award' and a shawl, awardees mainly including, Brigadier Dinesh Gupta father of SSP, Nawanshahar, Tushar Gupta; ACP, (traffic Police), Gindra Bansal; Rajesh Jain Bobby, Member, Punjab State Minorities Commission; Khushboo Bansal, Director, Punjab State Information and Communication Technology; Social worker, Pradeep Gupta; Jagannath Food for Life Welfare Society President, Satish Gupta; renowned industrialists, Munish Garg & Praveen Gupta and Chairman of Nar Seva Foundation, BD Goyal.

Woman donates liver to save husband's life

SUMER GARG
CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Davinder Pal Singh aged 38 from Amritsar got a new lease of life after his wife voluntarily came forward to donate a part of her liver. Mr. Singh was brought to Max hospital, Mohali, in a very critical condition as he was suffering from end-stage liver failure caused by long-term alcohol intake.

The patient had been experiencing yellowing of the skin and eyes, dark-coloured urine, increasing abdominal swelling, and persistent weakness. He had been admitted multiple times to different hospitals since August 2025, where he was treated for chronic liver disease. However, his condition continued to deteriorate, prompting his family to seek urgent specialised care.

After detailed evaluations at Max by the liver transplant team, led by Dr. Kaptaan Singh, consultant, HPB surgery & liver transplantation, it was determined that an



emergency transplant was the only viable option to save his life. Dr. Kaptaan Singh, said, "The patient was suffering from end-stage liver failure when he reached us, making this an extremely high risk transplant. Our multidisciplinary team worked round-the-clock to stabilise him and prepare him for surgery.

In a remarkable act of courage and selflessness, the patient's wife donated a part of her liver. After thorough medical evaluation, she was found fit to proceed as a living donor. "Dr. Kaptaan further said that post-surgery, the patient was slowly taken off life-support medicines and breathing assistance and is now recovering well under close medical care.

Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot welcomes new year 2026 with achievements and aspirations

FARIDKOT, JAN 2

Baba Farid University of Health Sciences (BFUHS), Faridkot, under the visionary leadership of its Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Sood, organized a special New Year event at the Senate Hall of the University to welcome the New Year 2026.

The event was marked by enthusiastic participation from university office bearers, Heads of Departments, faculty members, and staff. Prominent officials present on the occasion included Mr. Arvind Kumar, Registrar; Dr. Rajeev Sharma, Controller of Examinations; Dr. Rohit Chopra, Additional Principal; Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Registrar; Guru Gobind Singh Medical College & Hospital; and Dr. Neetu Kukkar, Med-



ical Superintendent, GGS Medical College. Addressing the gathering, Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Sood highlighted the significant milestones achieved by BFUHS during the year 2025.

He stated that the University continued to strengthen its academic excellence, healthcare services, and research ecosystem through the successful implementation of the Hub and Spoke Model of Skill Development, expansion of healthcare skill-based courses, and promotion of digital education initiatives.

Guru Kripa Sewa Sansthan, Sirhind spreads warmth in winter: Annual blanket distribution drive brings hope to needy



AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, JAN 2

In a heartfelt display of compassion and human service, Guru Kripa Sewa Sansthan, Sirhind, under the divine blessings and spiritual guidance of Param Pujya Shri Sudhanshu Ji Maharaj, conducted its annual 'Winter Blanket Distribution Drive' offering timely relief to the poor and homeless battling the freezing night temperatures. Organised with the support of Vishav Jagriti

Mission, Sirhind, the initiative once again highlighted the organisation's unwavering dedication to uplifting the underprivileged. Late into the night, teams of devoted members and volunteers moved across footpaths, roadside shelters, and vulnerable areas, personally handing out warm blankets to those forced to sleep in the open. Their humanitarian effort served not only as a shield against the biting cold but also as a gesture of dignity and care for those most in need.

Dr. Baljit Kaur holds crucial meeting with 25 departments to review SC Sub-Plan for welfare of SC community

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Punjab's Minister for Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities, Dr. Baljit Kaur, chaired an important meeting to review the progress of the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) being implemented in the state for the socio-economic welfare of the Scheduled Caste community. Senior officers from around 25 departments implementing schemes under the SC Sub-Plan participated in the meeting, during which detailed discussions were held.

During the meeting, Dr. Baljit Kaur reviewed the initiatives undertaken by various departments under the SC Sub-Plan during the financial year 2025-26. She directed the officials to expe-



dite the utilisation of funds allocated for schemes where expenditure has not yet been made and to ensure that the funds are released immediately so that the benefits of government welfare schemes reach the people at the grassroots level without delay. The Minister categorically stated that the funds allocated under the SC Sub-Plan must be utilised exclusively for the welfare of the Scheduled Caste community and that any negligence or misuse would not be tolerat-

ed. She further directed all departments to submit detailed lists of beneficiaries and villages covered under their respective schemes to the Department of Social Justice, Empowerment and Minorities to ensure proper, transparent and effective utilisation of the earmarked funds. Dr. Baljit Kaur also emphasised the need to design new, innovative and people-centric schemes in line with the present-day requirements of the Scheduled Caste community.

Nagar Kirtan dedicated to birth anniversary of Shri Guru Gobind Singh at Malla under Panj Pyare and four Sahibzaade



JAGDEEP SINGH GILL
JAITU, JAN 2

A Nagar Kirtan dedicated to the birth anniversary of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji was organized under the leadership of the Panj Pyares in the nearby village of Mulla. Giving information in this regard, Baba Mehakdeep Singh, the head servant of Gurdwara Sri Chabutra Sahib, said that from Gurdwara Sri Chabutra Sahib in village Mulla (Faridkot), the place where the feet of the sixth Guru, Shri Guru Har-

gobind Sahib Ji, were found, Guru Sahib Ji went to the city for the Chardi Kala of the city and for the welfare of all. A Nagar Kirtan was organized in a palanquin decorated with flowers dedicated to the birth anniversary of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, led by the Panj Pyares and four Sahibzaade.

He said that this Nagar Kirtan started from Gurdwara Sahib Ji and went around the various streets of the village and ended with the concluding prayer at Gurdwara Sahib in the evening.

Hindu Takht Punjab submits memorandum seeking strict action over alleged insult to Hindu devotees at Fatehgarh Sahib

RADHE SHYAM SHARMA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, JAN 2

Shri Hindu Takht Punjab, under the leadership of Om Gautam and Punjab women's pracharak Avinash Kaur, submitted a memorandum at the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Fatehgarh Sahib. The memorandum was handed over to PA Randeep Singh, demanding strict action against miscreants accused of insulting Hindu devotees during Shaheed Ji Mela.

According to the memorandum, certain unruly elements, allegedly posing as Sikhs, removed the caps of Hindu devotees who had visited Gurdwara Shri Fatehgarh Sahib to pay obeisance on the occasion of Shaheed Ji Divas. It was alleged that the caps were placed on spears and the devotees were humiliated,



with the intent to deter Hindu devotees from visiting the gurdwara and to create a rift between Hindu and Sikh communities, thereby disturbing the sanctity of the commemorative occasion. The organisation stated that members of the Sikh sangat present at the site, along with Nihang Singh groups, strongly opposed the act and reprimanded the alleged miscreants. Shri Hindu Takht Punjab condemned the incident, terming it an attempt

to spread fear among Hindu devotees on a sacred occasion. The memorandum urged the district administration to take the strictest possible action against those responsible so that such incidents are not repeated in the future and devotees can participate in religious events without fear. Those present on the occasion included Punjab co-pracharak Ankush Khatri, advocate and district youth president Sanyam Pathak.

Ludhiana rural police arrest man, recover banned chinese kite strings

JAGRAON (SUKH NAHAR): District Ludhiana Rural Police had yet another success in its campaign against bootleggers and anti-social elements being carried out under the guidance of SSP Dr. Ankur Gupta as it arrests 1 person with banned china kite strings (Manja). The Dakha police have reportedly arrested a man for selling banned Chinese kite string (manja) and recovered 10 spools of the prohibited material from his possession. Giving detailed information about this, DSP Varinder Singh Khosa said that the accused has been identified as Jaspreet Singh, son of Bhopinder Singh, a resident of Basiyan Bet, under Police Station Dakha in Ludhiana district. A case FIR No. 01 under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) has been registered against him. "For the past few days, information was being received about the sale of banned Chinese kite string in the Mullanpur Dakha area, which has been causing serious injuries and financial losses to the public. Acting on the tip-off, a police team conducted a raid and arrested the accused, who was allegedly selling the banned string from a shop dealing in kites and firecrackers at village Thareeke," he added. DSP Khosa stated that the Dakha subdivision police is fully prepared to take strict action against illegal activities.



CHANDIGARH
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

NEWS BRIEF

Magnesium deficiency: A small, often overlooked issue with widespread health impact

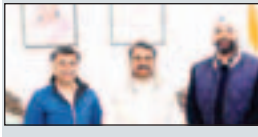
VERMA SUJANPUR: Magnesium is an essential mineral for the human body, playing a vital role in keeping muscles, nerves, the heart, and bones healthy. Despite its importance, magnesium deficiency has emerged as a common yet serious health problem due to today's fast-paced and imbalanced lifestyle. To raise awareness about this often-ignored condition, PMC Hospital, Sujapur (A Unit of EMC Hospitals) has urged the public to remain alert to this hidden health risk. According to Dr. Mohit Mahajan, Senior Nephrologist at PMC Hospital, magnesium deficiency can lead to a wide range of symptoms. These include persistent fatigue, muscle cramps or pain, tingling in the hands and feet, sleep disturbances, irritability, and irregular heartbeat.

Langar organized at Mehta Gurukul Public School, Doraha on new year



AMRISH ANAND DORAHA: On the auspicious occasion of the New Year, a Langar was organized today at Mehta Gurukul Public School, Doraha. The initiative promoted the values of selfless service, unity, and community harmony. Students, teachers, and school staff participated enthusiastically in the Langar. Bread pakoras along with hot tea were served as prasad to all present. On this occasion, the school management extended New Year greetings to all students and conveyed the message of continuing such service-oriented and socially meaningful activities in the future.

Ajayvir Singh Lalpura meets L. Murugan over key demands of Punjabi film industry



BAHADURJEET SINGH RUPNAGAR: Ajayvir Singh Lalpura, District President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Rupnagar, met Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri L. Murugan, to discuss two major demands related to the Punjabi film industry. The meeting was held in a cordial and positive atmosphere, focusing on current issues faced by the industry. During the meeting, Ajayvir Singh Lalpura drew the Union Minister's attention to two specific issues. The first concerned the granting of censorship certification (Censor Certificates) to certain Punjabi films so that they may be released on time. He stated that delays in certification cause financial and professional difficulties for producers, artists, and technical staff associated with the films.

Seva Committee Mata Ashapurni Mandir starts new year with Mata Jagran



SHARANJEET PATHANKOT: The new year was started with a grand Mata Jagran in the temple by the Seva Committee Mata Ashapurni Mandir under the chairmanship of President Vinod Kumar Malhotra. On this occasion, the Jyoti Puja ceremony was performed by the chief guests former Mayor Anil Vasudeva, Councillor Rashi Vasudeva and the Chairman of Hindu Cooperative Bank, Satish Mahindru and Renu Mahindru. During the vigil, special guests Sunil Mahajan, State Secretary of Punjab Pradesh Chamber of Commerce, Vijay Rana, President of Electrical Dealer Welfare Association, and Baljit Mahajan, Senior Vice President of New Young Club Sarma, inaugurated the event by cutting the ribbon. Social workers Narinder Kala, Sanjay Sood, Manmohan Kala and Manmohesh Billa attended the occasion and sought blessings of Mata Rani. Renowned bhajan singer Arun Sharma mesmerized the devotees with his songs dedicated to Mata Rani.

Suppressing voice of truth is major blow to democracy: Chauhan

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA MOGA: NLP Supremo Dr. Daljit Singh Chauhan and Punjab in-charge Gurbpreet Singh Garry have strongly condemned the false FIRs being registered against impartial journalists of Punjab by the Bhagwant Mann government. He said that journalists are the voice of the people. Attempts to intimidate and suppress journalists who are exposing lies are dangerous for democracy. This attitude of the government reflects authoritarian thinking. He further said that he appealed to all the district presidents and party workers of Punjab to stand firmly with the journalist brothers in their respective areas and instead of just making statements.

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR: Rajput Mahasabha Himachal Pradesh has expressed deep grief over the tragic and untimely death of a female student of a college in Dharamshala and conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, describing the incident as profoundly painful not only for the family but for society at large. In a condolence statement issued by Joginder Thakur,

General Secretary of Rajput Mahasabha, Hamirpur district, serious concern was raised over attempts by a few political elements to give the sensitive incident a political and caste-based colour by exerting pressure on the government and police, a move the organisation termed condemnable. Citing information available on social media, statements of the student's family and the college administration.

NEWS BRIEF

Demand raised for extension of Prayagraj Express and other trains up to Una

JOGINDER DEV ARYA BANGANA: A strong demand has been raised to extend the Chandigarh-Prayagraj Express (14217/18) up to Una, as the train currently operates only till Chandigarh, causing inconvenience to passengers from Una, Hamirpur and adjoining districts. Local residents say that if the train is extended to Una, devotees travelling to Prayagraj will get a direct and convenient rail connection. Residents pointed out that Prayagraj is a major religious centre and during events such as the Kumbh and Magh Mela, a large number of pilgrims travel from this region. At present, passengers are compelled to travel by road to Chandigarh to board the train. An extension up to Una would provide significant relief to devotees and regular travellers alike. Along with this, there is also a demand to operate the Chandigarh-Patliputra via Varanasi Superfast Weekly Express (22454/55) from Una.

Collective efforts needed to protect youth from drug abuse: Governor

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, JAN 2

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla attended the closing ceremony of the Shimla Winter Carnival as the Chief Guest and called for united and sustained efforts to curb the growing menace of drug abuse in the State. Addressing the gathering during the New Year's cultural evening, the Governor urged every citizen to pledge not only to stay away from drugs themselves but also to discourage others from substance abuse. Extending New Year 2026 greetings to the people of the State, he wished happiness, peace and prosperity for all. Lady Governor Janki Shukla was also present on the occasion. The Governor said that the Shimla Winter Carnival



has evolved into a vibrant reflection of Himachal Pradesh's rich cultural heritage, natural beauty and renowned hospitality. He appreciated the enthusiastic participation of local residents and tourists, adding that the impressive performances by artists made the third edition of the carnival

a major attraction. He congratulated the Municipal Corporation Shimla and the organizing committee for successfully blending cultural celebration with social awareness, stating that the carnival has now become a strong cultural identity of Shimla and the State.

CM launches official website of HPSCC



SHIMLA: Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched the official website <https://hpscsc.com> of the Himachal Pradesh Scheduled Castes Commission (HPSCC) here on Thursday evening. The Chief Minister said that the State's balanced and inclusive development was only possible when all the sections of society benefit. With this aim, the government was implementing schemes and policies for the welfare of marginalized communities. He added that the Commission plays a key role in ensuring these schemes reach the Scheduled Castes and in promoting a positive change in society towards them.

HC dismisses court employee plea, says discharge during probation was lawful

AGENCY SHIMLA, JAN 2

The Himachal Pradesh High Court dismissed a writ petition filed by a court employee challenging his removal from service during probation, holding that the action was legal and not punitive. A division bench of Chief Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia and Justice Jiya Lal Bhardwaj ruled that the discharge of Faqeer Chand, who was working as a peon in the High Court establishment, was carried out strictly as per service rules and conditions of appointment. The court observed that during the probation period, an employer has the right to assess an employee's work and conduct. If the employer is not satisfied, the services of a probationer could be discontinued. The bench held that once the High Court was dissatisfied with the petitioner's performance, it

was justified in discharging him from service. Faqeer Chand was initially appointed in June 2019 as a peon of choice to a judge of the High Court on a co-terminus basis under Article 229 of the Constitution of India. In January 2023, his services were regularised and he was appointed as a peon on probation for two years, with a clear condition that his services could be terminated if his work and conduct were found unsatisfactory. Before completion of the probation period, the High Court discharged him from service, stating that his performance during probation was not satisfactory. The petitioner argued that criminal proceedings under Section 381 of the Indian Penal Code had been initiated against him and that he was placed under suspension, claiming the discharge order was punitive in nature.

