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

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 23, 2026
CHANDIGARH
VOL. 31, NO. 27
12 PAGES, ₹2.00

SCAN QR CODE FOR EPAPER

YUGMARG

Follow us on
@yugmarg.news
@yugmarg
@yugmargtv
@yugmarg
@yugmarg
@yugmarg

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



RS. 8.97 CR RELEASED FOR RENT ASSISTANCE TO DISASTER AFFECTED FAMILIES

PAGE 5

MAHATMA JYOTIRAO AND MATA PHULE LIT LAMP OF EDUCATION IN TIMES OF DARKNESS: CM

PAGE 7



3 DAY OF MACHAUTO EXPO 2026 CREATES HISTORY WITH LANDMARK FOOTFALL AND UNPRECEDENTED INDUSTRY RESPONSE

PAGE 12



NEWS BRIEFS

Two policemen found dead at border outpost in Gurdaspur

CHANDIGARH: Two personnel of Punjab Police, who were on duty near the Indo-Pak border, were found dead inside a police outpost with bullet injuries on Sunday, they said.
According to the police, the deceased were identified as Gurnam Singh and Ashok Kumar, who were posted at an outpost in Adhian in Punjab's Gurdaspur district.
While Kumar was a home guard, Gurnam was an Assistant Sub Inspector, Gurdaspur Station House Officer, Banarsi Dass said over the phone.

Security forces neutralise 2 terrorists in Kishtwar

JAMMU: Security forces neutralised two terrorists on Sunday in the Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.
An Army spokesman said that pursuant to credible intelligence inputs collated from J&K Police and IB and own intelligence sources, a deliberate joint operation was launched in the Kishtwar region under Operation Trashi-I to track and neutralise terrorists operating in the area.
"Following successful contact established earlier, troops of CIF Delta White Knight Corps, in close coordination with J&K Police and CRPF, re-engaged the terrorists today at approximately 11 AM in challenging terrain," he said.
The Army spokesman stated that, displaying tactical precision, seamless synergy, and resolute aggression, troops dominated the encounter site, wherein two terrorists were successfully neutralised.

Haryana Police ASI dies by suicide using service weapon in Sonipat

CHANDIGARH: A 45-year-old Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of the Haryana Police died allegedly by suicide after shooting himself with his service revolver at his official residence in Sonipat.
The incident occurred late Saturday night while the officer's wife was present in the house.
The deceased, identified as Jasbir Singh, a resident of Sitawali village, had been stationed with the Sonipat Traffic Wing for the past two years. According to police sources, Singh returned to his official quarter (B-1) in the Police Lines around midnight after completing his shift.
While his wife was in the kitchen preparing a meal, a gunshot rang out from the adjoining room. Upon rushing to the scene, she found Singh bleeding profusely from a gunshot wound to the temple. In a desperate attempt to save him, she tried to stem the bleeding with her clothes, but the officer succumbed to his injuries on the spot.
Upon receiving the alert, senior police officials and a forensic team reached the premises to secure the area and recover the service weapon used in the act.

PM Modi reprimands Congress for 'stripping protest' at AI summit

UNI
MEERUT, FEB 22



Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday reprimanded the Congress for stripping and protesting at the AI Summit, alleging that the country knows about their nakedness.

"The world's largest AI conference was held in India, and the entire country was filled with pride, but what did the Congress party and its ecosystem do? They turned the global event into an arena for dirty and naked politics. Congress leaders arrived naked in front of foreign guests," he said.

Addressing a mammoth rally in Mohiuddinpur here after flagging off the Meerut Metro and the Namo Bharat Rapid Rail, PM Modi questioned, "I ask the Congress. The country knows you're already naked, so why was there a need to undress? What the Congress leaders did show was how ideologically bankrupt and impoverished the country's oldest party has become."

The PM, after flagging off the train, travelled with schoolchildren and doctors, interacting with them, and later inaugurated development projects worth Rs 12,930 crore.

PM Modi said, "Look at what happened in the AI summit by the Congress. Did the TMC, DMK, or BSP sin? No. Only the crazy and unruly leaders of the Congress party are bent on destroying the country. If you want to sit on the Prime Minister's chair, you must first win the hearts of the people."

He quipped, "You can't become PM by sending women MPs and capturing seats. Have you become so hollow that you're using mothers and sisters for this? Congress has become a burden to the country."

The PM, elaborating about the Congress act, said, "No one can imagine such a thing. We are the kind of people who, whenever there's a wedding in the village, put in all their efforts to make it a success, so that the guests leave with a good image of the village. Congress is busy defaming its own country. Congress leaders hate Modi, and they want to dig my grave. They don't even hesitate to abuse my mother. They oppose the BJP and the NDA. Okay, that's what's required in your politics. We'll tolerate that too."

"But the Congress should have remembered that this AI Global Summit wasn't a BJP event, nor was any BJP leader there at the time. This was a national event. It was a programme to honour the country, but the day before yesterday, Congress broke all decorum," he lamented.

Meerut Metro, Namo Bharat train flagged off

MEERUT : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday flagged off the Meerut Metro and Namo Bharat train from the Shatabdi Nagar station here, giving a fillip to high-speed intercity travel and swift intra-city movement. From there, the prime minister also undertook a metro ride till Meerut South station.
He is also going to inaugurate and dedicate to the nation various development projects worth around Rs 12,930 crore in Meerut.
Modi will also address the gathering on the occasion, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office. The prime minister dedicated to the nation the entire 82 Km Delhi Meerut Namo Bharat corridor and inaugurated the remaining sections of India's first Namo Bharat Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), which include the 5 km section between Sarai Kale Khan and New Ashok Nagar in Delhi and the 21 km section between Meerut South and Modipuram in Uttar Pradesh.
With a design speed of 180 km per hour, Namo Bharat is India's first regional rapid transit system. It will connect major urban centres such as Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Modinagar and Meerut with Delhi at a faster pace.

Lashkar-Linked terror module busted, 8 arrested for plotting attack in India

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, FEB 22

Eight people, suspected of allegedly plotting a major terror conspiracy in India with backing from Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba and terror groups in Bangladesh, have been arrested from Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

While six suspects - identified as Mizanur Rahman, Mohammed Shabat, Umar, Mohammed Litan, Mohammed Shahid, and Mohammed Ujjal - were arrested from garment manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district, two were arrested from West Bengal, sources said.



Dozens of mobile phones and SIM cards have been recovered from them: Delhi PoliceThey were posting content on social media in support of Pakistan-based terrorist organisations. Two accused were arrested from Uthukuli, three from Palladam, and one from the Thirumuruganpoondi area. They were working in the garment industry by concealing their identities using fake Aadhaar cards. Eight mobile phones and 16 SIM cards were recovered during the operation. All accused are being brought to Delhi by train; the investigation is ongoing. These accused, suspected of aiding terrorists, conducted a recce of several cities. Posters of "Free Kashmir" were put up in Delhi:Two more arrests were made from West Bengal. Delhi Police are in the process of bringing all the suspects from Tamil Nadu to the national capital for further investigation. Upon searching, the police found and seized dozens of mobile phones and SIM cards from the suspects.According to Police sources, all these accused were in touch with each other through Social Media. Out of 8, a group of four came to Delhi and posted 'Free Kashmir' and other incriminating posters at a metro Station during the AI Summit and went back to Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.Further questioning will establish their Links with Bangladeshi Tanzeem. Earlier, an intelligence alert was issued in the national capital following inputs warning of a possible terror threat near the Red Fort, with sources stating that terrorists may target a temple in the Chandni Chowk area.According to intelligence sources, key religious places, including areas around the Red Fort and parts of Chandni Chowk, remain on the radar of the Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). Inputs suggest that the group may be plotting an improvised explosive device (IED) attack and that a temple in the Chandni Chowk area could be a potential target.Sources further indicated that the outfit is allegedly seeking to avenge a February 6 blast at a mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan, and may be planning a major strike in India."

Two arrested with 5 sophisticated pistols in Amritsar



CHARANJIT ARORA
AMRITSAR: In a major breakthrough amidst the ongoing drive to make Punjab a safe and secure state as per directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Commissionerate Police Amritsar has dismantled a cross-border illegal arms smuggling module with the arrest of two operatives and recovered five sophisticated pistols from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Sunday.

Those arrested have been identified as Shera Singh (26), a resident of the village Bhindi Nain in Amritsar and Jagroop Singh alias Joopa (21), a resident of the village Toor in Amritsar. The recovered pistols include one .30 bore PX5 Storm, one 9MM Austria-made Glock, two .30 bore China-made Norinco and one .32 bore pistol along with 10 live cartridges. DGP Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused were in contact with Pakistan-based smugglers through social media platforms and were facilitating illegal arms consignments for further supply to criminal elements on their directions. The DGP said that further investigation is underway to trace forward and backward linkages of the illegal arms network.

Gurugram man accused of burning live-in partner's private parts with sanitiser

BUREAU
GURUGRAM, FEB 22



A horrific case of brutality against a 19-year-old student has come to light in Gurugram. The victim is currently admitted to Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi. It is alleged that the girl's boyfriend poured sanitiser on her private parts and set them on fire.FIR was registered in Gurugram against the alleged accused, after he allegedly set the private parts of his live-in partner on fire after pouring sanitiser on her and shot her video during the act. Sections 115, 118(1), 118(2), 127(2), 69 and 351(2) of BNS have been invoked in the FIR. The FIR was filed on February 19, 2026, at 8:35 PM.The FIR, registered based on her statement, states that he was having a physical relationship with her under the pretext of marriage, thrashing her and subjecting her to violence.The victim, a student, met a young man from Narela, Delhi, through an online app. The case of extreme cruelty occurred in the Badshahpur police station area of Gurugram. The police have registered a case under serious sections and started an investigation. According to the FIR, the victim is originally from Tripura and was living in a PG in Gurugram, while pursuing a B.Sc. in Biotechnology. She met the alleged accused through an online app, and they began talking in September 2025, which later led to meetings.The victim alleges that the alleged accused established forced physical relations with her under the pretext of marriage. After this, they lived together in Gurugram for some time. During this period, the alleged accused began doubting her and started physically assaulting her.According to the statement recorded in the FIR, on February 16, 2026, the alleged accused brutally thrashed the victim.

Tarn Taran Police arrest 2 suspects after brief encounter in sarpanch murder case

CHANDIGARH: In a breakthrough, the Tarn Taran Police have apprehended two wanted criminals, including a primary suspect in a high-profile sarpanch murder case, following an alleged fierce gunfight.

The encounter took place near Nasera Pannu, leaving both accused injured with gunshot wounds. They have since been shifted to a local hospital for medical treatment.

Acting on specific intelligence regarding the movement of the suspects, joint teams from the Tarn Taran CIA and Sarhali Police had established a strategic cordon across various locations since Saturday evening. The breakthrough occurred on Sunday near a riverbank in the Nasera Pannu area, where police intercepted two individuals travelling on a motorcycle. According to police officials, the suspects opened fire on the police party in a desperate attempt to evade arrest. In a retaliatory strike carried out in self-defence, the police team returned fire, neutralizing the threat. Both motorcycle-borne individuals sustained injuries to their legs during the exchange. The arrested accused have been identified as Shanpreet Singh and Hardeep, both residents of Chohla Sahib. Preliminary investigations confirm that Shanpreet Singh is one of the four key perpetrators sought in connection with the murder of a village sarpanch at Sidhu Farm.

Afghanistan promises 'appropriate response' after deadly Pakistani strikes

AGENCY
KABUL, FEB 22



Pakistan's military early on Sunday carried out air raids in Afghanistan, targeting what it called "camps and hideouts" belonging to armed groups behind a spate of recent attacks, including a deadly suicide bombing at a Shia mosque in Islamabad.

Pakistan's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting said in a statement on X on Sunday that the country's military conducted "intelligence-based, selective operations" against seven camps and hideouts belonging to the Pakistan Taliban, also known by the acronym TTP, and its affiliates.

The ISIL (ISIS) affiliate in Khorasan Province, or ISKP, which claimed responsibility for a suicide attack in the capital earlier this month, was also targeted in the operation, the ministry said.

The Pakistani ministry said it had "conclusive evidence" that recent attacks in Islamabad, as well as in the northwestern Bajaur and Bannu districts, were perpetrated by fighters at the "behest of their Afghanistan-based leadership and handlers". The Afghan Ministry of Defence condemned the attacks that "hit a religious school and residential homes" in the border provinces of Nangarhar and Paktika, "resulting in dozens of deaths and injuries, including women and children". The Defence Ministry condemned the attacks as "a breach of international law and the principles of good neighbourliness", and promised to respond. "We hold the Pakistani military responsible for targeting civilians and religious sites. We will respond to these attacks in due course with a measured and appropriate response," it said.

FIR registered against Swami Avimukteshwaranand, disciple under POCSO Act in Prayagraj



PRAYAGRAJ: An FIR has been lodged at Jhunsi police station against Jyotish Peeth Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati, his disciple Mukundanand Brahmachari, and others following directions from a Special Court under the POCSO Act. The case was registered late Saturday night, around 11:30 PM, after police had received the court's order. Officials confirmed that action was taken in compliance with the judicial directive.The FIR has been filed under Section 351(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, along with Sections 3, 4(2), 6, 16, 17 and 51 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.The allegations relate to incidents said to have occurred between January 13, 2025 and February 15, 2026. The complaint contains serious charges concerning sexual offences involving minors.The order was passed by Special Judge (POCSO) Vinod Kumar Chaurasia after hearing a petition filed by Ashutosh Brahmachari. In its ruling, the court referred to the complaint, statements of two alleged victims, testimony of independent witnesses, and an inquiry report submitted by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Prayagraj. Observing that the material on record disclosed cognizable and punishable offences under the relevant laws, the court directed the SHO of Jhunsi police station to register the FIR .

YUGMARG
News
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 2

Day 33 of gangstran te vaar: Punjab police conducts 647 raids; 245 held

CHANDIGARH: As the decisive 'Gangstran Te Vaar' campaign launched under the directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann enters its 33rd day, Punjab Police on Sunday conducted 647 raids at the at identified and mapped locations linked to associates of gangsters across the state. As per the information, the "Gangstran Te Vaar"— a decisive war to make Punjab a gangster-free state was launched by the Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav on January 20, 2026. Police teams from all the districts in coordination with Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) Punjab has been conducting special operations across the state. On Day 33, Police teams arrested 245 individuals and recovered four weapons from their possession, taking the total arrests to 10,874 since the launch of the campaign. Apart from this, preventive action has been taken against 100 persons, whereas, 142 persons were verified and released after questioning. Police teams have also arrested nine proclaimed offenders (POs) during the operation. People can anonymously report information related to wanted criminals and gangsters, and also share tips on crime and criminal activity, through the Anti Gangster Helpline number 93946-93946.

Supreme Court Justice calls for safeguarding doctors to protect society at MLAG annual conference

RN KHERA
CHANDIGARH, FEB 22



The 12th Annual Conference of the Medicos Legal Action Group (MLAG) was successfully held on Sunday at the IMA Complex, Sector 35, Chandigarh, drawing nearly 300 eminent medical professionals, legal experts, academicians, and young doctors from across the country to deliberate on the growing medico-legal challenges in medical practice.

The inaugural session was graced by Hon'ble Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge, Supreme Court of India, as Chief Guest.

Addressing the gathering, Justice Bindal made a powerful statement, saying, "If we want to save society, we need to save our doctors."

He emphasized that fear-free medical practice is essential for a healthy society and cautioned against the rising trend of defensive medicine. Highlighting the increasing medico-legal disputes, Justice Bindal underlined that proper documentation is of vital importance in cases of conflict or litigation. He urged doctors to adopt meticulous record-keeping practices, transparent communication, and adherence to established protocols to avoid unnecessary legal entanglements.

He further emphasized that certain systemic and institutional steps must be taken to create a safer working environment for medical professionals. Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Neeraj Nagpal, Managing Trustee of MLAG, stated that the central theme of this year's conference—"Achieving Litigation-Free Practice"—reflected the urgent need to create a legally secure and ethically robust environment for doctors while strengthening transparent patient care. A major highlight of the inaugural ceremony was the presentation of the MLAG Dr. T. Sethu Lakshmi Award 2026 to Shri Mahendra Bajpai, Founder of the Institute of Medicine & Law, in recognition of his significant contribution toward strengthening medico-legal awareness and support systems for the medical fraternity.

Guest of Honour Shruti Bedi remarked that "Doctors are like constitutional actors," emphasizing that just as constitutional authorities function within a defined legal framework, doctors too must operate within ethical and legal boundaries while discharging their duties toward society.

Dr. Ashwini Setya, Organizing Chairperson, noted that the conference uniquely combined academic sessions with structured debates on contemporary and often controversial healthcare issues, including the legality and ethics of live surgical demonstrations, institutional liability for inadequate training, financial responsibility in elective procedure complications, professional privileges of MBBS doctors, and the national need for expansion of MBBS seats.

Dr. Nimisha Nagpal, Organizing Secretary, highlighted the special focus on resident doctors and interns, stating that early legal awareness is critical. Dedicated workshops trained junior doctors in essential medico-legal skills such as informed consent, communication of adverse or bad news, and proper medical record-keeping—key elements in preventing disputes and building patient trust.

Post-lunch sessions featured discussions on recent judgments of the Supreme Court impacting medical practice and evolving medico-legal jurisprudence. High-engagement debates adjudicated by a retired High Court judge addressed pressing ethical and legal dilemmas faced in everyday clinical settings.

AAP waves black flags at Haryana CM Saini in Ludhiana

LUDHIANA, FEB 22



Volunteers and leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) staged a protest against Nayab Singh Saini in Ludhiana on Sunday, waving black flags and raising slogans as he arrived to attend the "Purvanchal Samman Rally."

The protest took place near the Dhuri Line Railway Overbridge when the Haryana Chief Minister was on his way to the rally venue. AAP workers demonstrated against what they termed as the BJP's discriminatory policies towards Punjab.

Leading the protest, Atam Nagar MLA Kulwant Singh Sidhu told mediapersons that the demonstration was against the BJP's alleged anti-Punjab stance.

"The BJP, while sitting at the Centre, withholds funds meant for Punjab's health, education and development, and then comes here to mislead people. Punjabis are aware of their true face," he said.

AAP Lok Sabha Incharge Sharanpal Singh Makkar also addressed the gathering, stating that the protest was meant to send a clear message that BJP leaders cannot attempt to cover up what he described as anti-farmer, anti-trader and anti-Punjab policies. He added that while political campaigning is a right, raising "false questions" about Punjab's law and order situation was unacceptable.

AAP District President (Ludhiana Urban) Jatinder Khangura countered the BJP's criticism by citing figures related to law and order. He claimed that as per central agency reports, Punjab ranks second in maintaining law and order, whereas Haryana recorded over 1,000 murders in 2023 and more than 900 in 2024. He further alleged that incidents of atrocities against women and Dalits were significantly higher there and that Punjab's farmers faced mounting debt during previ-

Classified

I, hitherto known as AJIT PAL SINGH S/o PRITAM SINGH , residing at STREET NO-05, HARI NAGAR, LAL SINGH, NAGAR ROAD, DISTT BATHINDA, PUNJAB – 151001 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as AJIT SINGH RATHOR.
900014

I, hitherto known as GOGEE D/o HARBHAJAN SINGH , residing at DASHMESH NAGAR, DISTT FARIDKOT, PUNJAB – 151203 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VARINDER KAUR.
900014

I, hitherto known as GURMEET SINGH GHARU S/o GURMAIL SINGH, Resident STREET NO-22, DOGAR BASTI, FARIDKOT PUNJAB – 151203 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as GURMEET SINGH.
900014

I, Sharman S/o Raj Kumar R/o Khalwara Gate, Near Dholla Mai Mandir, Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala, have changed my name from Sharman to Sharman Wadhwa
900026

I Amardeep Singh S/o Sukhdev Singh Residence St No 1/8,Baba Farid Nagar,Bathinda Have Changed My Minor Son Name Agamjot Singh Sidhu To Agamjot Singh.all Concerned Noted
524479

I Ujjagar Singh Dhaliwal S/o Ajmer Singh R/o House No-B-IV/352, Santa Wali Gali Barnala. I Have Changed my name to Ujjagar Singh.
524479

I Malwinder Singh Sandhu son of Gurdeep Singh resident of House No. 162-D, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana have changed name of my minor son's name from Meharbaan Singh to Meharbaan Singh Sandhu. All concerned please note.
98706

I Malwinder Singh Sandhu son of Gurdeep Singh resident of House No. 162-D, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana have changed name of my minor daughter's name from Tanveer Kaur to Tanveer Kaur Sandhu. All concerned please note.
98706

I, Sonu Kumar Jha, son of Shri Shankar Ji Jha, resident of House Number 52, Near Surya Bakery, Hisar, Tehsil & District Hisar, permanent resident of Hisar, hereby state that Sonu Kumar Jha and Sonu Jha are one and the same person.
989666

मैं, जितेन्द्र कुमार राजपाल पुत्र श्री रमेश कुमार राजपाल निवासी मकान नंबर 1011/13 महावीर कॉलोनी, पानीपत। जितेन्द्र कुमार राजपाल व जितेन्द्र कुमार मेरे ही दोनों नाम है,भविष्य में मुझे जितेन्द्र कुमार के नाम से ही जाना जाए।
471258

I, Ram Parkash S/o Phulu Ram R/o Chhotabans, Radaur Tehsil Radaur Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name from RAM Parkash To Raj Kumar.
511363

I, Rajini, W/o Raj Kumar, Resident of Street Tara Singh Wali, Firozepur, hereby declare that I have changed my name from RAJINI to RAJNI for all purposes.
900011

I, Aaliz S/o Lilu Ram R/o Ward No 11, Kalayat, Tehsil Kalayat, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my name from Aaliz to Aaliz Sharma. In future, I will be known by the name of Aaliz Sharma. All concerned please note.
100047

I, Mohan Lal S/O Harbhajan Ram R/O VPO Rurki Khas, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur - 144532, Punjab declare that name of my father has been wrongly Written as Harbhajan Singh in my Passport No. (C0156916), Actual name of my Father is Harbhajan Ram, which may be amended Accordingly.
461257

I, No. 2498101F, Rank Hav. Pargat Singh S/o Gurbaksh Singh, R/o Village Jyoti Shah, Tehsil Patti, District Tarn Taran (Punjab), do hereby declare that the correct name of my son is SHEIJDEEP SINGH, but in my service record it has been wrongly written as SHAIJDEEP SINGH.
524479

I Inderjit singh s/o Balwinder singh vpo kamma patti Dagru distt moga Punjab 142048 Have changed my name to Inderjeet singh
63372

I Gurudeep Singh S/o Makhan Singh R/o Village: Bidhipur ,Tehsil: Sultanpur Lodhi ,Distt: Kapurthala have change my name from Gurudeep Singh to Gurdeep Singh. All concerned may please note.
63372

I Manjeet Kaur W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Village Bidhipur , Tehsil: Sultanpur Lodhi ,Distt: Kapurthala have change my name from Manjeet Kaur to Manjit Kaur. All concerned may please note.
63372

I Inderjit singh s/o Balwinder singh vpo kamma patti Dagru distt moga Punjab 142048 Have changed my name to Inderjeet singh
63372

I Gurudeep Singh S/o Makhan Singh R/o Village: Bidhipur ,Tehsil: Sultanpur Lodhi ,Distt: Kapurthala have change my name from Gurudeep Singh to Gurdeep Singh. All concerned may please note.
63372

I Manjeet Kaur W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Village Bidhipur , Tehsil: Sultanpur Lodhi ,Distt: Kapurthala have change my name from Manjeet Kaur to Manjit Kaur. All concerned may please note.
63372

I, Karamjit Singh Punia S/o Harchand Singh R/o Vpo. Jalaldiwal Teh-Raikot Distt. Ludhiana have changed my name to Karamjit Singh.
63372

I, Jasvir Singh S/o Pritu Ram R/o Vill: Nangal Jattan Distt. SBS Nagar have changed my daughter name from Mehar to Mehar Suman.
63372

I, Tarsem Singh S/o Late: Gurbachan Singh R/o Vill: Qadian Teh-Phillaur Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name to Sem Singh.
63372

I Avatar Singh S/o Gurmail Singh R/o Kakrala Kalan (Ludhiana) have changed name my minor daughter Sukhdeep kaur to Sukhraj Kaur.
63372

I, Satwinder Singh S/o Sucha Singh R/o Gursian Piran Distt. Jalandhar declare that my given name is Satwinder and my surname is Singh.
63372

I, Kuldeep Kaur Chahal W/o Sukhdeep Singh Brar R/o Rajia Distt. Barnala have changed my name to Kuldeep Kaur Brar after marriage.
63372

