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NEWS BRIEFS

Chandigarh schools to reopen on Monday with revised winter timings

CHANDIGARH: The Department of School Education has announced the resumption of classes in all Chandigarh schools with revised winter timings in response to changing weather conditions.
Schools will reopen on Monday, January 19. According to the new schedule, single-shift schools will operate from 9 am to 2.30 pm, while double-shift schools will operate from 9 am to 1.45 pm and 1.15 pm to 4.30 pm.

Fuel payment dispute: Hindu man crushed to death in Bangladesh

NEW DELHI : A Hindu fuel station worker was crushed to death in Bangladesh after he tried to stop a vehicle from leaving a petrol pump without paying, police said.
It has not been confirmed whether the incident, which took place on Friday in Rajbari district, is related to the recent spate of violence targeting Hindus in Bangladesh.
The victim has been identified as 30-year-old Ripon Saha, The Daily Star newspaper reported on Saturday, quoting police officials. He was working at Karim Filling Station in Goalanda Mor at the time of the incident, it said.

Republic Day alert: Intel warns of terror threat from Bangladeshi, Khalistani outfits

NEW DELHI: Intelligence agencies have issued an alert ahead of the upcoming Republic Day celebrations that Khalistani and Bangladesh-based terror outfits may try to target the national capital and other cities across the country.
According to Intelligence sources, Punjab-based gangsters are increasingly acting as foot soldiers for Khalistani and radical handlers operating from abroad. These handlers are allegedly using criminal networks to further their agendas and disrupt internal security, they added.
According to inputs, these gangsters are active across Haryana, Delhi-NCR, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, and are gradually establishing links with Khalistani terrorist elements.Meanwhile, ahead of the Republic Day parade on January 26, North District Police conducted a series of simulated mock drills at vulnerable and crowded locations to check the preparedness and response time of various stakeholders and agencies.Four mock drill exercises were conducted during the first fortnight of January 2026 at sensitive locations across North Delhi, including vital installations, historical places, prominent markets and transport hubs, where a large numbers of people gather daily. These areas include Red Fort, ISBT Kashmere Gate, Chandni Chowk, Khari Baoli, Sadar Bazar and Metro stations, which are considered highly sensitive from a security perspective.

Big relief for Punjab's farmers, path will be cleared for unhindered farming along the border: CM Bhagwant Mann

Union Home Minister informed during meeting that fencing will be shifted towards border from Punjab's land: CM Bhagwant Singh

BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JAN 17



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Saturday announced a major relief for farmers in Punjab's border belt after the Central Government agreed in principle to shift the Border Security Fence closer to the International Border, a move that will clear the way for unhindered cultivation of thousands of acres of farmland currently trapped beyond the fencing.

Calling on Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi, the Chief Minister said farmers have long been forced to cross the fence with identity cards and under BSF escort to reach their own fields, facing daily hardship and uncertainty along the 532 km India Pakistan border where fencing lies deep inside Punjab's territory. He said the Home Minister informed him during the meeting that the issue is under active consideration and that the fencing will be shifted towards the border, bringing Punjab's land back on the accessible side without compromising national security.

Alongside the border issue, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann also raised a series of long pending concerns, including Punjab's objections to the proposed Seeds Bill 2025, the unresolved Sutlej Yamuna Link dispute (SYL), slow movement of foodgrains by the FCI, freezing of Arthia Commission, non payment of Rural Development Fund (RDF) and Mandi Fund, and the dilution of Punjab's role in Chandigarh's administration, seeking prompt and time bound resolution of these matters.

Raising serious objections to the proposed Seeds Bill 2025, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "Punjab is an agrarian state and one of the largest grain producing states of the country, yet the draft Seed Bill does not assure representation of the state as per schedule under the relevant section. The zone based system introduced in the Bill does not guarantee Punjab's representation in the Central Seed Committee, unlike the existing system, thereby limiting the state's voice in decisions that directly affect the seed sector."

The Punjab CM added, "The proposed Bill also curtails the existing powers of the State Seed Committee, as there is no role envisaged for the state level committee in seed registration, and the draft is silent on a robust compensation framework for farmers who suffer losses when registered seed fails to perform as claimed."

The Chief Minister further pointed out that seed varieties tested and released in foreign countries have been allowed for import and sale in Punjab and other states without compulsory multi location testing under state specific agro climatic conditions, posing serious risks to farmers. He conveyed that agriculture is Punjab's lifeline, where farmers grow crops, sell part of the produce and retain seeds for the next season, and forcing farmers to depend entirely on companies for seeds is neither practical nor in farmers' interest. He urged that the Bill should not be brought before Parliament in its present form, and was assured by the Union Home Minister that the concerns would be examined.

Reiterating Punjab's long standing position on river waters, the Chief Minister said, "Punjab has no surplus water to share with any other state. There has been a substantial reduction in the availability of Satlej, Ravi and Beas waters, and therefore construction of the Satlej Yamuna Link canal is not viable."

He noted that out of 34.34 Mean Annual Flow (MAF) of water from these rivers, Punjab was allocated only 14.22 MAF, about 40 percent, while the remaining 60 percent was allocated to Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan, even though none of these rivers actually flow through those states. "This is a gross injustice with Punjab, and there is absolutely no question of constructing this canal as it is totally against the interests of the state and its people," he asserted, adding that Punjab's stand before the Supreme Court remains firm that there is no water to spare.

Highlighting the problem of foodgrain movement and storage, the Chief Minister said, "For the last five months, FCI has been moving only about 4 to 5 Lakh Metric Tonnes of wheat and 5 to 6 LMT of rice from Punjab. Against 95 LMT of pending rice of Kharif Marketing Season 2025-26 to be delivered, only 20 LMT of storage space is currently available."

He stressed that to ensure timely delivery of custom milled rice of KMS 2025-26 and availability of space for wheat during RMS 2026-27 commencing from April 1, 2026, a minimum monthly movement of 20 LMT of foodgrains, 10 LMT each of wheat and rice, is required. He also urged deployment of special trains to clear stocks, noting that Punjab contributes around 125 LMT of wheat to the national pool and proper storage is essential for national food security.

On the issue of Arthia Commission, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "The Arthia Commission has been frozen since the 2019-20 procurement season, contrary to the provisions of The Punjab Agriculture Produce and Marketing Act 1961, and is currently capped at 46 per quintal for wheat and 45.88 per quintal for paddy."

He pointed out that the commission at silos has been reduced to half of that in regular mandis and that the committee constituted in January 2024 to revise the commission has not taken a decision so far. "Arthias are not agents, they provide essential services, and they deserve their rightful share. Delay in revising the commission can disrupt the smooth procurement process, and the rates should be finalised at the earliest," he said.

Flagging the non-payment of statutory dues, the Chief Minister said, "Despite clear statutory provisions under the relevant Punjab Acts, RDF has not been reimbursed to the state government. Even after amending the Punjab Rural Development Act in compliance with Government of India instructions, RDF has not been released since KMS 2021-22."

He pointed out that 9030.91 crore of RDF and 2267.83 crore of Market Fees are pending, severely impacting rural infrastructure development including roads and mandis. "RDF is not a charity. It is Punjab's rightful share, and we are demanding our due," he said, adding that the Union Home Minister assured him that a priority meeting would be convened to consider release of the first instalment.

Raising administrative concerns, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann stressed that maintaining the long standing 60:40 ratio of Punjab and Haryana officers in the Union Territory of Chandigarh is the need of the hour. He expressed concern over IAS and PCS officers being excluded from key positions and the opening of crucial departments such as Excise, Education, Finance and Health to other cadres, which dilutes Punjab's role in the UT administration. He said the Union Home Minister assured him that the existing ratio would be maintained.

The Chief Minister also took up the issue of appointing a Punjab cadre officer as General Manager, FCI Punjab, saying that Punjab cadre officers possess critical familiarity with procurement, mandis, storage and movement of foodgrains. He pointed out that historically, regular appointments to this post have been from the Punjab cadre, with officers from other cadres holding only temporary charge, and urged that this convention be followed in the interest of efficiency and national food security.

On border areas, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "Along the 532 km India Pakistan border, fencing is located deep inside Punjab's territory. As per international norms, construction should be beyond 150 meters of the Zero Line, but in several areas of Punjab, the Border Security Fence is located two to three kilometres inside."

He said that thousands of acres of agricultural land lie beyond the fence, forcing farmers to show identity cards and cultivate their fields under BSF escort every day. "If the fence is realigned closer to the International Border, large tracts of Indian land will come this side of the fence, allowing farmers to cultivate without fear and daily restrictions, without compromising national security," he said.

Hry CM digitally releases over Rs. 858 crore under key welfare schemes

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, JAN 17



In a significant step towards inclusive and people-centric governance, Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini on Saturday digitally released substantial financial assistance under multiple flagship welfare schemes, reinforcing its commitment to women empowerment, agricultural sustainability and household welfare. An amount of Rs. 858 crore released under key welfare schemes including Rs. 659 crore for farmers under five agriculture-related schemes.

While addressing a press conference here today, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that guided by the visionary leadership of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, these initiatives reflect a holistic development approach aimed at strengthening social security and improving the quality of life of citizens across the State.

A total amount of Rs. 659 crore is being released as grants and incentives to farmers under five agriculture-related schemes

Reaffirming that farmers remain at the core of government policies, the Chief Minister said, sustained efforts are being made to make agriculture a profitable and future-ready sector so that farmers' children remain connected to farming. Acting on the principle of supporting farmers at every stage—from seed to market—the government today released a total of Rs. 659 crore as grants and incentives under five agriculture-related schemes, he said. An amount of Rs. 461.75 crore as incentive to 5,54,405 farmers who did not burn crop residue, under the Crop Residue Management Scheme. Rs. 85.10 crore as subsidy for 9,885 crop residue management machines provided to farmers. Rs. 75.54 crore as incentive to 31,605 farmers adopting Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR). Rs. 15.75 crore to 13,500 farmers under the Mera Pani – Meri Virasat scheme for the Kharif season 2025–26. Rs. 20 crore as price difference compensation to 4,073 farmers engaged in potato and cauliflower cultivation, under the Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana.

An amount of Rs. 181 crore was transferred into the bank accounts of 8,63,918 eligible women beneficiaries

The Chief Minister shared that as part of its focused efforts on women empowerment, the government released the third installment of the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana. Under this installment, an amount of Rs. 181 crore was directly transferred into the bank accounts of 8,63,918 eligible women beneficiaries. With today's release, a total of Rs. 441 crore has been disbursed so far in three installments to eligible girls and women under the scheme. The Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi mobile application, launched on September 25, 2025 on the occasion of the 109th birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya ji, has seen encouraging participation, with 9,98,650 women applying through the app by December 31, 2025 out of which 8,63,918 were found eligible, shared Sh. Nayab Singh Saini. Sh. Nayab Singh Saini further shared that to ensure wider inclusion, the scope of the scheme has been expanded from January 2026. Earlier, only families with an annual income of up to Rs. 1 lakh were eligible; this threshold has now been increased to Rs. 1.80 lakh, enabling more daughters and sisters to benefit. He said that eligibility has also been extended to mothers whose children study in government schools and have secured more than 80 percent marks in Class 10 or 12 board examinations, or have achieved grade-level competency in Classes 1 to 4 under the NIPUN Bharat Mission, or whose children have been successfully rehabilitated from severe or moderate acute malnutrition. These benefits are subject to verification through the Parivar Pehchan Patra, with the condition that the family's annual income does not exceed Rs. 1.80 lakh and the mother has no more than three children, he said.

Notably, under the Deendayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana, each eligible woman is provided financial assistance of Rs. 2,100 per month. From February 2026, Rs. 1,100 will be credited directly into the beneficiary's savings bank account, while the remaining Rs. 1,000 will be deposited in a government-operated recurring deposit or fixed deposit account.

Infiltration biggest challenge for Bengal, refugees need not worry: PM Modi at Malda rally

MALDA: Ahead of the West Bengal Assembly polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday made infiltration the central theme of his attack on the TMC government, alleging that large-scale illegal migration had altered the state's demographic balance and fuelled riots, while reassuring refugee communities such as the Matuas that they had nothing to fear.

Addressing a mega rally here in the Muslim-majority district of north Bengal, Modi said infiltration posed "a very big challenge" before the state, alleging that illegal migration had flourished under the TMC's "patronage and syndicate raj" and its alliance with infiltrators.



Related news: PM flags off first Vande Bharat sleeper train, launches rail, road projects worth Rs 3,250 crore in West Bengal

"There are developed and prosperous countries in the world which have no shortage of money, yet they are removing infiltrators. It is equally necessary to remove infiltrators from West Bengal," he said, adding that a BJP government would take "big action" to stop illegal migration and weed out infiltrators once voted to power. Claiming that the impact of infiltration was visible on the ground, the Prime Minister said the demographic balance had changed in many parts of the state. "People tell me that in several places, even the spoken language is beginning to change. Differences are emerging in language and dialect. Due to the increasing population of infiltrators, riots have started occurring in many areas of West Bengal, including Malda and Murshidabad," he said. Modi alleged that the TMC's "syndicate" system was working to ensure infiltrators were settled in the state, claiming there was an "alliance between infiltrators and the ruling party", a charge the BJP has increasingly foregrounded as it sharpens its campaign against the Mamata Banerjee-led government.

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Drainage dispute triggers 2nd day of protest by SC Community in Marauli Kalan



SANJEEV TEJPAL

MORINDA: The protest by members of the Scheduled Caste (SC) community over the long-pending drainage problem in village Marauli Kalan continued for the second consecutive day on Friday, highlighting growing resentment over the alleged mismanagement of wastewater disposal. The protesters staged a sit-in against the administration and the government, blocking the Morinda–Chandigarh main road and causing significant disruption to traffic. Police diverted vehicles through alternate routes to maintain traffic flow. Despite the protest, the village sarpanch, Gurmeet Singh, continued the work of laying a pipeline under police protection and in the presence of administrative officials.

NEWS BRIEF

Tribute and prayer meeting to mark sixth death anniversary of late Shamsher Singh Surjewala in Kaithal



SANJAY SHARMA

KAITHAL: A Tribute and Prayer meet will be organised on January 20 at Kisan Bhawan, Kaithal, to mark the sixth death anniversary of late Shamsher Singh Surjewala, former national president of the All India Kisan Khet Mazdoor Congress and former minister. The programme will serve as a solemn occasion to remember a leader widely regarded as a true champion of farmers, labourers and the poor. Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee member Sudeep Surjewala has invited residents of Kaithal, people from across Haryana and members of various political and social organisations to participate in the gathering. He said the programme will begin at 10 am on Tuesday, January 20, and will be followed by a community meal. He informed that Indian National Congress general secretary and MP Randeep Singh Surjewala and Kaithal MLA Aditya Surjewala will be present on the occasion.

U'khand seals over 250 illegal madrasas, removes encroachments on 10,000 acres: CM Dhami

AGENCY
DEHRADUN, JAN 17



The Uttarakhand government has sealed more than 250 "illegal" madrasas and removed encroachments on over 10,000 acres of government land as part of a major drive against unlawful institutions and violations of prescribed norms, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said.

In a post on social media platform X on Saturday, Dhami said, "Devbhoomi Uttarakhand has its own distinct cultural identity. To preserve this heritage and maintain the state's original character, our government is working with full commitment." He stated that in the name of religious structures, illegal encroachments on over 10,000 acres of government land have been removed across the state. The Chief Minister said the action also included sealing more than 250 unauthorised madrasas where, according to him, "radical education was being imparted against the rules."

"Our government's clear resolve is that there will be no compromise with the culture of Devbhoomi, social balance, and law and order," Dhami said.

Meanwhile, Dhami addressed a one-day workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee, in a virtual mode on Friday. The Chief Minister said that the workshop would involve in-depth deliberations on important subjects such as disaster risk reduction, pre-disaster preparedness, early warning systems, and community participation.

Concrete strategies would also be formulated to strengthen technological innovation, research collaboration, and partnerships, he said, according to a release. He said the suggestions from this workshop would be useful not only for Uttarakhand but also for the entire Himalayan region. Referring to the natural disasters in Devbhoomi Uttarakhand--earthquakes, landslides, cloudbursts, heavy rainfall, avalanches, and forest fires--the Chief Minister said their adverse impact can be mitigated through a scientific approach, timely preparedness, and collective efforts.

Village Kailash gets development projects worth Rs 1.55 crore

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, JAN 17



Indri MLA and Government Chief Whip Ram Kumar Kashyap and Mayor Renu Bala Gupta on Friday jointly inaugurated two major development projects worth about Rs 1.55 crore in village Kailash of Ward No. 1. The projects include replacement of the old and damaged drinking water pipeline and beautification of the village pond. Ward councillor Sudesh Rani and councillor representative Subhash Koch were also present on the occasion.

Addressing residents after the inauguration, Ram Kumar Kashyap said that replacement of the water pipeline would ensure adequate supply of clean drinking water to villagers. He added that beautification of the pond would enhance the village's appearance and provide better facilities to residents. He said the government is continuously providing basic amenities to citizens, whether in cities or villages, with projects worth crores of rupees underway to improve public facilities.

