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FIFA WORLD CUP FINAL TO FEATURE FIRST-EVER HALFTIME SHOW WITH MADONNA, BTS AND SHAKIRA

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NEWS BRIEFS

India bans sugar exports till Sept 30

NEW DELHI: India has banned the export of sugar till September 30 this year, according to a government notification. The notification issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on May 13 said this order does not apply to sugar being exported to the European Union and the US under the tariff rate quota scheme. The order is also not applicable to the shipments under the advance authorisation scheme, government-to-government exports and consignments already in the physical export pipeline.

Centre condemns attack on Indian-flagged ship off Oman coast, crew safe

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday strongly condemned the attack on an Indian-flagged commercial vessel off the coast of Oman on May 13, 2026, calling it "unacceptable" and warned against continued targeting of civilian maritime activity. The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that all Indian crew members on board are safe following the incident. The crew was rescued with assistance from Omani authorities, whom India thanked for their swift response. In an official statement released, the government also expressed gratitude to the Omani authorities for swiftly rescuing the crew following the incident. Reiterating its position on maritime security, India said attacks on commercial vessels and threats to civilian mariners violate international norms and must be avoided. It also stressed the importance of ensuring freedom of navigation and uninterrupted global trade.

Idols vandalised at temple in UP's Deoria, police deployed

DEORIA (UP): Unidentified individuals allegedly vandalised idols of Lord Hanuman and Nandi at a Kali Mata temple complex here, triggering tension in the area, police said on Thursday. A case has been registered against unidentified persons and efforts were underway to nab them. Tarkulwa SHO Bhubendra Singh said, adding that the installation of new idols at the temple has also begun. Idols at the temple situated on the Chhoti Gandak riverbanks in Konhwalla Babu Rai village in Tarkulwa area, were found damaged on Thursday morning after the priest, Yogendra Singh, reopened the premises following Wednesday's evening prayers, they added.

Rupee settles at record low of 95.73 against US dollar

MUMBAI: The rupee weakened further and fell to a record low of 95.73 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, amid a strong dollar and worries over inflation amid elevated energy prices. Forex traders said the rupee is expected to trade with a negative bias amid inflation concerns and the strength of the US dollar in the overseas market. The West Asia crisis and the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz have disrupted crude petroleum imports into India. Also, the sharp rise in crude prices has made fuel imports costlier.

104 people killed as storms and rain batter UP, many injured

AGENCY LUCKNOW, MAY 14

Uttar Pradesh Relief Commissioner Harikesh Bhaskar on Thursday informed that at least 104 people have lost their lives across Uttar Pradesh due to relentless rain, lightning, and thunderstorms in various parts of the state over the past 36 to 48 hours. The Relief Commissioner added that continuous monitoring is being conducted, and the 24-hour Integrated Control and Command Centre remains fully operational. Orders have also been issued to all officials to conduct field inspections. Furthermore, the Chief Minister has announced compensation measures, and financial relief is currently being disbursed to the affected individuals. Earlier in the day, Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath directed state officials to provide immediate assistance to victims of the recent storms and lightning. The Chief Minister has ordered the prompt release of compensation following reports of casualties and property damage over the last 24 hours. Yogi directed officials to immediately visit the affected sites and provide assistance to the victims, release compensation and instructed districts to provide updates on the situation every 3 hours. He has further asked all District Magistrates to prioritise relief work. He also directed that compensation disbursement, rescue operations, and other related work should be updated on social media. According to the press release, information regarding loss of human lives, livestock loss, and crop damage has come from 19 districts, including Barabanki, Bahraich, Kanpur Dehat, Basti, Sambhal, Hardoi, and Unnao. Additional-



ly, 130 livestock (both large and small) have perished, and 98 houses have sustained damage. CM Yogi has expressed condolences to the families of the deceased. On the other hand, on Tuesday, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, launched two advanced weather forecasting systems developed under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), aimed at providing hyper-local, AI-enabled and impact-based weather services across the country.

According to a list issued by the Prayagraj district administration, seven deaths were reported in the Handia area, four in Phulpur, three in Soraon, two in Meja and one in Sadar due to the storm and rain.

In Bhadohi, district administration sources said at least 16 people died in

storm-related incidents. Additional District Magistrate Kunwar Virendra Kumar Maurya said trees and electric poles were uprooted in several areas while many houses were damaged in the storm.

Fatehpur Additional District Magistrate Avinash Tripathi said nine people were killed and 16 injured in storm-related incidents in the district.

"Eight people, including five women, died in Khaga tehsil, while a woman died after a wall of a house collapsed in Sadar tehsil," he said.

In Pratapgarh, four people died in separate incidents of wall and cemented shed collapses and lightning strikes amid strong winds and rain, officials said.

Superintendent of Police Deepak Bhukar said Bhim Yadav (25) died after he was trapped under the debris of a cemented shed that collapsed in Ojha Ka Purwa

416 Punjab govt schools achieve 100% pass rate in Class 12: CM Mann



YUGMARG BUREAU CHANDIGARH, MAY 14

Punjab's government schools have scripted a major turnaround in public education, with 416 Government Schools recording a perfect 100% pass result in the Punjab School Education Board (PSEB) Class 12 examinations under the Bhagwant Mann Government's Sikhya Kranti. As girls dominated the merit list and pass percentage once again, Punjab CM Bhagwant Singh Mann on Thursday hailed the daughters of Punjab for spearheading the state's educational resurgence after three students, Supneet Kaur from Mansa and Suhani Chauhan and Divyanshi from Ludhiana, scored a flawless 500 out of 500 marks.

In a major boost to confi-

dence in government education, 122 of the 275 students in the merit list are from Government Schools, signalling a dramatic transformation in Punjab's education system driven by infrastructure upgrades, modern classrooms and focused academic reforms under the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government. CM Bhagwant Singh Mann honoured Supneet Kaur from Mansa, Suhani Chauhan from Ludhiana and Divyanshi from Ludhiana for securing a perfect score of 500 out of 500 marks in the examinations. The Chief Minister presented each student with a cash prize of 50,000 in recognition of their exceptional achievement.

Interacting with the students, CM Bhagwant Singh

Mann said, "It is a matter of immense pride and satisfaction that all the three toppers are national and state-level players, which clearly shows that they are excelling in every field." He added, "All the toppers belong to humble backgrounds and want to excel in life through hard work and dedication. The Punjab Government will extend full support and cooperation to them in achieving their dreams."

Highlighting the continued outstanding performance of girls in academics, the Chief Minister stated, "It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for all of us that with the spread of education in society, girls have outshined boys not only in academics but in every field."

Ravneet Bittu flags off Amritsar-New Jalpaiguri Amrit Bharat Express



UNI CHANDIGARH: Union Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industries, Ravneet Singh Bittu, on Wednesday officially flagged off the inaugural run of the 14664 Amritsar-New Jalpaiguri Amrit Bharat Express from the Amritsar Railway Station.

The ceremony was attended by senior railway officials, political leaders, and a large gathering of passengers, marking a significant enhancement in rail connectivity between Punjab and Eastern India. The newly launched express train is slated to cover a distance of approximately 1,900 kilometers. Speaking to the media during the event, Minister Bittu emphasized that the Amrit Bharat series has been specifically conceptualized to cater to common citizens and middle-class travelers, providing them with high-end amenities at affordable costs. He noted that the service would prove immensely beneficial for devotees and laborers frequently traveling between the two regions. The Amrit Bharat Express boasts several modern features, including a maximum speed capability of 130 km/h. It is equipped with advanced safety and comfort installations such as CCTV cameras, emergency talk-back buttons, mobile charging points at every seat, and spacious luggage areas. The Minister further highlighted that the train's design incorporates fire-resistant materials and enhanced safety protocols to minimize risks during transit.

EC to conduct SIR Phase-III of electoral rolls in 16 States including Punjab, Chandigarh

AGENCY NEW DELHI, MAY 14

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Thursday announced the conduct of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) Phase-III of electoral rolls across 16 States and three Union Territories, covering over 36 crore electors in a phased manner. According to the press note issued by the Commission, the exercise has been planned in coordination with the ongoing house listing component of the Census to ensure optimal use of field machinery. It further stated that the revision will cover the entire country under Phase-



III, except Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, where the schedule will be announced separately. After considering the completion of Phase-II of the Census in these

three State/UTs and due consideration of the weather in the upper reaches/snow bound areas, SIR schedule for these three State/UTs will be announced later," it added. The poll body said that over 3.94 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will carry out house-to-house verification work, supported by 3.42 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties during the enumeration phase. The ECI emphasised that the exercise is participatory and involves all stakeholders, including electors, political parties and election

officials. It also urged political parties to appoint BLAs for each polling booth to ensure full participation and transparency in the process. "ECI requests all political parties to appoint BLAs for each Polling Booth, in order to ensure full participation of political parties so that SIR is conducted with complete transparency and full participation of political parties," it said. The Commission further said that in the earlier two phases of SIR, covering 13 States and UTs, over 59 crore electors were covered with the participation of more than 6.3 lakh BLOs and 9.2 lakh BLAs. The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) schedule has been outlined for multiple States and Union Territories with clearly defined timelines for each stage of the electoral roll process.

VD Satheesan to be next CM of Kerala

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: VD Satheesan will be the next Chief Minister of Kerala as Congress announced him as the Legislative Party leader of Kerala Congress on Thursday after more than a week of intense deliberations with Kerala party leader rushing back and forth to Delhi. With the announcement, Congress will proceed to form the government in the state, ending days of speculation as the top leaders tussled among themselves for the post. Congress General Secretary KC Venugopal and senior leader Ramesh Chennithala were the other leaders in the fray for the state's top post. Satheesan served as the Leader of Opposition in Kerala Assembly before the UDF's decisive victory in the 2026 Kerala Assembly elections. The alliance won 102 seats in the 140-member assembly. As the next Kerala CM is an-



nounced, the Congress Kerala Committee will meet Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar today and stake claim to form the government. Satheesan won the 2026 Kerala Assembly election from the Paravur constituency, securing his sixth consecutive term as an MLA. Satheesan secured 78,658 votes and defeated CPI candidate ET Taison Master by a margin of 20,600 votes. He has represented the Paravur constituency for 25 years, having first won the seat in 2001. As the Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Legislative Assembly since 2021, Satheesan emerged as a prominent face of the United Democratic Front (UDF) campaign against the ruling Left government. He has been a vocal critic of the state government on various political and governance issues.

NIA court fixes June 4 for consideration of chargesheet in Red Fort car bomb blast case



NEW DELHI: A special NIA court at Patiala House Courts has fixed June 4 for consideration of the chargesheet in the November 2025 Red Fort car bomb blast case. According to the NIA, the high-intensity Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) explosion killed 11 people and injured several others, besides causing extensive damage to nearby properties. The agency has invoked provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Bharaliya Nyaya Sanhita, Explosive Substances Act, Arms Act and Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act. Among those chargesheeted is the alleged main conspirator Dr. Umer Un Nabi, whose proceedings are proposed to be abated owing to his death. The remaining accused named in the prosecution complaint are Aamir Rashid Mir, Jasir Bilal Wani, Dr. Muzamil Shakeel, Dr. Adeel

Ahmed Rather, Dr. Shaheen Saeed, Mufti Irfan Ahmad Wagay, Soyab, Dr. Bilal Naseer Malla and Yasir Ahmad Dar. The NIA alleged that all the accused were associated with Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGuH), an offshoot of Al-Qaida in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS), which was declared a terrorist organisation by the Ministry of Home Affairs in 2018. According to the agency, the chargesheet is based on an extensive investigation conducted across Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Delhi-NCR. The prosecution complaint reportedly contains 588 oral testimonies, over 395 documents, and more than 200 seized material exhibits. The NIA has alleged a larger "jhadid conspiracy" involving radicalised individuals, including medical professionals, allegedly inspired by AQIS/AGuH ideology.

People of Haryana choose 'Triple-Engine Government' in civic body polls: CM

BUREAU CHANDIGARH, MAY 14

Haryana Chief Minister Sh Nayab Singh Saini said that the Bharatiya Janata Party's historic and decisive victory in the civic body elections reflects the people's wholehearted support for the politics of development, good governance, transparency, and nationalism under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi. He thanked the people of Haryana for giving the BJP this overwhelming mandate.



Mayors, Chairpersons, and Councilors of the urban local bodies.

The Chief Minister was addressing a felicitation ceremony in Panchkula on Thursday as the Chief Guest, organized to honour the newly elected

He also expressed gratitude to the dedicated BJP workers who, despite the scorching heat, worked tirelessly to take the government's welfare poli-

cies to every household. The Chief Minister said that the people of Haryana, through these civic body elections, have firmly rejected the Congress party's politics of dynasticism, falsehood, misinformation, and negativity, while endorsing the BJP's development-oriented governance model.