I, Kamalpreet S/O Sohan Lal R/O VPO Sahiba, Tehsil Balachaur, Distt. S B S Nagar, Punab, India, have changed my name from Kamalpreet to Singh Kamalpreet.
63372

I, Gurpal Singh Boparai S/o Mishra Singh R/o Patti Mann Vpo. Buri Hari Distt. Mansa have changed my name to Gurpal Singh.
63372

I Bahadar Singh S/o Sadhu Singh R/o Vpo Sohian Tehsil Jagraon Distt Ludhiana have changed my name to Bahadur Singh.
63372

I Kirpanjot Singh S/o Jeet Singh R/o Village Mehrmadpur, P.O. Adampur, Distt. Jalandhar (PB) have Changed My Name As Kirpanjot is First Name and Singh is Surname. All Please Note.
63372

I, Mejor Singh S/o Dial Singh R/o Abadi Amarkot, Mahmudpura, Tarn Taran have changed my name from Mejor Singh to Major Singh.
63372

I, Sarabjit Kaur D/o Late Sh. Karnail Singh W/o Sh. Balwinder Singh S/o Sh. Gian Singh R/o VPO. Ucha, Tehsil Adampur, District Jalandhar, Punjab declare that after marriage have changed my name from Swaranjit Kaur to Sarabjit Kaur.
63372

I, Isha alias Ritu W/o Hunny, R/o H.No. 441/12, Avtar Nagar, Jalandhdar-144001, Punjab, India, have changed my name from Isha alias Ritu to Ritu. All concerned please note.
63372

I, Honey S/o Joginder Pal, R/o H.No. 441/12, Avtar Nagar, Jalandhdar-144001, Punjab, India, have changed my name from Honey to Hunny. All concerned please note.
63372

I, Honey Bansal W/o Rajan Gupta R/o H.No. 3496 W.No. 10 Mohalla Harlalpura Sirhind Mandi Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib have changed my name to Honey Gupta.
63372

I Harpreet kaur W/o Prince Nangla, Vill-Jethu Mazara,P/o Karimpur,Tehsil Nawanshahr SBS Nagar Declare that my given name is Harpreet and My Surname is Kaur
63372

PUBLIC NOTICES

I Charanjit Kaur I am legally mother of army number 4495331W Rank Sep Karamjit Singh presently residing at Village Kajauli, Tehsil Morinda, District Ropar, 140101, declare that in my son army record my name wrongly entered Charanjit Kaur but my correct name is Charnjit Kaur so amended my name from Charanjit Kaur to Charnjit Kaur in my son army record.
63372

I, hitherto known as Bimal Kaur wife of Kuldeep Singh residing at Ward No. 20, Bazigar Basti, Mohalla Dhudhi Wala, Faridkot, Distt. Faridkot, Punjab, 151203, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Karamjeet Kaur. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.
63372

I Bhupinder Singh alias Rupinder Singh S/o Surjit Singh S/o Badan Singh R/o Village: Machhana declare that In Revenue records of village area of Jambandi year 2020-2021 Khewat number 779 Khatauni number 1577 of village area of Sangat Kalan My name entered as Bhupinder Singh son of Surjit Singh son of Badan Singh. While I am known by Bhupinder Singh alias Rupinder Singh son of Surjit Singh son of Badan Singh. who,s wants to corrected in the revenue record . If anyone has any objection then he can give his objection. Mobile No. 9416091553.
63372

I, Vijay Laxmi is legally Wedded Wife of No JC483296N. Rank Sub, Name Neeraj Singh of Unit 21 Rajput C/O 56 APO, Residing at Village Chandok, Post Office Chandok, Tehsil Shikarpur, District Bulandshahar, State Uttar Pradesh 202394. Hereby declare that I have changed my name From Vijay Laxmi To Vijay Lakshmi and Date of Birth From 03/04/1985 To 10/10/1990. Due to wrongly entered in service record of my husband. Both names and DOB Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB23055394960153Y Dated 20/02/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Jagroop Deen S/o Kaim Deen R/o Near Atta Chakki Patti Dala Teh & Distt. Moga declare that my wife Parveen Deen and my son Nazir Khan is out of my control. So I disown with them from my moveable/immoveable property. If anybody dealing with them at his/her own risk.
63372

I, Major Kaur widow of No. 1430354 Sep Late: Pakhar Singh (Retd) R/o Vill: Majra Kalan Po. Jadla Teh-Nawanshahr Distt. SBS Nagar, Pb-144517 have changed my name from Major Kaur to Gurmej Kaur. My DOB is 05-06-1955 as per my Aadhar Card and PAN Card.
63372

I, Service No. 15429676L Rank: Hav (ORA) name Monu Singh S/o Hardial Singh age-35 years of Unit 2118 Field Hospital C/o 56 APO of Vill: W.No.06 Baba Ajit Nagar Bhawanigarh Post: Bhawanigarh Distt. Sangrur State-Punjab Pin-148026 declare that in my service record my father's name is wrongly entered as Hardyal Singh while his correct name is Hardial Singh.
63372

I, Service No. 15429676L Rank: Hav (ORA) name Monu Singh S/o Hardial Singh age-35 years of Unit 2118 Field Hospital C/o 56 APO of Vill: W.No.06 Baba Ajit Nagar Bhawanigarh Post: Bhawanigarh Distt. Sangrur State-Punjab Pin-148026 declare that in my service record my mother's name is wrongly entered as Swarn Kaur while his correct name is Sawaran Kaur.
63372

I, NO. JC 483296N Rank sub. Name Neeraj Singh, of (unit) 21 Rajput C/O 56 APO, Residing at Village and Post Office Chandok, Tehsil Shikarpur, District Bulandshahar, State Uttar Pradesh 202394. Have changed my son's name From Pratik Singh To Pratik Sisodia and DOB from 06/11/2007 to 06/11/2009. Due to wrongly entered in my service record. Both names and DOB Pertains to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit No. IN-PB230545221892515Y Dated 20/02/2026 Attested by Notary Public (GOVT OF INDIA) Kindly Correct it.
63372

PUBLIC NOTICE

63372

PUBLIC NOTICE

That Pooja w/o Narotam Singh mortgagor have represented to the Bank that original title deed/ deeds of his/her property (Details are as under) is/are lost: 1. Title Deed No 389 DT 11-05-1984 in favour of Bhupinder Singh s/o Tulsi Singh. The above mentioned title deed in the chain of property owned by herself is lost and the captioned mortgagor have approached the Bank to tender such property as security, if anyone has any objection or any claim over such property, he/she may inform within 15 days in ,writing to Punjab & Sind Bank, Mirthal along with proof of his/her Objection/claim, within the given period.

Branch Manager
Punjab & Sind Bank (Pathankot)
63372

LOST & FOUND

I, Rama Singh D/o Nehchal Singh, R/o 466F UGF, Celestia Royale, Phase-2, Omaxe New Chandigarh, SAS Nagar, hereby inform that my property receipts bearing Receipt Nos. 1258993 ,169855 ,169856 ,1699852,169853,1249256 dated 05/03/2016 have been lost at Omaxe New Chandigarh on 17/09/2025. DDR No. 687002/2026 dated 21/02/2026 has been lodged at PSOC Mullapur, SAS Nagar. If found, please contact at Mobile No-9878968365
524479

DISCLAIMER

YUGMARG PUBLICATIONS does not take responsibility for the contents (Display/classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting upon"

Golden group of institutions, Gurdaspur hosts two-day "Utsav 2026"

GURDASPUR (VERMA): Golden Group of Institutions, Gurdaspur organized its two-day Inter-College Cultural and Academic Fest "Utsav 2026" with great enthusiasm and grandeur. The event was conducted under the leadership of Chairman Dr. Mohit Mahajan, Chief Managing Director Dr. Raghav Mahajan, and Managing Director Mr. Vinayak Mahajan. On the first day, Dr. Navdeepak Sandhu, Registrar, Punjab Technical University, Kapurthala, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The ceremony commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp. Around 500 students from 25 colleges across Pathankot, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Tarn Taran, and Gurdaspur districts participated in a wide range of competitions. These included Solo Song, Solo Dance, Group Dance, Fashion Show, Choreography, Bhangra/Giddha, Programming Skills, LAN Gaming, Extempore, Debate, Business Idea, General Quiz, Science Exhibition, Art Exhibition, Rangoli Making, Poster Making, Clay Modeling, Collage Making, Mehndi, Nail Art, Selfie Challenge, Dumb Charades.



NEWS BRIEF

Punjab Kings launches renovation of Government High School, Rani Majra, Under PBKS Model School Project: L.C. Gupta



JK BATTA

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Kings, furthering its commitment to community development, marked a significant milestone on Saturday by holding a groundbreaking ceremony for the renovation of the Government High School in Rani Majra village. Held on the school premises, the ceremony marked the formal commencement of infrastructure upgrade works under the PBKS Model School Project. The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by Mr L.C. Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, Punjab Kings; members of Punjab Kings' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team; representatives from Yuva Ajay, the implementing partner; teachers, students, and members of the local community. Speaking on the occasion, Mr L.C. Gupta, Chief Financial Officer, Punjab Kings, said, "Education plays a vital role in shaping the future of our communities.

PG owner charged with molestation - case registered

VICKY BHABAT

ZIRAKPUR : Zirakpur police have charged a PG owner with molestation and assault on the complaint of a 25-year-old girl. The police have registered a case against the PG owner and started action. In her complaint to the police, Kareena Rajput, daughter of Akash Rajput, resident of house number 203E, Abhepur Sector 19, Panchkula, said that she has no parents and she works in private jobs in 2 different hospitals to meet her expenses. She said that a few days ago she came to stay in a PG built at Hotel Sunshine (Dolphin Road, Baltana), then on February 15, she suddenly felt pain in her stomach, due to which she came to the street outside the PG at around 4.30 pm to find a medical store, then the owner of the PG, Davinder Singh, also came to the street. She said that he took her to Almond Hotel on the pretext of giving her medicine and said that he would bring medicine from the reception. After that, he called her inside the hotel where her friends were already sitting. She said that Davinder started telling her that she should sit in the room with his friends at that time, her dignity will be restored. Hearing this, she immediately came out of the hotel. She said that then Davinder took her to the PG in a car and when he followed her to the PG room at around 11.30 am, he started molesting her. She alleged that when she made noise, he went downstairs to his room. After that, he called his brother Ravi Rajput to the PG and took him with him to his rented house in Baltana village. She said that initially she did not want to give a statement fearing for her honor, but later Davinder started defaming her in the market.

Mukh Mantri Health Yojana; MLA Kulwant Singh visits 11 registration centres

SHASHI PAL JAIN
MOHALI, FEB 22



MLA Mohali, Kulwant Singh, visited various registration centres today to review the implementation of the Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojana and to ensure that the registration process is being carried out smoothly.

The MLA inspected registration centres at Jujhar Nagar, Phase-6, Mohali Village, Phase-1, Phase-3B1, Phase-10, Sector-66, Bakarpur, Saneta, Sector-79 and Sector-77.

Interacting with mediapersons, MLA Kulwant Singh said that under the leadership and directions of Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, several welfare schemes are being implemented across the state to ensure overall development. He added that the pace of development in Punjab has accelerated significantly compared to previous years.

Highlighting the importance of the scheme, he stated that the Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojana has been launched to safeguard the health of citizens. Under this scheme, eligible families will be entitled to free medical treatment up to Rs 10 lakh in empanelled hospitals. Large-scale registration is currently underway to ensure that beneficiaries receive their health cards at the earliest. He informed that necessary arrangements have been made by the government for the effective implementation of the scheme and that the registration work at all centres is progressing satisfactorily. He emphasized that no eligible family should be left out of the scheme, and workers and supporters of the Aam Aadmi Party are actively spreading awareness to ensure maximum coverage.

The MLA further stated that across Punjab, thousands of people are availing services at Mohalla Clinics every day, where free medicines and essential diagnostic tests are being provided along with consultations by experienced doctors.

Speaking about development in Mohali, he said that the city's overall development is progressing in a planned manner.

To ease traffic congestion, link roads connecting the industrial area are being constructed on a large scale, and new roundabouts are also being developed.

Several party leaders and local representatives were also present on the occasion.

Sanjeev Arora inaugurates welcomhotel by ITC hotels in Mohali

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, FEB 22



Welcomhotel by ITC Hotels Limited, Mohali–Chandigarh, was formally inaugurated by Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Punjab, Shri Sanjeev Arora, marking a landmark addition to the region's premium hospitality landscape and a warm new gateway for visitors, investors, and business travellers to Punjab.

The ceremony commenced with the ribbon-cutting by the Hon'ble Minister, followed by the traditional lamp-lighting ceremony symbolising prosperity and new beginnings. The event was graced by distinguished industry leaders including Mr. Anil Chadha, Managing Director, ITC Hotels Limited; Mr. Bhupinder Singh Gujral, Managing Director, Gujral Group; and Mr. Gaganjeet Singh Gujral, along with senior officials and eminent guests. Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Minister Sanjeev Arora warmly welcomed the addition of Welcomhotel to Mohali's skyline and highlighted the city's emergence as one of North India's fastest-growing economic and institutional hubs.

He noted that with the rapid expansion of IT City, Aerocity, healthcare institutions, universities, and convention infrastructure, Mohali is witnessing a steady rise in domestic and international footfall. The Minister emphasised that this growth trajectory has created a clear and increasing requirement for many more high-quality hotel rooms to cater to business delegations, global investors, tourists, and large-scale events being hosted in the region.

"Mohali is on the cusp of transformative growth. With expanding IT, education, healthcare, and industrial ecosystems, the demand for world-class hospitality infrastructure is rising rapidly. Punjab welcomes this investment by ITC Hotels, and we look forward to many more such projects that will strengthen our tourism and service economy," said Minister Sanjeev Arora.

Joint security initiative announced by Shivalik city & adjoining societies



SHASHI PAL JAIN
MOHALI, FEB 22

In response to the recent rise in theft and snatching incidents, a joint meeting of Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) of Shivalik City and adjoining societies was held to address growing security concerns and implement immediate preventive measures.

The Presidents of the participating societies — Adv. Piyush Vij (Shivalik City), Shri Manik Ji (B-Town), Shri Vivek Kumar Ji (Palm City), Shri Ajay Pal Singh Ji (Crystal Homes), Shri Sapinder Singh Ji (Royal Shivalik), Smt. Isha Garg Ji (Mona Paradise), Shri Rishu Ji (Shivalik Gate No. 10 Block Association), and Shri Rajesh Kalia Ji (Ridhi Towers) — unanimously resolved to adopt a coordinated action plan to strengthen area security.Key decisions include:Closure of vulnerable boundary points Implementation of single entry and single exit during night hours Appointment of professional security guards Introduction of digital security monitoring systems Formation of a Joint Security Committee for effective implementationThe initiative reflects strong unity among societies and a collective commitment to ensure the safety of residents and their families. The implementation process will begin shortly in coordination with residents and local authorities.

International Mother Language Day celebrated at State Bank of India



NEERAJ SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, FEB 22

The State Bank of India, Chandigarh Division celebrated "International Mother Language Day" on February 21, 2026 at Local Head Office, Chandigarh.

The programme was presided over bytheChief General Manager, Chandigarh CircleShri Krishan Sharma.General Manager (Network-2), Shri Neeraj Bharti, General Manager (Network-3), Shri Vimal Kishore, Deputy General Manager &Circle Development Officer,Shri Kajal Kumar Bhowmikand other staff members were present in the programme. The objective of the programme was to honour and encourage the use of various mother tongues. In the program, such authors from the staff members working in the Chandigarh Circle of the Bank were awarded and felicitated by the Chief General Manager, Shri Krishan Sharma, whose book has been published.

A cultural programme was also organisedin which the staff members gave presentations in different mother tongues. On this occasion, the Chief General Manager, Shri Krishan Sharma highlighted the importance and impact of mother tongue. Addressing the staff, he said that in the mother tongue, we can speak our view point in a better way and it has a greater impact also.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University honours eight UGC NET qualifiers in grand felicitation ceremony



AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, FEB 22

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, proudly celebrated a major academic milestone as eight of its talented students successfully cleared the prestigious UGC NET examination. This achievement qualifies them for Assistant Professorship roles, PhD admissions, and, in select cases, the coveted Junior Research Fellowship (JRF). The accomplished qualifiers include Lovepreet Kaur (History), Arshdeep Singh (who secured JRF), Jaspreet Kaur (Education), Manveer Kaur (Commerce & Management), Ram Lal Yadav (Physical Education), Neha (Physical Education), Kajal (Physical Education), and Jaspreet Kaur (English). In a heartfelt felicitation ceremony held on campus under the esteemed guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Prit Pal Singh, Vice-Chancellor, the achievers were honoured with certificates and warm applause from faculty and peers. Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor congratulated the students, describing their success as a powerful reflection of the University's dedication to fostering academic excellence and empowering youth through quality education. He added that such triumphs inspire the entire community and bolster the institution's commitment to comprehensive student support.

YPS Patiala adopts elephant to spread message of wildlife conservation adoption ceremony held at Chhatbir Zoo



ZIRAKPUR (VICKY BHABAT): On Saturday, Yadvindra Public School Patiala took the initiative and adopted an elephant named Hema at Chhatbir Zoo. The aim of this initiative is to instill a sense of responsibility among the students, develop compassion towards animals and create a deep understanding of wildlife conservation. By adopting the elephant, the school has given the students an opportunity to connect with environmental conservation and contribute in real life.

On this occasion, a special adoption ceremony was organized at the zoo. Basanta Raj Kumar, Chief Wildlife Protection Officer Punjab attended the ceremony as the chief guest. Praising the school's efforts to increase safety awareness among the students, he termed this initiative as an important step towards preparing environmentally responsible citizens. Meanwhile, the school's Principal Naveen Kumar Dixit said that such activities strengthen the sense of responsibility towards society and environment along with the personality development of the students.

League and knockout cricket tournament begins at Army Ground Morinda

RADHE SHYAM SHARMA
MORINDA, FEB 22



A league-cum-knockout cricket tournament commenced at Army Ground in Morinda, drawing participation from 12 major teams from across the region.

Morinda Cricket Academy coach Mahendra Singh said the tournament features strong local teams competing for top honours. The winner will receive a cash prize of Rs 31,000, while the runner-up will be awarded Rs 21,000.

Lalit Verma attended the opening ceremony as chief guest and formally inaugurated the tournament by cutting the ribbon. The owner of Rama Sports was also present on the occasion.

Organisers said matches will be held every Sunday until the conclusion of the tournament.

Workshop organized at Green Field Convent School Dangarh

BARNALA (BALWINDER AZAD): A workshop was organized by eminent scholar Professor Dr. Harwinder Singh Bhatti at Green Field Convent (Senior Secondary) School Dangarh. In which he said that it is very important to motivate teachers because they are the builders of the future of students. If teachers are motivated, then the school environment will also become positive. In this workshop, teachers were taught things that would make their teaching ability more effective. Its purpose is to update teachers with new thinking, new technology and self-confidence.



Bihar foundation and Purvanchal Welfare Association to Host 29th Holi Milan Samaroh in Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH, FEB 22

The celebration promises an evening of cultural enrichment featuring renowned Bhojpuri artists Suhani Singh and Jitu Prajapati, who will perform traditional "Rang" programs.

The Bihar Foundation (Punjab and Chandigarh Chapter), in collaboration with the Purvanchal Welfare Association, Chandigarh, is delighted to announce the celebration of their 29th Holi Milan Samaroh.

This vibrant cultural event is scheduled for Sunday, March 1st, 2026, from 4:00 PM to 8:30 PM at the Baba Makhan Shah Lobana Bhawan, Sector-30 A, Chandigarh.

The celebration promises an evening of cultural enrichment featuring renowned Bhojpuri artists Suhani Singh and Jitu Prajapati, who will perform traditional "Rang" programs. The event aims to bring families together to celebrate the spirit of Holi with music, community bonding, and a festive dinner.Dr. Rupesh Kumar Singh, President of the Bihar Foundation (Punjab and Chandigarh Chapter), emphasized the importance of the tradition, stating that for many years, this Samaroh has served as a vital bridge for the community to stay connected to its cultural roots.

He extended a warm invitation to everyone to join with their families to witness the vibrant colors of Bhojpuri culture and strengthen the bonds of communal harmony in the region.

Echoing this sentiment, Shri D.K. Singh, President of the Purvanchal Welfare Association, remarked that Holi is fundamentally a festival of joy and inclusion. He noted that through this collaboration, the foundation aims to create a "home away from home" for the Purvanchal and Bihar diaspora, ensuring that their rich traditions continue to thrive and flourish within the city of Chandigarh.

The organizers, including Purvanchal Welfare Association (Regd.)'s Senior Vice President Shri U.K. Singh, General Secretary Shri Bhola Rai and Bihar Foundation (Punjab and Chandigarh Chapter)'s Vice President Neeraj Kumar Singh and Treasurer Shri Pallav Kumar, warmly welcome all residents to partake in this cultural extravaganza.

Mohali Press Club organises free medical check-up camp; 128 people benefit



MOHALI (TILAK RAJ): In today's stressful lifestyle, almost every individual faces the risk of one or another health issue. Often, due to negligence, minor ailments can develop into serious diseases. Keeping this in view, the Mohali Press Club organized a free medical check-up camp in collaboration with the Sri Guru Ravidas Medical Team and its supporting organizations.The chief guest on the occasion was Chairman of the Traders Commission, Mr. Ranjit Pal Singh, while BJP leader Ishpal Chaudhary also attended the event. Mr. Ranjit Pal Singh appreciated the initiative of the Mohali Press Club, stating that such social service efforts are highly commendable. He added that along with journalism, fulfilling social responsibilities is a fundamental duty of the club. He emphasized that organizing such health camps contributes significantly to the welfare of society. The guests assured full support to the club in the future.During the camp, around 128 people availed themselves of health check-ups, while approximately 72 individuals underwent various free blood tests. A team of expert doctors educated attendees about health awareness and advised them to adopt a balanced diet and a healthy lifestyle.The expert panel included renowned dietitian Dr. Jagmeet Suri (Team Guide My Diet), Dr. Vandita and Dr. Sunil Sharma from Cure Healthcare, Dr. Tanvi (MD, General Medicine, Amar Hospital), Dr. Suchint (Dental Specialist), Dr. H.S. Chauhan (Skin and Dermatology Specialist).

MLA Dinesh Chadha honours players at cricket tournament



RUPNAGAR (BAHADURJEET SINGH): Rupnagar MLA Advocate Dinesh Chadha specially attended the last day of the three-day cricket tournament organized by Shaheed Udham Singh Sports Club in village Santokhgarh Tapprian in memory of Maharaja Daleep Singh with the support of the villagers and presented prizes to the winning teams. During the tournament, MLA Chadha met the players and encouraged them and praised the efforts of the organizing committee.

Speaking on the occasion, Dinesh Chadha said that connecting the youth with sports is the main need of the hour because sports instill discipline, teamwork and a sense of leadership along with physical fitness. He said that the Punjab government has started special schemes to promote sports in the state. The sports infrastructure is being strengthened at the school and college level, new sports academies are being established and financial assistance and coaching facilities are being provided to young players. In the final match held on the last day, the Saskaur team defeated Thauna and won the trophy. Finally, he congratulated the winning and runner-up teams and assured all possible cooperation in the future. On this occasion, Block President Parminder Singh Bala, Satwinder Singh Lakhu, Panch Gurvinder Singh, Rajveer Singh, Harjinder Singh, Jagmohan Singh Fauji, Sukhwinder Singh etc.

Lions Club Mohali Supreme organises its general house meeting



MOHALI (TILAK RAJ): In a glittering gathering of Lions Club Mohali Supreme (R) alongwith associate Clubs LC Roar (Mohali) and Lions Club Leo, the environment was replete with learning on healthy Diet tips and joyous bonhomie.

The half-yearly General House meeting organised at Hotel Tulip Mohali, Thursday evening, had houseful congregation graced by the veteran Dr. BN Behera , retired Sr. Dietician from PGIMER, Chandigarh, as special Guest of Honour and speaker on Healthy Diet regimen for a healthy and happy living.Giving a complete information about this meeting club PRO Lion Subhash Vatsain, under the able guidence of Club President Lion Bhupinder Babbar and valuable information by CGL Tilak Raj, who also conducted the meeting in a very professional manner.The meeting started with inovocation of new member Lion Kuljit kaur, followed with brief introduction about Lionism by Club Charter President CGL Tilak Raj, PMJF and handing over Club directories to team PST by Club Charter President.

After customery formalities the special guest Dr BN Behera, MSc, PGDND,DHE, RD, gave a detailed advice to the attending Lions on routine but vital diet tips for making our body healthy and immune from diseases.

He advised that with a proper diet plan any disease can be controlled.

