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REGD NO. CHD/0061/2006-08 | RNI NO. 61323/95

MONDAY
JANUARY 19, 2026
CHANDIGARH
VOL. XXX, NO. 350
12 PAGES, ₹2.00

SCAN QR CODE FOR EPAPER

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



NEWS BRIEFS

6 dead, many trapped after fire breaks out at shopping mall in Karachi

KARACHI: Six people, including a firefighter, were killed, and several others remained trapped more than 12 hours later after a massive fire broke out at a huge shopping mall in Pakistan's Karachi, officials said Sunday.
Sindh Inspector General of Police (IG) Javed Alam Odho told the media on site that the fire at the Gul Plaza on the city's busy MA Jinnah Road had erupted at around 10:45 pm on Saturday night.
Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah directed Karachi Commissioner Hassan Naqvi to immediately inquire into the incident, investigate the reasons behind the fire and submit a report, according to a statement.

Techie drowns in Noida ditch

NOIDA: A 27-year-old software engineer died after his car collided with a drainage boundary and fell into a deep ditch amid dense fog in Noida, sparking outrage among the residents.
The incident took place on Friday night near Sector 150, when the techie, Yuvraj Mehta, was returning home from work.
Due to the dense fog and the absence of reflectors on the road, his car collided with a high-ground ridge that separates two adjacent drainage basins, and fell into a 70-feet-deep ditch filled with water.
Some people who were passing by heard Mehta's screams and tried to help, but the car was completely submerged. The techie even called his father, Rajkumar Mehta, and told him, "Dad, I've fallen into a deep pit filled with water.

Two dead in multi-vehicle pileup amid dense fog in Nuh

GURUGRAM: Two men, including a truck driver, were burned to death following a multi-vehicle pileup on the Kundli-Manesar-Palwal (KMP) Expressway in Nuh on Sunday morning amid dense fog, police said.
The accident that happened around 7:30 am caused a long traffic jam and severely disrupted traffic on the expressway, they said.
Three fire brigade vehicles were called to the spot between Sabaras and Gudhi villages, and after about two hours of effort, the fire was brought under control. It took the police a total of four hours to clear the blockade and restore traffic.

Command Hospital Panchkula gets COAS certificate of appreciation

CHANDIGARH: Command Hospital, Chandimandir, under the Army's Western Command, has been awarded the prestigious Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Unit Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of its professionalism, dedication and excellence in military healthcare delivery.

PM accuses TMC of aiding infiltrators, calls for ending 'maha jungle raj' in Bengal

AGENCY
SINGUR (WB), JAN 18

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday accused the TMC government of "playing with national security by aiding infiltrators" for vote-bank politics, and said it was necessary to end its "maha jungle raj" in West Bengal to pave the way for development and good governance.

Addressing a rally in Singur in Hooghly district, he alleged that the state government had "failed" to cooperate with the Centre on critical security measures, including border fencing.

"The TMC is playing with national security. They are trying to protect infiltrators because they consider them their vote bank," the prime minister claimed.

"It is a BJP government that installed a statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in front of India Gate. For the first time, the contribution of the Azad Hind Fauj was honoured at the Red Fort. An island in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands was named after Netaji. The Bengali language got the status of a classical language when you elected a BJP government in Delhi. It is due to the efforts of the BJP government that Durga Puja got the UNESCO World Heritage tag. These people in Trinamool were partners in Sonia Gandhi's (UPA II) government.



Foundation stone laid for Rs 6,957-cr Kaziranga corridor

KALIABOR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday laid the foundation stone for the Rs 6,957-crore Kaziranga Elevated Corridor, and virtually flagged off two Amrit Bharat trains in Assam's Nagaon district.
Modi, who arrived here from Guwahati in the final leg of his two-day visit to the state, performed 'Bhoomi Poojan' of the Kaziranga project.
The corridor is aimed at ensuring safe wildlife movement across the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, reduce road accidents on National Highway-715, and boost ecotourism, while generating local employment opportunities, an official said.

Punjab CM lays stone for 23 rural link roads in Majitha



CHARANJIT ARORA
MAJITHA, JAN 18

At a public function in Majithia on Sunday, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann delivered a clear message on faith, governance and the future of the constituency while laying the foundation stone for 23 rural link roads worth 11.32 crore. The Chief Minister said it would have given him heartfelt happiness if the Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC) President, Advocate Harjinder Singh Dhami, considered himself as a soldier of Sri Guru Gobind Singh ji, but expressed concern that he instead calls himself a soldier of Sukhbir Singh Badal.

In the same address, the Chief Minister announced that Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Talbir Singh Gill will be the party's candidate from Majitha for the 2027 Assembly elections, asserting that the people will not allow any attempt to push Punjab back into beadbi (sacrilege) and goondagardi, and that development, dignity and respect for Sri Akal Takht Sahib will remain paramount.

Addressing a public gathering after laying the foundation stone of 23 new rural link roads in Majitha, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "Earlier, this area lived under constant fear. A self-proclaimed 'jarnail' of the region used false cases as a weapon against ordinary people. With deep connections in both Congress and Akali governments, he unleashed a reign of terror, and people were afraid to speak." He said that this fear has now completely vanished, as the will of the people is prevailing and such politics has been decisively rejected.

Jain Sadhvi Shree Kanak Ji completes her 'Santhara' at Sunam

SUMER GARG
SUNAM, JAN 18

Jain Sadhvi Shree Kanak Ji (88) completed her 'Santhara' on the 18th day on January 17 at 8.21 pm. She was physically okay when she breathed her last. Her body was cremated today in Sunam with full religious rituals of the Jain Panth.



'Santhara' is a Jain religious practice of voluntarily and gradually fasting to death by reducing food and liquid intake, seen as a spiritual way to shed karma and achieve liberation (moksha) at the end of life.

Sadhvi Shree Kanak Ji was born in Rajnagar (Rajasthan) in 1938. She took Diksha in 1960 from Acharya Shree Tulsi Ji, then Head of Terapanth Jain Sect. According to Jainism, the Sadhvi, who performs 'Santhara' attains salvation as extreme soul strength is required to achieve the desired death.

For the last rites of the Sadhvi, the followers of the Jainism prepared a 'Baikunth Palki' in which she was placed in a Samadhi posture. A procession was today taken out through the main bazaars of the Sunam city. A large number of her followers from various states including Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan and her relatives also took part in the procession.

VB-G RAM G guarantees every worker's right to employment: Hry CM

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18

Haryana Chief Minister Sh Nayab Singh Saini, describing the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) as a strong foundation for improving the living standards of hardworking labourers, said that this scheme is Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi's guarantee to every worker in the country. It ensures the right to work with dignity, timely wages, social respect, and a secure livelihood.

The Chief Minister was addressing the labourers at the state-level conference of the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G) held at the Indradhanush Auditorium in Panchkula today. On the occasion,



Development and Panchayats Minister Sh Krishan Lal Panwar and Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Sh Krishna Bedi were also present.

The Chief Minister said that the Prime Minister's resolve to make India a developed nation by 2047 cannot be achieved without the development of villages and labourers. He emphasized that the path to a developed India passes through its villages. The VB G Ram G scheme is not merely an employment programme, but an initiative aimed at uplifting the lives of hardworking people, ensuring dignity of labour, and protecting their self-respect.

Nayab Singh Saini further said that, keeping in view the shortcomings of MNREGA, Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi has presented the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025 to the nation, which is being referred to as the Viksit Bharat – G Ram G Act. He clarified that this is not just a renaming of MNREGA, but a comprehensive modernization of the rural employment system.

IndiGo flight makes emergency landing in Lucknow following bomb threat

UNI
LUCKNOW: An IndiGo flight from Delhi to Bagdogra made an emergency landing at Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, Lucknow, on Sunday following a bomb threat. According to airport sources, ATC received a bomb threat on Indigo flight 6E-6650 at 8:46 am on Sunday. The plane landed at Lucknow airport at 9:17 am. After the passengers were safely disembarked, the aircraft was made to park in the isolation bay.

According to reports, a threatening message was found on a napkin inside the plane's bathroom. It read, "There's a bomb on the plane." A passenger spotted the napkin and informed a crew member. The plane was then immediately diverted to Lucknow. Bomb squads, the fire brigade, medical personnel, and other security agencies surrounded the plane. "A security threat was noticed onboard IndiGo flight 6E-6650 operating from Delhi to Bagdogra on 18 January 2026, due to which the aircraft was diverted to Lucknow. Following established protocol, we immediately informed the relevant authorities and are fully cooperating with them in carrying out the necessary security checks," IndiGo said in a statement.

Senators criticise Trump's Greenland tariffs, warn NATO could be divided



UNI
WASHINGTON, JAN 18

Senators Thom Tillis and Lisa Murkowski on Saturday criticised President Trump's new 10 percent tariffs on Denmark and other European allies, warning that the measures could harm the US and strain NATO if the president attempts to seize Greenland by force. "This retaliation against our allies for sending a small number of troops to Greenland for training is harmful to America, to US businesses, and to our allies," Tillis wrote on X. "It benefits adversaries like Putin and Xi Jinping, who want to see NATO divided." Tillis added, "The fact that a few 'advisors' are advocating coercive action to take the territory of an ally is reckless. It undermines President Trump's legacy and the progress he has made in strengthening NATO over the years." Murkowski described the tariffs as "unnecessary, punitive, and a serious mistake."

"They risk alienating our key European allies while doing nothing to enhance U.S. national security," she wrote on X. "We are already seeing the impact, NATO partners are forced to divert attention and resources to Greenland, a situation that plays directly into Putin's hands and threatens the stability of the strongest coalition of democracies the world has ever known."

India will remain Vishwaguru as long as guided by dharma: Bhagwat

AGENCY
MUMBAI, JAN 18



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday said that as long as Bharat is guided by dharma, the country will remain a Vishwaguru, asserting that such spiritual knowledge is unique to India.

Dharma is the driver of the entire universe, and everything runs on that principle, he said at an event here.

Bhagwat said India had inherited a rich spiritual legacy from its ancestors and continued to receive guidance from saints and seers. He emphasised that dharma is not confined to religion, but it is the guiding principle of all creation.

We should always keep in mind that we are doing the work of God, but we are not God," Bhagwat said. Bhagwat further stated that Dharma guides all existence like fire burns and water flows, and as long as it steers India, the nation will remain a "Vishwaguru".He further added that "Dharma is the guiding force within all of us. If we journey in the 'vehicle' steered by Dharma, we are protected from 'accident'. Dharma governs the entire universe. While a state may be secular, no living or non-living entity can exist without its inherent Dharma, just as fire has its Dharma to burn and water has its Dharma to flow. As long as Dharma drives Bharat, it will continue to be Vishwaguru."Earlier, while attending the Sanatan Culture Festival in Vrindavan, Mathura, the RSS chief vouched for unity among the Hindu community, saying that there should be no discrimination of any kind.Bhagwat said that the world might view divisions within the Hindu community by caste, creed, sect, and language, but they are all one."There should be no discrimination of any kind... We consider the society in which we live as one; we believe the entire Hindu society is one, yet the world sees many divisions within it, such as language, caste, sect, and community... For as many types of Hindus as the world recognises, I have friends from each of those types visiting each other, eating and drinking together, standing by in joy and sorrow, treating them as friends..." he said.

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Des Raj Bansal and Usha Bansal celebrated their grandson's birthday with great pomp and show



CHANDIGARH (J.K. BATTA): It was a very lovely and heartwarming family moment at Dhillon Farm in Nayagaon, where former Chairman of Nayagaon Market Committee and renowned social worker Mr. Des Raj Bansal and his wife Mrs. Usha Bansal, along with their grandson Madhav Bansal's father Naveen Bansal and mother Mrs. Priyanka Bansal, uncle Tarun Bansal and aunt Mrs. Kiran Bansal, and aunt Yogita Mittal and uncle Gaurav Mittal, all celebrated Madhav Bansal's birthday with great enthusiasm. This celebration symbolised joy and love for them and their family. Such occasions often include cutting a cake, giving gifts, and sharing happiness with loved ones, which strengthens relationships.

'Yudh Nashian Virudh': On day 323, Punjab police nabs 122 drug smugglers

CHANDIGARH: Continuing the war against drugs "Yudh Nashian Virudh" waged by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann to eradicate drug menace from state consecutively for the 323rd day, Punjab Police conducted raids at 333 locations on Sunday leading to the arrest of 122 drug smugglers after registration of 97 first information reports (FIRs) across the state. With this, the number of total drug smugglers arrested has reached to 45,259 in 323 days.

The raids have resulted in recovery of 440 grams heroin, 340 grams opium, 3 kg poppy husk, 1781 intoxicant tablets/capsules and Rs 8106 drug money from the possession of arrested drug smugglers.

Notably, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann has asked the Commissioners of Police, Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendent of Police to make Punjab drug free state. The Punjab government has also constituted a 5-member Cabinet Sub Committee led by Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema to monitor the war against drugs. Over 120 Police teams, comprising over 1000 police personnel, under the supervision of 67 gazetted officers have conducted 333 raids across the state. Police teams have also checked as many as 361 suspicious persons during the day-long operation.

PFRKMA urges GoP, tender rates of FRK, must be equal to the near states' rates

SUMER GARG
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18



The Centre's flagship rice fortification programme, promoted as a uniform national nutrition mission under the slogan 'One Nation, One Policy," is facing a serious credibility test in Punjab.

The Punjab fortified rice kernel manufacturers association (PFRKMA), Punjab, has accused the Government of Punjab (GoP) of maintaining arbitrarily low and economically unviable tender rates, effectively strangling manufacturers tasked with implementing a central welfare scheme.

In a strongly worded representation to the Principal Secretary, department of food, civil supplies & consumer affairs, PFRKMA has sought an immediate revision of Punjab's FRK tender rates, warning that the current pricing structure could collapse the supply chain of fortified rice in the state.

Mr. Neeraj Bansal, President, PFRKMA and Prem Goel, President of Akhil Bhartiya sheller sangh in a joint statement said, "Punjab-based FRK manufacturers have fully complied with every guideline issued by the Government of India (GoI) and the Government of Punjab (GoP), including FSSAI norms, DFPD directives, and repeated procedural upgrades. Yet, despite this compliance, manufacturers in Punjab are being paid significantly lower rates than their counterparts in neighbouring states, raising uncomfortable questions about policy discrimination". While states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh follow region-wise or mandal-wise rate fixation, the effective realizable rates in those states are substantially higher, often cushioned through flexible payment mechanisms. Punjab, however, continues with a rigid and outdated rate structure, making operations financially unsustainable. The situation has worsened following the revised standard operating procedure (SOP) issued by the department of food & public distribution (DFPD), GoI. Though the SOP was introduced to strengthen quality assurance, it has simultaneously driven production costs sharply upward. Longer production cycles, extended labour deployment, enhanced quality control compliance, fixed batch sizes leading to idle plant capacity, and mounting storage and handling costs have collectively eroded margins. "Manufacturers are being asked to deliver higher quality at higher cost, but at lower-than-national-average rates," an PFRKMA office bearer said, calling it a policy contradiction that defies economic logic. Despite adhering to the revised SOP in letter and spirit, PFRKMA has cautioned that continuation of the current tender rates may force manufacturers to reduce output or shut down entirely, jeopardizing the uninterrupted supply of fortified rice to beneficiaries under the national nutrition programme. The association has questioned how a centrally mandated nutrition scheme can function when states are allowed to impose rate regimes that vary wildly and undermine viability, effectively sabotaging implementation on the ground. While calling for urgent corrective action, PFRKMA has demanded that the GoP immediately align Punjab's FRK tender rates with adjoining states, or fix a scientifically to avoid to push manufacturers to the brink and economically justified rate based on actual production costs and revised SOP requirements. The association has also sought a personal hearing to place documented evidence before the authorities. As Punjab projects itself as the food bowl of India, the ongoing rate disparity exposes a deeper governance failure, one where manufacturers are expected to absorb losses for a public welfare programme, while the promise of 'One Nation, One Policy' remains confined to official slogans rather than ground reality.

"Punjabi University must become world-class while preserving Punjabi identity"



PATIALA (RAWEL BHINDER): Renowned scientist, academician, and administrator Dr. Jagdeep Singh, presently serving as the Vice-Chancellor of Punjabi University, brings with him decades of experience in higher education, research, and administration. Prior to this assignment, he served as Registrar, IISER Mohali, and earlier held key positions in the Higher Education Department of the Punjab Government.

He was also Registrar of Central University, Bathinda for four years, where he additionally served as Controller of Examinations and Finance Officer.Dr. Jagdeep Singh has also contributed significantly as a Biotechnology Consultant at Pushpa Gujral Science City, Kapurthala, where he played a pivotal role in establishing landmark projects such as the Biotech Gallery, Evolution Gallery, Dinosaur Park, AIDS Gallery, and Red Ribbon Project.An accomplished academic, he holds a Ph.D. in Biology and completed post-doctoral research in Molecular Biology. He has published 20 research papers in the fields of cancer systematics and epigenetics.

His recently released book, "Science and Spirituality: The Journey Within," reflects his integrative approach to knowledge.In an exclusive and detailed conversation with Yugmarg, Dr. Jagdeep Singh shared his vision for Punjabi University and higher education in Punjab.

Classified

I, Nisha W/o Navdeep Singh R/o Flat No.1005, Tower B-3, Kendriya Vihar-1,Sector-125,Sunny Enclave Kharar (Mohali) have changed my name from Nisha to Nisha Kumar.
100071

PUBLIC NOTICES

I Raj Kumar Sharma S/O Shri Roshan Lal Sharma resident of House no 2669, Sector 22/C, Chandigarh declare that my Son Karan Sharma is out of my control. I disown/debar to Karan Sharma from my movable and immovable property anywhere in India. Anybody dealing with him will deal at your own risk. Concerned note.
100048

I, No. JC 483176P Sub Malaram, of Unit-21 Rajput C/O 56 APO, presently residing at Village Tiba, Po Tibabasai, Distt. Jhunjhunun, State Rajasthan. Hereby declare that I have changed my Son's Name From Aman To Aman Awana. Both names Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB10928205631737Y Dated 13/01/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

I, Yamuna Ram is legally father of No. 15572871L, Rank Hav. Name Ajay Kumar of Unit 103 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO, Residing at (permanent Address) Kusahi, Rohtas, Sisirita, State Bihar, PIN Code 802217. Hereby declare that I have changed my name From Yamuna Ram To Jamuna Rajavar and Date of Birth From 28/02/1957 To 01/01/1956. Due to wrongly entered in service record of my son. Both names and DOB Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB11680551967325Y Dated 16/01/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

I, Ram Rajo Devi is legally Mother of No. 15572871L, Rank Hav. Name Ajay Kumar of Unit 103 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO, Residing at (Permanent address) Kusahi, Rohtas, Sisirita, State Bihar, PIN Code 802217. Hereby declare that I have changed my name From Ram Rajo Devi To Ramarajo Rajavar and Date of Birth From 28/02/1959 to 01/01/1958. Due to wrongly entered in service record of my son. Both names and DOB Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB11681317448244Y Dated 16/01/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

I, Nanda mother of No. 15817191K Nk Shegokar Pramod Sahadev resident of Vithoba Nagar, At Ghatpuri, Khamgaon, District - Buldhana, State-Maharashtra, Pin-444303, have changed my name from Nanda to Nanda Sahdev Shegokar Vide Affidavit Dated 17/01/2026 Before Executive Magistrate, Jalandhar.
600022

I, Shegokar Sahadev father of No. 15817191K Nk Shegokar Pramod Sahadev resident of Vithoba Nagar, At Ghatpuri, Khamgaon, District - Buldhana, State-Maharashtra, Pin-444303, have changed my name from Shegokar Sahadev to Sahadev Namdev Shegokar Vide Affidavit Dated 17/01/2026 Before Executive Magistrate, Jalandhar.
600022

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Gurmeet Kaur, W/o Darshan Singh, R/o Shahabad, Mohdodan (263), Nalvi, Kurukshetra, Haryana, currently R/o village Sohara, Tehsil Kharar, Distt Mohali, my daughter Tajinder Kaur out of my control so I disowned from my movable and immovable properties anybody dealing with her own risk
524479

I, Gulab, is legally mother of Service No. JC 483176P, Rank Sub, Name Malaram, of (Unit) 21 Rajput D COY, C/O 56 APO, Resident of Village Tiba, PO. Tibabasai, District Jhunjhunun, State Rajasthan 333036. Hereby declare that I have changed my date of birth From 01/07/1941 To 01/01/1945. Due to wrongly entered in my son's service record. Both DOB Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB10925449968127Y Dated 13/01/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

I, No. JC 483176P, Sub. Malaram, of Unit-21 Rajput C/O 56 APO, presently residing at village Tiba, P.o Tibabasai, Distt. Jhunjhunun, State Rajasthan. Hereby declare that I have changed my daughter's Name From Laxmi Bai To Laxmi. Due to wrongly entered in my service record. Both names Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB10929044479469Y Dated 13/01/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

I, Tumbade Archana Gajanan wife of No. 15817191K NK Shegokar Pramod Sahadev resident of Vithoba Nagar, At Ghatpuri, Khamgaon, District - Buldhana, State-Maharashtra, Pin-444303, have changed my name from Tumbade Archana Gajanan to Shegokar Archana Pramod Vide Affidavit Dated 17/01/2026 Before Executive Magistrate, Jalandhar.
600022

I, Gurminder Singh S/o Ajit Singh R/o Village Khanowal, District Kapurthala, Punjab-144601 have changed my name from Gurminder Singh to Given Name as Gurminder & Surname as Singh. All concerned please note.
600022

I , Balvinder Alias Balvinder Singh S/o Jiya Lal R/o Kaira Choupal Village Sakra Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) Have Changed My Name From Balvinder Alias Balvinder Singh To Balvinder Singh. Concerned Please Note.
84451

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that Sh. Jagjit Singh S/o Sh. Balkaran Singh S/o R/o House No.-632, 40 Feet Road, Green City, Bathinda, Punjab-151001, was a co-allottee of 25% share in the commercial Built-up SCO Number 05 on Basement & Ground Floor having Carpet Area of 1687.11 Sq. Ft. and on First Floor having carpet area of 991.37 Sq.Ft in the Project "Jubilee Junction" situated at Sector-86, Airport Road, S.A.S Nagar, Mohali, Punjab. Sh. Jagjit Singh Sra has deceased on 23-05-2025 and now his below-named legal heirs have approached the undersigned Promoter for affecting transfer of the said unit in their favour.

1. Mrs. Sarupinder Kaur (69lls) aged about 63 years.
2. Mr. Vijay Pal Singh Sra (Son) aged about 30 years.

The undersigned has been apprised that they are the only surviving successors of Sh. Jagjit Singh Sra and no other legal heir/ successor in interest is alive except the above-mentioned. Accordingly, the General Public is hereby informed and called upon that in case any person has the objection in affecting the transfer of allotment rights of Late Sh. Jagjit Singh Sra in favour of the above-named legal heirs, may please contact at the below mentioned address within 30 days from the date of this notice.

"Jubilee Joy Homes LLP", CRM Office, Office 701-728, 7th Floor, Jubilee Walk, Sector 70, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali, Punjab-160071.

Having failed to receive any objection from any person, the undersigned shall affect the transfer of the aforesaid unit in favour of the above-mentioned legal heirs of Sh. Jagjit Singh Sra.

For Jubilee Joy Homes LLP
Authorized Signatory
Jubilee Joy Homes LLP Registered Office: 701-728, 7th Floor, Jubilee Walk, Sector 70, S.A.S Nagar, Mohali (Pb.) 160071
(T): 0172-3004000
www.jubileegroup.in
524479

I, Pinki Alias Nirmla Kumari W/o Balvinder Singh R/o Kaira Choupal Village Sakra Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) Have Changed My Name From Pinki Alias Nirmla Kumari To Nirmala Kumari. Concerned Please Note.
84451

I, Bhupinder S/o Sh. Chaman Lal R/o 289 C, Singhpura, Barara, Tehsil Barara, Distt Ambala, Haryana have changed my name from Bhupinder to Bhupinder Sharma.
78645

I, Deepak Kumar, son of Om Parkash, resident of 743 Shanti Nagar Ferozepur City, Ferozepur PIN:152002, Punjab, India, and presently residing at 46505 Brooks Ave ,Chilliwack, BC Canada V2P 1C6, do hereby change my name from Deepak Kumar to Deepak Kumar Malhotra with immediate effect.
900011

I, Darshan Singh S/o Shri Lohka Ram, R/o village and post office Lafran, Tehsil Dhatwal, District Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh have changed my name from Darshan Lal to Darshan Singh. All concerned please note.
989666

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public is hereby notified that, I sohan Lal son of Sh. Om Parkash resident of 397, Sector 25-B, Mandi Gobindgarh, Tehsil Amloh, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib was in possession of two original sale deeds bearing Vasiqa No.2968 dated 12-12-2006 executed by Sukhdev Singh and Sukhwinder Kaur in favour of Avtar Singh and Pawan Kumar and the original sale deed bearing Vasiqa No. 648 dated 21-05-2008 executed by Gurcharan Singh in favour of Nonata Singh. The Sale deeds detailed above were previous sale deeds and are required by Bank of India. Branch Khanna for credit facilities to be obtained by Akshat Metals, Mandi Gobindgarh. Both the sale deeds were lost somewhere near Bus Stand, Mandi Gobindgarh on 17.12.2025. Any person/institution having any right, lien, charge or any other interests of any nature whatsoever may contact Akshat Metals, Mandi Gobindgarh or Bank of India, Branch Khanna within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise it will be presumed that there is no objection to any person/institution against the said property and that the Bank shall be authorized and able to safely proceed to sanction and advance the loan/limit to Akshat Metals, Mandi Gobindgarh.