Mayor Renu Bala Gupta, while sharing details of the projects, said that the existing old and damaged drinking water pipeline in village Kailash would be replaced at a cost of around Rs 1.24 crore. The work is expected to be completed within one year. In addition, the village pond will be beautified at an estimated cost of about Rs 30.58 lakh, with the work scheduled to be completed within two months. Congratulating villagers on the commencement of the projects, the Mayor said that the pond beautification would promote cleanliness, improve drainage and enhance greenery in the village. She added that replacement of the drinking water pipeline would ensure the supply of safe and clean drinking water, fulfilling a long-pending demand of the residents. She further said that to ensure transparency, project details are displayed on boards at the work sites. Appealing to citizens to keep a close watch on the quality of work, she said that any shortcomings noticed should be reported to the concerned engineers or councillors so that they can be rectified in time.

Crackdown on illegal mining tightens as villages announce warnings and set up night vigil



NIRMAL SAINI

RADAUR: Following the issuance of notices to sarpanches in connection with illegal mining along the Yamuna River, the well-entrenched network of the mining mafia at the village level has been shaken. The administration's move, described as unprecedented in the region, has prompted village heads to act swiftly to protect themselves and curb unlawful activities. With the administration tightening its grip, mining points along the river are currently witnessing an unusual calm. Sarpanches, keen to ensure that illegal mining does not resume, have begun taking preventive steps at the village level. In Unheri village, Sarpanch Parul Pundir ordered public announcements to be made across the village, warning residents against involvement in illegal mining. In addition, a night vigil has been set up along the Yamuna riverbank. As part of the vigilance mechanism, five to six villagers will keep watch at the river during night hours every day. The village chowkidar has also been given strict instructions to maintain constant surveillance. The public announcement clearly stated that anyone found involved in illegal mining activities would be reported directly to the administrative authorities.

State level road safety programme held at Panchkula; Advocate Sushil Arya honoured for outstanding contributions

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 17



A State Level Road Safety Programme was organised at Panchkula, Haryana, under the aegis of the Government of Haryana. The Minister, Public Works Department and Public Health Department, Shri Ranbir Gangwa Ji, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Senior dignitaries including the Additional Chief Secretary, PWD Department, Engineer-in-Chief (PWD), Chief Engineers, XENs, representatives from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), Government of India, and other key road safety stakeholders were present during the programme. On this occasion, Advocate Sushil Arya of Yamunanagar, Haryana, was honoured by the Chief Guest and other dignitaries in recognition of his special services rendered to the Government of Haryana in establishing a self-sustaining road safety system. The honour acknowledges his pioneering work as the sole inventor of the scientific study of accident-prone points and black spots, applicable not only in Haryana but across India. Advocate Arya expressed his sincere gratitude to the Government of Haryana, the PWD Minister, Additional Chief Secretary (PWD), Engineer-in-Chief, and Chief Engineers of the PWD Department for recognising his contributions towards the establishment and strengthening of the Haryana Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, creation of a dedicated Road Safety Fund, empowerment of district road safety committees, promotion of golden hour treatment for road accident victims, and the survey and identification of 1,170 accident-prone locations across the state, along with continuous technical guidance.

Till date, Advocate Sushil Arya has personally shifted 119 road accident victims to hospitals during the critical golden hour, out of which 89 victims survived. Notably, none of these victims were personally known to him, nor does he know them. These efforts were undertaken purely in the spirit of humanity, national pride, and selfless service.

Viksit Youth Parliament 2026 held at Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, JAN 17



Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, successfully organized the Viksit Youth Parliament 2026, offering a vibrant democratic platform for young minds to engage in critical dialogue and simulated parliamentary deliberations. A total of 137 students registered and actively participated in the event, deliberating on the thought-provoking theme "50 Years of Emergency: Lessons for Indian Democracy." The programme concluded with the valedictory address by Prof. (Dr.) Prit Pal Singh, Vice-Chancellor, who lauded the initiative for fostering reflective engagement with India's democratic history. Emphasizing the relevance of revisiting critical phases such as the Emergency, he stated that such dialogues strengthen democratic awareness and reinforce constitutional commitment among the youth.

Earlier, the event was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Sukhwinder Singh Billing, Dean Academic Affairs, who underscored the pivotal role of youth in safeguarding constitutional values and democratic institutions. He highlighted that platforms like the Youth Parliament nurture leadership qualities, critical thinking, and informed citizenship among students. The deliberations were evaluated by an eminent jury panel comprising Dr. Satpal Singh, Dr. Anuradha Sekri, Dr. Harbeer Kaur, Mr. Gagandeep Singh, and Dr. Harneet Billing. The jury appreciated the participants for their depth of research, clarity of expression, and adherence to parliamentary procedures, reflecting a mature understanding of democratic challenges and historical perspectives on the Emergency period.

Hry govt policies forcing industries to shutdown and migrate, says Bajrang Garg

MAHENDER GOYAL



HISAR: Haryana Pradesh Beopar Mandal state president and former chairman of Haryana CONFED, Bajrang Garg, on Friday alleged that flawed policies of the Haryana government have led to the continuous closure and migration of industries from the state, resulting in large-scale unemployment among the youth. Garg said that due to the shutdown of industries, lakhs of young people in Haryana have lost employment opportunities. He claimed that nearly 15 per cent of industrial units in the state have either shut down or migrated elsewhere, while at the village level around 50 per cent of small and medium industries have already closed. He asserted that all claims made by the government regarding promotion of trade and industry in Haryana have completely failed. Criticising the BJP government's 11-year tenure, Garg said that traders and industrialists have not been given any financial relief so far. Instead, he alleged, the government has tightened its grip to harass traders unnecessarily. Referring to electricity charges, Garg said that fixed power charges, which earlier stood at Rs 165, have been increased to Rs 290 for industries, whereas fixed charges should have been abolished altogether. He further alleged that electricity rates for shops and industrial units have also been increased, adding to the financial burden. He claimed that bureaucracy has completely dominated traders and industrialists, with constant pressure from officials of departments such as electricity, GST, market committees, pollution control and income tax.

National flag awareness campaign initiated by MP Naveen Jindal gains support in Ladwa



KARAMBIR

LADWA: The National Flag Awareness Campaign–2026, being run by the Flag Foundation of India on the initiative of Member of Parliament Naveen Jindal, has started receiving support in the Ladwa region. In this connection, a meeting was organised at Rajni Agro, the establishment of CA Ashwini Jain in Ladwa, where participants appreciated the initiative and pledged to collect old, torn and unusable national flags from their respective areas and send them for dignified renewal. During the meeting, CA Ashwini Jain, along with his associates Rohit Singla and Vijay Jain, resolved to take the national flag awareness campaign to the grassroots in Ladwa and nearby rural areas. They said efforts would be made to sensitise citizens about respect for the Tricolour, its proper use and the need for honourable renewal of worn-out flags. Speaking on the occasion, CA Ashwini Jain said that the initiative launched by MP Naveen Jindal is highly commendable and the need of the hour. He said the Tricolour symbolises the nation's pride, honour and dignity, and respecting it is the duty of every citizen. Renewing old and damaged flags in a lawful and dignified manner, he added, is a true expression of patriotism.

Devotional fervour rises as Mahashivratri nears, large turnout in early morning 'Prabhat Pheri'



KARAMBIR

LADWA: With Mahashivratri approaching, devotion to Lord Shiva is intensifying in Ladwa. On Friday morning at 5 am, Shri Ram Hanuman Ram Leela Committee organised a Prabhat Pheri from the Shiva Temple located in the city's main market. A large number of committee members along with devotees participated in the procession, braving the biting cold. Committee sevak Rakesh Garg said that the number of devotees joining the Prabhat Pheri is increasing day by day. As Mahashivratri draws closer, Shiva devotees are arriving in growing numbers every morning, undeterred by the cold, to take part in the devotional procession. He informed that the Prabhat Pheri begins daily at 5 am and continues till 7 am, passing through various lanes of the city before concluding at the residence of one of Lord Shiva's devotees. The host family gives a grand welcome to the procession. On Friday, the Prabhat Pheri concluded at the residence of devotee Vicky Sharma, near Radha Krishna. During the procession, devotees sang melodious hymns in praise of Lord Bholenath, filling the entire city with a devotional atmosphere. The committee also honoured the host family by presenting a 'Samriddhi Chinh' as a mark of respect.

Awareness programme on drug abuse, road safety and cyber crime held at Gurukul



HANS RAJ YADAV

KURUKSHETRA: An awareness programme on drug-free living, road safety and cyber crime was organized at the Gurukul campus on Saturday. The programme aimed to educate students about the harmful effects of drug abuse, the importance of following traffic rules, and staying alert against cyber crimes. During the programme, students were sensitized through meaningful slogans such as "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life," "Road Rules Are Life Savers," and "The Internet Is Useful, but Caution Is Necessary." The speakers highlighted the need for responsible behaviour both on the road and in the digital world. Officials from the Police Department SI Rajesh, ASI Rishipal, ASI Satish Kumar and Constable Sumit Kumar were present on the occasion. They interacted with the students and shared valuable information on drug prevention, road safety measures and precautions to avoid cyber crimes.

Declamation contest on occasion of Saraswati Mahotsav, 2026



CHAMANLAL

KARNAL: Karnal The Youth Welfare and Cultural Committee of Dyal Singh College, Karnal, successfully conducted Declamation Contest and Quiz Competition on 16th January, 2026 to commemorate the Saraswati Mahotsav. Students from various departments enthusiastically participated and eloquently expressed their thoughts, ideas, and perspectives on the topics selected on the spot. Dr. Ashima Gakhar, Principal of Dyal Singh College played a pivotal role in motivating and inspiring the participants. While addressing the students, the Principal emphasized that effective speech is not merely about speaking fluently, but about clarity of thought, logical structure, originality of ideas, and confident expression. Dr. Subhash Saini and Dr. Ritu Sharma further motivated the participants to use such platforms to develop critical thinking, communication skills, and civic awareness. The performances of declamation contest were evaluated by a panel of judges including Dr. Arpita and Ms. Mandeep on the basis of content, clarity of expression, confidence, and overall presentation and for quiz competition Dr Sarika; Dr. Ritu Sharma and Dr. Amanpreet were the judges.

Ras Leela, Kansa Vadh and Rukmini marriage narrated on sixth day of Shrimad Bhagwat Katha

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI, JAN 17



A large gathering of devotees marked the sixth day of the seven-day Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Yagya being organised with prayers for prosperity and social harmony. The discourse is being held at the premises of Someshwar Rice Pvt. Ltd. in village Kachhwa, where devotees listened with deep devotion to the narrations of Lord Krishna's Ras Panchadhyayi, Kansa Vadh and the marriage of Rukmini. The Katha is being delivered by Keshav Acharya, who has arrived from Vrindavan. Explaining the episodes in simple and relatable words, he said that listening to the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha brings peace to the mind, dispels negative thoughts and guides life on the right path. He added that the Katha instils values of dharma, love and duty, and in present times connects individuals with discipline, and devotion.

Devotees became emotional while listening to the episode of Kansa's slaying, while the narration of Ras Leela and Rukmini marriage filled the pandal with devotion. During the bhajans, women devotees were seen swaying in reverence, and the entire venue resonated with chants of "Jai Shri Krishna". Elderly people, youth and women listened to the Katha peacefully and with full attention. The religious discourse is being organised under the guidance of Shri Mahakali Mahakaleshwar Siddhpeeth Temple, with Acharya Pandit Shubham Shastri providing spiritual patronage.

Modern sports infrastructure empowering rural athletes, says Subhash Kalsana

GOLDY CHUGH
SHAHABAD, JAN 17



Raghav, a taekwondo player from village Kalsana in Shahabad, brought laurels to the region by winning a gold medal in the Under-16 kg category at the national taekwondo championship held at the Talkatora Stadium. To mark the achievement, a grand felicitation ceremony and welcome procession were organised in village Kalsana to honour Raghav and his coaches, Sagar Verma and Raju Verma. BJP leader Subhash Kalsana and councillor Ishu Sachdeva attended the event as chief guests and congratulated the gold medallist, his coaches and family members. Speaking on the occasion, Subhash Kalsana said that Raghav's success was the result of his hard work as well as the youth- and sports-friendly policies of the Haryana government. He said that Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini is committed to strengthening sports infrastructure at the grassroots level and providing all possible support to young talent. He praised coaches Sagar Verma and Raju Verma, stating that their efforts have significantly strengthened the sport of taekwondo in Shahabad. Councillor Ishu Sachdeva said the day was a moment of pride for the entire area, adding that Raghav's achievement proved that villages possess immense talent, which only needs proper identification and grooming.

CHANDIGARH

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NEWS BRIEFS

MC forms area sabhas in all wards for beneficiary verification: Commissioner Dr Vaishali Sharma

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: Municipal Corporation Commissioner Vaishali Sharma said that area sabhas have been constituted for verification of beneficiaries under the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana, old-age pension and widow pension schemes. She said the constitution of these area sabhas has been carried out in accordance with the directions issued by the Director, Urban Local Bodies, Haryana.



The Commissioner said that area sabhas have been formed for all 20 wards of the Municipal Corporation area, and corporation officers and employees have been appointed as nodal officers and member secretaries. These sabhas, functioning as verification teams, will verify eligible beneficiaries of the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana, old-age pension and widow pension schemes falling under their allotted booth numbers.

She further said that as per instructions received from the directorate, each area sabha will organise meetings in the respective wards and booths and ensure timely verification of the beneficiaries. The verified reports are to be forwarded to the directorate for further action by January 22.

Anti-farmer, anti-people welfare policies of Congress and AAP turn 'Rangla Punjab' into 'Kangla Punjab'- CM

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, JAN 17

Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini on Saturday launched a sharp attack on the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party, stating that their policies have pushed Punjab into a severe crisis, turning the once-prosperous 'Rangla Punjab' into 'Kangla Punjab'. Both parties have no concern for public welfare and are only interested in enjoying power and personal gains. Punjab has fallen far behind on the development front, and people there are deeply worried about the state's future, he added.

This growing concern is the reason people have now made up their minds that Punjab's development is possible only under the leadership of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, said Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, while interacting with mediapersons at Haryana Niwas on Saturday.

Responding to a question, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that the Congress was responsible for pushing Punjab to the margins, while the Aam Aadmi Party crossed all limits of governance. He alleged that AAP has gone even four steps ahead of the Congress in matters of public exploitation and corruption. He said that both the Congress and AAP have jointly exploited farmers for political gain.

Referring to former Delhi Chief Minister and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, the Chief Minister said that when Kejriwal was Delhi's Chief Minister, he repeatedly blamed farmers of Punjab and Haryana for pollution in Delhi. However, despite the Aam Aadmi Party being in power in Punjab for the last four years, neither Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann nor Arvind Kejriwal has taken any concrete steps for the welfare of farmers. Taking a scathing dig, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini remarked, One cracks jokes, the other listens. Neither of them has any concern for farmers.

The Chief Minister said Arvind Kejriwal insulted farmers of Haryana and Punjab over the issue of stubble burning. He said that the BJP government in Haryana has put in place a proper system to resolve the stubble problem so that farmers are not forced to burn crop residue. Questioning Kejriwal, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini asked him to explain what steps have been taken for farmers in Punjab. He said farmers there have received no benefits and have only been insulted and defamed.

Referring to the recent natural disaster in Punjab, the Chief Minister said that during the floods, the Punjab Chief Minister made tall claims. He pointed out that Bhagwant Mann even publicly announced compensation for poultry losses, but nothing was actually delivered on the ground.

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that while Bhagwant Mann spoke about providing compensation of Rs. 20,000 per acre, Arvind Kejriwal later claimed in Gujarat that compensation of Rs. 50,000 per acre had been given in Punjab.

He questioned who pocketed the remaining Rs. 30,000, highlighting the contradiction and lack of transparency.

The Chief Minister said the Congress ruled the country for 55 years but failed to do anything meaningful for farmers. He asserted that the present condition of farmers is the result of Congress policies. Under the guidance of the Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, he said, the double-engine government has implemented several schemes in the interest of farmers, and the BJP government has worked to empower and strengthen them. He advised the Punjab government to focus on real work on the ground instead of making hollow statements.

One-day agricultural awareness camp organised under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in village Byana

MAINPAL KASHYAP
INDRI, JANUARY 17



A one-day agricultural awareness camp was organised in village Byana under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. The main objective of the camp was to create awareness among farmers about soil health, fertility and sustainable farming practices.

The camp was chaired by Agricultural Development Officer Sachin Kamboj, while Block Agriculture Officer Ashwani was present as the keynote speaker. Addressing the farmers, Dr Ashwani explained in detail the importance of soil health cards, the usefulness of soil testing and the benefits of incorporating crop residue into fields instead of burning it. He said that using fertilisers and manure based on soil test reports reduces input costs and helps increase crop productivity.