MCM connects students with legal expertise



CHANDIGARH: Legal Literacy Cell of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women organised an interactive session titled 'The Justice Interface: Connecting Students with Legal Expertise'. The programme aimed to enhance legal awareness and empower students with practical knowledge of their rights and responsibilities in contemporary society.

The resource persons for the session were alumna Dr. Shruti Bedi, Director of the University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, and Dr. Shaifali Dixit, Assistant Professor at Himachal Pradesh National Law University. Dr. Bedi emphasised the transformative role of legal education in shaping confident and informed citizens. Highlighting the Right to Life and Privacy, she referred to landmark Supreme Court judgments and underscored dignity as an intrinsic constitutional value. She also sensitised students to cyber abuse and online threats, advising them to safeguard their digital privacy and refrain from sharing personal passwords. Dr. Dixit elaborated on constitutional and statutory provisions related to women's rights in India. She discussed laws addressing cruelty, domestic violence, and protection against harassment, explaining both their civil and criminal dimensions. Legal remedies available to women facing abuse, including provisions that categorise cruelty by a husband or relatives as a non-compoundable offence were also shed light upon.

YUGMARG
Punjab
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 4

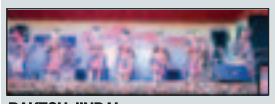
Power supply to remain off today



RAMPURA PHUL (KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA): Power supply from 11 K.V Jore Pul Feeder and 11 K.V Janta Colony Feeder will remain off from 11 am to 6 pm on 23 February (today) due to scheduled maintenance. Assistant Executive Engineer Jarnail said that due to this, Nabha Mandi, Jore Pul, Dasmesh Nagar, Mehraj Basti, Bypass Road, Mehraj Road, Xavier School Area, Royal Garden Colony, Star Palace, some parts of Friends Colony, S.R. Singla Enclave, Civil Hospital Road, Shaheed Smarak College Road, Stadium Road, Rambagh, Panthers Club, Purana Dana Mandi, Kanya Pathshala, Darzian Wala Chowk, Purana Power House Road, Dr. F.C. Power supply to Bansal area, Guru Nanakpura Mohalla, Gadvasu Hostel, Nandi Gaushala, New Grain Market, Vegetable Market, New Market, Factory Road and some parts of Truck Union will remain affected.

NEWS BRIEF

Sakhi Shakti craft fair in Patiala receives huge public response



RAKESH JINDAL
PATIALA: The Punjab Sakhi Shakti Craft Fair 2026 has become a special attraction for the residents of the city. A large amount of buying and selling of handicraft items is taking place at the fair, and special arrangements have been made for entertainment and food lovers. Additional Deputy Commissioner Mr. Damanjit Singh Mann informed that the fair will continue until March 2. He said that nearly 200 types of artisan stalls have been set up at the fair, featuring handmade products from different states. Besides this, international artisans have also participated, which has further enhanced the charm of the fair. Handloom clothes, jewellery, home décor items, and traditional foods are among the main attractions. To create a cultural atmosphere, cultural groups of NZCC are presenting daily cultural programmes.

Mohit Mohindra and victim's family stage protest in front of Rajindra Hospital demanding action against Sarpanch's killer son



TAPINDER SINGH
PATIALA: Congress workers and victim's family blocked the road against the failure of Patiala administration and government. Under the leadership of Punjab Youth Congress President Mr. Mohit Mohindra, today outside Rajindra Hospital in Patiala, they staged a strong protest along with victim's family and Congress workers against the non-arrest of the son of Sarpanch belonging to Aam Aadmi Party, the main accused in the murder of Baljit Kaur, an elderly woman of Rongla village. Congressmen raised slogans against the lax performance of Punjab government and police administration outside the hospital. A few days ago, an unarmed elderly woman Baljit Kaur was brutally murdered in Rongla village of Patiala. According to the family's allegations, the village Sarpanch's son Goldie has carried out this incident. It is being told that the attack was due to old enmity and a dispute over a financial transaction of Rs 1.5 lakh, which was going on for a long time. The victim's family said that the accused was constantly threatening them.

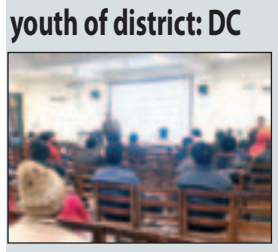
Prof. Badungar pays floral tribute on Martyrdom Day of Amar Shaheed Baba Moti Ram Mehra

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB : On the solemn occasion of the martyrdom day of Amar Shaheed Baba Moti Ram Mehra, former President of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Prof. Kirpal Singh Badungar, paid heartfelt floral tributes, recalling the unmatched courage and sacrifice of the devout servant of the Guru.



Prof. Badungar said that it is essential for today's younger generation to learn about the supreme sacrifices made by Sikh Gurus and martyrs. He also appealed to parents to educate their children about the glorious legacy of Sikh history so they remain connected to their rich heritage. Speaking about the extraordinary sacrifice of Baba Moti Ram Mehra, Prof. Badungar said that he was a true epitome of devotion who secretly served warm milk to the younger Sahibzaadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Gujri Ji when they were imprisoned in the Thanda Burj by the Mughal regime. When Nawab Wazid Khan of Sirhind learned of this act of compassion, Baba Moti Ram Mehra was brutally executed along with his family by being crushed in an oil press.

C-Pyte camp is brightening future of youth of district: DC



RANA SHARMA
BATHINDA : The Centre for Training and Employment (C-PYET) is always working for the future of the youth. This institution is working as a pioneer to make the youth of Punjab capable of employment and self-employment with the efforts of the state government, while the Training and Employment Centre running at village Kaljhrani under the district is proving to be a boon for the youth of the district. This information was shared by Deputy Commissioner Mr. Rajesh Dhiman. Giving further information in this regard, Camp Training Officer, Captain Lakhwinder Singh said that from April 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026, 1142 Youth were trained here, out of which 225 youth got employment, including 211 from the Army, 1 each from the Border Security Force (BSF) and Punjab Police, 9 from the Punjab Government and 3 from the self-employed.
Apart from this, 30 youth are being trained as security guards at Camp Kaljhrani under the Skill India Mission by Prototank India Solutions Private Limited Company.

Army personnel, dismissed cop among six held with 4.8kg heroin and pistol in Faridkot

RAGHU NANDAN PRASHAR
JAITU, FEB 22



In a major blow to the trans-border narcotic network amidst the ongoing "Yudh Nashian Virudh" campaign to make Punjab a drug-free state as per directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Faridkot Police has busted a Pakistan-backed international drug cartel with the arrest of six individuals, including an army personnel and dismissed police personnel, and recovered 4.8 kg heroin and one .30 bore pistol along with three live cartridges from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Sunday.

Those arrested have been identified as Jarnail Singh alias Goldy of Ludhiana, who is currently serving in the Indian Army; Amardeep Singh alias Boxer (a dismissed PAP cadre employee) and Dimple Rani of Ferozepur; Ramandeep Kaur, Sarabjit Singh alias Sabba, and Amritpal Singh alias Abhijot, all residents of Moga. Apart from recovering the contraband, the police teams also seized Rs 30,000 drug money and impounded their two vehicles, including Thar and XUV-500, which they were using for drug trafficking. DGP Gaurav Yadav said that the breakthrough is the result of a meticulously planned, intelligence-led operation and a 2-month-long jail-based interception that exposed the deep-rooted linkages of the cartel. Preliminary investigation has suggested that the accused were in direct contact with Pakistan-based smugglers who were using drones to push heroin consignments into Indian territory, he said. The DGP said that further investigation is ongoing to establish forward and backward linkages in this case. Sharing details of the operation, SSP Faridkot Dr Pragya Jain said that on the intervening night of February 20-21, a CIA Staff team intercepted a Thar vehicle near Green Avenue. A search conducted under the supervision of DSP (Faridkot) Tarlochan Singh led to the recovery of 1.008 kg heroin and drug money, leading to the immediate arrest of four occupants. "During subsequent interrogation, it was revealed that the consignment was supplied by Amardeep Singh alias Boxer in an XUV-500 vehicle. Acting on this lead, police teams intercepted Boxer and his associate Dimple Rani near village Goleana Semnala, recovering an additional 3.796 kg heroin and a .30 bore pistol from their possession," said the SSP. Dr Pragya Jain further highlighted that the main kingpin, Amardeep Singh alias Boxer, is a habitual offender with nine previous criminal cases, while other members also have significant criminal records under the NDPS and Arms Acts. The involvement of a serving Army personnel and a dismissed police official points toward a sophisticated network capable of exploiting institutional knowledge for trafficking. They misused their official identification cards for easy passage through nakas and toll plazas. The use of women accomplices in vehicles , also point to well - thought out modus operandi for narcotics smuggling. The police have obtained remand for all the accused to further investigate the forward and backward linkages, specifically focusing on the handlers operating from across the border and the local distribution points.

Rebuild of basti Hazur school ordered: Harjot Singh Bains

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, FEB 22



Punjab Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains has ordered the complete rebuilding of Government Primary School in Basti Hazur, Fazilka, after concerns were raised about the condition of the school building.

Taking swift action, the Education Minister directed the School Education Department to initiate immediate remedial measures and assured that the new school building would be completed within six months, with him personally overseeing the transformation.

Addressing the issue, Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains said, "The poor condition of the school in Basti Hazur was brought to my notice yesterday.

I have already directed officers to take immediate action, and I will personally visit the school. This school will have a new building within the next 6 months. This is not a political statement; it is a personal guarantee." Emphasising the broader context of school infrastructure in the state, the Education Minister stated, "Punjab has nearly 20,000 government schools. Most of them came to us in extremely poor condition, a legacy of decades of neglect." He noted that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab Government has transformed hundreds of such schools over the last few years and that the work is progressing at full pace. "Transforming all 20,000 schools is a journey and the state government is steadily marching towards that goal with commitment and transparency," he added. Reiterating his commitment to education reform, Minister Harjot Singh Bains said, "This is not about tall claims. It is about accountability and sustained action. Education is not politics for me; it is my passion and responsibility."

Riarki Public school students celebrate International Mother Language Day

VERMA
GURDASPUR, FEB 22



On the occasion of International Mother Language Day, the students of Riarki Public School, Tugalwala, celebrated "Maa Boli Mela" with great enthusiasm.

The event was organized to foster deep respect, love, and awareness among students for their mother tongue, Punjabi.The celebration began in the beautifully decorated Sr. Mahendra Singh Randhawa Hall, where students presented impressive plays on stage. A play directed by Madam Neelam and Madam Jagdeep Kaur became the highlight of the event.

Through powerful performances, the students effectively conveyed important messages about the significance and preservation of the mother language. Their outstanding acting and meaningful presentation filled the hall with continuous applause. Students also participated enthusiastically in various competitions, showcasing their talents and creativity. These included poetry recitation, calligraphy, board writing, and speech competitions. A quiz competition was conducted under the guidance of Sir Genes Ji, focusing on rare and disappearing Punjabi words. Students learned about the importance of preserving these traditional expressions, which increased their interest and awareness of their linguistic heritage.On this occasion, the Director of the institution, Madam Manpreet Kaur, remarked, "When you are proficient in your mother tongue, it becomes easier to learn other languages. A strong foundation in your mother language makes mastering additional languages simpler." Principal Inderjit Kaur praised the students for their confidence and excellent performances. Mr. Gagandeep Singh Virk emphasized that Punjabi is our identity and pride. He stated that just as strong roots help a tree grow tall, our mother tongue is our root, and preserving it is true education. Forgetting one's mother tongue, he added, is like a tree losing its foundation.

Legacy beyond borders: 93-year-old Jean Bennett returns to Gurdaspur to honour late husband's service

MUKESH VERMA
GURDASPUR, FEB 22



In a world where selfless service is rare, Jean Bennett stands as a beacon of humanity.

The 93-year-old UK native recently returned to Dhariwal to attend the centenary celebrations of Mac Robert Hospital—an institution where her late husband once served as Administrator.Mr. Bennett dedicated his life to the poor, eventually passing away at the very hospital he managed.

Today, Jean keeps his memory alive not just through tributes, but through action. She recalls a "golden era" of the hospital where patients were healed through a combination of medicine and genuine compassion.

During her visits, Jean stays at the Hotel RK Regency in Gurdaspur, where she is treated with the highest regard. Beyond the nostalgia, she remains a regular benefactor to the hospital, personally spending time with patients and providing financial support.

As National Awardee Romesh Mahajan noted, her life is a living testament to the power of eternal love and humanitarian commitment.

AAP gets major boost in Fatehgarh Sahib as Gurdip Singh, supporters join party



BIKRAMJEET SAHOTA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, FEB 22

The Aam Aadmi Party received a major boost in Fatehgarh Sahib as Gurdip Singh of village Dangherian, along with hundreds of his supporters, joined the party after leaving the Shiromani Akali Dal. MLA Lakhbir Singh Rai personally visited the village to welcome the new entrants and honored them with siropas as a mark of respect. Addressing the gathering, he stated that the Aam Aadmi Party is a party of the common people where every worker is given due respect and recognition. He assured the newly inducted members that they would receive full honor and responsibility within the party.Rai said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, the Punjab government is reaching new heights and fulfilling its promises one by one. He highlighted major reforms in education and healthcare, adding that families have been provided health insurance coverage of up to ?10 lakh to ensure no one suffers due to financial hardship during illness. He further said that more significant announcements for the people of Punjab would be made during the upcoming Assembly session.After joining the party, Gurdip Singh expressed confidence in the party's policies and pledged to work shoulder to shoulder with MLA Lakhbir Singh Rai.

Students of Guru Nanak Law College Saiwala witnessed court proceedings in Sessions Court



TAPINDER SINGH
FEROZEPUR, FEB 22

Students of Guru Nanak Law College Saiwala today visited the District and Sessions Court and witnessed the court proceedings.

On this occasion, the Chairman of the College, Shri Asispreet Singh Saiwala, said that such visits are very beneficial for law students as it gives them practical knowledge of court proceedings and helps them in preparing for the legal profession in future. This visit was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Azwar Khan, Assistant Professor China, Assistant Professor Radhika and Assistant Professor Jyoti.

Dr. Azwar Khan also said that such visits increase the practical knowledge of the students and they can understand the functioning of the court from a close perspective. First of all, the students visited the court of District and Sessions Judge Shri Sumit Malhotra and understood the bail procedure.

Kumari Selja meets veteran Congress leader Ram Singh

KULWINDER KARWAL
SARDULGARH, FEB 22



Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader Kumari Selja paid a courtesy visit to the residence of veteran Congress leader Ram Singh in Sardulgarh. Clarifying the purpose of her visit, she stated that the meeting was purely personal and not political in nature, emphasizing that it was intended to honour long-standing family ties. Kumari Selja noted that her family has shared close relations with Ram Singh's family since the time of her father, Chaudhary Dalbir Singh, who served as a Union Minister and held several key positions in the Government of India. She said the bond between the two families has remained strong over the years. Describing Ram Singh as a committed and loyal Congress worker, she remarked that he has always upheld party values and maintained family relationships with sincerity. "Ram Singh Ji has supported both me and my father since the early days of our political journey. I will always remain grateful for his unwavering support," she said. On the occasion, Shishpal, MLA from Kalanwali, also accompanied her to Sardulgarh. Several local Congress leaders, including Darshan Garg, Rishu Jain, and party workers, were present during the interaction.

SLIET, Longowal and SBSSU, Ferozepur sign MoU to foster academic excellence, research collaboration, and institutional dev

BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA, FEB 22



Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology (SLIET), Longowal and Shaheed Bhagat Singh State University Ferozepur, formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on February 18, 2026, marking a significant milestone in strengthening academic cooperation, research collaboration, and institutional development between the two premier institutions of Punjab.

The MoU was signed by Prof. Mani Kant Paswan, Director, SLIET, Longowal, Prof. Suresh Kumar Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SBSSU, Ferozepur, in the presence of senior academic and administrative representatives from both institutions. The agreement establishes a comprehensive framework for collaboration in key areas of mutual interest.

These include the development of joint research projects; exchange of faculty members, research scholars, and students; sharing of scientific and technical information; and co-organization of Short-Term Programmes (STP), Faculty Development Programmes (FDP), seminars, symposia, and conferences.

A major focus of the partnership will be on enhancing experiential learning opportunities through internships, apprenticeships, fieldwork, and industry engagement initiatives.

The MoU also emphasizes the mutual sharing of academic resources, expertise, and best practices, including curriculum enrichment and long-term collaboration planning for institutional growth and academic excellence.

Gauri Shankar Sewa Samiti organizes free medical camp



PATHANKOT (SHARANJEET): Gauri Shankar Sewa Samiti, under the leadership of social worker Sanjeev Malhan, organized a free medical camp at Shastri Nagar in the memory of late Charanjit Khosla and mother Anita Khosla.
On this occasion, about 230 patients were examined by doctors and free medicines were distributed to all the patients. Specialist doctors from Amandeep Hospital Pathankot , Dr. Shilpa and Dr. Narinder Sharma, performed their services in the camp. The doctors checked blood pressure, diabetes and other common diseases and provided appropriate advice and treatment to the patients.

On this occasion, the chief guest DSP Balbir Thakur while addressing said that in today's era where people cannot even spare time for their families, the selfless service rendered by the Gauri Shankar Sewa Samiti under the leadership of Sanjeev Malhan is a very commendable step. He said that Sanjeev Malhan is a personality dedicated to serving humanity and the society should extend maximum support in such initiatives.

International Mother Language Day celebrated at Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadaur

BALWINDER AZAD
BHADAUR, FEB 22



Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadaur which is working under the management of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Sri Amritsar Sahib.

For the all-round development of the students, various programs are organized by the institution from time to time. The purpose of which is to provide special information to the students regarding every subject. Keeping this purpose in mind, International Mother Language Day was celebrated in the institution. Regarding which Prof. Sukhpal Singh of the Department of Religion and Prof. Hardeep Singh of the Department of History told that under the able leadership of the head of the institution, Principal Malvinder Singh, a special seminar dedicated to International Mother Language Day was organized in the institution. In which Satnam Singh Salhopuri (Coordinator Sri Sehaj Path Sewa Sri Amritsar Sahib), Sukhvir Singh attended as the chief guest. Addressing the students, he said that Mother Language Day is being celebrated at the international level today. We should learn our mother tongue and respect other languages. Which has a deep connection with Gurbani. If we have to make Gurbani the basis of our life, then this is possible only through mother tongue. By doing Sehaj Path, the real purpose of life is known and joy is achieved.

Apart from this, he gave detailed information about the martyrdom of the Singhs involved in the Saka Nankana Sahib and Jaito de Morcha. He motivated all the students to do Sehaj Path. We should get information about mother tongue and history. College Principal Malwinder Singh thanked the guests and honored them with a token of honor.

Promotion from ASI to Sub-Inspector: Amerik Singh Grewal honored for dedicated services



BATHINDA (RANA SHARMA): Amerik Singh Grewal, who served for a long time as an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) at City Police Station Rampura, has been promoted to the rank of Sub-Inspector in recognition of his honesty, dedication, and responsible discharge of duties. The promotion reflects his commitment, discipline, and unwavering devotion to duty. During his service in various police stations, he played a significant role in maintaining law and order and carried out his responsibilities with sincerity and professionalism. His consistent performance and integrity have earned him appreciation within the department. On this occasion, District Police Chief Dr. Jyoti Yadav and SP City Narendra Singh congratulated him and encouraged him to continue serving with the same dedication in the future. Senior officials stated that officers like Amerik Singh Grewal are the pride of the police department. With his promotion to Sub-Inspector, there is a wave of happiness among his family members and colleagues. Local residents have also termed this achievement as a matter of pride and expressed hope that he will continue to contribute wholeheartedly to public service in the years ahead.

YUGMARG
Himachal
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 5

Youth held with heroin near Machhiyal Bridge in Kangra

AGENCY
DHARAMSHALA: The Panchrukhi Police Station has registered a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act after recovering suspected heroin from a youth in Kangra district on Saturday. Kangra district superintendent of police Ashok Rattan told UNI that on February 21, a police team recovered 0.99 grams of chitta (heroin) from Shubham, a resident of village Chaluhi, Post Office Rakkar, Tehsil Baijnath in Kangra district. SSP said that the recovery was made near the Machhiyal Bridge at Vyada. He said that a case has been registered under Sections 21, 61, and 85 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act at Panchrukhi Police Station, and further investigation into the case is underway.

NEWS BRIEF

Contractual service to be included for pensionary benefits

SHIMLA: Amid an intense legal battle over the extension of financial benefits to contractual and outsourced employees, the Himachal Pradesh government has withdrawn its recent clarification regarding counting of contractual service for pensionary benefits. According to an order issued by Himachal Pradesh Finance (Pension) Department instructions on February 16, 2026, have been withdrawn with immediate effect. Earlier to this, a new law was passed in the state assembly in winter session deleting the provision of promotion and pensionary benefits to outsource and contractual employees. The withdrawn instructions had provided clarification on counting contractual service for pension benefits in terms of the earlier Office Memorandum dated June 10, 2024, issued in the Sheela Devi case. According to the state's former employees leader this clarification would only cover the employees pensionary benefits and not the promotional benefits.

Rs. 8.97 cr released for rent assistance to disaster affected families

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, FEB 22



The state government has released Rs. 8.97 crore to provide rental assistance to disaster-affected families whose houses were completely damaged or rendered uninhabitable due to heavy monsoon rains in 2025. This financial support aims to ensure that affected families do not face difficulties in renting accommodation. The state government is providing rental assistance of Rs. 10,000 per family in urban areas and Rs. 5,000 per family in rural areas from its own resources. Under this initiative, 2,817 families in rural areas and 88 families in urban areas have benefited. Due to the monsoon-led disaster in 2025, approximately 16,488 families across the state were affected. During this period, 2,246 houses were completely damaged and 7,888 houses were partially damaged. A government spokesperson stated that, for the first time in the country, financial assistance for disaster victims have been increased significantly. Under a special relief package, compensation amounts have been enhanced multiple times. In this regard, the first installment of Rs. 141.61 crore has been released to beneficiaries for the reconstruction of damaged houses. The spokesperson added that over the past three years, almost all regions of the state have been affected by monsoon disasters, resulting in heavy losses to both private and public property. The estimated total loss to the state exceeds Rs. 16,500 crore. In 2023, the state government released a special relief package from its own resources to ensure that affected families did not face housing and livelihood difficulties. The assistance under the special relief package has been continued in 2025, with adequate financial aid being provided to the affected families. The spokesperson further stated that under the relief package, the assistance for completely damaged houses has been increased from Rs. 1.30 lakh to Rs. 7 lakh. For partially damaged houses, assistance of Rs. 1 lakh has been fixed. The relief amount for loss of household items has been increased from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 1 lakh for homeowners and Rs. 50,000 for tenants. Additionally, there was previously no provision for compensation for polyhouse damages or for removing debris and silt from houses.

Governor attends cultural evening of International Shivratri Mahotsav



DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, FEB 22

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla graced the last cultural evening of the International Shivratri Mahotsav as the chief guest. Lady Governor Janaki Shukla was also present on the occasion.

The concluding cultural evening was dedicated to Devadidev Mahadev and witnessed a spiritually charged atmosphere marked by devotion and enthusiasm. The highlight of the evening was a captivating performance by renowned singer Hansraj Raghuwanshi, who enthralled the audience with soulful renditions in praise of Lord Shiva. His popular bhajans and devotional numbers created a deeply devotional ambiance, drawing applause from the large gathering present at the venue.

The Governor said that the International Shivratri Mahotsav is not merely a festival but a vibrant expression of Himachal Pradesh's rich cultural heritage and deep-rooted spiritual traditions. "Such festivals strengthen our cultural identity and promote unity, devotion and social harmony," he said. Earlier, the Governor and the Lady Governor were felicitated by the district administration as a mark of respect and gratitude for their gracious presence.

Congress's performance is proof of its ideological bankruptcy: Sanjay Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, FEB 22



Congress's performance at the AI Summit is a testament to its desperation and ideological bankruptcy. He said that today, Congress has become synonymous with "top-politics-less, shameless, brainless, and faceless."

He said that while India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is showing the world the direction of technology and artificial intelligence, Congress workers are making a despicable attempt to tarnish the country's international image by stripping off their clothes.

What these Youth Congress workers did at Bharat Mandapam is not only intolerable but has also tarnished the image of every Indian, especially the younger generation, globally.

He said that the topless Congress leadership has now been completely exposed. They have no issues left and no morals. Such a performance in front of foreign delegates reflects the Congress's utterly devoid of dignity and dignity.