Sohan lal son of Sh. Om Parkash resident of 397, Sector 25-B, Mandi Gobindgarh, Tehsil Amloh, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib
63372

I Manpreet Singh S/o Baldev Singh Village Kirtowal Khurd , Tehsil Patti District Tarn Taran Have Changed my Name From Manpreet Singh to Surname as Singh and my Givenname is Manpreet plz note it.
524479

I, Kanta Rani W/o Shyam Lal r/o village Rajaund, District Kaithal, Haryana, hereby declare that Kanta Rani and Kanta Sharma are both names of the same person, myself. In the future, I should be known and identified by both names as one and the same person.100070
100070

I, Kuldeep Singh Mrar S/o Gurmail Singh R/o Bhaini Chuhar (Bathinda) have changed my name to Kuldeep Singh.
63372

I, Amandeep Kaur W/o Mandeep Kumar R/o Vill-Palli Uchi Po. Khas Teh-Nawanshahr Distt SBS Nagar-144512, Punjab declare that my given name is Amandeep. and my surname is Kaur.
63372

I, Suman W/o Vijay Kumar Sheemar R/o H.No. B-7/739 Street Lakh Data Peer Garhshankar Road Nawanshahr Teh-Nawanshahr Distt S.B.S. Nagar-144514 Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Suman Sheemar.
63372

PUBLIC NOTICE

OFFICE OF ZAMMY KAIH, ADVOCATE, Enr. No.P/1442/2000
JUDICIAL COURT COMPLEX BUDHLADA, DISTT. MANSA (PB.)
Rest. Near Railway Crossing, Bhikhi Road, Budhlada
151502, Distt. Mansa Ph.01932-252131

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the public at large that following original Sale deed No. 3563 dated 16-11-1989 regd. By Sub-Registrar Budhlada executed by Gangu Devi W/Sh. Hans Raj Budhlada in favour of Parshotam Dass S/o Sh. Shadi Ram & Sanwariya Devi W/Sh of Parshotam Dass R/o Budhlada Tehsil Budhlada Distt. Mansa has been lost. It is informed by the party to have not been mortgage with any bank or Financial institution or in other institution and the same has been lost.

If anybody has any objection regarding the mortgaging of the same, may respond within fourteen days to the undersigned. After the expiry of the stipulated period of Fourteen days, no claim whatsoever shall be entertained.

The details of property is as under:
Commercial Shop measuring and bounded as under:-
North 10'-9" Anaj Mandi
South 10'-9" Road
East 71'-6" Prabhdayal
West 71'-6" Satpal
Title deed no.3648 dated 23-01-2013 Regd by Sub-Registrar Budhlada Owned by Raj Kumar, Aman S/o Sh. Amarjeet Lal S/o Ram Chhabi Md R/ o Budhlada, Distt. Mansa, Punjab

Gangu Kaith
Sub-Divisional Court Complex
Budhlada-151502 Distt. Mansa
Mob No.98142 53131, 94633 73105
63372

I, Ramandeep Kumar S/O Surjit Singh R/O VPO Possi Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab, India, have changed my name from Ramandeep Kumar to Kumar Ramandeep.
63372

I, Ashok Kumar S/O Sukhdev Singh R/O VPO Possi Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab, India, have changed my name from Ashok Kumar to Kumar Ashok.
63372

I, Ajit Singh Khinda S/o Inder Singh R/o Vill: Kamalwala Po. Mallanwala Teh-Zira Distt. Ferozepur have changed my name to Ajit Singh.
63372

I Charnjeet Singh S/o Gurinder Singh Village kammoke P.O Butala Distt Amritsar.I Declare that I have change my name from Charnjeet Singh to Singh Charnjeet.
63372

I Shamser Khan S/o Rafik Khan Village Binjoki Kalan Tehsil and District Malerkotla Have changed my Name Shamser Khan to Shamsher Khan.
63372

I Gurnam Singh Karnawal S/o Teja Singh R/o Lakha Singh Wala Hithar Distt. Ferozepur have changed my name Gurnam Singh Karnawal to Gurnam Singh.
63372

PUBLIC NOTICE

ਮੈਂ ਉਪਰ ਕਥਨ ਕਰਤਾ ਅਫੀਡੇਵਿਟ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਅਫੀਡੇਵਿਟ ਸਬੰਧ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ

Ponahari Da Mela concludes successfully at Harpalya Cave



CHANDIGARH (J.K. BATTA): The 11th annual fair of Shri Siddha Baba Balak Nath, the grand Ponahari Da Mela, organised by the Shri Siddha Baba Balak Nath Seva Samiti at Harpalya Cave, near Nada Baba Ji's temple, concluded successfully on Sunday, January 18th. Thousands of devotees offered their prayers. Baba Kala Ji performed the flag hoisting ceremony in the morning, followed by a havan (fire ritual) for Baba Ponahari Ji. From 10:00 AM onwards, Bhajan singers and TV artists Bibi Gurdeep Khanna, Jas Karan, and Sandeep Ughdanwal enthralled the audience with their melodious renditions of devotional songs. BJP media spokesperson Shri Vineet Joshi, newly appointed BJP Mandal Nayagaon President Shri Bhupinder Singh Bhupi, and Vice President Suresh Yadav also offered their prayers at the event. Gaddi Nashin Kala Baba Ji stated that devotees come to this cave to offer their prayers and have their wishes fulfilled. A

NEWS BRIEF

Gurdaspur celebrates women empowerment at "Queen of Gurdaspur" Season 1



VERMA
GURDASPUR: On January 11, 2026, the AS Beauty Pageant and Culture Hub hosted the inaugural "Queen of Gurdaspur" competition. Led by President Dr. Taqdeer and Vice President Dr. Varinder Mohan, the event brought together contestants ranging from age 5 to 66 to showcase Punjabi heritage and talent. The competition was inaugurated by Chief Guest Mr. Raman Bahl and attended by several prominent local figures. Divided into four age-based categories, the top honors were awarded as follows: Miss Teen: Mishika (Winner), Rahat Preet (2nd), Paranjal Sharma (3rd).Miss Category: Harnoor Kaur (Miss Queen), Ruhani Noor (Miss Queen G 1),Mrs. Category: Dr. Priyanka (Mrs. Queen G 1), Kulwinder Kaur (Miss Queen G 2).

Spl employment fair and self-employment camp for girls and women on Jan 20

PARAMJIT SINGH
JALANDHAR: The District Employment and Enterprise Bureau in collaboration with the Social Security, Women and Child Development Department, Jalandhar, under the leadership of the District Administration, Jalandhar, is organizing a special employment fair and self-employment camp at the local Hans Raj Mahila Mahavidyalaya on 20th January 2026 from 9 am.
Regarding the preparations for this fair, Deputy Director, District Employment and Enterprise Bureau Neelam Mahe and District Program Officer Manjinder Singh held a meeting with Principal Ekta Khosla at Hans Raj Mahila Mahavidyalaya.

Youth nabbed with 3.88g heroin, 26 narcotic pills in Hoshiarpur anti-drug drive



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR: In line with the Punjab government's ongoing campaign against drugs, Hoshiarpur SSP Sandeep Kumar Malik's directives led to a significant bust. Under DSP Palwinder Singh's supervision and efforts by SHO Rajinder Singh, a police team headed by ASI Kaushal Chander of Ajnoha police post—along with ASI Kulwinder Singh and HC Prabhjot—conducted a nakabandi at the T-point en route from Ajnoha to Todarpur.Spotting two youths on a motorcycle heading towards Todarpur, the team observed them panicking upon seeing the police.

Chandigarh taffic police organises road safety 'Walkathon' event as part of National Road Safety Month-2026

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18



As apart of National Road Safety Month-2026, being observed from 1st January to 31st January 2026, the Chandigarh Traffic Police, under the leadership of Dr.Sagar Preet Hooda, IPS, Director General of Police, UT Chandigarh, and the guidance of Sh. Pushpendra Kumar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, U.T., Chandigarh, Sh. Sumer Partap Singh, IPS, Senior Superintendent of Police (Security & Traffic), and under the close supervision of Sh. Lakshay Pandey, DANIPS, DSP/Traffic (R&D) Road Safety, conducting series of road safety awareness activities across the city during the month.

As part of National Road Safety Month-2026, being observed from 1st January to 31st January 2026, Chandigarh Traffic Police conducted a special traffic awareness walkathon from Government College, Sector 11 to Sector 11 Market, Chandigarh.The walkathon witnessed enthusiastic participation of around 250 NSS students from Government College, Sector 11. The event was organised in coordination with the college administration and was attended by Dr. Monika Dara, NSS Coordinator, and Prof. Rama Arora, who encouraged students to actively participate in promoting road safety awareness among the public.

Dr. Parvesh Sharma, Inspector, In-charge of the Children Traffic Park, along with her dedicated team consistingHC Jagroop Singh, HC Rahul,HC Ravinder,Ct. Parshant, Ct. Pardeep,Ct.Sachin Ct.Neeraj & Vol. Jagdamba Parshad educated all the participants on essential traffic rules and regulations with a focus on wearing seat belts and BIS-standard ISI-marked safety helmets, proper use of indicators, maintaining lane discipline, switching off engines at red lights to reduce pollution, adhering to specifications for inbuilt tinted glass and sunshades in vehicles, avoiding overspeeding,a focus Safe Transportation Policy for Students (STRAPS), and strictly following road signage and traffic signals. Emphasis was also placed on the significance of giving way to Emergency Vehicles i.e. Ambulance, Fire-Brigade & Police Vehicles and also to assist injured persons in reaching hospitals.

Nayagaon Municipal Council starts drive to remove stray cows



J.K. BATTA
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18

The Nayagaon Municipal Council has finally launched a campaign to remove stray cows roaming the streets, fulfilling a long-standing demand of the city's residents.

This action has brought relief to the city dwellers, who have been facing traffic and safety problems due to stray animals for a long time. Given details about this, Sanitary Inspector Santosh Verma said that, thanks to the efforts of Executive Officer (EO) Manpreet Singh, about 9 stray cows were removed from the city on Friday and sent to a cowshed in Lalru.

He further stated that this campaign will continue, and efforts will be made to eliminate stray animals from the city.

This step taken by the Nayagaon Municipal Council has been welcomed by the local people, including social worker and Congress leader Chiranjeev Raju Verma, General Secretary of the District Mohali Congress Legal Cell Advocate Kamaldeep Singh Sidhu, Vice President of District Mohali Congress Manjit Singh Sidhu, and other Congress members, who expressed hope that the problem of stray animals on the city streets will be completely resolved in the coming days.

Prominent personalities from various fields attend bhog and antim ardas of S. Mohan Singh

AMRISH ANAND
DORAHA, JAN 18



A wave of mourning prevailed in the city on the occasion of the Bhog and Antim Ardas of S. Mohan Singh Ji, a well-known social worker and businessman associated with New Paris Dry Cleaners. The Bhog of the Sri Sehaj Path, organized for the eternal peace of the departed soul, was performed on Sunday at Gurdwara Singh Sabha, near the Railway Station, Doraha, from 12 noon to 2:00 pm.On this solemn occasion, a large number of representatives from religious, social, and political organizations paid their respects.

The kirtani jatha of the Gurdwara Sahib rendered soulful and devotional kirtan, guiding the congregation with Gurbani teachings on life and death and inspiring spiritual reflection.Those present included Bibi Ramandeep Kaur Giaspura, Doraha Municipal Council President Sudarshan Sharma Pappu, former MLA Lakhvir Singh Lakha, S. Jogeshwar Singh Mangat, Chairman Bant Singh Doburji, Dr. J. L. Anand, renowned writer Master Telu Ram, Mandeep Mangat, Avtar Singh, Gurdial Dalal, Rajveer Rubal, Uday Sharma Nanna, Anish Bhanot, Joginder Singh Oberoi, Vipin sethi ,Harinder hinda,Kanwardeep Jaggi, Gurdip Singh Bawa, among several other prominent personalities.During the ceremony, residents of the city and representatives of various organizations expressed their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and offered prayers for the eternal peace of the departed soul. Family members, relatives, and local residents gathered at the Gurdwara Sahib to pay floral tributes and offer their humble homage, remembering the departed with deep respect and reverence.

National insurance observes road safety week in Chandigarh transport area



SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18

Road Safety Week was Celebrated by National Insurance Company Limited in the Chandigarh Transport Area Sector 26 on 16th January 2026. Approximately Sixty Transporters actively participated this event.

The detailed information about Road Safety and Third Party mandatory Insurance cover, Legal Compliance, Financial protection, Victim Compensation, Peace of mind , Cover specific Liabilities provided by Mr Sameer Dhawan Chief Business Manager of National Insurance Company Sector 26 Divisional office. Sh B.L. Sharma, Mr Sarjant Singh, Sh Vijay Sharma, Mr Vijay Kumar, Sh Bhag Lal were also Contributed to Organising this event.

Mr Anil Kumar Admn Officer also explained the benefits of MSME Insurance Policy to the General public.

Raids conducted at various places in the city to stop child begging



JS SODHI
JALANDHAR, JAN 18

As per the guidelines of Additional Chief Secretary, Social Security, Women and Child Development Department and under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Agarwal, the Child Begging Prevention Task Force conducted raids in various areas of the city including areas near bus stand, PIMS, Chunmun Mall and Geeta Mandir Model Town to stop child begging.

District Program Officer Manjinder Singh said that this operation was carried out by various teams of Child Protection Officer Jalandhar and other officers. During this, the team interacted with the general public and made them aware about child rights, importance of education and crimes against children. The district team also made people aware about the evils like child labour, child begging, child molestation and sexual abuse. It was also informed that if anyone gets information about child begging, any child in trouble, then the information can be immediately given on Child Helpline number 1098 or coordination can be done at the office of District Program Officer Gandhi Vanita Ashram.

Decoding economics behind your plate: SGGS World University hosts insightful lecture on food value chains



AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, JAN 18

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, continues its tradition of academic excellence with the Department of Food Processing Technology organizing a highly informative expert lecture on "Economics of Food Value Chains" for B.Tech Food Processing Technology students. The keynote speaker, Dr. Sumit Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Central University of Haryana, delivered a comprehensive and thought-provoking session, unraveling the complex economics that govern the journey of food from the farm to the consumer's plate. Dr. Kumar highlighted crucial components of the food value chain—farm-level decision-making, market linkages, transportation, processing, value addition, price determinants, and the role of modern agribusiness models. He emphasized that efficient food value chains not only enhance farmers' incomes but also significantly reduce post-harvest losses, improve supply-chain transparency, and strengthen the overall food economy.

Shishya School of Pathankot sets new benchmarks in education



GURDASPUR (VERMA): Shishya School, located on Jugial Road in Pathankot, has drawn widespread attention for its remarkable progress and excellence in the field of education. Under the able leadership of Director Jarnail Singh Patial and Principal Kamlesh Patial, the school has achieved notable success not only in academics but also in sports and physical development.Special emphasis is being placed on providing quality education to students at Shishya School.

A team of highly qualified and experienced teachers focuses not only on academic learning but also on the personal and social development of every child.

The school staff ensures that each student is encouraged to explore their potential and achieve new milestones of success according to their individual abilities. The academic environment of the school inspires students to move forward with creative thinking and self-confidence. The school administration stated that their continuous efforts are dedicated to shaping a bright and promising future for the students. Director Jarnail Singh Patial and Principal Kamlesh Patial emphasized that along with academic excellence, equal importance is given to the physical development of students. From time to time, children are provided opportunities to participate in sports and various co-curricular activities, ensuring balanced mental and physical growth.
Parents of the students have also expressed great satisfaction with the school's education system.

Free eye check-up and operation camp in Sangatpura dedicated to birth anniversary of Bhai Himmat Singhon Jan 20: Jatinder Pradhan



LEHRAGAGA (GURMAIL SINGH SANGATPURA): A special free eye checkup and operation camp is being organized in village Sangatpura of Sangrur district on January 20 (Tuesday) on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Bhai Himmat Singh Ji (the third martyr among the five beloved martyrs).

This camp is being organized under the social service program of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). With the special efforts of BJP Circle (Ugraha) President Jatinder Singh Sangatpura and under the leadership of Sherwinder Singh Ravi Daska, this camp will start at 9 am at Gurdwara Sahib, village Sangatpura. An expert team of Saanjh Charitable Eye Hospital, Lehragaga will provide services in the camp. Complete eye examination will be done free of cost and eye operations of needy patients will also be done free of cost. 50% less rate will be applicable for patients undergoing laser surgery. The team of eye specialists in the camp includes Dr. Bikkar Singh Walia (Retina Specialist) Dr. Abhishek Handa (Phaco and Oculoplasty Specialist)Daman Bajwa (District President, BJP Sangrur), Sherwinder Singh Dhaliwal and other senior leaders will be present as the chief guests on this occasion. Jagwinder Singh Daska (Former Chairman), Ravinder Sandhu (President, Saanjh Global Foundation).

BJP creates history in Mumbai, development gets public mandate: Paramjit Singh Gill



VERMA
GURDASPUR, JAN 18

Paramjit Singh Gill, National Executive President of the Himalaya Parivar Organization, has reacted to the massive victory of the BJP–Shiv Sena alliance in the BMC elections in Mumbai.

He stated that the people of Mumbai have chosen development and rejected emotional politics. He said that due to the development work carried out by the BJP government in the state over the past few years, a major political change has been witnessed in the BMC after 25 years. Gill said that the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Shiv Sena faction led by Eknath Shinde together crossed the majority mark, while the Shiv Sena led by Uddhav Thackeray secured the second position and the Congress performed poorly.

He further added that by adopting the BJP's development-oriented model, the people of Mumbai have given a decisive mandate to the BJP in the BMC, which will accelerate the pace of development in the coming days.

He also said that development is progressing rapidly in every state where the BJP is in power, and now the people of the country have firmly decided that under BJP leadership, development should take place across the nation—from Jammu and Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

Rose Public School Suliyali holds talent honour ceremony



VERMA
SULIYALI, JAN 18

Rose Public School Suliyali organized a grand Talent Honour Ceremony to recognize the academic, artistic, and technical achievements of its students and teachers. The event was presided over by Principal Mr. Sanjay Sauguni and Vice-Principal Mrs. Babita Sauguni.

Sujal Dhiman was awarded Student of the Year (Boy) and Chaksu Pathania was awarded Student of the Year (Girl) for their outstanding performance in academics, discipline, and overall development. Teachers Mrs. Poonam Pathania, Reema, and Sunita Sharma were honored for their exceptional contributions to artistic and technical fields.

The Principal and Vice-Principal congratulated the awardees and inspired students and teachers to continue striving for excellence.

The school family resolved to organize more such events in the future. All teachers were present at the ceremony .

Quiz on road safety held for students at Barnala



BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA, JAN 18

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 road and mobile phone use. Real-life examples and visuals helped the students understand the importance of being alert and responsible road users. After the presentation, a quiz based on the same topic was conducted to measure the understanding of the students. The quiz generated great enthusiasm and active participation among the students. Overall, the activity proved to be engaging and educational, reinforcing the message that road safety is essential for everyone and saves lives.

Inspection of under-construction flyover conducted



SHARANJEET
PATHANKOT, JAN 18

Considering the work on the bridge has been stopped for the last four years and the inconvenience caused to the people, Aam Aadmi Party's area Incharge and Chairman of the Improvement Trust Vibhuti Sharma, Saurav Behal and Punjab Government Minister Lal Chand Kataruchak have taken up the Dhaki Railway Station Line Inspected the under-construction flyover. During this, the concerned officials informed that the flyover construction work will be completed in the next four to five months, Which will provide relief to the residents of the area from the long-standing traffic problems. The leaders laid special emphasis on the quality and timeliness of the construction work And said that the Aam Aadmi Party government is committed to expeditiously completing development projects, giving priority to public convenience. Area Incharge and Chairman of the Improvement Trust, Vibhuti Sharma, said that the Punjab government is rapidly implementing road construction work in every city across Punjab. He also said that the government is soon going to start minibuses to connect every city to the villages.

Khush Rana appointed BJP circle-1 President in Kharar Assembly Constituency



CHANDIGARH (J.K. BATTA): The Bharatiya Janata Party has made several appointments in the Kharar Assembly constituency to strengthen the organisation. In this regard, Mr. Khush Rana has been appointed as the new President of Circle-1 in the Kharar Assembly constituency. A program was organised on this occasion, which was attended by several senior office-bearers of the Bharatiya Janata Party. District President Mr. Sanjeev Vashisht, In-charge of Legal Cell, Punjab BJP Mr. N.K. Verma, Mr. Sukhwinder Singh Goldy, Kharar constituency in-charge Mr. Kamaljit Saini, Mr. Bhanu, Mr. Narendra Rana, and other senior leaders and workers were present. All the leaders extended their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the newly appointed President, Mr. Khush Rana. Addressing the gathering, the speakers urged all the workers to work together with dedication for the party. Mr. N.K. Verma, in charge of Legal Cell, Punjab BJP, emphasised the need to further strengthen the organisation in view of the upcoming municipal corporation elections and the 2027 assembly elections and encouraged all the workers to work actively together. In his address, Mr. Khush Rana expressed his gratitude to the party's top leadership and senior office-bearers for entrusting him with the responsibility of Circle President and assured them that he would work with complete dedication and honesty to strengthen the organisation.

YUGMARG
Punjab
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026
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SC Commission summons SP(D) Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission has summoned the Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar SP(D) to appear before the Commission for not taking action in a case.

Giving information in this regard, the Chairman of the Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission, S. Jasvir Singh Garhi said that the Commission had received a complaint from Mr. Dharam Chand, son of Karta Ram, village Jhungian, tehsil Balachaur, district Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar. Regarding which the District Police Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar was asked to conduct an investigation and submit a report to the Commission on 14-01-2026, but no representative of the Police Department appeared on this specific date, therefore the Commission has asked that the report of facts and information regarding this complaint has been summoned by Mr. Iqbal Singh (S.P. (D)) on the specific date 20-01-2026 to appear personally at the Commission office as there has been no legal action in this matter from the year 2024 to the year 2026.

NEWS BRIEF

DC gives certificates to winning farmers of stubble management lucky draw



KARANPREET KARAN
BARNALA: Certificates were given to the winning farmers under the sixth and seventh draws of the lucky draw (stubble) conducted by Deputy Commissioner Barnala Mr. T. Benith to promote stubble management in the district. During this, farmers from different villages of the district participated. In this lucky draw, the first prize was Rs. 20,000/-, the second prize was Rs. 15,000/-, the third prize was Rs. 10,000/- and the remaining 22 farmers were given Rs. 2500/-, Rs. 2500/- each. The Deputy Commissioner said that 7 lucky draws (stalks) were held in Barnala district, the draws for which have been made and 175 farmers have been selected, who have been given prize money. During this, farmers shared their experiences regarding stubble management and said that managing stubble in the fields instead of burning it improves soil quality, reduces agricultural costs and protects the environment. While interacting with the farmers, the Deputy Commissioner sought valuable suggestions from the farmers regarding making stubble management more effective in the year 2026. He said that the campaign by the district administration to not burn stubble will continue with full seriousness in the future as well. Praising the farmers who do not burn stubble, he said that these farmers are a source of inspiration for other farmers as well and a clean environment.

North India's largest 1101-Kund havan yagya to be held at ancient Sidheshwar Temple Bassi Gulam Hussain



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR: A grand 1101-kund havan yagya, billed as the largest of its kind in North India, will take place from February 19 to 25 at the ancient Sri Sidheshwar Temple in Bassi Gulam Hussain village, Hoshiarpur district.Organized under the leadership of Swami Uday Giri Ji with support from devotee groups (sangats), the event aims to promote world peace. Punjabi Baba Mukesh, who shared details about the yagya, emphasized its historic scale and urged devotees to participate as yajmans (sponsors) in large numbers."This is North India's first and biggest havan yagya, conducted with immense love and devotion for global harmony," Baba Mukesh said. He appealed to the faithful to join and seek blessings from Lord Bhole Baba (Shiva).The week-long ritual invites community involvement, fostering spiritual unity and blessings for all participants. Baba Mukesh's associates were present during the announcement.