Sukhu govt using BPL as weapon, conspiracy to push poor out of welfare lists: Dr. Bindal

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, JAN 2

BJP State President Dr. Rajeev Bindal launched a scathing attack on the Congress government led by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, accusing it of once again targeting the poorest sections of society. He said that during the last more than three years, the Congress government has made life miserable for the common man, the poor and the middle class, and is now preparing to implement new BPL (Below Poverty Line) norms with the clear intention of excluding large numbers of genuine poor families from welfare benefits. Dr. Bindal said that once these new BPL rules are implemented, a massive drop in the number of BPL



beneficiaries will be seen. Even genuine and extremely poor families, who actually deserve government support, will be pushed out of the BPL category. This, he said, is not an administrative reform but a well-planned conspiracy to deprive the poor of their rights. The BJP State President stated that Congress keeps talking about "system change," but in reality, the Sukhu government is working

towards a systemic collapse for the poor. He pointed out that the Narendra Modi-led central government has introduced the 'Viksit Bharat - Rozgar aur Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)' (VB-G RAM G / Ji Ram Ji) scheme, which guarantees 125 days of employment along with multiple facilities for poor and daily-wage families. However, the Himachal Pradesh government is indulging in irresponsible statements about this scheme and is deliberately misleading villagers and poor households.

Dr. Bindal said that earlier too, the Congress government failed to deposit its share under MGNREGA, depriving rural people and the poor of its benefits, while shamelessly blaming the Centre.

CM directs speedy disposal of pending land related cases

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, JAN 2

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu here today chaired a high-level meeting on revenue related matters with Principal Advisor to the Chief Minister Ram Subhag Singh, Chief Secretary Sanjay Gupta, Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Secretaries and other senior officers. While the Deputy Commissioners of all the districts joined virtually, the Chief Minister directed that after 5th January 2026, all Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars would hear land partition (Taksim) cases every week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to ensure their time-bound



disposal and ensuring 12 hearing-days per month. He said that Deputy Commissioners would review the progress of these cases every Saturday and submit a report to the Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) the same day. The Revenue Secretary would place a detailed report before the Revenue Minister Jagat

Singh Negi on Monday and the Minister would brief the Chief Minister on the progress on the last Monday of every month.

The Chief Minister also directed the Revenue Department to submit complete details of private land, forest land and government land in the State. He further asked the department to provide detailed information on cases pending in revenue courts, including the type of cases and the period for which they have been pending.

Emphasizing speedy and time-bound resolution of revenue matters, the Chief Minister directed that all pending correction-related revenue cases be disposed of by March 31, 2026.

Perna Sharma appointed member of Mahila Morcha Executive Committee

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA, JAN 2



In a significant step towards strengthening the organizational structure of the Bharatiya Janata Party's Mahila Morcha (Women's Wing), Perna Sharma from Dharamshala has been appointed as a member of the Himachal Pradesh Mahila Morcha Executive Committee.

This appointment was made by State President Dr. Daisy Thakur after consultation with the top leadership. Perna Sharma is known for her loyalty to the party, dedication, and active organizational role. Having been actively involved in the Mahila Morcha and party activities for a long time, she has made a remarkable contribution to connecting women with the organization at the grassroots level. Considering her activism and efficiency, she has been entrusted with this important responsibility. Along with Perna Sharma, 15 other women leaders from across the state have also been included in the Mahila Morcha Executive Committee. These appointments will infuse new energy into the Mahila Morcha and help strengthen the organization at the grassroots level. Party officials and workers congratulated Perna Sharma on her appointment and expressed confidence that her experience and leadership qualities will provide new direction and strength to the Mahila Morcha.

State Youth Festival ignites confidence, creativity and social responsibility among Himachal's youth



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY

BILASPUR: Bilaspur became a vibrant hub of youthful energy and creativity as the two-day State Youth Festival 2025-26 commenced at the Multipurpose Cultural Complex, organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Himachal Pradesh. The prestigious state-level event was inaugurated by Technical Education Minister Rajesh Dharmani, who described the festival as a transformative platform for empowering youth with confidence, talent and a strong sense of social responsibility. Addressing the gathering, Rajesh Dharmani said the State Youth Festival goes far beyond competition, serving as a powerful medium for the holistic development of young minds. He noted that such platforms enable youth to express their creativity, strengthen self-belief, enhance communication skills and cultivate leadership qualities essential for success in life. Emphasising originality, he urged participants to recognise and nurture their unique identities rather than imitate others, stating that individuality is the true strength that sets youth apart in society.

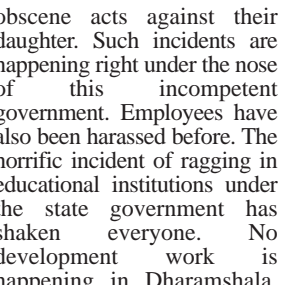
Student's death due to ragging is example of law and order failure: Sudhir Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA, JAN 2

The death of a student from Baghni Panchayat under the Dharamshala constituency due to depression is extremely tragic. Three female students and a professor from Dharamshala College are accused of assaulting, intimidating, and committing obscene acts against this student. This incident is deeply saddening for Himachal Pradesh and shameful for the state government. This was stated by BJP leader and MLA from Dharamshala, Sudhir Sharma. In a statement issued here on Friday, Sudhir Sharma said that he stands firmly with the victim's family from Baghni Panchayat and will ensure they get justice. Sudhir Sharma said that this is a major failure of the state government. He said it is a matter of great shame that some people were trying



obscene acts against their daughter. Such incidents are happening right under the nose of this incompetent government. Employees have also been harassed before. The horrific incident of ragging in educational institutions under the state government has shaken everyone. No development work is happening in Dharamshala. Earlier, this city was known worldwide for projects like Smart City, but now, at the behest of the incompetent Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, the reputation of the Dharamshala assembly constituency is being tarnished. Sudhir Sharma said that this is a serious matter. The student was being harassed, yet no one did anything. Teachers and others in the college management, who are protected by political patronage, are also guilty. The BJP will ensure justice for the victim's family.



Nalagarh gears up for national under-19 girls' kabaddi championship

SHANTI GAUTAM BADDI, JAN 2

A review meeting was held in Nalagarh under the chairmanship of Sub-Divisional Magistrate Narendra Ahluwalia to assess preparations for the upcoming national-level Under-19 Girls' Kabaddi Championship to be hosted in the town. The SDM informed that the championship will be organised from January 19 to 23 at the Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Nalagarh. He said the event would provide young kabaddi players from across the country an opportunity to showcase their talent at the national level and described it as a matter of pride for the Nalagarh region. Emphasising coordinated efforts, the SDM directed all departments to work in close



coordination to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the tournament. He reviewed arrangements related to the venue, accommodation for invited guests, cleanliness, drinking water, electricity supply, traffic management, law and order, medical services, fire safety, and seating as well as entry and exit arrangements for spectators. School principals were instructed to complete all preparations related to the playground and other required areas within the campus on

time. The Public Works Department was asked to ensure maintenance of roads and necessary works, the Electricity Board to maintain uninterrupted power supply, and the Jal Shakti Department to arrange adequate potable water at the venue and accommodation sites. The Health Department was directed to ensure the availability of first-aid facilities, paramedical staff and ambulances for the convenience of players and spectators.

'Jindri' song urges people to stay away from drugs

ANIL KUMAR HAMIRPUR, JAN 2

Renowned Himachal Pradesh folk artist Bimla Rathore has launched a new song against drug abuse on her YouTube channel Bimla Rathore Official, in collaboration with her sister Sanjoo Rathore. Titled Jindri, the song carries the strong message "Chhadna mere mitro nashe diya cheezan, jindri dukhan vich kajo paani", appealing to people to shun intoxicants and choose a meaningful life. The lyrics of Jindri have been written by Bimla Rathore herself, who has also composed and sung the song. The music has been given by noted music director Jassi



Bhagal. The song has been specially released to raise public awareness against the growing menace of drug addiction.

Through their melodious voices, Bimla Rathore and Sanjoo Rathore have made a sincere effort to explain the harmful effects of substance abuse and motivate listeners, particularly the youth, to stay away from drugs.

It is noteworthy that last month too, the Rathore sisters released another anti-drug song titled Nasha Na Karo Bhaiyo, which has been receiving a good response on YouTube. Associated with folk music and singing for nearly 35 years, both sisters have produced several Pahari albums and are well known for their contribution to Himachal's folk culture.

CM Sukhu releases calendar of State Secretariat Employees Society



DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA:

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today released the 2026 calendar of the Himachal Pradesh Secretariat Employees' Cooperative Credit and Savings (Non-Agricultural) Society here. On the occasion, Industries Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan, Deputy Chief Whip Kewal Singh Pathania, MLA Suresh Kumar, President Himachal Pradesh Secretariat Employees Cooperative Credit and Savings (Non-Agricultural) Society O.P. Dinkar, Vice President Milap Chand, General Manager Kushal Thakur, and other office bearers of the Society were present.

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Demand Notice Under Section 13(2) of Securitisation Act of 2002			
As the loan account became NPA therefore the Authorized officer under section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 had issued 60 days demand notice to the Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors (collectively referred as "Borrowers") as given in the table. According to the notice if the borrowers do not deposit the entire amount within 60 days, the amount will be recovered from auction of the mortgage properties/secured assets as given below. Therefore you the borrowers are informed to deposit the entire loan amount along with future interest and expenses within 60 days from the date of demand notice, otherwise under the provisions of 13(4) and 14 of the said Act, the Authorized officer is free to take possession for sale of the mortgage properties/secured assets as given below.			
Borrowers to note that after receipt of this notice, in terms of Section 13(13) of the Act, 2002, you are prohibited and restrained from transferring any of the secured assets by way of sale, lease or otherwise, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.			
Borrowers attention are attracted towards Section 13(8) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Act that the borrowers shall be entitled to redeem their secured asset upon the payment of the complete outstanding dues as mentioned below before the publication of auction notice, which thereafter shall cease to exist.			
Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor/Loan A/c No.	Date and Amount of Demand Notice Under Sec. 13(2)	Description of Mortgaged Property	
(Loan A/C No.) L9001060729290032, Manoj Kumar (Borrower), Smt. Dashrathi Devi (Co-Borrower)	11-Nov-25 Rs. 12,74,847/- Rs. Twelve Lakh Seventy-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Seven Only As On 10-Nov-25	Property Situated At Khata No. 7 Khatani No. 7 Kite 50 To The Extent Of 2/9 Share Of Land Measuring 0-80-86 Hectare Out Of Total Land Measuring 03-63-86 Hectare Situated At Mohal Gohari Hadbast No. 478 Tehsil Anki District Solan Hp As Per Jamabandi For The Year 2019-20 Issued By Halka Panchai Tehsil Anki, Solan, Himachal Pradesh Measuring 0-80-86 Hectare	
(Loan A/C No.) L9001060133897834, N Thakur Earth Movers (Borrower), Nanender Kumar (Co-Borrower), Paras Thakur (Co-Borrower)	13-Nov-25 Rs. 32,09,247/- Rs. Thirty-Two Lakh Nine Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Seven Only As On 10-Nov-25	Property Situated At Khata / Khatoni No 91/103, Kitta -12, Mohal Bushehr, Hadbast No 194, Th-Bah, Dist- Mandi, Himachal Pradesh Measuring 00-18-41 Bighas	
(Loan A/C No.) L9001060140013131, Kunal Kumar (Borrower), Smt. Ruko Devi (Co-Borrower)	15-Nov-25 Rs. 13,74,947/- Rs. Thirteen Lakh Seventy-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Seven Only As On 10-Nov-25	Property Situated At- Khata No 190, Khatoni No 308, Khatera No 860, 861, H B No 262, Vill Mohal Chouki, Th Palampur, Dist- Kangra, Himachal Pradesh Measuring 00-00-81 Hect.	
Date : 12/1/2025 Place : Himachal Pradesh Authorized Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited			

NEWS BRIEF

Punjab govt should cancel police action against journalists: Jagsir Singh Sandhu



KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: There is a wave of protest among journalists across the state after the Punjab Police registered a case against some senior journalists of Punjab who questioned the flight of Punjab government aircraft in the absence of Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. The Punjab and Chandigarh Journalists Union also took strict notice of this bullying by the Punjab Police, after which memorandums were given to the Chairman Press Council of India and Secretary Press Council of India through the Deputy Commissioners at all the district headquarters of Punjab to cancel the action taken against the journalists. Under the same series, the Barnala unit also sent memorandums to the Chairman Press Council of India and Secretary Press Council of India through Deputy Commissioner T. Benith.

BJP leader urges govt to act for release of Indian POWs in Pakistan

KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: An important decision was taken between India and Pakistan on January 2 to exchange information regarding nuclear sites. However, it is a matter of regret that during the war of 71-65, according to official figures, 55 military prisoners of war, although unofficial figures are around 600, who are languishing in Pakistani jails, the Indian government has been sitting quietly. The Indian government should make special efforts to release those prisoners of war. In this regard, I have written a letter to the Foreign Minister. This information was given by BJP Halka Incharge Bhadaur and State President of Punjab Sainik Wing Captain Gurjinder Singh Sidhu while issuing a press note.

PM stays silent whenever poor die: Rahul blasts BJP over Indore water tragedy

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, JAN 2

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday targeted the BJP's double-engine government in Madhya Pradesh after at least 10 people died allegedly due to contaminated water in Indore and said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is always silent whenever poor die. Gandhi alleged that Madhya Pradesh has become the epicentre of misgovernance and cited various instances of casualties reportedly due to cough syrups, poor hygiene at government hospitals and now due to contaminated water. "Not water, but poison was distributed in Indore, and the administration remained in deep slumber," he said in a post on X in Hindi. "Every home is filled with mourning, the poor are helpless - and on top of that, BJP leaders are making arrogant statements. Those who lost their lives and livelihoods



needed solace; the government offered arrogance," he said. Senior MP cabinet minister Kailash Vijayvargiya on Thursday triggered a controversy after he used an objectionable word on camera — ghanta (loosely translating to nonsense) — when questioned by a TV journalist about the water contamination incident. Gandhi, in his post, asked why complaints were

not heard when people repeatedly complained about dirty, smelly water. "How did sewage get mixed with the drinking water? Why wasn't the supply stopped in time? When will action be taken against the responsible officers and leaders?" the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha asked. "These aren't trivial questions — they demand accountability. Clean water

isn't a favour, it's a right to life. And the BJP's double engine government, its negligent administration, and insensitive leadership are solely responsible for the destruction of this right," he said. "Madhya Pradesh has now become the epicentre of misgovernance - deaths from cough syrup, rats killing children in government hospitals, and now deaths from drinking sewage-contaminated water. And whenever the poor die, Modi ji remains silent, as always," Gandhi alleged. Indore Mayor Pushyamitra Bhargava on Friday said he has received information about 10 deaths due to a diarrhoea outbreak caused by contaminated water in the Bhagirathpura area of the city. However, local residents have claimed that 14 individuals, including a six-month-old infant, have died due to the health crisis. The health department has not confirmed this claim.