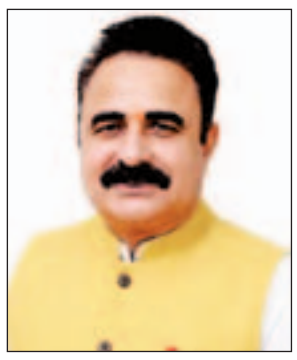
He said that insulting India on international platforms has become part of Congress's DNA. It is extremely shameful to disrupt a prestigious event like the summit. When the world is discussing future technology, the Congress party has neither vision nor understanding.

Their opposition is completely irrational and driven by stupidity. ? Rahul Gandhi, on the instructions of his political guru and guide Sam Pitroda, used to work to tarnish India's image abroad.

Now, on the instructions of the same person, Rahul Gandhi has conspired with the Youth Congress workers to tarnish India's image globally while staying in India. Sharma said that the people of a progressive country like India will never accept such chaotic politics.

Listening to suggestions is the Education Board's top priority: Dr. Rajesh Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, FEB 22



The "Pensioners' Mahasammelan" organized by the Himachal Pradesh School Education Board was not just a formal event, but a unique confluence of gratitude and respect. Board Chairman Dr. Rajesh Sharma praised the organizing committee behind this successful event.

He said that the hard work of every committee member and the Secretary's efficient administrative coordination made this event memorable. Dr. Sharma particularly highlighted the commendable manner in which the organizing committee executed this conference. The planning, overseen by the Board Secretary, ensured that retired employees who had served the Board for years felt a sense of dignity and importance.

The Chairman described this teamwork as a shining example of the Board's efficiency. The biggest achievement of this event was the positive response from pensioners. Former employees who attended the conference expressed their gratitude to the Board management and said that such heartfelt respect, after retirement, invigorates them at this stage of their lives. Pensioners shared that this initiative has further strengthened their emotional bond with the Board. The Board Chairman assured the pensioners that protecting their interests and listening to their suggestions is the Board's top priority. He clarified that this successful initiative by the Organizing Committee will now become a tradition and such conferences will be held regularly in the future to ensure the welfare of the Board's "invaluable asset," its pensioners.

Dalhousie Cantonment residents oppose relocation of sub post office

SUBHASH MAHAJAN
DALHOUSIE: Residents of Dalhousie Cantonment have expressed strong resentment over the decision to shift the local sub post office to another location. The post office, functioning since the British era, has been providing banking, mail booking, and delivery services not only to cantonment residents but also to people from nearby villages. Locals say the cantonment has a small population and limited commercial activity, and the post office's presence helped maintain footfall in the area, indirectly supporting local trade. They have appealed to MLA D. S. Thakur and MP Rajeev Bhardwaj to intervene and ensure that the facility is not closed or relocated. Postal department sub-division inspector Amit Kumar said orders for relocation and merger of the sub post office were issued from Shimla. He explained that departmental rules require a minimum distance of five kilometres between two post offices, whereas the distance between the Dalhousie Cantonment sub post office and the main Dalhousie post office is about three kilometres. He added that the sub office does not meet several other departmental criteria as well.



HPSEBL to release arrears for pre-2016 pensioners above 70

AGENCY
SHIMLA: The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEBL) has issued an office order announcing payment of arrears to pre-2016 pensioners and family pensioners aged 70 years and above, following revision of pension and family pension with effect from January 1, 2016.

According to the order issued by the Board's Secretariat (R&E) wing, the decision has been taken in continuation of earlier office orders dated October 12, 2022, May 15, 2024, and August 26, 2025.

The Board has adopted, in toto, the decisions and instructions issued by the Principal Secretary (Finance) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh vide Office Memorandum dated January 27, 2026.

The order states that arrears arising out of the pension revision would now be paid to eligible pensioners and family pensioners who had retired prior to January 1, 2016, and have attained the age of 70 years or above. The move is expected to benefit a significant number of senior pensioners who have been awaiting settlement of revised pension dues for nearly a decade.

The Superintending Engineer (IT) has been directed to upload the order on the official website of HPSEBL for public access.

The decision is being viewed as a relief measure for elderly pensioners and family pensioners, ensuring compliance with the state government's revised pension policy and addressing long-pending financial adjustments.

HP School Lecturers' Association holds first general house in Una; district team felicitated

AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB, FEB 22



Shashi Saini, President of the Una District Executive of the Himachal Pradesh School Lecturers' Association, and the district team organized the first General House of the Una District Executive of the Lecturers' Association at the Government Senior Secondary School, Samur. In addition to all the district office bearers, all the office bearers of the State Executive from the Unit Head Una District were personally invited. As a result, a large number of Lecturers' Association representatives participated in this General House. Rajan Sharma, Provincial Chief Media Secretary of the Lecturers' Association, stated that District President Shashi Saini and his team always strongly raise the demands of the Lecturers' Association. Today, at the General House, several issues related to lecturers were discussed, including a common demand charter. During the meeting, District President Shashi Saini stated that his objective is to prioritize the problems of the Lecturers' Association and ensure their resolution. He added that he is making every effort to fulfill the purpose for which his colleagues elected him victorious in the elections. His goal is to resolve the demands of the Lecturers' Association with everyone's cooperation. The objective is, on the other hand, on the successful organization of the first General House of the Lecturer's Association, the Provincial Chief Media Secretary of the Lecturer's Association, Rajan Sharma, former State Chairman Principal Vinod Banyal, Satpal Vishisht, Dinesh Koondel, Vihari Lal, Vikram Thakur, Vikas Ratan, Mukesh Salaria, Suresh Kumar, Rajiv Kaushal, Rajiv Kumar.

Rohit Thakur welcomed on arrival in Chamba, says school rationalization aimed at improving quality

SUBHASH MAHAJAN
CHAMBA, FEB 22



Rohit Thakur was accorded a warm welcome at the circuit house in Chamba by MLA Neeraj Nayar, Deputy Commissioner Mukesh Repswal, Superintendent of Police Vijay Kumar Saklani, Deputy Director of School Education Vikas Mahajan, district officials, and local residents on his arrival.

Interacting with the media, the minister said the Education Department would assess on-ground arrangements in the district and consider necessary steps for the future. He stated that the ongoing rationalization of schools with low enrollment in the state is being carried out to strengthen the quality of education.

He noted that over the past decade nearly 90,000 schools across the country have undergone rationalization, with the primary objective of ensuring optimal and effective use of resources. He added that many of the schools rationalized in the state had zero or very low enrollment and that the process has been conducted according to prescribed standards.

Thakur expressed confidence that better utilization of resources would help ensure improved educational quality in the state. During his visit, he also listened to public grievances and resolved several issues. Various organizations and officials of the Education Department honored him on the occasion.

Deputy CM pays tribute at Rudranand Ashram ceremony in Una

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, FEB 22



Mukesh Agnihotri on Sunday visited Dera Baba Shri Rudranand Ashram at Nari in Una district and paid floral tributes during the first death anniversary observance of the late Vedantacharya Swami Sugreevanand Ji Maharaj.

Recalling the saint's spiritual legacy, the Deputy Chief Minister said the revered guru embodied penance, sacrifice, and devotion, and dedicated his life to public welfare and spiritual upliftment. He described his teachings and life as a lasting source of inspiration for society.

Agnihotri also attended the ceremonial installation of Swami Hemanand Ji Maharaj as the new head of the ashram and extended his best wishes, expressing confidence that under his guidance the institution would take its spiritual, service, and social initiatives to greater heights. He said Swami Sugreevanand Ji Maharaj was a rare saint and an eminent scholar of all four Vedas, adding that the entire state had mourned his passing. He noted that the saint's last rites were performed with state honours and a holiday had been declared in the district as a mark of respect. The Deputy Chief Minister said the saint tradition forms the foundation of Indian culture, guiding society toward moral values, service, and harmony. Referring to Himachal Pradesh as Devbhoomi, he said the state government remains committed to preserving religious institutions and promoting cultural heritage. The ashram premises remained filled with devotion and spiritual fervour during the programme.

Bilaspur's pride shines bright: Gaurav Thakur secures 99.40 percentile in UGC-NET

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR, FEB 22



In a moment of immense pride for the region, Gaurav Thakur, a distinguished student of the English Department at Government College Bilaspur, has secured an outstanding 99.40 percentile in the prestigious UGC-NET examination. His remarkable achievement has elevated not only his personal academic journey but also the stature of his institution and the entire Bilaspur region.

Hailing from village Pohni (Post Office Namhol, Tehsil Sadar), Gaurav is the son of Mr. Mast Ram, a businessman, and Mrs. Sunita Devi, a homemaker. His elder brother serves in the Merchant Navy. Gaurav completed both his undergraduate (7.47 CGPA) and postgraduate (7.16 CGPA) studies from the same college, consistently demonstrating discipline, dedication, and academic excellence. With this success, Gaurav has qualified for the post of Assistant Professor and is now eligible to pursue a Ph.D. He credited his achievement to the blessings and guidance of his parents and teachers. Sharing his preparation strategy, he emphasized balancing both NET papers, solving previous year question papers, taking mock tests, and mastering time management and conceptual clarity. College Principal Dr. P.S. Katwal congratulated Gaurav and the English Department, noting that two other students also cleared NET, reflecting the institution's academic strength. Gaurav expressed his aspiration to become a teacher who inspires students and instills life values alongside knowledge. His achievement stands as a beacon of inspiration, proving that determination and consistent effort lead to extraordinary success.

Girls' education under threat: Kamal Gautam warns of massive BJP agitation over closure of Bilaspur Girls' School

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY



BILASPUR: In a sharp political storm after former Municipal Council President and BJP District Spokesperson Kamal Gautam strongly condemned the state government's decision to close the Senior Secondary Girls' School, Bilaspur. Calling the move "deeply unfortunate and arbitrary," Gautam asserted that the future of hundreds of girls from Bilaspur city and adjoining panchayats has been placed at risk. He alleged that despite attempts by certain Congress leaders to deny the closure and mislead the public with claims of reopening, no official notification has been issued to restore the school. "The people are fully aware of the gap between their words and actions," he remarked, warning that if the order to reopen the institution is not released immediately, the BJP will launch a massive public movement in support of students and their families. Gautam further criticized the Congress government for allegedly shutting down multiple institutions over the past three and a half years instead of strengthening educational and administrative infrastructure. He cited the closure or shifting of key establishments including the Jal Shakti Department's division office at AIIMS, the Harlog sub-tehsil, PHC Barmana, the Jal Shakti sub-division at Kuthera, and the historic M&T Circle operating in Bilaspur since 1971. He also pointed to the closure of 28 primary and middle schools and the Bilaspur Girls' ITI in May 2025. Accusing the government of undermining public interest, Gautam stated that the education department and state government would bear responsibility for any consequences arising from public unrest if the Girls' School is not restored without delay.

YUGMARG
Nation
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 6

MLA Kamlesh Thakur distributes Rs 5.02 lakh relief cheques to 41 beneficiaries

ANIL KUMAR
DEHRA: Kamlesh Thakur, MLA from Dehra and wife of Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, distributed financial assistance cheques worth about Rs 5.02 lakh to 41 beneficiaries under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund during a programme held at the joint office complex in Dehra. Beneficiaries and their family members from various panchayats of the constituency were present on the occasion. The assistance was provided to eligible recipients for medical treatment, marriage support, and other urgent financial needs. During the programme, the MLA interacted with beneficiaries, listened to their concerns, and assured them that the state government stands firmly with every needy person. Addressing the gathering, she said the relief fund is an important welfare initiative of the Government of Himachal Pradesh aimed at providing timely assistance to economically weaker and distressed families during emergencies. She noted that in cases of serious illness, family crises, or unforeseen situations, such financial aid acts as vital support for affected households.

NEWS BRIEF

Wheat procurement in Una district to begin from April 8

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: The Himachal Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation has been appointed the nodal agency for procurement of wheat from farmers in Una district. District Controller, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Rajiv Sharma said wheat procurement will take place from April 8 to June 15 at grain markets in Rampur and Takarla. He said the government has fixed the minimum support price (MSP) for wheat at Rs 2,585 per quintal to ensure farmers receive a fair and assured price for their produce. Farmers in the district can register online for selling their crop after March 1 through the official portal. After the token system becomes operational, farmers will be able to book slots for specific dates and bring their produce to mandis accordingly. Officials said this arrangement will help farmers sell their crops conveniently near their homes. The payment for procured wheat will be transferred directly to farmers' bank accounts through an online system, ensuring transparency, security and ease in the payment process. For further information, farmers may contact the office of the District Controller, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Una, or the regional manager of the corporation at Hamirpur through the official telephone numbers issued by the department.

Three-day "Punjab Sakhi Shakti Mela" in Barnala from tomorrow: DC

KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: A three-day "Punjab Sakhi Shakti Mela" is being organized with great enthusiasm on February 24, 25 and 26 in the local grain market in district Barnala. Giving information in this regard, Deputy Commissioner Barnala, Mr. Harpreet Singh (IAS)



said that this fair is a special initiative for the people of the district, in which many interesting activities have been planned. The Deputy Commissioner said that exhibition stalls will be set up by various self-help groups and government departments in this fair. Highlighting the main attractions of the fair, he said that wonderful cultural performances will be given by children for the entertainment of the audience.

PM Modi highlights India's AI breakthroughs, cultural heritage at AI Impact Summit

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, FEB 22



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that the world got to see India's amazing capabilities in the field of AI at the recently concluded India Impact Global AI Summit, held at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital. Addressing the nation in the 131st episode of his weekly radio programme, 'Mann Ki Baat', PM Modi noted that during this period, India also launched three Made in India AI ModelsThe summit, he said brought together leaders from multiple countries, industry experts, innovators, and representatives from the start-up sector. The summit gave him the opportunity to meet world leaders and CEOs of leading technology companies."This summit is a turning point in how the world will use the power of AI in the future," he said. During the AI Summit exhibition, PM Modi highlighted two innovations that particularly impressed global leaders. The first was at the Amul booth, where AI applications in livestock management were demonstrated. He explained how AI is assisting in animal treatment and how 24/7 AI-powered systems are helping farmers track their dairy operations and monitor livestock efficiently."I showcased many innovations to world leaders. I would like to mention two things in particular: The first innovation was at the Amul booth. It was explained how AI is helping in treating animals and how, with the help of a 24/7 AI assistant, farmers are keeping track of their dairy operations and livestock. The second innovation focused on preserving India's cultural heritage. Leaders from across the world were surprised to see how, with the help of AI, our ancient scriptures, traditional wisdom, and manuscripts are being preserved and adapted for today's generation," he said.The Prime Minister also highlighted the Sushruta Samhita display, explaining, "The first step showed how the image quality of manuscripts was enhanced with the help of technology and made readable. The second step converted this text image into a machine-readable format. Next, an AI avatar was created, and the text was translated into Indian and foreign languages."He added, "World leaders showed great interest in learning about Bharat's ancient knowledge through this modern avatar."PM Modi emphasised that such initiatives showcase both India's technological progress and its rich cultural heritage to the world.The three models launched at the Summit include- Sarvam AI's LLMs, Gnani.ai's Vachana text-to-speech model, and BharatGen's Param2 17B multilingual foundational model.

Union Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda appreciates Tethys Fossil Museum; assures visit again

BUREAU
KASAULI, FEB 22



Jagat Prakash Nadda Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, interacted with Dr. Ritesh Arya near the Tethys Fossil Museum, Kasauli, during his visit to the region. During the meeting, Dr. Ritesh Arya, Guinness World Record holder and Founder of the Tethys Fossil Museum, briefed the Minister about the scientific significance of the museum and its rare fossil collections that document the geological evolution of the Tethys Ocean and the up-liftment of the Himalayas. The discussion focused on the importance of geo-heritage conservation, promotion of geo-tourism, and strengthening geo-education in Himachal Pradesh. Nadda appreciated the dedicated efforts of Dr. Arya in establishing the Tethys Fossil Museum and promoting scientific awareness and sustainable tourism in the region. He emphasized that greater public understanding of geology and environmental processes is essential for addressing the geological challenges faced by the state, including landslides, slope instability, groundwater stress, dam and tunneling-related issues, and climate-related vulnerabilities-particularly in the context of building sustainable infrastructure in hill regions. Highlighting the importance of integrating science with policy and development, Mr Nadda underscored that geo education and responsible geo tourism can contribute significantly to sustainable solutions and long-term resilience in hill states like Himachal Pradesh.

Ignoring stress can be detrimental to the brain: Dr. Himanshu Jain

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, FEB 22



D.R. Jain Neurocare and Multispecialty Hospital, Kurukshetra, organized a free general medical and consultation camp at the Sabzi Mandi Ground in Sector 3. Dr. Himanshu Jain, brain and spine neurosurgeon, emphasized the importance of regularly checking blood pressure to prevent high blood pressure-related illnesses. He provided valuable information about brain-related diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease, which is associated with a deficiency of acetylcholine. This disease destroys brain cells (neurons), leading to a decline in primary memory, judgment and reasoning, motor coordination and recognition. Memory loss is common with aging. Some people mistake it for Alzheimer's, but it can also be related to stress or depression from isolation. There are many ways to improve memory, which can significantly control this problem. Some encourage reading, Sudoku, crossword puzzles, or board games. Additionally, emphasis is placed on increasing social activity and improving lifestyle. This includes physical activity, good exercise, and a healthy lifestyle, says Dr Jain. Through the 2077th free medical camp organized under the guidance of Dr. Sanjay Sharma, health services have been provided to millions of needy people so far. In this camp, 146 patients were provided free consultation, necessary tests like blood sugar, BP, hemoglobin, pulse rate and medicines. On this occasion, Dr. Sanjay Sharma said, "Medical service is not just a profession for me, but a sacred duty dedicated to humanity.

Silver Oaks School hosts two-day annual sports meet with great fervour



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA
RAMPURA PHUL: Silver Oaks School Rampura Road, Bathinda organised a spectacular two-day Sports Meet on 20th and 21st February 2026, celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship, teamwork and holistic development. The grand event was conducted for pupils from Nursery to Grade VIII and witnessed enthusiastic participation from young athletes across all classes. The distinguished guests for the occasion were Mrs. Preetkamal Brar, who was invited as Special Guest, Inderjit Singh Brar, Chairman, Silver Oaks Group of Schools, School Director Barninder Paul Sekhon, Director of Silver Oaks Sports Academy Navdeep Singh, Principal of Silver Oaks School, Dabwali Road, Ravinder Sra, Principal of Silver Oaks School, Sushant CITY- II, Neetu Arora and Jatinder Singh from Gyanmanthan. The dignitaries were warmly received by the school Principal Chhaya Vinocha, who expressed her sincere gratitude for their presence and continued support. The school also extended a warm welcome to the parents who were specially invited to grace the occasion and cheer for the budding champions, making the event even more memorable.

Hry CM's rallies are theatrics, Punjab needs relief not rhetoric: Dewan

SARBJIT SUFI



LUDHIANA: Former District Congress Committee Ludhiana (Urban) President and Ex-Chairman of the Punjab Large Industrial Development Board, Pawan Dewan, has come down heavily on Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, terming his visits to Punjab ahead of the 2027 elections as "petty vote-bank politics." Dewan said that if Saini really cares for Punjab, instead of holding rallies and programmes, his party should focus on solving the state's real problems. Dewan pointed out that Punjab needs clearance of pending central grants, a relief package for struggling industries and concrete steps to revive the agrarian economy. "These issues, not political shows, will decide the future of Punjab," he said in a statement issued here today. Referring to Saini's address at the Purvanchal Samman Rally in Ludhiana as "mere optics," Dewan said that if the BJP had shown genuine concern for migrants, Ludhiana's once-thriving industry would not be gasping for survival. When the industrial backbone is crumbling, its labour force—predominantly migrants—inevitably suffers, he added. Dewan asserted that Punjab faces step-motherly treatment, with the NDA government failing to disburse crucial central grants, particularly the Rural Development Fund (RDF), a lifeline for Punjab's agrarian and rural economy. He also accused Saini of blindly defending the Narendra Modi government, even as ordinary citizens struggle to secure even three meals a day, adding that theatrics cannot conceal the truth.

Govt should maintain 16% VAT on petrol and 9% VAT on diesel in annual budget: Garg

MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR, FEB 22



Meeting of traders was held under chairmanship of Bajrang Garg, president of Haryana Pradesh Vyapar Mandal and former chairman of Haryana Confed.Meeting discussed reducing taxes increased in Haryana's annual budget. Addressing gathering, Bajrang Garg, provincial president of Vyapar Mandal, said that BJP government has imposed an economic burden on public in Haryana by increasing VAT on petrol and diesel. Government should impose a 16 percent VAT on petrol and a 9 percent VAT on diesel in Haryana's annual budget, as before. During previous Congress regime, VAT on petrol was approximately 16 percent and on diesel approximately 9 percent. After coming to power in Haryana, the BJP government has imposed a 26.25 percent tax on petrol and 16.8 percent on diesel, imposing a financial burden on public, which is completely wrong. Bajrang Garg said that during previous government, there was no market fee on fruits and vegetables, but this government has imposed a one % market fee on vegetables and fruits. Government should have abolished market fees on vegetables and fruits in the annual budget as promised. Bajrang Garg said that after implementation of GST, government should have abolished market fees as promised, which it did not do. Government should provide relief to farmers and commission agents by eliminating market fees on grains in annual budget, while there should be no tax on grains, vegetables, fruits, sugar, textiles, and fertilizers. Due to tax on this item, common needy people are facing financial burden and the traders are becoming dominated by bureaucracy and inspector raj, which is not right.

Youth Sports Association Ladwa organises ceremony to honour national level medal winning players

KARAMBIR
LADWA, FEB 22



An award giving ceremony was organized by the Youth Sports Association, Ladwa on Sunday. This ceremony was organized to honor the players who won medals at the national level.

In which Chief Minister's Office in-charge Kailash Saini attended as the chief guest, while the ceremony was presided over by social worker Sachin Garg. District Sports Officer Manoj Kumar and President of Bharat Labour Employees of India, Kamal Saini were present as special guests in the ceremony.

On this occasion, the chief saint of Akshardham Temple, Gyan Mangal, also attended the ceremony and blessed the medal winning players, saying that along with sports, it is very important for the players to have good values. Only good values in the players play a decisive role in making them successful in the competition.

The function started with lighting of lamps. All the guests who came to the function were welcomed by the President of the Association Vijay Bhushan Taneja and the Coach and General Secretary of the organization Chaman Lal also expressed his gratitude to all the guests. The felicitation function concluded with the National Anthem. On this occasion, the Vice President of the organization Sarpanch Rajendra Bapdi, Rosie Singal, Mukesh Sharma, Gyan Singh Brahman, Sahil Aadan, Vicky Numberdar, Jitendra Chaudhary, Gurdeep Bedi, Sahil, Sunil Kumar, Sardar Sarvjeet Singh, Rakesh Khurana, Laxman Das, Neelam Sharma, Anu, Pawan, Jani Malik, Sanjeev, Mandeep, Prateek Sethi, Darshan Lal etc. dignitaries were present.

Mann Ki Baat is powerful platform to recognize unsung heroes: Gangwa



MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR: Public Works and Public Health Engineering Minister Ranbir Gangwa, along with party workers listened to PM Narendra Modi's popular monthly radio program Mann Ki Baat with a group of party workers at booth number 107, Mile Gate. Workers were particularly enthusiastic and everyone listened to program with seriousness and attention. Gangwa said, Mann Ki Baat spreads positive energy and inspiration to every corner of country. This program is not just a medium of communication but a powerful platform to recognize unsung heroes of society who are silently contributing to nation-building." He said that PM's thoughts raised public awareness on important issues such as cleanliness, environmental protection, women's empowerment, youth innovation, self-reliant India, digital empowerment and social harmony. The Minister stated that this effort by the Prime Minister unites the countrymen and inspires them to actively participate in national causes. He urged party workers to disseminate the messages conveyed in "Mann Ki Baat" to the public and promote social service, cleanliness campaigns, environmental protection, and public welfare in their respective areas.

30th Annual Fair celebrated at Dev Samaj College for Women, Ferozepur

TAPINDER SINGH
FEROZEPUR, FEB 22



Dev Samaj College for Women Ferozepur, which is an A Plus grade college affiliated to Panjab University Chandigarh in the field of education, social and cultural activities. This institution, with the blessings of Mr. Nirmal Singh Dhillon, is touching new heights in education and social activities with the entrepreneurial efforts of Chairperson Dr. Agnes Dhillon, Advocate Ajay Batta and College Principal Dr. Sangeeta. Under this series, the 30th Annual Fair was celebrated with great pomp at Dev Samaj College for Women, Ferozepur. In this fair, Advocate Mr. Ajay Batta (Secretary), Dr. Sunita Rangbula (Managing Member), Madam Pritpal Kaur (Coordinator, Dev Samaj Senior Secondary School Ferozepur) and Madam Rajwinder Kaur (Principal, Dev Samaj Education College Ferozepur) were specially present. The fair was inaugurated by the students of the Music Department singing the welcome song. Mrs. Lindhia, IAS, Sub Divisional Magistrate specially attended the fair as the chief guest. College Principal Dr. Sangeeta, while addressing the students regarding the fair, said that fairs are an integral part of our culture and traditions. The principal respectfully welcomed the chief guest. On this occasion, Madam Lindhia, IAS, Sub Divisional Magistrate, while appreciating the fair, said that such fairs play an important role in giving the right direction to the younger generation and connecting them with their culture and heritage.