On the occasion, Dr Sachin Kamboj briefed farmers about various welfare schemes being implemented by the department. He informed that under the AgriStack scheme, it is mandatory for all farmers to get their IDs created so that they can directly avail benefits of government schemes and facilities in the future.

Sarpanch representative Vipin, Roshan Lal, Vijay Saini, Moti Ram Sharma, Block Technical Manager Vijender, along with a large number of farmers and other prominent local residents, were present at the camp.

Special programme dedicated to women's health, self-reliance and national consciousness to be held

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, JANUARY 17



Under the guidance of MP Naveen Jindal, the Naveen Jindal Foundation will organise a special awareness programme in Kurukshetra, focusing on the holistic development of women and adolescent girls. The programme will be held at the premises of Udayan Care Institute and will cover key themes such as health, education, career guidance and patriotism.

During the programme, gynaecologists and counsellors from the Civil Hospital will provide adolescent girls with important information on menstrual health and hygiene. The session aims to increase awareness and dispel myths associated with menstruation. In addition, counsellors from the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule International Skill Center Ladwa will offer career counselling to girls residing in the Udayan Care Institute hostel, helping them choose the right direction for their future.

A special pre-celebration will also be organised on the occasion of National Flag Day. Through a video prepared by the Flag Foundation of India, participants will be informed about the honour and history of the Tricolour, as well as the historic legal struggle led by MP Naveen Jindal that enabled citizens to hoist the national flag with dignity.

IG Pankaj Nain honoured by Viresh Shandilya for launching a strong campaign against drugs

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
AMBALA, JAN 17

Anti-Terrorist Front India National President Viresh Shandilya presented a statue of Arjun and a shawl to Ambala Range IG IPS Pankaj Nain for launching a strict campaign against drugs in Ambala, Kurukshetra, and Yamunanagar. Also present on the occasion were Anti-Terrorist Front India National General Secretary Navratan Garg, Punjab President Manish Passi, National Secretary Surender Pal KK, and Chandigarh in-charge Goldy Pahwa. Viresh Shandilya described Ambala Range IG Pankaj Nain as an honest and humane officer who believes in providing immediate justice to the public. Viresh Shandilya called the criminals and gangsters Kauravas and the police Pandavas, and referred to the police as today's Arjun, who fight against crime and gangsters risking their lives. Viresh Shandilya also praised Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Saini, who also holds the Home Ministry portfolio, and said that Nayab Saini has given the police a free hand against crime and criminals, which is curbing the audacity of criminals in Haryana. Anti-Terrorist Front India and Vishwa Hindu Takht chief Viresh Shandilya said that if officers like Pankaj Nain are posted in Haryana, then not only will drug abuse be eradicated, but gang wars and crime will also end, and there will be Ram Rajya in Haryana. He said that the Anti-Terrorist Front India always stands with the police, and under the Nayab Saini government, the image and role of the police have been strengthened, and today the common man feels safe under the protection of the police. Viresh Shandilya said that crime has decreased significantly in Haryana due to the Dial 112 service.



Unlike the corruption-ridden MNREGA, there is no scope for corruption in the G Ram G law : Dr. Archana Gupta

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, JANUARY 17



BJP State General Secretary Dr. Archana Gupta has urged people not to be influenced by the misinformation being spread about the Narendra Modi government's Developed India-G Ram G (VB-G RAM G) scheme. She said that unlike the MNREGA, which was a guarantee of corruption, there is no scope for even a single rupee of corruption in the G Ram Ji law.

State General Secretary Dr. Archana Gupta addressed a press conference at the BJP office, Karn Kamal, on the subject of G Ram Ji.

The press conference, chaired by District President Praveen Lathar, was attended by BJP State General Secretary Dr. Archana Gupta, Indri MLA and Chief Whip Ram Kumar Kashyap, District Incharge Bharat Bhushan Jual, Mayor Renubala Gupta, and the program's District Convener Sanjay Rana, Co-conveners Pradeep Kamboj, Karn Singh Sandhu, and Rajinder Chaudhary.

On this occasion, she accused the Congress of guaranteeing corruption in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). She claimed that the system was designed in such a way that some people would manipulate it and loot crores of rupees.

She said that in the new law, the 100-day employment guarantee period has been increased to 125 days. Furthermore, there is a provision for compensation if there is any delay. The Developed India-G Ram Ji scheme is also important because India is an agrarian country, and therefore the benefits of the scheme will reach people across the country.

She also clarified on this occasion that the biggest advantage of the entire system is that village laborers will get a stronger guarantee of employment than before. Old job cards will continue to be valid, they will get more days of work, and there will be a system for timely payment. Therefore, the G Ram Ji scheme is being considered a great relief for the villages and the poor.

Judicial Commission puts curb on major expenditures of Hry Committee

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: In a significant move aimed at ensuring transparent functioning of the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (HSGPC), the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Judicial Commission has restrained committee president Jagdish Singh Jhinda from arbitrarily using large funds. The Commission has also ruled that every committee member will now have the right to inspect official records at any time.

The order was passed on January 16, 2026, by Commissioner Darshan Singh Jaura during a hearing at the Judicial Commission office in Sector 17, Chandigarh. The case was filed by senior vice-president Gurmeet Singh Ramsar, alleging mismanagement and unilateral decision-making by the HSGPC president.



As per the Commission's directions, the HSGPC chief secretary has been instructed to ensure that any member seeking to inspect office records is allowed to do so without obstruction.

Sharing details with the media, senior committee member Didar Singh Nalvi alleged that Jhinda had been functioning in a "dictatorial" manner, leading to deterioration in the committee's working environment. He claimed that during Jhinda's earlier tenure between 2014 and 2020, executive meetings often failed due to lack of quorum, and signatures were later obtained by sending registers to members' homes.

Nalvi further alleged that in the current term as well, three executive meetings and three general house meetings have failed. He said that during the budget meeting held on January 7, only 28 members were present instead of the required two-thirds majority of 33 members out of 49, yet the budget was declared as passed.

According to him, the office register was allegedly taken in a vehicle on January 8 and signatures were obtained the next day in an illegal manner. He also claimed that signatures were taken from some members who were not present in Kurukshetra on January 7 but were at Gurdwara Nada Sahib in Panchkula.

Nalvi said Jhinda had stated in the media that a proposal to remove Baljit Singh Daduwal as chairman of the Dharam Prachar Committee was unanimously passed. However, when the Judicial Commission examined the register, no such resolution was found recorded.

He further said that although all 49 members were summoned by the Commission, no member from the Jhinda group appeared before it. Only three office employees—Rajpal Singh, Narinder Singh and Satpal Singh Dachar—were present. During the hearing, Daduwal reportedly stated that he would withdraw the case if the employees sent by Jhinda took an oath confirming that quorum was complete on January 7. However, when employee Satpal Singh Dachar was asked to swear on this, he refused.

The Judicial Commission has fixed January 29 as the next date of hearing and directed that complete video recordings and photographs of the budget meeting held at Kurukshetra Diwan Hall be submitted, along with CCTV footage from Gurdwara Nada Sahib, Panchkula. The Commission warned that any tampering with records would invite legal action against the chief secretary and the Nada Sahib manager.

Nalvi said the Commission has instructed employees to perform their duties impartially and has strongly cautioned them against bias. He demanded that Jhinda should resign from the post of president on moral grounds, stating that "the truth has come out."

Speeding car kills taxi driver on Hisar–Chandigarh highway

YAGYADATT SHASTRI

PEHOWA: A 32-year-old taxi driver was killed after being hit by a speeding car on the Hisar–Chandigarh National Highway-152 at Ismailabad on Friday night. The incident occurred around 9 pm when the driver was standing on the roadside near his home.



The deceased was identified as Nitin Batra, a resident of Ajarawar village. Married about four years ago, Nitin worked as a taxi driver. He was returning home from Ambala along with his cousin after finishing work. Upon reaching near his house, Nitin stopped the car on the kutcha roadside and got down to use the restroom. According to a police complaint filed by Anil Batra of Ajarawar, he, along with his elder brother Surender Kumar and cousin Nitin, had gone to Ambala on January 16. While returning, they reached their village around 9 pm. After Nitin got down from the car, the others also stepped out.

At that moment, a white Swift car bearing registration number HR41-G-2964, coming from the Ambala side at high speed, hit Nitin directly. The impact was so severe that he fell on the road, bleeding profusely from the head, mouth and nose.

Village resident Ashu Khurana, who reached the spot in his car, immediately helped and took Nitin to a private hospital in Ismailabad. Doctors there referred him to another hospital due to his critical condition. While being taken to a hospital in Shahabad, Nitin succumbed to his injuries on the way.

AI in Action at CES 2026: Innovation in tune with you

CHANDIGARH : At CES 2026, LG Electronics didn't just talk about AI – we showed what it looks like when it's woven into everyday life.Under the theme "Innovation in tune with you," our exhibit unfolded as a set of connected environments spanning the home, mobility and entertainment. Together, they showed how our Affectionate Intelligence senses what's happening, understands context and responds in ways that feel natural and helpful.Instead of treating AI as something locked inside devices, we focused on how it moves across spaces. Kitchens, living rooms, vehicles and entertainment setups all became part of one connected experience, where TVs, appliances, robots, software and sensors quietly worked together behind the scenes. This was AI in Action on the show floor.The In Tune Monument was built from 38 LG OLED evo W6, True Wireless Wallpaper TVs, arranged to appear as if floating in midair and synchronized into one continuous visual canvas. At just 9 milimeter-class thin, the display revived our iconic Wallpaper TV design first introduced in 2017 – now updated with True Wireless connectivity and our most advanced picture technology yet, Hyper Radiant Color Technology.It wasn't just a design statement. It was a symbol of how LG brings together aesthetics, engineering and intelligence in one experience.In the Viewing in Tune zone, that idea continued. Wallpaper TVs blended directly into the walls, powered by the new α (Alpha) 11 AI Processor Gen3 to deliver reflection-free images with a depth and realism that felt more like looking through a window than at a screen.Projection mapping extended visuals beyond the displays, while a playful Goldberg-style installation showed how webOS adapts to individual viewing habits – turning TV into something truly personal.

Classic Legends' new patent underscores design-first approach to motorcycling

CHANDIGARH : Classic Legends wins a new patent, consolidating its identity as a design-driven performance motorcycle manufacturer in India. The patent, which features an adjustable visor and speedometer, first seen on the 2025 Yezdi Adventure, has been granted for a term of 20 years from March 21, 2023, under the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970. It is another rider-centric functional innovation in the company's growing track record of R&D firsts and patent wins.



Optimising the interface between rider, machine, and environment, the innovation is the result of Classic Legends' performance engineering, which harnesses practical rider benefits to drive design decisions. The feature allows riders to adjust the visor and speedometer according to their height and riding comfort, even when off-roading. Reviving brands with strong motorcycling legacies, the company has developed a substantial body of intellectual property and industry-firsts on its way to building motorcycles for Indian and global markets. Classic Legends had previously won a patent for its Air-filter Multifrequency Resonator, which is deployed in its 650cc motorcycles, the BSA Gold Star and the BSA Scrambler (available in the UK). While conventional resonators function only at a single frequency, the patented, compact resonator damps out unwanted air-filter sound across the entire rpm range of the engine.The company introduced its liquid-cooled 334cc engine early in the mid-sized category's evolution. It helped push the segment towards higher performance and thermal efficiency in a market that was still dependent on older air-cooled engines.

Jeep launches 'Confidence 7'

LUDHIANA : Jeep India today announced the launch of Jeep® Confidence 7, a premium ownership program aimed at redefining long-term SUV ownership in India. Exclusively designed for the Jeep Meridian and Jeep Compass, the initiative underscores Jeep's commitment to world-class quality, reliability, and complete customer assurance beyond the point of purchase. For over eight decades, Jeep has stood for trust, endurance, and all-terrain capability. With Confidence 7, this legacy now extends across every stage of the customer's ownership journey. The program caters to SUV buyers who value not only performance and premium craftsmanship but also predictable costs, long-term assurance, and seamless service experiences. Key features include an extended warranty and maintenance package of up to seven years and an Assured Buyback (ABB) option, offering up to 60% guaranteed resale value—providing customers with confidence when upgrading or reselling their vehicle.



Speaking at the launch, Kumar Priyesh, Business Head and Director – Automotive Brands, Stellantis India, said, "Jeep Confidence 7 delivers an elevated, dependable ownership experience rooted in Jeep's heritage of trust. Today's customers seek transparency, long-term value, and effortless service engagement. This program amplifies assurance, convenience, and peace of mind at every stage of ownership."

Silent Heart Attacks: 5 Warning Signs People Often Miss Until It's Too Late

PATIALA: Unlike normal heart attacks that cause severe chest pain, silent heart attacks develop quietly, with symptoms so mild or unusual that they are often ignored or mistaken for routine health issues. Explaining this further, Dr Deepak Katyal, Senior Consultant – Interventional Cardiology, Manipal Hospital Patiala, highlights the key warning signs people often overlook.



Early detection through ECG, stress tests, echocardiography, or coronary angiography can prevent complications. Treatment depends on severity and may include medications, but advanced cases may require angioplasty with stenting or minimally invasive cardiac procedures to restore blood flow.

5 Warning Signs You Shouldn't Ignore

1. Unusual Fatigue- New-onset, persistent exhaustion of short duration may indicate the heart is struggling to pump blood efficiently.
2. Mild Chest Discomfort or Pressure- Instead of sharp pain, some people experience confusing symptoms such as a burning sensation in center of chest that comes and goes, often mistaken as a gastric issue.
3. Shortness of Breath- Breathlessness during simple activities or even at rest may signal reduced oxygen supply due to blocked arteries.
4. Dizziness or Cold Sweats- Lightheadedness, nausea, or unexplained sweating during activities that were considered as routine earlier, may reflect poor circulation and reduced heart function.
5. Jaw, Back, or Arm Pain- Pain radiating to the jaw, neck, upper back, or left arm, especially without chest pain, is a frequently missed sign.

TDI Infratech reinforces 'Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha' in Rajpura

RAJPURA: TDI Infratech hosted "Pathways to Safety" a community-driven road safety awareness initiative at Fountain Chowk, Rajpura. The initiative aligned with the Government of India's National Road Safety Month themed "Sadak Suraksha Jeevan Raksha." The initiative focuses on safety through enforcement and transformation through technology. TDI Infratech partnered with the Punjab Police to promote responsible road behavior. With active participation from local authorities and residents, the programme underscored road safety as a shared civic responsibility, highlighting how individual actions can drive collective change towards safer roads.



Mr. Gurbachan Singh, Traffic Incharge, Rajpura said, "Transformation through technology involves leveraging modern tools to prevent accidents proactively. Road safety is a collective responsibility that extends beyond enforcement to awareness and community participation. Through initiatives like Pathways to Safety, we aim to sensitize citizens about traffic discipline, pedestrian safety and responsible driving.

Speaking at the event, Akshay Taneja, MD, TDI Infratech, said, "Road safety is a shared responsibility that requires active participation from citizens, authorities and institutions alike. As a community-focused organisation, TDI Infratech is committed to creating awareness, encouraging responsible road behaviour and supporting the national mission to reduce accidents and save lives. Through initiatives like 'Pathways to Safety', we aim to go beyond infrastructure development and contribute meaningfully to building safer, more mindful communities."

The event featured focused sessions on safe driving, pedestrian awareness and traffic discipline led by Punjab Police, aligning with the objectives of National Road Safety Month. Participants took a road safety pledge, reinforcing the message that "Road Safety Starts With You".

Charminar BirlaNu launches UltraPremiumFibre Cement Roofs across key markets

AMRITSAR, : Charminar BirlaNu has launched UltraPremiumFibre Cement Roofs, adding a new variant to its roofing portfolio. The product is being introduced across select markets in Bihar, Punjab, and Rajasthan, as the company continues to expand its presence in high-demand regional markets. The UltraPremiumFibre Cement Roof has been developed for residential and commercial applications where customers are increasingly seeking better surface finish along with long-term performance. While fibre cement roofing has traditionally been chosen for strength and reliability, the segment is now seeing demand for products that also offer improved aesthetics and lower maintenance.

The new roofing variant features a water-repellent surface designed to reduce water absorption and help limit seepage, dampness, and weather-related deterioration during heavy rainfall. The surface treatment also reduces moisture retention, which in turn helps minimise algae formation and keeps roofs cleaner over time. In addition, the product offers a smoother surface finish compared to conventional fibre cement roofs and is designed to retain its appearance and performance over extended use.

Commenting on the launch, Vijay Lahoti, Business Head – Roofs, BirlaNu, said, "When we look at expanding our portfolio, especially in categories like roofing, the starting point for us is always the relevance of the product in the markets we operate in. Many of these regions are seeing steady construction activity, both in housing and in small commercial projects, and there is a clear need for solutions that offer reliability while also meeting higher expectations on finish and longevity. The launch of UltraPremiumFibre Cement Roofs is part of that broader approach.