Taking a sharp dig at the Congress, the Chief Minister said the election results have sent a clear message that people now expect performance, not mere rhetoric; delivery, not hollow promises. He added that, with development as their priority, the people of the state have chosen to establish a "Triple-Engine Government" in the urban local bodies.

Sh Nayab Singh Saini said that the overwhelming support extended to the BJP by the people of Haryana is a victory for Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi's pro-poor welfare policies, the spirit of Antyodaya, and the guiding mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas." He said that today, the poor, farmers, youth, women, traders, and employees across the country feel a sense of security and confidence under the leadership of the Prime Minister. He added that this growing trust among the people is the key reason behind the BJP's continuous electoral success across the nation.

Woman allegedly gang-raped in sleeper bus in Delhi. Accused driver, conductor held

AGENCY
NEW DELHI: A woman was allegedly raped by the driver and the conductor of a sleeper bus inside the vehicle in Delhi, police sources said on Thursday. The two accused have been arrested in connection with the incident that took place on the night of May 11, the sources said. Delhi Police has not yet issued an official statement on the incident. The opposition AAP likened the incident to the 2012 Nirbhaya gangrape-murder case and said it was a "big shame". Based on the woman's statement, an FIR was registered under sections 64(1) (rape), 70(1) (gang rape) and 3(5) (common intention) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at Rani Bagh police station on May 12, the sources said. "The accused have been arrested and further investigation is underway," a police source said, adding that the bus has been seized.

NEWS BRIEF

ED opposes Robert Vadra's plea challenging summons in Delhi HC, next hearing on May 18

NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday opposed the plea filed by businessman Robert Vadra before the Delhi High Court challenging the summons issued to him in the Shikohpur land deal-linked money laundering case.

The matter was heard by Justice Manoj Jain, who posted the case for further detail hearing on May 18. Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Vadra, argued that the alleged predicate offences relate to the period between 2008 and 2012, whereas several of those offences were added to the schedule of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act only later.

Singhvi submitted that the offences alleged against Vadra in the predicate case include conspiracy, cheating, forgery and corruption-related offences arising out of land transactions between 2008 and 2012. He argued that some of these offences became part of the PMLA schedule only in 2013 and 2018 and therefore, there was a lack of jurisdiction to prosecute Vadra under the money laundering law.

Singhvi argued that the issue raised by Vadra was a "jurisdictional threshold objection" and questioned whether offences could be retrospectively brought within the ambit of the PMLA. He further argued that if such an interpretation were accepted generally, even very old transactions could be treated as continuing money laundering offences decades later.

The bench observed that the trial court had only passed an initial order taking cognisance and that all these issues could also be raised before the trial court during the proceedings. The Court also asked Singhvi whether the point relating to retrospectivity had been raised before the trial court.

Delhi orders work-from-home days, 'Metro Mondays' in austerity drive



NEW DELHI, MAY 14 (UNI) The Delhi government on Thursday announced a sweeping set of fuel-conservation measures, including two days of mandatory work-from-home each week for government offices, curtailed official travel and staggered office timings, as political leaders sought to align themselves with Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's call for restraint in fuel use and public spending.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, who announced the measures, said they were intended to reduce traffic congestion, lower fuel consumption and project what she described as a culture of administrative discipline at a time of growing concern over energy use and

urban pollution in the capital.

The Delhi government also urged private companies to adopt work-from-home arrangements where possible and instructed ministers and senior officials to use the Delhi Metro on Mondays under a new initiative branded "Metro Monday."

Beginning immediately, government offices in Delhi will function under staggered schedules, with most departments operating from 10:30 am to 7 pm, while the Municipal Corporation of Delhi will work from 8:30 am to 5 pm. Officials said the revised timings were designed to spread traffic flow across peak hours and reduce congestion on the city's over-

burdened roads.

Gupta said the government would also reduce petrol allowances for officials by 20 per cent starting Friday. "All our ministers and officials will not go for official foreign visits for one year starting tomorrow," she said, adding that planned government events had been canceled as part of the austerity effort.

The measures come a day after several ministers in the Delhi government reduced the number of vehicles in their convoys, a symbolic gesture meant to reinforce the administration's public message on conservation and restraint.

The government also appealed to residents of the capital to voluntarily observe one "No-Vehicle Day" every week, framing the campaign as a civic effort rather than a regulatory mandate.

Departments including the Public Works Department, the Delhi Jal Board and the irrigation and flood control department issued formal directives implementing the new policies, signalling that the measures are intended to move beyond political messaging into administrative practice.

CM Rekha Gupta trims convoy by 60%, switches to EVs after PM Modi's appeal



AGENCY
NEW DELHI: In a significant move reflecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for fuel efficiency and responsible use of resources, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday reduced her official carcade by nearly 60 per cent, bringing it down to just four vehicles. The revised convoy structure now includes only four vehicles, two of which are electric vehicles (EVs), marking a notable shift towards cleaner and more sustainable mobility in official travel.

The decision comes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi made seven appeals to citizens to contribute towards economic resilience by reducing dependence on imported fuel and adopting environmentally sustainable alternatives amid the West Asia conflict. On Sunday, PM Modi urged citizens to prioritise work from home, cut fuel consumption, avoid foreign travel for a year, adopt Swadeshi products, reduce cooking oil use, shift to natural farming and curb gold purchases, while addressing a gathering in Secunderabad. To combat the volatility of fuel prices, PM Modi urged a shift in how India moves. He requested citizens

to reduce petrol and diesel consumption by using the metro and public transport wherever available, opting for carpooling when private vehicles are necessary, preferring railway transport for the movement of goods, and increasing the use of electric vehicles wherever possible. Amid Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeals, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta ordered curbs on the official vehicles used by ministers, MLAs and other public representatives. The step has been taken in alignment with the message of PM Modi. She also urged residents of Delhi to adopt carpooling or to use public transport. In a post on X on late Tuesday, Rekha Gupta said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon the citizens of the country to save petrol-diesel and make energy conservation a people's movement, in view of the current global situation. In internalising this important appeal of Hon'ble Prime Minister ji, a decision has been taken to limit the number of vehicles for departmental work. I, along with all my Cabinet colleagues, all MLAs of the Bharatiya Janata Party, public representatives, officers of the Delhi government.

"Spends 5 times more than declared income, must clarify funding of foreign trips": Delhi CM targets Rahul Gandhi



New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over the funding of his foreign visits, alleging that the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha spends "five times more than his declared income" and should "clarify the source of funds" used for the trips.

In a post on X, Gupta raised concerns over what she termed as "mysterious foreign trips" undertaken by the Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition (LoP) and demanded

greater transparency regarding the expenditure incurred on such visits.

"The raw account of Rahul Gandhi's mysterious foreign trips is now before the public. Rahul Gandhi, who spends five times more than his declared income, should clarify to the country what the real source of funding for these tours is," she wrote in her post.

She further alleged that if such expenses were borne by foreign entities, it would amount to a violation of the rules. "If the expenses for these trips have been borne by foreign

entities, then it is a direct violation of the rules," Gupta said.

Raising further questions, she added that if the expenses were private, then they should have been properly disclosed. "On the other hand, if this expense is private, then why was it concealed in official declarations?" she wrote.

Gupta also questioned Rahul Gandhi's commitment to transparency, saying his "opacity raises serious legal questions." "This opacity from the Leader of the Opposition, who claims transparency, raises serious legal questions. Rahul Gandhi will have to answer for these anonymous expenses," the post added. The remarks came after Rahul Gandhi criticised PM Modi's "seven appeals" where the Prime Minister urged citizens to prioritise work from home, reduce fuel consumption, avoid foreign travel for a year, adopt Swadeshi products, reduce cooking oil consumption, shift to natural farming and curb gold purchases to help the country cope with global economic pressures caused by international conflicts while addressing a gathering in Secunderabad.

'Delhi Behavioural Change Mission': LG tasks Universities with solving city's urban woes

AGENCY
NEW DELHI: The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, who recently chaired an interactive agenda setting meeting, with the Vice-Chancellors and Directors of Universities and Institutions of higher learning of the GNCTD, stressed on strong and seamless inter-linkages between the academia, society, government and the industry, that aimed at skilling and making graduates employable and entrepreneurs.

According to Officials of the Higher Education Department and Universities, the LG, who is also the Chancellor of these Universities and Institutions, at the outset advised that the students be sensitised towards the austerity measures required to be adopted vis-a-vis saving of fossil fuel, etc., by using public transport and car-pooling instead of private vehicles. These, about three lakh students, could become ambassadors who could, apart from sensitising their families, also influence peer behaviour amongst their friends and social circles. The students should also be sensitised and gotten involved in issues like



women's safety, Decongesting traffic, Green Delhi and Urban stability.

The students should also be sensitised and gotten involved in issues like Women's safety, Decongesting traffic, Green Delhi & Urban stability, Water Conservation and ground water recharge, Universities- Contribution to Society at large and Waste Management, according to the officials. The LG

underlined that Universities and Institutions could, and should, become vehicles of the 'Delhi Behavioural Change Mission'. Apart from these, the main issues discussed and directions given thereto are listed below: Air Quality & Environment: Delhi consistently records among the worst air quality globally. Universities must undertake collaborative research on pollu-

tion sources, mitigation technologies, green urban planning, and public health impacts of poor air quality. Urban Water Supply & Sanitation: Research on equitable water distribution, groundwater depletion, Yamuna riverfront rejuvenation, and solid/liquid waste management for Delhi's rapidly growing urban population.

Traffic & Urban Mobility: Data-

driven research on traffic decongestion, last-mile connectivity, electric vehicle adoption, and intelligent transport systems for Delhi's congested road network. Mental Health & Well-being: Delhi's dense urban population faces growing mental health challenges. Universities with medical and psychology faculties must lead research and outreach on stress, addiction, and youth mental health. Urban Poverty & Informal Economy: Research on livelihood opportunities, skill gaps, and social security for Delhi's large informal workforce, migrants, and slum populations.

Disaster Risk & Resilience: Given Delhi's seismic vulnerability and recurring flood events, universities should conduct risk assessments and develop community resilience frameworks. Public Health & Disease Surveillance: Post-COVID universities must build capacity for real-time disease surveillance, epidemic preparedness, and healthcare accessibility research in collaboration with Delhi health authorities.

Kejriwal's statement addressing Gen-Z reflects political frustration: Sachdeva

AGENCY
NEW DELHI: Hitting out at Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) National Convenor Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva on Wednesday said that his remarks addressing Gen-Z reflect his political frustration and an anarchic style of functioning.

Sachdeva said the youth of the country clearly understands Kejriwal's poor politics, adding that Kejriwal himself led a youth movement in Delhi back in 2010-11 against alleged corruption of the then Congress government, but he formed a government in the national capital with the same Congress in 2013.

In 2015, by again making big promises to youth and the poor, Kejriwal came to power in Delhi and then spent the next 10 years, "spreading widespread corruption, disappointing people from all sec-



tions, including the youth", he said.

Sachdeva alleged that Kejriwal's party-led government followed the same pattern in Punjab, which

has also disappointed the youth and women in the state.

The Delhi BJP president accused Kejriwal of "misleading the youth" by

claiming that if a NEET paper leak occurred in Rajasthan, then the BJP government there is responsible.

He asked Kejriwal that

if the local police administration exposed the paper leak, then how can the government be blamed, adding that it is actually an achievement of the Rajasthan government that it exposed the cheating mafia.

He said it would be better if Kejriwal realised that the youth of the country has "witnessed corruption" during AAP's tenure in Delhi and during the party's over four-year rule in Punjab, and would not be misled by him.

Sachdeva stated that the AAP leader has previously embarrassed the country with his statements on international issues and has made himself a subject of ridicule, and should therefore stay away from global issues, and refrain from making statements on Russia and the USA.

Crime Branch arrests proclaimed offender in 12-year-old murder case

AGENCY
NEW DELHI: In a major breakthrough, the Delhi Crime Branch on Thursday arrested a proclaimed offender, Gulab Singh alias Vicky (42), who was wanted in a 12-year-old murder case. Gulab Singh, a resident of Nand Nagri and currently living in Keshav Nagar, Swaroop Nagar, was wanted in the murder of Md Kayam in April 2014. The case was registered at PS Nand Nagri (FIR No. 368/2014) under sections related to murder and rioting. While three of his brothers and others were arrested earlier, Gulab Singh had been on the run for over a decade.