Traders welcome extension of one-time settlement scheme

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA
MOGA, JAN 2

The trading and business community of Punjab has welcomed the Punjab Government's decision to extend the Punjab One-Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme-2025 till March 31, 2026, terming it a highly progressive and trader-friendly step. Expressing gratitude on behalf of traders across the state, Shri Anil Thakur, Chairman, Punjab State Traders' Commission, thanked Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann and Finance Minister S. Harpal Singh Cheema for their sensitive and pragmatic approach towards resolving long-pending tax-related issues of the business community. Shri Anil Thakur said that the extension of the OTS Scheme demonstrates the State Government's deep understanding of the practical difficulties faced by traders and industry, particularly the heavy compliance burden and procedural challenges witnessed during the last quarter of the year. He added that the scheme has emerged as a major relief for businesses dealing with legacy disputes under pre-GST laws,



including VAT and Central Sales Tax. "The decision to extend the OTS Scheme till March 31, 2026, reflects the Punjab Government's commitment to creating a pro-business environment and promoting voluntary compliance. The substantial waivers on interest, penalties, and eligible tax amounts have instilled confidence among traders and encouraged them to come forward and settle long-pending dues," said Shri Thakur. The Chairman further noted that the large number of applications received under the scheme clearly indicates the trust of the trading community in the policies of the present government.

Office of Zirakpur circle inaugurated, major leap towards consumer-centric power services

BUREAU
ZIRAKPUR, JAN 2

In a significant stride towards strengthening power distribution and enhancing consumer convenience, the office of the newly created Zirakpur Circle of the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited was formally inaugurated today by Er. R. K. Mittal, Chief Engineer, South Zone, Patiala. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of MLA, Dera Bassi, Shri Kuljeet Singh Randhawa, Er. Amandeep Singh Gill, Superintendent Engineer, along with senior officers and distinguished dignitaries of PSPCL. The establishment of the Zirakpur circle was duly approved by the Board of Directors of PSPCL as part of the PSPCL ongoing administrative and structural reforms. The newly constituted circle comprises the distribution division, Zirakpur, and the DS Division, Lalru, with the primary objective of bringing power services closer to consumers while ensuring faster, more efficient, and consumer-friendly service delivery. Prior to the creation of this circle, consumers of these divisions were required to approach the Mohali Circle for electricity-



related works, resulting in additional travel, time loss, and inconvenience. With the operationalization of the Zirakpur Circle, accessibility to PSPCL services is expected to improve substantially, facilitating prompt grievance redressal, streamlined decision-making, and enhanced administrative efficiency. Addressing the gathering, Er. R. K. Mittal highlighted the multifaceted benefits of the new circle for both consumers and PSPCL employees. He emphasized that the reorganization would lead to improved operational efficiency, strengthened field-level supervision, and a more responsive power distribution mechanism.

Creating joyful learning spaces: DAV Public School organises CBSE capacity building programme on 'Happy Classroom'

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 2

A CBSE Capacity Building Programme on the theme 'Happy Classroom' was successfully organised at DAV Public School on 2 January 2026 with the aim of empowering teachers to create positive, inclusive, and engaging learning environments. More than sixty educators participated enthusiastically from different institutions of Ambala, Naraingarh, Sadhaura and Yamunanagar.

The programme was conducted by distinguished resource persons Ms. Pooja Chhabra, Principal, SDA Girls Senior Secondary School, Ladwa, and Mr. Deepanshu from Jawahar Singh Public School, Mustafabad. The sessions were highly engaging and interactive, encouraging active participation from all teachers. The resource persons highlighted that a happy classroom promotes emotional well-being, confidence, and curiosity among students, and that joyful learning environments help develop a



genuine love for learning and improve academic as well as social outcomes. A variety of activity-based and method-driven strategies were shared, including collaborative learning, experiential activities, reflective practices, positive reinforcement, student voice, and creative classroom routines. These methods were designed to make classrooms lively, student-centred, and stress-free while ensuring meaningful learning. Teachers actively participated in hands-on activities, group discussions, and practical demonstrations, which provided them with ready-to-use ideas for engaging

students and strengthening teacher-student relationships. Principal V.K. Kashiv appreciated the dedicated efforts and valuable contributions of the resource persons. He motivated the teachers to implement the strategies and activities discussed during the programme and emphasised that adopting such approaches would make the teaching-learning process more effective, joyful, and successful. The programme proved to be enriching and inspiring, equipping teachers with practical tools to transform classrooms into happy spaces that nurture holistic development and lifelong learning.

MC gears up to curb water logging in Yamunanagar

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 2

The Municipal Corporation has already started preparations on a large scale to ensure that there is no problem of water logging in Twin City Yamunanagar-Jagadhri during the upcoming monsoon. Areas prone to water logging are being identified and technical deficiencies present there are being removed. Mayor Suman Bahmani and Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mahabir Prasad along with officials are going to the field and personally taking stock of the waterlogged areas. After Jagadhri, Mayor Suman Bahmani visited the areas which faced water logging problem during rains in Yamunanagar. During the inspection, the Mayor first took stock of the work of laying storm water line



under the railway lines near Chandpur bypass along with Councilor Sandeep Dhiman, Corporation's Assistant Engineer Surendra Dahiya, Junior Engineer Naresh Dahiya, Bhanwar Jot Singh, Sandeep Bajaj and others. She took detailed information from the corporation officials present on the spot regarding the progress of the work, technical aspects and time limit. During this, she also talked to the railway

officials and gave instructions to complete the work of laying the storm water line under the railway line soon. So that water can drain smoothly during rains. After this, the Mayor along with Ward 8 councilor Vibhor Pahuja, SDO Mrinal Jaiswal, JE Ajay inspected Professor Colony, near the crematorium of Professor Colony located behind Gymkhana Club, Sarojini Colony in front of the traffic park.

Public awareness key to eradicate child marriage from society: Ashok Gurjar

SANJAY SHARMA
KAITHAL, JAN 2

Senior Haryana BJP leader Ashok Gurjar said that child marriage is a serious social evil that hampers the physical, mental and educational development of children, and that collective awareness and active participation of all sections of society are essential to eliminate it completely. He was speaking as the chief guest at an awareness programme organised under the Child Marriage Free Campaign at the Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI), Kaithal. On his arrival, the organisers welcomed him with a bouquet, while girl students performed a tilak ceremony. The programme began with the lighting of a lamp before the portrait of Goddess Saraswati. Addressing the



gathering, Ashok Gurjar said that only through education, sensitive thinking and effective implementation of strict laws can a safe and bright future for children be ensured. He urged the youth to become aware themselves and to sensitise their families and society about the harmful consequences of child marriage. During the programme, Ashok Gurjar, along with officials, administered a pledge to students to oppose child marriage. The speakers also

shared detailed information on child protection laws, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and the rights of children. At the conclusion of the event, students resolved to spread awareness against child marriage. The programme was attended by Child Welfare Committee chairman Bhimsen Aggarwal, Protection Officer Sumita Sharma, institute principal Satish Machhal, NGO coordinator Ashok Kumar, members of the legal fraternity and a large number of meritorious students.

Entry of heavy vehicles banned in Moga city's main bazaar from 8 am to 8 pm

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA
MOGA, JAN 2

Deputy Commissioner Moga Shri Sagar Setia, in exercise of powers vested in him under Section 163 of the Indian Civil Protection Act, 2023, has banned the entry of heavy vehicles in the main market of Moga city from 8 am to 8 pm. These vehicles will currently ply from G.T. Road via Gandhi Road to Railway Road/Pratap Road, Chamber Road, Stadium Road via Street No. 9 in front of Dev Hotel Chowk. District Magistrate Mr. Sagar Setia said that the entry of heavy vehicles from 8 am to 8 pm in the main bazaar of Moga city (from Laitan Wala Chowk to Dev Hotel) increases the crowd in the bazaar and creates obstacles in traffic. This creates a possibility of disputes among the general public due to vehicles being pulled ahead of each other, which can also lead to fights. Keeping the above in mind, these prohibitory orders have been issued. Apart from this, the District Magistrate has banned the operation of bicycles, rickshaws, tractor-trolleys, peddlers and other vehicles without front and rear lights, red reflectors or any eye glasses or bright tapes in the district. He said that due to the absence of reflectors etc., such vehicles are not visible when a vehicle with bright lights comes from the front and causes accidents. This not only causes financial and human losses, but also sometimes creates a risk of unrest among the general public. Both the above orders will remain in force till February 28, 2026 and legal action will be taken for violation of these orders.



Health awareness session held at NSS camp in PM Shri government senior secondary school

PRITI SAINI
SADHORA, JAN 2

Health-related information was shared with volunteers on the sixth day of the ongoing NSS camp at PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Sarawan. The day began with a yoga session followed by the singing of the goal song, setting a disciplined and positive tone for the activities. Officials from the Community Health Centre, Sarawan, including Dr. Suvekha and Virender Kumar, interacted with the NSS volunteers during the camp. Virender Kumar apprised the volunteers about the importance of primary medical aid and explained how timely first aid can help



prevent complications in emergency situations. Dr. Suvekha provided detailed information about the government's initiative to make India tuberculosis-free. She said the government is taking the issue very seriously and stressed that any person suffering from a cough for more than two weeks should be taken to a health centre for medical examination. She informed

that if tuberculosis is confirmed, the patient is provided ₹500 initially and thereafter ₹1,000 per month for nutritious food and medicines for the entire duration of treatment. The volunteers gained valuable knowledge related to the medical and healthcare sector through the session, which added an important learning dimension to the NSS camp activities.

Human Rights Commission takes strict stand on pollution from rice shellers

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH:

Taking a serious view of the grave issue of air and water pollution caused by rice shellers/mills operating in the Guhla-Cheeka area of District Kaithal, the Haryana Human Rights Commission has categorically stated that the right to live in a clean and healthy environment is a fundamental human right of citizens and cannot be compromised under any circumstances. During the hearing of Complaint No. 384/9/2023 before the Full Commission comprising Chairperson Justice LalitBatra and Members Kuldip Jain and Deep Bhatia, the status report submitted by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB), Kaithal Region, was thoroughly examined. The report revealed that RadhaKrishnan Rice and General Mills, also known as R.K. Rice and General Mills, Patiala Road, Sadarheri, Cheeka, Kaithal, was found discharging domestic effluent into an open pit, on account of which its closure was recommended to the Head Office of HSPCB, Panchkula. However, the records do not clarify whether any final decision has been taken on the said recommendation. The Commission observed that mere recommendation, without timely enforcement, defeats the very purpose of the statutory mechanism meant to protect the environment and safeguard the human rights of residents in the affected area. Accordingly, the Full Commission headed by Justice LalitBatra has directed the Chairperson, HSPCB, Panchkula, to examine the recommendation for closure and take a final decision strictly in accordance with law at the earliest, while ensuring that the unit does not carry out any polluting activity till such decision is taken.

Road rage escalates into firing in Pehowa, accused on run

YAGYA DUTT SHASTRI
PEHOWA, JAN 2

A minor dispute over giving way to a vehicle turned violent in Pehowa when a youth travelling in a Thar SUV allegedly opened indiscriminate fire late on December 31, leaving residents in shock. The incident, which occurred near Saraswati Chowk at Pawan Market, has been captured on video, showing the Thar driver firing 7-8 rounds in the air.



According to the police, an FIR has been registered on the complaint of Richik Kaushik (28), a resident of Saini Mohalla, Pehowa. However, the accused managed to flee from the spot after the firing and also reportedly picked up the

empty cartridges before escaping. Police teams are conducting raids to trace and arrest the suspect. In his complaint, Richik Kaushik stated that around 11 pm on December 31, he had come to Pawan Market with his brother-in-law Vikram to get food packed from a dhaba. While returning, a Thar vehicle bearing registration number HR07-0004 was parked outside a bakery, blocking the narrow passage.

He said he flashed the dipper to request the driver to move the vehicle aside, but the youth sitting inside made gestures instead of clearing the way. When the dipper was flashed again, the Thar driver allegedly got enraged, stepped out of the vehicle and began threatening him. Moments later, the accused reportedly fetched a pistol from the SUV and fired 7-8 rounds in the air before fleeing the spot.

NEWS BRIEFS

Prioritize resolution of complaints received at grievance redressal camps: ADC

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Additional Deputy Commissioner Yogesh Kumar Mehta said that officers should take complaints received at grievance redressal camps seriously. Complaints should be resolved on a priority basis so that people do not have to visit offices repeatedly. He was giving these instructions to officers during weekly review meeting of grievance redressal cell held at auditorium of Mini Secretariat today. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini reviewed pending complaints in grievance redressal camps in various districts of state through video conferencing. He instructed that complaints received at grievance redressal camps should not be rejected without a valid reason. Officers should strive to find positive solution to every problem. After resolving a complaint, complainant should be contacted to ascertain their satisfaction. He said that merely resolving complaint is not enough; report of action taken should also be uploaded immediately on relevant portal. He instructed the officers to expedite pending cases. Impact of grievance redressal cell should be visible on ground so that public trust in administration is further strengthened. Grievance redressal camp is an ambitious initiative of state government and negligence at any level will not be tolerated.

Information about Samadhan Shivir should be effectively disseminated to the public through multiple platforms: CM Saini

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, JAN 2

Haryana Chief Minister Sh Nayab Singh Saini has directed all Deputy Commissioners to ensure that information regarding Samadhan Shivir is widely and effectively communicated to the general public through various means. He emphasised that citizens should be clearly informed about the dates and timings of the shivirs so that they can register their grievances and seek timely redressal.

The Chief Minister issued these directions while chairing the state-level review meeting of Samadhan Shivir on Friday with all the Deputy Commissioners through video conferencing.

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini further directed that complaints received during Samadhan Shivir should be forwarded by the Deputy Commissioners with their clear and specific remarks. He also directed that no complaint should be disposed off or closed at the district level until its complete resolution is ensured.

Reviewing the progress, it was informed that a total of 17,699 complaints have been resolved during the past six months, from July 2025 to December 2025 during the Samadhan Shivirs. It was further informed that Samadhan Shivir are



being organised every Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the offices of all Deputy Commissioners and Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil) across the state. During these Shivir, citizens can directly submit their grievances.

The Chief Minister directed that all complaints received in Samadhan Shivirs must be resolved within a stipulated timeframe. He stressed that citizens attending the shivir should not face any inconvenience and that their issues must be heard with seriousness and sensitivity. He said that any negligence by officers at

any level in this regard would invite strict action.

Taking cognizance of a complaint related to water drainage received during a Samadhan Shivir in a village of Ambala district, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini directed the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, to constitute a committee for the early resolution of the issue. He directed that the committee should include the concerned department's Executive Engineer (XEN), the Block Development and Panchayat Officer (BDPO), and a representative from the Market Committee.

PM Shri Govt Sr Secondary School of Kunjpura set to be established as a model school



MEGH RAJ LUTHRA
KARNAL, JANUARY 2

The PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School of Kunjpura village is set to be established as a model school in the region. Its smart classrooms, modern labs, computer lab, hardworking and skilled staff, and 100 per cent pass rate in class 12 examinations give it a distinct status compared to other schools. Based on the New Education Policy 2020, this school is on its way to becoming a model for the all-round development of students. Since March 18, 2023, 16 schools in Karnal district, under the PM Shri model, have been providing education to students according to modern educational methods in two phases. The Kunjpura school is from the first phase. This school has a skilled staff of 35 and 700 students, including 160 girls. Special attention is being given to skill development for problem-solving so that the future of the students is secure. For this, it is mandatory for all students to receive this education from class nine onwards. This includes Automobile, PCA, and Tour and Travel. Education on water conservation, green energy, and fuel saving is imparted by making models in the modern lab. Four houses have been created to foster leadership qualities in

children, including Akash, Srishti, Bhaskar and Rohini.