Free health check-up camp held at The Discovery World School, Ladwa

KARAMBIR
LADWA: A free health check-up camp was held at The Discovery World School in Ladwa on Sunday. A team of doctors from Adesh Medical College and Hospital examined and prescribed treated approximately 150 children. School director Dr. Rohit Garg provided this information. He added that the camp examined the children's eyes, nose, ears, throat, blood pressure and sugar levels, and also distributed medicines to the patients. He said that the main objective of the camp was to identify early health problems in children and make them aware about a healthy lifestyle. School Principal Ruby Tyagi said that their aim was not only bookish knowledge, but the all-round development of children. This camp is an important step in maintaining the physical and mental health of children. Along with the checkup in the camp, important advice was also given by the doctors regarding nutrition and hygiene. On this occasion, Dr. Pooja, Dr. Manish Bansal, Dr. Sakshi and senior dentist Pinky along with school staff and children were also present.



Scholarship and new admission test held at Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Sr Sec School, Kurukshetra

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, FEB 22



The scholarship test and new admission examinations were successfully held at Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Senior Secondary School, Kurukshetra, located on Railway Road on Sunday. Students from various states, including Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and many other schools, participated enthusiastically in the exams. Well-organized arrangements were made for the examination on the school campus. The examination was conducted in a peaceful and transparent environment. The school management provided adequate seating, drinking water and other necessary facilities for the students. The school's Principal Anil Madan said that the purpose of this scholarship test was to encourage meritorious and talented students and provided them financial assistance so that they can get quality education. He told the parents that the foundation stone of this school was laid by the most revered Sarsanghchalak Madhav Rao Sadashiv Gowalkar (Guruji) on November 19, 1946. His aim was to provide such a cultured education which would lead to the all-round development of the children. After that, Principal Anil Madan congratulated all the participants and wished them a bright future.

The exam results will be declared by the school soon. On this occasion, the school's manager Virendra Walia congratulated all the parents and students on their arrival at the school and on the successful conduct of the exam. On this occasion, the Vice President of the school's management committee Ashok Rosha, hostel guardian Jang Bahadur Singla and treasurer Ramesh Gulati were present.

Yugmarg
Haryana
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 7

NEWS BRIEFS

Fair to be organised by Haryana Agricultural University in Ladwa from February 28

RANVIR PARASHAR

KAITHAL: Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University will organise a two-day Agriculture Development Fair at the Grain Market, Ladwa (Kurukshetra) from February 28 to March 1. Main theme of this fair is 'Water Conservation - More Crop per Drop', aimed at making farmers aware of advanced water management techniques and motivating them towards higher production with less water. Vice Chancellor of University, Prof. Baldev Raj Kamboj stated that agricultural and industrial exhibition will be held during Krishi Vikas Mela, showcasing modern agricultural equipment, improved seeds and latest technologies. Soil and water sample testing will be available for farmers at nominal fee. Additionally, testing and diagnosis of diseased crops, crop competitions, home science information and question-and-answer sessions with agricultural experts will also be organized. Vice Chancellor stated that main attractions of Krishi Vikas Mela will be information and sales of improved seeds for Kharif crops .

Mahatma Jyotirao and Mata Phule lit lamp of education in times of darkness: CM

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, FEB 22



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini on Sunday inaugurated the International Saini Bhawan at Mangolpuri, Delhi. On the occasion, he also unveiled statues of Gautama Buddha, Jyotirao Phule, Savitribai Phule and Shoor Sain installed at the premises. The Chief Minister also announced a grant of Rs. 51 lakh for the Savitribai Jyotirao Phule Trust.

While addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said that Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Mata Savitribai Phule lit the lamp of education in a time of darkness. He said the ceremony reflects the ideas, values and ideals that gave direction to Indian society, awakened new consciousness and strengthened the path of social justice, education and equality. It is a proud moment that statues of these great personalities were unveiled in Mangolpuri, calling it a tribute to the spirit that brought light in times of darkness.

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that Mahatma Jyotirao and Mata Savitribai Phule are not merely names, but two pillars of social reform who laid a strong foundation for equality and education. At a time when educating daughters was considered a crime, Mata Savitribai Phule worked to advance knowledge. They fought against caste discrimination and injustice, using the pen as a sword and spreading the light of reform through their ideas.

The Chief Minister said that these statues will continue to remind us that there is no weapon greater than education, no religion greater than equality and no national duty greater than humanity. He urged everyone to encourage their daughters to move forward and raise their voices against discrimination. He also called upon people to work together to ensure that education reaches the last person in society.

On this occasion, Trust President, Sh. Shripal Saini briefed the Chief Minister about various activities undertaken by the Trust and presented its demands.

Rajya Sabha MP, Sh. Rajendra Singh, former MP, Sh. Raj Kumar Saini, former Minister, Sh. Dharam Singh, Uttar Pradesh Minister, Sh. Jaswant Saini, Gulab Singh and several other dignitaries were present at the event.

Karnal activists to join February 25 assembly gherao under MGNREGA bachao campaign

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, FEBRUARY 22





District Congress Rural President Dr. Rajesh Vaidh Valmiki said on Saturday that hundreds of workers from Karnal district will participate in the February 25 gherao of the Haryana Legislative Assembly in Chandigarh as part of the nationwide "MGNREGA Bachao Sangram" campaign. Addressing committee members at the rural Congress office, he criticized the central government, alleging that recent policy changes are aimed at dismantling the rural employment scheme and weakening workers' rights.

He said the campaign began in Karnal on January 10 and volunteers have since been visiting villages across the district to inform labourers about what he described as the dilution of their rights. He reiterated demands to withdraw the VB-Gram-G law, restore MGNREGA as a rights-based law, and reinstate the right to work and the authority of panchayats.

Valmiki termed the new law a "well-planned conspiracy" to end one of the country's most significant poverty-alleviation programmes, claiming the scheme earlier provided a safety net to five to six crore rural families annually during crises. He argued that employment would no longer remain a legal entitlement but depend on government discretion, and alleged that decision-making powers would shift entirely to the Centre, reducing panchayats to clerical roles.

He further claimed that only panchayats notified by the Centre would receive work, some would be denied funds, and predetermined budget caps could halt employment once allocations are exhausted. He also alleged that guaranteed wage notifications linked to inflation would end and that work would not be available for 60 days during peak agricultural seasons, when villagers need it most. He criticized the use of biometrics, saying it could exclude poor and less-educated workers, and alleged that the Centre's share of wage funding had been reduced from 100 percent to 60 percent, increasing the burden on states.

Valmiki also condemned the removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name from the law and outlined the campaign's phases. Preparatory meetings were held at state Congress headquarters on January 8, district-level press conferences on January 10, and one-day fasts in front of statues of Mahatma Gandhi or B. R. Ambedkar at district headquarters on January 11. From January 12 to 29, village-level meetings and outreach drives were conducted, during which letters from Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi were distributed to local representatives and workers. Peaceful protests were also held at ward and block levels on January 30.

He said the third phase will culminate with the assembly gherao on February 25. District-level demonstrations outside deputy commissioner or district magistrate offices were scheduled between January 31 and February 6, followed by four major regional rallies organised by the Indian National Congress from February 16 to 25.

Valmiki maintained that the movement would be fought at panchayat, block, district, and state levels, not just in Delhi, and claimed the new law guarantees neither employment nor assured financial support to states. He also alleged that fixing a 60:40 funding ratio between the Centre and states violates constitutional provisions and said the law's validity would be challenged in court. He added that when the employment guarantee law was passed in 2005, it had been adopted unanimously after review by a standing committee.

Former MLA Rakesh Kamboj, District Vice President Krishna Sharma Bastara, Teji Maan, District Vice President Sanjay Mahala, Mitrapal Sharma, Rajesh Chaudhary, Nitin Malhotra, Amit Barana, Sachin Budanpar, Rajat Lathar, Rajpal Sharma, Vishwanath Sharma and many other Congress workers were present in the meeting.

Hindu conference concludes at Lal Dwara Temple, Yamunanagar

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, FEB 22



One hundred thousand Hindu Conferences are being held across the country to discuss who Hindus are, why they are divided by caste and class, and why they are divided. In this series, the Rampura Basti Mandal organized a Hindu Conference at Shri Lal Dwara Temple in Yamunanagar. A large number of women, men, youth, and elders participated. Speaking on the occasion, Man Singh of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) said that such a conference is necessary to understand who Hindus are, their history, and to unite Hindus. He said that while we are divided into different castes and classes, we are all Sanatanis and Hindus. Until we unite, our identity will remain undiscovered. Speaking on the occasion, ISKCON's Divya Purush Maharaj said that we must inculcate values in our families.

When going to the temple, take your children along and explain to them the importance of worship. When we improve our families, our neighborhoods, state, and country will automatically improve. He said that we respect saints and great men in both happiness and sorrow. We should respect them at all times, wherever we meet them. On this occasion, children of various age groups presented programs related to patriotism and Hindutva. The Bhajan Mandali from Shri Lal Dwara Temple, the Bhajan Mandali from Shri Hanuman Rampura, and the Bhajan Mandali from Shri Guru Ravidas Temple Tejali attempted to raise awareness through bhajans. Organizing committee chairman Davinder Mehta, vice president Rajesh Sondhi, Sanjay Mittal, Dr. Harsh Sharma, Harendra Nair, Som Prakash Oberoi, Advocate Sumit Mani, Ujjwal Agarwal, Professor Om Prakash Saini, Neeru Chauhan, Lal Dwara Temple Committee chairman Ramesh Mehta, Acharya Gopalraj from Shri Lal Dwara Temple etc.

Students of Pratap Public School share message on friendship between birds and animals

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI, FEBRUARY 22



A programme was presented at Pratap Public School, Taraori. The school campus was decorated with nature-themed decorations, including attractive props depicting trees, plants, leaves, flowers, and the sun, earth, water, and air. The program began with the lighting of lamps. The second-grade students presented a play based on a beautiful story. In the play, the children depicted the sun, earth, air, and water as life's friends and explained that they all provide us with everything without any discrimination. The children conveyed the message that just as nature shares everything with everyone, we too should take care of each other. During the play, the children cited examples of birds and animals and explained how they help each other and live in harmony. The children made their presentation extremely impressive by using beautiful and creative props related to trees, birds, animals, rivers, clouds, and the sun. Following this, the children performed a melodious song based on nature and sharing. Through the song, the children conveyed the message that it is our responsibility to save water, keep the air clean, protect trees, and share with everyone. Following the song, the children performed an emotional dance, in which they demonstrated love, care, and partnership with nature through their expressions. The children's performances were simple yet very impressive. During the program, the teacher administered the oath to the children to protect nature, love, sharing, and good behavior. The children pledged to protect water, air, and the earth, be kind to animals and birds, and live in harmony with one another. On this occasion, school director Pithi Chaudhary said that developing a love for nature and a spirit of sharing in children is a necessity in today's times.

Subhash Chandra criticizes Congress over protest against AI summit

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: Subhash Chandra, executive vice chairman of Swachh Bharat Mission Haryana, sharply criticized the Indian National Congress over protests against the artificial intelligence summit held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. In a press statement, he said the demonstration by Youth Congress members was inappropriate and harmed the country's image on an international platform.



He said the global summit showcased India's intelligence, talent, and innovation capabilities to the world, and staging protests at such an important event was not only unfortunate but also against national interest. Calling it an act that undermines the country's prestige, he added that India is currently being seen globally as a rising power in artificial intelligence and technological innovation, and protesting at such a moment reflects a narrow political mindset.

Chandra said every political party has the right to oppose the government or the prime minister, but no one has the right to stand against national dignity and pride. He alleged that Congress is trying to strengthen its political ground through negative politics, but people of the country are watching closely. He added that citizens stand with development, innovation, and India's growing global stature, and advised the opposition to introspect and place national interest above all else.

Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Senior Secondary School, Kurukshetra conducts scholarship and new admission exam. test

DALBIR MALIK

KURUKSHETRA: On Sunday, the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita Senior Secondary School, Kurukshetra, located on Railway Road, successfully conducted a scholarship test and a new admission exam. Students from various states, including Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and many other schools, enthusiastically participated in the exam.

Well-organized arrangements were made for the examination on the school campus. The examination was conducted in a peaceful and transparent environment. The school management provided adequate seating, drinking water, and other necessary facilities for the students.

The school's Principal Anil Madan said that the purpose of this scholarship test was to encourage meritorious and talented students and provided them financial assistance so that they could get quality education. He told the parents that the foundation stone of this school was laid by the most revered Sarsanghchalak Madhav Rao Sadashiv Gowalkar (Guruji) on November 19, 1946. His aim was to provide such a cultured education which would lead to the all-round development of the children. After that, Principal Anil Madan congratulated all the participants and wished them a bright future.

The exam results will be declared by the school soon. On this occasion, the school's manager Virendra Walia congratulated all the parents and students on their arrival at the school and on the successful conduct of the exam. On this occasion, the Vice President of the school's management committee Ashok Rosha, hostel guardian Jang Bahadur Singla and treasurer Ramesh Gulati were present. The entire staff of the school handled all the arrangements very well.

Grand gathering of traditional Vidya Sang Mahotsav to begin today: Dr. Narendra Singh

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA, FEBRUARY 22



24 songs will be presented in this five-day Mahakumbh. The Sang Mahotsav is a major traditional folk theatre festival in Haryana. Stories of Pingala Bharthari, Heer-Ranjha, Raja Nala Damayanti, and Veer Vikramajit will be presented in the holy land. The Sang Mahotsav will be held from February 23 to 27 to commemorate the Dhanpat Singh Sang Memorial Award. Kurukshetra, February 22. District Information and Public Relations Officer Dr. Narendra Singh said that the Sang Mahotsav 2026 is being organized in honor of the Dhanpat Singh Sang Award, as per the orders of KM Pandurang, Director General of the Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Haryana, and under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena. The important aspect is that the grand gathering of the most ancient and traditional Vidya Sang Mahotsav will be witnessed. This Sang Mahotsav will be held from February 23 to 27, 2026, in the auditorium of Kalakriti Bhawan, Haryana Kala Parishad's Bharatmuni Rangshala.

District Information and Public Relations Officer, Dr. Narendra Singh, while speaking, informed that in view of Haryana's renowned singer Dhanpat Singh's contribution to Haryana folk culture, following the announcement by Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini, the Dhanpat Singh Sangi Award will be announced this year in Dhanpat Singh Sangi's memory. For this purpose, Sang Mahotsav 2026 is being organized from February 23 to 27, 2026, in the auditorium of Kalakriti Bhawan, Haryana Kala Parishad's Bharatmuni Rangshala. District Information and Public Relations Officer, Dr. Narendra Singh, said that in the holy land of Kurukshetra, stories of Pingala Bharthari, Heer-Ranjha, Raja Nala Damayanti, and Veer Vikramaditya will be presented. The state's oldest and most traditional Vidya Sang Mahotsav will feature 24 songs presented over five days. These performances are keeping alive the memories of Pandit Dada Lakhmichand, Mangeram, Pale Ram, Dhan Singh, Ram Kishan Vyas, Pandit Jai Narayan, and Pyare Lal. The Sang Mahotsav will be held from February 23 to 27, 2026, in the auditorium of the Bharatmuni Auditorium of Kalakriti Bhawan, Haryana Kala Parishad.

District Information and Public Relations Officer Dr. Narendra Singh stated that the Sang Mahotsav 2026 will be organized in commemoration of the Dhanpat Singh Sang Award, as per the orders of KM Pandurang, Director General of the Information, Public Relations, and Languages Department, Haryana, and under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena. In recognition of Haryana's renowned singer Dhanpat Singh's contributions to Haryana folk culture, the Dhanpat Singh Sang Award will be announced this year in his memory, following Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini's announcement.

HUCTA submits Memorandum to MLA

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

SONIPAT / GANAUR: A delegation of Haryana Universities Contractual Teachers Association (HUCTA) submitted a memorandum addressed to the Chief Minister to Devender Kadyan, MLA from Ganaur, at his residence in village Bajana. The delegation requested that the issue of service security (job security) for approximately 1,400 contractual Assistant Professors working in all State Universities of Haryana be raised in the House during the Budget Session and that the file related to the Job Security Bill be processed in a time-bound manner.

MLA Kadyan assured that he would raise the demand for service security of contractual university teachers during Zero Hour in the House. He further stated that he would speak to the Chief Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Rajesh Khullar, and extend full support in ensuring early job security for all 1,400 contractual teachers across universities. HUCTA State President Dr. Vijay Malik stated that as per the directions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, the Higher Education Department has completed the required process up to the final stage. However, on 9 December 2025, information was sought from six universities under six other departments apart from the Higher Education Department. Even after more than 2 months and 15 days (75 days), the required information has not been received by the Education Department from three universities under the Skill, Agriculture, and Ayush Departments located in Panchkula — Shri Vishwakarma Skill University, Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, and Shri Krishna AYUSH University. Despite repeated reminders from the department and multiple written communications and personal follow-ups by HUCTA, the information has not been submitted. Due to the non-receipt of information, there is apprehension that the Job Security Bill may not be introduced even in this Budget Session, causing deep concern among all contractual teachers.

ESIC Sub-Regional Office organises cycle rally under Fit India Movement

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, FEB 22



As part of Fit India Movement, ambitious initiative of Government of India, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Sub-Regional Office, Karnal, Successfully organized a cycle rally today. objective of this program was to increase health awareness among employees and general public and to encourage regular exercise and an active lifestyle.

Employees' State Insurance Corporation, a premier social security organization under Union Ministry of Labor and Employment provides various social security benefits, including medical, maternity, sickness, disability and dependent benefits, to workers in organized sector and their dependents. Corporation's objective is to improve quality of life of working class by providing comprehensive social security. Officers and employees of Sub-Regional Office, Karnal, enthusiastically participated in today's cycle rally. The rally started from the office premises and ended at Nirmal Kutiya Chowk. During the rally, participants inspired citizens to adopt regular exercise, a balanced diet, and a healthy lifestyle through messages like "Stay Fit, Stay Healthy." Hari Om Prakash, Joint Director (In-Charge), while addressing officers and employees present, said that a healthy body and a healthy mind are the foundation of any organization's efficiency. He urged everyone to incorporate activities like yoga, exercise, and cycling into their daily lives. He also explained that Employees' State Insurance Corporation not only provides social security to its employees but is also committed to their overall health and well-being.

Congress has always fought for rights of workers and underprivileged: Gaba

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: A Congress meeting was held at the District Congress Committee office on Sunday. The meeting was chaired by Urban District President Parag Gaba. Officials and workers from across the district participated in the meeting and discussed organisational activities and upcoming programmes in detail. The main agenda of the meeting was the Assembly siege planned for February 25th as part of the "Save MNREGA Campaign." In his address, Urban District President Parag Gaba stated that the MNREGA scheme has proven to be a lifeline for the poor, labourers, and rural families. He alleged that the scheme is being weakened due to government policies. He stated that the Congress Party has always fought for the rights of workers and the underprivileged and will continue to do so. Gaba stated that the Assembly siege on February 25th is not merely a protest, but a campaign to raise the voice of workers. He called upon all Congress workers to attend the event in large numbers to make it a success. The leaders and workers present at the meeting also expressed their views and pledged to make the event a success. A large number of workers, including Surendra Narwal, Joginder Balmiki, Binder Poswal, Dilsher Singh Virk, Tarun Chauhan, Lalit Kumar, Rajat Lathar, Rohit Joshi, Pappu Lathar, Chandramani Narang, Rajpal Sandhu, Rajesh Chaudhary, Nishchay Soi, Ramphal, Deepak Chaudhary, Suresh Chaudhary, Vinod Titoria, Praveen Punia etc.



Foundation stone laid for community centre in Amritpur Kalan

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, FEBRUARY 22



Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan said that there was a time when anyone could say anything to garner votes during elections, and governments were even formed, but the ground realities remained unchanged. Now, change has come. However, problems remain, and efforts are underway to address them. Education will receive more attention in the future. This plan will include the construction of new buildings in all schools where needed. In the next two years, Chaupals for women will be built wherever land is available. Kalyan was addressing the people today after laying the foundation stone for a community centrer to be built at a cost of Rs. 1.75 crore in Amritpur Kalan village. On this occasion, he was welcomed with a bouquet of flowers and a turban. He directed that the community center hall be increased from 54 x 36 feet to 80 x 40 feet. The Panchayat Raj Department has set a target of completing the center's construction within 15 months. The Assembly Speaker noted that the villagers likely never imagined such a large community center would be built. In 2014, the streets and roads in 15-20 villages were completely unpaved, causing significant inconvenience to residents. However, the situation has now changed. He stated that society and the country can only reach new heights of development when people understand the difference between right and wrong. There was a time when anyone could say anything for votes during elections, and governments were even formed, but the situation on the ground remained unchanged. Now, change has come. Although problems remain, efforts are underway to resolve them. New demands also emerge. While numerous development projects have been undertaken in the Gharaunda constituency over the past ten years, the pace of development has certainly slowed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

YUGMARG

CHANDIGARH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

Opinion

The regional parties have emerged as a strong force, and they, too, deserve a place in national politics.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee

EDITORIAL

How India's robotics classrooms are building the next workforce

Robotics, which has become a household name in the age of artificial intelligence (AI), barely made it into the news or entered people's living rooms in India at the start of this century. Fast forward to 2026. After years of exposure to vacuum bots and drone technologies, children today casually discuss automating chores at home. In some households, cleaning a play area is no longer just a task; it is a design challenge.

The imagination of young minds is expanding. Many want to build their own robots, envisioning use cases from smart assistants to farm helpers. In a country still strengthening its hardware ecosystem, a quiet generation of early hardware entrepreneurs is taking shape. At the ongoing India AI Impact Summit at Madhya Pradesh's state Pavilion at New Delhi, a humanoid robot built by Class 9 students drew curious crowds. Fully 3D-printed by the students, the robot detects humans, waves, makes gestures, moves its eyes and responds in real time using integrated OpenAI tools.

"If we place it in a noiseless area, our robot, through its integrated speakers and microphone, can record your speech and respond in real time using the OpenAI system integrated into it," explained the mentor, elaborating on the speech capabilities of the bot created by students at his centre. Behind such projects is Mudit Thakkar, founder of Youngovator, who has been working in robotics since 2011. Dubbed the "Robot Man of India", a title he shared, given by Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road and Transport, Thakkar began his journey in Indore with a small team and a handful of students. Over 14 years, across ventures including Edu Square and now Youngovator, he says he has trained nearly 25,000 children, 12,000 of them since 2021 alone. What began as workshops has expanded into structured labs operating in Indore, Chandigarh and Rajkot, while partnering with government and private schools. His head office houses a 22-member core team, supported by 40 trainers delivering programmes across centres and schools.

Thakkar's model goes beyond assembling kits. Students are introduced to robotics, drones, 3D printing and app development before applying what he calls "design thinking" to solve real-world problems. The journey, he says, typically lasts a year. In that time, some students move from curiosity to entrepreneurship. Over the past year, more than eight school students, from Classes 7 to 9, have registered private limited companies with mentorship from his team. But the path is not without challenges. "In robotics, there is a tendency to build two or three projects and call oneself an engineer," he says. "Innovation is a long-term journey. Parents need to understand that curiosity must be nurtured with patience." He argues that while India has a growing pool of AI software talent, the hardware workforce remains thin.

From Transparency to Responsiveness: AI in India's food security architecture



Sanjeev Chopra

India has digitized its food security architecture at an unprecedented scale over the last decade. Every stage of the value chain from procurement and storage to transportation, distribution, and subsidy settlement, is now underpinned by digital systems, generating continuous operational data while serving nearly 80 crore beneficiaries every month. The next governance challenge is converting this transparency into administrative responsiveness.

Visibility alone is insufficient, the system must be able to interpret patterns, prioritize risks, and respond in a timely manner. Recognizing this shift, the Union Government is deploying artificial intelligence (AI) to strengthen decision-making across the system.

During procurement, quality assessment of rice supplied after milling to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) relies on visual evaluation against prescribed parameters such as broken grain percentage, impurities, and discoloration. At scale, outcomes can vary due to human subjectivity. AI-enabled Automatic Grain Analyzers (AGA) are being deployed to assess these parameters through image-based analysis. By standardizing measurement and reducing subjectivity, these systems improve consistency in quality verification while operating within existing procurement norms.