He was later declared a Proclaimed Offender by the court. Acting on secret information received by HC Harjeet, a team led by Inspector Prakash Chand, including SI Sumit Kumar, HC Pawan, and HC Harjeet, under the supervision of ACP Rajkumar and DCP Harsh Indora, laid a trap and nabbed the accused. During interrogation, Gulab Singh revealed that after the murder, he fled with his wife and had been hiding at different places in Delhi and nearby areas to avoid



arrest. He is a school dropout and runs a clothes shop in Natthapura, Burari. He also has a previous case registered against him from 2011. Delhi Police have registered a fresh case against him for being a proclaimed offender.

The Crime Branch said it remains committed to tracking down absconders and ensuring justice. Last week, Delhi Police Crime Branch arrested a proclaimed offender in an Arms Act case from Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, following a specific tip-off, police said on Saturday. The accused, identified as Guffran, son of Khurshid, was

wanted in a case registered under Section 25 of the Arms Act at Police Station KN Katju Marg. Police said the case began on March 2, 2025, when one Gaurav was arrested with two illegal firearms and four live cartridges. During the investigation, it was found that the weapons were allegedly supplied by Guffran and his brother Ansan. Both were later declared proclaimed offenders by a Rohini Court in February 2026. Acting on intelligence inputs, a Crime Branch team traced Guffran to Dadri village in Meerut and arrested him on May 8, 2026. Further investigation is underway.

DORAHA (AMRISH ANAND): Saraswati Model Senior Secondary School, Doraha once again achieved outstanding results in the Punjab School Education Board Class X and XII examinations, with students securing impressive marks and bringing pride to the school. In Class X, Kushpreet Kaur secured first position with 572 marks, followed by Kanishka Kashyap with 567 marks and Shalini Kumari with 565 marks. In Class XII Arts stream, Simran topped with 421/500, followed by Armaan Khan with 409/500 and Pallavi with 347/500 marks. In the Commerce stream, Yashmeen Kaur secured first position with 441/500, while Hunspreet Kaur scored 437/500 and Karanveer Singh achieved 422/500 marks. School Principal Pritish Gusain said that all students passed in first division, making it a proud achievement for the institution. He congratulated the students, parents and teachers and wished the students success in their future endeavors.



use Urea judiciously. He specifically cautioned against the practice of applying two to three bags of urea during puddling. He also advised farmers to apply zinc only in recommended quantities to correct zinc deficiency in paddy fields. Highlighting the importance of biofertilizers, Dr. Garg informed farmers that Azospirillum inoculation in paddy nurseries not only helps increase crop yield but also improves the biological health of the soil. Detailed information on recommended fertilizers and other management practices for raising a healthy paddy nursery was also shared. The cultivation and benefits of green manure crops such as Sunn hemp (sunn hemp) and Sesbania bispinosa were discussed as effective ways to im-

Farmer training camp organized by PAU-FASC Sangrur

SUMER GARG
DHURI, MAY 14

To promote the balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana, through its Farm Advisory Service Centre (FASC), Sangrur, organized a village-level farmer training camp at Dhadogal village on recommended paddy and basmati varieties, soil test-based fertilizer management, and efficient phosphorus application practices. More than 50 farmers participated in the camp.

Leading the programme, Dr. Ashok Kumar Garg, Senior Extension Scientist, urged farmers to apply fertilizers strictly on the basis of soil testing. He emphasized that balanced fertilizer use not only reduces the cost of cultivation but also enhances crop productivity and improves soil health. During the camp, he explained the scientific procedure for soil sampling and gave a practical demonstration on collecting soil samples for testing.

Dr. Garg advised farmers to avoid the indiscriminate use of Diammonium phosphate (DAP) in paddy and basmati cultivation and urged them to



prove soil health. During the interaction, Dr. Garg also shared recommendations regarding the identification and management of dwarfing disease in paddy nurseries and advised farmers to regularly monitor their nurseries. He provided detailed information about PAU-recommended paddy varieties, including PR 131, PR 132, and PR 126. Speaking about the newly recommended PR 133, he said the variety matures in about 111 days after transplanting and yields nearly 30.5 quintals per acre.

Detailed discussions were also held on nutrient requirements and seed treatment practices for managing false smut disease in basmati varieties Pusa Basmati 1509 and Pusa Basmati 1847.

CM Mann, Army Commander discuss border security, operational preparedness

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, MAY 14

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Thursday underscored the need for deeper Civil Military Synergy in Punjab during a meeting with Western Command Army Commander Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh, with both sides agreeing to strengthen coordination on border management, internal security, disaster response, and operational preparedness in the strategically important border state. The meeting, held in Chandigarh, also focused on expediting ongoing projects in border areas and evolving a coordinated framework to tackle emerging security and humanitarian challenges.

During the maiden meeting between the Army Commander and the Chief Minister since Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh assumed command of the Western Army, detailed discussions were held on several issues of national importance. Both sides agreed that utmost priority would be accorded to completing all ongoing projects in border areas to further en-



hance operational capability and strengthen national security infrastructure. Emphasising Punjab's strategic significance, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "Punjab is a border state with around 550 kilometres of international border, and therefore further strengthening Civil Military Synergy in the region is extremely important."

He stressed the need to enhance confidence and trust through coordinated policy-making and stronger internal security mechanisms. The Chief Minister also highlighted the importance of evolving a mutual and foolproof strategy to effectively respond to natural disasters, external threats, and other crises. He affirmed that close cooperation between civil administration and the armed forces was essential for safeguarding national interests and ensuring swift response during emergencies. The meeting also witnessed detailed deliberations on issues related to border management, internal security, youth empowerment, rehabilitation of Agniveers, and important land acquisition cases linked to operational preparedness. Discussions were also held regarding disaster management, recruitment in the Armed Forces, and welfare initiatives including housing projects for serving Army personnel and veterans. Reiterating the Punjab Government's commitment to supporting the armed forces, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann assured Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh of the state's full cooperation for every initiative undertaken by the Indian Army in service of the nation.

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and shared that in Punjabi, five students — Sehajpreet Kaur, Janvi, Arshpreet Kaur, Jashanpreet Kaur, and Armanpreet Kaur — achieved a perfect score of 100 out of 100 marks. In English, Saria Thakur scored 97 percent, while Sehajpreet Kaur secured 95 percent in Physics. Anmolpreet Kaur achieved 95 percent in Biology, and Arshdeep Kaur scored an outstanding 99 percent in Health Care.

CIA staff recovers heroin worth Rs 38 crore from four drug smugglers

TAPINDER SINGH
FEROZEPUR, MAY 14



The special cell of the Punjab Police, CIA Staff, has claimed to have busted a drug smuggling gang and arrested four drug traffickers with a huge quantity of heroin. Giving information in this regard, SSP Ferozpur Bhupinder Singh Sidhu said that the team led by CIA Staff In-charge Gurmeet Singh achieved a major breakthrough during a checking operation near Bus Stand Ghall Khurd. The police received a tip-off that Akashdeep alias Akash, son of Ashok Kumar, resident of

Betu Kadim Mamdot, and Robin Kumar, son of Ashok Kumar, resident of Panjey Ke Uttar, Guruharsahai, were involved in heroin smuggling. The SSP said that when the accused were waiting for customers near Firozeshah, the CIA Staff acted swiftly and apprehended both smugglers. During interrogation, it was revealed that a woman identified as Santosh Rani and a person named Javenain were also involved in the drug trade. He further stated that a total of 7 kg 858 grams of heroin was recovered from the four accused drug smugglers.

Increase in MSP bad joke on farmers: BKU Ekta Malwai leader

LEHRAGAGA (GURMAIL SINGH SANGATPURA): BKU Ekta Malwai state leader Dharmendra Singh Pasaur strongly criticised the increase in the minimum support price (MSP) announced by the central government for paddy crops, calling it a bad joke on farmers. Talking to reporters, he said that considering the rising costs, high land lease rates and expensive labour, the increase in MSP is completely inadequate. He demanded that the support price for paddy and all other crops be fixed as per Swaminathan Commission's C-2 + 50 percent formula.

"The government should be ashamed. Instead of giving real relief to farmers, it is doing politics through a marginal increase in the minimum support price. Paddy farmers should get at least 50 percent more than the cost of production as recommended by the Swaminathan Commission," said Dharmendra Singh. He added that the minimum support price of paddy has been increased by only Rs 72 per quintal, which does not even cover the actual cost of cultivation. Therefore, he appealed to the central government to immediately implement the Swaminathan formula and ensure fair prices for farmers' produce. The BKU Ekta Malwai leader warned that if the government failed to address the issue seriously, the farmers would be forced to intensify their agitation, as dissatisfaction among kharif crop growers has been increasing steadily since the government's announcement.



Riyaraki Public School Tugalwala shines in CBSE Class 12 results, students bring Laurels to institution

VERMA
GURDASPUR, MAY 14

Students of Riyaraki Public School, Tugalwala once again brought pride to their school, parents, and the entire region by delivering an outstanding performance in the CBSE Class 12 Board Examination results declared by CBSE, New Delhi.

The school achieved an impressive result, with 99 percent of the students securing First Division, proving that dedication, discipline, and hard work always lead to success. Principal Inderjit Kaur, while sharing the details of the results, informed that in the Commerce stream, Sehajpreet Kaur from village Salahpur secured the first position in the school by scoring 96 percent marks. In the Medical stream, Anmolpreet Kaur from village Khara achieved 95 percent marks, while in the Non-Medical stream, Arshpreet Kaur from village Beri



secured the top position with 90 percent marks. She further stated that 10 percent of the students scored above 90 percent marks, 19 percent students secured above 85 percent marks, and 36 percent students achieved more than 80 percent marks, showcasing the academic excellence of the institution across Medical, Non-Medical, and Commerce streams. School Director Manpreet Kaur highlighted the subject-wise achievements

and shared that in Punjabi, five students — Sehajpreet Kaur, Janvi, Arshpreet Kaur, Jashanpreet Kaur, and Armanpreet Kaur — achieved a perfect score of 100 out of 100 marks. In English, Saria Thakur scored 97 percent, while Sehajpreet Kaur secured 95 percent in Physics. Anmolpreet Kaur achieved 95 percent in Biology, and Arshdeep Kaur scored an outstanding 99 percent in Health Care.

Ride for Health, Ride for Mind" — Sony cycling group launched in Barnala with support of Aryabhata Group of Institutes



BARNALA (BALWINDER AZAD): Taking a unique and inspiring step towards building a healthy and fit society, Parveen Kumar (Sony) of Barnala launched the "Sony Cycling Group" with the support of Aryabhata Group of Institutes. The initiative, led by group president Parveen Kumar (Sony), aims to connect people of all age groups with cycling in order to promote physical fitness, mental strength, and a positive lifestyle. A large number of cycling enthusiasts, youth, social workers, and health-conscious citizens participated in the launch event. Speaking on the occasion, Parveen Kumar (Sony) said that modern life has become extremely busy and stressful. Due to excessive use of mobile phones, social media, and modern lifestyles, people are moving away from physical activities, leading to rising problems such as obesity, diabetes, blood pressure, heart diseases, and mental stress.

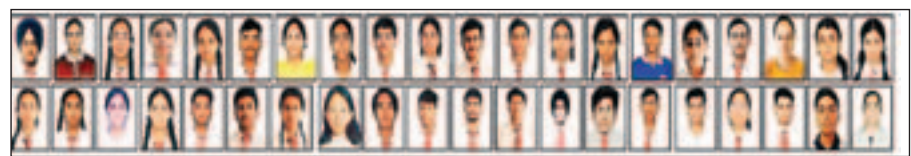
Gurdev Singh Tiwana Elected Chairman of Zila Parishad Patiala, Binder Kaur chosen as Vice Chairperson



Young leader Gurdev Singh Tiwana was today elected Chairman of Zila Parishad Patiala, while Binder Kaur was elected as the Vice Chairperson. Both leaders, who were elected unanimously, assumed office in the presence of Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Balbir Singh and Samana MLA Chetan Singh Jouramajra. Congratulating the newly elected representatives, Health Minister Dr. Balbir Singh and MLA Chetan Singh Jouramajra said that hardworking and honest party workers like Gurdev Singh Tiwana and Binder Kaur truly deserved these important responsibilities. They expressed confidence that both leaders would discharge their duties with dedication and a spirit of public service, thereby further strengthening the development of Patiala.

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Partap World School creates new history of success in CBSE 12th results



YUGMARG BUREAU
PATHANKOT, MAY 14

Partap World School, Pathankot has once again made a mark in the area by performing brilliantly in the CBSE Class 12th results. 40 students of the school scored more than 90 percent and 111 students scored more than 80 percent, bringing glory to the school. Principal Subhra Rani said that among the toppers of the school, Ravipal, Apoorva and Radhika secured the first position by scoring 97 percent marks. Akanksha scored 96.4 percent and Anvesha scored 95.4 percent.