Rotary Club Rupnagar organises eye check-up drive for school students



BAHADURJEET SINGH
RUPNAGAR: Rotary Club Rupnagar Co-Pilots, in collaboration with Parmar Hospital, organized an eye check-up drive at Government Primary School, Pucca Bagh Rupnagar Around 80 students benefited from the initiative, receiving comprehensive eye examinations along with guidance on eye health and care. The check-ups were conducted by a team of experienced optometrists from Parmar Hospital under the guidance of Dr. Namrata Parmar, Eye Specialist. Students found to have vision problems were provided with prescriptions and advised to get spectacles. In addition, all students were educated about basic eye care practices, empowering them to take better care of their vision. Dr. Ankur Wahi, Secretary of the Club, stated that Rotary Club Rupnagar Co-Pilots is actively engaged in such service activities and remains committed to serving the needy sections of society.

Jasvir Singh Garhi to be Chief Guest at 52nd blood donation camp



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR: On the sacred land of martyr Singh in Village Daroli Kalan, Adampur Doaba, the Doaba region's Sanstha Dasvandh Garibon Ke Liye Welfare Society (Regd. Punjab), village Daroli Kalan, along with president Jathedar Manohar Singh and sevadar Bhai Sukhjeet Singh, will jointly organize the 52nd voluntary blood donation camp at Gurdwara Shahid Baba Matti Sahib on January 23.The event, held in memory of Shahid Baba Matti Sahib Ji, embodies true humanitarian service with the support of local residents, town dwellers, and the Gurdwara management committee. Sevadar Bhai Sukhjeet Singh Minhas of Daroli appealed to the entire people to attend the shahidi samagam in large numbers. He also urged youth to participate generously in this noble humanitarian endeavour by donating blood.

Arora orders removal of scrapped and confiscated vehicles from city limits

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18



The Punjab Government, under the leadership of Hon'ble Local Government Minister Sanjeev Arora, has issued a comprehensive directive for the systematic removal and relocation of all scrapped, abandoned, unclaimed, and confiscated vehicles presently lying in police station premises and other government lands within city limits to designated yards outside urban areas.

This decisive step is part of the Government's broader urban governance reforms aimed at improving public safety, sanitation, traffic management, and optimal utilization of public infrastructure.

The Minister informed that all such vehicles parked in police stations, traffic police yards, municipal properties, and along city roads for prolonged periods shall be shifted to identified vehicle yards located outside city limits within 30 days. Joint teams of the Police Department, Municipal Corporations, Traffic Police, and District Administration have been directed to conduct an immediate survey, prepare a detailed inventory, and ensure time-bound execution of this order. Shri Sanjeev Arora stated that the presence of large numbers of scrapped and confiscated vehicles within city limits has created multiple civic and administrative challenges.Old vehicles pose serious fire hazards due to fuel residues, electrical faults, and flammable materials, especially in densely populated urban areas. Abandoned vehicles accumulate stagnant water, becoming breeding grounds for mosquitoes and rodents, thereby increasing the risk of dengue, malaria, and other diseases. Police station premises are meant for operational requirements, emergency vehicles, and public service delivery—not long-term vehicle dumping. Vehicles lying on roadsides and public land obstruct traffic flow and negatively impact the city's cleanliness and appearance. Deteriorating vehicles leak oil, chemicals, and heavy metals, causing soil and groundwater contamination. The Minister clarified that this action is fully aligned with existing legal provisions: Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 – Removal of abandoned and unclaimed vehicles. Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 – Deregistration and disposal of end-of-life vehicles.

Govt takes strict action against child begging; 1,023 children rescued: Dr Baljit Kaur

CHANDIGARH, JAN 18



Sharing further details, Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr Baljit Kaur said that during a special statewide drive conducted over the past two days, raids were carried out at identified hotspots across all districts.

The Punjab Government, led by Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Singh Mann, is fully committed to eradicating the social evil of child begging from the state. In line with this commitment, the government has intensified strict, result-oriented action against those forcing children into begging. This was stated by Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr Baljit Kaur.

Sharing further details, Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr Baljit Kaur said that during a special statewide drive conducted over the past two days, raids were carried out at identified hotspots across all districts.

As a result, 31 children found begging were rescued. After verification of documents, four children were handed over to their parents on the spot by the Child Welfare Committee, while 27 children were temporarily shifted to child care homes, where further verification and appropriate action will be undertaken as per rules. The Cabinet Minister informed that under Project JIWANJYOT 2.0, the Punjab Government has so far rescued a total of 1,023 children from child begging. Among them, 38 children have been provided benefits under the Sponsorship Scheme, 349 children have been enrolled in schools, nine children have been linked with Anganwadi centres, and 13 children have been provided healthcare facilities under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. Children residing in child care homes are being provided education, nutrition, healthcare and other essential services to ensure a safe, dignified and secure future. Dr Baljit Kaur said that due to these sustained efforts, a continuous decline in incidents of child begging has been observed across the state. She reiterated that the Punjab Government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against child begging and that enforcement drives will be further intensified in the coming days. The Minister categorically warned that any individual found forcing children into begging will face strict legal action as per the law. She also appealed to the public not to encourage child begging by giving alms. If any child is seen begging on roads or public places, citizens are urged to immediately inform Child Helpline 1098, the district Child Welfare Committee, or the concerned authorities, so that timely intervention can ensure a safe and dignified future for every child.

Lehragaga police takes action against drugs



LEHRAGAGA (GURMEAIL SINGH SANGATPURA) : A major effort was made by Lehragaga Police today to create a drug-free society and crack down on drug smugglers. Several teams of police under the leadership of DSP Lehragaga S. Ranveer Singh conducted a special 'Special Search Operation' in the city and nearby villages.During this operation, the police conducted a thorough search in suspicious places, houses and open areas. From urban areas to remote villages, the police raids tried to break the supply chain of drugs.During this search operation, DSP Ranveer Singh himself was present at the spot and was monitoring the entire process.The DSP message is very sensitive and clear;DSP while talking to the media after the operation was completed. Ranveer Singh said:"A drug addict is not a criminal but a sick person for us. We want to save him instead of sending him to jail. If any youth or person wants to quit drugs, he can come to us. The police will fully support him and help him for treatment."Giving a stern warning to the drug peddlers, he said that "drug smugglers will not be spared under any circumstances."

Rs 2.20 crore development push transforms village Kakarwal in Dhuri

RAJESHWAR PINTU
DHURI, JAN 18



Village Kakarwal in the Dhuri Assembly constituency is witnessing accelerated development, with works worth approximately Rs 2.20 crore being executed at a war footing under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann. The Punjab Government is giving top priority to the holistic development of rural areas, with a focus on strengthening basic infrastructure and providing villagers with a clean, well-planned and secure living environment.

Sarpanch of village Kakarwal, Jagjit Singh, informed that the 2.20-kilometre-long road connecting Kakarwal with Kaheru is being constructed by the Punjab Mandi Board at a cost of ?1.23 crore. The widening of the road from 10 feet to 18 feet will significantly ease traffic movement and improve connectivity with adjoining villages, benefiting residents as well as commuters.

He further stated that sewerage pipeline laying work costing Rs 16.50 lakh is also underway in the village at a war footing. Upon completion, this project will ensure proper disposal of wastewater, enhance sanitation standards and help curb health-related problems.

Highlighting other development initiatives, the Sarpanch said that five parks will be developed in village Kakarwal at a cost of Rs 35 lakh to provide recreational spaces and promote a healthy lifestyle for children, youth and senior citizens. In addition, a modern library will be constructed at a cost of Rs 20 lakh to create a conducive academic environment for students and young learners.

To strengthen security arrangements in the village, CCTV cameras are being installed at key locations at a cost of Rs 10 lakh. Alongside this, construction of streets and drains is also in progress at a cost of Rs 15 lakh, which will improve internal connectivity and ensure proper drainage, especially during the rainy season.

Poverty forces mother abroad, child's body awaits cremation for week



ARVIND PATHAK
SULTANPUR LODHI , JAN 18

Driven by poverty, many women from Punjab and across India are forced to cross oceans in search of livelihood. However, this overseas struggle often comes at an unbearable cost—where a mother is Yearns the final glimpse of her son and a wife is deprived of attending her husband's last rites. Two such heart-wrenching cases involving Indian women stranded in Oman have surfaced, raising serious concerns about humanity and migrant workers' safety. Manga Singh, a resident associated with the holy land of Chali Mukte, has appealed to the Government of India through Rajya Sabha MP Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal to urgently bring back his wife, who is trapped in Muscat. He seeks her immediate return so she may see her eight-year-old son Navdeep for the last time. Navdeep passed away last week due to blood cancer, but his body has been lying in the hospital for over a week as the family awaits the mother's return. The family has decided that the child's cremation will be performed only after she arrives. Manga Singh stated that the treatment of his son's illness pushed the family deep into debt. Due to this financial hardship, his wife went to Oman in September last year to earn money.

Sports participation boosts children's mental and physical growth: Rajiv Walia



DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR, JAN 18

The Youth Sports Welfare Board organised a Fitness and Sports Event at Fighter Sports Zone, Kartarpur Road, Kapurthala. Coaches Pradeep Bajaj and Sukhdeep Singh Bajwa trained participants in various techniques of Wushu, Karate, and Taekwondo, raising awareness among the athletes.Players from Wushu, Karate, and Tikewondo took active part and delivered impressive performances. Youth Sports Welfare Board president Rajiv Walia and Dr. Jasbir Singh were special guests at the event. They honoured the Wushu and Karate players with certificates, thanked coaches Sukhdeep Singh and Pradeep Bajaj, and extended best wishes for their future endeavours.Addressing the players, Dr. Jasbir Singh emphasised that children today must balance studies with sports.

Dr. Vijay K. Kukreja, Professor takes over as Dean and Dr. Saxena takes over as Chairman at SLIET Longowal

BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA, JAN 18



Dr. Vijay K. Kukreja, Professor (Mathematics Department), has been given the additional charge of Dean (Students Welfare) at SLIET Longowal.

The Institute appreciates the valuable services rendered by Dr. M. M. Sinha, Professor (Physics Department), during his tenure as Dean (Students Welfare). Prof. Kukreja took over as Dean (Students Welfare) on 14.01.2026.

Dr. Ravindra K. Saxena, Professor (Mechanical Engineering Department), has been appointed as Chairman of SLIET Entrance Examination (SET-2026). The Institute Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Professor (Department of Mechanical Engineering), appreciates the valuable services rendered by him during his tenure as Chairman of SET-2025. Dr. Saxena assumed charge as Chairman of SET-2026 on 14.01.2026.

Youth Akali Dal organizes blood donation camp, youngsters participate enthusiastically

VERMA
GURDASPUR, JAN 18



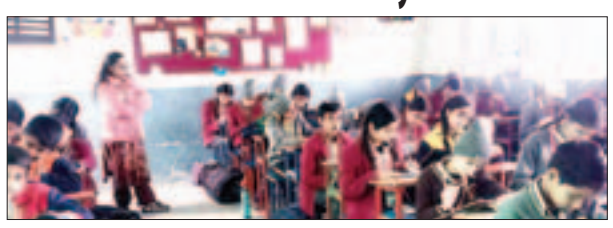
The Youth Akali Dal organized a blood donation camp at Model Town, Pathankot, under the leadership of District President Gurpreet Singh Guru.

The event saw the special presence of Shiromani Akali Dal District President Surinder Singh Kanwar Mintu and former MLA Ashok Sharma. Providing details, District President Surinder Singh Kanwar Mintu said that the Shiromani Akali Dal is always committed to serving humanity. He informed that a total of 120 units of blood were collected during the camp, which will prove beneficial for patients in need.

He also stated that such social service initiatives will continue in the future.

The camp witnessed enthusiastic participation from the youth, with a large number of people voluntarily donating blood and contributing to humanitarian service. The leaders present at the event praised the donors and described them as a source of inspiration for society. Among those present were Harpreet Singh Raja (Circle President), Gurmeet Singh Kahlo (Vice President, Transport Wing), Balwinder Singh Khalsa (Vice President, District Pathankot), Saurav Mahajan, Ravinder Kumar (Senior Akali Leader), Rakesh Mahajan, Veeru Singh (Circle President), Satbir Singh Sheru, Rishi (Youth Leader), Sharad Rajput, Saurav Mehra, Vivek Mahajan, Kapil, along with several other active party members.

Successful organization of Sanskrit knowledge exam in Sarvahitkari Vidya Mandir



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA
RAMPURA PHUL, JAN 18

Keeping in mind the intellectual and cultural development of the students, Sanskrit knowledge exam was successfully organized in Lala Kasturi Lal Sarvahitkari Senior Secondary Vidya Mandir.

This exam was conducted under the guidance of Principal Sanjeev Sharma. All the students from class III to XII participated in this exam with enthusiasm. Before the exam, Didi Bina Jindal, in-charge of Sanskrit knowledge exam, gave the students necessary information related to the question paper.

During the exam, the presence of class in-charge teachers was ensured in each class, due to which discipline and order were maintained. On this occasion, Principal Sanjeev Sharma said that such Sanskrit and knowledge-building examinations play an important role in the development of Indian culture, moral values ??and intellectual capacity in children. He appreciated the cooperation of all the teachers and motivated the students to participate in

Lohri Dhian Di celebrated with social message at Govt Sr Sec School, village Sauja

RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA, JAN 18



At Government Senior Secondary School, Village Sauja, the leading organization in social service 'Di Navi Rah Foundation', in collaboration with the residents of the area, celebrated the holy festival of 'Lohri Dhian Di' with traditional enthusiasm and cultural rituals.

The event began with lighting a fire. Harleen Kaur Mohali, founder of 'Di Navi Rah Foundation', attended as the chief guest and shared the joy of Lohri with the villagers, Panchayat and respected personalities of the area and thanked the village Sarpanch and the entire Panchayat and office bearers for giving them honor and respect. The organizers and NGO honored one-year-old girls with food and baby kits and three- and four-year-old children with stationery kits. Harleen Kaur said that we should all celebrate all festivals together because this increases mutual brotherhood. While talking, she said that festivals help in strengthening the bonds of love and unity. Harleen said that on the occasion of Lohri, she encouraged the children and youth flying kites to refrain from using China, also known as bloody string, because every year, due to falling into the clutches of this string, there is a huge loss of passersby and birds flying in the sky. Reiterating the commitment of the Punjab government to make the state drug-free, Harleen Kaur also made the audience aware against drugs.

Chairman assures Sant Samaj of early resolution of land demarcation issue in village Mahendpur



JALANDHAR (PARAMJIT SINGH): Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission Chairman Mr. Jasvir Singh Garhi today assured Sant Samaj of early resolution of the issue of demarcation of 36 acres of land in village Mahendpur, Tehsil Nangal, District Rupnagar. Sant Samaj had appealed to Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission Chairman Mr. Jasvir Singh Garhi to resolve the issue of demarcation of the said land. On which Mr. Garhi reached Dera Sant Baba Pritam Das Ji, Baba Jo, Raipur Rasulpur here, where after paying obeisance, he listened to the Sant Samaj's words very carefully and assured them that this issue will be brought to the notice of Punjab Government. He said that all the steps related to land demarcation will be completed as soon as possible by involving the officials of the Revenue Department and Panchayat Department in this process. Earlier, Shri Garhi took blessings from Sant Baba Nirmal Das Ji. He called upon the Ravidas community to unite by following the teachings of Sri Guru Ravidas Maharaj so that the teachings of Guru Ji can be propagated to every corner of the world.

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Road Safety Film Festival announced in state

AGENCY
DHARAMSHALA: With the objective of enhancing public awareness on road safety, the Regional Transport Officer, Transport Directorate, Road Safety Cell, Himachal Pradesh, has announced the organisation of a Road Safety Film Festival. The initiative aims to encourage active participation of citizens through creative mediums, particularly short films and videos, to spread awareness on various aspects of road safety. The campaign will remain open from December 10, 2025 to February 15, 2026, and is open to all individuals aged 18 years and above. Participants can submit short videos in Hindi or English focusing on different themes related to the road safety. Detailed terms and guidelines are available on the Road Safety Cell's official website. Entries can be submitted both online and offline. Online submissions can be made through a Google Form, while videos may also be sent via email at departmentoftransporthp@gmail.com or submitted directly at the Transport Directorate, Road Safety Cell, Shimla. Under the competition, selected outstanding films from four age groups:18–25 years, 25–32 years, 32–40 years and above 40 years—will be awarded Rs 25,000 each along with a trophy and certificate. Additionally, 20 selected participants will receive Rs 5,000 each and certificates, while all participants will be given certificates of participation.

NEWS BRIEF

Eight names proposed from Himachal Pradesh for National BJP President election voting

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: The Himachal Pradesh BJP has selected eight names from the state for the National Council for the election of the National President of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The names proposed are: former MLA and State BJP Vice President Gobind Thakur, who belongs to the Rajput community; Kangra MLA and State BJP Vice President Pawan Kajal (OBC); former minister and State BJP Vice President Rajiv Saizal (Scheduled Caste); State BJP General Secretary Trilok Kapoor (Scheduled Caste); State BJP General Secretary Bihari Lal Sharma (General); State BJP Vice President Rajiv Kantwal (General); State BJP Vice President and former State President of Mahila Morcha, Smt. Rashmidhar Sood (General); and State BJP Vice President and former Secretary, Smt. Payal Vaidya (General). According to the BJP constitution, the electoral college comprises members of the party's National Council and representatives elected from the state councils.

Historic transformation in health sector ahead: CM

Rs.1,300 crore JICA–II boost for health sector

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 18



Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday announced a decisive and far-reaching overhaul of the health sector, asserting that revolutionary changes would be visible within one year and that Himachal Pradesh would emerge as the country's number one state in healthcare services within the next three years. Addressing a first-of-its-kind State-Level Health Dialogue Session at Peterhoff, Shimla, the Chief Minister said that the State Government would spend Rs.1,300 crore under JICA Phase–II to strengthen healthcare delivery. Nearly Rs. 3,000 crore would be invested over the next three years to equip health institutions with world-class high-end medical technology.

For the first time in the State's history, a direct and extended interaction was held between the Chief Minister and Chief Medical Officers (CMOs), Block Medical Officers (BMOs) and Medical Superintendents (MSs). The marathon dialogue session continued for nearly four-and-a-half hours, during which the Chief Minister engaged in detailed discussions on grassroots challenges, operational issues and policy-level reforms. Several key decisions were taken on the spot, ensuring immediate resolution of long-pending matters.

Emphasizing that strong health administration is the backbone of quality healthcare, the Chief Minister announced decentralization of administrative and financial powers. CMOs, BMOs and MSs would be vested with enhanced financial authority, while necessary amendments would be introduced in the Financial Rules to make procedures simpler, faster and more effective. He said that financial and decision-making powers related to sanitation arrangements in health institutions would be delegated to CMOs. Special dedicated funds would also be created for CMOs and MSs to meet urgent and essential hospital requirements.

The Chief Minister announced that the State Government would actively consider increasing the salary of Job Trainee Doctors. He informed that recruitment of 236 doctors is currently underway and 150 additional posts have already been sanctioned. To ensure complete transparency, marks obtained in both written examinations and interviews would be included in the final merit list. Reiterating the Government's commitment to systemic transformation, Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said that the impact of reforms would be clearly visible within a year. "Within the next three years, Himachal Pradesh will set national benchmarks in healthcare delivery," he asserted.

Snow in high altitudes, rain in lower Himachal from Jan 22–23



AGENCY
SHIMLA, JAN 18

The long spell of dry weather in Himachal Pradesh is finally set to end. The Meteorological Department has predicted snowfall in the higher reaches and rain in the mid and lower regions on January 22 and 23, offering much-needed relief from the state's drought-like conditions. Over the past 24 hours, Tabo remained the coldest at -2.6°C, while Kukumseri recorded -1.6°C. Other towns, including Dharamshala, Bilaspur, Solan, and Una, also experienced significantly low temperatures. According to the Meteorological Center in Shimla, the weather is expected to change from the night of January 19th due to the activation of a Western Disturbance. Light to moderate snowfall is possible in the higher reaches on January 22nd, while light to moderate rain and snowfall are expected in many places on January 23rd. According to the Meteorological Department's forecast, snowfall is likely in Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur, the upper reaches of Chamba, Kullu, and the higher areas of Shimla district.

DC Gandharva Rathore reviews development works during visit to Sujanpur panchayats

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR, JAN 17



Newly appointed Deputy Commissioner of Hamirpur Gandharva Rathore on Saturday visited various gram panchayats of Sujanpur subdivision to review ongoing development works and assess arrangements for solid and liquid waste management. During the visit, she issued necessary directions to officials and elected panchayat representatives.

Accompanied by officials of the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department and other departments, the Deputy Commissioner visited villages in gram panchayats Lambri, Panoh, Patlandar, Tihra and Dardla, where she took stock of the latest status of development projects. She also interacted with local panchayat representatives and residents to gather important feedback related to various works. On her first visit to the panchayats after assuming charge, local panchayat representatives accorded her a warm welcome. Rathore reviewed the progress of Panchvati parks and other works being carried out through MGNREGA convergence. She also inspected waste segregation units set up in Panoh and Patlandar panchayats and issued guidelines to officials and panchayat representatives to further strengthen waste management systems.

During the tour, the Deputy Commissioner also visited the historic Tihra Fort, where she sought detailed information about its history and the arrangements in place for its maintenance and preservation. Block Development Officer Kishori Lal Jaswal, junior engineers, technical assistants and local panchayat representatives briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the current status of various development works during the visit.

Congress rule has devastated education, students are paying price for vacancies and mismanagement: Sandipani Bhardwaj

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, JAN 18



BJP state spokesperson Sandipani Bhardwaj launched a sharp attack on the Congress government's education policy, alleging that the education system in Himachal Pradesh has completely collapsed under its rule. She said the government is now talking about shutting down colleges where student strength is reportedly below 100, while the real reason for low enrolment is not lack of interest among students but the large number of vacant teaching posts and deteriorating academic conditions. Bhardwaj said the official data attached with the government records is sufficient to expose the Congress government's failure. Out of a total of 2,781 sanctioned posts, 587 are still lying vacant, meaning nearly every fifth post remains unfilled. All 62 posts in music instrumental studies are vacant, while 31 out of 73 posts in physical education are empty. In commerce, 21 out of 288 posts are vacant, and large numbers of posts remain unfilled in subjects such as painting, applied art, physical science, social science and environmental science. She added that there is also a serious imbalance between sanctioned and filled posts in modern subjects like computer applications. She said the subject-wise situation is even more alarming. Fifty out of 272 English posts, 52 out of 198 Hindi posts, 30 out of 170 physics posts, 45 out of 194 chemistry posts, 44 out of 135 botany posts and 47 out of 137 zoology posts are vacant. Dozens of posts are also lying vacant in history, political science, sociology, public administration and philosophy. Under such circumstances, she asked how students can be expected to enrol in these colleges or receive quality education. The BJP spokesperson said the Congress government's intent is questionable. She alleged that first teaching posts are deliberately kept vacant and then low enrolment is used as an excuse to shut down colleges. She said this is not education reform but an attack on education, which will severely impact students from rural and remote areas who are already studying with limited resources.

Himachal BJP alleges Mamata govt crushing democracy, protecting infiltrators

AGENCY
DHARAMSHALA: Himachal Pradesh BJP spokesperson Sanjay Sharma on Saturday leveled serious allegations against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, claiming her government's policies are pushing the state toward isolation through appeasement politics. Addressing a press conference here, Sharma said that Bengal, a land traditionally associated with spirituality, penance, and sacrifice, is witnessing a phase of governance that is allegedly moving it towards "Bhang-Bhang", or the fragmentation of Bengal. He warned that a growing concern among citizens nationwide is whether West Bengal is being allowed to function as an integral part of India. "A disturbing question has begun to arise in the minds of citizens across the country: is West Bengal truly being allowed to operate as a part of India?" he asked. Sharma criticised the handling of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process in West Bengal, alleging that unconstitutional methods and violence are being used to obstruct it. He further claimed that election-related officials face extreme pressure, with some being driven to tragic steps. Highlighting the case of Booth Level Officer Ashok Das from Jadavpur Assembly constituency, Sharma said Das, an honest official performing his constitutional duty, received threats from TMC workers, warning him of harm to himself and his family if infiltrators' names were removed from the electoral rolls. Sharma also cited an alleged attack on a BDO office in the presence of TMC leader Manirul Islam, stressing that the issue is linked to Rohingya and Bangladeshi infiltrators rather than religious coexistence.