At storage facilities operated by the FCI and the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), IoT-based monitoring systems are being introduced to strengthen oversight. Sensors capture temperature, humidity, phosphine, and CO_2 levels, while AI-enabled computer vision tools support automated bag counting and stock verification. These systems generate continuous data on inventory and environmental conditions. Integrated with Depot Darpan, the DFPD's warehouse grading platform, this data can be analyzed using predictive analytics to identify patterns associated with spoilage risk, stock discrepancies, or compliance gaps, enabling earlier and more risk-based supervisory action.

During movement of food grains, transportation is planned using route optimization tools ('Anna Chakra'), while Vehicle Location Tracking Systems (VLTS) generate real-time GPS data on truck movement. States have reported annual savings of approximately ₹238 crore through route optimization. Although route planning is systematized, monitoring thousands of journeys across states presents operational challenges. AI-based pattern detection and anomaly identification are being planned to analyze movement data and flag recurring route deviations, abnormal delays, or unusual stoppages. These analytics strengthen oversight and enable more focused verification of transport operations.

At the distribution stage, beneficiary records maintained by states are consolidated under the SMART-PDS platform, creating a unified national repository of ration cards. This enables cross-verification with other government databases to identify potentially ineligible cards under state-defined criteria. To date, 8.51 crore ration cards have been flagged through such verification, with 2.18 crore deleted by state governments after due process. However, inconsistencies in names, addresses, Aadhaar seeding, and household composition can limit the effectiveness of rule-based checks at scale. Machine learning–based data matching techniques are being planned for deployment to identify probable duplicates, linked identities, or unusual restructuring of households. The resulting risk flags would support targeted verification by states, improving accuracy within existing eligibility norms.

Beneficiary complaints serve as important signals on service delivery and grain quality. Although multiple channels for registering grievances exist (including online portals, call centers, WhatsApp, and IVRS), the volume and linguistic diversity of grievances can complicate timely routing and resolution. The Government has rolled out the Anna Sahayata Holistic AI Solution (ASHA), which uses multilingual voice outreach and AI-based analysis to gather structured feedback from beneficiaries. Automated classification and sentiment analysis generate dashboards for administrators, improving prioritization and response times. ASHA currently reaches around 20 lakh beneficiaries each month and is being scaled nationwide.

Finally, states submit subsidy claims through the Subsidy Claims for NFSA (SCAN) portal along with supporting documentation related to procurement cost components. Although formats and checklists are standardized, incomplete, mismatched, or illegible documents can delay scrutiny and reimbursement. AI-enabled document validation and quality assessment is being deployed to conduct preliminary checks—verifying document relevance, data consistency, and upload clarity. This reduces repeated queries and improves the efficiency and consistency of claim processing.

India's food subsidy architecture has already reduced leakages through digitization. The next transformation lies in responsiveness. By embedding AI across procurement, storage, movement, distribution, and claim settlement, the system becomes more capable of detecting risks early, correcting errors faster, and ensuring that entitlements reach beneficiaries as intended. In a programme that underwrites food security for over 80 crore people, greater responsiveness is not incremental reform; it represents a structural strengthening of the social protection backbone.

The Author is Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Travel health insurance: Why it matters for international trips



Falling sick or getting injured during an international trip is never something you expect, but it can happen. Medical care in another country can be very expensive, and finding your way through an unfamiliar healthcare system often adds to the stress. This is why travel health insurance is so important, it protects you from sudden medical costs while you are abroad. Understanding how it works helps you stay prepared and gives you peace of mind when you are far from home.

What Is Travel Health Insurance?

Travel health insurance, also called international travel medical insurance, is a plan that helps you pay for medical emergencies when you are outside your home country. It usually covers hospital stays, doctor visits, emergency evacuation or return to your home country, and sometimes even basic dental care. It's different from regular travel insurance. Travel insurance may cover things like trip cancellations, lost baggage, or flight delays. Travel health insurance, on the other hand, is focused only on medical problems that may happen while you are abroad.

Why Do You Need Travel Health Insurance?

Your regular health insurance usually does not cover treatment outside your home country, and medical care abroad can be very expensive. Travel health insurance gives you financial support if you face a medical emergency while travelling. It helps pay for high medical costs that can run into thousands, protects you in case of sudden illnesses or injuries, and even covers evacuation or return to your home country if better treatment is needed. In fact, travel health insurance is mandatory for entry into most countries. Even if it is not a requirement for your destination, it is still wise to be insured, as unexpected medical costs abroad can be financially overwhelming. Having this insurance means you can travel with peace of mind, knowing you are protected against unexpected health problems.

How Does Travel Medical Insurance Work?

You need to buy the policy before your trip by choosing your destination, travel dates, and whether you want single trip or multi-trip coverage. After purchase, you'll receive your policy details and emergency contact numbers, which you should keep with you while travelling. If you need medical help abroad, you can call the insurer's helpline for guidance to nearby hospitals. If the hospital is part of the insurer's network, your treatment may be cashless. Otherwise, you may need to pay first and then claim reimbursement later by submitting bills and medical reports. Most plans cover hospitalisation, medical treatment, accidental injury or disability, emergency dental care in certain cases, and medical evacuation or repatriation. Some insurers also offer special plans for students, senior citizens, or frequent travellers, so you can choose one that best fits your needs.

Eligibility Criteria in India: The eligibility for travel health insurance depends on the type of plan you choose. For students, there are special plans available for Indian students aged 16 to 35 who are studying abroad. Families can opt for family plans that cover between one and six members, starting from six months of age, and some of these plans have no upper age limit. Senior citizens can get coverage through plans designed for people aged 70 and above. If you are travelling alone or not as part of a family unit, individual plans are available to suit your needs.Facing a medical emergency in another country can be overwhelming emotionally and financially. Travel health insurance provides peace of mind by ensuring access to quality care without the burden of unexpected bills. Reviewing your options and choosing a plan suited to your destination and needs is one of the smartest steps you can take before travelling abroad.

By Mr. Amarnath Saxena, Chief Technical Officer – Commercial, Bajaj General Insurance Limited (formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited)

When words are not enough: The next turning of human meaning

We assume that when we speak, something travels intact from one mind to another. It does not.

Language is not experience. It is a symbolic arrangement — a syntax trying to approximate the inner semantics of feeling. The warmth of love, the sting of humiliation, the quiet expansion one feels in meditation — these are not words.



They are direct, private, unrepeatable events in consciousness .What philosophers call qualia is simply this: the raw texture of being alive. And language is a poor substitute.

The moment an experience is put into words, it is already reduced. Flattened. Translated into socially agreed sounds. When I say "peace," I do not give you my peace. You retrieve yours. Communication happens, but only as resonance, never as transfer.

Yet civilisation is built on this fragile instrument. Law, markets, diplomacy, education, social identity — all operate through linguistic agreement. Language is the lowest common platform on which large numbers of humans can coordinate. It is our shared operating protocol.

Now something subtle but decisive is happening.

Artificial intelligence is becoming extraordinarily competent at this very layer — the linguistic layer. It can process, generate, simulate tone, mimic empathy, structure arguments. In short, it can manage the domain that modern society relies on most: structured language.

If language is the basic currency of coordination, AI is becoming its most efficient banker. This is not a crisis. It is a revelation.

It forces us to ask: if machines can increasingly handle the symbolic layer of communication, what remains distinctly human?

Perhaps that which language never fully captured in the first place — lived awareness.

As machines refine syntax, humans must deepen semantics. As algorithms optimise articulation, we must refine perception. The future of meaningful communication will not lie in better phrasing, but in deeper presence.

When identity expands beyond the narrow ego, something changes in human relationships. Compassion stops being a moral duty and becomes a natural perception. Cooperation is no longer strategy; it is intelligence. One does not need to enforce unity through slogans because unity is felt at the level of being.

In a world accelerating toward material optimisation, this inner cohesion may become essential.

Material progress without shared meaning breeds anxiety. Efficiency without depth produces exhaustion. Information without integration creates noise.

If the coming decades are shaped by AI systems that manage language, markets, logistics and predictive models, then humans must bring something else to the table — interior clarity.

We will have to reinvent ourselves not by becoming faster, but by becoming deeper.

The reinvention will not be technological. It will be existential. It will involve moving from accumulation to awareness, from external validation to inner coherence. Shared identity will not arise from uniform opinion, but from recognising a deeper common ground beneath opinion.

Beyond materialism does not mean rejecting prosperity. It means refusing to anchor meaning solely in possession and output. A civilisation rooted only in metrics will eventually feel hollow. A civilisation rooted in conscious connection may find balance.

The paradox of the future is this: as language becomes cheaper and more abundant through machines, silence may become more valuable. As expression becomes easier, authenticity may become rarer.

The next evolution of humanity may not be about speaking more intelligently, but about living more consciously.

When words reach their limit, something more fundamental waits — the direct recognition that we are not separate fragments competing in isolation, but expressions of a shared field of being. If that recognition matures, then the future will not merely be efficient.

It will be meaningful.

Author: Saurabh Vatsa

Beyond AI: Modi leverages summit to deepen defence, trade, tech cooperation

The six-day-long India AI Impact Summit 2026 which offered participating countries an opportunity to leapfrog the world into an AI age, also brought India a chance to conduct bilateral talks on areas like defence, shipping, education, water projects, green hydrogen, etc. with a host of nations. Diplomats averred that the AI Summit actually "became an occasion for India" to deepen its economic and political diplomacy with a host of countries.

"It is natural that leaders from governments, businesses, and the IT sector in many countries would come to such a summit to exchange views. It is also natural that when leaders meet, they would discuss other subjects of mutual interest, even though the primary focus and attraction is AI and the fact that India is the venue," said former IFS officer Jesudas Bell while commenting about the summit.

Prime Minister Modi also acknowledged the usefulness of the summit in India's overall diplomatic moves. "The CEO Roundtable at the AI Impact Summit brought together various stakeholders ... The discussions were insightful and forward-looking," said PM Modi.

On the sidelines of the summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met global leaders, including French President Emmanuel Macron, and discussed joint ventures in making Rafale jets and helicopters here, with France also looking for a similar deal for submarines too.



On the sidelines of the summit, Modi and other Indian negotiators met the leadership from Sri Lanka and Mauritius. India focused on regional cooperation and digital connectivity. Modi's meeting with Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake focused especially, according to officials, on areas such as energy, connectivity, infrastructure, and blue economy.

Officials said that while meeting heads of different nations, India lost no opportunity to hold "talks focused on ways to enhance ties in connectivity, defence, talent mobility and shipping."

Similarly, green hydrogen, mega water projects, semiconductors and counter-terrorism were the focus of talks between Modi and Netherlands' Prime Minister Dick Schoof.

PM Modi also used the occasion to underline India's "historic Free Trade Agreement" with the European union and pointed out the opportunities that arose for cooperation between the two countries, leveraging the trade deal.

Among others, Modi also met Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the Prime Minister of Greece, with whom talks focused on ways to enhance ties in connectivity, defence, talent mobility and shipping. The Prime Minister said, "In recent years, the India-Greece Strategic Partnership has made significant progress."

Officials also pointed out that the tech summit gave top leaders a chance to get together to discuss governance architecture for the new area.

"Artificial Intelligence is a big disruptor worldwide and all countries are scrambling to see what the implications will be not only for jobs but also for industry, trade, science, technology, etc. There is also the broad area of AI governance, where countries, including India, are working on how AI can be made safe and used responsibly," Bell said.

No doubt, it was India's movement to shine. However, how words will turn into reality and how much business India will get remains to be seen.

YUGMARG
News
CHANDIGARH
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
PAGE 9

Trident Group MD Deepak Nanda bereaved; mother Amrit Nanda passes away, prayer meeting in Chandigarh today



KARANPREET KARAN
BARNALA: Mrs Amrit Nanda, mother of Trident Group Managing Director Deepak Nanda and mother-in-law of Dr. Sapna Nanda, Principal, Government College of Education, Chandigarh, passed away on February 20, 2026. She was 91.

Wife of Late Sh. Raj Kumar Nanda, Mrs Amrit Nanda will always be remembered as a dignified and compassionate family elder who inspired everyone around her with her grace and values.

A prayer meeting will be held in Chandigarh on February 23 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Arya Samaj Mandir Sector 7-B.

NEWS BRIEF

Security tightened at temples across Himachal after Lashkar threat



ANIL KUMAR
SHIMLA: Security agencies across Himachal Pradesh have been placed on high alert following a threat issued by the militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba targeting major temples in the country. In response, state police immediately initiated preventive measures and directed all district superintendents to strengthen security arrangements at religious sites. Police headquarters has ordered round-the-clock monitoring through CCTV cameras at prominent temples. Barricades have been installed at entry points, the use of metal detectors has been increased, and dog squads have been deployed. Additional personnel have been stationed at locations that witness heavy footfall of devotees, with special crowd-management arrangements in place to prevent any panic or disorder. Authorities have appealed to the public to remain calm and alert.

Cheques distributed to beneficiaries of Prime Minister's Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, FEB 22



Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan said that development plans and announcements were made in the state in the past, but they remained confined to paper. There was neither determination nor hard work to implement them. Today, the schemes are being implemented, and the Prime Minister and Chief Minister are working tirelessly to ensure that every section of the society benefits from them. To make the country a developed nation, it is essential for every section of the society to be self-reliant. In the last 11 years, many development projects have been carried out in the Gharaunda constituency. In the future, the pace of development will be further accelerated. Our goal is to develop every village and provide employment to every person.

Kalyan was speaking as the chief guest at the cheque distribution ceremony for beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme in Gharaunda today. He distributed state subsidy cheques worth Rs. 23,62,322 to 49 beneficiaries. On this occasion, Mr. Kalyan said that it is the result of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision that the country is reaching new heights. The Prime Minister is working day and night to realize the resolve of making India a developed nation by 2047. Today, awareness among the people is also increasing on every issue. Kalyan said that when the country embarked on a new journey in 2014, the Prime Minister had said that every home should have a toilet for sisters and daughters. He launched the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign from the land of Haryana.

The results of the meaningful steps taken towards women's empowerment are evident. At that time, statistics revealed that thousands of villages across the country lacked unpaved roads and electricity. The Prime Minister resolved to provide these facilities to every corner of the country. At that time, the Manohar Lal-led government in Haryana seriously considered these issues. The pledge to provide 24-hour electricity supply to every village, provide jobs to youth based on merit, and make public-related schemes online is being realized today. Today, benefits from schemes are directly reaching eligible individuals' bank accounts.

He said that every person is benefiting from the Prime Minister's resolve, the government's seriousness, its responsibility towards the people, and the steps taken to strengthen the country.Kalyan said that proper use of resources is essential for progress. The Prime Minister's vision is to ensure that every penny from the treasury reaches the right destination. As a result, roads have been built and electricity has been provided in thousands of villages across the country. Today, electricity is being supplied properly in Haryana's villages. There was a time when announcements of free electricity were made to woo people and garner votes, but nothing was implemented on the ground. The Assembly Speaker said that today the country has progressed in the solar energy sector.

RS MP Subhash Barala participates in annual festival of All India Kali Raman Khap



DINKAR GAWRI
HANSI, FEB 22

On Sunday, the annual festival of the All India Kali Raman Khap was held with great enthusiasm at the All India Kali Raman Khap Bhawan complex in Sisai village. Rajya Sabha MP Subhash Barala attended the event as the chief guest. Khap head Karamveer Singh honored the chief guest, Rajya Sabha MP Subhash Barala, by placing a turban on him on behalf of the Khap. In his address, Rajya Sabha MP Subhash Barala said that Khaps have always played an important role in the upliftment of society. Khaps have, from time to time, carried out many inspiring works to guide society in the right direction. He said that in the modern era, elders must share their life experiences with children to eradicate social evils. Only when children learn to distinguish between right and wrong from childhood is it possible to build a strong society. The MP stated that along with providing children with higher education, it is also crucial to inculcate values in them. There should be no discrimination between sons and daughters. Daughters should receive the same education and opportunities as sons. He emphasized that alongside modernity, our rich traditions must also be preserved and promoted.

Shrimad Bhagwat Katha begins at Road Dharamshala near Municipality



KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI: The Shrimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Yagna was inaugurated in the city with a grand Kalash Yatra. The Kalash Yatra began from Nagar Kheda, passed through the main market, and reached the Katha site at the Road Dharamshala near the Municipality. Devotees enthusiastically joined in the procession, accompanied by the sound of band music. Women walked with devotion, carrying Kalash on their heads, praying for the city's prosperity. At various locations along the route, merchants and local citizens welcomed the Kalash Yatra with flower showers. Long queues of devotees were seen as it passed through the main market, and the entire area was filled with devotion. Upon reaching the Katha site, the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha was inaugurated with a ritualistic worship. The event is being held at the Road Dharamshala near the Municipal Corporation from February 22nd to March 1st, with daily discourses from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Organisers Sanjay Bansal and Rinku Bansal reported that renowned storyteller Aarti Kishor from Vrindavan, is narrating the Srimad Bhagavata Mahapurana to devotees. A large number of devotees attended the first day of the Katha.

CM Saini blesses MLA Rana's son on his wedding



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini reached the wedding ceremony of MLA Yogendra Rana's son Daksh Rana at Assandh grain market and extended his best wishes to the family and blessed Daksh Rana for his marital life. Saini presented Geeta to the MLA's family while extending his best wishes for this auspicious occasion. Thousands of guests also reached on this occasion and conveyed their best wishes to the MLA. On this auspicious occasion, Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan, Deputy Speaker Krishna Middha, Development and Panchayat Department Minister Krishna Lal Panwar, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana, Public Works Minister Ranbir Gangwa, Cooperation Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma, Government Chief Whip and Indri MLA Ramkumar Kashyap, Karnal MLA Jagmohan Anand, Nilokheri MLA Bhagwandas Kabirpanthi, Pundri MLA Satpal Jamba, Karnal Municipal Corporation Mayor Renu Bala Gupta, BJP District President Praveen Lathar, Swachh Bharat Mission Executive Vice President Subhash Chandra, Assandh Municipal Council Chairperson Sunita Ardana, along with other political figures and administrative officials, extended their congratulations to MLA Yogendra Rana on the wedding of his son Daksh Rana.

United Kisan Morcha stages protest outside MLA Dr. Amandeep Kaur Arora's residence over farm, labour laws



JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA
MOGA: As per the directions of the United Kisan Morcha, the United Kisan Morcha organizations staged a dharna in front of the house of MLA Dr. Amandeep Kaur Arora. Addressing the dharna, leaders of different organizations including Ghall Kalan, Sukhwinder Singh District President BKU Rajewal, Iqbal Singh Gloti State Leader BKU Lakhowal, Kashmir Singh Krantikari Union Punjab, Nirbhay Singh Dhudike Kirti Kisan Union, District President Major Singh Kaleke Punjab Khet Mazdoor Union, Hardial Singh Kul Hind Kisan Sabha, Bhartiya Kisan Union Ekta Ugraran Iqbal Singh Singh Wala, Lakhowal leader Balkaran Singh Dhillon Gurmel Singh Droli said that preparations are being made by the Modi government at the center to bring the Electricity Amendment Bill and the Shed Amendment Bill 2025.

Guru Nanak Khalsa College Yamunanagar hosts career counselling programme on Chartered Accountancy



RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR: Guru Nanak Khalsa College Yamunanagar organized a Career Counseling Programme through the Training & Employment Cell and the Department of Commerce, in collaboration with Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Yamunanagar Chamber. The programme aimed to guide commerce students towards promising career opportunities in the field of Chartered Accountancy and allied professions.The expert speakers CA Saiyam K Madaan Chairman from Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Yamunanagar Chamber and CA Radha Gupta shared valuable knowledge about the CA profession, eligibility criteria, preparation strategies, and the wide scope available at national and international levels. They also motivated students to stay focused, work diligently, and remain consistent in their preparation, while also addressing their queries and concerns regarding career planning. Principal Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla encouraged students to take full advantage of such opportunities and emphasized that right guidance at the right time shapes a successful career.

BJP leader Vijay Agnihotri slams Himachal govt over Ghaneta school merger order



ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: Former MLA and senior BJP leader Vijay Agnihotri has strongly criticised the Government of Himachal Pradesh over its recent order to merge Dr. Y. S. Parmar Government Model Senior Secondary School and the Government Girls High School located in Ghaneta village of Hamirpur district. Agnihotri said the decision would weaken the state's education system and alleged that instead of strengthening educational infrastructure, the government was trying to "play with statistics" by merging schools. He argued that separate schools in rural areas have distinct identities, needs, and convenience for students, which he claimed had been ignored. He termed the merger of the girls' school particularly worrying, saying it could adversely affect girls' education.

Free health check-up camp organised at Sanatan Dharma temple in Neelnagar



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
NILOKHERI: A free health check-up camp was organised today at Shri Sanatan Dharma Mandir Neelnagar in Nilokheri, where a large number of people underwent medical examinations at no cost.According to temple committee president and Market Committee chairman Shiv Nath Kapoor, a team of doctors from Eros Hospital conducted health check-ups and performed several diagnostic tests free of charge.On the occasion, Kapoor expressed gratitude to the medical team and honoured them with mementos on behalf of the temple committee. Among those present were Praveen Anand, Nikhil Malik, Kamal Arora, Harvinder Sharma, Ashwani Sharma, and members of various organisations.

PM Shri Govt Sr Sec School, Sarawan, ranks first in Sadhaura Block



PRITI SAINI
SADHAURA: A survey of schools in the Sadhaura block was recently conducted under the Sadhaura Chief Minister's School Beautification Scheme. In this survey, PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Sarawan, brought honor to the region by securing first place among senior secondary schools in the entire block. The school's Principal, Rajnesh Gupta, expressed his happiness over this achievement and attributed it to the collective hard work of the entire staff, parents, and villagers. He also thanked Block Education Officer (BEO) Dharam Singh Rathi for his guidance. Block Education Officer Dharam Singh Rathi praised the school and said that if the dedication of the Principal and staff continues, the school will also achieve first place at the district level. He announced that in recognition of the school's first place at the block level, the school will be honored with a certificate of appreciation, a memento, and a cash prize of Rs. 50,000.

Central University of Punjab organises special programme to mark International Mother Language Day



ANANTDEEP KAUR
BATHINDA: The Central University of Punjab, Bathinda organized a special programme to commemorate International Mother Language Day under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Raghavendra Prasad Tiwari. The programme was jointly organized by the Department of Punjabi and the Matribhasha Utsav Committee with active participation from students of various departments. During the first session, eminent linguist and former Head of the Punjabi University Regional Centre, Bathinda, Prof. Boota Singh Brar, delivered a keynote lecture highlighting the shared linguistic roots of Punjabi and Hindi languages. Highlighting the importance of language, he stated that language serves as a vital medium connecting individual to social life. Drawing upon various research sources, he outlined the developmental trajectory of Indian languages and explained their similarities as well as distinctions.

Rotary Club Nabha to organize free check-up camp for knee and hip pain on Mar 1



RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA: Rotary Club Nabha will organize a free check-up camp for knee and hip pain under the leadership of President Ravnish Goyal. Giving information about this camp, Club President Ravnish Goyal, General Secretary Advocate Rohit Jindal and Project Chairman Advocate Bharat Bhushan Nitin Jain while talking to selected journalists said that this camp is being organized on 01 March 2026, Sunday, time: 9.00 am to 1.00 pm at Rotary Bhawan, Patiala Gate, Nabha. He said that joint replacement specialist Dr. Dilbans Singh Pandher M.S., MCh. Ortho, and Kanwal Saini Consultant Doctor, who are reaching the camp from Jalandhar, will examine the patients. He said that neuropathy and BMD tests will be free in the camp and medicines will also be given free of cost. On this occasion, Co-Chairman Ro. Jeevan Parkash Bansal, Co-Chairman Ro. Dr. I.D. Goyal Former Civil Surgeon, Co-Chairman Ro. Sikander Partap Singh, Co-Chairman Ro. Dr. J.P. Narula Indian Medical Association President said that To register for the camp, cashiers Ro. Nitin Gupta 98156-52332.

Regularisation of illegal colony gains momentum



PRITI SAINI
SADHAURA: The issue of regulariasing an allegedly illegal colony on approximately 4 acres of land in Tibdi, near the Forest Office in Sadhaura tehsil, in 2022 is gaining momentum. RTI activist Ravindra Kumar has filed an application with the Director General, Town and Country Planning Department, Haryana, seeking copies of demolition records, show-cause notices, physical verification reports, and geo-tagged photos/ drone surveys. He claims that the land in question remains completely vacant, even though infrastructure is essential for the regularization of any colony. The applicant has sought a date-wise breakdown of demolition drives conducted in the Sadhaura area until 2022, field staff diary reports, show-cause notices, restoration orders, and records of departmental action.