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scored more than 90 percent. School administrators said that Partap World School has been providing high-quality education to the students as well as continuous guidance for competitive exams and personal development. This year too, many students have succeeded in competitive examinations like JEE, NDA and CLAT. School Director Sunny Mahajan said that these results are the result of the joint efforts of students, teachers and parents. Principal Subhra Rani also congratulated the students and wished them a bright future.

95.4 percent. Apart from this, many students including Himani, Aditya, Shivam, Malvika, Rayyan and Japsimran

Deputation of SDIC meets SSP Sangrur



Sandeep Bansal (Monu), PRO; Amar Singh and Sanjiv Chopra. Although the meeting was primarily a courtesy call, the SDIC members apprised the SSP of various security-related concerns being faced by industrialists and members of the business community in the district. After listening to their concerns attentively, Dr. Ravjot Grewal assured the delegation of the Punjab Police's full cooperation and support.

Rs 27.50 lakh dev works underway in village Jagliana; tender of road project worth Rs 12.34 lakh allotted: MLA Dr. Ishank



HOSHIARPUR (DALJEET AJNOHA): "I always strive to work towards meeting the expectations of my constituents and making multi-fold efforts for the same", said Dr. Ishank Kumar, MLA Chabbawal during his meeting with people at Jagliana. The development of Chabbawal constituency is always on my priority list, he further added. While addressing the gathering, Dr. Ishank said that multiple development works worth Rs 27.50 lakh are currently underway in Village Jagliana to strengthen basic infrastructure and improve living conditions for residents. He informed that works including drainage and sewerage of Rs 7.50 lakh, Guru Ravidas Dharamshala with Rs 5 lakh, streets with Rs 15 lakh, are in progress and will be completed soon. The MLA further stated that a road from Rasoolpur to Jagliana, measuring 0.60 km and costing Rs 12.34 lakh, has been approved and tendered. The construction work on this road will also commence shortly. Dr. Ishank Kumar reiterated his commitment to ensuring holistic development of the area and said that all ongoing projects are being closely monitored to ensure timely completion with quality standards.

Notebooks and shoe kits distributed to needy students at school of eminence



SARDULGARH (KULWINDER KARWAL): Promoting the spirit of social service along with education, a special welfare initiative was organized at School of Eminence, Sardulgarh, for meritorious and economically weaker students. On this occasion, the school Principal, Mrs. Prabhjit Kaur Sandhu, retired lecturer Mr. Om Prakash, and English Mistress Mrs. Aarti donated 300 notebooks to the students. In addition, Mrs. Aarti also distributed shoe kits to 15 needy students, bringing smiles and enthusiasm among the beneficiaries. The noble gesture was highly appreciated by the school staff, SMC committee members, and students.

Sharing details about the initiative, Gurnam Singh, DPE, stated that the school family regularly undertakes such welfare activities to support students and ensure that no child is deprived of education due to lack of resources.

Students of Guru Nanak Public Sr Sec School Channanke create history in class 12 results



CHOWK MEHTA (AMRIK SINGH): The Punjab School Education Board Mohali today announced the results of class 12 for the session 2025-2026, in which eight students of Guru Nanak Public Senior Secondary School Channanke (Adda Nath Di Khui) have registered their names in the state merit list and have repeated history once again, maintaining the glorious traditions of the school.

The Managing Director of the school, Mr. Kuljit Singh Bath, while giving information about the results, said that the school student Amandeep Kaur, daughter of Mr. Gurvel Singh, secured 491 marks out of 500 and stood tenth in Punjab and third in Amritsar district, Jasmeet Kaur, Amandeep Kaur, Navdeep Kaur secured 490 marks and jointly stood fourth in the district, Ashmeen Kaur secured 489 marks and stood fifth in Punjab, Kashmir Kaur, Ashmeet Kaur, Paramjit Kaur secured 485 marks and stood ninth in the district.

BJP candidate Raghav Malikpuriya gains strong Public support in Ward No. 47, seeks one chance to build Model Ward

VERMA
MALIKPUR: Political activities surrounding the Municipal Corporation elections are intensifying day by day. After the Bharatiya Janata Party announced the list of its ward candidates, the nominees have entered the election field with full strength and enthusiasm. In this sequence, BJP candidate from Ward No. 47, Raghav Malikpuriya, has emerged as a strong and influential contender. Discussions about his social work and dedication to public service are gaining momentum across the area. Actively involved in social activities for a long time, Raghav Malikpuriya has built a distinct identity among the people. From youth to senior citizens, his popularity is continuously increasing among all age groups.

Gagandeep Singh assumes charge as City SHO in Morinda

MORINDA: Gagandeep Singh has taken charge as the new City SHO in Morinda following the transfer of former SHO Gurmukh Singh. Before his posting in Morinda, Gagandeep Singh had served in Mohali and Ropar, where he handled various policing responsibilities.

After assuming charge, the new SHO said strict measures would be taken to maintain peace and law and order in the city. He stated that drug traffickers, criminals and thieves would not be spared under any circumstances. Appealing to the public for cooperation, he said residents can approach the police with any information related to criminal activities and assured that the identity of informants would be kept completely confidential. He further added that police patrolling in the city would be intensified to strengthen security and maintain public confidence.

BSF launches "Spandan League-2026" Men's Kabaddi Championship at Ajnala



HARPAL SINGH
AJNALA: The Border Security Force (BSF) Punjab today organised the grand inauguration of the inter-tehsil, block and district-level Men's Kabaddi Championship "Spandan League-2026" at the BSF Campus, Ajnala. The championship was formally inaugurated by Dr. Atul Fulzele, Inspector General, BSF Punjab. The event is being organised in collaboration with the Sports Authority of India (SAI). The inaugural ceremony was attended by Shri S.S. Chandel, DIG BSF Amritsar, Shri Ankit Goyal, DIG BSF Gurdaspur, various sports officials, a large number of BSF personnel, school students and local residents. Addressing the players and spectators on the occasion, Inspector General Dr. Atul Fulzele said that sports are not only a means of physical fitness but also play a significant role in strengthening national unity, discipline and building a drug-free society.

Punjab Women Commission issues notice to Yograj Singh over remarks in web series

CHANDIGARH: Former cricketer Yograj Singh, father of ex-India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh, has landed in controversy after a dialogue from a recently released web series triggered objections over alleged derogatory remarks against women. The Punjab State Women Commission on Thursday issued a notice to Yograj Singh and sought an inquiry into the matter through a senior officer of the Punjab Police. Headquarters after a video clip from the Hindi web series "Lukhe" went viral on social media. The controversy erupted after two Chandigarh-based advocates submitted a complaint to the Senior Superintendent of Police, alleging that objectionable language had been used against women in the series. The complaint was filed by District Bar Association treasurer and advocate Ujjwal Bhasin, along with advocate Jatinder Verma.

SUMER GARG
SANGRUR, MAY 14

A deputation of the Sangrur District Industrial Chamber (SDIC), Sangrur, led by its Chairman, Dr. A.R. Sharma, met Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sangrur, Dr. Ravjot Grewal, at her office in Sangrur.

The delegation included Sajiv Sood, President; M.P. Singh, General Secretary; Prem Gupta, Treasurer;

SANJEEV MAHAJAN
NURPUR: BJP leader and former Cabinet Minister Rakesh Pathania has raised questions over a proposed meeting related to the Ayush Arogya Kalyan Nidhi and criticized the Ayush Department and the state government during a press conference. Pathania said the meeting concerns funds worth nearly Rs. 25-30 lakh under the National Ayush Mission



of the central government. He alleged that the office order issued for the meeting also mentioned a minister's reference number, raising doubts about the intent behind the gathering. The former minister further stated that the office order mentioned that due to Panchayat elections, the meeting should not be held at the Secretariat but instead at a private venue.

NEWS BRIEF

Jail sentence for successors of 'Hare Krishna Arts' for defying court order

UNI HAMIRPUR: The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Hamirpur, has sentenced the new owners and successors of the Ludhiana-based firm 'Hare Krishna Arts' to one year of simple imprisonment each, along with a fine. This case pertains to a defective machine purchased in the year 2015. Sumit Agnihotri, the proprietor of 'The Ads,' had filed a complaint with the Consumer Commission after the machine malfunctioned. On August 8, 2019, the Commission ordered the firm to either replace the machine or refund the sum of Rs.8.16 lakh, inclusive of 9 per cent interest. Additionally, directions were issued to pay Rs.25,000 as compensation for mental harassment and Rs.10,000 towards legal expenses. In the course of the proceedings, the original proprietor of the firm, Vinod Kumar, passed away in November 2019.

Public now trusts Congress's policies: Sukhwinder Sukhu

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, MAY 14

Taking aim at the previous BJP government, the Chief Minister stated that the public now places its trust in the policies of the Congress party. The Chief Minister was addressing a press conference in Dharamshala on Thursday, during which he highlighted the ongoing development works in Dharamshala and Palampur—including an inspection of the heliport project. Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu remarked that the Governor's decision to reduce the number of vehicles in his convoy is a welcome step; however, he noted that the state government is already moving towards fiscal discipline by actively cutting down on expenses. Speaking to the media following a meeting with the 'Vyapar Mandal' (Traders' Association) during the



municipal corporation election campaign in Mandi, the Chief Minister mentioned that he himself travels in a small electric car, the running costs of which are significantly lower compared to petrol-powered vehicles. He further informed that the government has already reduced the size of the convoys accompanying the Chief Minister and other ministers. Additionally, a temporary reduction of 30 per cent has been implemented in the salaries of ministers, and a 20 per cent reduction in the salaries of MLAs. The Chief Minister asserted that the objective behind these decisions is to make the state

economically self-reliant, and the government is continuously working towards improving its financial health. During this interaction, CM Sukhu also launched a scathing attack on the BJP. He alleged that the previous BJP government had squandered the state's resources through wasteful expenditure during its tenure. He pointed out that while massive buildings were erected at a cost of thousands of crores of rupees, the public today derives no tangible benefit from them. The Chief Minister remarked that while the BJP may be dreaming of returning to power, it is essential to first prove one's worth in the eyes of the public. He also highlighted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced a relief package of Rs. 1,500 crore for Himachal Pradesh, yet the state has not received these funds to date.

Nation stands with PM Modi, opposition spreading panic: Harsh Mahajan

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, MAY 14

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Harsh Mahajan said that the country stands firmly with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and is ready to support every step taken in national interest. Supporting the Prime Minister's recent appeal to citizens, Mahajan stated that the advisory was voluntary, precautionary, and based on long-term national interest, adding that there is no shortage of essential commodities in India. He accused opposition parties, including Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, and Samajwadi Party, of spreading confusion and fear instead of supporting the nation during challenging global circumstances. Mahajan said the opposition was attempting to create unnecessary panic through misinformation and social media campaigns regarding shortages of fuel and essential goods. The BJP leader remarked that appeals for public cooperation during



difficult times were not new in India's history, recalling similar appeals made by former Prime Ministers Lal Bahadur Shastri, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Indira Gandhi during national crises. He alleged that while such appeals were once described as responsible leadership, the opposition is now criticizing Prime Minister Modi for political reasons. Harsh Mahajan said India's economy is currently strong and stable, unlike during the UPA era when inflation had reportedly reached double digits and the economy was categorized among the "Fragile Five."

Himachal's Anti-Chitta model to be replicated in other states

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA: The Government's Anti-Chitta Model, which has proved effective in cracking down on drug traffickers, is now drawing attention from across the country. The regional office of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has sought a detailed report from the state government to study the model and explore its implementation in other states for more effective action against the drug menace. After the Congress government came to power in the state, Chief Minister Thakur Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu directed the preparation of a comprehensive strategy to tackle the growing menace of 'chitta' (heroin). Under this strategy, not only drug traffickers but also drug abuse patterns were mapped at the Panchayat level. Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to identify drug addicts and traffickers at the Panchayat level and categorize areas into Red, Yellow and Green zones based on the cases of chitta in these panchayats. The survey revealed that 234 Panchayats in the state were severely affected by chitta abuse and trafficking, and were categorized under the Red Zone. Following directions from the Chief Minister, police surveillance and enforcement were intensified in these areas, yielding encouraging results. Under the Anti-Chitta Model, the state government has focused not only on strict action against drug traffickers but also on the rehabilitation of victims affected by substance abuse. The government implemented the PIT-NDPS Act and detained 174 offenders under its provisions, making Himachal Pradesh the leading state in the country in taking such stringent action. Additionally, illegal properties worth Rs. 51 crore belonging to drug traffickers have been confiscated, which is three times higher than during the previous government.