Bambar Thakur takes on BJP MLA over 'False Credit' for Congress-led development works in Bilaspur



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: Former MLA and senior Congress leader Bambar Thakur has launched a sharp attack on the BJP MLA from the Bilaspur Sadar assembly constituency, accusing him of misleading the public by taking undue credit for development works executed by the present Congress-led state government. Addressing reporters in Bilaspur on Saturday, Thakur asserted that several development projects currently being inaugurated in the city are the direct result of initiatives taken by the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, with active cooperation from the district administration. He categorically stated that the BJP MLA has had no role whatsoever in these works. Questioning the role and authority of the Municipal Council Bilaspur, Thakur asked how the BJP MLA was allowed to install inauguration plaques and hold ceremonies in multiple wards without formal permission. He demanded that the Municipal Council take legal action, calling the situation a clear violation of institutional norms. In a particularly pointed remark, Thakur alleged that the BJP MLA went to the extent of removing an inauguration board earlier installed by a former MLA from his own party in the Raura sector, replacing it with his own name.

BJP tried and failed to engineer constitutional crisis in 2023: Cong

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR, JAN 18



Former State Congress Media Coordinator Sandeep Sankhyan launched a sharp counterattack on the BJP, stating that the party accusing the state government of a constitutional crisis should first introspect its own actions. Addressing media, Sankhyan said it was the BJP itself that attempted to destabilize Himachal Pradesh during the 2023 Rajya Sabha elections but failed miserably, and therefore has no moral authority to lecture others on constitutional propriety.

Sankhyan asserted that the Congress-led state government is functioning smoothly and responsibly, while the BJP is desperately trying to create political confusion to remain relevant. He reminded that during the 2022 Assembly elections, nearly 22 BJP leaders rebelled against their own party and contested as independents, questioning whether that reflected BJP's so-called organizational discipline. He further recalled controversial incidents involving senior BJP leaders Dhawala and Kripal Parmar, stating that these episodes are still fresh in public memory. Before accusing the Congress government, the BJP should review its own track record over the last three years, he said. Taking aim at the BJP's state leadership, Sankhyan questioned why BJP leaders never speak about what he termed as "anti-people policies" of the central government. He challenged the BJP to name a single pro-people scheme implemented on the ground in Himachal Pradesh since 2014 that directly benefited the common citizen.

Highlighting internal factionalism, Sankhyan asked whether the BJP has forgotten the long-standing rivalry between former Chief Ministers Shanta Kumar and Prem Kumar Dhumal. He pointed out visible cracks within the party, citing slogans raised for different leaders in different districts and the absence of senior leaders from key party events. Sankhyan remarked that a party divided into multiple factions has no credibility to accuse a stable elected government of constitutional failure.

Dy CM inaugurates newly built community hall at Shri Guru Ravidas Temple Baliwal

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, JAN 18



Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri on Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed community hall at Shri Guru Ravidas Temple, Baliwal, in the Haroli Assembly constituency. Built at a cost of Rs 25 lakh, the facility is aimed at strengthening social cohesion and providing space for community activities. Praising the efforts of the temple committee, the Deputy Chief Minister said such community halls promote unity, harmony and collective social engagement. He said the Haroli Assembly constituency is writing a strong story of transformation. Recalling the difficulties the region faced in the past, Agnihotri said the goal is to ensure the best environment and modern facilities for future generations. He added that development works are being planned in line with the needs of the next 50 years so that children's aspirations and dreams are fully supported. Agnihotri said Baliwal, once considered a backward village, is now moving rapidly on the path of planned development. He expressed confidence that by December 2027, Baliwal would emerge as one of the most progressive villages in the state. Highlighting infrastructure initiatives, the Deputy Chief Minister said a new irrigation scheme worth Rs 100 crore has been approved for the Haroli Assembly constituency. Under the project, existing irrigation schemes will be remodelled to improve water availability for farmers and boost agricultural productivity. He assured that water would reach fields in the Jodiyan area well before 2027 and said nearly Rs 1,000 crore is being spent on various water projects in Una district.

Nalagarh to host 69th National Under-19 Girls' Kabaddi School Games from today

ANWAR HUSSAIN
NALAGARH, JAN 18



Himachal Pradesh is set to host the 69th National Under-19 Girls' Kabaddi National School Games from January 19 to 23 at the Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Nalagarh, under the aegis of the School Games Federation of India. The event marks the second national-level school sports championship being organised in the state, highlighting Himachal Pradesh's growing recognition at the national level for its sporting capability, organisational efficiency and hospitality.Earlier this month, the state successfully hosted the 69th Under-14 Boys' Volleyball National Championship from January 5 to 9, which received appreciation from across the country. Continuing that momentum, the Under-19 Girls' Kabaddi Championship is expected to add another significant chapter to Himachal Pradesh's sports history.A total of 28 states and units from across India are participating in the championship. As many as 336 girl players and 84 officials are taking part, with more than 420 participants and officials involved in the event, making it a large and well-coordinated national sports meet.The entire is being conducted under the leadership and guidance of Director of School Education, Himachal Pradesh Ashish Kohli. In line with his vision and directions, the School Education Directorate is ensuring that the competition is conducted in a timely, transparent, safe and high-quality manner.For the smooth conduct of the championship, around 23 committees have been constituted by the directorate, covering transportation, accommodation and meals, security and discipline, technical and match operations, medical facilities, reception and protocol, among other arrangements.

Kullu Police's campaign against drug trafficking continues, 364 gram heroin seized in two cases

ASHISH SHARMA
KULLU, JAN 18



Under the drug-free campaign launched by the Himachal Pradesh government, the Kullu police have dealt the biggest blow yet to the drug mafia. In two separate cases, the police successfully recovered 364 grams of heroin (Chitta) yesterday. Three people, including a couple have been arrested in connection with these cases.

Kullu Superintendent of Police Madan Lal Kaushik informed reporters that the police achieved their first major success in Chachoga village of Manali. Acting on a tip-off, the police raided the area and recovered 303 grams of heroin from drug trafficker Sangat Ram and his wife. He further stated that in the second case, 61 grams of heroin were recovered from Amit Gupta, a resident of Zirakpur, Punjab, under the jurisdiction of Bhuntar police station.The police also seized a vehicle and ?7200 in cash from the spot.

He said that the Kullu police are working on a zero-tolerance policy against synthetic drug and heroin traffickers. He added that the recovery of 364 grams of heroin in these two cases is a very significant achievement. Considering the seriousness of the matter, the police are now investigating where this consignment came from and where it was to be sold. A case has been registered against the accused persons under Sections 21 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.

Bilaspur sets record in digital governance, tops state in e-office implementation

AGENCY
BILASPUR: Bilaspur district has set a new record in the field of digital administration and paperless governance in the state. Bilaspur district has secured the first position in the entire state in implementing the HP e-Office system, which was launched by the state government to bring transparency and efficiency to government work. Recently, the working of the Deputy Commissioner's offices of all the districts in the state was evaluated. In this evaluation, Bilaspur district topped the list with 12,887 e-files, said Rahul Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner. Chamba district secured the second position and Mandi district the third in the ranking. It is noteworthy that Bilaspur achieved this distinction by surpassing larger districts like Shimla, Kangra, and Solan, which reflects the district administration's commitment to a digital work culture. The e-Office system developed by the National Informatics Centre has completely transformed the traditional file system. The district administration is now creating, documenting, and tracking files digitally. The main advantages are that the time taken in the decision-making process has been significantly reduced due to the digitisation of files. Due to e-filing, the status of any file can now be easily tracked, eliminating the scope for corruption. Through a secure web portal, officers can handle important files even when they are outside the office. There has been a significant reduction in paper and stationery expenses, which is a major step towards environmental protection, he said.

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Parents made aware of education and safety through mother workshop at Govt Primary School Amala Singh Wala

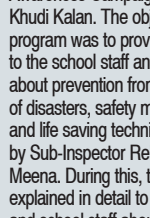


KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: Following the instructions of the Education Department Punjab, a mother workshop was effectively and successfully organized at Government Primary School Amala Singh Wala. In which a large number of school chairman Resham Singh, all panchayat members, SMC committee members and parents of students participated. The main objective of this program was to make parents, especially mothers, partners in the education of children and their all-round development.

NEWS BRIEF

Pb govt entrust Harinder Manocha with important responsibility

PARAMJIT SINGH
JALANDHAR: The Punjab Government has entrusted Harinder Pal Singh Manocha with an important responsibility and appointed him as a member of the Khatri-Arora Welfare Board. His appointment will further strengthen social welfare, welfare and development works. Government circles say that this responsibility given to Manocha is an important step towards implementing welfare schemes at the grassroots level, prioritizing the welfare of the public and the interests of different sections. Harinder Pal Singh Manocha, while thanking the Punjab Government, said that he will fulfill the responsibility given with complete honesty and dedication and will strive for the welfare of every section of the society including the Khatri-Arora community.



NDRF 7th Battalion organises programs under school safety and community awareness campaign



KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: The team of 7th Battalion National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Bathinda organized programs under School Safety Campaign at Baba Gandha Singh Public School and Community Awareness Campaign in village Khudi Kalan. The objective of this program was to provide information to the school staff and students about prevention from different types of disasters, safety methods, first aid and life saving techniques. It was led by Sub-Inspector Rekh Singh Meena. During this, the NDRF team explained in detail to the students and school staff about earthquake prevention, fire response, bleeding control, C. P. R, F. BAO and Improvised Floating Device (IFD) used during floods.

UP: Flower petals showered on devotees at Sangam on Mauni Amavasya

AGENCY
PRAYAGRAJ, JAN 19



Flower petals were showered on the devotees who arrived for a 'snaan' at the Sangam in Prayagraj on the occassion of Mauni Amavasya. Visuals show a helicopter showering flower petals on the large gathering of devotees present on the Ghat for a holy dip during the ongoing Magh Mela. Earlier, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath extended greetings on the occasion of Mauni Amavasya, wishing "new energy, enthusiasm, and resolve."In a post on X, the Chief Minister extended a welcome to the devotees who arrived at Sangam for the holy dip on the occasion."On the sacred occasion of the great festival of faith, Mauni Amavasya, a heartfelt welcome to all the revered Akharas, Dharmacharyas, saints, sadhaks, kalpavasis, and devotees who have graced the holy Sangam for the sacred bath," he wrote in the post.Furthermore, the Chief Minister wished positivity and determination to all."By the grace of Mother Ganga, the bestower of liberation, and Lord Surya, may all the heartfelt wishes of everyone be fulfilled, may new energy, new enthusiasm, and new resolve awaken in life--this is my prayer....Har Har Gange!" he added.Meanwhile, security arrangements have been strengthened at the Sangam Ghat in Prayagraj as a large number of devotees gathered to take a holy dip on the occasion of Mauni Amavasya during the early hours on Sunday.According to police authorities, approximately 50 lakh devotees took the holy dip at the Sangam between 6 pm yesterday and 4 am today.The ritual bath began at midnight amid heavy footfall at the ghats.Speaking to ANI, Prayagraj Police Commissioner Jogendra Kumar said that despite thick fog in the region, devotees from several areas continued to arrive in large numbers.He said, "...Proper security arrangements have been made...Devotees are coming in large numbers to take a holy dip. There has been thick fog since midnight, despite the fact that we are witnessing heavy footfall." Officials said that crowd management measures, traffic control plans, and continuous monitoring are in place to ensure the smooth flow of devotees throughout the day.Devotees expressed satisfaction with the arrangements at the Sangam. One devotee told "I am feeling very good after taking a holy dip. Proper arrangements have been made here."

Palace owners show anger against action being taken by tax department, Meet Hayer assures to solve problem



KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA, JAN 18

Local GST departmental officers and employees are taking strict action against local palaces, restaurants, bank halls and mini and big palaces for the increase in GST, due to which the managers associated with this institution are feeling angry towards the current government. Union spokesperson Rimpy Devgan while talking to the press said that this institution was alive during the time of terrorism. Due to the fear of militants, Punjabi culture had gone into the abyss of darkness. After 1994, Punjabi culture again showed its color. The existence of palaces in cities and towns started developing again. This institution was named as the rising sun. People have invested lakhs of crores of rupees and made this business shine like the rising sun. People have opened their hearts and decorated these palaces to the fullest. Seeing the colorful weddings organized by the people, the government started putting the noose of GST on the necks of the owners of this establishment. The managers have started paying the tax, opposing this policy of the government. Union Vice President Bau Piara Lal Raisaria told the press that the number of palaces and hotels has started increasing day by day. The rush of this increase has started pushing this business towards recession.

Sewage issue escalates: Channi warns govt after joining protest

SANJEEV TEJPAL
MORINDA, JAN 18



Former Punjab Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Charanjit Singh Channi on Saturday joined the ongoing protest at village Marauli Kalan over the issue of sewage disposal and warned the Punjab government against any form of injustice towards the poor and marginalised sections of society. Addressing villagers who have been staging a sit-in for the third consecutive day and blocking the Morinda–Chandigarh main road, Channi said that if the government fails to immediately stop the alleged move to divert the village's sewage towards the SC community's locality instead of discharging it into the designated pond, the Congress party will stand firmly with the protesting residents. Channi stated that he had already taken up the matter with the district Deputy Commissioner, DDPO and BDPO. He pointed out that sewage water naturally flows according to the land's slope, yet pressure is allegedly being exerted by officials to divert the flow towards the low-lying locality inhabited by the SC-BC community. He said that discharging the wastewater into the existing five-acre pond would be a more appropriate and scientific solution.

Malwa Sahit Sabha Barnala holds discussion on Yadvinder Singh Bhullar's books



KARANPREET KARAN
BARNALA: Malwa Sahit Sabha Barnala organized a literary event at the local Punjab ITI in which Yadvinder Singh Bhullar's books Jind Desh Ke Lekha and Vidya De Dham were discussed. Speaking about the book Jind Desh Ke Lekha, Buta Singh Chauhan said that reading this book instills a sense of patriotism and the book must be included in the library of every school. President of the Sabha Dr. Sampuran Singh Tallewalia said that reading this book not only makes us proud of the martyrdom of the military heroes, but also makes the government's indifference towards the martyrs visible by seeing the pitiful condition of their families. Teja Singh Tilak said that just as governments honor freedom fighters, the families of martyred soldiers should also be honored. Speaking about the book Vidya De Dham, Bhola Singh Sanghera said that Yadvinder Singh Bhullar has made a commendable effort by collecting the history of private schools in Barnala district. Dr. Rampal Singh Shahpuri said that although the main purpose of most private institutions is to earn money, despite this, their invaluable role in raising the level of education cannot be denied.

Guest lecture on "The Concept of 'Sada Mann Chao' in the Guru Granth Sahib" at Guru Nanak Khalsa College Yamunanagar



RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR: The Critique Society organized an insightful guest lecture today on the theme "The Concept of 'Sada Mann Chao' in the Guru Granth Sahib", focusing on the spiritual philosophy of eternal inner yearning and contentment as envisioned in Sikh thought. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Sarabjeet Singh, Director, University Counseling and Placement Guidance Cell, who eloquently explained that 'Sada Mann Chao' signifies the soul's continuous longing for the Divine. He elaborated that while human life is meant to nurture this divine yearning, modern individuals often become trapped in the pursuit of material wealth, status, and temporary pleasures, which leads to inner restlessness. Dr. Sarabjeet Singh emphasized that the Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji guides humanity towards spiritual awareness, balance, and true fulfillment by redirecting the mind from material cravings to divine connection, compassion, and self-realization. Expressing his appreciation, Principal Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla stated, that Dr. Sarabjeet Singh's lecture was both enlightening and thought-provoking.

Birthday of Acharya Shri Devvratji celebrated with enthusiasm in Gurukul

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, JAN 18



The birthday of Acharya Shri Devvrat ji, the patron of Gurukul Kurukshetra and Governor of Gujarat and Maharashtra, was celebrated with great enthusiasm in the Gurukul. On this occasion, a special havan-sacrifice was performed under the guidance of Gurukul head Rajkumar Garg and wishes were made for the health and longevity of Acharyashree. To make the birthday of nature loving Governor Acharya Devvrat ji memorable, his son Gaurav Arya, daughter-in-law Kavita Chaudhary and grandson Aryaman planted 'Peepal' saplings on the Gurukul premises and 'Kalpavriksha' saplings in the Naturopathy Hospital. On this occasion, Gurukul Director Brigadier Dr. Praveen Kumar, Administrator Ramnivas Arya, Chief Patron Sanjeev Arya, Anil Kumar were also present. Throwing light on the life of Acharyashree in a special program held in the Gymnasium Hall, Ramnivas Arya presented in detail to the students the great efforts of Acharya Devvrat ji in taking the Gurukul from the ground to height. He told how Acharya Devvrat ji, born in an ordinary farmer family, through his strong will, tireless efforts and determination, transformed the dilapidated Gurukul Kurukshetra into the leading educational institution of the country.

Farmers should get unique ID under 'Agri Stack' scheme: DC

RANVIR PARASHAR
KAITHAL, JAN 18



DC Aparajita informed that under Central Government's ambitious Agri Stack scheme, a unique farmer ID is being created for farmers.Farmers can register at Block Agriculture Development Officer's office, concerned Tehsil and camps being organized by department. She explained that Agri Stack is a digital ecosystem that aims to bring all agriculture-related information onto a single platform.Just as every citizen is identified by their 'Aadhaar card', 'Unique Farmer ID' will become a precise and transparent digital identity for farmers. DC clarified that this registration process is completely secure and modern.Farmers' registration is done through an Aadhaar card-based OTP authentication process. Farmer's identity and land records are digitally matched through OTP. For convenience of farmers, teams from Revenue and Agriculture departments are organizing special camps at the village and block levels.

This digital ID will offer significant benefits to farmers. Benefits from schemes like PM-Kisan, crop insurance and subsidies on fertilizers and seeds will be credited directly to their accounts without any delay. There will be no need to repeatedly visit Patwari or government offices to submit land documents. Having this data with government will make compensation distribution more transparent in case of disaster or crop damage. DC appealed to all farmers to register at their nearest special camp. This will not only secure their identity but will also become main basis for all future government benefits.When going for registration, farmers should carry their Aadhaar card and the mobile number linked to their Aadhaar card to avoid any problems with OTP verification.

Blood donation camp organised by Mahadev Welfare Society in Bhogpur



BUREAU
PINJORE: A blood donation camp was organised on Sunday at the government school in Bhogpur village by the Bhogpur Youth Team of the Mahadev Welfare Society Kalka. Sharing details, the society's founder and president Rohit Sharma said that the camp was organised by society secretary Saurav Sharma in collaboration with the Bhogpur Youth Team and was dedicated to the sacred memory of deceased villagers. He lauded the efforts of the youth team for successfully organising the camp.He said that a medical team from Sector-6 Hospital, led by Dr Amit Sami, along with nursing officer Rekha, counsellor Geeta, technical officers Vibha, Sachin, Ravinder and Jasbinder, collected blood from 80 donors, while 12 people were referred after screening.Society vice-president Chaman Rana encouraged attendees by explaining the benefits of blood donation and motivating them to donate. He also praised the courage of Rekha, who donated blood for the first time at the camp. Treasurer Ravinder Chaudhary thanked the youth for associating with the organisation and contributing to the success of the camp.

Satsang dispels the darkness of ignorance: Sant Agampuri

KARAMBIR
LADWA, JAN 18



A two-day fourth annual Bhandara and Sant Samagam was organised at Shri Advait Swaroop Anant Ashram, Nangli Wali Kutiya, near Chhota Hanuman Mandir in Mahavir Colony, Ladwa. The event witnessed the presence of a large number of saints and devotees from different regions. Providing details, ashram saint Pavan Puri said that with the blessings of Sant Agampuri, the bhog of the Ramcharitmanas recitation was offered in the ashram premises. A ceremonial flag hoisting was also held in the presence of saints. Addressing the gathering, Sant Agampuri Maharaj said that only when one receives special divine grace does a person attain the fortune of satsang. He said that while wealth, family and material comforts may even come to the unrighteous, the company of saints and the listening of divine discourse are extremely rare. Describing satsang as a "moving pilgrimage", he said it is a sacred space where discussions of saints and God take place. Referring to the Ramcharitmanas, he emphasised the importance of living under the refuge of the Guru and God. Ashram spokesperson Mahatma Divyanand, who arrived from Kurukshetra, said that satsang has the power to set right even the most troubled situations. He described satsang as nourishment for the mind, food as nourishment for the body, and meditation as nourishment for the soul. Citing examples from the Mahabharata, he said satsang removes the darkness of ignorance and gives the right direction to life. He added that human life has been granted for righteous deeds and devotion, and that sinful actions lead the soul towards lower forms of existence.

Government is anti people and labour: Malik



MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR: Inder Singh Malik, president of Save Only Doordarshan Center Hisar People's Struggle Committee, Haryana, stated that today marks 1109 days of protest. He said government is taking anti-people decisions, such as labor laws, which were consolidated into just four laws, eliminating many pro-worker provisions, and then implemented at end of year. Similarly, MNREGA scheme has been replaced with a new scheme that will be entirely dependent on central government's discretion, much like the removal of gas subsidies. This is happening at a time when country's economy is in a bad state, there is no employment and production is almost at a standstill. It seems all this is being done to please Trump and US, which will inevitably harm common man, but will not benefit country. Government is continuously making pro-corporate decisions, which will lead country to ruin.

70 patients examined at free health check-up camp in Jharoda

BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JAN 18



A free multi-specialty health check-up camp was organised at the Valmiki Chaupal in Jharoda village of the Burari Assembly constituency by the Om Help Foundation on Saturday. The camp was jointly inaugurated by senior cardiologist Dr Kavita Tyagi and Congress leader Mangesh Tyagi by cutting the ribbon.

The camp was held under the chairpersonship of Dr Kavita Tyagi, senior heart specialist from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, with services provided by a team of specialist doctors. A team of ophthalmologists conducted eye examinations and advised villagers on eye care. The team from Kalov Dental Clinic carried out dental check-ups, while Dr Manisha from Fit Natural organisation conducted BMI tests and counselled patients on maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Around 70 patients were examined during the camp by Dr Kavita Tyagi and other specialist doctors. Essential medical tests including blood pressure, blood sugar, ECG, lipid profile, BMI and CBE tests were conducted free of cost. Foundation chairman Bachchan Singh Rana, Congress former candidate Mangesh Tyagi, social workers Vinod Kumar, Pankaj Kumar, Anoop Rana, Sunil Dhingya, Malkit Singh, Rajesh Kumar, Sunny Sahni, Veer Sen, Ashok Sisodia and others were present on the occasion.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Congress's desperation exposed, Raja Warring's statement reveals their true face again: Bhupendra Chahal

JAIBEER SINGH

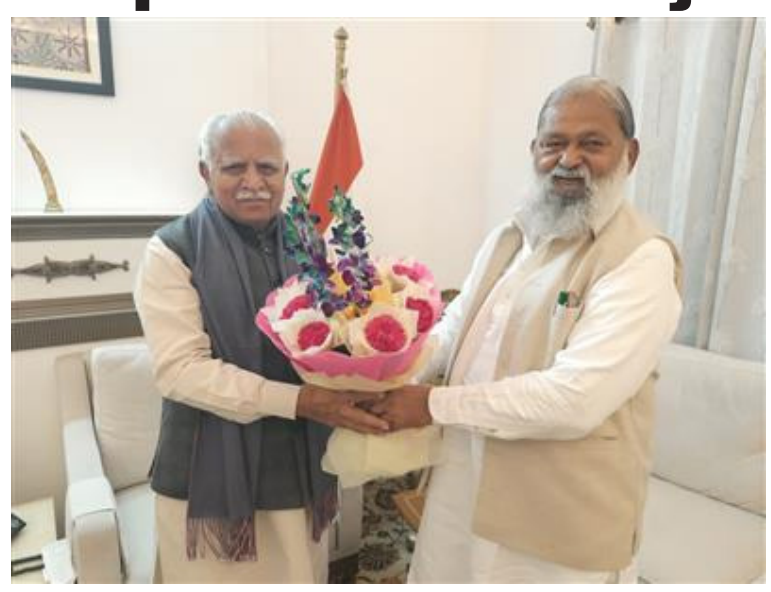


BARARA: Punjab Congress President Raja Warring's "12 times 5 = 48" statement is not just a slip of the tongue, but a reflection of the Congress party's mindset, understanding, and directionless politics. When the state president himself makes such irresponsible statements, the public can easily understand the state of the party. BJP leader and member of the Barara Market Committee, Bhupendra Chahal, launched a direct attack on the Congress, saying that the politics of Congress leaders is now based not on facts and development, but on confusion and theatrics. Just as Rahul Gandhi makes a mockery of the country with statements like the one about a jalebi factory, Raja Warring is carrying on the same tradition.

Bhupendra Chahal said that Congress leaders haven't forgotten mathematics; rather, the entire Congress party is rattled by the increasing popularity of Haryana's successful Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini, in Punjab. This nervousness manifests itself sometimes as incorrect statements and sometimes as a failed attempt to mislead the public.

Upcoming budget will be strong and meet public expectations: Anil Vij

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, JAN 18



Haryana Energy Minister, Sh. Anil Vij said that the upcoming budget will meet the expectations of the people as a very strong budget is being prepared. He said the budget is currently under formulation and inputs are being taken from all stakeholders. The Chief Minister himself is holding meetings with all departments to ensure that a robust and people-oriented budget is presented.