Punjabi activists demand compulsory Punjabi education in Lahore, urge action from Maryam Nawaz



SARBJIT SUFI
LUDHIANA: Where February 21 was celebrated in full and speakers of different mother tongues respected their mother tongues, in the capital of Pakistani Punjab, Lahore, Punjabi lovers sang the songs of their mother tongue Punjabi in front of the Lahore Press Club, and in one voice they asked the Punjab government of Pakistan to implement Punjabi as a compulsory subject in schools and colleges in Punjab. On this occasion, holding placards of respect for the mother tongue in their hands, poets, writers, social workers and Punjabi lovers said in one voice that nothing less than introducing Punjabi as a compulsory subject in education is now acceptable. Ahmed Raza Punjabi Baba Najmi, Babar Jalandhari, Iqbal Kaiser Anjum Gill told during the conversation that the assembly of Pakistani Punjab had passed a bill to teach Punjabi as a compulsory subject and formed a committee.

Partap World School student clears NDA & SSB, set to join Indian Army



VERMA
GURDASPUR: In a moment of immense pride and honor, talented student Prince Maleka of Partap World School, Pathankot has successfully cleared the prestigious National Defence Academy (NDA) written examination and the Services Selection Board (SSB) interview. He is now set to join the Indian Army, marking the beginning of a distinguished journey in service to the nation. Prince has consistently demonstrated discipline, leadership ualities, and a strong sense of patriotism. He was an active participant in the school's specialized NDA program, where he received comprehensive academic guidance, physical training, and personality development support to prepare for a career in the defence services. In addition, Prince was an active member of the school's NCC Army Wing, where he further strengthened his leadership skills, discipline, and spirit of service. His achievement stands as a testament to his hard work, dedication, and unwavering determination.

CHANDIGARH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

YUGMARG
News

PAGE 10

African Students Meet 2026 Celebrated with Grandeur at Gian Jyoti Institute

MOHALI: Gian Jyoti Institute of Management & Technology, Phase 2, hosted the grand Annual African Students Meet 2026 in its auditorium, celebrating cultural diversity, global friendship, and academic collaboration. The event beautifully reflected the strong ties between India and Africa and showcased the warmth and unity among international students. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing unity and wisdom. The event was graced by Balunywa Baker, Education Attaché at the Uganda High Commission, as Chief Guest. Conrad Nana Kojo Asiedu, First Secretary (Trade, Tourism & Culture) at the Ghana High Commission, attended as Guest of Honour. African students captivated the audience with a vibrant cultural ramp walk in traditional attire.
heritage. Friendly sports competitions among students further added excitement and strengthened team spirit. Winners were honoured with medals in recognition of their sporting excellence.

NEWS BRIEF

United Kisan Morcha Protests Against Centre's Policies, Surround Leaders' Houses in Patiala

TAPINDER SINGH

PATIALA: Acting on a state-level call by the United Kisan Morcha, farmers and representatives of various public organizations staged protests in Patiala today against the proposed Indo-US Free Trade Agreement, Electricity Amendment Bill (2025), Seed Bill (2025), four labour codes and the 'Ji Ram Ji' scheme.

Demonstrators gathered from 11 am to 3 pm outside the residences of BJP leader Preneet Kaur, Bhupesh Agarwal and Punjab Cabinet Minister Balbir Singh, raising slogans and voicing their opposition to what they termed "anti-farmer and anti-labour" policies.

Addressing the gathering, farmer leaders alleged that the Centre is moving towards handing over key sectors of the economy to corporate houses. They claimed that after the repeal of the three farm laws, new measures such as the Electricity Amendment Bill (2025) are aimed at privatizing the power sector, which they said would eventually end subsidies and make electricity unaffordable for common people.

The leaders further alleged that the Seed Bill (2025) seeks to restrict farmers' traditional right to save and reuse seeds, placing control in the hands of large companies. They also criticized the four new labour codes, claiming that more than 40 labour protection laws are being diluted, thereby weakening workers' rights. Criticizing the Ji Ram Ji' scheme, the protesters said it was introduced under the pretext of irregularities in MGNREGA but would shift financial responsibility from the Centre to the states.

The leaders warned that if these policies and agreements are not withdrawn, a nationwide agitation would be launched in the coming days.

Gurdwara Sri Dukh-Nivaran Sahib Sangat pays homage in large numbers on the occasion of Panchami

TAPINDER SINGH.

PATIALA : The day of Panchami was celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm by the Sangat at Gurdwara Sri Dukh-Nivaran Sahib, the holy place of the ninth Guru, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji, by paying homage to the Guru Ghar. Today's day was dedicated to the martyrs of Saka Nankana Sahib and during this, a Gurmat Samagam dedicated to all the martyrs of Saka Nankana Sahib was also organized in the Diwan Hall of Gurdwara Sahib. On the holy day of Panchami, after the doors were opened early in the morning, the Sangat paid homage in large numbers. Head Granthi Bhai Pranam Singh prayed for the welfare of all and through the narration of Katha, Giani Pritpal Singh paid homage to all the martyrs of Saka Nankana Sahib to the Sangat. The devotees who paid homage at the Guru Darbar took a dip in the holy pond of the Guru Ghar and obtained the blessings of Guru Sahib by performing the Pangat Sangat. During the Gurmat Samagam dedicated to all the martyrs of Saka Nankana Sahib, former president Prof. Kirpal Singh Badungar, Antarang Committee member Jathedar Surjit Singh Garhi and Jathedar Jasmer Singh Lalru also attended in a prominent manner. During the Gurmat Samagam, Amrik Singh Janetpur, Bibi Mukhtiar Kaur, Bibi Jasvir Kaur Phagguwala, Gurpyar Singh Johar, Sukhjinder Singh Changiyara, Ravinder Singh Shergill presented the history of Saka Nankana Sahib to the devotees through their vars. Addressing the gathering of devotees on this occasion, former president Prof. Kirpal Singh Badungar, Inner Committee Member Jathedar Surjit Singh Garhi paid tribute to all the martyrs of Saka Nankana and said that hundreds of Singhs and Singhinis sacrificed their lives to save their Gurdwaras, whose unparalleled martyrdom will always remain a beacon of light for us.

Zee Music Company, KVN Productions & Yash Unite for Landmark 2026 Music Rights Deal for Toxic

CHANDIGARH: The buzz around Yash's Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups continues to scale new heights, with Zee Music Company coming on board in a landmark music rights collaboration for the film, marking one of the label's most significant acquisitions in recent times. This collaboration between Zee Music and the makers of Toxic, produced by KVN Productions and Monster Mind Creations, not only strengthens the film's massive pan-India and global rollout strategy but also reflects a shared intent to build a long-term creative collaboration for future ventures. The film's music will feature high-impact, multi-composer soundtracks designed to build a powerful sonic identity for its world. Composers such as Ravi Basrur, Vishal Mishra, and Tanishk Bagchi bring together diverse musical styles .

Sleepwell Presents 'The Sacred Amritsar 2026': Usha Uthup Mesmerises Audience

AMRITSAR: The second day of The Sacred Amritsar 2026, presented by Sleepwell, unfolded with music, reflection and heritage experiences, highlighted by a memorable performance from legendary singer Usha Uthup. Her powerful voice and magnetic stage presence set the tone for an emotionally rich evening, as the audience grooved and sang along to her timeless hits. She concluded her performance with her popular number "O Darling," leaving the crowd enthralled. The day began on a serene note with morning ragas at Sarovar Premiere, where Aastha Mandale's classical recital, accompanied by tabla, harmonium and sarod, created a tranquil and contemplative ambience. This was followed by an engaging fusion performance by Kartikey Vashisht and Makarand Sanon, who blended Indian classical flute with dynamic percussion, captivating listeners with their innovative musical expressions. Adding depth to the festival's spiritual dimension, a thought-provoking session titled "The Otherworld: Ghosts Around Us" featured Sanjay K. Roy in conversation.

Grand Jallikattu competition kicks off at Trichy

TRICHY: A grand Jallikattu competition began at Alundur in Trichy district as part of the annual festival of the Thana Mulaitha Muthumariamman Temple.About 750 bulls and 300 bull-tamers are taking part in the event. Organisers said prizes will be given to the winners. A motorcycle will be awarded to the best bull-tamer, and a bureau and other gifts will be given to the owner of the best bull.The event was inaugurated by Srirangam Taluk in-charge Tahsildar Tamilselvi.More than 700 bulls from Trichy, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur, and other districts are participating in the competition.Earlier, the first Jallikattu event of the year and one of its most prominent traditional competitions was held grandly at Periya Suryur in Trichy, Tamil Nadu. The event was organised in connection with the annual festival of Sri Narkadal Kudi Karuppannasamy Temple, on the second day of the Tamil month Thai.For several years, the Jallikattu competition was conducted on a temporary village ground. Villagers had submitted a petition to Tamil Nadu School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh seeking a permanent arena. Following this, with the approval of Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, Rs

Sanjeev Arora Inaugurates India's first organized urban on-highway parking project in Ludhiana

ANKUSH

LUDHIANA: In a major boost to modern urban infrastructure and scientific traffic management, Punjab Cabinet Minister for Industries & Commerce, Investment Promotion, Power and Local Government, Sanjeev Arora, on Sunday inaugurated the construction of India's first pilot project for organized on-highway urban parking development in Ludhiana. The pioneering initiative is being executed by National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), a wholly owned subsidiary of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The project introduces a first-of-its-kind model aimed at optimized utilization of vacant spaces along and beneath elevated highways in congested urban corridors. The Minister was accompanied by MLAs Kulwant Singh Sidhu and Daljit Singh Grewal, Mayor Principal Inderjit Kaur, MC Commissioner Neeru Katyal, DC Himanshu Jain, District Planning Board Chairman Jatinder Singh Khangura, Ludhiana Improvement Trust Chairman Tarsem Singh Bhinder, MP Singh Jawaddi and other senior officials.

Visionary Initiative The project has materialized following sustained efforts by Sanjeev Arora, who has consistently advocated structured parking solutions to tackle Ludhiana's



chronic congestion. Through continuous coordination with NHAI and NHLML, approvals were expedited and operational bottlenecks addressed, enabling the project's launch in the city.

Project Highlights Approximately 750 organized car parking slots Utilization of underused spaces along and beneath elevated highway stretches

Key locations: Bharat Nagar Chowk to Sidhwan Canal (between main carriageway and service road)

Beneath elevated corridor from Bharat Nagar Chowk to ISBT

Completion timeline: 6 months

Model: Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) on lease basis

Concession period: 10 years

Estimated investment:7 crore

Development of 14 architecturally designed parking zones on both sides of the elevated road The parking zones will be environmentally compliant, aesthetically integrated with the urban landscape, and equipped with modern amenities to ensure safe and efficient use of space.

A Boost to Urban Mobility

Addressing the media, the Minister said the project would significantly ease Ludhiana's long-standing parking shortages and traffic congestion.

"This initiative will provide safe, organized and accessible parking solutions for commuters, shoppers and residents. It will reduce roadside chaos, improve traffic discipline and enhance road safety across key corridors," he said.

He added that the scientific utilization of idle spaces beneath elevated roads represents a forward-looking urban planning model that can be replicated in other cities across Punjab and the country.

Sanjay Tandon attends mega health & blood donation camp as guest of honour

CHANDIGARH: Senior BJP leader and the party's National Council Member attended a free mega multi-speciality health check-up and blood donation camp organised at Sector 49, Chandigarh, as the guest of honour. The camp was held to mark the 350th year of martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji.

The camp was thoughtfully organised by the Fight for Solutions Society under the leadership of its President, Rohit Khullar, Advocate, as a meaningful tribute to the Guru's unparalleled legacy of sacrifice, service, and protection of humanity. Speaking on the occasion, Tandon said that such noble initiatives truly reflect the spirit of "Sarbat da Bhala" — the welfare of all — which was the guiding principle of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji's life and teachings.

He emphasised that paying homage through service to society is the most appropriate way to remember the Guru's supreme sacrifice for righteousness and human dignity.



Tandon expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the team of doctors, volunteers, and blood donors whose dedicated efforts made the camp a success. He said their selfless service stands as a shining example of collective responsibility and compassion towards society.

He also called upon citizens to actively participate in such humanitarian initiatives and work together for the greater good, inspired by the timeless teachings of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji. The team of doctors who made camp a great success included Dr Manu Mengi (Orthopedics), Dr Navroze Kapil (Orthopedics), Dr Nitin Chhabra (ENT),Dr Ruchika Singla (Endocrinology and Diabetes), Dr H S Bedi(Heart Specialist), Dr Rahul Kakkar (Gastroenterologist), Dr Gaurav Sharma (Urologist), Dr Shivali (Gynaecologist), Dr Gaurav Khullar(Dentist), Dr Vd. Oorvi B Kulkarni(Ayurveda), Dr Harshdeep Kaur (Homeopathy) and Dr Manjit Singh Thiara(Physiotherapist). Twenty units of blood were collected at the camp.

Sehajjot School Holds Grand Annual Function at Panjab University Auditorium



CHANDIGARH: Sehajjot Senior Secondary School, Dhanas, celebrated its Annual Function with great enthusiasm and grandeur at the Law Auditorium, Panjab University, Sector 14. The event marked a vibrant culmination of the academic year, showcasing students' talents and achievements across academics and co-curricular domains.

The high-energy celebration provided a platform for students to exhibit their skills in dance, music, drama and the arts. The auditorium was filled with proud parents, dignitaries and well-wishers who applauded the remarkable performances put together after months of dedication and teamwork. The programme commenced with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge, followed by the Principal's Annual Report highlighting key academic milestones, co-curricular accomplishments and the overall progress of the institution. The Chief Guest, Arun Sood, former Mayor and former BJP President, Chandigarh, lauded the students and staff for their dedication. In his address, he emphasized that true education extends beyond textbooks and plays a vital role in nurturing character, creativity and social responsibility. The event was further graced by Guests of Honour Ruby Gupta (District Wise President, Mahila Wing), Priya Paswan (Yuva Morcha General Secretary), Sandeep Kaur (Mahila Morcha Zila Adhyaksh) and Prem Kaushik, who appreciated the school's continued efforts in promoting value-based and holistic education.

Annual Sports Day Celebrated with Grandeur at G World School, Mohali

MOHALI: The Annual Sports Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and sporting spirit at G World School, Mohali on 21st February 2026. The event aimed at promoting physical fitness, discipline, teamwork, and holistic development among students.

The programme was graced by the esteemed Chief Guest, Sanjay Tandon, Senior Leader, BJP, Parbhari, BJP Himachal Pradesh, Chairman, Standing Sports Committee Advisory of Chandigarh Administration, Ex-President, Chandigarh BJP; and Ex-President, UTCA Cricket Association. In his inspiring address, he emphasized the importance of sports in nurturing leadership qualities, resilience, and confidence among young learners.



The Guest of Honour included Harmanjeet Singh Goraya, National Awardee; Mrs. Divya P., IAS, SDM, Kharar; Mr. Karan Singh Sandu, DSP, Kharar; and Mr. Ankit Mahajan, Nayab Tehsildar, Fatehgarh Sahib. Their presence added prestige to the occasion and served as a great source of motivation for the students.

The event was also honoured by the presence of Special Dignitaries — Mr. Ashok Sharma, Retd. XEN; Mr. Honey Sanan; and Mr. Rachit Malhotra, Architect — whose support and encouragement contributed to the success of the programme.

The celebration was conducted under the dynamic leadership of the school management — Chairperson Ms. Navdeep Kaur, Director Mr. Jaspreet Walia and Principal Ms. Pushpalata Jha — whose vision and dedication ensured the smooth and grand execution of the event.

The programme commenced with a ceremonial welcome and an impressive march past by the four houses, reflecting unity and discipline. Students enthusiastically participated in various track and field events, drills, and fun races, showcasing determination, coordination, and true sportsmanship.

Opus1Run – New Chandigarh Marathon Held



CHANDIGARH The Opus1Run – New Chandigarh Marathon (Run for Punjab) was successfully held on Sunday. The marathon aimed to promote health, fitness, and a strong sports culture in Punjab and the Chandigarh Capital Region. The marathon was an initiative of GB Realty and was organized by GB Legends. Earlier, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann unveiled the official jersey of the marathon. Prizes were presented to the winners by Naunihal Singh (IPS), Garima Singh (IRS), and GB Realty's Founder and Chairman Gurinder Bhatti. The marathon was flagged-off from Doon International School, New Chandigarh and ended at the start point. Amit Kumar won the full marathon (42 km) with a time of 3:08:41. The first runner-up title went to Amit who clocked a time of 3:18:59, and Anmol Chandan was adjudged second runner-up with a time of 3:20:31. In the female category, Poonam Rana (4:32:33) was the winner, Poonam Deswal (5:03:56) was the first runner-up, and Shivani Loht (5:30:37) was the second runner-up.

In the Half Marathon (21 km) male category, Yash Raj (1:08:52) was the winner, Sumit Dahiya (1:09:04) was the first runner-up, and Kapil (1:10:52) came third. In the female category, Santosh (1:36:23) was the winner, Muskan (1:36:48) was the first runner-up, and Mandeep Kaur (1:40:02) was the second runner-up.

Speaking on the occasion, Gurinder Bhatti, Founder and Chairman of GB Realty, stated that this marathon promoted sports activities. He stated that this was part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative and that they would continue to organize similar sports events in the future.

Samsung India Announces Exclusive Benefits for Customers Pre-Reserving Its Next AI Smartphone

GURUGRAM, India – February 20, 2026 –Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced exclusive benefits for customers pre-reserving its upcoming AI smartphone. Customers who pre-reserve will receive a complimentary memory upgrade from 256GB to 512GB. Samsung's next AI phone will be unveiled on February 25 at the Galaxy Unpacked event in San Francisco, California. Customers can pre-reserve the new Galaxy S series devices by paying a refundable token amount of INR 999 until February 25. Pre-reservations are available through Samsung.com, Samsung Exclusive Stores, Amazon.in, Flipkart.com, and leading retail outlets across India.In addition to the storage upgrade, pre-reserving customers will receive benefits worth INR 2699 upon purchasing the new Galaxy S series devices. The new Galaxy S series is designed to simplify everyday interactions, inspire confidence, and seamlessly integrate Galaxy AI from the moment it is in hand.

'Friends of Fortis' Programme Highlights Robotic Knee Replacement Outcomes in Amritsar

AMRITSAR: Fortis Escorts Hospital, Amritsar hosted a "Friends of Fortis" community engagement programme to present outcomes of its robot-aided knee replacement surgeries. The event brought together patients, doctors and members of the local community to discuss advancements in robotic-assisted orthopaedic procedures and share real-life recovery experiences.



Speaking at the event, Dr Mohit Arora, Director – Orthopaedics, said robotic-assisted knee replacement has improved surgical precision in treating complex knee arthritis. He noted that the technology enables better implant alignment, personalised planning and potentially faster recovery, helping patients regain mobility and reduce long-term pain.

Among the patients who shared their experiences was 59-year-old Narinder Kaur, who had been suffering from severe bilateral knee pain prior to surgery. She said she was unable to walk long distances and relied on pain medication. Following the procedure, she now walks nearly three kilometres daily and participates actively in family functions.

Similarly, 72-year-old Mohinder Singh, a diabetic and hypertensive patient, said he earlier depended on a walking stick and struggled with stairs. After robotic knee replacement, he now walks over 10,000 steps daily without support.

ITC hotels open Welcomhotel Mohali, Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH : ITC Hotels announced the launch of its 30th Welcomhotel – the 113 keys Welcomhotel By ITC Hotels, Mohali, Chandigrah further expanding its Welcomhotel portfolio and reinforcing its presence in the fast-growing Tricity region comprising of Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali. The hotel is operated under a management contract. Welcomhotel Mohali brings together contemporary design, intuitive service, and destination-inspired experiences. The hotel features well-appointed rooms and suites, signature dining destinations offering a blend of global and regional flavours, expansive banqueting and meeting spaces, and thoughtfully curated wellness facilities—making it an ideal choice for corporate engagements, weddings, and social events. Strategically located in Mohali, the hotel is well positioned to cater to the region's rising demand for premium hospitality across business and leisure markets.



Speaking at the occasion, Anil Chadha, Managing Director, ITC Hotels Limited, said, "The launch of Welcomhotel Mohali reflects our commitment to strengthening our presence in high-growth urban markets while delivering enriching experiences rooted in our renowned service excellence. Mohali's location and its rapid evolution as a commercial, IT, and lifestyle hub makes it a strategic addition to brand Welcomhotel."

Expressing their joy at the hotel opening, Bhupinder Gujral, Managing Director, Gujrals Restaurants and Hotels Limited, stated, "We are proud to associate with ITC Hotels in bringing the Welcomhotel brand to Mohali. This project has been envisioned as a contemporary hospitality destination that complements.

Samsung India Announces Exclusive Benefits for Customers Pre-Reserving Its Next AI Smartphone

CHANDIGARH: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, today announced exclusive benefits for customers pre-reserving its upcoming AI smartphone. Customers who pre-reserve will receive a complimentary memory upgrade from 256GB to 512GB. Samsung's next AI phone will be unveiled on February 25 at the Galaxy Unpacked event in San Francisco, California. Customers can pre-reserve the new Galaxy S series devices by paying a refundable token amount of INR 999 until February 25. Pre-reservations are available through Samsung.com, Samsung Exclusive Stores, Amazon.in, Flipkart.com, and leading retail outlets across India.

In addition to the storage upgrade, pre-reserving customers will receive benefits worth INR 2699 upon purchasing the new Galaxy S series devices. The new Galaxy S series is designed to simplify everyday interactions, inspire confidence, and seamlessly integrate Galaxy AI from the moment it is in hand.

The AI momentum is inseparable from semiconductor momentum: Ashok Chandak, IESA

CHANDIGARH: The India AI Impact Summit 2026 marks a defining moment in the convergence of AI, semiconductor strategy, and trusted global technology partnerships. With participation from over 20 Heads of State, 60 Ministers, 500 global AI leaders, and more than 300,000 attendees, the Summit firmly positions India at the center of the global AI transformation—especially for the Global South. The release of India's AI Governance Guidelines, the expansion of the IndiaAI Fellowship to 13,500 scholars, and the strengthening of the IndiaAI Safety Institute demonstrate a comprehensive approach—policy, talent, and standards moving in alignment. On the infrastructure front, with 38,000 GPUs already operational and over 50,000 more being deployed in the coming months, India is rapidly scaling sovereign compute capacity. With supported fund and projections of over $200 billion in AI investments—primarily in infrastructure and RDI Scheme , ISM 2.0 and Electronics hardware policies - India is building one of the world's fastest-growing AI ecosystems.



But history has repeatedly shown that the nations which shape transformative technologies are rarely the same as those who define the ethical and governance norms surrounding them. PM Shri Narendra Modi ji's address at the summit today signals India's clear intent to occupy both roles simultaneously — as a builder and adopter of AI at scale, and as a principled voice for a governance architecture that serves humanity broadly, not selectively. Given where we stand in the AI adoption curve today, this is precisely the right argument, made at precisely the right time. Honorable PM's articulation of MANAV — grounding AI governance in moral integrity, accountable institutions, national data sovereignty, inclusive access.

Koeli Tegbir, Nancy, Mastana, Raju, Pawan and Chandandeep honoured as Apeejay Stya Art Festival 2026 concludes



CHANDIGARH: Koeli Mukherjee Tegbir, Nancy, Mohinder Mastana, Parmeshwar Raju, Pawan Kumar and Chandandeep were honoured for their outstanding artistic contributions as the four-day Apeejay Stya Art Festival 2026 – Creative Cascades concluded on a high note at the Sobha Singh Art Gallery, Panjab Kala Bhawan.

The awards ceremony marked the grand culmination of an exhibition that showcased nearly 70 artworks across diverse mediums including paintings, drawings, sculptures, graphics, tapestries, mixed media and digital art. The exhibition drew an enthusiastic response from art lovers, academicians, students and members of the creative fraternity throughout its four-day run.

Organised under the aegis of Apeejay Education, the festival reflects the farsighted vision of its Founder Chairman Dr. Stya Paul, who strongly believed that art should form an integral part of education for holistic and intellectual growth. The legacy is now being carried forward with dedication by Mrs. Sushma Paul Berlia and Dr. Neha Berlia.

The exhibition featured works by faculty members, researchers and students from six Apeejay institutions, including Apeejay Stya University and Apeejay College of Fine Arts, among others.

Two-Day Annual Sports Day Held at Small Wonders School; Little Children Show Great Enthusiasm

MOHALI: Small Wonders School, Mohali organised its two-day Annual Sports Day, 'Sporting Wonders,' with great excitement. This year's theme was 'We All Are Winners,' which encouraged confidence and a positive spirit among the children.