Bilaspur's braveheart PVC Captain Sanjay Kumar to lead statewide mission inspiring youth towards Indian Armed Forces



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: Himachal Pradesh is set to witness a powerful wave of patriotism and inspiration as Param Vir Chakra awardee and Kargil War hero Captain Sanjay Kumar prepares to become the face of a statewide motivational campaign aimed at inspiring youth to join the Indian Armed Forces. The prestigious initiative will begin from his home district Bilaspur before expanding across the state. A strategic meeting regarding the campaign schedule and outreach plan was held with the district administration, Education Department, and Sainik Welfare officials. Under this mission, Captain Sanjay Kumar will visit schools, colleges, and educational institutions to directly interact with students and ignite the spirit of patriotism, discipline, courage, and national service among the younger generation. Deputy Commissioner Rahul Kumar stated that the campaign commencing from Bilaspur carries immense pride and emotional significance, as the district gave the nation one of its greatest war heroes. He said Captain Sanjay Kumar's remarkable journey from the hills of Bilaspur to earning India's highest gallantry honour would inspire thousands of youth to dream big and serve the nation with dedication.

Congress corruption model exposed in Dharamshala, tender mafia and scams flourished at public expense: Bikram Thakur

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, MAY 14

Senior BJP leader and former minister Bikram Thakur launched a sharp attack on the Congress government and the Dharamshala Municipal Corporation administration ahead of the Municipal Corporation elections, stating that Congress rule in Dharamshala has become a symbol of corruption, administrative chaos, tender mafia operations, water crisis and complete failure of development works. BJP alleged that the Congress-led Municipal Corporation ignored public issues while promoting corruption and political patronage. Bikram Thakur said that a case had been registered against senior Congress leader and councillor Devender Singh Jaggi in connection with an



alleged scam involving the leasing of Municipal Corporation property, which reportedly caused a loss of more than ?1.4 crore to the public exchequer. He alleged that while the Municipal Corporation received only Rs. 18.39 lakh as rent, nearly Rs. 1.61 crore was allegedly earned through sub-leasing arrangements. He further stated that under the leadership of Mayor Neenu Sharma, the Municipal Corporation imposed additional financial burden on

the public. In the 2025-26 municipal budget, the electricity cess was proposed to be increased tenfold from 1 paise per unit to 10 paise per unit, reflecting Congress' tendency to impose higher taxes instead of providing relief to citizens amid rising inflation. The BJP leader alleged that the Dharamshala Bus Stand project has remained incomplete for years due to land disputes, pending approvals and administrative inefficiency under the Congress

government. He said repeated announcements and foundation stone ceremonies failed to deliver any actual benefit to the people.

Bikram Thakur also alleged that a "tender mafia" has been operating within the Dharamshala Municipal Corporation, with nearly 80 per cent of civic works being controlled by just five to seven contractors. He claimed that commission-based tender allotments and large-scale irregularities in public works have become hallmarks of the Congress administration. He said allegations have also surfaced regarding misuse of Municipal Corporation funds for renovation of the Commissioner's residence during the Mayor's tenure, while several wards continue to suffer from poor civic infrastructure and lack of basic amenities.

Waves Doc Bazaar 2026 invites applications for Viewing Room

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, MAY 14

A Spokesperson of the state government today here informed that the National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC) has invited online applications for short films, documentaries and animation projects for participation in the Viewing Room section of Waves Doc Bazaar 2026, being organised under the Mumbai International Film Festival.

The Spokesperson said that the Viewing Room provides filmmakers from around the world an opportunity to present recently completed films or projects in post-production to film festival programmers, distributors, world sales agents, investors and other industry buyers.

He said that this specialized platform helps connect filmmakers with potential global partners for film festivals, distribution opportunities, world sales and finishing funds in a secure and highly restricted environment.

He further informed that documentary and animation films of all durations, including short, mid-length and feature-length films, are eligible for submission, provided that a substantial portion of principal photography has been completed. Films in development or pre-production stages are not eligible. He said that projects with limited or no international exposure are especially encouraged to apply. He said that for detailed eligibility criteria, rules, submission guidelines and application process, interested applicants may visit the official website: <https://miff.in/en/viewing-room>.

Manya Raizada tops SSRVM School chain with 98.2%, scores perfect 100 in Political Science

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, MAY 14

SSRVM Senior Secondary School, Una has once again achieved outstanding academic success with its excellent board examination results. Student Manya Raizada brought laurels to the institution by securing 98.2% marks and emerging as the topper not only of the school but also across the entire chain of SSRVM schools. She achieved a perfect score of 100 out of 100 in Political Science. Among other meritorious students, Komal Patial scored 93.2%, Simran 92.2%, Amitoz 89%, Rachit Sharma 86.2%, Anmol Handa 83%, Harshita Chandel 81.4%, Manpreet 81%, Premlata 80.8%, Dolly 80.6%, and Ivana secured 80% marks. Manya Raizada also scored 99



marks each in History and English, along with 97 marks in Economics, showcasing exceptional academic excellence. Gurpreet Kaur secured 98 marks in English, while Samridhi scored 94 marks in the subject. Managing Director Sumeesh Kumar Sharma congratulated the students, parents, and staff

members for the remarkable results. He stated that the consistent academic excellence of SSRVM Una and SSRVM Nangal reflects the dedication of teachers, disciplined efforts of students, and strong support from parents. He also encouraged students to continue striving for excellence in the future.

Governor releases book on Sharda Peeth

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, MAY 14

Governor Kavinder Gupta today released the book 'Sharda Peeth : Sati Desh Kashmir' authored by Acharya Madan, President of Vishwa Hindu Peeth, New Delhi. Describing the book as an important scholarly work documenting the ancient spiritual, cultural and educational legacy of Jammu and Kashmir, the Governor said that Sharda Peeth has been one of the greatest symbols of Bharat's civilization glory and an eternal centre of knowledge, wisdom and Sanatan tradition. The Governor appreciated the efforts of Acharya Madan for bringing forth a research-oriented publication that highlights the historical, religious and cultural importance of Sharda Peeth and its deep connection with Kashmir's identity. He said that such literature plays a vital role



in reconnecting the younger generation with the rich heritage of the nation. Kavinder Gupta said that Kashmir has historically been a revered seat of learning and spirituality and Sharda Peeth occupied a place of immense respect among scholars, saints and seekers from across the Indian subcontinent. He said the book presents valuable insights into the glorious past of Kashmir, the Sharda civilization, Sanskrit scholarship and the ancient

traditions associated with Maa Sharda. He expressed hope that the book would inspire meaningful academic discourse and encourage deeper study of Kashmir's ancient heritage and spiritual traditions. Speaking on the occasion, Acharya Madan said that the book is an attempt to bring before society the historical and cultural significance of Sharda Peeth and revive awareness about one of the most revered centres of knowledge in ancient India.

INTUC Leader Jagat Ram Sharma urges workers and farmers to oppose BJP in Panchayat Polls

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, MAY 14

National INTUC Secretary and Himachal Pradesh INTUC General Secretary Comrade Jagat Ram Sharma has appealed to employees, former employees, farmers, and labourers to strongly oppose the BJP in the upcoming Panchayat elections. In a press statement, Jagat Ram Sharma said that he recently held detailed discussions with National INTUC President and Chairman of the Coordination Committee of Central Trade Unions and Federations, Dr. G. Sanjeeva Reddy, regarding the condition of workers and employees in the country. He claimed that the Modi government has caused severe damage to the working class since coming to power. Sharma criticized



the replacement of 44 labour laws with four labour codes, alleging that the move weakened workers' rights and adversely affected youth and unemployed people across the country. He further accused the government of failing to establish new public sector industries, while deliberately weakening and privatizing existing public sector units that were set up during Congress governments to generate employment. He also alleged

that inflation, unemployment, and corruption have increased significantly under the present government. Referring to statements on reducing expenses and limiting the use of essential commodities, Sharma claimed such policies could negatively impact farmers and agricultural production. Jagat Ram Sharma urged trade union leaders and Congress workers to actively highlight the achievements of Congress governments and expose what he termed as the failures of the BJP-led central government during their election campaigns. He further appealed to people from all sections, including BJP supporters from economically weaker backgrounds, to understand the impact of rising economic pressures on common citizens.

JUIT hosts "AI Odyssey" competition to redefine interactive storytelling

DINESH AGARWAL
WAKNAGHAT, MAY 14

Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT), under the leadership of CEO Manu Bhaskar Gaur, successfully organized "JUIT: An AI Odyssey," a first-of-its-kind AI-powered storytelling competition that blended creativity, artificial intelligence, and immersive digital experiences.

Centered on the theme "Make the User a Part of the JUIT Story through AI Characters & Interactive Storytelling," the event challenged students to create interactive experiences showcasing "A Day in the Life at JUIT." Participants integrated conversational AI, voice synthesis, animations, visual storytelling, and interactive



decision-making into their projects. The competition saw enthusiastic participation from undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD students, with 20 teams competing using advanced tools such as ChatGPT, ElevenLabs, Midjourney, Runway, Unity, Unreal Engine, and web-based frameworks. After multiple evaluation rounds, five teams reached the grand finale and presented their

AI-driven storytelling systems before a jury comprising Prof. Tiratha Raj Singh, Dr. Hari Singh, and Mr. Saurav Kumar Singh. Projects were judged on innovation, creativity, technical depth, narrative quality, interactivity, and user experience. The Cognitive Creators Team—Siddhant Sharma, Ankush Bhunia, Viksit Taran, and Vishal Thakur—won the First Prize for their outstanding AI integration and immersive storytelling.

Friendly volleyball match played between Modern ITI Maidu and Indian Army team



AVINASH CHAUHAN

AMB: Modern ITI Maidu is continuously maintaining its dominance in both technical education and sports. Following its second trophy win this year in a volleyball competition organized by the Una District Technical Education Department, the institute's team today performed brilliantly in a friendly match against a national-level Indian Army team. The team trained by Modern ITI's trainer and volleyball coach Vishal Chaudhary attracted everyone's attention by displaying excellent sportsmanship and discipline in this match. The institute's Principal, Onkar Singh Rana, had arranged an excellent stage for this match. The players who attended the event were honored with mementos by Mr. Pyara Singh Dadwal, Chairman of the PS Group. Present on the occasion were Amit Thakur, Vice President of PS Group, Ichchha Devi, Principal of PS International Senior Secondary School, Reena Thakur, former Principal, along with other dignitaries and staff members. Atul Thakur, MD of Modern ITI, said that the main objective of PS Group Maidu is to keep the youth away from drugs and motivate them towards sports and education.

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA MOGA: Sartaj Singh Chahal SSP Moga informed the press that during the campaign "War on Drugs" and "Village Guards" launched by Sub Division Nihal Singh Wala, 11 drug cases were registered and 20 accused were arrested in a week and 24 grams of



heroin, 82 narcotic pills, 01 kg of opium and 13 kg of 500 grams of poppy seeds were seized. 01 case was registered against those involved in the liquor business, 01 accused was arrested and 60 liters of lahan, 18 liters of liquor were seized. During this, 02 POs (absconders) were arrested.

He also appealed to the people to cooperate in the anti-drug campaign and further said that the general public is being made aware about the ill effects of drugs by holding meetings/ contact meetings with Panchayats/ Sports Clubs/ Men of Interest.

NEWS BRIEF

Nidhi Chauhan scores 464 marks out of 500

NIRMAL SAINI RADAUR: The result of class 10th examination of Star Way Senior Secondary School Fatehgarh has been 100 per cent. School managers Narendra Saini and Sanjay Saini said that out of a total of 36 children, 13 children have secured place in the merit list whereas the remaining 23 children have passed in first division. Nidhi Chauhan got 464 marks out of 500. Kartik got 458, Simran 441 and Nancy got 435 marks. This result is the combined result of the dedicated teaching method of the teachers, hard work of the children and cooperation of the parents. Earlier, the result of class 12th examination of the school was also 100 per cent.

DC honours meritorious students of Barnala district



KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: Deputy Commissioner Barnala Harpreet Singh IAS today honoured 9 students who made it to the merit list of Punjab School Education Board of Barnala district and 2 students who had meritorious performance in 10th standard. He said that it is a matter of great pride for Barnala district that students of government schools of the district have excelled in 12th standard and these students are not only ahead in the academic field but also in sports and other activities. Nisha Rani, who secured first place in the district and 5th rank in merit in 12th, is a state level netball player. Similarly, Ripandeep Kaur of Bhadour School has made a name for herself at the national level in painting and secured first place and Nishu is progressing in singing. Sonia of Farwahi School's father is a civil engineer and despite belonging to a common family, she has excelled in the science group due to her hard work. On this occasion, the Deputy Commissioner met the children and wished them a bright future. He congratulated the school principals, teachers and parents.