Anil Vij said this while interacting with the media at Delhi today.

The Energy Minister said that a discussion was held today with Union Power Minister, Sh. Manohar Lal regarding development in the energy sector so that the benefits of power-related schemes reach the people of the state. He said that improving the power system is the government's top priority to ensure uninterrupted and quality electricity supply to consumers.

Sh. Vij said that electricity supply was ensured even during the summer season, and therefore there is currently no problem during winter. There is no issue regarding demand and supply at present. Transformers and conductors across the state are being upgraded as per requirement, and such upgradation work is being carried out on a large scale in Gurugram and Faridabad.

The Energy Minister said that whenever a new thermal plant or unit is established, a coal block is essential. He said that 800 MW units are to be set up at Panipat and Khedar in Hisar. Recently, the Central Government has allocated coal linkage for the new unit at Khedar in Hisar, which will accelerate the progress of the project. Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi has also laid the foundation stone of a new 800 MW unit at Yamunanagar, and work on the project is currently in progress, he added.

Rs 21 lakh grant for SC Community Center and Dharamshala in Khujri Village

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 18



A grant of Rs. 21 lakh has been sanctioned by District Council Deputy Chairman Agnivijay for the construction of a Scheduled Caste (SC) community center and Dharamshala in Khujri village, Yamunanagar. Foundation stone laying and inauguration ceremony was attended by Nepal Rana son of Haryana Agriculture Minister Shyam Singh Rana, as the chief guest. A large number of villagers from the area participated in the program. Among those present were Sarpanch Khujri Agya Ram, Sarpanch Unheri Mohit Rana, Sarpanch Sandhali Rajesh Rana, Sarpanch Gumthala Parveen, Sarpanch Mohri Satish Sharma, Arjun Rana Khujri, Narendra Rana, Rajesh Rana, Rajendra Kumar Khujri, Block Committee Chairman Omveer (Jagadhri), Purushottam Khujri, and several other dignitaries. Addressing the residents, Nepal Rana said that BJP government, following policy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas is committed to all-round development of rural areas. He said that development schemes worth crores of rupees are being implemented in rural areas, and in same vein, a grant of Rs. 21 lakh has been given for the construction of SC community center and Dharamshala in Khujri village. He said that these facilities will provide convenience to the villagers for organizing social, cultural and community programs. Referring to the development works undertaken during the BJP rule, Nepal Rana said that basic facilities like roads, electricity, water, education, and health have been strengthened and further development of rural areas will be carried out in future. District Council Chairman Agnivijay expressed his gratitude to Nepal Rana for his presence at program which boosted morale of villagers. He thanked all villagers and Sarpanches present, saying that development works are successful only with public cooperation, and the District Council will continue to make every possible effort for development of villages in future.

"Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" awareness programme organised at Krishna Digital Library

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAPORI, JANUARY 18



An awareness programme under the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" (Save the Daughter, Educate the Daughter) campaign was organised by the Paramarth Shiksha Samiti at the Krishna Digital Library on Anjanthali Road. The importance of education and the message of empowering girls were emphasised. On this occasion, all the students present also celebrated Tishya Sharma's birthday, which fostered a sense of social responsibility and camaraderie among the children. The first anniversary of the Krishna Digital Library was also celebrated during the program. On this occasion, the students and members of the committee pledged to bring positive change in society through education. Many students and dignitaries, including Poonam, Rakhi, Bharti, Vishakha, and Vishal, were present at the event. The Paramarth Shiksha Samiti is continuously doing commendable work in the field of education. The Krishna Digital Library, run by the committee, provides free study facilities to students, ensuring equal educational opportunities for children from both rural.

Grand Youth Mahasammelam held in Sadhaura

PRITI SAINI
SADHAURA, JANUARY 18



Haryana Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Minister Shyam Singh Rana attended the grand Mega Youth Conference held at the residence of former MLA Balwant Singh in Sadhaura as the chief guest. The enthusiasm of the youth at the event was remarkable, and a large number of young people from the area, BJP office bearers and workers participated. Upon arriving at the venue, Minister Shyam Singh Rana was welcomed by former MLA Balwant Singh and other BJP leaders and workers with garlands and bouquets. Addressing the Youth Conference, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana said that our country is a country of youth, and the youth are the greatest strength for the progress of the country and the state. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the central government and under the guidance of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, the Haryana government is continuously working to make the youth self-reliant, educated and empowered. He said that the youth should have complete information about the Government of India's G-RAM G Yojana. Giving detailed information about the G-RAM Yojana, he said that this scheme is a new rural employment scheme of the Government of India, whose full name is Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural), which has been introduced in place of MNREGA, with the objective of strengthening the rural economy and reducing poverty. He said that the Haryana government is committed to realizing the resolve of a developed Haryana with the suggestions and energy of the youth.

In his address, the Agriculture Minister said that through the G-RAM Yojana, development is being accelerated in rural areas and various incentives are being given to empower farmers and youth economically. He said that Haryana is the first state in the country that is procuring 24 crops at Minimum Support Price (MSP). Other schemes such as the Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana, Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, and subsidies on agricultural implements are being run in the interest of farmers.

Story listened with devotion and calm mind is true spiritual practice: Keshav Acharya Maharaj

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI, JANUARY 18



The seven-day Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Yagya, organised in Kachhwa village under the guidance of Pandit Acharya Shubham Shastri of Shri Mahakali Mahakaleshwar Siddhapeeth Temple, concluded formally on Sunday. On the concluding occasion, the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha came to an end, and a large number of devotees reached the Katha venue. An atmosphere of devotion, faith, and joy prevailed throughout the pandal. This grand Katha was organised in the Someshwar Rice Mill premises near Kachhwa village under the leadership of industrialists Ramdas Sharma and Shubham Sharma. On the concluding day, women celebrated with joy and devotion by playing Holi with flowers, making the religious atmosphere even more vibrant. Devotees were seen immersed in devotion amidst bhajans, kirtans, and chants. The Katha speaker, Pujya Shri Keshav Acharya Ji Maharaj, who had come from Vrindavan Dham, was honored by the host family. On this occasion, the Katha speaker expressed his gratitude to the devotees for listening to the Katha peacefully, respectfully, and emotionally.

He said that such devotees make the Katha event meaningful. Pujya Shri Keshav Acharya Ji Maharaj said that Shrimad Bhagwat Katha is not just something to be heard, but it inspires one to incorporate its teachings into life. The real fruit of the Katha is obtained only when the mind is calm and the emotions are pure. The love, discipline, and devotion with which the devotees listened to the Katha are highly commendable. Such devotees make religious events successful. The Katha speaker also honored the host family with a memento and wished them success for the event. With the conclusion of the Katha, the devotees enjoyed the program with spiritual energy and devotion. On the concluding day, dignitaries from the area, social workers, and a large number of devotees were present at the Katha venue. The entire event conveyed a message of religious awareness and mutual harmony in the region.

Indian culture embodies spirit of Global Welfare: Mahipal Dhanda



DALBIR MALIK

KURUKSHETRA: Hundreds of office bearers, branch presidents, secretaries and workers from various provinces under North Zone-2 participated in Amrit Manthan' Regional Workers' Conference-2026, organized under aegis of Bharat Vikas Parishad, North Zone-2 and hosted by Haryana North Province, at Kurukshetra University Auditorium Hall. Haryana Education Minister Mahipal Dhanda, as chief guest, said that Indian culture embodies spirit of global welfare. Today, powerful and developed countries are misusing their power instead of helping backward and poor countries. Meanwhile, Indian culture and values are paving the way for a life of harmony in world. He said that Indian thought is superior in world because spirit of global welfare is proclaimed in havans and prayers and this is also objective of Bharat Vikas Parishad. Earlier, program commenced with lighting of lamp before Mother India by chief guest, along with Bharat Vikas Parishad's National Organizing Secretary Suresh Jain, Regional President North Zone-2 Dr. Paramjit Pahwa, social workers Vijay Kansal and Deepak Bansal. A collective rendition of Vande Mataram was also presented at program.

Workshop on VB G RAM G Scheme held at BJP District Office

SANJAY SHARMA
KAITHAL, JANUARY 18



A district-level workshop on the VB G RAM G scheme was organised today at the BJP District Office, Kapil Kamal, Kaithal. The workshop was graced by the presence of State Convenor Madan Chauhan as the chief speaker. The programme was presided over by BJP Kaithal District President Jyoti Saini. The program coordinator was BJP Kaithal District General Secretary Suresh Sandhu. During the workshop, the objectives, benefits, and effective implementation of the VB G RAM G scheme were discussed in detail. The attendees were also guided on how to take the scheme to every village, identify eligible beneficiaries, and disseminate the government's welfare policies to the masses. On this occasion, State Convenor Madan Chauhan said that the VB G RAM G scheme is a significant step towards strengthening rural development. This scheme promotes basic amenities, transparency, and self-reliance in villages. It is the responsibility of the party workers to implement this scheme effectively at the grassroots level.

BJP Kaithal District President Jyoti Saini said that the BJP government's schemes are formulated with the commitment to deliver benefits to the last person in the queue. The VB G RAM G scheme will ensure the all-round development of rural areas, and the party workers should act as a bridge in this process. The workers will work to ensure that the benefits of this scheme reach every person at the booth level. District In-charge Amarpal Rana said that if the schemes are implemented correctly with organizational strength, every section of society can benefit from them. The party workers should take this scheme to the villages with complete dedication. Pundri MLA Satpal Jamba said that the VB G RAM G scheme will open new possibilities for development in rural areas. This scheme has been designed according to the needs of the villages and will improve the rural standard of living. On this occasion, State Convenor Madan Chauhan, BJP Kaithal District President Jyoti Saini, Kaithal District In-charge Amarpal Rana, Pundri MLA Satpal Jamba, former District President Munish Kathwar, former Minister Kamlesh Dhanda, former MLA Leelaram Gurjar, State Executive Members Subhash Hajwana and Jaswant Pathania, District Council Chairman Karamveer Kaul, District General Secretaries of BJP Suresh Sandhu and Munish Sharma, District Media In-charge Himanshu Goyal, Bheemsen Agarwal, Devendra Panchal, Kaithal Jindal House Incharge Ravinder Dhiman etc.

International Saraswati Festival at Saraswati Pilgrimage site will be historic: Dhuman Singh

YAGYADUTT SHASHTRI



PEHOWA: Haryana Saraswati Heritage Development Board Vice Chairman Dhuman Singh Kirmach said that every possible effort has been made to make the International Saraswati Festival 2026 at the Pehowa Saraswati pilgrimage site historic and memorable. This time, programs are being organised from January 19 to January 25 with the cooperation of the Haryana Saraswati Development Board, the Department of Information, Public Relations and Languages, the Haryana Art and Culture Department, and the district administration and various organizations. An important aspect is that Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will participate in the inauguration ceremony at Adi Badri. Board Vice Chairman Dhuman Singh Kirmach was interacting with reporters regarding the festival at the Pehowa Saraswati pilgrimage site on Sunday. Earlier, Board Vice Chairman Dhuman Singh Kirmach, along with Pehowa Municipal Council Chairman Ashish Chakrapani, Board Superintending Engineer Arvind Kaushik, Executive Engineer Navtej Singh, former District President Sushil Rana, BJP leaders Hannu Chakrapani, Kartik Chakrapani, Balbir Gujjar, Mandal President Sukhbir, Babu Ram, Municipal Secretary Ashok Kumar, and Naib Tehsildar Shyamlal inspected the preparations for the festival. The Vice Chairman said that due to the efforts of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, a 7-day program schedule has been prepared for the International Saraswati Festival 2026 from January 19 to 25.

Weekly satsang held at Divya Jyoti Jagrati Sansthan ashram

PRITI SAINI



SADHAURA: A weekly satsang was organised at the Divya Jyoti Jagrati Sansthan Ashram in Vyaspur. During the satsang, Sadhvi Sumanya Bharti, a disciple of Divya Guru Ashutosh Maharaj Ji, explained the importance of Brahm Gyan (divine knowledge) in human life. She said that Brahm Gyan is the process, since time immemorial, that elevates humans to a divine level, enabling our soul to attain its true identity and purpose. Sadhvi Ji further explained in beautiful detail that receiving a human body is a sign of God's immense grace. However, merely fulfilling our desires, supporting our family, and performing all our duties from birth to death is not the true purpose of this human life. Saints and great souls explain that Brahm Gyan is not associated with any particular religion, sect, or caste, as its foundation lies in self-realization and the complete development of the human mind and intellect. Our personality, conduct, and behavior are shaped by the environment and society we are born into. If we consider this principle, a significant transformation can occur in our lives. The plight of our society today is due to the negativity and selfishness of the human mind.

Ankuram- the winter carnival organized with great joy, enthusiasm, and excitement

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, JAN 18



Ankuram The Winter Carnival, organized by the Elite Club of Gulmohar Academy Yamunanagar, was held with great enthusiasm and joy at the Jagadhri Club, Jagadhri. Mr. G.K. Tandon, District Judge, who attended as the chief guest, inaugurated the event. All the activities were divided into four different sections. First, approximately 50 children set up various stalls, learning business skills. The enthusiasm and confidence of the children running the stalls were remarkable. The second part of the program was a talent show and a baby show, in which many young children presented colorful performances and received much applause from the audience. The next section featured a speech competition and a general knowledge competition organized by the Rotary Club Jagadhri North, in which children from various schools in Yamunanagar and Jagadhri performed exceptionally well. Dr. Surender Kaur, Principal of DAV College for Girls Yamunanagar, as the special guest, highly praised the efforts of the students and honored the children who participated in the various competitions with merit certificates. The theme of the program was "Education for All." While children from different schools showcased their talents by setting up stalls and participating in competitions, the funds collected from this event will be used to open a learning center for underprivileged children in a slum area of Yamunanagar-Jagadhri. This center will provide classes for needy children, and the teacher appointed to teach these classes will be a college student who requires financial assistance. Thus, this carnival provided a special learning opportunity for everyone. To make the program a success, several well-known personalities of the city provided sponsorship and special support for the establishment of the learning center. A special surprise gift, a diamond ring jackpot, was also organized by Amar The Jewelers during the event. Lucky coupons were distributed, and the winning coupon for the surprise gift belonged to a sweet child named Abhiraj Nayyar, who was then presented with a diamond ring. The atmosphere at the event was vibrant and joyful, with stalls offering food, drinks, games, stationery, and other items for purchase, creating a truly special and delightful experience. Children, parents, and grandparents all looked very happy. At the end of the program, Mr. Param Duggal, Director of Gulmohar Academy, extended his sincere gratitude to all the esteemed office bearers and members of the Jagadhri Club, all the participants, and especially the sponsors, including Rotary Club Yamunanagar, Lions Club, and Inner Wheel Club Yamunanagar.

CM Nayab Saini to attend Basant Panchami event in memory of Sir Chhotu Ram at International Jat Dharamshala

HANS RAJ
KURUKSHETRA, JAN 18



On the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami, a grand annual function in memory of Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram will be organised on January 23 at the International Jat Dharamshala, Kurukshetra. People from all sections of society, social organisations and followers of Sir Chhotu Ram's ideology from across the state are expected to participate in large numbers.

Sharing details at a press conference, Dharamshala president Krishan Shyokand said the programme will begin with blessings from Mahamandaleshwar Geeta Manishi Swami Gyanand Maharaj.

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will attend the function as the chief guest, while Rajya Sabha MP Subhash Barala will preside over the programme.

Among the distinguished guests will be Cabinet Minister Krishan Bedi, MP Naveen Jindal, former minister Subhash Sudha, BJP district president Tejender Khaira, social workers Pradeep Mor, Jaibhagwan Sharma and Sukhbir Shaukeen, and Rashtriya Lok Dal spokesperson Nisha Chaudhary.

Dr Shyokand said Sir Chhotu Ram played a historic role in safeguarding the rights of farmers and labourers and was instrumental in framing laws that protected farmers' land, bullock carts and homes from attachment. Owing to these efforts, he emerged as a symbol of farmers' and workers' welfare and a true representative of all 36 communities.

He said January 23 holds special historical significance as it also marks the birth anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose, founder of the Azad Hind Fauj. Bose's contribution to the freedom struggle will also be remembered during the programme. Dr Shyokand added that the International Jat Dharamshala has been actively contributing not only in social service but also in the field of education. Through a reputed coaching initiative led by Dr Anand Mani, more than 100 students are being provided free online coaching for the NEET examination, benefiting meritorious students from economically weaker backgrounds. He appealed to members of all 36 communities to attend the programme in large numbers and take a pledge to carry forward the ideals of Sir Chhotu Ram. Office-bearers of the Dharamshala present on the occasion included vice-president Bani Singh Dhull, secretary Harkesh Saharan, joint secretary Hoshiar Singh, treasurer Narendra, and members Jitender, Angrej Singh, Balwinder, Ganga Bishan Saharan, Ramesh Malik and Rishipal. Former vice-chacellor Prof Ranpal Tehlan, Rishipal Antedi, Rajender Hathira, Tek Chand Barna, Shamsher Dhull, Jaswant Kolekhan, Satish Khatkad, Gulab Gharadsi, Ved Prakash Kaindal, Lekhraj Lathar, Arjun Sarsa, Jaiprakash Bidhana, Jagir Khidarpura, Manoj Chahal and Amit Ghaso were also present.

Dr Shyokand said Sir Chhotu Ram was truly "Rehbar-e-Azam"—a guiding force for the people—who dedicated his life to the welfare of society. Following the path shown by him, he said, would be the real tribute to the legendary leader.

YUGMARG

CHANDIGARH

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026

Opinion

The greatest day in your life and mine is when we take total responsibility for our attitudes. That's the day we truly grow up.

John C. Maxwell

EDITORIAL

Growing self-confidence in "New India's" youth is visible transformation

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal today highlighted that one of the most visible transformations in a resurgent and new India is the growing self-confidence among the country's youth.

While addressing the "Startup Pe Charcha" interaction at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Minister Goyal highlighted that one of the most visible transformations in a resurgent and new India is the growing self-confidence among the country's youth.

He noted that young Indians today are increasingly willing to take risks, pursue entrepreneurship and experiment with ideas, marking a significant shift from earlier hesitations around career choices, and said that this self-confidence reflects a fundamental change in India's mindset towards innovation and future-ready growth.

Speaking on the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Goyal said India's recent agreements with developed economies provide significant opportunities for startups and entrepreneurs.

He explained that these agreements create certainty and confidence for investors while opening new markets for Indian goods and services. Further, the minister encouraged startups to explore startup-to-startup collaborations and partnerships with countries abroad to attract investment and expand globally, highlighting opportunities across services, mobility, payments, sustainability, renewable energy and advanced technologies.

On deep-tech innovation, Goyal expressed optimism about the progress being made across the country, and noted that recent policy discussions have brought sharper focus to deep-tech development and said that the second Rs 10,000-crore Startup Fund of Funds announced by the government will significantly support deep-tech startups, particularly at early and critical stages of growth. He added that his interactions with incubators and academic institutions across the country reflect strong momentum in this sector. Referring to India's space startup ecosystem, he noted that over 350 startups are currently operating in the sector, with deep-tech innovation at their core, and said the sector has crossed a valuation of USD 2 billion, with the government aiming to support the emergence of multiple unicorns in the coming years.

He further addressed concerns related to sectors such as handicrafts, and highlighted the importance of integrating technology into inventory management to enable artisans to access digital and e-commerce platforms. The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) is willing to support such efforts by facilitating onboarding, inventory digitisation and market access, including through integration with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), he added.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Machado faces criticism



Has the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize lost its sheen? Did Venezuelan Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado belittle the prestige of the coveted award by giving it away?

María Corina Machado, who presented her 2025 Nobel Peace Prize medal to US President Donald Trump as a symbolic gesture of 'gratitude for his support of Venezuela's freedom struggle,' faces criticism and joins a group of Nobel laureates who have rejected or presented their awards to others for different reasons.

The general perception is whether Machado should have presented it to Trump, particularly days after US forces invaded her country and arrested her country's President Nicolas Maduro, along with his wife. Her gesture has sparked controversy, especially in Norway, with critics viewing it as an attempt to curry political favour or a bargaining chip.

While presenting her gold Nobel medal to President Trump during a private White House meeting, Machado described it as an 'act of gratitude on behalf of the Venezuelan people for his role in the removal of Nicolás Maduro.'

Machado put the award in a proper frame with a signed note which said 'To Donald J Trump, in gratitude for your extraordinary leadership in promoting peace through strength, advancing diplomacy and defending liberty and prosperity.'

She said the award was presented as a 'personal symbol of gratitude on behalf of the Venezuelan people in recognition of President

However, the ethical implications of Machado's action are widely debated, with critics viewing it as a political manoeuvre that diminishes the prestige of the Peace Prize.

Machado's gesture has been criticised in many political circles, particularly in Norway. The decision has been widely condemned by Norwegian politicians and some international observers, who view it as a political stunt that demeans the prestige and values of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Some Norwegian political leaders described the act as "absurd," "meaningless," and "embarrassing and damaging" to the Nobel Peace Prize's reputation. Some critics suggest Machado used the medal as a "bargaining chip" to curry favour with Donald Trump and secure US support, rather than focusing on the democratic

transferred, shared, or revoked once it has been awarded.

'According to the Statutes of the Nobel Foundation, § 10, "No appeals may be made against the decision of a prize-awarding body about the award of a prize".

None of the prize awarding committees in Stockholm and Oslo has ever considered revoking a prize once awarded.

As a matter of principle, the Norwegian Nobel Committee will not comment upon what the Peace Prize Laureates may say and do after they have been awarded the prize. The Committee's mandate is restricted to evaluating the work and efforts of the nominated candidates up to the moment it is decided who shall be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for a given year.

A Nobel Prize can neither be revoked, shared, nor transferred to others. Once the

decisions have become controversial.

The most controversial handover was that of Knut Hamsun, a Norwegian writer who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1920. During the Second World War, Hamsun supported the Germans. He met high-ranking Nazi officers, including Adolf Hitler and Nazi Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels. Hamsun gave his Nobel Prize medal to Goebbels in 1943. Since then, its whereabouts are not known.[

Dmitry Muratov, a Russian journalist, television presenter and the former Editor-in-Chief of the Russian newspaper Novaya Gazeta, was awarded the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize jointly with Marisa Ressa for "their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and

lasting peace."

On March 22, 2022, Muratov decided to sell his Nobel Peace Prize medal at an auction, donating the proceeds to UNICEF for the benefit of refugees from Ukraine. The medal auction was carried out by Heritage Auctions and was sold for 103.5 million USD, the highest price ever recorded for a Nobel medal.

Nane Annan, the widow of former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, donated her late husband's medal to the United Nations.

American novelist Ernest Hemingway, known for an economical, understated style that influenced later 20th-century writers, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954. He reportedly placed his Literature Prize medal at a shrine in Cuba.

Le Duc Tho, a Vietnamese revolutionary, diplomat and politician, was the first Asian to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize jointly with former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in 1973. But Tho declined to accept the award, claiming that peace had not yet been established, and that the United States and the South Vietnamese governments were in violation of the Paris Peace Accords.

Notwithstanding some of these famous handovers of the Nobel Prizes, the Nobel Foundation and the Norwegian Nobel Committee maintain that the integrity of the prize itself is separate from the actions a laureate chooses to take with the physical award (the medal, diploma, and prize money) after they receive the honour.

India steps toward about 800 Vande Bharat trainsets by 2030



Expanding train services to long-distance overnight travel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today flagged off country's maiden Vande Bharat sleeper train from West Bengal's Malda district.

The central goverment now gears up for the ambitious plan that by 2047, the Vande Bharat fleet is to scale up to around 4,500 trainsets, aligned with India's long-term development goals. In the medium term, the focus will be on scaling up services, operating about 800 Vande Bharat trainsets by 2030 which is, subject to infrastructure readiness and manufacturing capacity.

"Vande Bharat Express, India's first indigenously designed and manufactured semi-high-speed trainset has been developed to strengthen inter-city rail services by combining modern technology, improved passenger comfort, and reduced journey times," a release by the Railway Ministry reads.

Launched on February, 2019, the Vande Bharat Express commenced service on the New Delhi–Kanpur–Prayagraj–Varanasi corridor.

The 16-coach, fully air-conditioned trainset is designed for a maximum speed of 160 kmph with modern passenger amenities to improve energy efficiency and operational sustainability.

Till last year 164 Vande Bharat services had been operationalised in 274 districts, which carried more than 7.5 crore passengers, mentioned Railway Ministry in the release.

Commercially inaugurated on 15 February 2019, the project has gained momentum with around 80 trains currently being operated across the network.

Taiwan detects Chinese drone in its aerial zone

Taiwan detected a Chinese army's reconnaissance UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) entering Taiwan's southwestern ADIZ.Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said that the UAV departed after radio warnings.In a post on X, it said, "At 0541hrs (UTC+8), a PLA reconnaissance UAV was detected entering Taiwan's southwestern



ADIZ and entering airspace near Dongsha (the Pratas Islands). After radio warnings, the UAV departed the area. The ROC Armed Forces are monitoring the situation and responding accordingly."