NSS camps are held from time to time to inculcate a sense of social service. Preparations are in the final stages to introduce NCC to instill a spirit of national service in the children. Although the paint is peeling off the walls of the principal's office, most of the students' rooms are smart and well-equipped. Teaching is done using smart blackboards. The same is the case with the modern lab and computer lab. Physics, Chemistry, and Biology classes are held separately. There is a library with 5000 books, which also receives magazines and newspapers. Fire extinguishers are installed every 100 meters. The accounts of income and expenditure are regularly uploaded on the website. School principal Satver Singh says that the school will be fully affiliated with CBSE next year. Another notable feature of this school is that major companies have started recruiting students who have studied here for HR placements. A branch for students with disabilities has been opened at the school, but the positions for a teacher in this branch and an economics teacher are vacant. Similarly, there is only one sanitation worker for this large school.

Kurukshetra's Samreen Kaur tops Jat Sewak Sangh talent search examination

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
HISAR, JANUARY 1

Kurukshetra's Samreen Kaur secured the first position in the talent search examination organised by Jat Sewak Sangh for Class 10 students of the Jat community. The examination was conducted across the state on December 28, 2025, and witnessed enthusiastic participation by thousands of students.

Announcing the results, the Sangh's spokesperson Suresh Pannu Hindustani said that several students delivered outstanding performances, reflecting their academic excellence. Cash prizes and certificates of merit will be awarded to the winners.

The names of the top performers were declared during a meeting by Sangh president Rajesh Badala and senior vice-president Baljeet Poonia. Samreen Kaur of Kurukshetra topped the merit list, fol-

lowed by Vibhav Sihag of Hisar in second place and Bhavya Gill of Hisar in third. Aarav Singh of Faridabad secured the fourth position, while Araina Singh of Faridabad stood fifth. Neetu from Kaithal finished sixth.

Congratulating the winners and all participants, the Sangh conveyed best wishes for their bright future, stating that success comes to those who not only dream but also have the courage to fulfill those dreams.

The list of 50 students selected for consolation prizes has also been released along with the results.

Rajesh Badala said the examination serves as a strong platform to identify and encourage talented students from the community, adding that the Sangh is committed to ensuring that no deserving student is deprived of education due to financial constraints. General secre-

tary Joginder Patar said the positive response from students has inspired the organisation to expand the competition further in the coming years.

The Sangh also acknowledged the contribution of its founding members and the team from Aadarshila Coaching Centre, including Anil Patar, Ashwani Mahla and Ajay Nyaul, for ensuring smooth conduct of the examination and preparation of transparent results.

International Jat Dharma Shala president Dr Krishan Shyokand congratulated the Sangh on the successful and extended special congratulations to Samreen Kaur for topping the examination. He said the competition in Kurukshetra district was organised through Dhanna Jat Education Society and assured continued support for such educational initiatives in the future.

Notices issued to 115 defaulters, attachment proceedings to be initiated now: MC Commissioner

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: The Karnal Municipal Corporation has intensified its efforts to recover outstanding property tax. Final notices have been issued to 115 defaulters in December. These defaulters should pay their property tax as soon as possible. Property attachment proceedings will be initiated this month, January. This information was given by Municipal Commissioner Dr. Vaishali Sharma. She informed that all the above-mentioned defaulters own private commercial properties. Around 50 of these defaulters owe more than Rs. 10 lakh, while the remaining owe between Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 10 lakh. If they do not pay the property tax within 30 days of receiving the notice, action will be taken to attach their properties immediately. She further informed that the property owners with outstanding dues of more than Rs. 10 lakh are from various areas of the



city, while the rest are from Saini Colony, Sector-13 Extension, Sector-37 and Sector-9.

Attachment proceedings conducted twice in December - She informed that the Municipal Corporation's enforcement team conducted attachment proceedings twice in December, sealing the properties of the defaulters. Prior to this, attachment proceedings had been conducted 5 times.

Therefore, defaulters should not take the Municipal Corporation's notices lightly. Sealing action will definitely be taken if the outstanding property tax is not paid. 18 percent interest will be charged - She informed that if any property owner does not deposit the property tax in the Municipal Corporation's treasury in the financial year 2025-26, 18 percent interest will be charged on their property tax. Therefore, defaulters should not delay in paying their property tax. Citizens can also pay property tax by visiting the NDC portal at property.ubharyana.gov.in.

Register objections online: She appealed to citizens to register their objections regarding property ID errors on the NDC portal property.ubharyana.gov.in. Offline applications will not be accepted. Rs. 20.35 crore collected: She informed that approximately Rs. 20.35 crore has been collected in property tax.

Arpan campaign begins to help slum dwellers



HANS RAJ KURUKSHETRA: All staff members of Navyug Senior Secondary School and Kids DPS School along with student council members, actively participated in Arpan campaign initiated by Navyug School Principal Dr Devendra Arora. Principal Dr. Devendra Arora explained that Arpan campaign was started to help families living in slums and working at brick kilns by providing them with blankets and warm clothes during winter season. Explaining objective of this campaign, school's Director B.D. Gaba said that serving the poor is greatest religion. They have been carrying out this act of service together for many years and for this, they contribute through people's support as well as by cutting down on their personal expenses. There is no religion greater than serving others. This is a famous line composed by Goswami Tulsidas, full meaning of which is "There is no religion like helping others and there is no greater sin than causing pain to others." This means that helping others is greatest religion. This line teaches us that true essence of life lies in helping others and rising above selfishness and engaging in philanthropy is true religion. Praveen Wadhwa, Pankaj Manocha, Tarun Sharma, Dr Vishal Sharma, Satish Kamra and Praveen Kumar also contributed to this campaign.

Register objections online: She appealed to citizens to register their objections regarding property ID errors on the NDC portal property.ubharyana.gov.in. Offline applications will not be accepted. Rs. 20.35 crore collected: She informed that approximately Rs. 20.35 crore has been collected in property tax.

Camps to be held in 5 villages on January 6 for family identity cards and lado lakshmi scheme: Meena

KARAMBIR

LADWA: Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena said that camps will be organized in five villages of Ladwa constituency on January 6th to provide benefits of government schemes. Teams have been formed for all five villages. In these camps, the grievances and problems of the villagers related to Family Identity Cards will be addressed. Applications for the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana will also be accepted. Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena said that camps will be held in the villages of Prahladpur, Badarpur, Budha, Bani and Bapdi from 9 am to 5 pm on January 6th. In these camps, villagers can get their problems and complaints related to their Family Identity Cards and the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana resolved on the spot. He said that Zonal Officer Sandeep Kumar has been assigned the duty to listen to complaints related to Family Identity Cards in these village camps. In addition, Gram Panchayat Secretary Pradeep Panchal, Sonu from the DSWO department, Jasbir from the DWO department and CPLO Rimpay Kumar will be present in Prahladpur. Similarly, in Badarpur village, Gram Panchayat Secretary Santti, Kuldeep Kumar from the DSWO department, Sushant Garg from the DWO department and CPLO Chhailo Devi will be present. He said that in Bani village, Gram Panchayat Secretary Ritik, Sonu from the DSWO department, Yogesh from the DWO department and CPLO Anurag will be present.



Nagar kirtan taken out in Karnal to mark Guru Gobind Singh's Prakash Purab

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, JANUARY 2

A grand nagar kirtan was taken out in Karnal on Friday to mark the Prakash Purab of Guru Gobind Singh, the founder of the Khalsa Panth. Organised by the Gurupurab Prabandhak Committee under the supervision of Panth Sewak Baba Sukha Singh Ji of Dera Kar Sewa, the religious procession turned the city into a centre of devotion, resonating with the chants of "Bole So Nihal, Sat Sri Akal".

Despite the cold weather, a large number of devotees participated with enthusiasm. Traders, social organisations and religious bodies welcomed the procession at various markets across the city, showering flower petals on the paliki sahib as a mark of reverence.

Before the nagar kirtan, an ardas was performed in the morning at Dera Kar Sewa.



The procession then commenced from Gurdwara Manji Sahib, carrying the sacred sarop of Guru Granth Sahib in the paliki, which remained the focal point of faith for the devotees throughout the route.

Sharing details, Gurupurab Prabandhak Committee president Varinder Singh and general secretary Inderpal Singh said the nagar kirtan

started from Gurdwara Dera Kar Sewa and Gurdwara Manji Sahib Patshahi Pehli, passing through Karn Gate, Sabzi Mandi Chowk, Kunjpura Road, Hospital Chowk, Sector 12, Nirmal Kutia, Gurdwara Sector 7, Gurdwara Baba Kashmiri Singh Ji behind Sector 6, Meerut Road, DC Colony and Maharana Pratap Chowk, before culminating at Gurdwara

Dera Kar Sewa, Kalandari Gate.

During the procession, gatra parties displayed traditional Sikh martial art skills, drawing appreciation from the gathered devotees. The organisers, along with the Panj Pyare, welcomed guests at various points.

Business associations including Karn Gate Business Association, Nehru Palace Market Association, Khurana Jewellers and traders from Kunjpura Road and other localities extended a warm reception. At Karn Gate, traders organised an elaborate floral welcome, including a large garland, to honour Guru Sahib. Several prominent members of the trade bodies, local representatives and social figures were present on the occasion, contributing to the smooth conduct and devotional spirit of the nagar kirtan.

Fire caused by short circuit at home, young man dies of suffocation

MAINPAL KASHYAP

INDRI: A 40-year-old man, Sushil Sharma, died in a tragic accident late Thursday night in Kheri Man Singh village. Fire broke out in his house due to a short circuit and Sushil Sharma died of suffocation from smoke. Incident is believed to have occurred around 10 PM. Upon receiving news of fire, neighbors immediately called 112. Police's 112 team and fire brigade vehicles arrived at scene but due to narrow street, fire engine could not reach house. Firefighters and villagers then worked together to extinguish fire using water. Sushil Sharma's condition became critical due to inhaling smoke and he died on spot. Upon receiving information about incident, FSL team arrived at scene and collected evidence. Police took body into custody and sent it to Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College in Karnal for a post-mortem examination. Station House Officer Vipin Kumar stated that preliminary investigation revealed that fire was caused by a short circuit, leading to young man's death by suffocation. When police arrived, Sushil Sharma was found lying in another room, and there was blood coming from his mouth. It is suspected that he may have fallen while trying to escape fire, resulting in injury and bleeding. After the post-mortem, the body was handed over to the family. Police are investigating case from all angles.



Uniform Development Underway in state under CM Saini's leadership: Sanyogita Gupta

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI, JANUARY 2

Sanyogita Gupta, the Karnal District Vice President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Nayab Saini, the state of Haryana is witnessing uniform and balanced development. The benefits of the government's policies are reaching every section of society, and several important schemes have been implemented specifically for the upliftment of women. Sanyogita Gupta was interacting with women in Taraori. During this interaction, she informed the women about the policies of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the various welfare schemes being run by the government. She said that today women are progressing in every field, and the government is continuously working to make them self-reliant. She informed them that keeping in mind women's empowerment, several schemes related to self-employment, health, education, and security are being run, the direct benefits of which are reaching women.



their families and society. During the program, the women also shared their problems and suggestions. Sanyogita Gupta assured them that their concerns would be conveyed to the relevant authorities, and every possible effort would be made to resolve them. She said that the Bharatiya Janata Party government is working on the mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" (Together with all, Development for all, Trust of all), and in the coming time, development work in the Tarawadi area,

Heartfelt gratitude for granting Kunjpura the status of municipality

CHAMAN LAL

KARNAL: The granting of municipal status to Kunjpura is a matter of pride, hope, and a new beginning for development for residents of the area. This historic decision lays a strong foundation for the all-round development of Kunjpura, better civic amenities, and a bright future. This information was given by BJP leader Sushil Rana, who said: We express our heartfelt gratitude to Chief Minister Nayab Saini, Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Indri MLA and Government Chief Whip Ram Kumar Kashyap, and Kavinder Rana for this significant achievement.



Thanks to your visionary leadership, continuous efforts, and dedication to public welfare, Kunjpura is now on a new path of development. This decision will open the doors to prosperity, good governance, and opportunities for future generations. We assure you that the people of Kunjpura will live up to this trust and participate in this journey of development. Many thanks for the bright future of Kunjpura.

2 arrested, including a Nigerian, for providing bank accounts and withdrawing cash for cyber fraudsters

ASHOK CHUGH
PANIPAT, JANUARY 2

A team led by Sub-Inspector Ajay, in-charge of the Cyber Crime Police Station, has achieved a major success in apprehending two accused, including a Nigerian national, from Delhi, who were providing bank accounts and withdrawing cash for cyber fraudsters. The cyber fraudsters had cheated Prem Kumar, a resident of TDI Sector 23, Panipat, of Rs 4.05 lakh on the pretext of starting a business of exporting goods. A case has been registered at the Cyber Crime Police Station based on Prem Kumar's complaint. 24 ATM cards, 13 passbooks, 17 cheque books, 16 mobile phones, 2 Aadhaar cards, 2 diaries, 1 laptop and Rs 6,000 in cash belonging to various banks were recovered from the possession of the two accused. Sub-Inspector Ajay, in-



charge of the Cyber Crime Police Station, said that in November 2024, Prem Kumar, a resident of TDI Sector 23, filed a complaint with the police stating that on November 4, he received a call on his mobile phone from an unknown 12-digit mobile number. The person on the call talked to him about doing business with a product called Kolanut. He was told that Kolanut would be exported from India to England. He was given a mobile number to contact for samples. He called the said mobile number, and the person

identified herself as Mrs. Tangsa. She gave him an account number to deposit money in advance for the samples. He deposited Rs 4.05 lakh in the said account on November 6. After this, they switched off all the mobile numbers. The accused cheated him of the said amount by luring him with a product export business. A case was registered at the Cyber Crime Police Station based on Prem Kumar's complaint, and the police started investigating the matter. In-charge Sub-Inspector Ajay stated that the Cyber Crime Police Station team, after investigating various technical aspects, successfully arrested two members of the fraud gang from Delhi. The accused have been identified as Ajab Hussain, a resident of Duhwa Basti, Bihar, currently residing in Delhi, and Mosa Bamba, a resident of West Africa, currently residing in Tilak Nagar, Delhi.

HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA: On the occasion of the New Year, Shri Vaishya Agarwal Panchayat, a prominent social service organization of the city, organized a havan and puja ceremony with proper chanting of mantras at Agarwal Dharamshala, Railway Road,



for the peace, prosperity, unity being of the city residents. On society, and overall well- this occasion, in the presence

of hundreds of dignitaries, the election returning officer distributed election certificates to all the elected members of the executive committee of Shri Vaishya Agarwal Panchayat, Kurukshetra. Sweet devotional songs were also performed.

NEWS BRIEF

HPCA inaugurates cricket academy at Montessori Cambridge School in Nurpur



SANJEEV MAHAJAN NURPUR: The Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA) has inaugurated a cricket academy at Montessori Cambridge School, Raja Ka Bagh, in the Nurpur Assembly constituency. The academy was formally launched in the presence of HPCA Joint Secretary Vishal Sharma, who attended the event as the chief guest. Nurpur MLA Ranveer Singh Nikka, HPCA Kangra district secretary Ashish Agrawal, Rajeshwar Singh, and BCCI Level-A coach Vivek Dhiman were present as special guests. Established in 2001, Montessori Cambridge School, Raja Ka Bagh, is a leading CBSE institution known for academic excellence, character building and the overall development of students. The school management stated that the primary objective of starting the cricket academy is to encourage students to pursue sports alongside academics and to provide a platform for talented players from rural areas.