BJP's Patra questions Rahul Gandhi on funding source of 54 foreign visits

AGENCY NEW DELHI, MAY 14

BJP MP Sambit Patra on Thursday questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over the funding of his foreign visits, alleging that the Leader of Opposition had spent nearly Rs 60 crore on 54 overseas trips over the past 22 years. Addressing a press conference, Patra claimed that Rahul Gandhi had undertaken several foreign trips while holding elected office and alleged that details regarding the source of funding for these visits were not public. "LoP Rahul Gandhi has been in an elected position for nearly 22 years. In these years, he has travelled abroad multiple times. Officially, the declared foreign trips amount to 54. These tours are public, but their funding is not public," Patra said. He further alleged that three to four people accompanied Rahul Gandhi on each



foreign visit and claimed that the total expenditure on these trips amounted to nearly Rs 60 crore. "On each of his foreign trips, about 3-4 people have travelled with him. The total expense of his foreign trips has been Rs 60 crore," the BJP leader alleged. Patra questioned how the expenditure on the visits was financed. "We have the details of Rahul Gandhi's income from 2013-14 to 2022-23. In 10 years, Rahul

Gandhi's income was Rs 11 crore. With an income of Rs 11 crore, Rahul Gandhi has spent Rs 60 crore," he alleged. The BJP leader further questioned whether the trips were funded personally, by the government, or by foreign entities. "The question that arises is - when he travels abroad, is the funding being done by the Government of India or by some foreign agency? If there is foreign

funding, then provisions under FCRA apply. If it is personal funding, then it must be declared under income tax laws," Patra said. The remarks came after Rahul Gandhi criticised PM Modi's "seven appeals" where the Prime Minister urged citizens to prioritise work from home, reduce fuel consumption, avoid foreign travel for a year, adopt Swadeshi products, reduce cooking oil consumption, shift to natural farming and curb gold purchases to help the country cope with global economic pressures caused by international conflicts while addressing a gathering in Secunderabad. Rahul Gandhi termed the appeals as "failures" rather than "sermons." "These aren't sermons -- these are proofs of failure," alleging that after "12 years" of governance, the government was now instructing people "what to buy, what not to buy, where to go, where not to go." Gandhi posted on X.

Harvinder Kalyan, Speaker Haryana Assembly inaugurates lift at Jain Niramayam Centre



MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI, MAY 14

Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan formally inaugurated the lift system in the newly constructed Niramayam Centre at the Shri Atma Manohar Jain Temple in the presence of Bharat Sant Gaurav Shri Piyush Muni Ji. Upon arrival, the Assembly Speaker was welcomed with a turban and a memento. On this occasion, Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan said that this naturopathy centre was a boon for all of North India and especially for the GT Road belt. After examining the body with state-of-the-art equipment, this centre will help in making the body healthy and disease-free by removing imbalances through

mud-water, yoga, acupressure, pranayama acupuncture, meditation, mantra therapy, ozone therapy, colon machine, color therapy, aroma therapy, massage, Shirolhara, Shatkarma, infra sauna, and diet therapy. He said that in this centre, natural treatment was provided by awakening the basic elements of nature and providing relief to the body, ensuring good health, which was the greatest contribution of ancient Indian medical science to the world. He said that after the allopathic multispecialty hospital, Saint Gaurav Shri Piyush Muni ji has done the welfare work of providing special health benefits to the residents of this region through this Jain Niramayam Centre, for which the entire society was grateful.

DAV Sr Sec School achieves 100% result; Ramneek Kaur secures position in state merit list

VERMA GURDASPUR, MAY 14

DAV Senior Secondary School once again brought laurels in the field of education by achieving a 100% result in the Punjab School Education Board examinations. All the students of the school passed with First Division, creating an atmosphere of joy and pride among the school management, parents, and students. Adding to this remarkable achievement, the school's brilliant student Ramneek Kaur, daughter of Shri Jaswinder Singh, scored 484 marks out of 500 and secured a place in the State Merit List along with the 9th position in the District Merit List, bringing immense pride to the school, her family, and the entire region. The school's other



meritorious students also performed exceptionally well. Roopandeep Kaur secured the second position in the school by scoring 483 marks out of 500, while Rasik achieved the third position with 473 marks out of 500. Their outstanding performance further highlighted the school's academic excellence.

Congratulating the students on their remarkable success, Principal Satish Gupta extended heartfelt wishes to Ramneek Kaur, her parents, and the villagers. He stated that this achievement is the result of the students' hard work, teachers' guidance, and

the constant support of parents. He added that Ramneek Kaur's dedication, discipline, and continuous efforts prove that any goal can be achieved with determination and perseverance. Principal Satish Gupta further said that the school remains committed to providing quality education and ensuring the overall development of students. He described students like Ramneek Kaur as a source of inspiration for others and said that their achievements reflect the school's positive and progressive academic environment.

Spectacular performance by Gita Niketan students in class 12 Board exams



HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA:

In the Class 12 examination results declared by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the students of the local Gita Niketan Residential School have once again delivered an outstanding performance this year. A total of 119 students from the school secured a place in the merit list. Furthermore, 22 students scored over 90 percent marks, while 228 students passed the examination with a First Division. Bhakti, a student of the Science stream, secured the top position within the school with 95 percent marks. Shivam Gaur from the Arts stream, with 94.6 per cent marks, and Raghav Gupta from the Commerce stream, with 93.6 per cent marks, brought glory to the school's results by securing the first position within their respective streams. In terms of subject-wise highest scores, Bhakti and Gaurish scored 100 in Sanskrit, Himanshu scored 100 in Political Science; Gurkirat scored 99 in Mathematics; Raghav Gupta scored 99 in Business Studies; and Diksha scored 99 in Hindi. Additionally, four students—Gursirat, Gurkirat, Vashu, and Piyush—scored 98 in Accountancy; Raghav Gupta scored 98 in Geography; and Mukul Sharma scored 98 each in Mass Media and Physical Education, thereby bringing laurels to the school.

Pb govt should immediately accept demands of sanitation workers: Vikram Singh Bajwa



SARBJIT SUFI LUDHIANA:

In the protest held by the sanitation workers in Punjab who went on strike for their demands in the Municipal Council sahnawal, especially the Congress party in-charge of Sahnewal constituency Vikram Singh Bajwa reached and supported the sanitation workers and said that the Punjab government should immediately accept the demands of the sanitation workers. In his address on this occasion, Vikram Singh Bajwa said that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann had promised the people of Punjab during the last assembly elections that there would be no unskilled employees when his government comes to power and those who are unemployed would be given government jobs, but today the government is about to complete five years, but even today the unskilled employees are holding strikes and protests for their demands. He said that our sanitation workers and sewermen are still working on very low wages and they demand that their wages be increased and they be made regular because they have been doing sanitation work for more than a decade. On this occasion, former president of Municipal Council Sahnewal Ramesh Kumar Pappu, Avtar Singh Chahal, Shamsher Singh Sheri, Aman Panesar, Kuljit Singh (all councilors) Sumita Tanzania, former councilor Sandeep Soni etc. were present with him!

21 out of 41 students from Baba Siddhanath School secure merit positions

HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA, MAY 14

Students from Baba Siddhanath International Public School achieved a 100% result in 12th grade exam results announced today by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). Out of 41 students in 12th grade, 21 secured merit positions. Chaitanya scored 87.2%, Rahul 87%, Tanisha 86%, Aditya Kumar and Mehak 85%, Tamanna Choudhary and Pooja 84%, Ramanpreet and Garv 82%, and Jainish and Yashika 81%. In music, 15 students scored above 95%: Chaitanya 100, Karan, Ekam Preet, and Rahul 99, Tamanna 96 and Tanisha and Raman 95. In Physical Education, Mehak and Nisha scored 96, while Chaitanya and Tamanna scored 95, bringing honor to school. With their outstanding



performance, 12th-grade students proved that consistent hard work and dedication in right direction are sure to lead to success. School Director Ishwar Singh congratulated all students and said that this success is result of collective efforts of teachers and students. Vice President Rekha Devi also wished all students a bright future and extended her best wishes to them. School Principal Geeta Sharma

expressed happiness over this achievement, saying that this success is result of students' dedication and hard work. She congratulated all students and encouraged them to continue their excellent performance. Teachers also expressed their joy at students' success, saying that children maintained regular studies, discipline and a positive attitude throughout year, results of which are evident to all.

Mock drill conducted to prepare for possible flood disaster in district

MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI, MAY 14

A mock drill was conducted in JapatiChhapra village of Indri on Thursday under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Anand Sharma to prepare for a potential flood disaster in the district. The administration went into alert mode as soon as the siren sounded and immediately began relief work in the flood-related disaster. During the drill, Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rahul Raiya visited the affected site and the staging area set up in the village's PanchayatGhar to review disaster management. The mock exercise was livestreamed and supervised by an army team. The administration, health department, SDRF, police, fire department, public works department, and other



departments jointly practiced relief and rescue operations. Five injured people were rescued during the mock drill.

During a flood mock exercise conducted in the district, relief and rescue operations were practiced by creating a simulated situation of heavy rain and flooding. According to the mock scenario, farmers in the village of JapatiChhapra were trapped in floodwaters that had entered their fields. Immediately after the incident, the district

administration activated the Emergency Operations Centre, and a joint rescue operation by the NDRF, police, fire brigade, health department and other agencies safely evacuated the farmers and transported them to Indri Civil Hospital, where the seriously injured were treated, and others were sent to relief centres after first aid. Food, water, and essential amenities were provided at relief camps, and various departments performed their responsibilities in close coordination.

Prominent people to protest against failure of police in arresting main accused of Sonia murder



MAHENDER GOYAL HISAR:

The meeting of prominent people of the city was held in Sector 14 at the residence of Provincial President of Haryana Pradesh Trade Board, Bajrang Garg. In which, as the main accused Saurabh Anand has not been caught in the Sonia Murder case even after 14 days, it was decided to hold a protest from 10 am to 12 noon Nagori Gate today. Bajrang Garg said that there was a lot of resentment among the people of the city due to the police administration not arresting Saurabh Anand. The agitation of the city residents will continue until the main accused is arrested. There was a telephone conversation with the police administration to catch the criminal. On this occasion, prominent social workers CA PawanGirdhar, Gulzar Singh Kahlo, Dr. Ramesh Poonia, RajendraChutani, Akshay Malik, Mahesh Chaudhary, Ashish Godara Kuki, Surendra Bajaj, Om Prakash Asija, Mangeram Ralwasiya, Satyapal Aggarwal, Surendra Panghal, Niranjan Goyal, Om Prakash Bajaj, Vishambhar Lal Kathuria, Ramesh Vats, Pintu Papadeja, Aman Representatives like Kaushik, Anil Papadeja, Sumit Grover, Happy Nagpal, Showroom Papadeja, Saurabh Papadeja, Hans Thareja, Rajendra Bansal were present.

DAV Public School, Radaur performs excellently in Class 12 exams

NIRMAL SAINI RADAUR: An atmosphere of happiness was seen on Thursday in DAV Public School Radaur, where the result of class 12th was excellent. After reaching the school premises, the students offered sweets to each other due to which an atmosphere of enthusiasm prevailed in the school premises. Giving information, Principal Raman Kumar Sharma said that Khushi Radhan stood first by scoring 98.4 per cent marks, Ishita Bansal stood second by scoring 98.2 per cent marks and Prachi Saini stood third by scoring 96.8 per cent marks. While Palvi Kamboj 95.8 per cent; Nidhi Sharma 95.2 per cent; Palak 95.2 per cent; Palak 93.6 per cent; Priyanka 93 per cent; Himanshi 92.6 per cent; Armaan 92.4 per cent; ShauryaPandey 92 per cent; Viprash Kamboj 91.8 per cent; Abhinav 91.6 per cent; Karuna Devi 91 per cent; Harshita Sandhuja 90.8 per cent; Sagarmade the school proud by performing excellently by securing 90.2 per cent marks. Khushi and Ishita got 100 marks in Accounts subject, Palak and Navya 100 marks in Music subject, Khushi got 99 marks in Economics, Harshita got 98 marks in Biology, Khushi got 98 marks in English language. Ishita brought glory to the school by scoring 98 marks in Business Studies. Raman Kumar Sharma said that the students have achieved unprecedented success on the basis of their hard work, dedication and discipline. He congratulated all the students and parents.