YUGMARG

CHANDIGARH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026

Opinion

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Curie

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EDITORIAL

Challenges galore for Nirmala Sitharaman ahead of Union Budget

As the Budget Day draws closer, there are several challenges, both internal and external, that need to be addressed head-on to make the Indian economy truly resilient and robust. For Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who is preparing to present the Union Budget for a record ninth consecutive time, it is a defining fiscal moment amid external headwinds and internal tests. The key challenge is to balance growth with fiscal discipline and provide momentum for fiscal, labour and tax reforms. Though India has been the fastest-growing major economy for several years now, it needs to step up further to escape the middle-income trap and become a developed nation by 2047. The Budget 2026-27 provides an opportunity to bring about greater ease of doing business in the economy. Reforms, especially in terms of eliminating the regulatory excesses in the system, need to be carried out much more quickly compared to the GST restructuring and implementation of the labour codes. Only then will it be possible to push growth to the levels needed to become a developed economy. On the one hand, India's real GDP growth is projected in the range of 7% to 7.5 %, in contrast to a slowing global economy. On the other hand, the eroding value of the Indian rupee — predicted to touch the 100- mark against the US dollar in the months ahead — poses a complex policy trade-off. A stronger dollar, coupled with tariff-induced capital flows, would increase import bills, exert upward pressure on inflation and complicate fiscal planning. The government will have to weigh exchange rate realities into Budget forecasts, potentially conservatively estimating both revenue and subsidy costs. Whether Sitharaman opts for a contingency buffer in the Budget to accommodate currency volatility, or leans on structural measures to stimulate exports, will be closely watched by markets and policymakers alike. Trade is the big issue on the horizon in a world with fast-changing alignments due to US President Donald Trump's maverick economic policies. Given the inordinate delay in finalising the trade pact with America, the Budget will now have to provide support for export-led industries, which could face tough times ahead. The manufacturing sector has not yet expanded sufficiently to absorb unskilled or skilled personnel available in the market. It is here that lessons can be learnt from other Asian economies that have managed to expand small and medium enterprises sufficiently to provide more labour-intensive employment. The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) account for a large share of India's employment and exports, yet they remain vulnerable to credit constraints and volatility. There is a need for greater credit access, technology adoption incentives, and improved digital infrastructure for MSMEs. As India aspires to become a global supply chain hub, as an alternative to China, it needs to reduce the cost of doing business — from rationalising customs duties to reining in logistics costs.

"Not regular activity": MEA clarifies India did not participate in 'BRICS Naval Exercise'



Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Randhir Jaiswal on Saturday said that the so-called 'BRICS Naval Exercise' was entirely a South African initiative in which some BRICS members took part.

Responding to comments relating to India's non-participation in the 'BRICS Naval Exercise', Jaiswal said that it was not a regular or institutionalised BRICS activity, nor did all BRICS members take part in it.

In an official statement, the MEA said, "We clarify that the exercise in question was entirely a South African initiative in which some BRICS members took part. It was not a regular or institutionalised BRICS activity, nor did all BRICS members take part in it. India has not participated in previous such activities. The regular exercise that India is a part of in this context is the IBSAMAR maritime exercise that brings together the navies of India, Brazil and South Africa. The last edition of IBSAMAR was held in October 2024."

Joint naval drills involving several members of the BRICS bloc, including China, Russia and Iran, have kicked off near South Africa's coast with South Africa describing the manoeuvres as a vital response to rising maritime tensions globally, Al Jazeera reported.

The weeklong Will for Peace 2026 exercises, which started on Saturday, are being led by China in Simon's Town, where the Indian Ocean meets the Atlantic Ocean. They will include drills on rescue and maritime strike operations and technical exchanges, China's Ministry of National Defence said.

The drills involving warships from the participating countries come amid frayed ties between South Africa and the US. Washington sees the bloc as an economic threat.

The BRICS acronym is derived from the initial letters of the founding member countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - with South Africa serving as the current chair. India and Brazil, however, opted out of the drills, Al Jazeera reported.

China and Iran sent destroyers, Russia and the United Arab Emirates sent corvettes and South Africa deployed a mid-sized frigate.

Chinese officials leading the opening ceremony on Saturday south of Cape Town said Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia and Ethiopia were joining the drills as observers, as per Al Jazeera.

Wheat mismanagement triggers flour crisis in Pakistan

A sharp escalation in wheat prices has sent flour rates to historic highs across South Punjab, intensifying economic hardship for ordinary citizens as government-subsidised flour has virtually vanished from local markets.



The situation is complicated in Rahim Yar Khan, where families are struggling to cope with daily price shocks, as reported by The Express Tribune.

According to The Express Tribune, market insiders stated that wheat prices in the open market have surged to between Pakistani Rupees (PKR) 4,500 and PKR 4,600 per 40kg. This spike has forced flour millers to revise retail prices upward, pushing flour to around PKR 130 per kg. As a result, a 10kg bag now costs nearly PKR 1,300, placing an unsustainable burden on low- and middle-income households already grappling with inflation.

The government's subsidised flour programme, meant to provide relief, has been badly disrupted. Officially fixed rates of PKR 910 for a 10kg bag and PKR 1,820 for 20kg are rarely seen outside Lahore, leaving much of South Punjab at the mercy of private suppliers. Consumers in these districts are increasingly compelled to purchase costly branded flour that is beyond the reach of many families.

Representatives of the Pakistan Flour Mills Association attribute the crisis to depleted wheat stocks held by traders and the public, which has led to widespread supply shortages. They say mills in Rahim Yar Khan, a district with an estimated population of five million, are not receiving their allocated share of government wheat, worsening the imbalance between supply and demand, as cited by The Express Tribune.

The association further claims that nearly 80 per cent of flour mills have been running at losses for the past two years due to rising operational costs and what they describe as an inequitable distribution system. The millers have urged the Punjab government to release between 20,000 and 22,000 tonnes of wheat daily from its reserves totalling about 1.5 million tonnes, between January 20 and March 20, to stabilise the market.

They have also appealed to Maryam Nawaz to intervene. Bakers complain that government flour remains scarce and of inferior quality, deepening public frustration, as reported by The Express Tribune.

Stefan Priesner begins role as United Nations Resident Coordinator in India

The United Nations in India announced Saturday that Stefan Priesner has assumed office as the UN's Resident Coordinator in India, after presenting his credentials to the Government of India, an official statement said. As Resident Coordinator, Priesner will lead the work of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in India, supporting national development priorities and guiding progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a coherent and integrated UN response. Priesner, who was appointed to the role by the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, presented his credentials to the Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Sibi George, during a ceremony in Delhi on Friday, as per the statement. Speaking afterwards, Priesner said, "I am honoured to take up this responsibility in India, a country whose diversity, dynamism and history make it such a key partner of the United Nations. We at the UN are ready to work even more closely with the Government and other partners here to support inclusive and sustainable development that leaves no one behind." Priesner brings nearly three decades of experience in international development, policy advisory and the management of complex, multi-sectoral programmes to the role. At the UN, he most recently served as Resident Coordinator in Iran (2021-2025), following an assignment as Resident Coordinator for Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, and Singapore (2017-2021). He was also Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan (2013-2017). Earlier in his career, he held senior roles at UNDP, including Country Director in Bangladesh (2008-2012), Deputy Resident Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2004-2008), Deputy Chief of the Sub-regional Resource Facility for South and West Asia in Nepal (2001-2004). Priesner started his UN career in 1997 with UNDP in Bhutan. Previously he worked in the private sector. Priesner, a national of Austria, holds a master's in international relations from Johns Hopkins University in the US and a master's in law from the University of Vienna in Austria.



POEMS

Being Muslim

O father bringing home crates
of apples, bushels of corn,
and skinned rabbits on ice.

O mother boiling lentils in a pot
while he watched fight after fight,
boxers pinned on the ropes

pummeling each other mercilessly.
And hung on the wall where we
ate breakfast an autographed photo

of Muhammad Ali. O father
who worshipped him and with
a clenched fist pretended to be:

Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee.
O you loved being Muslim then.
Even when you drank whiskey.

Even when you knocked down
my mother again and again.
O prayer. O god of sun.

God of moon. Of cows
and of thunder. Of women.
Of bees. Of ants and spiders,

poets and calamity.
God of the pen, of the fig,
of the elephant.

Ta' Ha', Ya Sin, Sad, Qaf.
God of my father, listen:
He prayed, he prayed, five times a day,
and he was mean.

By Hayan Charara

Cultivating a greener future: Why integrated nutrient management is the key to India's food security



Dr. Kancheti Mrunalini

For decades, the story of Indian agriculture has been one of intensive growth, but this progress has come at a hidden cost to our most precious resource: the soil. Today, as we face the dual challenges of a growing population and a changing climate, the "more is better" approach to chemical fertilizers is hitting a wall. To ensure our long-term food security, India must pivot toward Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)—a holistic strategy that marries modern science with traditional wisdom to restore our land's vitality.

The Crisis Beneath Our Feet

Indian agriculture is characterized by small and marginal landholdings and a heavy reliance on nitrogenous chemical fertilizers. Years of imbalanced use and continuous monocropping have led to severe soil degradation. We are now seeing "multi-nutrient deficiencies," where soils are desperately short of secondary and micronutrients like sulphur, zinc, and boron.

When soil health declines, so does "factor productivity"—meaning farmers have to apply more fertilizer just to get the same yield they used to achieve with less. This cycle increases production costs and leaves crops more vulnerable to the erratic rainfall and droughts that are becoming more frequent under Indian climatic conditions.

What is Integrated Nutrient Management?

INM is not about abandoning modern fertilizers, but about using them more judiciously in combination with organic and biological sources. It is a balanced "diet" for the soil that includes:

• Chemical Fertilizers: Applied in precise doses based on actual soil needs.

• Organic Manures: Utilizing farmyard manure (FYM), compost, vermicompost, and green manures.

• Bio-fertilizers: Tapping into beneficial microbes like Rhizobium, Azotobacter, and Mycorrhizae to naturally fix nitrogen and solubilize phosphorus.

• Crop Residues: Recycling what is grown back into the earth.

The Pillars of Soil Health

To understand why INM works, we must look at the three pillars of soil health: physical, chemical, and biological.

1. Physical: INM improves soil structure and water-holding capacity. For a farmer in a rainfed region, this means the soil acts like a sponge, retaining moisture longer during dry spells.

2. Chemical: It balances pH levels and ensures that macro and micronutrients are actually available to the plant roots rather than being locked in the soil or washed away.

3. Biological: Perhaps most importantly, INM stimulates microbial diversity and earthworm populations. These "tiny engineers" are critical for nutrient cycling and sustaining productivity in intensive systems like the rice–wheat or sugarcane belts.

Best Practices for the Indian Farmer

Moving INM from the lab to the field requires practical, site-specific strategies. National initiatives like the Soil Health Card Scheme are already providing a roadmap by recommending fertilizer applications based on actual soil tests rather than guesswork.

Key management practices include the split application of nitrogen to match critical crop growth stages and the use of slow-release options like neem-coated urea. Simple, low-cost tools like the Leaf Colour Chart (LCC) in rice help farmers decide exactly when to apply urea, reducing waste and environmental runoff. Furthermore, integrating legumes into cropping systems can naturally enhance nitrogen fixation, benefiting the entire system's productivity.

Field-Level Impact and Economic Gains

The relevance of INM is most visible at the farm level. Long-term field experiments across India show that integrated use of fertilizers and organics sustains higher yields than chemical fertilizers alone.

For the average farmer, the benefits are tangible:

• Lower Costs: Partial substitution of expensive chemicals with on-farm organic resources reduces the need for external inputs.

• Resilience: Better root growth and soil tilth make crops more "climate-resilient," helping them withstand the stresses of drought.

• Quality: Inclusion of micronutrients like zinc and iron results in visible improvements in both crop yield and produce quality.

A Sustainable Path Forward

Beyond the individual farm, INM aligns with India's national priorities for environmental sustainability. By minimizing nutrient losses through leaching and volatilization, this approach reduces environmental pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. As we look toward the future of Indian agriculture, it is clear that we cannot simply "mine" our soils indefinitely. Integrated Nutrient Management provides a scalable, farmer-centric pathway that ensures our farming systems remain viable for generations to come. It is time to treat our soil not just as dirt, but as a living system that requires a balanced, sustainable diet to feed a nation.

(The Author is a Scientist at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh)

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Modern sports stadium to be built in Peepaloo, major relief for district-level fair: Vivek Sharma

JOGINDER DEV ARYA
BANGANA: Residents of Peepaloo in the Kutlehar Assembly constituency are set to receive a major gift ahead of the three-day district-level Peepaloo Fair to be held this year. MLA Vivek Sharma informed that the sports stadium being developed in Peepaloo will now be given a modern look, and its construction work will be completed before the fair begins.The MLA stated that the development of this stadium will provide significant convenience to the administration in terms of parking, security arrangements, and organizing cultural programs during the fair. Additionally, it will offer a better platform for local athletes to play sports such as cricket, football, volleyball, and others.

NEWS BRIEF

Bhoranj gets major boost as Roshan Lal Sharma appointed director of state cooperative bank

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: Bhoranj subdivision has received a significant boost with the appointment of Roshan Lal Sharma as a director on the board of the Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Limited, Shimla. Sharma, who hails from Jahu town in the subdivision, has been nominated to the board as a representative of the Kangra Cooperative Primary Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Limited (KPARD Bank). The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the managing committee of the KPARD Bank. Following the nomination, a wave of happiness has spread across the Bhoranj region. Local residents described the development as a matter of pride for the area, expressing hope that Bhoranj's concerns and priorities will now be represented more strongly at the state level. Farmers, orchardists and rural residents of the region are optimistic that they will benefit more effectively from schemes related to cooperation and rural development.



Revenue Minister reviews implementation of FRA

Strictly directs to expedite pending FRA related cases



DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 17

Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi today chaired a meeting to review the effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA) in Shimla district and assessed the progress of cases under the Act, besides issuing directions to ensure that the benefits reaches all the eligible in time bound and transparent manner. The Minister directed officers to expedite the processing of FRA-related cases and emphasized that coordinated and proactive efforts were essential for the successful implementation of the Act. He said that the FRA was a significant welfare measure and its effective execution was a shared responsibility of all concerned departments.

During the meeting, the Minister took feedback from Sub-Divisional Officers of Rohru, Jubbal, Chopal, Shimla Rural and Kupvi regarding the status of FRA cases. He directed officials to work with a clear roadmap to ensure that the majority of pending cases were addressed by March 2026. It was informed that the Shimla district has received a total of 262 individual and community claims at the Gram Sabha level so far. Of these, 196 cases have been forwarded by the Forest Rights Committees to the Sub-Divisional Level Committees.

He also reviewed the institutional framework under the Act and was apprised that 2,266 Forest Rights Committees have been constituted across the district. These include 277 in Chopal, 9 in Dodra-Kwar, 129 in Jubbal, 215 in Kotkhai, 53 in Kupvi, 154 in Kumarsain, 216 in Rampur, 170 in Rohru, 473 in Shimla Rural, 19 in Shimla Urban, 180 in Sunni and 371 in Theog. A detailed presentation was given on the Forest Rights Act in the meeting. It was informed that the Act provides for the recognition of land and forest rights of Scheduled Tribes and other eligible categories of individuals or communities who have been residing primarily on forest land for at least three generations prior to December 13, 2005 and were dependent on forests or forest land for their genuine livelihood needs. Additional Chief Secretary Kamlesh Kumar Pant, Additional Chief Secretary Onkar Sharma, DC Anupam Kashyap, along with all SDMs of the district, tehsildars, forest officers and other revenue officials were present in the meeting.

CM meets Union Minister for commerce and industries



DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 17

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu called on Union Minister for Commerce and Industries Piyush Goyal at New Delhi late last evening and strongly pleaded for banning apple imports during the apple production months, July to November. He also urged for increasing apple duty to 100 percent in other months in order to discourage apple imports. He requested for intervention of Centre for protecting the interests of about 2.5 lakh farmers engaged in apple cultivation and added that apple contributes 80 percent to the state's total fruit production. He said that it generates an annual income of 4500 crore. Chief Minister has promptly taken up the issue of horticulturists who met him last week for redressal of their grievances. He also raised the matter with the Finance Minister and urged for speedy action. The Chief Minister in his meeting with the Union Minister, apprised him about the concern of apple growers of the state regarding the reduction in import duty on apples. He said that apple imports have increased nearly two and a half times over the past ten years and added that this would increase the volume further due to the free trade agreement. He said that seasonal window for import of New Zealand apples is between April to August with 25 percent tariff, however for other months the previous 50 percent duty remains applicable.