R-Day celebrations to be Held with dignity, discipline and spirit of patriotism: DC

RANVIR PARASHAR KAITHAL, JAN 2

DC Aparajita stated that upcoming Republic Day celebrations on January 26 will be held at the Police Lines ground with dignity, discipline and a spirit of patriotism. Cultural programs imbued with patriotism and various folk traditions will be organized. To ensure success of this event, officers from various departments should work in coordination and begin preparations related to their respective departments. She was giving necessary instructions to officers during a meeting held at auditorium of Mini Secretariat regarding grand organization of Republic Day celebrations. DC thoroughly reviewed arrangements for flag hoisting, parade, cultural programs, security arrangements, traffic management, sanitation, electricity, drinking water, and medical facilities, and assigned duties to the officers.



'Timely redressal of public grievances'

RANVIR PARASHAR KAITHAL:

Deputy Commissioner Aparajita stated that all complaints received through the grievance redressal camps held on Mondays and Thursdays should be taken with utmost seriousness by the officials. All complaints received during camps must be uploaded to portal and resolved in a timely manner. Necessary action will be taken against any officer who shows negligence in addressing these complaints. DC was issuing these instructions to officers during a review meeting of complaints received at grievance redressal camp, held on Friday in auditorium of Mini Secretariat. Earlier, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini reviewed complaints received at grievance redressal camps with all District Commissioners through a video conference and issued necessary guidelines. She further stated that departments with pending complaints should resolve them quickly to provide relief to general public.

DC said that all tableaux included in the ceremony should be based on a specific theme. A grand march past will be performed by the platoons during the Republic Day celebrations. Contingents participating in the parade will conduct rehearsals at Police Lines ground from January 18 to 23, and a full dress final rehearsal will be held on January 24 at the scheduled time. She instructed the police department to oversee and prepare all the platoons for the parade under their guidance. She said that the program will begin at 10:00 AM with the chief guest hoisting the national flag. Before that, chief guest will lay wreaths at the Martyrs' Memorial in the city. After hoisting the national flag, the chief guest will inspect the parade, address the district residents, and take the salute of grand march past. During this time, a PT show, cultural programs and tableaux will also be presented.

Swift justice at 'Samadhan Camp': Haryana CM Nayab Saini mandates prompt grievance redressal

RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 2

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini held a review meeting with officials via video conference to address complaints received at the Samadhan Shivir, Jan Samvad, CM Window and SMGT on Friday. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini stated that the Samadhan Shivirs have been initiated to provide quick and priority resolution to public problems. While issuing instructions regarding the Samadhan Shivirs he urged officials to take every complaint received at the camps seriously and ensured its timely resolution.

On this occasion, he inquired from officials about the departments which are receiving the most complaints in the Samadhan Cell, the number of pending complaints and other related matters and provided necessary guidance. Following the video conference, Deputy Commissioner Preeti directed



all officials in the District Secretariat auditorium to prioritize the resolution of every complaint received at the camps. She directed officials from Public Health, Public Works Department (PWD), Irrigation Department, District Welfare Officer, Municipal Corporation Yamunanagar-Jagadhri, Electricity Department, CREED, Health Department, District Development and Panchayat Department, District Social Welfare Department, Animal Husbandry Department, District Revenue Department, Market Committee, Agriculture and Farmers

Welfare Department, District Council, Education Department and all other relevant departments to resolve any complaints submitted in the Samadhan Camp as quickly as possible so that the eligible beneficiaries can benefit from the Haryana Government's public welfare policies. She informed that Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini himself reviewed the Samadhan and public dialogue, so all departments should ensure that the grievances of the people related to their respective departments are resolved.

More than 101 volunteers donate blood on 78th birth anniversary of late Santosh Rani



DALBIR MALIK KURUKSHETRA: On the 78th birth anniversary of the late social worker Santosh Rani, more than 101 volunteers voluntarily donated blood. Through this blood donation camp, the lives of unknown individuals can be easily saved. Therefore, ordinary people should always be ready to donate blood, which is considered a great act of charity. There is no greater act of virtue in this society than blood donation. One should contribute to this virtuous act from time to time. An important aspect is that the Meherchand Mehndiratta Charitable Trust is doing commendable and important work in helping needy people. Every year, this organization not only organizes blood donation camps but also provides rations to poor people, stationery to children, and health check-ups for sick people. This organization inspires other social organisations as well. Furthermore, the president of the Meherchand Mehndiratta Charitable Trust and social workers Pankaj Arora, Rajiv Arora, Rajendra Arora, Lata Rani, and Kriti Arora are doing excellent work for social service.

Trident Group celebrates Vision Day by honouring long-serving employees



KARANPREET KARAN BARNALA: Trident Group marked its annual Vision Day with great enthusiasm, celebrating the spirit of commitment and dedication by honouring employees who have completed more than 20 years of service with the organisation. Vision Day also coincides with the birthday of Padma Shri Rajinder Gupta, Chairman Emeritus of Trident Group and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha). This year, over 230 long-serving employees were recognised for their unwavering dedication, integrity and hard work, which have played a pivotal role in Trident's journey of growth and success. Their loyalty and perseverance continue to form the backbone of the organisation and serve as an inspiration for future generations. The celebrations were held simultaneously at Trident's plant locations in Punjab at Sanghera and in Madhya Pradesh at Budhni, where "Long Service Awards" were presented to these distinguished employees, acknowledging them as true pillars of strength and commitment within the Trident family.

Students of Seva Bharti visit Jayaram Vidyapeeth on first day of New Year



HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA: Hundreds of Seva Bharti students arrived at Jai Ram Vidyapeeth on the first day of the New Year, where they were welcomed by the Vidyapeeth's trustees and volunteers. Food and other amenities were also arranged by the Vidyapeeth on this occasion. Rajesh International, the city president of Seva Bharti, stated that Seva Bharti is a national-level charitable organization that primarily works on four pillars: education, health, self-reliance and social harmony by serving various sectors for the upliftment of society. In this regard, Seva Bharti runs five residential schools in Haryana, located in Karnal, Panipat, Ladwa in Hisar, Faridabad and Bhiwani. He explained that children from underprivileged and deprived areas receive free education and cultural inculcation in these schools. Rajesh International reported that over 160 children from all these schools were sent to Kurukshetra on January 1 for an educational trip to celebrate the New Year. Vidya Bharti provided three buses and the Agrawal Sabha provided one bus for the trip free of charge. He reported that all the children arrived at Kurukshetra Railway Station at 9 am.

PM Shri Govt Sr Sec School of Kunjpura will become best among rest in district soon



MEGH RAJ LUTHRA KARNAL: The PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School of village Kunjpura is going to be recorded as an ideal school in the area. Its smart classrooms, modern lab, computer lab, hardworking and efficient staff and 100 per cent result of class 10+2 gives it a different status from other schools. This school is on its way to become a model for the all-round development of students based on the New Education Policy 2020. From March 18, 2023, in two phases in Karnal district, 16 schools with PM Shri model are imparting education to students as per the modern education system. The school of Kunjpura is of the first phase. This school has a skilled staff of 35 and 700 students, of which 160 are girls. Special attention is being paid to skill development for problem-solving, ensuring a secure future for students. For this purpose, all students are required to receive this education from grade nine onward, including automobile, PCA, and tour and travel. Education on water conservation, green energy and fuel saving is imparted through modeling in the Modern Lab. Four houses, including Akash, Srishiti, Bhaskar, and Rohini, have been set up to foster leadership in children.

Him MSME Fest 2026 to light up Shimla's Ridge from today, showcasing culture, startups and 'Made in Himachal'

BUREAU SHIMLA, JAN 2



Shimla is set to witness a landmark celebration as the Him MSME Fest 2026 begins today at the historic The Ridge. The festival will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu as the chief guest, with Industry Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan attending as the special guest. The event is being seen as a major step towards strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises in Himachal Pradesh. Organised by the state industries department, the fest aims to position Himachal as a strong MSME state by blending

enterprise development with the region's rich cultural heritage. Cultural celebrations will begin at the Ridge from 2 pm, featuring folk dances, traditional music and art forms from different districts of the state. These performances are expected to offer both locals and tourists a vibrant glimpse into

the cultural soul of Himachal Pradesh. The main attractions of the day will unfold between 4 pm and 7.40 pm. During this period, startup awards will be presented to innovative youth and emerging entrepreneurs from across the state. A cultural fashion show will also be held, highlighting Himachali attire and designs and presenting the concept of 'Made in Himachal' in a contemporary style. The segment will underline how tradition and modern entrepreneurship are progressing together in the state. The evening will culminate in a grand cultural night, transforming the Ridge into a festive arena of music, lights and entertainment.

Popular Punjabi singer Garry Sandhu will be the star attraction of the night, making it a special draw for entrepreneurs, artisans, tourists and residents alike. Officials said the Him MSME Fest 2026 is not merely an exhibition or entertainment event, but a platform to connect local artisans and entrepreneurs with markets, encourage startups among youth and give concrete shape to the vision of 'local to global'. The festival is expected to showcase Himachal Pradesh's economic, cultural and industrial potential together, adding a new chapter to the state's journey towards entrepreneurship and self-reliance.

Sainik School Kunjpura team inspects Jairam Sainik School



HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA: Inspired by Brahm Swaroop Brahmachari, the head of Shri Jairam Institutions operating across the country and Chairman of Shri Jairam Educational Institute, a special team of officers arrived to inspect Shrimati Kesari Devi Lohia Jairam Sainik School, located on the premises of Shri Jairam Educational Institute. This team, led by Lieutenant Colonel Nirmaljit Singh, Deputy Principal of Sainik School Kunjpura, visited Jairam Sainik School for the inspection. Team also included Vitesh Jain (PGT) and Rajendra Prasad (Office Superintendent). During inspection, Deputy Principal of Sainik School Kunjpura, along with his team, thoroughly observed various important sections of Jairam Sainik School. This inspection included academic block, laboratories, training areas, hostels, cadets' mess, and other basic facilities.

Havan performed at Hindu School to welcome New Year



KARAMBIR LADWA: Havan was performed at Hindu High School to welcome New Year 2026. It was conducted by students of classes nine and ten. Chairman of management committee, Pawan Garg stated that Havan was performed in school premises with objective of inculcating values of education, service, culture and dedication. He explained that Havan aimed to awaken spirit of Indian culture and traditions. Dechool principal, Yogita Ahluwalia, while felicitating Pandit Bittu who conducted Havan, said that worshipping one's mother and father is greatest form of worship and children should always respect and honor their parents, teachers and elders. She advised children to make resolutions for their lives on this auspicious occasion of New Year so that they can have a bright future and achieve success in all their endeavors. All teachers, staff and support staff of school received blessings of Goddess Saraswati.

Third day of 7-day camp successfully concludes



RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR: Third day of ongoing 7-day NSS camp at Shri Sanatan Dharma Senior Secondary School, Jagadhri was celebrated with great zeal. Camp began with morning yoga exercises and NSS anthem which energized volunteers both physically and mentally. In first session, Sonali and Deepchand from HIV Department of Civil Hospital provided volunteers with detailed information about HIV/AIDS. They highlighted its causes, symptoms and preventive measures, emphasizing importance of spreading awareness in society. They explained that this serious disease can be prevented with accurate information and vigilance. Anil from Narcotics Department informed students about harmful consequences of drug addiction. He emphasized importance of staying away from drugs, adopting a healthy lifestyle and role of youth in creating a drug-free society.

5th day of camp at Saraswati Public School begins with singing



RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR: Assistant Sub-Inspector Chaman Lal from Yamunanagar Police Station was invited to camp. He was accompanied by Head Constable Praveen, Constable Mukesh Kumari, Mandeep and Vikas. Assistant Sub-Inspector first educated volunteers about traffic rules. He explained what green, yellow and red traffic lights signify. He also motivated students regarding cybercrime, as a lot of fraud is happening due to it these days. During camp, program officer, Radhe Shyam also took a pledge on theme "Strength from Milk, Freedom from Addiction." After lunch, cultural activities were conducted for volunteers. School teachers Mr. Ved Prakash Chaubey, Shyam Sharma, and Prince Kumar were also present. They said that such programs should continue to be held in schools.

Civil Surgeon Barnala Dr. Haripal Singh visits Health Block Mehal Kalan



KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: To inspect the health facilities available to the general public and to attend the function organized by CHC Mehal Kalan staff, Dr. Haripal Singh Civil Surgeon Barnala visited Health Block Mehal Kalan. On this occasion, Dr. Haripal Singh inspected CHC Mehal Kalan and Aam Aadmi Clinic Hamidi. In the function organized at CHC Mehal Kalan Hospital to welcome the new year, Dr. Haripal Singh Civil Surgeon Barnala was specially honored by the entire staff. After this, Civil Surgeon Barnala also asked to make maximum people aware about the Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme and other various schemes provided to the needy and eligible class in the health institution. On this occasion, he also reviewed the facilities available to patients in the Emergency, OPD and Maternal and Child Department. Apart from this, he also interacted with the patients under treatment and instructed all the staff to be punctual and disciplined.

Cattle left landless, residents gasp for air as illegal occupiers flourish



MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI: A serious case of illegal use of cow grazing land of the municipality has come to light in Indri. It is said that about 52 acres of cow grazing land of the municipality located near the bypass is being continuously dumped by the rice millers on the mill ash, due to which pollution is spreading in the area and the common people are facing huge problems. Local citizens Sumit, Balinder and Ramkumar alleged that the rice millers were using municipal land illegally. The ash flying in the air is entering the eyes of the pedestrians and drivers, posing a danger of accidents especially to two-wheeler drivers. Thousands of vehicles pass through the bypass every day, so this situation is very worrying. Common people say that all this is happening due to the connivance of municipal officials. This misuse of important public land like cow pasture is a clear violation of the rules. An attempt was made to contact Municipal Secretary Dharamveer in this matter but he did not pick up the phone.

KURUKSHETRA (HANS RAJ YADAV): Member of Parliament Naveen Jindal continues to extend support to needy and underprivileged residents of the Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency by ensuring access to essential facilities. As part of this effort, three financially weak and ailing individuals were provided with wheelchairs to ease their daily lives. The beneficiaries include Sumit Kumar of Pindaris village, Balwan Singh of Chibba village, and Suresh Chand of Bir Pipli, who have been suffering from prolonged illnesses and were facing severe difficulties in mobility. Owing to their weak financial condition, they were unable to arrange wheelchairs on their own and had approached the MP's office seeking assistance. Taking immediate cognizance of their applications, MP Naveen Jindal directed officials to extend prompt help. Accordingly, the wheelchairs were handed over to the family members of the beneficiaries at Jindal House, Kurukshetra, on Thursday. Sharing details, MP's office in-charge and former IAS officer Dharamveer Singh said that MP Naveen Jindal is continuously working towards improving healthcare access under the "Healthy Kurukshetra" campaign.

National conclave on oral health adopts 'Chandigarh Resolution' to strengthen system-driven care for schoolchildren and older adults



CHANDIGARH: A two-day National Conclave of State Nodal Officers on Strengthening System-Driven Approaches to Oral Health Promotion for Schoolchildren and Older Adults

concluded successfully in Chandigarh with the adoption of the Chandigarh Resolution, reaffirming oral health as an integral component of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and a key public

health priority across the life course. The Conclave was organized under the National Oral Health Programme (NOHP) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government

of India, by the National Resource Centre for Oral Healthcare of Children and the Elderly (NRC FORCE) at the Oral Health Sciences Centre (OHSC), PGIMER, Chandigarh. It adopted the guiding

theme "Converging Systems. Strengthening Smiles.", highlighting the importance of coordinated action across health programmes and stakeholders to deliver equitable oral

healthcare. The event brought together State Nodal Officers of NOHP from across the country, senior officials and policymakers from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, representatives from other national programmes including the Ayushman Bharat School Health Programme, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), and the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE), along with experts from WHO-India. Leading professional bodies such as the Indian Dental Association (IDA), Indian Association of Public Health Dentistry (APHD), and the India Society of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry (ISPPD) also participated.