Earlier in the day, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense detected the presence of 26 sorties of Chinese military aircraft, eight naval vessels, and an official ship around its territorial waters.Of the 26 sorties, seven crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central, and southwestern ADIZ.In a post on X, the MND said, "26 PLA aircraft, 8 PLAN vessels and 1 official ship operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 7 out of 26 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central and southwestern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded."

Earlier, Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te said he would continue safeguarding Taiwan and would not allow China to interfere, Focus Taiwan reported.It stated that President Lai, as commander-in-chief of the armed forces, pledged to protect the country and safeguard the lives and property of all citizens."I will certainly safeguard the nation and absolutely not allow Chinese pressure or China's hand to reach into Taiwan," President Lai said.He also said on Thursday that China's "cross-border pressure" against the people of Taiwan proves that Beijing's authority does not extend to Taiwan and confirms that Taiwan is not part of the People's Republic of China (PRC).Focus Taiwan reported Lai cited the recent visit to Taiwan by China-born Japanese lawmaker Hei Seki, who has been sanctioned by China and barred from entering the PRC, saying that the visit demonstrated how the Republic of China (ROC) -- Taiwan's official name -- and the PRC are not subordinate to each other.

POEMS

Thrilling Conclusion

And when the end came it came silent
but clear like bird prints on snow
and no one was surprised to see it arrive
and still friends lingered in doorways
letting goodbyes go bad
and chirping cats were fed a second
time just to be sure
and the family dogs formed a congress
in the woods with the coyotes
and someone was careful to leave
bubble wrap for children to burst
and the night watchman pretended his
glasses fogged over as we passed
and it turned out the trees were unmemorable
and the government a trick of the light
and it was sorry, the ending,
but it didn't know what for
and it was okay at least as much as we were
and we swam with it in whatever
we had on under
and we kissed so hard we clanged teeth
and we ate without speaking
and then at last spoke all at once
like an unkinked hose
and then it began, the ending, the
way all creatures do, small
and angry at its own
misunderstandings.

By Robert Wood Lynn

US-EU trade deal on pause after Trump threatens to impose tariffs on European nations



Following US President Donald Trump's warning to impose tariffs on Denmark and other European countries over the sale of Greenland, the European Union has called for a pause to the ratification process of the EU-US trade deal announced back in July 2025.

Vice-President of the European People's Party, Siegfried Muresan, in a post on X, confirmed the pause in the ratification process, stating, "We were supposed to ratify the EU-US trade deal from last July very soon, reducing tariffs for imports from the US into the European Union to 0%. However, in light of recent developments, this ratification will have to wait a little longer in this new context."The deal announced in July 2025, between the US and the EU, comprising 27 member states, unveiled a bilateral framework agreement aimed at resolving various tariff and trade issues.However, Trump's recent post on Truth Social has cast doubt on the future of the agreement.On Saturday, Trump threatened to impose tariffs on Denmark and other European countries unless they agree to sell Greenland.In his post, Trump claimed the move is necessary for national security, citing China's and Russia's interest in the territory.He offered to negotiate with the European nations but warned of escalating tariffs of 10 per cent from February 1, 2026, and 25 per cent from June 1, 2026 if a deal wasn't reached, stating it was "time for Denmark to give back" after years of US support."Starting on February 1st, 2026, all of the above mentioned Countries (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, The United Kingdom, The Netherlands, and Finland), will be charged a 10% Tariff on any and all goods sent to the United States of America. On June 1st, 2026, the Tariff will be increased to 25%. This Tariff will be due and payable until such time as a Deal is reached for the Complete and Total purchase of Greenland," Trump posted.Trump has been adamant about acquiring Greenland, a semi-autonomous territory of Denmark, citing national security concerns.Washington claims Greenland's strategic location and mineral resources are vital to its security, but the leadership in Denmark and Greenland have rejected the idea, emphasising their right to self-determination.Muresan, in a follow-up post, added that Trump's latest announcement undermines the "stability" which was the sole benefit expected from last year's trade deal.

He further stated that this was the reason why delaying the ratification of the trade deal is warranted."STABILITY would have been the only gain from last year's trade deal between the US and the European Union. Today's announcement by President Trump to eventually impose new tariffs on several EU member states takes away that stability. This is why the postponement of the ratification of that trade deal is justified," Muresan added. Meanwhile, Germany, Sweden, France, Norway, the Netherlands, and Finland have sent small numbers of military personnel to Greenland, with Denmark increasing its own military presence amid Trump's call for acquiring the Arctic island.

The situation has sparked concerns about the potential impact on NATO, with some European leaders warning that a US attempt to seize Greenland could lead to the alliance's demise.

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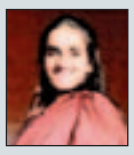
Verification of model villages under Swachh Bharat Mission must be completed within week: DC



ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: Deputy Commissioner Apurva Devgan on Friday directed that the verification of all model villages declared under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) must be completed within a week under all circumstances. He issued these instructions while chairing a review meeting to assess the progress of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj schemes. The meeting was held in the VC room of the Deputy Commissioner's office, with all Block Development Officers of the district joining virtually. While reviewing the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), the Deputy Commissioner said that against the approved limit of Rs 520.90 lakh under the mission, an amount of Rs 432.27 lakh has already been utilised. Reviewing the progress of MGNREGA, he informed that during the current financial year 2025–26, 44.88 lakh man-days have been generated so far against the target of 60.24 lakh man-days up to January. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin), a target of constructing 1,379 houses has been set for the financial year 2025–26.

NEWS BRIEF

Relaxation in BPL selection norms, fresh applications can be submitted till Jan 25: Gandharva Rathore



ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: The state government has decided to grant relaxation in the rules of the Below Poverty Line (BPL) selection process, allowing families living in pucca houses to also apply for inclusion in the BPL category. Deputy Commissioner Hamirpur Gandharva Rathore said that the first phase of the BPL selection process in the district was completed on December 31, 2025, and the lists have already been published by the block-level committees. He said the government has now issued orders to initiate the second and third phases of the BPL selection process, with revised eligibility criteria. The Deputy Commissioner said that applicants who were earlier excluded from the BPL list due to ownership of a pucca house have now been granted exemption from this exclusion criterion. Such families will be considered for inclusion during the second phase of the BPL selection process, for which a separate list will be prepared.

Intellectuals' dialogue programme held in Gharaunda

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, JAN 16



Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan said that public participation should be increased in collective development works. Committees should be formed at the ward level to monitor the ongoing development works. We have to work together to make the city clean and beautiful. He was speaking as the chief guest at the Intellectuals' Dialogue Program at Agarwal Dharamshala in Gharaunda today. He said that the head of the family not only motivates the members to move forward but also has many concerns about the household. He also has to take care of the needs of the members. Some needs are fulfilled quickly, while others take time. Mr. Kalyan said that he also considers the Gharaunda area as his family, and he is leaving no stone unturned for its progress and prosperity. He said that the main objective of today's meeting is to seek suggestions from intellectuals to make the city more beautiful and clean and to instill good values in children. Mr. Kalyan said that we have to work together with the spirit that every child in the area progresses, becomes self-reliant, enhances the respect of the family, and contributes as much as possible to the national interest. He said that happiness and sorrow are a part of life. A person should not become arrogant after gaining position or power. Progress is not achieved only through buildings. The intellectual development of children is essential. Good teachers in schools and doctors in hospitals are necessary. The government is taking appropriate steps in this direction. There has always been a shortage of staff, but we have to move forward by making the best use of the available resources. We also have to work for the welfare of society on the basis of morality. Monitoring of Development Works is Necessary He said that brainstorming is necessary to make the city more beautiful and clean. Committees will have to be formed in every ward to monitor the ongoing development works. Every single penny of the government should be utilised properly. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini are working with this mindset. The government is fully committed to ensuring that the benefits of the schemes reach the eligible people.

Many development works have also been carried out in the Gharaunda constituency over the past 11 years. Former Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar amended the law to regularize illegal colonies. Approximately 50 colonies in the city have been declared legal, and basic amenities have been provided in them. On this occasion, former Chairperson Subhash Gupta, Ramesh Gupta, Krishna Sharma, and some senior citizens offered suggestions for the development of the city. Former Chairman Nirmal Bairagi addressed the gathering. Market Committee Chairman Rajkumar Paliwal, Municipal Council Chairman Happy Luck Gupta, SDM Rajesh Soni, Mandal President Rohit Bhandari, and councillors from various wards were also present at the event.

Fifth annual conference of Hisar city unit of Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti organized



MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR, JAN 18

The fifth annual conference of the Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Hisar, was held on the premises of the local Gurjar Dharamshala. The conference was attended by elected delegates. District President Anita Sharma presided over the conference, while former Principal and Secretary of the Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Ramesh Chandra, moderated the session. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Dharam Singh Janmat stated that understanding the secrets of nature and making them accessible for public welfare is the key to a scientific mindset and social development. Today, we yearn for poison-free food, clean drinking water and pure air. Maintaining a balance with nature is the foundation of development. To achieve this, the public must continue to recharge the environment. While we have not yet achieved the goals of education, health, self-reliance and self-respect for the general public, it is possible that we can achieve this in the near future through small steps taken towards building a civilized society. The Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti and numerous organizations and groups are actively working in this direction. Only through daily practice of a work culture grounded in scientific understanding will we develop a scientific mindset. This confidence has come from extensive work experience, operating learning centers and learning through playful education, observing nature and practicing poison-free agricultural production. This will form the foundation of our bright future.

Nayab Saini's humility remains Hanuman-like even after becoming CM: Shandilya



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
AMBALA: Anti Terrorist Front India and Vishwa Hindu Takht chief Veeresh Shandilya on Sunday said that Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini has retained humility comparable to that of Lord Hanuman even after attaining the highest political office in the state.Shandilya made these remarks in the presence of the Chief Minister during a Sundarkand recitation organised by the Youngster Welfare Association in Mohali. On the occasion, Shandilya honoured Saini by presenting him with an idol of Lord Hanuman and a shawl, acknowledging his humility, efforts to uphold the dignity of all 36 communities in Haryana, initiatives to strengthen Sanatan values, commitment to all-round development of the state, and firm decisions against fear, corruption and drug abuse. He said that while many people develop arrogance even after becoming a village sarpanch or ward councillor, Nayab Saini has remained grounded despite becoming the Chief Minister. Shandilya remarked that Saini possesses the strength of Hanuman, but his power and humility are dedicated entirely to the welfare of society.Calling upon today's powerful politicians to learn from Saini's conduct, Shandilya said the same humility seen in him during his tenure as district BJP president in 2009, as a minister in 2014, and as Kurukshetra MP in 2019, continues unchanged even after he became Chief Minister in 2024. He described Saini as a fruit-bearing, shade-giving tree that bends with humility.

Food India Expo 2026 concludes on high note in Karnal



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: The three-day Food India Expo 2026, which began on January 16 at the New Grain Market in Karnal, concluded on Saturday with an impressive response from the rice industry and allied sectors. The final day witnessed participation from hundreds of leading rice millers and business stakeholders from Haryana, Punjab and other states.Prominent office-bearers of the Haryana Rice Millers Association, including president Jewel Singla, Hansraj Singla and Makhan Lal Singla, were present at the closing ceremony. Addressing the gathering, rice millers said such expos should be organised regularly, as they provide valuable exposure to new technology, modern machinery and advanced packaging solutions, enabling the industry to scale new heights.They said the expo helped millers gain first-hand information about the latest innovations in the sector and facilitated direct interaction with manufacturers. Several rice millers also finalised deals for modern machinery during the event. Participants expressed gratitude to Food India Expo organiser Tilak Raj Arora and his team for bringing major national and international companies under one roof.

Grand annual festival will be organised in memory of Sir Chhotu Ram on Jan 23



DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA: A grand annual festival is being organized in the memory of Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram Ji on January 23 on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami at International Jat Dharamshala, Kurukshetra. On this occasion, people from all sections of the society, social organizations and people following the thoughts of Chau Chhotu Ram from across the state will participate in large numbers. In the press conference organized regarding the organization of this program, the head of Dharamshala, Dr. Krishna Sheokand, gave detailed information. He told that the program will begin with the blessings of Mahamandaleshwar Geeta Manishi Swami Gyananand Ji Maharaj. Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini ji will attend the program as the chief guest. Rajya Sabha MP Subhash Barala will preside over the program. The very special guests will include Cabinet Minister Krishna Bedi, MP Naveen Jindal, former Minister Subhash Sudha, BJP District President Tejender Khaira, social worker Pradeep Mor, Jai Bhagwan Sharma, Sukhbir Shaukeen and Rashtriya Lok Dal spokesperson Ms. Nisha Chaudhary. Principal Dr Krishna Sheokand said that Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram ji made many historic laws to protect the rights of farmers and laborers.

Felicitation ceremony to honor meritorious students and players organised at Dr Mangalsen Auditorium



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan said that today was the era of AI. The youth have to move forward with technology. Elders have to be respected. We have to progress in life by connecting with culture and setting goals with values to become a better citizen. Along with one's own progress, one has to contribute to the society and the nation as well. Kalyan was speaking as the chief guest at the felicitation ceremony for meritorious students and outstanding players organized by the Road Employees Association at Dr. Mangalsen Auditorium here on Sunday. In the ceremony, 330 meritorious students, including 52 sportspersons, who scored more than 90 per cent marks in class 10th and 12th, were honored with shields and certificates. The program was started with the lighting of the lamp. On this occasion, Mr Kalyan said that most of the officers, employees and youth who attended the function were from the society whose background was farming. The place where they have reached today is due to the hard work of their parents. Appealed to the youth not to let the honor of their parents be affected and to maintain their values and honesty. He praised the unity of the society for successfully organizing the birth anniversary of Guru Brahmananda in village Chuhad Majra.

Brahma Kumaris celebrates Brahma Baba's Remembrance Day as World Peace Day



MAINPAL KASHYAP
INDRI: The Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya in Indri celebrated the remembrance day of its founder, Pitashri Brahma Baba, as World Peace Day in a reverent and heartfelt atmosphere. A large number of brothers, sisters, and dignitaries were present at the programme. The main speaker of the programme, Rajyogini B.K. Mamta, shared her thoughts, saying that we need to connect our lives with the ideals of Pitashri Brahma Baba. Pitashri, throughout his life, worked with a spirit of world welfare, empowering mothers and sisters and making them aware of their inner strengths.

Everyone welcome to Siddhartha Meditation Yoga: Acharya Maa Sakshi



MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR: Under auspices of Samarthguru Dhara Sangh, an energy meditation session was organized today at Sadhana Center in Hisar. Program was conducted by Acharya Maa Sakshi, with a large number of practitioners participating enthusiastically. During meditation session, Acharya Maa Sakshi guided practitioners through simple and effective methods of energy flow, breath balance and consciousness awakening. Atmosphere during the session was completely peaceful, positive and full of energy. After meditation, participating practitioners reported experiencing mental peace, increased concentration and inner vitality. In her address, Acharya Maa Sakshi explained that energy meditation awakens the positive energies hidden within a person and helps in freeing oneself from stress, fear, and negative thoughts.

Karam Singh Khanpur's gratitude to Congress party on appointment as Gen Secretary



MAINPAL KASHYAP
INDRI: Taking a significant step towards strengthening organization, Congress party has appointed senior leader Karam Singh Khanpur as General Secretary. Karam Singh Khanpur has previously served as former Sarpanch of Khanpur village, a former member of District Council and Congress President of Indri constituency, and possesses extensive experience in organizational work. Upon his appointment as General Secretary, Karam Singh Khanpur expressed his gratitude to top leadership of Congress party. He thanked former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, State President Rao Narendra Singh, Rohtak MP Deepender Singh Hooda and Rural President Rajesh Vaid, along with all other senior leaders. Karam Singh Khanpur said that he will fulfill the responsibility entrusted to him by party with complete honesty, dedication and hard work. He assured that he will remain actively involved in strengthening organization at grassroots level and in taking party's policies to common people.

Free Medical Camp organised by DR Jain Neurocare Hospital



HANS RAJ
KURUKSHETRA: A free general medical and consultation camp was organized at Shri Ravidas Temple and Ambedkar Bhawan, Chandarbhanpur village as part of seven-day NSS camp, through joint efforts of DR Jain Neurocare and Multispecialty Hospital, Kurukshetra and Dayanand Women's College, Kurukshetra. Dr. Himanshu Jain from hospital explained that main causes of tingling and numbness in hands and feet include vitamin deficiency, pressure on nerves, sitting in same position for long periods, poor blood circulation, excessive typing, pregnancy, excessive alcohol consumption and hypothyroidism. If left untreated, this can increase risk of diseases such as diabetes, kidney disease, arthritis and carpal tunnel syndrome. He advised adopting a balanced diet, regular exercise, yoga and pranayama, and ensuring sufficient intake of vitamins B1, B6, B12, B3, and E.

Seeds of faith must be sown at home: Dr Varun Muni Ji Maharaj



KULWINDER KARWAL
MANSA: India Gaurav Dr Varun Muni Ji Maharaj, while addressing a spiritual discourse held under the holy guidance of Rashtrasant Shraman Sanghiya Uppravartak Param Pujya Shri Pankaj Muni Ji Maharaj, stressed the need to connect children and youth with religion and moral values. He said that the growing influence of mobile phones and social media is distancing the younger generation from culture, ethics and spirituality. While schools provide academic education, the foundation of character, discipline and values must be laid at home. He emphasised that parents play a crucial role in shaping a child's personality from an early age. Dr Varun Muni Ji said religion should be presented in a simple and engaging manner so that youth feel naturally attracted towards it. Just as parents ensure regular schooling for their children, they should also encourage participation in satsang and spiritual activities.

Panchayat tightens belt to stop illegal mining



NIRMAL SAINI
RADAUR: Now Gumthala Gram Panchayat has also geared itself up to stop the illegal mining game going on in large scale in Yamuna river. An announcement has been made in the village by the Panchayat. There, a security guard has been put in place. People involved in illegal mining activity have been warned. At the same time, during the Thikri patrol last night, e-departure of vehicles passing through the road carrying mining material was also checked. During this time, Amrik Singh, Chowkidar Dharampal, Pawan Kumar, Panch members Ajay Rana, Praveen Kumar, Chamkaur Singh and Sushil Mehta, apart from the police team were also present on behalf of the Mining Department. Sarpanch Praveen Kumar said that the Gram Panchayat stoodd with the government and administration to stop illegal mining. A team has been formed to monitor illegal mining, which will keep a watch on Yamuna River at night.

Grant of Rs 21 lakh given to village Khajuri for development works



NIRMAL SAINI
RADAUR: District Council Vice President Agni Vijay Singh has gifted the works to be done in village Khajuri with the grant amount of Rs 21 lakh. The grant amount will give impetus to other works of construction and beautification of Ravidas temple. Nepal Singh Rana inaugurated the program by breaking the coconut. Nepal Singh Rana said that the priority of the government and the Zilla Parishad was equal development of every section of the society. Development of religious and cultural places of Scheduled Caste society strengthens social harmony. In future also, every possible support will be given for the development of the entire area including village Khajuri. District Vice President Agni Vijay Singh said that this grant would be spent in the construction of the building, beautification, seating arrangement and development of other necessary facilities in the Ravidas temple. The government has no shortage of money for development.

Managing Committee of IG Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Kaithal formed unopposed



SANJAY SHARMA
KAITHAL: Nomination papers were filed for the Managing Committee elections of Indira Gandhi Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Kaithal, scheduled for February 1next by January 15, 2026. As no nomination was received for any post by 2 pm on January 17, 2026, the Managing Committee elections were held unopposed. Consequently, the election results were declared Saturday. In view of the continuous progress of the college and the hard work of the head of the managing committee, the members of the college management committee unanimously elected. The results of the election process were announced by the Returning Officer, Ramesh Dua, in which results of the election of the Managing Committee Ram Bahadur Khurania as President; Subhash Sharma as Vice-President; Narendra Kumar as General Secretary and Puneet Gupta was elected unopposed for the post of Treasurer.

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Vishakha Group's rise a story of conviction, trust and shared destiny: Gautam Adani

NEW DELHI: Delivered a reflective and powerful address at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Vishakha Group, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani on Saturday called the company's rise a "story not of contracts, but of conviction, trust, and shared destiny." Speaking before employees, partners, and members of the founding Doshi family, Adani traced the origins of Vishakha's partnership with the Adani Group back to 1992, highlighting how a crisis in the global polymer trade laid the foundation for a business relationship — and friendship — that would evolve into one of India's most admired industrial collaborations.

Gautam Adani traced the origins of Vishakha's partnership with the Adani Group back to 1992, highlighting how a crisis in the global polymer trade laid the foundation for a business relationship — and friendship — that would evolve into one of India's most admired industrial collaborations. The Adani Group Chairman recounted the turbulence following the Gulf War when supply chains collapsed and India faced severe rupee devaluation. With polymer imports plunging and factories across India staring at shutdowns, Adani Exports (now Adani Enterprises) was forced to halve supplies to distributors. In that period, he said, "many traders saw the shortage as an opportunity," but Jigish Doshi chose responsibility over profit. Instead of negotiating for more allocation, he approached Adani with a group of small customers to explain the human and industrial impact of the crisis. Impressed by Doshi's integrity, Adani decided to supply directly to him, extending credit and bypassing layers of distributors. That moment, he said, "was the birth of a friendship built on trust, fairness, and principles."

NEWS BRIEF

CII sees business confidence rising, expects next wave of reforms in Union Budget

NEW DELHI: Business confidence in India is steadily improving, reflecting strong domestic demand and expectations of continued reforms in the Union Budget 2026–27, according to the latest Business Outlook Survey by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on Sunday.

CII's Business Confidence Index rose for the third straight quarter to 66.5 in Q3 FY26, marking its highest level in five quarters.

The report showed that companies are optimistic about demand, profitability and investment conditions.

Around two-thirds of firms reported higher demand in Q2 FY26, while 72 per cent expect demand to grow further in Q3 FY26, supported by GST rate cuts and festive season spending.

Hiring and investment plans also remain strong, the industry body said. CII Director General Chandrajit Banerjee said the steady rise in confidence highlights the industry's ability to handle global challenges, supported by resilient domestic demand and a strong reform agenda.

He added that companies expect growth momentum to strengthen further in the coming months.

Senior Men Dominate U-23s in Drawn Practice Match

CHANDIGARH: The multi day practice match being played between Men's Senior and Under 23 ended in a draw at Cricket Stadium, Sector 16 on Saturday. Senior team asserted their dominance with both bat and ball.

Opting to bat first after winning the toss, Chandigarh U-23 found the going extremely tough against a disciplined bowling attack led by Rohit Dhanda (5/16) and Nishunk Birla (3/5) as team was bowled out for just 76 runs in 25.4 overs. In reply, the Senior Men posted a solid 221 in 55.3 overs, riding on a classy knock from skipper Manan Vohra, who top-scored with a well-compiled 80 off 112 balls. He was ably supported by Shivam Bhambri (42) and useful contributions down the order.

DISCOMs turn profitable in FY25, post Rs 2,701 crore net profit

NEW DELHI India's power distribution sector has posted a rare and significant turnaround, with electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) and power departments together reporting a net profit for the first time in years, the Ministry of Power said on Sunday.

In FY2024-25, distribution utilities recorded a collective profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 2,701 crore -- marking a sharp reversal from years of heavy losses.

This positive performance comes after a loss of Rs 25,553 crore in FY 2023-24 and a much deeper loss of Rs 67,962 crore in FY 2013-14, the ministry data showed.

Since the unbundling and corporatisation of State Electricity Boards, distribution utilities had consistently remained in the red, making the latest figures a major milestone for the sector. Union Power Minister Manohar Lal described the development as the beginning of a new chapter for India's power distribution system. He said the turnaround is the result of sustained efforts by the government to address long-standing financial and operational challenges faced by DISCOMs.

"This achievement was possible due to the leadership and vision of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi captured in his words that, India is driving not only its growth but also the growth of the world, with the energy sector playing a significant role in this," Lal stated.

"The government is committed to the required reforms in the sector so that the power sector can support our growing economy and play its part in the journey towards Viksit Bharat," he added. Over the past few years, the government has introduced several reforms aimed at improving the financial health and efficiency of distribution utilities. These include the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme, which focuses on modernising infrastructure and rolling out smart meters, and stricter financial norms that link access to funding with performance benchmarks.

Stock market outlook next week: Q3 results, India-US trade talk, global cues in focus

MUMBAI: Indian stock markets are likely to remain volatile in the coming week as investors track the progress of the December quarter earnings season, developments related to India-US trade ties, and key global economic data from the United States.

The benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty, snapped their two-session losing streak on Friday (January 16), supported by strong buying interest in IT and banking stocks.