Legal employment guarantee raised to 125 days, 90:10 funding to directly benefit Himachal: Suresh Kashyap

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA: Addressing a BJP programme at Gaiety Theatre in Shimla, former BJP state president and MP Suresh Kashyap launched a sharp attack on the Congress, alleging that it is deliberately spreading misinformation about the VB–G Ram Ji Developed India Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) Guarantee Act, 2025 passed by the Centre. He said this reflects the Congress party's anti-rural, anti-labour and anti-development mindset, adding that whenever reforms aimed at bringing lasting change in the lives of the poor are introduced, Congress resorts to lies to oppose them. Kashyap said several employment schemes were launched after Independence, but over time NREGA/MGNREGA became plagued with corruption, fake muster rolls, contractorisation and delayed payments. Instead of linking employment with development, Congress reduced it to a mere vote-bank tool. He cited official data to claim that while 1,660 crore person-days were generated during the UPA regime, the figure rose to 3,210 crore under the NDA government, along with a manifold increase in completed works and durable assets. He said Congress is falsely claiming that employment guarantee is being scrapped, whereas the truth is that the guarantee has been increased from 100 to 125 days and given legal backing.



Rural youth must be connected with sports: Rajeev Rana



ANIL KUMAR
BHORANJ: Emphasising the need to promote sports at the grassroots level, member of the Himachal Pradesh State Backward Classes Commission Rajeev Rana said that connecting rural youth with sports is the need of the hour. He was addressing a large gathering at a grand wrestling competition organised by the Lakhdata Dangal Committee at Dalal?h in Gram Panchayat Badhaani of the Bhoranj Assembly constituency. A large number of spectators and local residents were present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, Rana said that sports not only contribute to physical development but also inculcate discipline, brotherhood and positive thinking among youth. He added that such traditional events help keep cultural heritage alive while providing a platform for young talent to showcase their abilities.

CM seeks special relaxation for hill states under PM e-Bus Sewa Scheme

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 17

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today called on Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar at New Delhi and urged him to provide special relaxations for hill states under the PM e-Bus Sewa Scheme, citing operational challenges arising from difficult geographical conditions. The Chief Minister apprised the Union Minister that no specific relaxations have been extended to hill states under the scheme, which has limited Himachal Pradesh's ability, to avail its benefits despite the State's strong commitment towards green and sustainable mobility. He informed that under the existing norms of the scheme, only Shimla is eligible for coverage, as it applies to cities with a population of over ten lakh. He emphasized that several urban local bodies in the State, including Dharamshala, Mandi, Solan, Palampur, Hamirpur, Una and Baddi are rapidly emerging as major hubs of economic activity and human resource development. He requested that suitable relaxations be made in the population criteria to enable Himachal Pradesh to benefit comprehensively from the scheme. The Chief Minister stated that the State Government aims to replace diesel buses on feasible routes with electric buses to reduce air and noise pollution. He informed that the Government has resolved to replace 1,500 diesel buses with electric buses in a phased manner. As part of this initiative, the State is in the process of procuring 297 electric buses during the current year under the CAPEX model from its own resources. Highlighting operational challenges in hilly terrain, the Chief Minister urged the Union Minister to reduce the daily assured mileage under the OPEX model to 150 kilometers per bus in Himachal Pradesh to ensure realistic and achievable targets. He further requested revision of the current operational assistance of Rs. 22 per kilometre to Rs. 52 per kilometre for hill states, enabling State transport undertakings to operate electric buses without incurring operational losses.



Special intensive revision essential to strengthen democracy: Dr Rajeev Bindal

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 17



Speaking at a programme in the Shimla parliamentary constituency, BJP state president Rajeev Bindal said that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is an important and necessary process aimed at making democracy stronger and more transparent. He said the Election Commission is an autonomous constitutional body that has consistently undertaken reforms to ensure free and fair elections, and SIR is not a new exercise but a continuing process since Independence. Creating unnecessary controversy over it, he said, is completely unjustified. Bindal stated that the Republic of India belongs to Indian citizens and the Constitution grants the right to vote only to Indians. However, over the past four to five decades, crores of foreign nationals who infiltrated the country illegally have managed to obtain voter IDs and Aadhaar cards through wrongful means. Using the power of such votes, they are influencing electoral outcomes. He said the Election Commission is addressing this serious issue through SIR, which is entirely in the national interest. He accused certain political parties of compromising national interest for vote-bank politics. Providing protection to infiltrators, helping them secure voting rights and attempting to win elections on that basis, he said, is equivalent to betrayal of the nation.

78th Army Day celebrated at ARTRAC, Shimla

Governor lauds Indian Army's supreme sacrifice, courage and unwavering resolve

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 17



The 78th Army Day was celebrated at the Army Training Command (ARTRAC), Shimla, here today, where Governor Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla attended the function as the Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, the Governor said that in the present scenario of continuously evolving security challenges, including cyber and information warfare, the role of ARTRAC has become extremely crucial. "The leadership and training being imparted here not only make the Indian Army operationally strong, but also enrich it with ethical and human values," he said. Describing Army Day as more than a ceremonial occasion, the Governor said, "Army Day is a symbol of the Indian Army's unparalleled sacrifice, indomitable courage and unwavering resolve in safeguarding the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the nation." He termed ARTRAC as the centre of training and doctrinal excellence of the Indian Army and added, "Keeping in view the complex challenges of future battlefields, the realistic, technology-enabled and multi-dimensional training provided by ARTRAC ensures that our Army always remains prepared and capable." Highlighting Himachal Pradesh's deep and emotional bond with the armed forces, the Governor said, "Himachal Pradesh has not only been known as Devbhoomi, but also as Veerbhoomi.

Chaitanya Sharma donates Rs 51,000 for construction work in Thakurdwara Deoli



AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB: State BJYM Vice President and former MLA Chaitanya Sharma provided financial assistance of 51,000 rupees for the ongoing construction work at Thakurdwara Deoli. Sharma inspected the ongoing construction work at Thakurdwara Deoli and assessed its progress. During the visit, he met with Thakurdwara Committee members Captain Rajesh Minhas and Happy and discussed the construction work in detail. Sharma stated that the development of religious sites strengthens society's cultural and spiritual heritage, and it is everyone's responsibility to support such initiatives. He added that the ongoing construction work at Thakurdwara Deoli is being carried out with the convenience of devotees in mind, and its completion will benefit the people of the area. In this spirit, he donated 51,000 rupees to the committee. Captain Balbir Minhas, Subedar Ajmer Dadwal, Waryam Singh, Vijay Kumar, Ashok Kumar, Janak Minhas, Janak Singh, Aman Minhas, Surendra Kashyap, Raju Kashyap, Dilbag Singh, Rajiv Parashar, Kiran Devi, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

CBSE curriculum to be introduced in government schools to prepare students for national-level competition: Dy CM

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, JAN 17



Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri on Saturday said that the state government has taken an important decision to implement the CBSE curriculum in selected government schools, with the objective of preparing students for national-level competition and providing them with quality education.

He said that the CBSE curriculum will be introduced in 117 senior secondary schools across the state. Under this initiative, around a dozen government schools in Una district will also be operated on the CBSE pattern.

The Deputy Chief Minister was speaking as the chief guest at the annual function of KV International School at Dusada in Amb subdivision of Una district. On the occasion, he honoured students who excelled in academics, sports and cultural activities. Appreciating the colourful cultural performances presented by the students, he announced a grant of Rs 31,000 from his discretionary fund.

Highlighting the role of teachers, the Deputy Chief Minister said that teachers are the most important link in a child's life, as students shaped by teachers go on to lead the nation and the world. He urged parents to make time to attend their children's annual school functions and to remain actively involved in their academic and cultural development. He also requested school managements to ensure that invitations are addressed to both parents so that they can witness their children's performances.

West Bengal is being broken apart through politics of appeasement: Sanjay Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, JAN 17



Himachal Pradesh BJP spokesperson Sanjay Sharma leveled serious allegations against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at a press conference in Dharamshala on Saturday. He said that Bengal, the land of spirituality, penance, and sacrifice, is today going through a period of governance that is leading it towards 'Bang-Bhang', or the division of Bengal. He questioned whether Bengal is still a part of India or not? This question is arising in the mind of every citizen today. Sanjay Sharma said that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is being conducted systematically in several states of the country. This process had also taken place in 2003 and has been discussed in Parliament. However, in West Bengal, not only are unconstitutional methods being adopted to stop this constitutional process, but violence is also being resorted to. He alleged that even election officials are not safe. They are being subjected to so much pressure that they are being forced to take steps like suicide. He said that West Bengal is being isolated through the politics of appeasement. He launched a scathing attack regarding the violence during the SIR process, the pressure on election officials, and the suicide of a Booth Level Officer (BLO). BJP spokesperson Sanjay Sharma also raised the case of Ashok Das, the BLO of booth number 110 in the Jadavpur assembly constituency. He said that Ashok Das was an honest officer who was doing his job according to the Constitution.

Bilaspur unites against drugs and aoad accidents: Special Gram Sabha to ignite mass awareness drive

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: Bilaspur is set to witness a powerful grassroots movement as a special Gram Sabha meeting will be held across all Gram Panchayats of the district on January 21 and 22, focusing on the crucial issues of anti-drug awareness and road safety. The initiative aims to mobilize communities at the village level and spark collective responsibility toward building a safer, healthier society. The district administration has emphasized that the growing menace of drug abuse, particularly the spread of dangerous substances like chitta, poses a serious threat not only to individuals but to families and the social fabric as a whole. Through open dialogue and community participation, the Gram Sabha meetings will serve as a platform to educate citizens about the devastating consequences of drug addiction and the urgent need to confront it together. Alongside the anti-drug campaign, road safety will be a key focus area. Citizens will be sensitized about traffic rules, safe driving practices, and the importance of responsible behavior on roads to prevent accidents and save lives. This district-wide initiative reflects a strong commitment to participatory governance, where public awareness and collective action are seen as the most effective tools for social change. By engaging villagers directly in discussion and decision-making, the administration aims to create lasting awareness that translates into action at the community level.



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Nature Fest' Set for Hoshiarpur from Feb 10-14, preparations underwayLajwanti Sports stadium to host event

HOSHIARPUR (DALJEET AJNOHA): The Hoshiarpur district administration has kicked off preparations for the five-day 'Nature Fest' to be held at the local Lajwanti Sports Stadium from February 10 to 14. In this regard, Deputy Commissioner Ashika Jain chaired a meeting with officials from various departments at the district administrative complex, reviewing essential arrangements and directing them to complete all setups on time.During the meeting, DC Ashika Jain stated that the 'Nature Fest' will provide a strong platform to highlight Hoshiarpur district's rich natural heritage, tourist spots, and environmental resources.



NEWS BRIEF

Police launched search operation in Bamiyal Chowk



SHARANJEET PATHANKOT: DIG Border Range Amritsar Sandeep Goyal, who arrived in Pathankot, informed the press that Police teams formed under the leadership of SSP Diljinder Singh Dhillon, including the CIA staff in-charge, with the support of central agencies, were conducting a search operation in Bamiyal Chowk, which falls under the jurisdiction of Narot Jaimal Singh Police Station. The police had received intelligence information that Harvinder Singh alias Rinda, a resident of Sri Hazur Sahib, Nanded, Maharashtra, is the main leader of the banned terrorist organization Babbar Khalsa International.

Pritpal Singh Aulakh and Shiromani Akali Dal Amritsar leader Jaskaran Singh join BJP



SURINDER DAMDAMI KOTKAPURA: The convoy of the Bharatiya Janata Party is increasing day by day. Under this series, the Bharatiya Janata Party got a huge boost in the Jaito assembly constituency when the farmer leader Pritpal Singh Aulakh, who had served diesel langar during the farmers' agitation, and Jaskaran Singh, a senior leader of the Shiromani Akali Dal Amritsar, were inducted into the BJP by Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Punjab President BJP Sunil Jakhar, Working President Ashwani Sharma, and Vice President Punjab Vikramjit Singh Cheema.

CASO conducted at various drug hot spots in Rupnagar district



BAHADURJEET SINGH RUPNAGAR: Under the campaign "Yudh Nasian Virudh" campaign,Cordon and Search Operation(CASO) was conducted by the police at drug hot spots of all police stations in district Rupnagar today. It was led by DIG Rupnagar Range Dr. Nanak Singh at Behrampur Colony. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Nanak Singh said that the Rupnagar Police has already started a special campaign and by conducting daily patrols, nakas and searches, bad elements are being arrested, while cases are being registered against those involved in the drug trade and recovery is being made.
Giving information about this CASO operation, Senior Superintendent of Police(SSP) Rupnagar Maninder Singh said that 12 SPs, 6 DSPs, 10 inspectors and about 140 police personnel were deployed in this operation.He said that during this operation, 7 cases were registered under the NDPS Act, in which 8 persons were arrested and 34.05 grams of narcotic powder and 10 grams of heroin were recovered from them. Maninder Singh said that no mischievous and bad element will be allowed to raise its head in the district. He said that law and order will be maintained in the district at all costs.

Potash crucial for agriculture farmers and state economy: Barinder Kumar Goyal

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, JAN 17



With the objective of fast tracking potash exploration in the State and addressing India's heavy reliance on imported Potash, Punjab Government has intensified efforts to strengthen domestic mineral resources critical for agriculture. The high level review meeting was convened to take stock of progress identify future priorities and firm up timelines for exploration across key potash bearing regions of Punjab.

Punjab Mining and Geology Minister Sh. Barinder Kumar Goyal chaired the meeting at the Punjab Civil Secretariat here with senior officers of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) which included Deputy Director General (Punjab Himachal and Haryana) Smt. Shrimati Gupta, Directors Smt. Sushree Mishra and Smt. Aprajeeta Bhatacharji and officers of the Department of Mines and Geology Punjab Chief Engineer S. Hardeep Singh Mehndiratta and Assistant Geologist Sh. Paras Mahajan.

The meeting reviewed the status of completed exploration blocks ongoing drilling activities during Field Season 2025-26 and proposed reconnaissance and preliminary exploration programmes for Field Season 2026-27 with special focus on Fazilka and Sri Muktsar Sahib districts where significant potash potential has been identified. Briefing the Minister, the GSI informed that G4 stage exploration has been completed in Qabarwala Block and Shergarh-Dalmirkhera Block, with geological memorandums already handed over to the State Government. Following State consent, an amalgamated Shergarh-Sherawala-Ramsara-Dalmirkhera block has been put to auction for Composite Licence in the sixth tranche by the Ministry of Mines, with results awaited. It was further shared that drilling is underway in Rajpura-Rajawali Block and Gidranwali-Azimgarh Block at six sites, of which five have been completed and final reports are expected by April after chemical analysis.

FM reviews works of a project to be completed soon

SUMER GARG
DIRBA, JAN 17



Punjab finance minister (FM), Harpal Singh Cheema, while reviewing the construction works of the project said.

"The Punjab Government is committed to the all-round development of the state, and development works in the constituency are being carried out at a war footing while ensuring that all issues of the people are addressed. In this regard, the construction work of the Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar community hall at Dirba, being built at a cost of approximately Rs 2.25 crore, is progressing rapidly. About 50 percent of the construction work has been completed, and the remaining work will be completed very soon. The community hall will have a seating capacity of approximately 400 persons. The cabinet minister stated that there had been a long-pending demand from the scheduled caste community and economically weaker sections of Dirba for a hall to organize social functions related to both joyous and solemn occasions. Keeping this demand in view, the community hall is being constructed. The Minister said that a large number of people will benefit from this facility, especially poor and middle-class families, who will be able to organize their social functions with ease.

Cheema further said that when poor and middle-class families organize functions in expensive palaces by taking loans, they often get trapped under the burden of debt for several years. This community hall will prove to be a major support for the people and will help them avoid falling into debt.

He said that special attention is being given to the development of villages in Dirba constituency, and various development projects are being completed under his direct supervision with dedication. He further said that development works are being carried out in all sectors, including village roads, sports stadiums, cleaning of ponds, rejuvenation of village schools, and upgradation of mandis.

Spl tribute on bhog: Late S. Mohan Singh, person of affable nature and dignified personality

DORAHA (AMRISH ANAND): Many people come into this world and quietly depart, but some leave behind an enduring impression on society and the community through their thoughts, actions, and human touch. One such respected personality was Late S. Mohan Singh, a prominent businessman of Doraha town in Ludhiana district and associated with New Paris Dry Cleaners.Late S. Mohan Singh lived a full life of nearly nine decades and was known for his cheerful disposition, simplicity, and warm-hearted nature. He was born in 1934 in village Kohara, district Ludhiana, to Mata Smt.Gurdial Kaur and his father, Late S. Amar Singh. He received his primary education from the Government School, Sahnewal.



Blessed by nature with an engaging personality, refined communication skills, and a courteous, approachable demeanor, Late S. Mohan Singh would win over people at the very first meeting. After completing his education and understanding the responsibilities of family life, he learned the craft of embroidery work in Ludhiana, where he worked for some time. Around 1960, he settled in Doraha along with his family and established "New Paris Dry Cleaners" near the Doraha Railway Station, laying the foundation of a respected and well-known business in the town.Late S. Mohan Singh was married to Bibi Surjit Kaur of Singha Di Salaudi village, Tehsil Samrala, Khanna. He is survived by three sons and one daughter. He was widely admired for his simplicity, humility, and friendly nature.