The Chandigarh Resolution emphasizes strengthening system-driven, preventive, promotive, and early-intervention approaches to oral health, particularly for schoolchildren and older adults, who face a high burden of preventable oral diseases. Aligned with sustainable development goals, Universal Health Coverage, and the WHO Life-Course and Healthy Ageing frameworks, it calls for stronger inter-programme convergence, people-centred service delivery, capacity building, standardized protocols, improved

monitoring, and sustainable financing. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Arpit Gupta, who heads the NRC FORCE at PGI stated that the Chandigarh Resolution reinforces the commitment to integrating oral health into broader health systems, noting that convergence across programmes and a system-driven approach are critical for achieving equitable oral health outcomes for children and older adults.

The Conclave was chaired by Dr L. Swasthcharan, Deputy Director General (DDG), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, who emphasized the need to embed oral health within national health systems to ensure equity and sustainability. Dr S. Senthilnathan, DDG, MoHFW, highlighted the role of the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) in addressing the oral health needs of older adults through convergence and continuum-of-care approaches.

Prof. S. P. Singh, Professor and Head, OHSC, PGIMER, underscored PGIMER's commitment to evidence-based policy support and capacity building, noting that NRC FORCE has been playing a leadership role in advancing technical support and national-level advocacy for oral healthcare of children and older adults.

Chhattisgarh outplay Chandigarh by ten wickets in Girls U-15 ODI

CHANDIGARH: UT girls suffered a ten wicket defeat against Chhattisgarh in their first encounter at Girls Under-15 One Day Trophy Elite match played at The Daily College, Indore on Friday. After winning the toss, Chandigarh opted to bat first and posted a total of 173 for 6 in the stipulated 35 overs. Opener Anrvi Rana anchored the innings by scoring 51 off 73 balls which included five boundaries. Ayu added 26 while Riya Yadav contributed 22 runs. In reply, Chhattisgarh delivered a dominant batting performance by chasing down the target without losing a wicket in just 22.2 overs. Captain and wicketkeeper Yati Sharma scored unbeaten 91 while Geet Dhanariya contributed 58.

Skoda Auto India's 25th Anniversary Year Becomes Its Biggest Ever

JALNDHAR: The year 2025 proved to be a landmark one for Skoda Auto India as the company completed 25 years in the Indian market with its strongest-ever sales performance. During the year, Skoda sold 72,665 vehicles, registering a remarkable 107 percent year-on-year growth compared to 2024. This achievement makes 2025 the biggest year for the brand in India so far. The impressive growth was driven by a strong product portfolio. The newly introduced Kylaq SUV emerged as a key growth driver, receiving an encouraging response from customers. At the same time, models such as the Kodiaq, Kushaq and Slavia continued to witness sustained demand. The return of the Octavia RS further strengthened the brand's performance image and generated excitement among automobile enthusiasts. Along with product success, Skoda Auto India expanded its network to more than 325 customer touchpoints across 183 cities, enhancing its reach and accessibility. The company also focused on customer-centric initiatives, including improved service facilities, extended warranties and extensive staff training.

Panchi Expresses Gratitude for the Hon'ble Administrator's Announcement

CHANDIGARH: Kamaljit Singh Panchhi, Chief Advisor, Federation of Sector Welfare Associations Chandigarh (FOSWAC), has expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT Chandigarh, for announcing in the Municipal Corporation House meeting held on 30th December 2025 that the Administration will resolve 2,200 out of 4,200 building valuation notices issued to Chandigarh Housing Board residents by 15th January 2026. Panchhi stated that this issue has been raised on several occasions during meetings with the Hon'ble Administrator of Chandigarh and has long been a pending demand of FOSWAC, aimed at providing much-needed relief to the residents of Chandigarh Housing Board houses. He further expressed strong confidence that the remaining 2,000 notices will also be resolved soon through mutual understanding between the residents and the officials of the Chandigarh Housing Board.

Coal production up 5.75 pc in Dec, dispatches also surge: Govt

NEW DELHI: The government on Friday said that coal output and dispatches from captive and commercial mines recorded steady growth in the month of December. The coal production stood at 19.48 million tonnes (MT) during this period, while coal dispatches during the month were recorded at 18.02 MT. This represents a year-on-year increase of 5.75 per cent in production compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. During the third quarter (Q3) of FY 2025-26, cumulative coal production from Captive and Commercial mines reached 54.14 million tonnes (MT), with dispatches recorded at 50.61 MT. The quarter registered a year-on-year growth of 5.35 per cent in production, reflecting sustained operational momentum across the sector, said the Ministry of Coal. Cumulatively, for the financial year 2025-26 up to December, the sector has demonstrated robust performance, with coal production registering a year-on-year increase of 9.72 per cent and dispatches rising by 6.98 per cent compared to the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

India gradually diversifying export basket to mitigate higher US tariffs: Report

NEW DELHI: In order to help insulate the output loss on account of higher US tariff rate, India's export profile has seen a case of frontloading and re-routing of exports following the changing tariff environment, a report showed on Friday. India's export basket is undergoing a structural shift in response to 50 per cent US tariffs and the absence of a formal trade deal. For marine products, significant increase in share of exports is observed for countries such as China and Thailand. For electronic goods, the share has risen for UAE while for Gems and Jewellery, it increased significantly for Hong Kong, according to the Bank of Baroda Report. The shares may be small on an individual basis but cumulatively with more focus on diversification, integration with global supply chains.

NIILM University Kaithal men's badminton team creates history, secures spot in semifinals



SANJAY SHARMA KAITHAL: The NIILM University team has made history by reaching the semifinals of the North Zone Inter-University Badminton (Men's) Tournament 2025-26, held at CT University, Ludhiana (Punjab). The university team achieved this feat by defeating five major teams in the tournament. During their remarkable journey, NIILM University defeated teams from prestigious universities in North India, including: Cluster University, Srinagar, Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh, MDU Rohtak, Panjab University, Chandigarh, The team, comprising Mainsam Meiraba Luwang, Pranay Shettygar, Abhinav Vashiht, Pranay Katta, Devavrat Mann, Saurabh Nain, and Mohit Singh, displayed exceptional teamwork and aggression on the court under the expert guidance of coach Meenu Rana and manager Harendra Malik. Management Congratulates Team: University Chairman Sandeep Chahal, Vice-Chancellor Dr. Shamim Ahmed, and University Administration In-charge Dr. Devendra Singh Dhull expressed their delight at the team's historic victory. They said, "Defeating strong teams like MDU and Punjab University is a testament to the hard work and talent of our players. We are confident that the team will continue with the same energy and win the final." The Head of the Department of Physical Education, Dr. Balkar Singh, and the entire staff extended their best wishes to the players for the semifinal match.

Godrej Enterprises Group launches forklift training center in Pune to drive youth skilling and workplace safety



CHANDIGARH: As India's manufacturing, logistics, and warehousing sectors scale rapidly, RenTRUST, a rental arm of Material Handling Equipment business of Godrej Enterprises Group (GEG), inaugurated a Forklift Training Center in Bhosari, Pune. Spanning 2,000 sq. ft., the facility is designed to build a future-ready workforce by equipping youth with industry-relevant skills, strengthening workplace safety, and enabling inclusive employment. As an industry leader, this initiative reinforces GEG's commitment to nation-building by creating future-ready skills, enabling inclusive employment, and powering India's industrial growth. Reinforcing GEG's focus on diversity and inclusion, the program offers a 50% training fee concession for women candidates, expanding access to skilled roles across the industrial workforce. To date, the Material Handling Equipment business has trained and certified over 3,500 operators, improving employability and driving higher safety and productivity standards at customer sites. Building on this momentum, the business aims to upskill an additional 500 operators by FY26, further supporting long-term employment creation as India's manufacturing and warehousing footprint expands. Anil Lingayat, Business Head, Material Handling Equipment business.

UCO Bank MD Ashwani Kumar Inaugurates Sector-86, Mohali Branch

MOHALI: Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Managing Director of UCO Bank, today inaugurated the newly opened branch of UCO Bank at Sector-86, Mohali. On the occasion, Zonal Head Ms. Milan Dubey welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries. In her address, Ms. Milan Dubey stated that UCO Bank remains fully committed to its social responsibilities and continues to make steady progress across all areas of banking. She informed that the Bank's total business has crossed Rs. 5 lakh crore, reflecting its strong financial position and customer confidence. Addressing the gathering, Managing Director Mr. Ashwani Kumar highlighted the crucial role played by banks in the economic development of the country. He informed that on the occasion of UCO Bank's Foundation Day, the Bank will be opening 150 new branches across the country on 6th January, marking a significant step towards expansion and financial inclusion. He also appreciated the UCO Bank management and staff for their contribution to the Bank's growth and achievements in various fields. Ms. Dubey further mentioned that the newly inaugurated branch is the fourth UCO Bank branch in Mohali. The branch is equipped with all modern banking facilities for customer convenience. She also briefed the gathering about various deposit, loan schemes and digital banking products of the Bank.



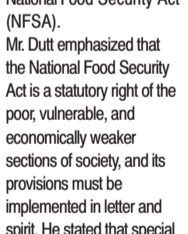
Haryana players shine at national Matsogi-Do championship



HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA: The 20th National Matsogi-Do Competition was organized by the Matsogi-Do Association of Jammu at the University of Jammu from December 28, 2025, to January 1, 2026. The prestigious national-level championship witnessed participation from nearly 1,400 players representing 20 states across the country. Players from the Matsogi-Do Association of Haryana delivered commendable performances and showcased their sporting excellence at the event. Students of Maharana Pratap Public School brought laurels to the state by securing medals in different age and weight categories. In the Under-11 girls' category (20-22 kg), Ekagrata Rawat won a bronze medal. In the Under-13 boys' category (40-44 kg), Devendra Kumar clinched a silver medal. In the Under-15 boys' category (32-36 kg), a player from Maharana Pratap Public School secured a silver medal along with a cash prize of ₹1,500. In an outstanding performance, Chahat won a gold medal along with a cash prize of ₹3,000 in the Under-17 girls' category (50-54 kg). Additionally, players Vasu Dev Malik, Yash, Satvik Paridhi, Karan, and Akshaj received consolation prizes for their efforts. On their return to Kurukshetra, the medal-winning players were accorded a warm and grand welcome by the office bearers of Sports Academy India. Those present included Chairman Mr. Ashwani Jain, President Mr. Parminder Bath, Vice President Mr. Rohit Gupta, General Secretary Mr. Virender Rawat, Mr. Arvind Kumar, Mr. Sanjeev Saini, and other members.

Vijay Dutt Issues Directions to Strengthen Ground-Level Food Security Delivery

VERMA GURDASPUR: On the occasion of the New Year, Mr. Vijay Dutt, Member of the Punjab State Food Commission, extended warm greetings to the district administration and issued directions to further strengthen the effective, transparent, and ground-level implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).



Mr. Dutt emphasized that the National Food Security Act is a statutory right of the poor, vulnerable, and economically weaker sections of society, and its provisions must be implemented in letter and spirit. He stated that special focus should be laid on ensuring timely, inclusive, and transparent delivery of food security benefits to all eligible beneficiaries in the coming year. Highlighting the role of district-level administration, Mr. Dutt said that the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development) plays a vital role not only in

governance but also as the District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO) under the NFSA. In this capacity, the ADC (Development) is responsible for ensuring prompt, fair, and effective redressal of food security-related grievances. Issuing specific directions, Mr. Dutt said that provisions of the National Food Security Act must be implemented efficiently at the district level, with accurate identification of eligible beneficiaries to ensure that no deserving family is left out. He further directed that complaints received through the DGRO mechanism must be resolved within stipulated timelines. He also stressed the need to strengthen monitoring, inspection, and grievance redressal mechanisms, and to address field-level gaps and implementation bottlenecks promptly, with regular reporting to the Punjab State Food Commission.

Ambala-Shamli expressway to be completed by december 2026: Anil Vij

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA AMBALA, JANUARY 2 - Haryana's Energy, Transport and Labour Minister Sh. Anil Vij said that construction of the 121-kilometre-long Ambala-Shamli Expressway is progressing rapidly and will be completed by December 2026. He said the expressway is being built from Ambala to Shamli, and further from Shamli to Delhi it will be connected to the Dehradun-Delhi Expressway. He also informed that construction of the Ambala-Mohali Expressway is progressing swiftly and is expected to be completed soon. Once completed, travel to



Chandigarh, Mohali, and other cities will become much easier. The Minister also discussed the project to connect Ambala Cantonment with the Panchkula-Saha ranpur Highway and issued directions to prepare a plan in this regard to the concerned officers. Today, Sh. Vij directed to the officers of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to complete the ongoing national highway projects in Ambala at the earliest so that people can benefit. Notably, a target has been set to complete the Ambala Ring Road and Ambala-Shamli Expressway projects by December this year. To ensure these projects are completed on time, Minister Anil Vij held discussions with NHAI officials at his residence today. While speaking to NHAI Ambala Project Director P.K. Sinha and other officials, Energy Minister Anil Vij instructed that construction of the Ambala Ring Road be completed as soon as possible so that motorists coming from Ambala and other states can benefit.

'US plan to invest in Reko Diq mines overlooks violations of human rights in Balochistan'

NEW DELHI: The US government's recent announcement of a \$1.25 billion financial package for extracting copper and gold from the Reko Diq mining project in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province was seen by state officials as a sign of international confidence in investing in the country. However, for the Baloch population, it feels like yet another moment when the world chooses minerals over human lives, according to an article in EU Today. The announcement was preceded by visits of Pakistan's army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Washington for meetings with President Donald Trump, where they offered Pakistan's mineral wealth to win US support for their geopolitical game plan. The article points out that Balochistan remains one of the most militarised and politically suppressed regions in South Asia. For decades, Balochistan has witnessed enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, torture, mass arrests, and operations carried out by Pakistan's armed forces that have devastated

54-year-old mother gets a second life after Heart Transplant at HCMCT Manipal Hospitals Dwarka, Delhi



FARIDABAD: In a significant medical achievement, doctors at HCMCT Manipal Hospitals Dwarka, New Delhi, successfully performed a life-saving heart transplant on a 54-year-old woman from Haryana who was battling end-stage heart failure. After years of struggling with cardiac dysfunction despite optimal medical therapy and advanced interventions, the transplant of a healthy heart from a brain-dead donor offered her a renewed chance at life and hope for her family. Shearvaid at the hospital in a critical state with an extremely low ejection fraction of 15%, repeated hospitalisations, whole-body edema (swelling), severe fatigue and breathlessness that left her barely able to

walk or lie down comfortably. She was on intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) support that helps in pumping of the heart for 10 days, and even after undergoing cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRTD) - an advanced type of a pacemaker, her condition continued to worsen, making heart transplantation the only option. Dr. Yugal Kishore Mishra, Chairman - Manipal Institute of Cardiac Sciences and Chief Cardiovascular Surgeon, Dwarka, Delhi, said, "This milestone is the result of years of focused work in building a comprehensive, self-reliant heart failure and transplant program. By treating patients medically and surgically across all stages of heart failure, we ensure the right intervention is provided at the right time. The transplant has not only added years to the patient's life but has also restored hope and quality of living for her and her family. Fortunately, the patient has responded exceptionally well, showing strong signs of recovery within 15 days. In many women.