The Sensex rose 188 points, or 0.23 per cent, to close at 83,570.35, while the Nifty ended 29 points, or 0.11 per cent, higher at 25,694.35.

Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that immediate resistance is placed at 25,875, followed by 26,000 and 26,100 levels. "On the downside, support is seen at 25,600 and 25,450. A breakdown below 25,300 could intensify downside pressure and accelerate corrective moves," an analyst stated.

Given the prevailing volatility, a cautious approach with strict stop-loss discipline is advised, as per the analyst.

Market sentiment improved mainly due to a sharp rally in IT stocks, with companies like Infosys, TCS and Tech Mahindra leading the gains. Looking ahead, corporate earnings will be one of the biggest drivers for the market. As the earnings season enters its second week, several large and mid-cap companies from different sectors are scheduled to announce their Q3 results. Another factor to keep investors on edge is the development around India-US trade relations.

Global cues will also play an important role. Investors will track important US economic data, including GDP growth figures, inflation trends, jobless claims and PMI readings.

In addition, movements in gold and silver prices may affect equity markets. Precious metals have come under pressure due to a strong US dollar and easing geopolitical tensions.

Amazon Great Republic Day Sale: Amazon Business brings great deals and bulk purchase benefits for B2B customers

SHIMLA: Amazon Business is enabling Indian businesses to unlock significant savings across a wide range of categories during the Amazon Great Republic Day Sale 2026. Businesses and corporate customers can avail incredible deals across laptops, monitors, office furniture, industrial equipment, and packaging supplies. Customers can also enjoy up to 80% off on bestselling products from leading brands such as HP, Samsung, Havells, Prestige, BOSCH, Philips, Whirlpool, LG, Xiaomi and more. To maximize savings, Amazon Business is offering up to 6% discount on bulk deals, and up to INR 9,999 in cashback on prepaid orders.Offers up to 80% off on packaging supplies, 60% off on monitors and security cameras, 50% off on tablets, and 40% off on IT equipment, Customers can also save additional up to 6% on bulk deals and earn up to INR 9,999 in cashback on prepaid orders

Haryana Govt always stands firmly with a free press: CM Saini



CHANDIGARH — Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that the Haryana Government always stands firmly with a free press. In a democracy, the media is the fourth pillar. If anyone thinks they can intimidate a media institution through pressure, it is a grave mistake, because the voice of truth can never be suppressed.

The Chief Minister was addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest at the "Ramleela Samiti Samman Samaroh" organized in Jalandhar today. On this occasion, he also honoured office-bearers, artists, and other social workers from various Ramleela committees of Haryana, Punjab, and Chandigarh.

Paying obeisance at the feet of Maryada Purushottam Lord Shri Ram, Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that Ramleela is not merely a stage performance; it is the essence of our culture. Ramleela teaches future generations that no matter how powerful the evil forces may appear, ultimately righteousness and truth always prevail. He said that even in this era of modernity, the artists and organizers of Ramleela have continued to nurture and preserve the roots of our culture. He appreciated the "Shri Ram Navami Utsav Samiti" for organizing such events.

The Chief Minister praised the impartial journalism carried out during the period of terrorism in Punjab and said that the Punjab Kesari group has, for decades, devoted itself entirely to upholding truth, fearlessness, and ethical values in society. He said that we must remember the time when Punjab was passing through the dark phase of militancy, when fear was so pervasive that people hesitated to even step out of their homes. Yet history bears witness that even then, this group did not stop its pen. Great martyrs Lala Jagat Narayan Ji and Sh. Romesh Chandra Chopra Ji sacrificed their lives for the unity of the nation, but never bowed before violence. He also appreciated the social service initiatives undertaken by the Punjab Kesari newspaper group and said that for the past 26 years, the group has been sending relief material to border areas, and so far, 910 trucks carrying relief supplies have been dispatched. Even today, on the occasion of this programme, trucks loaded with relief material were flagged off.

The Chief Minister urged all the Ramleela committees honoured at the ceremony to continue spreading the ideals of Lord Shri Ram in society. Just as Ravana's arrogance was ultimately shattered, so too will the forces that trouble truth will be defeated. Encouraging the morale of Punjab Kesari Group's Editor-in-Chief Sh. Vijay Kumar Chopra, he said that in this fight against those who seek to suppress the voice of the media, you are not alone. Keep writing, remain steadfast, because your pen is the strongest shield of democracy.

GMCL & GMBCA Announce Mega Cricket Domestic Season 1 with T10 Format Across 6 States

NEW DELHI: In one of the biggest grassroots cricket initiatives announced for the 2026–27 season, the GM Box Cricket Association (GMBCA) in collaboration with the Gali Mohalla Cricket League (GMCL) has unveiled Mega Cricket Domestic Season 1, a large-scale T10 league to be played across six Indian states over a 30-week competitive schedule. The league will feature T10 matches across three formats — Leather Ball, Tennis Ball (Open Ground), and Tennis Ball Box Cricket — and will be conducted in two gender segments: Men's and Women's Premier League.



Founder of GMCL, Baba Inder Preet, said that the vision behind the league is to create mass-level income generation, ensure gender equality, and establish the largest scouting and talent-development platform for young cricketers in India.

"For the first time, talented boys and girls from schools, colleges, villages, cities, and states will be identified, professionally trained, inducted into a structured players' pool, and given an opportunity to play in the GMCL Mega League. This domestic season sets a global example for grassroots cricket development," he said.

Each state will field Super 8 teams in both men's and women's categories, with 15 players per team, resulting in 120 players per format per gender. Across the three formats, this will create a pool of approximately 360 male and 360 female players, taking the total to nearly 800 players at the Super 8 level.

The tournament structure includes 32 matches per Super 8 format, translating into 96 matches for men and 96 for women, with nearly 200 matches scheduled in total. Around six matches per week are planned, ensuring a competitive season spread over approximately 80 match days, with reserve dates extending the league to 30 weeks.

Bandhan Mutual Fund Offers Two ETF Fund of Funds for Simple and Efficient Access to Precious Metals



CHANDIGARH : Bandhan Mutual Fund has announced the launch of the Bandhan Gold ETF FoF and Bandhan Silver ETF FoF, two open-ended schemes designed to provide investors with an easy, transparent, and cost-efficient way to participate in gold and silver. The New Fund Offers (NFOs) open on Monday, 12 January 2026, and close on Tuesday, 20 January 2026. Investments in the Bandhan Gold ETF FoF and Bandhan Silver ETF FoF can be made through licensed mutual fund distributors, investment advisors, online platforms, or directly at https://bandhanmutual.com/campaign/nfo/

Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC, commenting on the launch, said, "Gold and silver can play a meaningful role in portfolio diversification, but the way investors access these assets matters. Physical metal often brings uncertainties around purity, making charges, storage, and resale, while ETFs require demat accounts that many investors still do not use. The Fund of Fund (FoF) structure removes barriers such as demat requirements, lowers the entry point to ₹1,000, and enables disciplined investing through SIPs starting at ₹100.

Bandhan Gold ETF FoF and Bandhan Silver ETF FoF combines the assurance and transparency of ETFs with the simplicity of mutual fund investing. Investors can now participate in the resilience of gold and the structural industrial demand for silver through a liquid, transparent format. These offerings are designed to make precious metal investing easier, smarter, and more accessible for a much wider audience."

Kashvee Gautam Selected for Indian Women's Cricket Team for Australia Tour

CHANDIGARH, Chandigarh's all-rounder Kashvee Gautam has been selected in the Indian National Women's Cricket Team for the upcoming Australia tour. The team will play three ODIs starting from February 24 onwards.

Kashvee has carved a unique place for herself in Indian women's cricket history by becoming the first Indian woman cricketer to take 10 wickets in a single innings in a Women's Under-19 state match affiliated to the BCCI. Her journey includes being a member of the Women's IPL winning team Trailblazers in 2020, followed by her selection in the Under-19 Challengers Trophy (India D) in 2021, where the team finished as runners-up. The same year, she earned selection in the Senior Women's Challengers Trophy (India C), underlining her transition to senior cricket.



Kashvee continued her upward trajectory with selection in the Zonal Camp (2022) and the prestigious NCA High Performance Camp (2023). In 2023, she was part of the Emerging Asia Cup in Hong Kong where India A emerged as winners and later represented India A against England A. Her domestic dominance was further highlighted in the North Zone T20 Trophy, where she claimed a hat-trick and a five-wicket haul. In the Women's Premier League 2023, Kashvee was the most expensive player by joining the Gujarat Giants and in 2025. She became the joint highest wicket-taker for Gujarat Giants. Her excellence was recognised with the BCCI Naman Award for Best Junior Domestic Cricketer of the Year (2024).

She was also part of the winning teams of the Women's One Day Challengers Trophy and Women's Multi-Day Challengers Trophy (2024-25) and earned selection for India's Tri-Series against Sri Lanka and South Africa (2025). According to Saraansh Tandon, President, UTCA, "Kashvee Gautam's selection is a proud moment for Chandigarh and UTCA.

FII selling trend may continue till some positive triggers happen: Analysts

MUMBAI : The foreign institutional investor (FII) selling trend may continue in India until some positive triggers for a market rally happen, analysts have said.

The sustained selling by FIIs continued for the week ending January 16. The total FII selling for January (up to 16th) stood at Rs 22,529 crore.

"This month, FIIs were sellers on all days except one. The underperformance of India vis-a-vis other major markets is continuing in early 2026 also. Year-to-date (YTD) return from Nifty stands at -1.73 per cent," said Dr VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd.

A significant feature of the market behaviour in 2025 was that India's tepid performance last year (Nifty return of 10 per cent) was despite the massive DII investment of Rs 7.44 lakh crore, which completely eclipsed the total FII selling of Rs 166,283 crore.

A key reason was the poor earnings growth and the consequent elevated valuations. The continuing suspense over the US-India trade agreement also impacted the sentiments, said analysts. "The AI trade which dominated stock market trend in 2025 is continuing in early 2026 also. A reversal of this trend might happen sometime in 2026," said Vijayakumar.

Markets largely consolidated last week amid mixed cues and ended almost unchanged. After a volatile start, benchmark indices remained range-bound in the subsequent sessions.

The Nifty and Sensex finally settled at 25,694.35 and 83,570.35, respectively. Broader indices moved largely in line with the benchmarks and ended with modest gains.

GMCL Women Premier League Launched: India's Biggest Grassroots Women's Cricket Platform

CHANDIGARH: In a major step towards promoting women empowerment and enhancing girls' participation in domestic and international cricket, the Gali Mohalla Cricket League (GMCL) Women Premier League has been officially launched by the GM Box Cricket Association (GMBCA) in collaboration with GMCL. The league offers a total prize pool of ₹11 lakh along with opportunities for international exposure.

Founder of GMCL, Baba Inder Preet, announced that the Women Premier League will cover multiple age groups and categories, including Under-14, Under-19, and Open Category (20 to 45 years), along with Inter-School and Inter-College competitions. The league will be conducted across all cricket formats, including leather ball, tennis ball, and tennis ball box cricket.

He stated that the objective of the league is to identify young talent at the grassroots level, provide professional training in different formats of the game, and create pathways for players to participate in GMCL's District, State, National, and International Tier Leagues, as well as other prominent domestic and international cricket leagues.

Trials, exhibition matches, and tournaments will be organised across various states in India, targeting girls from schools, colleges, villages, remote areas, towns, and cities. Selected players will undergo structured training programmes aimed at building a professional career in cricket.

This multi-tier, well-organised platform is expected to become the largest grassroots women's cricket initiative in India, preparing players for State and National teams while also providing opportunities to compete in leading domestic and international leagues.

The launch of the GMCL Women Premier League is being widely welcomed as a progressive step, building upon the already successful Gali Mohalla Cricket Leagues operating across multiple states in India and internationally.

Amway India's loss widens to Rs 74.25 crore in FY25

MUMBAI: Amway India's losses widened further in FY25 as it reported a total loss of Rs 74.25 crore for the financial year ended March 31, 2025, compared with a loss of Rs 53.38 crore in the previous financial year.

Its revenue from operations fell 10.56 per cent to Rs 1,148.16 crore in FY25 from Rs 1,283.75 crore in FY24, according to financial data accessed through business intelligence platform Tofler.



The company's total income, which includes other income, declined 9.2 per cent to Rs 1,174.85 crore during the year.

Despite the fall in revenue, the company managed to cut several costs during the year. Its spending on advertising and sales promotion dropped sharply by 40.6 per cent to Rs 36.20 crore in FY25.

The royalty paid to its US-based parent company was also reduced by 15.7 per cent to Rs 55.43 crore, compared with Rs 65.74 crore in the previous financial year.

Payments made to Amway India's sole selling agents declined marginally by 2.73 per cent to Rs 366.91 crore in FY25, from Rs 377.22 crore a year earlier.

Overall, the company's total expenses came down 7.3 per cent to Rs 1,249.10 crore during the year, according to the financial data.

Amway India is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alticor Global Holdings Inc, headquartered in Ada, Michigan, and is one of the world's largest direct selling companies. The Indian arm remains an unlisted entity.

Anti-Pensioner Policies Slammed at State Executive Meet in Bilaspur

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY

BILASPUR - Today witnessed a powerful show of unity and dissent as the State Executive Meeting of the Pensioners Welfare Association Himachal Pradesh strongly condemned what it termed the state government's anti-pensioner, anti-employee and anti-people policies. The meeting was held at the auditorium of the District Language Office, where proceedings began with the national anthem followed by a two-minute silence in memory of deceased pensioners.

Presided over by Association President and Chairman of the Pensioners Joint Struggle Committee, Suresh Thakur, and conducted by General Secretary Bhup Ram Verma, the meeting echoed sharp criticism of recent government decisions that were described as financially reckless and socially insensitive. Pensioners' leaders accused the government of deliberately withholding statutory dues such as gratuity, leave encashment, commutation, revised pensions and DA arrears for years, while freely spending public money on favored officials and political appointees.



Decisions like steep hikes in pensions for the Chairman and members of the Public Service Commission, re-employment of retired revenue officials, and the purchase of luxury vehicles for ministers and advisors were termed a betrayal of public trust.

Addressing the gathering, Suresh Thakur said the jump in PSC pensions from a few thousand rupees to nearly Rs 50,000 per month, along with annual increments, exposed the government's class bias and double standards. He alleged that the oft-cited financial crisis was being used only as an excuse to deny pensioners their lawful dues, while the treasury remained open for the ruling elite.

The executive also condemned the expansion of political appointments, salary hikes for ministers and MLAs, and the growing culture of patronage through advisors, warning of serious political and social consequences if wasteful spending is not curbed.

Recalling the massive Dharamshala protest of November 28, 2025, the association accused the Chief Minister of reneging on assurances given to pensioners.

Jeep® Launches 'Confidence 7', Setting a New Standard in Long-Term Premium SUV Ownership

CHANDIGARH: Jeep India has announced the launch of Jeep® Confidence 7, a premium ownership assurance programme designed to redefine long-term SUV ownership in the Indian market. Exclusively available for the Jeep Compass and Jeep Meridian, the initiative reinforces Jeep's commitment to delivering world-class quality, reliability, and complete peace of mind well beyond the point of purchase. For over eight decades, the Jeep brand has been synonymous with trust, endurance, and all-terrain capability. With Confidence 7, this legacy now extends across every stage of the customer ownership journey. The programme is tailored for discerning SUV buyers who seek not only performance and premium craftsmanship but also predictable ownership costs, long-term assurance, and seamless service experiences. A key highlight of Jeep® Confidence 7 is its extended warranty and maintenance coverage of up to seven years, along with an Assured Buyback (ABB) option offering up to 60 percent guaranteed resale value, providing customers with greater confidence while upgrading or reselling their vehicles. Speaking on the launch, Kumar Priyesh, Business Head and Director – Automotive Brands, Stellantis India, said, "Jeep Confidence 7 delivers an elevated and dependable ownership experience rooted in Jeep's heritage of trust. Today's customers seek transparency, long-term value, and effortless service engagement. This programme amplifies assurance, convenience, and peace of mind at every stage of ownership."



Seminar on Palm Oil's Role in Human Health, Nutrition and Sustainability Held at HBTU, Kanpur

GURUGRAM : Leading experts in nutrition science, food regulation, cardiology and oil technology called for a science-led conversation around palm oil and its role in human health, nutrition and sustainability unfolded at Harcourt Butler Technical University (HBTU), Kanpur, during a half-day seminar entitled "Palm Oil's Role in Human Health, Nutrition, and Sustainability: The Balanced Truth."

Jointly organised by the Department of Oil Technology, HBTU Kanpur, and the Oil Technologists' Association of India (OTAI), Central Zone, the seminar brought together experts from nutrition science, medical research, food regulation, sustainability and oil technology to cut through long-standing myths and present evidence-based perspectives on palm oil.

The seminar served as a platform for constructive, science-driven dialogue on one of the world's most widely consumed edible oils. Palm oil plays a vital role in India's food system due to its affordability,



functional versatility and reliability across a wide range of cooking and processing applications. Its stable supply and wide usage contribute significantly to meeting the country's edible oil demand, supporting food security for households, food service operators and the packaged food industry alike. Scientific insights shared during the seminar highlighted that palm oil is a balanced mix of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, making it suitable for everyday cooking when consumed as part of a balanced diet. Its high oxidative stability allows it to perform well under high-heat cooking conditions, helping preserve food quality and reduce the formation of harmful compounds compared to other vegetable oils.

Sanjay Tandon hails BJP's historic victory in BMC polls, credits visionary leadership of PM Narendra Modi

CHANDIGARH: Senior BJP leader Sanjay Tandon today hailed the Bharatiya Janata Party's historic victory in the BMC elections, calling it a resounding endorsement of the party's ideology, governance model and the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis.

In a statement, Tandon said that the mandate shows the deep and growing trust of the people in the Prime Minister's commitment to development, transparency and good governance.

"This historic win is not merely an electoral success, but a clear expression of public confidence in the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and their unwavering focus on nation-building," he said.

Tandon noted that urban voters have overwhelmingly supported the BJP's agenda of clean administration, infrastructure-led growth, and citizen-centric governance.

"From dsanitation and urban mobility to digital governance and financial discipline, the BJP has consistently delivered the best results. The people the city have rewarded performance over promises," he added.

He further stated that the victory demonstrates the strength of the BJP's organizational structure and the tireless efforts of party workers who connected with citizens at the grassroots level. "Every karyakarta deserves appreciation for working relentlessly to communicate the party's vision and achievements to every household," Tandon said. Highlighting Prime Minister Modi's transformative impact on urban India, Tandon said that flagship initiatives aimed at improving quality of life, strengthening municipal governance and promoting ease of living have resonated strongly with voters.

"This mandate will inspire the BJP to work with even greater dedication to fulfill the aspirations of the people. The party remains committed to inclusive growth, accountable governance and building cities that are engines of India's progress," Tandon concluded.

RNI NO. 61323/95 | Postal Code No. G/CHD/0186/2016-2018

Chief Editor, Dr. Chander Trikha, Managing Editor, Shashi Pal Jain, Printed and Published by Gaurav Goel for Yugmarg Prakashan from 28/1, Industrial Area Phase-II, Chandigarh and printed at Yugmarg Publications, Kurali Road, Khanpur, Kharar Distt. Mohali (PB), Ph.:(off) 0172-5002721, 2972414. E-mail: yugmarg@gmail.com

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Delhi Police solve two robbery cases; two detained, including Juvenile

NEW DELHI : Delhi Police has solved two cases of robbery committed at gunpoint, detaining two accused, including a juvenile (CCL), on Sunday. According to the Delhi Police, they received the information about the robbery on the morning of December 29, 2025. Upon reaching the spot near Kabootar Market in the Welcome area, the complainant, a tea shop owner, stated that three persons riding a motorcycle showed a pistol and robbed him of Rs 8,000, after which they fled from the spot. Later, another incident of firing was reported from the same area, where culprits Aman and Arman allegedly fired shots and robbed Rs 1,500 in cash. In connection with these incidents, an FIR was registered at the police station under Sections 309(4), 311, and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with Section 27 of the Arms Act. Based on clues from various sources, the police identified the suspects involved. Following sustained raids, two individuals, including a juvenile (CCL), were apprehended. One suspect was identified as Zaib, alias Paati. During the arrest, police recovered one semi-automatic pistol with a live cartridge, one revolver, one knife, Rs 1,500 in robbed cash, and 19 packets of stolen cigarettes from their possession.

During sustained interrogation, the accused admitted to their involvement. Further investigation revealed they were linked to three other cases of attempted murder and robbery in the Jafrabad area, along with a gunpoint robbery in New Usmanpur. It was also found that Zaib was allegedly involved in a previous robbery case, too, the police said.

NEWS BRIEF

Over 60 lakh beneficiaries received benefits under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, says CM Yogi

VARANASI: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath participated in the Direct Fund Transfer program under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban 2.0 on Sunday. During the programme, CM Yogi stated that more than 60 lakh beneficiaries have received benefits under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in the state's rural and urban areas over the past 9 years.

"In the past nearly 9 years, we have provided the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to more than 60 lakh beneficiaries in the rural and urban areas of Uttar Pradesh, and today 2 lakh more people are being added to it. Now this number has reached 62 lakh... For the first time after independence, 62 lakh beneficiaries are receiving the benefit of housing facilities, and the credit for this goes to Prime Minister Modi's vision and leadership," said CM Yogi.

Jitan Ram Manjhi opens PM Vishwakarma Haat 2026; exhibition features handcraft products, craft demonstrations

NEW DELHI: Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Jitan Ram Manjhi on Sunday inaugurated the PM Vishwakarma Haat 2026 in the capital, hailing it as a platform for artisans and craftspeople from disadvantaged and underprivileged backgrounds to showcase their talent and potential in the form of handcraft products.

Ambassadors of Iraq and Rwanda were also present on the occasion along with senior officials of the MSME Ministry, representatives from States and Union Territories, artisans and other stakeholders.

Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi visited multiple stalls at the exhibition, accompanied by Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State (MoS) for MSME, and emphasised the sector's pivotal role in powering the Indian economy.

Over 8.5 lakh cooperatives registered; 6.6 lakh functional serving 32 crore members

NEW DELHI: The National Cooperative Database (NCD) has recorded over 8.5 lakh cooperatives, of which approximately 6.6 lakh are operational -- covering nearly 98 per cent of rural India and serving around 32 crore members across 30 sectors, official data showed on Sunday. These institutions connect milk producers, artisans, fishers, traders, and workers to markets, while connections with women-led SHGs have integrated nearly 10 crore women into the cooperative framework. "From nationally recognised entities such as Amul to major institutions like NABARD, KRIBHCO, and IFFCO, alongside thousands of local societies and cooperatives, these entities constitute a foundational pillar of India's economic architecture," said the official statement. Notably, the government has approved a Rs 2,925.39 crore project to computerise functional Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and integrate them onto a common Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)-based national software.

'G-Ram-G is not just an employment scheme but a blueprint to make rural India self-reliant': Anurag Thakur



ANIL KUMAR

HAMIRPUR: Former Union Minister and Hamirpur MP Anurag Singh Thakur on Sunday described the Developed India – Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural), popularly known as G-Ram-G, as an unprecedented step by the Modi government that will not only strengthen the rural economy but also help achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047.

Addressing a programme organised at Takrala Panchayat in the Chintpurni Assembly constituency, Thakur said the new mission marks a transformative shift in the employment guarantee framework.

Earlier in the day, on the occasion of Mauni Amavasya, he paid obeisance at the shrine of Chintpurni and prayed for the welfare of all.

He said the Modi government has taken a major step to change the face of the rural economy through G-Ram-G. By bringing revolutionary changes to the MGNREGA framework, the Developed India – Employment and Livelihood Mission (Rural) Act, 2025 provides not only more days of guaranteed employment to rural families but also serves as a strong pillar in achieving the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He added that the Act is not merely an employment scheme but an employment-and-livelihood mission that will accelerate economic growth, strengthen income security for rural households and boost consumption in villages.

Highlighting a key provision, Thakur said the new law guarantees 125 days of wage employment per financial year for rural families, which is 25 days more than the existing 100-day provision under MGNREGA. This, he said, will significantly enhance income security and enable rural households to contribute more meaningfully to national development. "G-Ram-G is not just a job scheme; it is a comprehensive blueprint to make rural India self-reliant," he asserted.

Taking a swipe at the Congress, Thakur said employment guarantee schemes have existed since the 1980s, but the party repeatedly changed their names for political convenience. He recalled that the scheme was first named Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in 1989, later renamed Jawahar Rozgar Samriddhi Yojana in 1999, followed by Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana in 2001, and finally NREGA in 2005. "At that time, Gandhi ji was never remembered. It was only when the 2009 elections approached that Congress suddenly recalled Bapu and added his name to the scheme for votes," he said, calling the party's "Bapu prem" mere political showmanship.