Partap World School celebrates 20 glorious years of educational excellence



VERMA
GURDASPUR, JAN 17

Partap World School, Pathankot marked a momentous milestone as it proudly completed 20 years of excellence in education on January 16, 2026. Established in 2006, the school was founded by Surjit Mahajan, whose visionary leadership laid the foundation for an institution dedicated to holistic education, values, and lifelong learning. Today, the school continues to grow under the guidance of the current management, carrying forward his vision and legacy with renewed commitment and purpose. The landmark occasion was celebrated with great enthusiasm on the school campus. Students, faculty members, and the management came together for cake cutting, balloons, and distribution of sweets, creating an atmosphere filled with pride, gratitude, and celebration. The event reflected the strong sense of community and shared values that have defined the school's journey over the past two decades. Over the years, Partap World School has consistently focused on academic excellence, character building, sports, co-curricular development, and global exposure, nurturing confident, responsible.

Divisional railway manager conducts comprehensive inspection of Batala Railway Station

VERMA
BATALA, JAN 17



The Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Firozpur, Sanjeev Kumar, conducted an extensive footplate inspection today, January 17, 2026, covering the rail section between Amritsar and Batala via a dedicated inspection car.

Safety and Operational Review During the transit, the DRM performed a meticulous technical review of the block section, focusing on: Track Integrity: Ensuring the stability and safety of the rail lines. Infrastructure: Examining the Overhead Equipment (OHE) and signaling systems.Yard Management Reviewing railway yard operations to ensure peak efficiency and safety compliance.

Station Amenities and Development Upon reaching Batala Railway Station, Mr. Kumar inspected several key facilities and ongoing projects, including the newly constructed Station Master's office, passenger waiting rooms, platforms, and the circulating area.

He also evaluated the station record room, parking facilities, booking/reservation offices, and the goods shed to ensure high standards for both cargo and passenger services. Community Engagement and Project Oversight The DRM was formally welcomed and felicitated by members of the Sahara Club during his visit. Following the ceremony, he chaired a progress review meeting with Engineering Department officials regarding the modernization works at Batala station, providing specific directives to ensure timely completion.

AXIS BANK — **Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office/Branch):** Axis Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, G- 4/5, B, Sector-4, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow, U.P-226010 **Axis Bank Ltd.**, 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC – 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mugalsan Road, Airoli, Navi Mumbai – 400708. **Registered Office:** "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samartheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad – 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on **"As is where is"**, **"As is what is"**, **"Whatever there -is"** and **"No Recourse Basis"** on **13.02.2026** for recovery of **Rs. 34,40,473/- (Thirty-Four Lakh Forty Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Three Only)** dues as on **17.04.2021** with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from **M/s Zoya Timber(Applicant), Mr. Rashid Husain (Co-Applicant).** Please refer the appended auction schedule for necessary details: -

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	Yes
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	Rs.28,44,636/- (Rupees Twenty-Eight Lakh Forty-Four Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Six Only)
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	Rs 2,84,463/- (Two Lakh Eighty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Three Only)through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis bank ltd.' Payable.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only)
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till 12.02.2026 latest by 05:00 P.M. Axis Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, G-4/5, B, Sector-4, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow, U P-226010 addressed to **Mr. Amod Singh**
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On **13.02.2026,** between 11.00 A.M and 12.00 Noon, with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above.

SCHEDULE – DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All Such Pieces Or Parcels Of A Diverted Land/Property Admeasuring 71.37 Sq. Mtr. Situated At Ward No. 12, Mohalla Nai Basti, Tehsil Jaspur, District Udhaym Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand-244712, Which Is In The Name Of Rashid Husain. East –Road, West –House Of Iqbal Hussain, North –House Of Jubeda Begum, South –Road

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com

The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/s.C1 India Private Limited at their web portal https://www.bankeauctions.com.

For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact **Mr. Amod Singh, Mobile. No.+91-7766914955** Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Date-18.01.2026, Place- Lucknow **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Axis Bank Ltd.**

Legacy of devotion, values, and service: Thousands gather to bid farewell to late Dr. Raghubir Suri



FATEHGARH SAHIB (AJAY MALHOTRA): An overwhelming sea of humanity gathered today at Rana Heritage, Sirhind, to pay their last respects to Late Dr. Raghubir Suri, the revered founder of the Rana Group and an embodiment of devotion, values, and selfless service. Thousands of people from Sirhind and surrounding regions participated in the Bhog and Antim Ardaas ceremony, creating an atmosphere filled with reverence and remembrance.

The solemn event turned into a rare spectacle of national and spiritual honour as religious leaders, social personalities, and political representatives came together to bow their heads in tribute to Dr. Suri. During the Rasam Pagri ceremony, people from all walks of life expressed their heartfelt respect for a man whose life touched countless souls.

Addressing the gathering, BJP District President Didar Singh Bhatti shared that 'Prime Minister Narendra Modi' had also conveyed his deep condolences on the passing of Dr. Suri. Condolence messages were received from several eminent national figures and organizations, including Union Minister for Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Param Pujya Sudhanshu Ji Maharaj, Swami Gyananand Ji, Vidya Bharati and various other national institutions.

Tejas star astro hosts 30th astrology conference in Ludhiana

DEEPAK KUMAR
MACHHIWARA SAHIB, JAN 17



Tejas Star Astro organised its 30th Astrology Conference at Shri Durga Mata Mandir, Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana. The conference was held under the leadership of the organisation's founder Bharti Gupta and witnessed participation from more than 100 astrologers from different regions. During the conference, astrologers offered free horoscope consultations, explaining planetary movements and suggesting remedies for various issues faced by people. The event aimed at spreading awareness about astrology as a traditional discipline and guiding people through astrological insights. Rajeev Sharma, Harkesh Mittal, Rahul Manocha and Mohit Maudgil, sevadar of Shri Durga Mata Mandir, attended the programme as chief guests. Speaking to mediapersons, Bharti Gupta said astrology is a form of knowledge through which planetary movements can be understood.

She said the team of Tejas Star Astro has always worked for the welfare of society and regularly educates people about planetary influences. She added that the organisation never misleads people and that remedies suggested by their astrologers have helped many needy individuals. Arun Gandhi, Bhavna, Shikha, Renu Singla, Ashwini, Naveen, Vikas, Saurav Sharma, Prince Kapoor and Khushboo were also present on the occasion.

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED
(A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK)
Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)

APPENDIX IV [SEE RULE 8(I)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) under the "Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest [Act, 2002 (54 of 2002)] and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice on the date as mentioned below calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice as per the details given in below table:

Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Mortgagor/Guarantor / Loan A/c No.	13(2) Notice Date & Amount	Description of Mortgaged Property	Date of Possession Taken
(A/c No.) L9001060124060564 **Arjan Kumar (Borrower),** Smt.Maya (Co-Borrower)	15-Sep-25 Rs. 232810/- Rs. Two Lakh Thirty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Ten Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - BEARING Municipal B-X/149, Near Baba Ramdev Mandir, GANDHI BASTI, Dist -Kotkapura, Punjab. **Admeasuring 36.8 Sqyds,** East: STREET, West: HOUSE OF BABBU RAM, North: HOUSE OF BRIJ LAL, South: HOUSE OF PAALI	14-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060131215712 **Manpreet Singh Wallu (Borrower),** Smt.Baljeet Kaur (Co-Borrower), Karnail Singh (Co-Borrower)	16-Oct-25 Rs. 1063221/- Rs. Ten Lakh Sixty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-One Only 10-Oct-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Khasra No-315 243 246 348 255 456 361 362 465 379 255/1/Khata No-565/590-591-592/Killa No-10/2/1 14 17 5/1 24 25/1 7 8/2 Min 9 12/215/4 2/2 3 8/2 18/2, Vill Pabiya, Teh Jagraon Ludhiana, Distt- Ludhiana, Punjab, 142023 **Admeasuring 188 Sqyds.**	15-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060133599471 **Manjeet Singh (Borrower)**	14-Oct-25 Rs. 550668/- Rs. Five Lakh Fifty Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Eight Only 10-Oct-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- 1 Marla Comprised In Rect No 70 Killa No 19/1(9-16) Reg. No. 2021-22/54/1/1511 Dt. 23-6-2021 Teh Abhor, Dist- Fazilka, Punjab Bounded As East- Jai Chand, West- Road, North- Krishan Kumar, South- Gajraj Singh **Admeasuring 1 Marla**	15-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060141835001 **Jaskirandeep Singh (Borrower),** Ranjit Singh (Co-Borrower), Smt.Kulwinder Kaur (Co-Borrower)	15-Sep-25 Rs. 903849/- Rs. Nine Lakh Three Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Nine Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Khasra No 5/18/2 And 5/13/1 And 5/17/2, Vil- Machrai, Th- Shri Hargobindpur, Dist- Gurdaspur, Punjab **Admeasuring 310 Sqyd,** East: DIAL SINGH, West: DALJIT SINGH, North: PASSAGE, South: CHARANJIT KAUR	16-Jan-26

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, therefore notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above mentioned table in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said (Act-2002) read with Rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned in the above table. "The borrower's attention is Invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act **read with rule 8 (6), in respect of time available, i.e., 30 days from this intimation,** to redeem the secured assets." The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) for the amount and interest thereon mentioned in the above table. -sd-

Place: PUNJAB **Date: 17-Jan-2026** **Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited**

Avneet Kaur, student of Akal Degree College, Mastuana Sahib, excelled in Gatka Championship; won gold medal

BARNALA (BALWINDER AZAD): The 9th Senior Gatka Championship was held at Ratwara Sahib, New Chandigarh. In this, Avneet Kaur, a student of Akal Degree College, Mastuana Sahib, a renowned educational institution of the area, has brought glory to the college and her parents in the field of sports throughout the state. In the National Level Gatka Championship organized by Gatka Federation of India in collaboration with Punjab Gatka Association, Avneet Kaur (B.Sc. Part I), daughter of Mr. Rachpal Singh, has achieved first place with excellent performance. Expressing happiness on this proud achievement of Avneet Kaur, the college management committee and the principal said that Avneet has proved with her hard work and dedication that in today's times, girls are excelling in every field.



He said that the college always encourages students to combine sports and their heritage game 'Gatka' with their studies. On this occasion, the college staff and students congratulated Avneet Kaur and her family.

Anti-drug campaign under second phase of war on drugs receives overwhelming response: MLA Dev Mann



NABHA (RAKESH JINDAL): The anti-drug campaign under the second phase of the war on drugs campaign launched by the Punjab government under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann to make Punjab drug-free has received a huge response. This was expressed by Nabha MLA Gurdev Singh Dev Mann during a grand seminar and function organized at Ward No. 17, Bauran Gate, Nabha city in the second phase of the war on drugs. District Police Chief Mr. Varun Sharma was also present with him. He reiterated the commitment of the Punjab government to make Punjab drug-free and made people aware of drugs.

On this occasion, MLA Dev Mann gave a stern warning to drug smugglers that if anyone is caught selling drugs, he will be sent behind bars.

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Vrindavan Diagnostic Services launch on January 23

CHANDIGARH (J.K.BATTA): Today, we are announcing the formal launch of Vrindavan Diagnostic Services. The aim of establishing this centre is to provide accurate, reliable, and timely diagnostic services to the community at affordable rates. Quality and accuracy will be ensured through modern technology, standardised procedures, and trained technical personnel. We believe that effective medical decisions are based on accurate and timely diagnosis. Vrindavan Diagnostic Services is committed to maintaining the highest standards of quality, transparency, and professional ethics in healthcare services..We will launch Vrindavan Diagnostic Services on 23rd January 2026 At-, at Vrindavan Diagnostic Services. Address: Nada Road, near Shivalik Vihar, Kamal Square, Nayagaon, Mohali, Chandigarh.

NEWS BRIEF

LBS College Barnala's B.Com second year result excellent



BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA: The students of the well-reputed educational institution of Barnala city, Shri Lal Bahadur Sat Shastri Arya Mahila College, have made the name of the college bright this year too like every year. Giving information in this regard, the acting principal of the college, Dr. Mrs. Sushil Bala, said that the students of the college have increased the pride of the college by achieving excellent results in B. Com second year (semester fourth). She said that in these results, Richa Sharma has secured the first position with 85 percent, Komal Sharma has secured the second position with 82.8 percent and Harmandeep Kaur has secured the third position by securing 82.4 percent marks.

Operation CASO: Police carry out massive raids in Dhuri



RAJESHWAR PINTU
DHURI: In a major crackdown on the drug menace, the Dhuri police today conducted a large-scale search operation under 'Operation CASO' (Cordon and Search Operation) at various suspected hideouts across the city. The operation was carried out following the directions of Sangrur SSP Sartaj Singh Chahal, aimed at making the state drug-free.
Led by DSP (Dhuri) Gurpreet Singh, the drive targeted areas identified as sensitive zones for drug trafficking. Teams from City and Sadar police stations, including SHO Inspector Karanvir Sandhu and Reader Raj Kumar, cordoned off these localities and conducted door-to-door searches. During the operation, the police detained four suspects for questioning. Several two-wheelers and four-wheelers found without valid documentation or in suspicious circumstances were impounded. DSP Gurpreet Singh stated that the police are also in the process of identifying and freezing the properties of notorious drug peddlers.

Sri Akhand Path Sahib Bhog offered on occasion of the wedding of MLA Balkar Sidhu's daughter



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA
RAMPURA PHUL: On the occasion of the wedding of MLA Rampura Phul Balkar Singh Sidhu's daughter at village Puhla under the district, Sri Akhand Path Sahib Bhog offered on the occasion of the wedding of MLA Rampura Phool Balkar Singh Sidhu's daughter, wishing the newly married couple a happy, successful and prosperous life, Sri Akhand Path Sahib Bhog offered on the occasion of the wedding of MLA Rampura Phool Balkar Singh Sidhu in the village Puhla under the district On this occasion, the Raagi Jatha entertained the Sangat by reciting various Gurbani Kirtans and Guru Ka Langar was served in abundance.

Attempt by BJP leaders to seize my plot in Nayagaon: Anju Sharma

J.K. BHATTA
NEW CHANDIGARH: Anju Sharma, wife of Dinesh Sharma of Nayagaon, has alleged that some individuals, claiming to be BJP leaders, are attempting to seize her 15-marla plot located near the church. Anju Sharma stated that she purchased the plot in 2007 through a power of attorney from property dealer Meghraj Bishu. She had the plot fenced in 2021, and the transfer of ownership was also completed. Meghraj Bishu had obtained the power of attorney from Harbans Kaur Nada, wife of Mohinder Singh Nada. Later, Harbans Kaur, allegedly under someone's influence, revoked the power of attorney. A case is currently pending in court regarding this matter. In 2025, Harbans Kaur Nada submitted an affidavit to the High Court requesting that the power of attorney be reinstated. Following this, it came to light that some individuals, identified as BJP leaders, are attempting to seize the same plot.

Governor conducts on-site inspection and incinerator facility located at Raipur Kalan Gaushala

R N KHERA
CHANDIGARH, JAN 17



Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Punjab and Administrator, Union Territory Chandigarh, today conducted an on-site inspection of the gaushalas and the incinerator facility located at Raipur Kalan to take stock of the arrangements made for the welfare, care and management of cattle.

During the visit, the Administrator reviewed key aspects of gaushala operations, including the condition of shelters, standards of cleanliness, availability of green and dry fodder, access to safe drinking water, veterinary services, waste disposal mechanisms and overall upkeep of the premises. He held interactions with the officers and staff deployed at the gaushalas and issued clear instructions aimed at strengthening oversight, accountability and transparency in day-to-day functioning. The Administrator directed MC to ensure all the availability of essential facilities and stated that adequate arrangements will be ensured for the proper living conditions, feeding and hydration of the cattle housed in the gaushalas. Regarding the incinerator installed at the Raipur Kalan gaushala, the Administrator was briefed that the facility had remained temporarily non-operational due to a technical snag which could not be addressed immediately.

He directed the MC that the defect will be rectified and the incinerator will be made functional at the earliest to ensure scientific disposal of dead animals. To enhance transparency and effective monitoring, the Administrator directed that detailed information regarding manpower deployment at each gaushala, including veterinary doctors, para-veterinary staff and other supporting personnel, along with their daily duty rosters, must be prominently displayed at visible locations.

BJP mandal President Rakesh Gupta Bunty assumes charge of Maharaja Ajj circle

SHASHI PAL JAIN
KHARAR, JAN 17



The newly elected Mandal President of the Bharatiya Janata Party's Maharaja Ajj Circle, Kharar, Shri Rakesh Gupta (Bunty), along with other office bearers, assumed charge of his office. In a swearing-in ceremony held today, he formally took over as the Mandal President, and the new executive team of the Maharaja Ajj Circle Mandal was also announced.