Kia India Announces Prices of All-New Seltos Starting at ₹10.99 Lakh

NEW DELHI: Kia India today announced the prices of the All-New Kia Seltos, making a strong statement in the mid-SUV segment and presenting an attractive opportunity for customers to own their favourite SUV, starting at ₹10.99 lakh (ex-showroom). By bringing its second-generation, bigger, bolder and more progressive SUV within reach of a wider set of customers, Kia is decisively redefining the segment by raising benchmarks. The All-New Kia Seltos strengthens its position as one of the most complete and compelling choices for modern Indian families and SUV buyers, offering a perfect blend of space, sophistication, safety and technology at an exceptional price point. "The All-New Kia Seltos marks a strong evolution of a nameplate that has shaped Kia's journey in India," said Mr. Gwanggu Lee, Managing Director & CEO, Kia India. "With this new generation, our intent is clear - to re-define the mid-SUV segment by raising standards across space, safety, technology and overall ownership experience, while delivering exceptional value to our customers. This strategic approach strengthens our competitiveness, reinforces customer confidence in the brand, and positions Kia strongly in regard to market share in one of India's most important SUV segments. True to its BADASS legacy, the All-New Seltos reflects our long-term commitment to offering well-balanced, future-ready SUVs designed for modern Indian families," he added.



BCB announces home international calendar 2026; India likely to tour Bangladesh for white ball series in August-September



AGENCY **NEW DELHI:** Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Friday announced a packed home international calendar for the 2026 season. According to the schedule, India are likely to tour Bangladesh for a white-ball series in August-September 2026. During the 2026 home season, Bangladesh will host four Tests, 12 ODIs and nine T20Is. Bangladesh will host India for three ODIs and three T20Is, ESPNcricinfo reported. India's tour of Bangladesh was initially scheduled for August 2025. It was rescheduled to September 2026. The tour, which included three ODIs and three T20Is, was postponed by mutual agreement between the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) last year. "The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) have mutually agreed to defer the white-ball series, three ODIs and three Twenty20 Internationals, between Bangladesh and India in August 2025 to September 2026," the statement had said. India last travelled to Bangladesh in 2024 and the two teams met in a three-match T20I series (3-0) and a two-match Test series (2-0). The visitors secured a clean sweep over the Bangla Tigers, winning all three games on the tour. Bangladesh's home season will begin in March, after the men's T20 World Cup. Pakistan will visit for a three-match ODI series and revisit Bangladesh in May for a two-Test series. New Zealand will come in April and May for a full white-ball tour comprising three ODIs and three T20Is. Australia will arrive in June for a white-ball tour, including three ODIs and three T20Is. Bangladesh's season will conclude in October-November with a two-Test series against the West Indies.

Pant in focus ahead of selectors meeting to pick India's ODI squad for New Zealand series



NEW DELHI: With the Ajit Agarkar-led national senior selection committee set to meet in online mode on Saturday to finalise India's squad for the upcoming three-match ODI series against New Zealand, the debate over whether Rishabh Pant can retain his place in the squad will be under huge focus.

A majority of players who played in the 2-1 ODI series win over South Africa, including the veteran Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, are surely going to be there for the three matches against a New Zealand squad which has a fair mix of youngsters and experienced campaigners. The series begins in Vadodra on January 11, and is followed by clashes in Rajkot and Indore on January 14 and 18 respectively. But when the matter comes to having Pant in the ODI squad, expect a serious discussion to happen in the selection meeting. Pant's form in the ongoing Vijay

Hazare Trophy has been uneven, with just one half-century in four matches, totalling to 121 runs coming at an average of 30.25. Pant has not played an ODI since featuring against Sri Lanka in August 2024 - it came after he missed substantial game time due to recovering from injuries sustained in

a life-threatening car accident in December 2022.

His recent domestic performances have done little to bolster his case, and add to it, KL Rahul's sparkling form as a first-choice keeper-batter in the ODI team means Pant has been left warming the bench. In 2025, Pant didn't play a single ODI and was an unused member of the victorious Champions Trophy squad, as well as in the series win over South Africa.

Making things complicated for Pant is the re-emergence of Ishan Kishan, who's now in the T20 World Cup squad on the back of blazing form in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, as well as Dhruv Jurel making big runs in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Already out of India's T20I side and with his ODI prospects looking bleak, Pant has effectively only the IPL and a handful of Tests later this year to showcase his continued relevance to India's white-ball plans.

Another name likely to feature in discussions by the selection committee is in-form left-handed batter Devdutt Padikkal, who has scored three centuries in four games in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy.

But with captain Shubman Gill returning, as well as Rohit, Yashvi Jaiswal and Ruturaj Gaikwad around, it will be interesting to see how the selectors go about in accommodating Padikkal in the squad.

With Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya set to be rested from the ODIs due to the T20 World Cup in mind, it would be interesting to see if Harshit Rana and Arshdeep Singh could feature in the series.

NEWS BRIEF

So many lessons to be grateful for: Shubman Gill reflects on highs and lows of 2025

NEW DELHI: India Test and ODI skipper Shubman Gill reflected on a defining 2025, expressing gratitude for the lessons, experiences and memories as he looks ahead to the new year. "2025, you were truly special to me. So many lessons, experiences, and memories to be grateful for. Carrying it all forward into 2026," Gill wrote while sharing a reel on his official Instagram handle. The year proved to be one of contrasts for the 26-year-old. On one hand, Gill endured a setback in the shortest format, having been dropped from India's T20I set-up despite being the vice-captain earlier. Following a string of poor performances, he was also left out of India's squad for the T20I World Cup, marking a significant moment in his career. T20Is were his sole format of struggle, scoring just 291 runs in 15 innings with no fifty at an average of just over 24. However, Gill's red-ball form in 2025 stood in stark contrast to his struggles in T20 cricket. The right-hander enjoyed a phenomenal year in Tests, especially during the tour of England, where he delivered one of the most dominant batting performances by an Indian in overseas conditions. Gill amassed a staggering 754 runs in five Tests at an average of 75.40, scoring four centuries and registering a career-best 269. His run spree saw him shatter multiple records, achievements that could fill an entire chapter in a traditional history of cricket book within a single series. In Tests, he scored 983 runs in nine matches at an average of 70.21, with five centuries and a fifty. In 11 ODIs, he made 490 runs at an average of 49.00, with two centuries and fifties each. T20Is were his sole format of struggle, scoring just 291 runs in 15 innings with no fifty at an average of just over 24.

Aryan Shah eyes strong start at 10th Bengaluru Open

BENGALURU, Jan 2 (UNI) As Bengaluru gears up to host the 10th edition of the Bengaluru Open from January 5 to 6 at the SM Krishna Tennis Stadium, young Indian tennis talent Aryan Shah is looking to start the season on a strong note. The 20-year-old, who arrived from Ahmedabad after months of training, said, "I just flew in last night from Ahmedabad. I just finished my first session here today and it feels nice. I've played in Bengaluru a couple of times before and I have some decent memories, so I'm excited for the tournament." Aryan's previous appearances in the city include a notable performance at the SM Krishna Memorial Open, an ITF World Tennis Tour Men's M25 event. Riding on his recent title at the ITF M25 Ahmedabad Open, he advanced through the early rounds before losing to second seed Oliver Crawford, marking one of his most consistent weeks at the professional level. Ending 2025 with a singles ranking of 402 and a doubles ranking of 379, Aryan reflected on his progress: "Since 2023, I've had some pretty good wins and have been constantly rising through my rankings. The last few months were rough, but there were a lot of positives to take from that year. I'm currently number two in the country, and I'm happy with where I am." Over the past two years, Aryan has emerged as a dynamic all-court player, combining a reliable serve with strong baseline consistency. He has won two ITF Futures singles titles (2024 M15 Kingston, 2025 M15 Ahmedabad) and one doubles title (2024 M15 Kingston), and also represented India as a reserve in the 2024 Davis Cup tie against Sweden.

Mumbai Indians unveil Women's Premier League 2026 jersey

MUMBAI: Mumbai Indians, Champions of 2025 today unveiled the WPL 2026 jersey, continuing the tradition of drawing inspiration from the city of Mumbai and its people, according to a release. Just as the team reflects the city, the jersey mirrors the rhythm of everyday Mumbai - always in motion, always playing on. This season, the iconic blue and gold, with the coral, represent movement, resilience, and momentum. The core theme is the "Wicket Pulse", the blue adorning the front and back of the jersey, inspired by Mumbai's constant motion - from local trains and sea waves. It reflects the never-slipping mindset that defines both Mumbai and the Mumbai Indians. It will be her first appearance at Melbourne Park since 2021 and the first time she will have competed outside the United States since 2023. Of her seven Grand Slam singles titles, none have come in the Melbourne. Venus reached the final twice, in 2003 and 2017, and both times her sister and 23-time Grand Slam champion, Serena Williams, emerged victorious. In addition to her two AO finals, Williams reached the semifinals in 2001 and another six quarterfinals, contributing to her tournament win-loss record of 54-21. "I'm excited to be back in Australia and looking forward to competing during the Australian summer. I've had so many incredible memories there, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to return to a place that has meant so much to my career," Venus said.

Venus Williams receives 2026 Australian Open wild card



AGENCY MELBOURNE: Seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams received a wild card entry into the main draw at the 2026 Australian Open. It will be her first appearance at Melbourne Park since 2021 and the first time she will have competed outside the United States since 2023. Of her seven Grand Slam singles titles, none have come in the Melbourne. Venus reached the final twice, in 2003 and 2017, and both times her sister and 23-time Grand Slam champion, Serena Williams, emerged victorious. In addition to her two AO finals, Williams reached the semifinals in 2001 and another six quarterfinals, contributing to her tournament win-loss record of 54-21. "I'm excited to be back in Australia and looking forward to competing during the Australian summer. I've had so many incredible memories there, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to return to a place that has meant so much to my career," Venus said.

The 45-year-old is set to become the oldest woman to compete in an AO main draw, surpassing the record previously held by Japan's Kimiko Date, who was 44 when she lost in the first round of the Australian Open 2015.

Following a 16-month layoff, Venus returned to tennis last July and competed in three tournaments in 2025. She defeated compatriot Peyton Stearns 6-3, 6-4 in the first round at the Mubadala Citi DC Open, before falling to Magdalena Frech.

In August, Williams fell to Spain's Jessica Bouzas-Maneiro 4-6, 4-6 in the first round of Cincinnati and took 11th seeded Karolina Muchova to three sets in the first round of the US Open. In doubles, playing alongside Leylah Fernandez, Williams advanced to the quarterfinals, where they fell to eventual finalists Katerina Siniakova and Taylor Townsend.

Venus will prepare for the Australian Open 2026 at the Hobart International, where she also received a wildcard and will join fellow major champions Barbora Krejickova and Emma Raducanu. The Australian Open 2026 main draw begins on January 18.

United Cup 2026: Baez, Sierra wins set up a clean sweep for Argentina in opener

AGENCY PERTH: Argentina made a winning start in the 2026 edition of the United Cup mixed-gender team tennis competition, picking up the first team win by beating Spain in their opening match in Perth on Friday. Singles victories by Sebastian Baez and Solana Sierra gave them a 2-0 lead before Guido Andreozzi and Maria Lourdes Carle won the mixed doubles match to secure a comprehensive win. World No. 66 Sierra clinched the win for her country in Group A with a 6-4, 5-7, 6-0 triumph over Jessica Bouzas Maneiro after Baez defeated Jaume Munar 6-4, 6-4 in the first match of the competition. Guido Andreozzi and Maria Lourdes Carle then downed Yvonne Calle-Reimers and Inigo Cervantes 7-6(6), 6-2 in the mixed doubles rubber to earn Argentina a resounding 3-0 triumph. The South American nation will next face top seeds and defending champions Team USA in their remaining Group A match. Argentina are hoping to advance from the group-stage play for the first time in three tournament appearances, and were aided in their opening win by



its second-highest and highest-ranked players in the ATP Rankings and WTA Rankings, respectively. But Sierra's grit in particular was a highlight over 2 hours and 2 minutes, as she regrouped emphatically after losing a 5-2 lead in the second set.

Sierra was two points away from a straight-sets victory twice in the second set, having 30-30 serving at 5-3, and on return at 5-4. But when all was said and done, she needed three sets to top the World No. 41 and earn her third career win over a Top 50 opponent. She lost just eight points in the third set after dropping five straight games to lose the second.

Usman Khawaja to retire from international cricket after Sydney Ashes Test



SYDNEY: Veteran Australia batter Usman Khawaja announced on Friday that he will retire from international cricket after the fifth Ashes Test against England at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Khawaja called a press conference and made the announcement with his family by his side two days out from the match, ahead of the team's net session with the Aussies aiming to claim another 12 World Test Championship points and finish the series as 4-1 victors. "I'm here to announce today that I will be retiring from all international cricket after the SCG Test match," Khawaja told the press. "God through cricket has given me far more than I could have imagine. He's given me memories I'll carry forever, friendship that goes well beyond the game, and lessons that shaped me, who I am, off the field. "But no career belongs to one person. I obviously had a lot of help. To my parents, thank you for your sacrifices that never made the highlights reel." Khawaja informed his Australia

teammates only moments earlier ahead of their training session two days out from the series finale against England. In a career spanning 15 years, Khawaja has amassed over 8000 international runs across formats, while featuring in 87 Tests, 40 ODIs, and nine T20Is. He retires as one of Australia's most prolific run-scorers; 30 more in his farewell Test will see him pass Michael Hussey's tally of 6,235 into 14th among Australian men. Khawaja brings the curtain down on his career as one of only 18 Australians to have scored more than 15 Test centuries, finishing with 16 hundreds

in the longest format. He also leaves the game with 49 limited-overs appearances, including two ODI centuries to his name. The left-hander fittingly bows out in his home city of Sydney, where he made his Test debut against England in 2011. It was also at the SCG that Khawaja reignited his career as a 35-

year-old smashing twin centuries against England in early 2022 when Travis Head was sidelined with Covid. It led to a final career spark, hitting seven centuries in his first two years back in the side.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation for tenders through E-procurement systems
Deputy Chief Materials Manager, N.R. Jagadhri Workshop-135002, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	61256514A	Must change kit of LHB EOG coaches with compact panel for SS-BIM72	240 Sets	29.01.2026
02	61257200	Stiffener plate for front carriage plate	7570 Sets	29.01.2026

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No.-61256514A, 61257200 15/2025

PRESS NOTICE TO ISSUE FOR PUBLICATIONS IN NEWS PAPER FOR E-TENDERING
The Executive Engineer, Jai Shakti Division, Chowari invites tenders on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh through approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through e-tendering process.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time limit	Cost of form	Start and Last date for uploading the tender through e-tendering
1	Construction of JSV Division Office Building at Chowari in Tehsil Bhudiyat Distt. Chamba HP. (SH: Providing E.I. Surveillance System, Fire Safety Etc. in Division Office Building).	Rs. 29,99,005/-	Rs. 59,980/-	2 Months	Rs. 1500/-	From 30-12-2025 at 09:00 hrs to 08-01-2026 at 17:00 hrs

The bidders are advised to note other details of tender from the departmental website <https://tenders.gov.in>.
The Executive Engineer, reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all the bids without assigning any reason(s).
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Jai Shakti Division, Chowari Distt. Chamba (HP)-176302
DPR-HP-54102/2025-2026

AXIS BANK
Retail Asset Centre: Axis Bank Ltd, 2nd Floor, Property # 7-E, Municipal 3003/1142/16, Malhar Road, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana - 141001, Corporate Office: Axis House, Block-8, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Butkar Marg, Work, Mumbai-400025, Registered Office: Trishul, 3rd floor, opposite Samartheshwar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006.