Thakur alleged that Congress has consistently used the Gandhi surname for politics while failing to adopt Mahatma Gandhi's ideals in practice. Responding to Congress's opposition to the G-Ram-G project, he said the criticism is politically motivated. He alleged that during Congress regimes, corruption in such schemes was common and labourers had to wait months for their wages, whereas the BJP government introduced transparency and direct bank transfers to ensure timely payments.

He further said that while Congress ran schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Jawahar Rozgar Samriddhi Yojana and Food for Work, it never truly upheld Gandhian values. In contrast, he said, the BJP government promoted khadi, turned the cleanliness drive into a mass movement and implemented Gandhi's ideals on the ground. Thakur said the Modi government's policies are pro-poor and pro-labour, and stressed that the dream of a developed India can be realised only when development reaches the last person standing in the queue.

India's first-ever open-sea marine fish farming project launched in Andaman

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State for Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, launched India's first-ever open-sea marine fish farming project from the Andaman Sea on Sunday. The minister described the initiative as one of the first major steps in the direction of realising the Blue Economy through India's vast ocean resources, as envisaged and repeatedly emphasised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The project was launched on-site at North Bay, Sri Vijaya Puram, during the minister's field visit to the open waters of the Andaman Sea.



The project is being implemented through collaboration between the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, its technical arm the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), and the UT Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The pilot initiative focuses on open-sea cultivation of marine finfish and seaweed in natural ocean conditions, integrating scientific innovation with livelihood generation. In his address on the occasion, Dr Singh said that this initiative represents one of the earliest and most significant steps taken to unlock the economic potential of India's oceans.

Nanda pays obeisance at Shri Baba Rudranand Ji Ashram in Una, seeks blessings of saints



KISHORI LAL BAINS

UNA: BJP leader and state media in-charge Karan Nanda visited the Shri Baba Rudranand Ji Ashram in Una, where he paid obeisance and sought the blessings of revered saints. Deeply impressed by the ashram's spiritual traditions, spirit of service and atmosphere of harmony, he said such spiritual centres inspire society to follow the path of morality, discipline and selfless service.

Nanda said that the guidance and blessings of Swami Hemanand Ji Maharaj are a great source of inspiration for society. He said the Swami's thoughts and life philosophy embody service, dedication and welfare of humanity, values that are especially relevant in the present times. He added that the sadavrat langar and various social service activities run under Swami Ji's guidance convey a strong message of unity and social harmony.

He described Shri Baba Rudranand Ji Ashram as not just a religious place but also a powerful centre of social harmony, human service and spiritual consciousness. The ashram's tradition of service, he said, connects people from all sections of society and provides a positive direction to the community.

Nanda further said that the blessings and guidance of saints instil positive energy, inner peace and a sense of responsibility towards society. He expressed hope that with the grace of the saints, peace, harmony and goodwill would prevail across the state and the country, and that this tradition of social service would continue to grow.

BJP state co-media in-charge Raj Kumar Pathania was also present on the occasion.

Chandigarh Tamil Sangam celebrates 56th Thai Pongal; inaugurates "Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Memorial Centre"



CHANDIGARH: The Chandigarh Tamil Sangam (Regd.), in association with the Department of Art & Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu, successfully organised the 56th Thai Pongal celebrations along with the inauguration of the "Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Memorial Centre" on Sunday at Bharathi Bhawan, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the Tamil community, cultural enthusiasts, and dignitaries, reflecting a strong spirit of unity and cultural pride. The programme began with traditional rituals marking Thai Pongal, the harvest festival of Tamils, symbolising gratitude to nature, farmers, cattle, and the Sun God for prosperity and abundance.

1200 blankets distributed to the needy at Bajrang Ashram, MLA Vinod Bhayana attends as chief guest

DINKAR GAVDI

HANSI: A blanket distribution programme was organised at the premises of Bajrang Ashram by the Bhaichara Krantikari Seva Committee, where around 1,200 needy people were provided blankets. Local MLA Vinod Bhayana attended the programme as the chief guest. Representatives of various social organisations and prominent citizens were present in large numbers on the occasion.



Addressing the gathering, Bhayana said that public service is not only a virtuous act but also a moral duty. He appreciated the social initiatives undertaken by the Bhaichara Krantikari Seva Committee and said such organisations play a vital role in the upliftment of society. He added that helping the underprivileged strengthens the spirit of brotherhood and humanity, and appealed to the public to come forward and serve the needy according to their capacity.

Vinod Saini attended the programme as a special guest and also lauded the committee's charitable efforts. He said such initiatives provide much-needed support to weaker sections of society and set an example of social responsibility.

Among those present were committee president Devender Mehta, Grain Market Association vice-president Chandrabhan Makkar, Vegetable Market Organisation president Anil Chawla, vice-president Mohit Thakral, Rajiv Sharma, Marketing Board member Jassi Makkar, Harikesh Singla, Naveen Thakur and several other dignitaries. Office-bearers of the committee welcomed the guests and reiterated their resolve to continue organising similar social welfare and public service programmes in the future.

Kuldeep Pathania arrives in Lucknow to attend Presiding Officers' Conference, welcomed by UP Assembly Speaker Satish Mahana

LUCKNOW : Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania reached Lucknow to participate in the 86th Presiding Officers' Conference being held at the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from January 19 to 21, 2026.



Upon his arrival, Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker Satish Mahana personally received him at the airport and extended warm hospitality. Pathania was also accorded a traditional welcome by the Uttar Pradesh government and Assembly officials.

During the conference, Pathania will take part in the meeting of the Standing Committee and contribute to finalising the agenda for discussion across six sessions. It is noteworthy that Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will inaugurate the conference on January 19, 2026, at 10 am.

The conference is being attended by presiding and deputy presiding officers from 28 states. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and all Members of Parliament from the state have also been specially invited to the event.

During the course of the conference, Kuldeep Singh Pathania will also address the gathering on selected topics, sharing his views and experiences related to legislative functioning.

AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED

(CIN:L65922RJ2011PLC034297) **Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur. 302020**

Aavas

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred upon me under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules on the dates mentioned as below.

The borrower andGuarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED** for an amount mentioned as below and further interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower	Date & Amount of Demand Notice	Description of Property	Date & Type of Possession
Baldev Raj, Veena Rani, Shankar Lal Guarantor : Tara Chand (A/C NO.) 191218501116551	6 Nov 25 Rs. 463899/- 3 Nov 25	Property Id No 349c1062u186a,Khatoni No.534/611,Khasra No.13/9(8-0)Being Share Situated At Mouja Mamidi Now Know As Jammu Colony , Yamuna Nagar Tehsil Jagadhari Dist-Yamuna Nagar , **Admeasuring 60 Sq.Yards**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 15 Jan 26
Prem Rani, Manisha, Johny Chanana (A/C NO.) 221220202747917	6 Nov 25 Rs. 885954/- 3 Nov 25	Part Of Bearing Khewat No. 833, Khatoni No. 949, Khasra No. 150//13(8-0), Kite 1 Tadadi 8 Kanal Ka 7/160 Bhaag Rakba 7 Marle Waka Moja Nagpur The & Dist Fatehabad, Haryana **Admeasuring 0k-7 Marle**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 15 Jan 26
Pawan Kumar, Sonam Sharma (A/C NO.) 231218502959035	6 Nov 25 Rs. 1109230/- 3 Nov 25	Property Id No. 1ky1yd51, Measuring 02 Marlas 06 Sarsai I.E. 80 Sq. Yards, Comprising In Khewat/Khatoni No. 84/102 (Now Khewat/Khatoni No. 144/158), Khasra No. 13//33 (10-18) Being 4/327 Share I.E. 02 Marlas 06 Sarsai, Situated At Mouja Chandpur, H.B. No. 419, Now Known As Gandhi Nagar-1, Yamuna Nagar, Tehsil & Jagadhri, District &Yamuna Nagar, Within Municipal Corporation Yamuna Nagar Haryana **Admeasuring 80 Sq. Yards**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 15 Jan 26
Archana, Sandeep Kumar (A/C NO.) 241219503593456	6 Nov 25 Rs. 5016162/- 3 Nov 25	Khewat No 1579 Khasara No 9//18 (5-9), 23/1(2-12),10//3(7-12),4/2(4-10) Intkal No 15396 Village Pattikalyana The Samalkha Dist Panipat Haryana 132101 **Admeasuring 05 Marla**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 15 Jan 26
Mukesh Kumar, Madhubala Madhubala (A/C NO.) 191205601298271	5 Nov 25 Rs. 882959/- 3 Nov 25	House Situated At Khewat/Khatoni No. 834/881, Mu. No. 99, Kila No. 6/2(1-2) 15(8-0) Village Dharuheda , Distt. Rewari, Haryana **Admeasuring 300 Sq Yrd**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 16 Jan 26
Giriraj Singh, Rajni Devi, Poonam Devi, Avek Kumar (A/C NO.) 181205600749936 & 191205601127125	5 Nov 25 Rs. 642222/- & Rs. 337526/- 3 Nov 25	Khavat No 144, Mustil No 50 Kila No 13 (8-0), 14/2(7-8), 17(9-4), 18(8-0), 23(8-0), 24(7-2) Vill-Ramgala Th. Tawadu Dist. Mewat Haryana **Admeasuring 110 Sq.Yard**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 16 Jan 26
Rakesh Kumar, Mantu Mangtu Ram, Prabha Sain (A/C NO.) 181212100780442	6 Nov 25 Rs. 454872/- 3 Nov 25	Property Situated At Killa No. 142/46(Part), Vakka Rewari Azad Nagar (Anand Nagar), Teshil & Dist-Rewari, Haryana **Admeasuring 70 Sq.Yard**	Symbolic Possession Taken On 16 Jan 26

Place : Haryana **Date: 19-01-2026** **Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited**

OFFICE OF THE HEAD MISTRESS

P. M. SHRI GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL,

NAYA GAON, S.A.S. NAGAR

AUCTION NOTICE

"Notice is hereby given that six rooms at P.M. Shri Government High School, Naya Gaon, S.A.S. Nagar have been declared unsafe by the Public Works Department. A bid (auction) for their demolition and sale of scrap/debris will be held on 23-01-2026 at 11:00 a.m. in the school premises. The terms and conditions of the bid will be announced at the time of auction. Interested bidders may participate by reaching the specified place at the scheduled time. The undersigned reserves the right to reschedule, accept or reject the bid."

School Management Committee,

P. M. Shri Govt High School, Naya Gaon, S.A.S. Nagar

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

The below mentioned borrowers have failed to repay the loan and redeem the gold ornaments within the stipulated time in spite of several reminders. The Gold Jewellery/ ornaments pledged under the said loan accounts by the below listed borrowers will be sold in public/ Online/ private auction at our Branch premises on **27-01-2026 at10.30 AM**. Those willing to participate are requested to contact the branch. The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason whatsoever. Please note if the auction does not get completed on the same day, the same will follow the subsequent days on the same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/ legal heir. The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost. For any queries and terms and conditions contact branch. For details of branch address visit **www.janabank.com.**

Sr. No.	Loan Account No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower	Gross Weight of Pledged Gold Ornaments
1	34578740000439	JASVEER SINGH	23.51
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd, Ground floor, Ward No.10, Gali No.1, Khasra No. 591/2, 592/2 and 592/1/1 , Farid Nagar, Bathinda road, Rampura Phul Dist., Bathinda- 151103, India		
2	32078740000127	HARWINDER SINGH	12.5
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Ground Floor, House No-20240, Street no-12, Opp. ICICI Bank, 100 Ft. Road, Bathinda-151001, Punjab		
3	30468740000442	HARINDER SINGH	15.75
4	30468740000301	PRABHJOT KAUR	9.32
5	30468730008957	SUKHMAN SINGH	2.3
6	30468730008602	PINKI CHAUDHARY	8.23
7	30468730008486	KANHIYA K	3.28
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Ground floor, BXXI, 14632/3C, Gandhi Nagar, GT Road, Dholewal Chowk, Near LML Showroom, Opp. Guru Gobind Singh Towers, Ludhiana-141003, India		
8	45848740000102	ATAMDEEP ATAMDEEP	22.1
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Ground floor, No.2908/A/1, "Swadesh Complex", G. T Road, Bhatinda - 151005 ,India		
9	45858740000258	JATIN GUPTA	8.7
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Ground Floor, Shanghai Tower, Shop Cum Flat No 13 , Ferojgandhi Market, Ludhiana -141001, India		
10	32268730007751	MANOJ KUMAR	8.8
11	32268730006847	MANOJ KUMAR	8.8
12	32268730019526	LUCKY	5.2
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., SCO 36-37, DLF colony , Ground Floor, Sirhind Road, Patiala- 147001		
13	46498730013761	BHARTI KUMARI	10.12
	Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Shop No. 4 & 5, A Block, Patiala Road, Calibre Market, Rajpura Tehsil, Patiala District, Punjab - 140401, India		

Place: Punjab

Date: 19-01-2026

Sd/- Authorised Officer

Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

Twinkle Khanna, Akshay Kumar paraglide to celebrate their 25th marriage anniversary in style

Twinkle Khanna's witty social media posts are a treat for her fans, and when it comes to her husband, Akshay Kumar, the actress always impresses viewers with her unfiltered love for him. The couple have completed their 25 years of marriage today. Taking to their Instagram handle, Twinkle Khanna shared a glimpse of her silver jubilee celebrations with Akshay Kumar. The couple participated in a paragliding adventure sport. In the video, Twinkle Khanna appeared nervous about paragliding while blaming her husband, Akshay Kumar, for convincing her to perform the adventurous sport. It was followed by Akshay Kumar's turn for the same, during which he looked relaxed. Twinkle Khanna penned a witty caption for the post, writing, "The best part of our marriage? We always encourage each other to fly. Sometimes literally, like today! Here's to 25 years of love, support and jumping off mountains."

Earlier today, Akshay Kumar also expressed his love for his wife, Twinkle Khanna, by sharing a cute clip of the actress walking in a funny way.In his caption, the actor also recalled what his mother-in-law and veteran actress Dimple Kapadia jokingly told him about Twinkle on their wedding day 25 years ago."When we got married this day in 2001, her mother had said 'Beta, get ready to burst out laughing in the most weird situations because she'll do exactly that.' 25 years, and I know ki meri mother-in-law kabhi jhooth nahi bolti hai... Her daughter refuses to even walk straight... she prefers to dance through life instead. From day one to year twenty-five, cheers to my lady who keeps me laughing, guessing and slightly anxious at times! Happy anniversary to us, Tina. 25 years of madness that we both love," Akshay wrote.

Akshay and Twinkle tied the knot on January 17, 2001. The couple has two children, son Aarav and daughter Nitara.



Bharti Singh reveals how Gola has become protective for his little brother Kaju

Star comedian and new mommy Bharti Singh seems to be emotional as her elder son Lakshya aka Gola has been showing elder brother traits and turning protective of his one month old younger brother Kaju.

The actress took to her YouTube vlogs to share how Gola becomes very angry at the house staff if Kaju cries.

“When our Nanny tries to massage Kaju, Gola immediately protests, asking why she is hitting him or making his brother cry. He even scolds her,” said Bharti.

She added, “If this is happening in another room, the moment he hears Kaju crying during the massage, he runs, even leaving his cartoon midway. He keeps asking what happened and why Kaju is crying. It’s really sweet.”

The doting mother also revealed how the first thing Gola does after waking up is kiss his younger brother.

“The first thing the boy does after waking up is look for Kaju and kiss him. He searches for him everywhere, and thankfully, he has now started doing it regularly,” she informed.

The actress recently was seen missing her baby bump and her pregnancy days.

The comedian had shared a beautiful picture straight from her maternity shoot, and wrote, “Missing the bump, loving the blessing.”

In the picture, a heavily pregnant Bharti was seen posing for a serene maternity shoot, dressed in a soft blush-pink flowing gown, and gently cradling her baby bump. For the uninitiated, Bharti Singh and husband Harssh Limbaachiya welcomed their second baby, a boy on December 19.

Anupam Kher wins hearts by gifting a smartphone to watchman on 'Khosla Ka Ghosla 2' sets

Actor Anupam Kher gifted a smartphone to a man who was unable to snap a photograph with him on the sets of 'Khosla Ka Ghosla 2'. Taking to his Instagram handle, Anupam Kher shared a video of his heartfelt gesture in which he was seen gifting a smartphone to the watchman named Dharmendra in Gurugram during the shooting of his upcoming film 'Khosla Ka Ghosla 2'.Dharmendra was filled with happiness after Anupam Kher surprised him with the gift. The duo snapped a photo with each other to celebrate the occassion. "DHARMENDRA AND HIS NEW PHONE: A few days ago, at the location in Gurugram where I was shooting for #KhoslaKaGhosla2, the watchman, Dharmendra, came to take a picture with me! He didn't have a phone with a camera! He was disappointed, wondering how he would get the photo we took together. So today, I gifted him a new smartphone! Seeing Dharmendra's happiness made me very happy too! He took his first picture with his new camera with me! The cover picture is that very photo! In the Gurugram cold, there can be no more beautiful feeling than Dharmendra's smile! Jai Ho!" wrote Anupam Kher. https://www.instagram.com/p/DTmh6YoAoYd/



Recently, the 'Saaransh' actor shared a series of pictures with the cast of Khosla Ka Ghosla ahead of the shoot for its sequel. It included actors Ranvir Shorey, Kiran Juneja, and Parvinn Dabass. Actor Tara Sharma, who was a part of the original film, also joined the cast for the upcoming sequel.While the first pictures show the cast members posing together for the camera, they are followed by a few behind-the-scenes glimpses of the team. Kher also offered a close-up look at his character from the sequel.The original film 'Khosla Ka Ghosla', released in 2006 and directed by Dibakar Banerjee, became a cult favourite for its light-hearted story and strong performances. The film talked about issues like property scams and family conflicts in a simple yet funny way.Apart from Kher, the film featured Vinay Pathak, Boman Irani, Ranvir Shorey, Parvinn Dabass, and Tara Sharma in key roles.

"A story of women empowerment, hope": Rani Mukerji on her upcoming film Mardaani 3



Actress Rani Mukerji, known for her role in the 'Mardaani' franchise, described her upcoming film 'Mardaani 3' as a story that highlights "women empowerment" and "hope".Mardaani 3 is the third instalment in the Mardaani franchise, which centres on Rani Mukerji's fearless cop role, who strives to curb crime in her city, especially against women. While speaking to ANI, Rani called 'Mardaani 3' an important film that can help raise awareness among women while also promoting women's empowerment."When we watch this content, our awareness will increase. This is the story of women's empowerment, to give strength to women. This film is made to give hope, and I want every girl, every woman, to watch this film and get inspired," said Rani Mukerji. Ahead of her film's release, the actress visited DY Patil Medical College for a meet-and-greet with her young fans on Saturday. She also performed traditional martial arts using a bamboo stick along with her young fans. While describing her experience, the actress said, "I am so happy to see them (young fans) because this masculine play that these girls do is actually a traditional martial art form in India. So, I have been a big fan of theirs and this masculine play. My film's name is Mardaani, and my name is Shivani Shivaji Roy. So, a lot of things have become a connection.""So, seeing that, I became very emotional because I always see girls in a very strong form. And today, I saw a goddess in their form. From small girls to 15-16-year-old girls, they have done such a good performance. So, today, I am very happy to see them in Pune and seeing them, I got so much strength that I felt that I should do it to encourage them," added Rani.

Aneet Padda & Ahaan Panday celebrate 6 months of 'Saiyaara' by recreating a popular scene



It has been six months since Aneet Padda and Ahaan Panday experienced overnight success with the release of their romantic entertainer "Saiyaara". As the highly-appreciated drama completed six months of release on Sunday, Aneet and Ahaan got together to recreate the popular "Abhi Kuch Pal Baaki Hai" scene from "Saiyaara".

While Aneet was seen posing in a white kurta and jeans, similar to her character in the film Vaani Batra, Ahaan shelled out Krish Kapoor vibes in an all-black ensemble. The photo had Ahaan sitting on a bike holding Aneet's hand.

“18.07.25 —> 18.01.26 (sic),” Aneet captioned the post.

Aneet and Ahaan share a great rapport and are often seen making headlines with their appearances. On Ahaan's birthday in December, Aneet wished him by describing a beautiful future for her co-star. She wrote, "I’ve seen the future. I’ve seen passersby smile when you laugh out loud, they can’t help it. I’ve seen colours change in the world around, when your eyes are lost in thought admiring an old woman, watering her plants, unaware. I’ve seen the scribbles in your notepad, holding the musings of an unusual mind, rare and magical. The change of your camera lens, stubborn in its search for beauty in the mundane. I’ve seen you be so selfless."

'Dhamaal 4' to release in cinemas on June 12

The release date of 'Dhamaal 4' was announced by the makers on Saturday.Directed by Indra Kumar, the film, which stars Ajay Devgn, Riteish Deshmukh, Arshad Warsi, Sanjay Mishra and Jaaved Jaaferi, will be out in theatres on June 12, 2026.Unveiling the release date, a post on T-Series' official Instagram handle wrote, " Jaldi bata



rahein hain, phir Dhamaal machane bhi toh jaana hai. Stay Tuned!"

Esha Gupta, Sanjeeda Shaikh, Anjali Anand, Upendra Limaye, Vijay Patkar and Ravi Kishan are also a part of 'Dhamaal 4'. The film is produced by Ajay Devgn, Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, Ashok Thakeria, Indra Kumar, Anand Pandit, and Kumar Mangat Pathak. Dhamaal is a 2007 comedy film directed by Indra Kumar and produced by Ashok Thakeria. The film starred Sanjay Dutt, Riteish Deshmukh, Arshad Warsi, Aashish Chaudhary, and Jaaved Jaaferi in the lead roles, while Asrani, Sanjay Mishra, Murli Sharma, Vijay Raaz, Manoj Pahwa, Tiku Talsania, and Prem Chopra featured in supporting roles.The film became an instant success and later turned into a popular franchise with sequels Double Dhamaal (2011) and Total Dhamaal (2019).

Kabir Bedi celebrates 80th birthday & 10th wedding anniversary with his 29 year younger wife Parveen



Veteran Bollywood actor Kabir Bedi on Sunday shared umpteen number of pictures from his beach holiday with his wife Parveen Dusanj, marking their 10th wedding anniversary, 20 years of togetherness, and Bedi’s birthday, all on the same day. Kabir and Parveen in a joint post on their social media account, wrote, “CELEBRATED our 10th wedding anniversary, and 20 years of being together, as well as my birthday by escaping to a sun-kissed beach with green palms and welcoming waves. Time to remember, to reflect, to renew. Together time. Alone time. Idyllic. We’re back now! #anniversary #birthday #getaway #love.”

The pictures show Kabir and Parveen Dusanj standing hand in hand on a beach at sunset exuding love and warm vibes.In another picture, Parveen can be seen clicking a selfie featuring Kabir all smiles for the camera.

Parveen and Kabir were also seen having a ball of a time at their getaway and their pictures and videos speak volumes of the same.

For the uninitiated, Kabir Bedi, who turned 78 this year, married a 29 year-old younger Parveen Dusanj in 2016. Their wedding, back in 2016 had stirred headlines due to the age difference between the two. Kabir Bedi’s daughter Pooja Bedi had also expressed her disappointment with her father's marriage.

She had taken to social media to express her disapproval of the relationship and had made strong remarks against Parveen Dusanj, including calling her a “witch.”

But over the years, the situation has reportedly improved, and relations between the family have become more cordial.

Talking about Kabir, in the past he had been married multiple times. He was first married to dancer Protima Bedi, with whom he had two children, Pooja Bedi and Siddharth Bedi.

Bedi was later married to British fashion designer Susan Humphreys, followed by television presenter Nikki Bedi.

Salman Khan, MS Dhoni are all smiles for the camera, Atul Agnihotri shared pic

Actor Atul Agnihotri on Sunday shared a picture ‘celebrating’ his superstar brother-in-law Salman Khan, that also featured cricket legend MS Dhoni.



The picture shared by Atul on his social media account, featured his wife and Salman’s sister Alvira Agnihotri, Arpita Khan Sharma posing with brother Salman Khan and MS Dhoni and his wife Sakshi Dhoni.

Going by Atul’s caption, it seems the picture was clicked during Salman Khan's grand 61st birthday celebrations on the 27th of December.

Recently, singer AP Dhillon had also shared a picture of former Indian cricket captain MS Dhoni and Salman Khan joining him for an adrenaline-packed muddy adventure in Bollywood superstar’s farmhouse in Panvel, where the trio was seen having a gala time.

Dhillon had taken to his social media account to share a series of photographs capturing the trio in high spirits during the muddy escapade.

The images show the handsome men splattered with mud as they rode an ATV through the muddy slush. In the caption, Dhillon asked: “Who do you think crashed it?” Talking about Salman, who was last seen on screen in Sikandar in 2025, will next be seen in ‘Battle of Galwan’, based on the Galwan stand-off between India and its expansionist neighbour, China, on June 15, 2020, during the thick of the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic in India.

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