On this occasion, District President Sanjeev Vashisht, State Treasurer Sukhwinder Goldy, Punjab BJP Spokesperson and Media In-charge Vineet Joshi, senior BJP leader R.S. Gill, Mahila Morcha President Milli Garg, Mahila Morcha State Secretary Sharmila Thakur, and District General Secretary Jagdeep Singh Aujla were prominently present. In addition, Pawan Manocha, Narendra Rana, Subhash Agarwal, Sukhveer Rana, Kush Rana, Davinder Gupta, Ashu Puri, Preeti Rana, and Rajendra Sharma were also present at the ceremony and extended their best wishes to the newly appointed Mandal leadership. Addressing the gathering, the senior leaders expressed confidence that under the leadership of Shri Rakesh Gupta (Bunty), the Maharaja Ajj Circle Mandal organization will be further strengthened at the grassroots level and will effectively convey the party's policies, ideology, and welfare schemes to the general public.

Main shooter of Rana Balachauria murder case Karan default killed in encounter near Kharar



KHARAR (SHASHI PAL JAIN): The main shooter, Karan Default, involved in the murder of renowned kabaddi promoter Rana Balachauria, was killed in a police encounter early this morning near village Rurki Kham, close to Kharar. Rana Balachauria was shot dead on December 15 during a kabaddi tournament held in the nearby village of Sohana.

Providing details to the media, Mohali District SSP Harmandeep Singh Hans said that the accused had been arrested 3–4 days ago in connection with the murder case and was kept at CIA Staff Kharar for further interrogation. Late last night, the accused complained to police personnel of chest pain . Three police personnel were taking him to the hospital.

He said that due to heavy fog at night, the police vehicle climbed onto a divider. When the police personnel stepped out to check the vehicle, Karan Default attacked the police official sitting with him and managed to escape from the spot along with handcuffs. As soon as the incident came to light, a high alert was issued and several teams were formed to apprehend him. He remained absconding for nearly 6–7 hours. The SSP stated that between 6 and 7 a.m., he was spotted at the encounter site and was asked to stop, but he attacked the police party and fired 6–7 rounds. According to the police, it is suspected that he had hidden a weapon at that location and had come there to retrieve it. The police retaliated with 8–9 rounds of fire, seriously injuring him. He was first taken to a private hospital and later referred to the Civil Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries.

Sri Sukhmani Sahib Path marks beginning of new semester at RBU school of life sciences



LK BANSAL
MOHALI, JAN 17

The School of Life Sciences and the School of Physical Sciences at Rayat Bahra University (RBU) organised a Sri Sukhmani Sahib Path to mark the beginning of the new academic semester. The ceremony was held in an atmosphere of devotion, serenity, and spiritual positivity, with active participation from faculty members and students.

The Path was organised under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Simerjit Kaur, Dean, University School of Life Sciences and University School of Physical Sciences. On behalf of the Schools, Rumala Sahib was respectfully offered to Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, seeking divine blessings for the well-being, success, and harmonious progress of faculty, staff, and students in the semester ahead.

B. S. Bains, Director (Administration), extended full support to ensure the smooth.

CU Punjab department of microbiology organizes webinar on informatics-based healthcare

ANANTDEEP KAUR
BATHINDA, JAN 17



The Department of Microbiology, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, successfully organized a webinar titled "Informatics-based Healthcare in the Era of the Fifth Paradigm" on 16 January 2026. The event was conducted under the visionary patronage of Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Punjab.

The keynote lecture was delivered by Prof. Gajendra P. S. Raghava, Professor and Head, Department of Computational Biology, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi. In his insightful talk, Prof. Raghava elaborated on the concept of the fifth paradigm of science, where data-driven and computational methodologies complement experimental biology, particularly in the context of modern healthcare. The lecture was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session moderated by Dr. Somesh Baranwal, Head, Department of Microbiology, CUPB, which encouraged active participation from faculty members, research scholars, and students.

Adarsh Kanya School Jagraon celebrates birth anniversary of Shastri Jagannath



JAGRAON (SUKH NAHAR): The birth anniversary of the highly revered founder of Adarsh Kanya Senior Secondary School, Jagraon, Shastri Jagannath Ji Maharaj, was celebrated with great devotion at the school premises in Jagraon. The programme was organised with the support of various social service organisations. The chief guest of the event was social worker Rajinder Jain Kaka (President, Lions Club Youth Jagraon), while social worker Kewal Malhotra attended as a special guest. While conducting the proceedings, management member Captain Naresh Verma stated that social service organisations made a significant contribution to the event. On this occasion, Dr. Pankaj Aggarwal distributed notebooks, pens and stationery to all the students on his behalf. Kewal Malhotra and Ravi Malhotra (Delhi) honored all the teachers and the principal on the foundation day of the school.

Quiz on road safety conducted at mother teacher school Barnala

BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA, JAN 17

As part of celebrating Road Safety Month, an informative presentation on road safety was shown to the students to create awareness about safe practices on the roads. The presentation highlighted key topics such as traffic rules, road signs, pedestrian safety, use of helmet and seat belt, reckless driving and dangers of using mobile phones on the road. Real life examples and visuals helped the students understand the importance of being alert.

Sharp brains institute receives best center award for fourth consecutive year



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA
RAMPURA PHUL, JAN 17

For winning the most prizes in national and international abacus competitions and setting dozens of new records, Sharp Brains Education, the leading educational institution in the area, has received the Best Education Center Award for the year 2025. During a function held in Chandigarh, the MD of the educational company Champions World, Sanjeev Kumar, presented this award to the Director of Sharp Brains Education, Ranjeev Goyal and the team.

Sanjeev Kumar of Champions World said that 7 students of Sharp Brains Institute have won prizes in the International Abacus Olympiad and 6 students in the National Abacus Competition. Similarly, in the International Abacus Competition of 31 countries, 7 students of Sharp Brains won prizes, which is the highest at the international level.

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES
From the trusted family of HDFC Bank

POSSESSION NOTICE

Registered Office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahemdabad, Gujrat, Pin Code: 380009, Branch Office: Fourth Floor SCO No 8, Sector 5, Panchkula

Whereas, The Authorised Officer Of HDB Financial Services Limited Under The Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assests And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (64 Of 2002) And In Exercise Of Powers Conferred Under Section 13(12) Read With Rules 3 Of The Security Interest (enforcement) Rules, 2002 Issued Demand Notice To The Borrower/s As Detailed Hereunder, Calling Upon The Borrowers To Repay The Amount Mentioned In The Said Notice With All Costs, Charges And Expenses Till Actual Date Of Payment Within 60 Days From The Date Of Receipt Of The Same. The Said Borrower/co-borrower Having Failed To Repay The Amount, Notice Is Hereby Given To Borrower/Co-borrower And The Public In General That The Undersigned Has Taken Symbolice Possession Of The Property Described Here Below In Exerise Of Powers Conferred On Him/her Under Secrtion 13(4) Section 14 Of The Said Act Read With Rule 8 Of The Said Rules Of The Security Interest Enforcement Rules 2002 On This 22.12.2023 And 23.12.2023. The Borrowers In Particular And Public In General Are Hereby Cautioned Not To Deal With The Property And Any Dealings With The Property Will Be Subject To The Charge Of HDB Financial Services Limited For The Amount Specified Herein With Future Interest, Costs And Charges From The Respective Date. Details Of Property Taken In Symbolic Possession Are Herein Below :

1) NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE BORROWER/CO-BORROWER/GUARANTOR 2) LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER 3) LOAN AMOUNT 4) DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE 5) CLAIMED AMOUNT IN INR 6) DETAILS OF SECURITIES 7) DATE OF POSSESSION
1 Name of The Borrower & Co- Borrower : 1. Swarna Farms Ground Floor Shop No 11 Lake View Complex Kishanpura Dhakoli Zirakpur Baltana-140604 Punjab And Also Property Being Apartment No. 707 7th Floor Tower No.-B, Khewat/khatoni No. 23/70-71 Situated At Orvis Grand, Vill Baltana-140604 2. Neena Sharma 3. Abhimanyu Sharma 4. Alisha Sharma All R/o Flat No 707 7th Floor Tower B Orvis Grand Gvt Apartments Gazipur Dhakauli Sas Nagar Mohali Dera Bassi-140603 Punjab Loan Account No. 50793363 Loan Amount: Rs. 9124727/- (Rupees Ninety One Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Seven Only) Demand Notice Date: 15.10.2025 Amount Claimed : Rs. 4774004.8/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Four and Paise Eighty Only) as of 10.10.2025 and future contractual interest till actual realization together with incidental expenses, cost and charges etc. NPA Date : 02.10.2025 Details Of Security: All That Piece And Parcel Of Property being Apartment No. 707, 5BHK, 7th Floor, Tower No.-B, Land measuring 00 Bigha 00 Biswa 09 Biswasi (22.5 Sq. Yard) comprising in Khewat/Khatoni No. 23/70-71 Khasra Nos. 16//3(4-0), 4(4-0), 5/1(1-2), 17//1/1(0-11), 25//18(4-0), 23(4-0), 24/2(3-0), 25/2(3-0), 30//1(0-4), 10(3-1), 11/1(2-4), 12/1(0-7), 31//5(2-2), 6(3-0), 15/2(2-0), 25//21(4-0), 22(4-0), Kitte 17 Rakba 44 Bigha 11 Biswa and its having 9/17820 share measuring 00 Bigha 00 Biswa 09 Biswasi Situated at Orvis Grand, Village Gazipur, Hadbast No. 50, MC & Sub-Tehsil Zirakpur, & Distt S.A.S Nagar Mohali, Punjab property stand in the name of Abhimanyu Sharma S/o Sh. Akul Sharma vide sale deed no. 2621 dated 19.05.2022 Date of Symbolic Possession: 15.01.2026.

The Borrowers' Attention Is Invited To Provisions Of Sub-section (8) Of Section 13 Of The Act, In Respect Of Time Available To Redeem The Secured Asset.
For Any Query Please Contact: Mr. Naval Kishore: 7696442530 Mr. Rohit Sharma 6239679950 HDB Financial Services Limited, 4thFloor SCO No 8 Sector 5 Panchkula

Place: Punjab **Sd/- For HDB Financial Services Limited,**
Date: 18/01/2026 **Authorised Officer**

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED
(A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK)
Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)

APPENDIX IV [SEE RULE 8(I)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) under the "Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Act, 2002 (54 of 2002)) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice on the date as mentioned below calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice as per the details given in below table:

Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Mortgagor/Guarantor / Loan A/c No.	13(2) Notice Date & Amount	Description of Mortgaged Property	Date of Possession Taken
(A/c No.) L9001060719835864 M/S Aditya Misthan Bhandar Through It'S Prop.Om Prakash (Borrower), Om Prakash (Co-Borrower), Mahipal (Co-Borrower)	14-Aug-25 Rs. 1393674/- Rs. thirteen Lakh ninety-three Thousand six hundred seventy-four Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- A House Bearing Property Tax Id No. W013/0641/A Mearuring 20'X55' Ward No.10, I.E. 4 Marla Being 4/36 Share Of 01 Kanal & 16 Marla Comprised In Kkhewat No.457 With Jamabandi For The Year 1997-1998,Wakya,Bounded As East - Street , West - House Of Om Prakash , North - House Of Mukund Lal , South - Plot Of Dhanraj, Situated At Ward No.10 Within Revenue Estate & Muncipal Limit Of Ellenabad, Vide Sale Ded No. 1292 Dated 15-10-2001, Mutation No. 12591 Comprised Khewat No. 712 Vide Jamabandi For The Year 2017-18 Duly Regisdered In The Office Of Sub - Registrar Ellenabad, Distt- Sirsa, Haryana Admeasuring 120 Sq.Yards As Per Sale Deed	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060123593526 Smt .Jeewanpal Kaur (Borrower), Smt.Sukhpal Kaur (Co-Borrower), Gulab Singh (Co-Borrower), Gurjeet Singh (Co-Borrower)	14-Aug-25 Rs. 375553/- Rs. three Lakh seventy-five Thousand five hundred fifty-three Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At Khewat No. 122, Khata No. 261, Vill & Th- Dabwali Dist- Sirsa ,Haryana Bounded As East- Valent Plot, West- Bholagure Wala, North- Road, South- Atma Singh Admeasuring 5 Marla	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060127049817 M/S Sardar Flour Mill Through It'S Prop. Labh Singh (Borrower), Labh Singh (Co-Borrower), Bali Singh (Co-Borrower), Smt.Kulwant Kaur (Co-Borrower)	14-Aug-25 Rs. 1272161/- Rs. twelve Lakh seventy-two Thousand one hundred sixty-one Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Measuring 302 Sq.Yards I.E 10 Marla Being 1/2 Share Of 1 Kanal 0 Marla Comprised In Sq.No.36 Killa No.1/2/2/1(1-0), Situated In The Revenue Estate Of Ellenabad, Tehsil Ellenabad, Distt- Sirsa, Haryana. Vide Transfer Deed No. 5300 Dated 05-10-2021 Duly Registered In The Office Sub- Registrar Ellenabadand Mutation No. 29763 Comprised In Khewat No. 4867Vide Jamabandi For The Year 2017-18. Admeasuring 302 Sq. Yds.	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060128188154 M/S Subhash Silai Machine (Borrower), Kamal Kant (Co-Borrower), Smt.Santosh Devi (Co-Borrower)	14-Aug-25 Rs. 713844/- Rs. seven Lakh thirteen Thousand eight hundred forty-four Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At-Property Id No. 08013300320306 Mcf/ B14/ 0306, Main Bazar, Near Old Tehsil Chowk , Distt- Fatehabad, Haryana Admeasuring 37.84 Sqyds., East: H/O NANAD GOYAL , West: MAIN BAZAR , North: H/O SUSHIL KUMARH , South: H/O BIMLA	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060128613093 M/S Krishan Dairy Farm (Borrower), Deepak (Co-Borrower), Smt.Shila Devi (Co-Borrower), Krishan (Co-Borrower), Teluram (Co-Borrower)	17-Jul-25 Rs. 551830/- Rs. Five Lakh Fifty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Only 11-Jul-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Kh No 440 1-13 Khewat No 350 Min Khatauni No.444, Vill- Alewa, Th & Dist- Jind, Haryana Admeasuring 498 Sqyd	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060131033804 M/S Heera Jewellers (Borrower), Smt.Raj Rani (Co-Borrower), Lal Chand (Co-Borrower), Amit Kumar (Co-Borrower)	16-Sep-25 Rs. 379691/- Rs. Three Lakh Seventy-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-One Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Propety Situated At- Survey Number / Municipal Number- Khasra No 235/1 0-10, Khewat No.328 Now New Khewat No.336, Khatoni No 1485 Now New Khatoni No 1481, Sale Deed No 6159, Village Nai Dabwali, District- Sirsa, Haryana Admeasuring 45.3 Square Yard	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060134436645 M/S Harbans Sanitary Store (Borrower), Anmol Rani (Co-Borrower), Smt.Santosh Rani (Co-Borrower), Harbans Singh (Co-Borrower)	18-Aug-25 Rs. 349572/- Rs. Three Lakh Forty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Two Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - LGD Id No- 603880214/ Property Id- 60388WSCM4S00RR214A, Village- Loha Khera, Tehsil - Tohana, District- Fatehabad, Haryana Admeasuring 130.43 Square Metre, East: H/O 215 A /RESHAM SINGH S/O NIHAL SINGH, West: OUT OF LAL DORA, North: STREET, South: H/O 218 A/ RAJPAL S/O MAHENDER SINGH	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060135249502 M/S Sukhvinder Dairy (Borrower), Smt.Suman (Co-Borrower), Sukhvinder (Co-Borrower)	18-Sep-25 Rs. 1627510/- Rs. Sixteen Lakh Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Ten Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - 21/3424, Khewat/Khata No-247/263, Deed No 285/1, Village-Sacha Khera, Teh- Narwana, Dist- Jind, Haryana Admeasuring 630 Sqyd, East: H/O PARAMJIT, SIRAT AND ROSHAN, West: H/O RAGHBIR AND CHANDERBHAN, North: H/O MEWA, SIRAT AND ROSHAN, South: GALI	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060138359160 M/S Mudgil Dairy Farm (Borrower), Sandeep Kumar (Co-Borrower), Sita Ram (Co-Borrower), Smt.Santro (Co-Borrower)	17-Jul-25 Rs. 694279/- Rs. Six Lakh Ninety-Four Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Nine Only 11-Jul-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Khewat No 219 New Khewat No 297 Khatoni No 324 New Khatoni No 377 Rect No 25 Killas 5/1/3 0-8 Rect No 46 Killas 23/1 0-8 Rect No 59 Killas 3/1 0-8 9/1 0-2 Rect No 94 Killas 46 0-14 57 1-5, Village Intal Kalan, Tehsil & Dist- Jind, Haryana Admeasuring 141.16 Sqyds.	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060139664398 Mejor Singh Thekedar (Borrower), Mejor Singh (Co-Borrower), Bhagwan Singh (Co-Borrower)	15-Sep-25 Rs. 251988/- Rs. Two Lakh Fifty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Eight Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - Khewat No 219, Khatoni No 306, Khasra No 284, MAUJA- Diwan Khera, Tehsil Dabwali, District - Sirsa, Haryana Admeasuring 665 Sqyd, East: VASANT PLOT PARMJEET SINGH, West: STREET, North: H/O JAGRUP, South: H/O BUDHARAM	12-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060140462887 M/S Aman Boutique & Parlour (Borrower), Smt.Amandeep Kaur (Co-Borrower), Dalbir Singh (Co-Borrower)	18-Aug-25 Rs. 219169/- Rs. Two Lakh Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Nine Only 12-Aug-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - Uid No.- 599670230, Village- Garhi, Tehsil-Narwana, District- Jind, Haryana Admeasuring 62.34 Square Metre, East: PROPERTY OF KASHMIR/DHOLARAM , West: PROPERYU OF DHARMA , North: PROPERTY OF GURBAAJ , South: RASTA 9 FT	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060142324306 M/S Mohit Electrical (Borrower), Satish Kumar (Co-Borrower)	16-Sep-25 Rs. 482754/- Rs. Four Lakh Eighty-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Four Only 11-Sep-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At - Khewat No.- 608, Khatoni No 794 Khasra No 153/14/5, Tehsil- Uklana Mandi, District - Hisar, Haryana Admeasuring 152 Square Yard, East: BARWALA ROAD, West: H/O FULLARAM, North: SHOP OF DHARAM SINGH, South: STREET	13-Jan-26
(A/c No.) L9001060721647996 M/S S S Cloth House (Borrower), Sonu (Co-Borrower), Smt.Ranjana Devi (Co-Borrower)	14-Oct-25 Rs. 1257568/- Rs. Twelve Lakh Fifty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Eight Only 10-Oct-25	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At Freehold - Municipal Limit Metro And Urban House No 5935, Ward No 16, House Tax No 5935, Mohalla Khasapura, Dist- Rewari, Haryana Admeasuring 103.36 Sqyds	15-Jan-26

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, therefore notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above mentioned table in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said (Act-2002) read with Rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned in the above table. "The borrower's attention is Invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act **read with rule 8 (6), in respect of time available, i.e., 30 days from this intimation,** to redeem the secured assets." The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) for the amount and interest thereon mentioned in the above table.