Publication of Notice regarding possession of property u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002
Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinbefore, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

Name of Borrower/Guarantor/ Mortgagee Address	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding as per 13(2) Notice
1. Mr. Daljit Singh S/o Balvir Singh (Primary Applicant) R/O Mirpur, Malkomajra Fatehgarh Sahib 140406	03rd-Sep-2025	01st October 2025	30-Dec-2025	(Rs. 17,12,440/-) (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Forty Only)
2. Mrs. Davinder Kaur w/o Mr. Daljit Singh (Co-Applicant) R/O Mirpur, Malkomajra Fatehgarh Sahib 140406				

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGED PROPERTY
All that part and parcel of Property/House measuring 5-14-5/9 Marla i.e. 436.96 sq. yd. comprised in sheet 32/34 Khata no. 48 Khata no. 8/24/4-0, 25/3-0, 14/12/5-17, 19/12/0-15, 19/2/4-1, 20/2/7-4, 21/1/2/3-18, 21/2/7-4, 22/2/1/12-13, 15/2/3-10, 3/7-12, 4/8-0, 5/17-8, 6/2/8-4, 7/11-4, 13/2/5-0, 14/3-0, 15/8-0, 16/8-0, 17/12-0, 18/14/4-10, 19/3-0, 7/4-19, 14/1-10, 45/12 (kms 25 Total area 130 kanal) marla out of which 0-14-5/9 marla has been No 310 Village Mirpur Registered vide deed no 2020-21/190/11/13 dt 9 July 2020 Boundaries (AS per site) East: Property of Daljit Singh side 78' West: Property of Sarabjit Singh side 65' North: Passage Side 45' South: Property of Daljit Singh 65'

Date: 30.12.2025
Place: Fatehgarh Sahib
Sd/- (Authorized Officer), Axis Bank Ltd.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tendering
Open tenders through e-tendering are invited on & behalf of President of India by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/G, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15:00 Hrs. or the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.

S. No.	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Date of closing & opening
1	30-Elec/T-25/2025-26	Provision of Examination lights, welding points & Lighting system at Rolling Examination points with Energy Efficient LED Lighting system as per CAMTECH Pattern in Yards at C&W Depot, Khanalampura over Ambala Division.	Rs. 19337965.18	Rs. 246700.00	04 Months	23.01.2026

1. Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligible documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions.
2. The required Bid Security will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/ Payment Gateway payment only well before & upto 15:00 Hrs of closing date & time of tender.
3. Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of works tenders.
4. For detail, please log on IREPS website www.IREPS.gov.in. GST will be levied as per GST Act, 2017
Open Tender Notice No.: NIT-18/2025-26 Dated: 01.01.2025 14/2025

AXIS BANK LTD. Retail Assets Centre: Axis Bank Ltd. 2nd and 3rd Floor, Property No. 7-E, Malhar Road, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana-141001.
Retail Assets Center: Axis Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, S/o 367-368, Above Akash Institute, Sector 34a Chandigarh - 160022, Corporate Office: 3rd Floor, Block-8, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Butkar Marg, Work, Mumbai-400025, Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd Floor, Opposite Samartheshwar Temple, Law Garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006
Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagees mentioned here under had availed the financial assistance from Axis Bank Ltd. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagees have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset on the respective dates mentioned hereunder in accordance with the directives/policies issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice on respective dates mentioned herein under under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers/guarantors/mortgagees to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower / Address	NPA Date	Demand Notice Date	Outstanding Amount
1.	1. Mr. Rattan Lal Vohra S/o Amar Nath R/o House No. 120, Sector 21 C Goidobandh, Mandi Gobindpur Fatehgarh Sahib, Ambala - 147301	18th Dec 2025	23rd Dec 2025	Rs. 58,18,713/- (Rs. Fifty six lacs eighteen thousand seven hundred and thirteen only)
2.	Mrs. Venu Vohra R/o House No. 255, Vikas Nagar, Sector 1 B, Mandi Gobindpur Fatehgarh Sahib, - 147301.			Rs. 60,00,000/-

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:- ALL THAT piece and parcel of Residential Property situated at Village Naasari, Sub Tehsil Mandi Gobindpur, Tehsil Ambah and Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib, area measuring 0-4 Biswas 2 Biswas i.e. 204.72 sq. yds. comprised in Khata/Khatoni no. 2/16, Khata no. 22/1mn(3-0), 22/2mn(3-0), 22/3mn(4-0), 22/5mn(4-5) Kite 4, Total area 14 Biswas 5 Biswas out of which 82/5700 share i.e. 0-4 Biswas 2 Biswas i.e. 204.72 sq. yds in the name of Smt. Renu Vohra W/o Sh. Ratan Vohra vide Sale deed no 2022-23/241/922 dated 21.07.2022 and vide mutation no. 14275 as per revenue record (hereinafter called the property in question). As per sale deed the property in question is bounded as under: East: Passage 20', Side 27'-6", West: Mastan Gupta, Side 27'-6", North: Pankaj Sharma, Side 67', South: Ranjit Singh Sodhi, Side 67'

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgaged under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules thereunder.
Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.
Date: 03.01.2026, Place: PUNJAB
Sd/-, Authorized Officer, Axis Bank Ltd.

Jennifer Lopez reflects on life, growth, Ben Affleck divorce at Las Vegas residency



Singer and actor Jennifer Lopez reflected on her personal journey and past relationships, including her divorce from actor Ben Affleck, during the opening night of her Las Vegas residency, Up All Night at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, according to People. Lopez spoke candidly to the audience about how her life has changed since her last Las Vegas residency nearly a decade ago at Planet Hollywood's Zappos Theater. "It's such a huge honour to be asked back. Do you know that it's been 10 years, 10 years since my last residency here. Almost 10 years to the day. It was in January. That went by in a blink, didn't it?" she told the crowd. Reflecting humorously on her personal life, Lopez joked, "And in that time, I've only been married twice," prompting laughter from the audience. She quickly added, "That's not true. It was only once. It felt like twice," according to People. She continued, "I'm just kidding. I'm just kidding. It's over and we just... it's fine," before adding, "The good

news is that I'm learning and I'm growing and we're in our happy era. I'm in my happy era." Lopez previously dated Affleck from 2002 to 2004 after meeting on the sets of Gigli. The two rekindled their relationship in 2021 and married in July 2022. Lopez filed for divorce in August 2024, coinciding with the second anniversary of their wedding celebration in Georgia. In a previous interview with CBS News Sunday Morning, Lopez described the breakup as transformative. "Because it changed me. It helped me grow in a way that I needed to grow," she said. Despite their separation, the former couple have remained on good terms. They reunited at the premiere of Lopez's film Kiss of the Spider Woman, which Affleck produced, and were also seen shopping together in Los Angeles with Affleck's son, Samuel, in December. Affleck shares three children -- Violet, 20, Seraphina, 16, and Samuel, 13 -- with his former wife Jennifer Garner. Lopez, meanwhile, shares 17-year-old twins

Max and Emme with her former husband Marc Anthony. During the show, Lopez also reflected on her earlier divorce from Marc Anthony, crediting the experience with helping her grow personally and professionally. "I do love to dance. And if you take anything away from this show tonight, I hope it's this," she told the audience. "It was after my third divorce that I really started getting good at it." She recalled advice from late author Louise Hay, who encouraged her to keep moving forward despite life's hardships. "She said, 'When you're learning to dance and you get the steps wrong, what do you do?' I said, 'I just keep going until I get the steps right.' And she said, 'That's right, Jennifer. Always keep dancing.'" Concluding her message, Lopez said she hopes others continue to persevere through challenges. "No matter what life throws at you, you dance and you dance and you dance again and again," she said, according to People.

Prithvik Roshan makes cute revelation about his "double thumb" in his New Year's post



On New Year's Eve, actor Prithvik Roshan dropped an adorable post with his girlfriend Saba Azad. The post features his joyful dance moments with Saba. However, it was his caption that left everyone in splits. Showcasing his humorous side, Prithvik joked about how he struggled to make a hand heart properly with his "double thumb". "Caught some happy shadows dancing next to us. 2025 seems to be ending on a very merry note. Sending big love to all my fans out there. I especially dedicate the new year to you guys. Happy almost 2026 everyone. #keepdancing #keepflowing #keeploving #keepgrowing #staycurious P.s. not being capable of making a hand heart properly is only the 2nd thing I can't do with my double thumb. Big revelation." Prithvik and Saba have been dating for a couple of years now. Rumours about their relationship started swirling after they were spotted on a dinner date in February 2022. Later, she also joined Prithvik's family for a get-together. All speculation on their relationship was set at rest after the two walked hand-in-hand at actor Karan Johar's 50th birthday bash in May 2022. Saba often accompanies Prithvik for family outings, celebrations and vacations. Prithvik was previously married to Sussanne Khan, daughter of veteran actor Sanjay Khan.

Nisha Rawal says she 'survived' 2025 protecting innocence of her little one' Kavish' world

Actress and model Nisha Rawal has penned a beautiful yet emotional social media note as she entered 2026. Reflecting on a year of emotional healing and quiet strength, the actress shared a candid picture with her son Kavish. In the picture shared, Nisha kept his face away from the frame and instead chose to spotlight an intimate mother-son moment through their hands. In the image, young Kavish is seen sporting multi-coloured nail polish, while Nisha subtly flaunts a nude base manicure. Nisha captioned the post with a simple heart emoji, later writing, "I have been holding space for what truly matters, and I realise you've been holding space for me." She continued to express gratitude for the love that waited for her in silence as she healed away from social media. "On the first day of this year, I feel grateful for the love that waited patiently while I healed in silence," she shared, adding that 2025 had been overwhelming for her, but she survived it with grace, fiercely protecting the innocence of her son's world. "Last year was a lot, but I survived it with grace, protecting the colours and innocence of my little one's world," it read. She further added, "Thank you for showing up for me, even through my radio silence here."



Talking about Nisha Rawal, the actress has built her career across television, films, theatre, commercials and reality shows. She gained popularity with her role in Main Lakshmi Tere Aangan Ki and later also showcased her fearless side in the reality show Lock Upp.

Vidya Balan celebrates birthday in warm moment with paparazzi, cuts cake



Bollywood actor Vidya Balan rang in her 47th birthday on Thursday by celebrating the special day with the paparazzi, as she cut a cake and shared warm moments with photographers who gathered to wish her. A video circulating on social media shows the actor smiling brightly as she cuts the cake amid cheers and applause from the photographers. Dressed in a graceful yet simple black outfit, Vidya appeared cheerful as she thanked the paparazzi for their wishes. She also posed for pictures, spreading festive cheer on the first day of the New Year. The celebratory moment quickly caught attention online, with fans appreciating her warmth and down-to-earth nature. Vidya Balan, who made her Hindi film debut with 'Parineeta' in 2005, has carved a unique space in Indian cinema with her powerful performances in films like 'The Dirty Picture', 'Kahaani', 'Tumhari Sulu', 'Paa', and 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa'.

Anil Kapoor sends heartwarming birthday wishes to his "greatest co-star" Nana Patekar

Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor has shared his warm birthday wishes to his 'Welcome' co-star Nana Patekar, reflecting on their joyful memories together. Sharing a hilarious clip from the 2015 film 'Welcome Back', Kapoor wrote, "Happy Birthday to the OG! @iamnana.patekar. The greatest male co-star any actor could ask for, and an even more solid dost! Hope you relive the madness and joy of our time on Welcome together with this hilarious clip. Looking forward to our next collaboration and Nana Patekar famously portrayed the beloved characters of Majnu Bhai and Uday Shetty in the 'Welcome' films, delivering a memorable mix of chaos and comic timing. The original 'Welcome' film, directed by Anees Bazmee, was a big hit. The story revolved around Rajiv (Akshay Kumar), who falls in love for Sanjana (Katrina Kaif), whose brothers Uday and Majnu are connected to the underworld. Actors Paresh Rawal and Feroz Khan also played key roles in the film. What followed next was the chaotic antics of the gangster family, which struck a chord with the audience. The film's success cemented Kapoor and Patekar's collaboration as one of Bollywood's most entertaining pairings in comedy cinema, with audiences still fondly recalling their iconic dialogues and comic timing. They reprised their characters in 'Welcome Back', recreating their magic for the second time. Actors John Abraham and Shruti Haasan replaced Akshay and Katrina in the second part. A third in the franchise, 'Welcome to the



Jungle', is currently in the pipeline. While Akshay Kumar is returning to the series, joining him in the cast are Disha Patani, Raveena Tandon, Lara Dutta, Arshad Warsi, Shreyas Talpade, Suniel Shetty, Johnny Lever, Kiku Sharda, Krushna Abhishek, Rahul Dev and singers-brothers Daler Mehndi and Mika among others. Details surrounding the Ahmed Khan-directed film's release date are yet to be announced.

'Dhurandhar' ends 2025 with a bang, now eyeing "highest-grossing Hindi film ever" title



It hasn't even been a month since its release, and Ranveer Singh-starrer Dhurandhar has already set numerous records. And now the film has entered 2026 with the "aim of emerging as the highest-grossing Hindi film ever," as per renowned trade analyst Taran Adarsh. Directed by Aditya Dhar, 'Dhurandhar' has raked in Rs 766.90 crore in India so far. In a post on X, Taran Adarsh mentioned, "DHURANDHAR - THE DHURANDHAR OF HINDI CINEMA... #Dhurandhar ends 2025 with a BIG BANG and begins 2026 with the aim of emerging as the highest-grossing #Hindi film ever. The film continues its phenomenal, record-smashing run, with business on the fourth Wednesday staying in double digits." "Sharing the film's collection, he added, "YES, double-digit collections for *27 days non-stop* - the ONLY #Hindi film to achieve this historic feat. #Dhurandhar [Week 4] Fri 16.70 cr, Sat 20.90 cr, Sun 24.30 cr, Mon 11.20 cr, Tue 12.60 cr, Wed 12.40 cr. Total: ₹ 766.90 cr. #India biz | Official Nett BOC | #Boxoffice." Made in two parts, the first instalment follows a decade-long Indian intelligence operation in which an undercover agent infiltrates Karachi's criminal and political underworld. It was released on December 5. The second part is scheduled to be released on March 19, 2026. In addition to Ranveer Singh, 'Dhurandhar' features phenomenal performances by Akshaye Khanna, R. Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, Rakesh Bedi, and Sanjay Dutt.

Anu Malik clears air over 'Ghar Kab Aaoge' credit controversy

Music composer Anu Malik has addressed the swirling rumours surrounding credit for the recreation of hit hit song 'Ghar Kab Aaoge' in Sunny Deol starrer 'Border 2'. Amid reports claiming that the celebrated music composer did not receive the credits for the recreation, Anu Malik, in a statement, clarified that he has received proper credits for the song - something which he is proud of. recent misinformation to rest, singer-composer Anu Malik released the following statement on the song 'Ghar Kab Aaoge' from highly anticipated movie Border 2. I would like to clarify about the song 'Ghar Kab Aaoge' that Bhushan ji has already credited me with immense warmth and respect. This is a unique collaboration that I am genuinely proud of, and I have also shared my thoughts publicly across my social media platforms. Any reports suggesting otherwise are based on incorrect reporting. I stand by this collaboration with pride and gratitude," the statement read. Earlier in December, the teaser of the song was unveiled,

featuring singers Sonu Nigam, Arijit Singh, Vishal Mishra, and Diljit Dosanjh. The song is based on the original version composed by Anu Malik. For 'Border 2', the music has been recreated by Mithoon. The lyrics include additional lines written by Manoj Muntashir Shukla, along with the OG lyrics by Javed Akhtar. The teaser indicates that the song focuses on emotions associated with soldiers and their families waiting for them to return home. The full version of the song will be released on January 2, 2026. The song will be launched at a special event in Longewala-Tanot, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. 'Border 2' is directed by Anurag Singh. The film stars Sunny Deol, Varun Dhawan, Diljit Dosanjh, Ahan Shetty, Mona Singh, Medha Rana, Sonam Bajwa and Anya Singh. The film is presented by Gulshan Kumar and T-Series, in association with JP Dutta's JP Films. It is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, JP Dutta and Nidhi Dutta. 'Border 2' is set to release in theatres on January 23, 2026.



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