Congress unable to accept people's verdict, says Mahipal Dhanda

RAKESH BHAYANA PANIPAT, MAY 14

Haryana Education Minister Mahipal Dhanda said that the politics of development has gained strong public support in Haryana and across the country, while the Congress party is struggling to accept the people's mandate. Speaking during a public grievance meeting in Panipat, Dhanda claimed that the opposition has been politically "clean bowled" by the public over the issue of development. The minister stated that development works in his constituency are progressing continuously and that complaints related to infrastructure and civic projects are now minimal. According to him, most residents approaching him are seeking assistance for personal matters



rather than development-related issues. He added that nearly all major projects in the constituency have either been completed, are currently under construction, or are already in the planning stage. Dhanda said that transparency regarding development works has helped build public trust, with people at the booth level fully aware of ongoing projects and their progress. He also

informed that he recently chaired a four-hour review meeting with district officials to assess the status of various developmental initiatives. Praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, the minister said that development-oriented governance has become the defining feature of both the central and state governments.

Students of The Millennium School, Kurukshetra, showcase their brilliance in Class 12th exam results

HANS RAJ YADAV KURUKSHETRA, MAY 14

Students of The Millennium School, Kurukshetra, performed exceptionally well in Class 12th exam results announced by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), achieving 100% results. All Millennium School students' success brought honor to school, parents and teachers. School campus was filled with excitement and joy as results were announced. Millennium School student Prachi Saini secured first place with 92.4 percent marks. Manas secured second place with 89.8 percent marks while Yashvardhan secured third place with 87.4 percent marks. Jasmine Kaur scored 86 percent, Madhav Sharma and Alia scored 85.2 percent and Kavya Pandit scored 85 percent, contributing significantly to school's achievements. The Millennium School management attributed students' success to their hard work, dedicated guidance of their teachers and support of their parents. Teachers at Millennium School prepared students for success throughout year by providing them with regular practice,



motivation, and proper guidance. Amita Kochhar, Director-Principal of The Millennium School said, "Our students have proven that with consistent hard work and self-confidence, every goal can be achieved. This achievement is result of collective efforts of Millennium family. We are proud of our students." She added, "We are confident that our students will continue to achieve new milestones in future." Wishing all successful students a bright future and wishing them continued progress. Vice-Principal Deepika Kaushal while congratulating students, said that this result is a testament to students' discipline, dedication and positive thinking.

NEWS BRIEFS

AIUTUC State Vice President Mehar Singh Bangar condemns anti-labour codes

MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR: AIUTUC General Secretary Shri Shankar Dasgupta, in a press statement, strongly condemned unilateral notification of anti-labour codes and called for intensifying protests. He said: Central trade union AIUTUC strongly opposes and condemns arbitrary move by Central Government to notify final rules of Wage Code (2019), Social Security Code (2020), Industrial Relations Code (2020), and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 on May 8 despite strong opposition from entire working class of country. This unilateral move, taken without meaningful consultation with central trade unions and without holding an Indian Labour Conference, is a direct attack on democratic norms and a violation of international labour standards to which India has signed. These codes, introduced in name of "ease of doing business," prioritize corporate profits over lives of workers. These codes are systematically undoing historic gains made through 150 years of hard-fought struggle, effectively pushing Indian workers back to colonial-era exploitation. We condemn move to make union registration more difficult, decriminalize violations by employers, criminalize trade union activities and practically eliminate right to strike.

Govt extends Karnal smart city project till 2027, CS reviews progress

BUREAU CHANDIGARH, MAY 14

The Haryana Government has extended the tenure of Karnal Smart City Limited and its Project Management Consultancy till March 31, 2027 to ensure timely completion of ongoing projects and smooth handing over of assets to the concerned departments. Similarly, Faridabad Smart City Limited project has been granted extension till March 31, 2027.

This was disclosed during the meeting of the State-Level High-Powered Steering Committee (SLHPSC) chaired by Haryana Chief Secretary Sh. Anurag Rastogi today to review the progress of Smart City Mission projects in Karnal and Faridabad.

During the meeting, it was informed that the extension has been granted in line with the directions of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) so that the remaining projects nearing completion can be executed efficiently and citizens continue to benefit from modern urban infrastructure.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the

physical and financial progress of projects being implemented under the Smart City Mission in Karnal and Faridabad and appreciated the pace of development works being carried out in both cities. The Chief Secretary empha-



sized that the Smart City Mission has significantly strengthened urban infrastructure, improved civic amenities and enhanced the quality of life for citizens through modern and technology-driven development initiatives. He

directed officials to ensure timely completion of the remaining projects and effective utilization of public assets created under the Mission.

Commissioner and Secretary, Urban Local Bodies Department, Sh. Ashok Kumar Meena informed that Faridabad Smart City Limited has undertaken 46 projects worth Rs 916.83 crore, out of which 32 projects have already been completed. Similarly, Karnal Smart City Limited has taken up 122 projects worth Rs 930 crore, with 86 projects already completed and several others in advanced stages of execution. He said a large number of completed projects have already been handed over to the concerned departments for future operation and maintenance. Faridabad Smart City Limited has handed over 23 completed projects, while Karnal Smart City Limited has handed over 83 projects to the respective agencies. It was further shared that both smart cities have successfully utilized the grants allocated under the Smart City Mission. Each city received a total financial provision of Rs 980 crore jointly from the Government of India and the Haryana Government in a 50:50 ratio.

CM Flying raids unregistered dental hospital in Hisar, Class 9-pass youth found treating patients

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA HISAR, MAY 14

A major case of alleged medical negligence and illegal healthcare operations has surfaced in Hisar after the CM Flying Squad conducted a raid on an unregistered dental hospital where an unqualified youth was allegedly treating patients.

The joint operation was carried out by the CM Flying Hisar team along with officials from the Health Department. During the raid, several serious irregularities were detected, following which the dental facility was sealed and an FIR was registered against two persons.

The action was led by CM Flying Hisar Range in-charge Sunaina along with Dental Surgeon Dr. Pulkit, ASI Surender and HC Jitender.

According to officials, the team had received information that a private clinic operating under the name "Gera Dental" in Hisar was allegedly running without registration and providing unauthorized dental treatment to patients.

Acting on the complaint, the joint team conducted a surprise inspection and examined the documents, staff and facilities present at the clinic.

During the inspection, officials reportedly found that the clinic was not registered under any relevant government healthcare regulations. No valid licence, OPD register or records of a registered doctor were found at the premises.

The most shocking revelation during the raid was that a youth identified as Pradeep Kumar, reportedly educated only up to Class 9, was allegedly examining patients, prescribing medicines and collecting consultation charges while seated at the dental chair.

Officials said patients present at the clinic also confirmed that Pradeep had attended to them and provided medicines.

Clinic operator Mahender Bajaj reportedly informed the team that the clinic was being run by Dr. Tarun Gera. However, investigators claimed that no documents, prescription slips, billing records or registration details linked to



Dr. Tarun Gera were found at the spot. This raised suspicion that the facility was operating illegally without proper medical supervision.

The inspection also revealed that the clinic allegedly lacked mandatory approval from the Haryana State Pollution Control Board. No records related to biomedical waste disposal or waste management arrangements were found during the raid.

During questioning, Rakesh, a resident of Sisyai Ravan village, told officials that he had visited the clinic for dental treatment where Pradeep examined him, gave medicines and charged money.

Another patient, identified as Dr. Sandeep, also stated that his dental check-up had been conducted by Pradeep and that he had paid for medicines at the clinic.

CM Flying Hisar Range in-charge Sunaina stated that operating a medical facility without registration and allowing unqualified persons to provide treatment is a serious offence

Jat Shining Star Public School, Kaithal creates history in CBSE Class 12 Exams

SANJAY SHARMA KAITHAL, MAY 14

The city's prestigious educational institution, Jat Shining Star Public School, Kaithal, has unfurled the banner of historic success in the Class 12 results for the 2025-26 session, as declared by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). In this magnificent achievement, a total of 28 students from the school secured a place in the merit list, thereby demonstrating their academic excellence. As soon as the results were declared, an atmosphere of joy and jubilation enveloped the school campus, where Principal Pan- kaj Gupta and members of the Managing Committee honored all the meritorious students by presenting them with medals and offering them sweets. Providing de-



tailed information, School Principal Pankaj Gupta stated that students have delivered outstanding performances across all three streams. In the Arts stream (Humanities), Vanshika secured the first position with 92.4 per cent marks; Preeti took the second spot with 90 per cent; and Ridhima achieved the third position with 86.6 per cent marks. In the Science stream, Asna brought laurels to the school by securing the first position with 90.4 per cent marks, while Bhumika stood second with 88.4 per cent, and

Khushi (daughter of Rambir) secured the third position with 87.4 per cent marks. In the Commerce stream, Anjali secured the first position with 91.4 per cent marks, and Vandana took the second position with 89.8 per cent marks.

The school's students also set records in subject-wise performance, proving their mettle by securing a perfect 100 marks in Painting; 98 marks each in English and Hindi; 95 marks each in Geography and Political Science; 94 marks in Physical Education; and 93 marks in Economics.

PM's appeal inspires Arvind Sharma to cycle to Panchkama

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA PANCHKULA, MAY 14

The appeal made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding fuel conservation amid the current global situation is now visibly influencing the working style of BJP leaders as well.

In this connection, Haryana Cooperation Minister Arvind Sharma reached the BJP state office "Panchkama" in Panchkula on a bicycle to attend the civic body election felicitation ceremony, conveying a message of fuel conservation, fitness and environmental protection.

A felicitation programme was organised at Panchkama on Thursday by the government and the Bharatiya Janata Party to honour party leaders and public representatives for the party's strong performance in the municipal elections. During the programme, BJP mayors, mu-



nicipal council chairpersons, municipal committee chairmen and election in-charges were honoured by Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini in the presence of BJP Haryana in-charge Satish Poonia and state BJP president Mohan Lal Badoli.

Arvind Sharma arriving at the venue on a bicycle became a major talking point, particularly after the BJP's vic-

torial stronghold of former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Praveen Koch, credited with helping the BJP secure its first municipal victory in Sampla, also accompanied Sharma on a bicycle.

Speaking on the occasion, Arvind Sharma said that whenever Prime Minister Narendra Modi makes an appeal, it is always in the interest of the nation.

He added that citizens across the country take such messages seriously and act responsibly.

He said the Prime Minister had recently made seven appeals to citizens, including fuel conservation, and these messages are now being adopted not only by political and administrative circles but also by the general public.

DAV Public School, performs exceptionally well in CBSE 12th results



PREETI SAINI, SADHAURA: Students of DAV Public School, Sadhaura, brought laurels to school and region with their outstanding performance in CBSE Class 12th exam results 2026, announced today. School achieved a 100% pass percentage. Student Prableen Kaur secured first place in school with 90.4% marks. Gurshan Singh secured second place with 90.2% marks while Nayreet secured third place with 88.6% marks. Prableen Kaur 90.4%, Gurshan Singh 90.2%, Nairit 88.6%, Manpreet Kaur 88%, Nityam Saini 87.8%, Mayank Dubey 87%, Bhargav 86%, Raghav 84.6%, Lakshya 82.6%, Jatin Nagar 81.4%, Milan Parwar 81.4%. Students of school achieved excellent marks in various subjects. Students demonstrated their talent by achieving 99 in IT, 98 in Music, 96 in Physical Education, 94 in Economics, 93 in Accountancy, 91 in English, and 91 in Political Science. Highest scores were 90 in Chemistry, 86 in Biology and 85 in Math.

On this occasion, the school's Principal, Ajay Kumar Sharma, congratulated all the successful students, their parents, and teachers. He stated that this result is the result of the students' hard work, the teachers' guidance, and the parents' support. School teachers Sandeep Taya, Suman, Rashmi, Nitin, Komal, Poonam Agarwal, Anil Kumar, Satveer Singh, Anu Madam, and Ritu Wadhawan were present on the occasion.