-sd-
Place: HARYANA **Date: 17-Jan-2026** **Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited**

Amidst AR Rahman 'communal' remark controversy Kangana recalls her unpleasant experience with the composer

Amidst Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman's 'communal' remark controversy, actress Kangana Ranaut recalled her 'unpleasant' experience with him during her directorial venture "Emergency".

Kangana revealed that as she was making the film, she was extremely keen on narrating the script to Rahman; however, he refused to even meet her, claiming that he does not wish to be a part of a propaganda film.

Kangana's post on Instagram Stories went like this, "Dear @arrahman ji, I face so much prejudice and partiality in the film industry because I support a saffron party yet I must say I have not come across a man more prejudiced and hateful than you, I desperately wanted to narrate my directorial Emergency to you, forget narration, you even refused to meet me. I was told you don't want to be a part of a propaganda film. (sic)"

Kangana further pointed out that, contrary to the composer's opinion, "Emergency" received a lot of praise from the critics. She added that even leaders from the opposition party sent her letters, praising the drama. As per the 'Queen' actress, they lauded the balanced approach of the movie.

"Ironically Emergency was called a masterpiece by all critics even opposition party leaders sent me fan letters appreciating the film for it's balanced and compassionate approach but you are blinded by your hate. I feel sorry for you #emergency", Kangana added. Speaking with BBC Asian Network, Rahman stated that he has been getting limited work offers in Bollywood in the recent past.

He added that the reasons often reach him indirectly, tagging it as "Chinese whispers".

Rahman shared, "People who are not creative have the power now to decide things, and this might have been a communal thing also, but not in my face."

"It comes to me as Chinese whispers that they booked you, but the music company went ahead and hired their five composers. I said, 'Oh, that's great, rest for me, I can chill out with my family," the composer added.



Basil Joseph, Tovino Thomas-starrer 'Athiradi' to hit screens on May 14

Director Arun Anirudhan's eagerly awaited Malayalam film 'Athiradi', featuring actors Basil Joseph, Tovino Thomas, and Vineeth Sreenivasan in the lead, will hit screens on May 14 this year, its makers announced on Friday.
Actor Tovino Thomas, who shared the release date poster released by the makers on his Instagram timeline, wrote, "The celebrations begin now! A film directed by Arun Anirudh and produced by Dr. Ananthu S & Basil Joseph, under the banners of @basiljosephentertainment and @dr.ananthu.entertainments. Releasing May 14th 2026. Let the fireworks begin."
'Athiradi' has triggered huge excitement among fans and film buffs as it will be the first film to bring together Basil Joseph, Tovino Thomas, and Vineeth Sreenivasan on screen.
A teaser released by the makers some days ago opens with the introduction of Vineeth Sreenivasan's character. It is followed by the introduction of the characters of Basil Joseph and Tovino Thomas.
The teaser hints at 'Athiradi' being a mass action entertainer. The punchline, of the teaser, gives the impression that the team is gearing up to deliver a power-packed theatrical experience. The teaser also indicates that the trio will portray distinctly different characters, both in appearance and personality.
Already, the makers have revealed that Basil Joseph plays a character called Sam Kutty aka Sam boy in the film.
'Athiradi', which is being made as a complete entertainer, is being directed by debutant filmmaker Arun Anirudhan.

Bhoomika Chawla-starrer 'Euphoria' trailer released

The makers of director Gunasekhar's contemporary social drama 'Euphoria', featuring actor Bhoomika Chawla in the lead, have now released a gripping trailer of the film, which is scheduled to hit screens on February 6 this year.

Produced by Guna Handmade Films and presented by Sri Thenandal Films, 'Euphoria' will be a contemporary social drama.

Taking to its X timeline, Guna Handmade Films shared the link to the trailer and wrote, "The intense and intriguing #EuphoriaTrailer out now. BASED ON SHOCKINGLY TRUE EVENTS.#EuphoriaTheFilm Grand Release worldwide on 6th FEBRUARY, 2026.#EUPHORIA A @gunasekhar1 film. Produced by @neelima_guna & @yukthaguna"

For the unaware, director Gunasekhar is best known for his films, the Mahesh Babu-starrer 'Okkadu' and the Anushka Shetty-starrer 'Rudhramadevi'.

The trailer begins with a young girl saying her parents wanted her to be like young civil servants Smitha Sabharwal or Amrapali and that she was well on her way to becoming one.

It is at this time that she receives an invite for a party. Her father, wanting his daughter to study society as much as she studies books, encourages her to go for the party as he believes it to be a "non-alcoholic" party.

The trailer then shows angry protestors smashing windows even as a newsreader announces that a woman had filed a case against herself for a crime that she had committed. We learn that it is Bhoomika who has filed a case against herself. However, the reason why she has filed a case isn't known, making people take wild guesses.



We then see youngsters, under the influence of alcohol and drugs, indulging in rash and violent behaviour. A news reporter points out that the rate of crimes by minors was increasing day by day even as a girl is shown being assaulted by a group of minor boys. The trailer shows some grim visuals after which Bhoomika is seen saying, "I made a mistake by giving birth to him. I should've killed him in my womb."

Apart from Bhoomika Chawla, the film will also feature ace director Gautham Vasudev Menon, Sara Arjun, and Nassar, among others, in prominent roles. Following the mega-blockbuster success of 'Dhurandhar', 'Euphoria' marks Sara Arjun's next important film, generating strong expectations among audiences.

Apart from these stars, the film will also feature a host of actors including Rohith, Vignesh Kavi Reddy, Likitha Yalamanchili, Adala Prudhvi Raj, Kalpa Latha, Sai Sreenika Reddy, Ashritha Vemuganti, Matthew Varghese, Adarsh Balakrishna, Ravi Prakash, Naveena Reddy and Likith Nayudu.

After nearly two decades, the celebrated Gunasekhar–Bhoomika Chawla collaboration has reunited in 'Euphoria'. Sources close to the unit of the film claim that Bhoomika appears in a powerful role specially crafted for her, which stands out as one of the film's major highlights.

The film features music composed by Kaala Bhairava, with cinematography by Praveen K. Pothan. The film's dialogues have been penned by Nagendra Kasi and Krishna Hari while editing for the film has been taken care of by Praveen Pudi.

"Sangh to Reach our Society via Shatak", said Dr. Manmohan Ji Vaidya at the Trailer Launch of the Much-Awaited Movie Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh

CHANDIGARH : The trailer of the film on India's most debated and closely observed organisation was unveiled in Mumbai with the trailer launch of Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh. The trailer was released by Dr. Manmohan Ji Vaidya, senior functionary and member of the Akhil Bharatiya Karyakari Mandal (All-India Executive Committee) of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), in the presence of several dignitaries, marking a significant moment in the organisation's centenary year.

Ahead of the public unveiling, the makers hosted a special preview of the trailer exclusively for select members of the media, held in the presence of Dr. Manmohan Ji Vaidya, offering journalists an opportunity to engage more closely with the film's context and intent.

2025 marked a truly monumental milestone for the RSS as it completed 100 years of its journey — a century that has seen the organisation influence India's social, cultural and ideological landscape in profound ways. Shatak positions itself against this backdrop, seeking to move the conversation beyond perception-driven narratives and towards a more nuanced engagement with history, philosophy and institutional evolution.

The trailer signals the film's intent to address and challenge several long-standing myths surrounding the organisation, bringing to light historical chapters that have rarely, if ever, been explored on screen. From the multiple bans imposed on the RSS across different periods, to its role during critical phases of India's freedom struggle and the Emergency, the narrative promises to engage with sensitive yet significant moments in history — offering audiences a deeper, more contextualised understanding of events that have shaped public perception for decades.



Dr. Manmohan Ji Vaidya's presence at the launch added gravitas to the occasion. His association with the unveiling underscored the film's seriousness of purpose and its effort to remain anchored in authenticity.

Produced by Vir Kapur, co-produced by Aashish Tiwari and presented by Ada 360 Degree LLP, Shatak aims to bring forth lesser-known chapters and untold moments that have shaped the organisation's identity. The trailer offers glimpses of a narrative that engages with history, memory and continuity, inviting audiences to look beyond familiar headlines.

Speaking about the initiative of this movie and the story behind it, Dr. Manmohan Ji Vaidya said, "It is heartening that through the film Shatak, information about the Sangh will reach society via such a powerful medium. A social thinker once observed that between 1875 and 1950, of all movements that began in India, only the Sangh continued without splitting—and that continuity, growth, and relevance remain its defining strengths even today. The film's tagline, 'Naa Ruke, Naa Thake, Naa Jhuke' therefore feels deeply meaningful. At the root of this journey stands the vision of the Sangh's founder, Dr. Hedgewar. Cinema has the unique power to touch hearts and minds, and it is commendable that the makers have chosen this medium to tell the Sangh's story with such creativity and sincerity."

Talking about his experience, director Aashish Mall said, "This film is deeply personal to me. I truly believe some stories choose you, and Shatak is one such story—it chose me. During the process, despite being politically aware, I discovered so many new aspects through months of research and guidance. We realised how many myths and rumours exist in public discourse, and it became important for us to address them honestly. This film is our sincere effort to present another perspective and leave it to audiences to see and decide."

Speaking at the launch about the film, producer Vir Kapur said, "Creators and writers have always been there, they are here today, and they will continue to guide generations to come. Our writers have drawn from existing books and literature, using those foundations to shape the narrative of this film. We have carefully woven these ideas together, like pearls on a thread, to present this story in a cinematic form. This film is our sincere attempt to bring that collective work to the audience."

Kismat Aapki, Masti Meri!' Akshay Kumar drops fun new promo for Wheel of Fortune India

CHANDIGARH : Akshay Kumar is set to spin the wheel and bring his trademark charm back to Indian television with Wheel of Fortune India, premiering on January 27, 2026, on Sony Entertainment Television. The show will air Monday to Friday at 9 PM.
The latest promo offers a glimpse of Akshay in peak form: witty, energetic, and effortlessly engaging. Blending humour with gameplay, the promo underlines the central twist of the show where every letter matters. Taglines such as "Shabdon ki galatfehmi kar sakti hai behremi" and "Ab matter karega har ek akshar jab ghoomega jaadu ka chakkar" set the tone, highlighting how words, letters, and sharp thinking can change fortunes in an instant.



Taking to Instagram, Akshay Kumar shared his excitement with characteristic humour, writing, "Kismat aapki, paisa channel ka… aur dher saari masti meri taraf se ;) This and more with Wheel of Fortune jo aa raha hai 27th January se, Mon–Fri raat 9 baje sirf @sonytvofficial aur @sonylivindia par." The post has already sparked excitement among fans eager to see him return to the genre.
Globally, Wheel of Fortune stands as one of the most iconic game shows in television history. Recognised by Variety as the Most-Watched Entertainment Show on American Television, honoured by Guinness World Records as the World's Most Popular TV Game Show, and a recipient of the Daytime Emmy® Award for Outstanding Game Show, the format now makes its much-anticipated Indian debut with Sony Entertainment Television.

Bondtite takes a bold leap with Ranbir Kapoor to Redefine the Indian Adhesives Market

CHANDIGARH: Bondtite from Astral Limited, one of India's most trusted adhesive brands with a legacy of over 30 years, is set to take a significant leap forward with the launch of its new brand campaign—marking a decisive step in strengthening its position as a premium challenger brand in the Indian adhesives market.
As part of this strategic move, Bondtite has roped in Ranbir Kapoor as its brand face.



Known for his credibility, versatility, and wide appeal across generations, Ranbir Kapoor brings a strong sense of trust and relatability—attributes that closely align with Bondtite's brand values. His association adds renewed strength to Bondtite's vision of becoming a synonymous name for adhesive requirements across applications.
The upcoming campaign places wood adhesives at the core of its communication, a category that continues to be a strong growth driver for the brand. Alongside wood adhesives, Bondtite also boasts of robust portfolio of epoxy and cyanoacrylate (quick) adhesives, catering to a wide range of creation and repair needs across industries, trades, and households.
Speaking ahead of the campaign launch, Mr. Saumya Engineer - CEO of Astral Limited (Adhesives & Paints) said: "Bondtite has spent over three decades earning trust in the market through performance and consistency. This new campaign, supported by a strong celebrity association, reflects our renewed enthusiasm and confidence to accelerate growth—especially in the white adhesives segment. Our vision is to help evolve the Indian adhesives market by building a nationally trusted brand that offers professionals, craftsmen, and consumers a powerful, credible choice.

Yuvi paaji ka kya khunnas hai England team se? find out on Netflix's The Great Indian Kapil show season 4

CHANDIGARH : This week, The Great Indian Kapil Show Season 4 serves up a full cricket reunion as Yuvraj Singh, Virender Sehwag and Mohammad Kaif take over Kapil Sharma's couch with stories that feel straight out of the dressing room. Kapil wastes no time pulling out Yuvi Paaji's favourite opponent - England - and reads out his record like a scorecard: highest ODI score vs England, fastest T20 fifty, and the iconic six sixes. Basically, whenever it's England, Yuvi turns into a one-man highlight reel.
Kapil then bowls the ultimate googly "Itni khunnas England se… lekin bhabhi England ki - kyun?"
Yuvi doesn't even think twice - he just smiles and goes, "Karma." Bas. One word, perfect timing - and the entire couch erupts.



The laughs only get louder as the trio moves into throwback mode. Sehwag shares how he once promised his son Aryavir a Ferrari if he ever scored 319 runs, but ended up falling 23 runs short - giving Kapil the perfect opening to tease "Phir 3 tyre wali dete!" Sehwag fires back instantly, "Woh bhi mehengi hoti hai," The timing is so perfect it turns into one of those classic couch moments where everyone is laughing at once because only Sehwag can turn a Ferrari promise into a straight-faced joke. Yuvi then brings up a hilarious early-2000s international memory, recalling how in 2003, English conversations were less confidence and more survival - with Zaheer Khan replying to foreign players using only "sorry" and "excuse me." Kapil jumps in immediately with a roast "Are you guys poor in English?" making the story even funnier as the cricketers laugh along like it's a dressing-room rewind.

Avik Agrawal from Mumbai bags the 'Spell Master of India' title at SBI Life Spell Bee Season 15

CHANDIGARH : SBI Life Spell Bee, one of India's long-running spelling competitions, concluded its Grand Finale, marking the successful culmination of the 15th edition of the initiative in association with Mirchi. Eleven-year-old, Master Avik Agrawal, from Bombay Scottish School, Powai, Mumbai, emerged as the winner, through a gruelling competition that witnessed participation from over 1.25 lakh students across 300 schools nationwide, earning him the prestigious 'Spell Master of India' national title.



The Grand Finale, hosted by Indian actor, fashion designer and television presenter Ms. Mandira Bedi, witnessed an engaging face-off among the country's top young spellers, who advanced through multiple competitive rounds testing spelling accuracy, vocabulary, and presence of mind. Kushagra Pandey, age 13 years from The Millennium School, Lucknow, was declared the First Runner-Up, while Jasmine Jonwal, age 13 years from Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur, secured the Second Runner-Up position. All the finalists demonstrated strong language skills and consistency throughout the competition.

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