Students from Play Class to UKG took part in various activities and showed great energy, discipline, and sportsmanship. The program began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, followed by a march past by the little children. Aerobics, mass PT, motivational dance, and other colorful performances were also presented. The sports events included fun races, relay races, drill and dance, and other enjoyable games. These activities helped children learn teamwork and healthy competition. Smiles and confidence were clearly visible on their faces. Parents were specially invited to attend the event. They felt proud watching their children perform and encouraged them with applause.

The program ended with a medal distribution ceremony, where all participants were appreciated for their efforts. School Principal Mrs. Herdip Nama said that the aim of the event is to develop physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship among students from an early age. She added that the school focuses on overall development along with academic excellence.

Samagra Shiksha Himachal Pradesh, Pioneer Agritech Solutions Train 600 HP Students in Agritech



CHANDIGARH: Pioneer Agritech Solutions, a leading agritech company specializing in protective farming, hydroponics and nursery development, conducted a comprehensive training programme for 600 meritorious Class 12 students from government schools across Himachal Pradesh. The programme was organised under Samagra Shiksha Himachal Pradesh and hosted by the Himachal Pradesh Government at Sunday Hotel. A team of expert agronomists and senior professionals from Pioneer Agritech Solutions, led by Managing Director Ambrish Arora, delivered sessions on modern agricultural practices including hydroponics, polyhouse farming and sustainable agriculture. The training combined classroom learning with practical, on-site exposure, enabling students to gain hands-on experience in advanced farming techniques. Students from 10 districts — Solan, Sirmour, Mandi, Chamba, Kangra, Una, Shimla, Kullu, Hamirpur and Bilaspur — participated in the programme. The initiative aimed to equip young learners with cutting-edge agritech knowledge and inspire them to explore agriculture as a progressive and technology-driven career option.

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

CHANDIGARH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

YUGMARG
News

PAGE 11

National Round Table Conference of ECI, SECs to be held on Feb 24

NEW DELHI: Election Commission of India (ECI) will organise the National Round Table Conference of ECI and State Election Commissioners (SECs) on February 24 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.According to a press note by ECI, it was stated that the Round Table Conference is being convened after a gap of 27 years. The last such Conference was held in the year 1999.The Round Table Conference will be chaired by the Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, in the presence of Election Commissioners, Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi. State Election Commissioners of all States and Union Territories will participate along with their legal and technical experts. Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all 36 States and Union Territories will also attend the Conference.The primary objective of the Round Table Conference is to foster synergies in the functioning of ECI and SECs with respect to electoral processes and logistics within their respective legal frameworks. The deliberations are expected to provide a platform for constructive exchange of ideas and reinforce the spirit of cooperative federalism in electoral management, EC said in its release.During the day-long conference, discussions will focus around sharing of technology.

NEWS BRIEF

Nalagarh police station blast: two key perpetrators linked to bki held with pistol

CHANDIGARH: In a major breakthrough amidst the ongoing drive to make Punjab a safe and secure state as per directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Counter Intelligence (CI) Jalandhar, in a joint operation with CI SAS Nagar, has apprehended two key perpetrators involved in the RDX-based Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast at Nalagarh Police Station in Himachal Pradesh, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Sunday.

Those arrested have been identified as Mahavir alias Kaka and Manpreet alias Mani, both residents of SBS Nagar. During the operation, one 9MM Glock pistol along with four live cartridges was recovered from their possession.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused were acting on the directions of foreign-based masterminds Gopi Nawashehria, Jassi Kulam and Shushant Chopra associated with banned terrorist outfit Babbar Khalsa International (BKI).

He said that the arrested accused, along with their accomplices, had procured consignments containing RDX-based IEDs and hand grenades on the instructions of their foreign handlers. From these consignments, an IED (RDX) was used by arrested duo to carry out the blast at Nalagarh Police Station in Himachal Pradesh on January 1, 2026.

GNDU Alumnus Creates History for Punjab, Punjabi and Punjabiat

AMRITSAR: During the inaugural session of the three-day International Conference organised by Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU) from 20–22 February, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Karamjeet Singh, shared a moment of immense pride for the university and the Punjabi community worldwide. He informed the audience that a distinguished alumnus of GNDU, Jaspreet Singh, Attorney-at-Law (USA), has created a historic milestone by presenting a memorandum to the Governor of the State of New York. Significantly, the Governor graciously agreed to the concerns raised, marking a proud moment for Punjab, Punjabi, and Punjabiat. In a message received from Jaspreet Singh, he expressed gratitude to the Governor of New York, Hon. Kathy Hochul, for facilitating a meeting with Sikh leaders of New York. The meeting was held on 17 February 2026 at the Governor's Office in Manhattan, New York, and was attended by several senior officials representing key departments, including the State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Department of Education, and Interfaith Affairs. Sibu Nair, Director of Asian American Affairs, was also present. Describing the interaction as historic and highly productive, Jaspreet Singh stated that the meeting lasted for nearly one hour.

Aam Aadmi Party Leader Prince Dhaliwal Warns Against Bribes in CM Health Scheme Cards

CHANDIGARH (J.K. BATTA): Senior youth leader of the Aam Aadmi Party, Prince Dhaliwal, has warned that strict action will be taken against anyone found demanding money for issuing cards under the Chief Minister's Health Scheme.

Addressing the media, Dhaliwal said that health cards under the Punjab Government's scheme are being issued completely free of cost. He informed that coordinators have been appointed in every village and ward by the party's Youth Wing to ensure that citizens do not face inconvenience and are properly guided through the process.

He emphasized that the Youth Wing is actively spreading awareness that no fee is required for making these cards. However, he alleged that certain mischief-makers and private individuals are misleading people and illegally demanding money. Prince Dhaliwal urged residents and shopkeepers not to fall prey to misinformation. He advised them to visit only government-approved CSC (Common Service Centre) facilities to get their family photographs taken and complete the card registration process without paying any charges.

Governor presides over closing ceremony of International Shivratri Fair in Mandi



MANDI: Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla presided over the closing ceremony of the week-long International Shivratri Fair at Mandi today. Lady Governor Janaki Shukla was also present on the occasion.

Earlier, the Governor paid obeisance at the historic Madhorai Temple and participated in the traditional Shobha Yatra. He also attended the Devludham at Mata Bhimakali premises and later offered prayers at the Shree Raj Madhav Rai Temple. The Governor took part in the centuries-old traditional procession 'Jaleb' led by Shree Raj Madhav Rai and greeted the large gathering of devotees. Both the Governor and the Lady Governor wore traditional turbans and warmly acknowledged the people.

Addressing the gathering, the Governor said that the festival was a vibrant reflection of the State's rich cultural heritage, faith and traditions. He remarked that Shivratri was not merely a festival but a symbol of faith, penance and devotion. Describing Lord Shiva as the embodiment of both creation and destruction, he said: "Shiva's Trishul inspires us to follow the path of truth, righteousness and justice, while his Damru symbolizes the eternal cycle of creation and dissolution."

Emphasizing upon environmental responsibility, the Governor said: "Lord Shiva, known as Vishwanath, signifies the oneness of nature and the divine. True worship of Shiva is possible only by respecting nature and fulfilling our social and moral responsibilities." He added that protecting nature was not only a moral duty but integral to the true spirit of devotion.

Referring to Himachal Pradesh as Devbhoomi, the Governor lauded Mandi, popularly known as Choti Kashi, for its spiritual legacy and numerous ancient temples. He said that the festival serves as an important platform to promote the State's folk culture, music, dance and handicrafts, thereby preserving its glorious traditions.

Marking the 500 glorious years of Mandi town's establishment, the Governor appreciated initiatives such as heritage walks, literary events and cultural programmes highlighting the region's historical legacy. He also commended the addition of new dimensions to this year's Mahotsav, including the Beas Aarti near Panchvaktra Temple, laser shows depicting Mandi's history, participation of international cultural troupes, the first "Chhoti Kashi Literature Festival", Saras Mela and initiatives promoting women entrepreneurs.

The Governor appreciated the efforts of the district administration in preserving the ancient tradition of the Jaleb and ensuring comprehensive arrangements for visiting deities, pilgrims and musicians. He noted that the presence of over 200 deities added grandeur and spiritual fervour to the event.

Sukhbir Singh Badal indulging in double-faced politics, misleading Punjab with recycled lies: Dhaliwal



CHANDIGARH /AMRITSAR:Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Punjab Chief Spokesperson and MLA Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal on Sunday took on the leadership of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), stating that Sukhbir Singh Badal, like his father Parkash Singh Badal, is indulging in as "double-faced politics" and attempting to mislead the people of Punjab with recycled rhetoric and fresh claims.Addressing a press conference in Amritsar, AAP Punjab Chief Spokesperson Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal said that before making tall claims about eliminating gangsterism, Sukhbir Singh Badal must first answer for his own record. "You cannot field a family member of a known gangster as your candidate in one constituency and then thunder from the stage about wiping out gangsters in another. This blatant hypocrisy will not go unnoticed by the people of Punjab," he said.Referring to the elections in Tarn Taran, the AAP Punjab Chief Spokesperson said that the Akali Dal had openly supported and sought votes linked to individuals with criminal backgrounds. "Today they claim they will demolish gangsters' houses, but yesterday they were attending their family functions and fielding their relatives as candidates. Punjab remembers everything," he stated.Drawing parallels with the tenure of Parkash Singh Badal, Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal said that Sukhbir Singh Badal was walking the same path. "The Badal family has historically thrived on exploiting Punjab's youth, first patronizing such elements for political gains and later shedding crocodile tears over law and order. The roots of organized gangsterism and the drug menace deepened during the SAD-BJP regime from 2007 to 2017," he added.Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal questioned the moral authority of Sukhbir Singh Badal to lecture the present government on crime. "The same people who allowed Punjab to bleed are now pretending to be its saviors. When drug mafias and criminal networks flourished, who was in power? The people of Punjab know the answer," he said.

Three-Day 'Punjab Sakhi Shakti Mela' from Feb 24 in Barnala: Deputy Commissioner



KARANPREET KARAN

BARNALA : A three-day "Punjab Sakhi Shakti Mela" will be organized at the local grain market in Barnala district from February 24 to 26, Deputy Commissioner Harpreet Singh (IAS) announced.

The Deputy Commissioner said the mela is a special initiative for district residents, featuring a range of engaging activities. Exhibition stalls will be set up by various self-help groups and government departments, providing a platform to showcase local products, schemes and initiatives.

Highlighting the key attractions, he said that children will present vibrant cultural performances for the entertainment of visitors. Renowned singers will also perform during the event, adding to the festive spirit. Entry to the mela will be free for all.

He further informed that the district administration has made comprehensive arrangements for cleanliness, safe drinking water and uninterrupted electricity at the venue to ensure visitors' convenience.

A large congregation gathers at Dera Salimpur for Sant Sammelan

JAIBEER RANA THAMBER

BARARA: A large and grand Sant Sammelan dedicated to the 149th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji was held at Dera Salimpur under the patronage of Sant Shri Shri 108 Dhir Das Ji Maharaj. Thousands of Sangat from various districts attended this Sant Sammelan organised by the Shri Guru Ravidas Jagriti Welfare Society and paid homage to Guru Ravidas Ji. Sant Mandeep Das of Shri Guru Ravidas Dharam Asthan, who arrived as the chief guest, said that instead of wandering one should surrender to the Guru. Believe in One and Become One. Kings, queens, and others of that time who sought refuge in Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj also crossed the ocean of life. He said that instead of looking for faults in others, we should look within ourselves. The secret of life is hidden in the words of Guru Ravidas Maharaj.

In his speech, he spoke of a kingdom of Begumpurra, where no one would suffer any sorrow, there would be no discrimination, and everyone would have food to eat. Saint Nirmaldas Ji of Dera Baba Laldas Ji Kapal Mochan, who arrived as a special guest, congratulated the organizers on the grand event. He urged them to abandon evil and adopt the right path. Meanwhile, Shri Shri 1008 Swami Gyannath Ji Maharaj said that Guru Ravidas Ji preached to all humanity that unless we worship God, our worldly and spiritual lives will be wasted. Those who wish to see God must seek the company of a saint who can help them meet Him. This precious birth has been bestowed after many births; do not waste it. When we recognize God, we can experience Him. Guru Ravidas Ji explained the secrets of subtle elements in his speech. Sant Dhirdas Ji, while expressing gratitude to the saints, guests, Sangat and volunteers who had come, said that today the propagation of Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj is going on in full swing. On this occasion, Sant Somdas Tandwali, Sant Ram Singh Jharamdi, Sant Shyamlal Bihta, Sant Sundaranand and other saints were present.



Ragi and Kirtani groups praised the glory of Guru Ravidas Ji. At the same time, a free eye camp was organized by the Selfless Public Service Forum, in which free eye check-ups of about 250 patients were done and medicines were distributed. Raman Rawat, Pala Ram and team from Kapil Eye Hospital rendered services in the camp.



Mahant Praveen Chaudhary Thanks Devotees After 243-Hour Akhand Yagya at Maa Baglamukhi Dham





SARABJIT SUFI

LUDHIANA: Following the successful completion of the 243-hour Akhand Yagya at Maa Baglamukhi Dham, Mahant Praveen Chaudhary, along with devotees and members of the Dham, offered prayers and expressed heartfelt gratitude to Maa Baglamukhi for the smooth and obstacle-free conduct of the grand spiritual event.

The Group Managing Committee honoured Mahant Praveen Chaudhary for his guidance and leadership in organizing the Maha Yagya. The Mahant also acknowledged the tireless efforts of volunteers who ensured the seamless functioning of the 24-hour Yagya throughout the nine-day period.

The Sevak Committee appreciated the dedicated leadership of Manpreet Chhatwal, Sunil Mahajan, Raman Ghai and Jatinder Sood, who played a key role in maintaining discipline and arrangements at the Dham during the event.

Welcoming millions of devotees from across the country and abroad, as well as representatives from religious, social, political and business organizations, Mahant Ji said the atmosphere at the Yagya site reflected devotion and enthusiasm comparable to a Kumbh Mela. He highlighted the daily participation of school students from the beginning to the conclusion of the Yagya, emphasizing that blending spirituality with education is essential to preserve Indian culture for future generations.

He also acknowledged the contributions of saints, scholars, preachers, women's Sankirtan Mandals and Bhajan singers of Sanatan Dharma, noting that each devotee contributed in their own way—through service, financial support, organizational assistance or personal dedication.

On the occasion, a large number of volunteers and devotees were present, reaffirming their faith and commitment to the spiritual mission of the Dham.

ELECTION NOTICE

It is for the information of all members of The National Insurance Employees Cooperative USET/C Society Ltd., Chandigarh that election for the managing committee of the society will be held on Dt. 13.03.2026 at i.e. National Insurance Co. Ltd. SCO 56-57 (First Floor) Madhya Marg, Sector 26, Chandigarh as under:-

Date of Nomination 12.03.2026 (10.00 am to 11.00 am)

Date of Polling 13.03.2026 (11.00 am to 3.00 pm)

The detailed election programme is pasted on the notice board of the Society. All members are requested to participate in the above election. Sd/- (Secretary)

BIS Group of Institutes, Amritsar Highway, Gagra (Moga) 142043.

Requires

Asstt. Professors, Associate Professors, Professors (Temporary /Regular) with Qualifications as : M.Sc (IT), MCA, Ph.D (Computer Application) for Computer Application Program. MBA, Ph.D (Management) - for Management Courses.M.Com, Ph.D (Commerce)-for Commerce Course M.Tech, PhD (CSE) for B.Tech Course M.A (Punjabi), M.A (English), M.A (Economics) - for B.A (CS) Program.

Qualification and salary as per UGC/ AICTE norms.

Email your resume at infobisinstitutes@gmail.com by 04/03/2026. Contact No: 9878822104.

3 day of MachAuto Expo 2026 creates history with landmark footfall and unprecedented industry response







SARBJIT SUFI
LUDHIANA, FEB 22

Day 3 of MachAuto Expo 2026 turned out to be a historic and defining day for this year's edition, as the exhibition recorded a landmark footfall, surpassing expectations and setting a new benchmark for industry participation. The tremendous response witnessed throughout the day reflected the growing strength, credibility, and influence of the expo within the manufacturing and engineering ecosystem.

From the moment the gates opened, the venue experienced a continuous surge of visitors, resulting in packed exhibition halls and vibrant business activity across all segments. The aisles were buzzing with conversations, product demonstrations, and networking engagements, creating an atmosphere charged with opportunity and innovation. The record-breaking attendance not only highlighted the popularity of the event but also underscored the strong momentum currently driving the industrial sector.

The visitor profile on Day 3 included leading industrialists, MSME owners, plant heads, production managers, procurement specialists, channel partners, and technical consultants from various regions. What stood out prominently was the seriousness and quality of the audience. Visitors arrived with clear business objectives, actively engaging in technical discussions and exploring potential collaborations.

Exhibitors across categories expressed immense satisfaction and enthusiasm regarding the overwhelming response. Many participants described the day as exceptionally productive, citing continuous engagement at their stalls, strong inquiries, and promising negotiations. Several exhibitors shared that the footfall on Day 3 translated directly into meaningful business leads and future orders.

They emphasized that beyond the impressive numbers, the quality of visitors was truly remarkable, with knowledgeable professionals showing keen interest in advanced machinery, automation systems, and innovative industrial solutions.

Exhibitors also appreciated the professional environment and the structured organization of the expo, which enabled focused discussions and effective networking. Live machine demonstrations, technology showcases, and interactive presentations drew large crowds, further adding to the dynamic energy of the event.

Visitors, too, expressed high appreciation for the scale, diversity, and quality of products on display. Many attendees highlighted the advantage of exploring a wide spectrum of technologies under one roof, allowing them to compare solutions, evaluate innovations, and make informed investment decisions

The landmark footfall achieved on Day 3 stands as a testament to the trust the industry places in MachAuto Expo as a catalyst for growth, modernization, and collaboration. The strong synergy between exhibitors and visitors created an ecosystem of opportunity, knowledge exchange, and business expansion.

As the exhibition progresses, the momentum generated on Day 3 is expected to translate into long-term partnerships, increased investments, and accelerated industrial advancement. With record participation, exceptional engagement, and overwhelmingly positive feedback from all stakeholders, MachAuto Expo 2026 continues to strengthen its position as a premier industrial exhibition, driving innovation and shaping the future of manufacturing.

Corruption is rampant in AAP government, the public's life has become a misery: Simarjit Bains

SARBJIT SUFI
LUDHIANA, FEB 22

A special meeting was organized in Ward No. 33 under the leadership of Kamaljit Kaur, Block President of Mahila Wing Halka south. Former MLA Simarjit Singh Bains attended this meeting as the chief guest. Public upset with government policies During the meeting, residents of Ward No. 33 participated in large numbers and expressed their protest against the current Aam Aadmi Party government. People said that corruption is at its peak in government offices. The life of the common man has become difficult due to the government's anti-people policies. No attention is being paid to the basic problems of the area. Addressing the meeting, Simarjit Singh Bains targeted the Aam Aadmi Party government and said that today every citizen of Punjab feels cheated. The 'change' in the name of which people voted has been limited to advertisements only. In reality, today no work is being done in government offices without bribes and corruption has increased many times more than before."



Punjab Di Mitti, Chandigarh Di Shaan - COLORS''Tu Juliet Jatt Di' stars celebrate the iconic Rose Festival



CHANDIGARH: Television glamour found a vibrant new address at Chandigarh's iconic Rose Festival as the stars of COLORS' 'Tu Juliet Jatt Di' stepped into the city's most cherished celebration with their distinctive Punjabi swag. Riding high on the popularity of its refreshing narrative twist, where marriage comes first, college follows, and love finds its way last - Nawab aka Syed Raza, Heer aka Jasmeet Kaur, and Gulab aka Sangita Ghosh marked their presence at the 54th edition of the festival held at the iconic Zakir Hussain Rose Garden. Adding to the festive fervour, the trio delighted audiences with a special performance inspired by the show, leaving fans cheering, clapping, and completely smitten. With roses in full bloom and Punjabi beats in the air, the three-day floral extravaganza turned into the perfect backdrop for this breezy campus romance that's winning hearts for flipping the script of stories as we know them.The Rose Festival turned into a full-blown fan celebration, giving the cast a special moment to soak in the love and early success the show has received. At the heart of the story are Nawab, a wealthy and carefree young man shaped by the pace and polish of city life, and Heer is sharp, driven, and deeply rooted in her pind, making them complete opposites. Bound by a secret marriage and constantly navigating their differences, their college life puts their priorities and purpose to the test. During a special live showcase at the festival, amid cheers from the Chandigarh crowd, their playful clashes took an emotional turn when Nawab publicly acknowledged Heer as his wife for the first time, marking a defining moment that shifts their equation and sets the stage for an unexpected friendship. At the heart of the conflict stands Gulab — Nawab's fiercely devoted mother — whose formidable presence tests Heer and Nawab's bond, pushing their love to prove itself. The trio signed off on a high note after crowning the Rose King and Queen and presenting prizes to the festival's singing competition winners.Talking about his character and the audience's response, Syed Raza said, "Nawab is impulsive, brash, and often acts before he thinks, but there's a certain honesty to him that audiences seem to connect with. Watching viewers root for him despite his flaws tells me they see something real in him, and that means everything to me. What's interesting in the story ahead is how the constant nok-jhok between Nawab and Heer slowly gives way to an unexpected friendship, changing their entire dynamic. There's a big gaming tournament coming up, and for the first time, Heer genuinely stands by him, encourages him, and helps him believe in himself. That shift of Nawab being pushed to focus and rise to a challenge adds a very exciting new layer to his journey.

!! महायोगी गुरुगोरक्षनाथाय नमः!! !! श्री बाबा मस्तनाथो विजयतेतराम!!



गोरक्ष स्वरूप सिद्ध शिरोमणि
श्री बाबा मस्तनाथ जी महाराज



तपस्वी रणपतनाथ योगी जी



श्री बाबा मस्तनाथ मठ



तपस्वी मानधातानाथ योगी जी

BABA MASTNATH UNIVERSITY ROHTAK
विधेयम् जन सेवनम्
बाबा मस्तनाथ विश्वविद्यालय
अस्थल बोहर, रोहतक

सादर आमंत्रण

18वीं सदी से चली आ रही परम्परानुसार
सिद्ध शिरोमणि श्री बाबा मस्तनाथ जी की पुण्यस्मृति में लगने वाला



श्रीयुत महंत
श्रेयोनाथ जी महाराज
पूर्व स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, हरियाणा सरकार

सालाना मेला व भण्डारा



ब्रह्मलीन महंत
चाँदनाथ जी महाराज
पूर्व सांसद, अलवर

दिनांक : 23, 24 व 25 फरवरी, 2026

तदनुसार फाल्गुन मास, शुक्ल पक्ष : सप्तमी, अष्टमी, नवमी (सोमवार, मंगलवार, बुधवार) को मनाया जा रहा है।

इस बहुआयामी आध्यात्मिक मेले में आप सभी सहपरिवार सादर आमंत्रित हैं।

अतः सभी महानुभाव, साधु-संत, योगी-संन्यासी, माता बहनें, बच्चे-बुजुर्ग
एवं श्रद्धालु, परिजन-पूरजन-स्वजन के साथ पहुँचकर मेले का आनन्द उठाएँ तथा बाबा जी की दिव्य कृपा और आशीर्वाद प्राप्त करें।







मेले के दौरान निम्नलिखित कार्यक्रम आयोजित किये जाएंगे।

सर्कल कबड्डी
24 फरवरी, 2026

विशाल इनामी कुश्ती दंगल
25 फरवरी, 2026



महंत बालकनाथ योगी
गद्दीनशीन महंत श्री बाबा मस्तनाथ मठ, अस्थल बोहर, रोहतक-124021 (हरियाणा)
कुलाधिपति-बाबा मस्तनाथ विश्वविद्यालय | विधायक-तिजारा एवं पूर्व सांसद, अलवर व पूर्व प्रदेश उपाध्यक्ष, भाजपा (राजस्थान)

CLICK HERE

E-PAPER

www.yugmarg.com

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

YUGMARG

■PUNJAB ■HARYANA ■HIMACHAL ■CHANDIGARH ■DELHI ■J&K

Leading English Newspaper Of North India

FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

like us in facebook
@yugmarg.news
CLICK HERE

follow us in Instagram
@yugmarg
CLICK HERE

Subscribe us in youtube
@yugmargtv
CLICK HERE

follow us in Linked
@yugmarg
CLICK HERE

follow us in twitter
@yugmarg
CLICK HERE

follow us in telegram
@yugmarg
CLICK HERE

FOR ADVERTISEMENT AT
NEWSPAPER & WEB CHANNEL
CONTACT: 0172-5002721, 97801-84869