Devotees from far and wide to have wishes fulfilled at Hukam Ji Darbar

MEGH RAJ LUTHRA KARNAL: Last night, ghazals dedicated to famed Baba of Pucca Pul resonated throughout night at "Hukam Ji Darbar" in Karnal Vihar. Renowned ghazal singer Junaid Qureshi's qawwalis and ghazals moved the devotees. Upon hearing a ghazal dedicated to Mother Kali, a young man seated in the pandal appeared before Baba in form of Kali. Before devotee Sonu Kumar's 'chauki' (posture), several women filed court to mark their presence and prostrated themselves at Guru's feet. After completing one round of ghazals, when devotee Sonu Kumar's 'chauki' (posture), entire pandal bowed before him. Baba stood and listened to each devotee's problems and suggested solutions. Despite each devotee's plea, they were reluctant to leave. Pandal remained full throughout night. Prior to this, qawwalis were sung at Baba's tomb. Sonu Kumar, first devotee, offered chadar and touched his forehead. After this, other devotees lined up and offered their chadars. Some were standing at Chowki to seek blessings from Baba for a child, some for their children's happiness, some for their marriage and settling abroad, some for their business. Every eye was moist. Many women were telling Baba their woes with tears in their eyes, but Baba was reassuring each devotee. A young man said that he has been coming to Baba's court for last five years. Blessings that had been bestowed upon his house have returned. He and his family are happy. Many devotees put a turban and a garland of currency notes on devotee Sonu Kumar. Baba also showered Qawwalis with currency notes. Like every time, there was a Bhandara arrangement which started at 10 am and continued till 11pm. Chief servant Harvinder Kamboj said that Baba's Maha Gaddi will be decorated on June 4.



MP Kartikeya Sharma has emerged as a respected leader of all communities in Haryana: Viresh Shandilya

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA AMBALA: National president of Anti Terrorist Front India and Brahmin Mahapanchayat, Viresh Shandilya extended birthday greetings to Rajya Sabha MP Kartikeya Sharma and praised his growing influence in Haryana politics.

Shandilya said that within a short span of time, Kartikeya Sharma has emerged as a respected and widely accepted leader among all sections and communities of Haryana. He also paid tribute to Kartikeya Sharma's mother Shakti Rani Sharma on the occasion.



Referring to Kartikeya Sharma as a grassroots leader, Shandilya said he remains away from arrogance and personal greed and continues to serve the people of Haryana selflessly. He added that Sharma has maintained a clean public image while remaining actively connected with the people.

Shandilya further stated that Kartikeya Sharma, along with former Union minister Vinod Sharma and Shakti Rani Sharma, played an important role in the BJP's performance in municipal corporation elections in Ambala and Panchkula. He expressed confidence that Kartikeya Sharma would rise to greater political heights in the future and one day serve Haryana from a top leadership position.

Shandilya also announced that Anti Terrorist Front India and Brahmin Mahapanchayat would soon organise felicitation programmes in Ambala and Karnal to honour the MP.

PKR Jain Vatika honours Advocate Vasu Ranjan Shandilya with school pride award

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA AMBALA, MAY 14

PKR Jain Vatika School organised an inspirational and interactive "Ignite and Inspire" session for students, where former student Vasu Ranjan Shandilya attended as the chief guest. The school honoured him with the "School Pride Award" in recognition of his professional achievements and contribution to society.

Currently practising in the Supreme Court of India and the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Vasu Ranjan Shandilya also serves as chairman of the Council of Lawyers.

Returning to his alma mater after nearly 11 years, Shandilya described the moment as emotional and memorable. He was warmly welcomed by the school management, principal and faculty members.

During the session, he shared his life experiences, struggles, professional journey and memories from his school days with students. He said PKR Jain Vatika School laid the strongest foundation of his life by giving him confidence, values and direction.

Recalling his school life, he spoke about old classrooms, teachers and several emotional as well as humorous incidents from his student days. He encouraged stu-



port staff, stating that blessings and guidance from parents remain life's greatest strength.

Motivating students, Shandilya said that every major success begins with the courage to take the first step. He added that difficult struggles often become the greatest source of strength in the future.

He encouraged students to pursue careers aligned with their passion and interests while remaining dedicated and sincere towards their goals. He also advised them to enjoy school life fully, calling it the phase that creates the most cherished memories.

School principal Uma Sharma, while honouring Shandilya, said he was mischievous during childhood but always remained respectful towards teachers, staff and school employees. She added that his achievements are a matter of pride for the entire institution.

At the conclusion of the programme, Shandilya expressed gratitude to school management members Amrit Lal Jain, Nitin Jain, Aman Jain, Adish Jain, principal Uma Sharma and all faculty members. He said the school would always remain an integral part of his success and assured continued support whenever needed.

Students to adopt values such as honesty, discipline, hard work, humility, confidence and compassion.

He said success is not achieved through academics alone but through positive thinking, good character and continuous effort. He also urged students to always respect parents, teachers and sup-

Govt Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School students excel in Class 12 exams

MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI, MAY 14

In the Class 12 results declared by the CBSE, New Delhi, students of the Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School, located in the village of Byana, brought laurels to their institution through their outstanding performance.

Students across various streams demonstrated their talent by securing impressive marks. During a ceremony presided over by Principal Ram Kumar Saini, the students were honored with garlands, sweets, and awards. Throughout the event, all the teachers—including Arun Kumar Kainharba, Balraj Kamboj, Vinod Bhartiya, Anil Pal, Dinesh Kumar, Vivek Sharma, Swarnjit Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar, Rajesh Saini, Sandeep Kumar, Vinod Burj, Salindra Mandhan, Sunny Chahal, Ma-



hesh Kalyani, and Rajesh Kumar—extended their congratulations to the students.

Overall, Mehak topped the school with 94.4 per cent marks. Yashika secured the second position with 93.4 per cent marks, while Akshit attained the third position with 89.8 per cent marks. The following students delivered outstanding performances in their respective streams: Arts Stream Toppers: Disha — 1st Position (90% marks), Pari — 2nd Position (89% marks), Jyoti — 3rd Position (88%

marks), Commerce Stream Toppers: Mehak — 1st Position (94.4% marks), Yashika — 2nd Position (93.4% marks), Mansi Sharma — 3rd Position (89.2% marks)

Non-Medical Stream Toppers: Akshit — 1st Position (82.3% marks), Muskan Panchal — 2nd Position (84.7% marks), Gurpreet — 3rd Position (83% marks).

Medical Stream Toppers: Ritu — 1st Position (82.3% marks), Khushi — 2nd Position (82% marks), Himanshi — 3rd Position (78.6% marks)

Prayer meeting for late Usha Gupta to be held in Karnal on May 24

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: A prayer meeting in memory of late Usha Gupta will be organised in Karnal on May 24 following her demise on May 12. She was the wife of Shra-

van Gupta and was widely known for her social work and simple lifestyle. According to the family, the prayer meeting will be held from 2 pm to 3 pm at Anmol Garden on Ranwar Road, Karnal, where people from political, social and religious organisations are expected to pay tribute to the departed soul.

Family members said Usha Gupta remained actively associated with social causes throughout her life and was respected for her gentle nature, religious values and philanthropic work.

The Gupta family is considered prominent in Karnal's social and civic circles. Karnal Mayor and president of the All India Mayors Council, Renu Bala Gupta, is also a member of the family and has remained active in public service initiatives.

The bereaved family includes Ramesh Gupta, Mohinder Gupta, Rajinder Gupta, Brij Gupta, Sanjay Gupta, Akshay Gupta and Sandeep Gupta along with other family members.

The family has appealed to relatives, well-wishers and members of the public to attend the prayer meeting and offer floral tributes in memory of the departed soul.



CIA Ladwa team arrests prime accused in death case

KARAMBIR LADWA:

In the case involving the death of Labh Singh in Halapur village (Ladwa block), the prime accused managed to evade arrest by outwitting the police for 24 days. ...Finally, the CIA Ladwa team has succeeded in arresting the prime accused in the case, Sandeep Kadami. It is reported that, in an attempt to avoid police custody, the accused had even filed a bail application in court; however, the court refused to grant him bail. Despite this, the accused continued to wander from place to place in a desperate bid to elude the police. As soon as the investigation of the case was handed over to CIA Ladwa, the in-charge—Inspector Surender Singh—look the matter seriously and constituted a special team to only handle the accused. The team not only laid an elaborate trap to capture the prime accused but also conducted



raids at several locations. The police team ultimately achieved success in this endeavor, and the prime accused was arrested by the team just yesterday. This outcome was reached following a written assurance provided by Ladwa DSP Nirmal Kumar. The DSP gave a written undertaking to

the committee formed by the villagers, assuring them that he stood in solidarity with the deceased's family members and that strict action would be taken against anyone found guilty in this case. It was only after receiving this assurance from DSP Nirmal Kumar that the deceased's family and the villagers proceeded to perform the final rites for the deceased.

Nevertheless, despite these assurances, it took the police approximately 24 days—following Labh Singh's death—to apprehend the prime accused in this case. Providing details regarding the case, CIA Ladwa In-charge Inspector Surender Singh stated that Sandeep Kadami—the prime accused in the Halapur case involving the death of Labh Singh—has been arrested.

EDITORIAL

Govt bans sugar exports with immediate effect

India, on Wednesday, banned sugar exports with immediate effect until September 30, 2026, or until further orders. The Ministry of Commerce & Industry announced the decision through a formal notification that shifts the export status for various sugar categories from the "restricted" list to the "prohibited" category. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) confirmed that the amendment affects raw sugar, white sugar, and refined sugar classified under ITC (HS) codes. This regulatory change comes as a measure to manage domestic supply and ensure food security over the next two years. "The export policy of Sugar (Raw Sugar, White Sugar and Refined Sugar) under ITC (HS) Codes 1701 14 90 and 1701 99 90 is amended from 'Restricted' to 'Prohibited' with immediate effect till September 30, 2026, or until further orders, whichever is earlier," the notification stated. Despite the overall ban, the government provided specific exceptions for certain international obligations and existing schemes. The prohibition does not apply to sugar exported to the European Union and the United States under CXL and TRQ quotas, which will proceed according to the procedures established in relevant public notices. Furthermore, shipments under the Advance Authorisation Scheme (AAS) will continue to be governed by the Foreign Trade Policy 2023. The Ministry also detailed transitional arrangements for consignments already in the physical export pipeline. Shipments where the loading of sugar onto the vessel commenced before the notification's publication date are allowed to proceed. The DGFT also permitted exports in cases where shipping bills were filed and vessels had already berthed or anchored at Indian ports with an allocated rotation number. "The approval for loading in such vessels shall be issued only after confirmation by the concerned Port Authority regarding berthing/anchoring prior to this Notification," the Ministry noted. Consignments already handed over to Customs or Custodians and registered in electronic systems with verifiable evidence are also exempt from the immediate ban. However, the government also mentioned that exports might be permitted to other countries to meet their specific food security needs, provided there is a formal request from their respective governments. The notification highlighted that if the date of prohibition is not extended beyond September 30, 2026, the export policy for these sugar categories will automatically revert back to the 'Restricted' status.

PM Modi's diplomatic tour to strengthen India's Energy and trade partnerships

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a five-nation diplomatic tour from May 15 to 20, with a strong focus on bolstering India's energy security partnerships, advancing semiconductor and technology cooperation, and deepening strategic engagement with key global partners. The visit, covering the United Arab Emirates and four European nations, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and Italy, comes at a time when India is actively expanding its global economic and geopolitical footprint amid evolving international dynamics.

During the UAE leg of the visit, energy security will remain a key priority, with two significant Memoranda of Understanding in the areas of LPG cooperation and Strategic Petroleum Reserves expected to be signed. The engagements are aimed at reinforcing India's long-term energy resilience while simultaneously accelerating cooperation in trade, investment, defence and critical technologies.

"On PM's UAE visit and discussion on India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), We have a concrete agenda covering the full spectrum of bilateral relations with the UAE, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, and other Nordic partners. This includes discussions and engagement with the business community. In the UAE, the visit follows recent developments around OPEC pipelines. With the Netherlands, semiconductors are a key area of cooperation, and discussions will include Advanced Semiconductor and IMEC-related topics, which will also be covered and briefed accordingly," MEA Secretary (West) Sibi George said.

The tour will begin in the UAE on May 15, where Prime Minister Modi will hold talks with UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on bilateral relations, energy cooperation, regional developments and investment partnerships. India and the UAE



share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with the Gulf nation remaining one of India's key economic and energy partners. More than 4.5 million Indians live and work in the UAE.

The UAE is an important partner for India in energy security. Last year, it was the fourth-largest source of crude oil for India, meeting nearly 11% of the country's requirements. In the LNG sector, Indian companies and the UAE's Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC Gas) have entered into long-term supply contracts. The UAE is also the largest supplier of LPG to India, meeting nearly 40% of the country's requirements. In addition, the UAE is the second-largest destination for petroleum, oil and lubricant exports from Indian

refiners.

India and the UAE are also expanding cooperation in the field of renewable energy. A major highlight of the visit will be the India-Nordic Summit in Norway, where discussions are expected to centre on emerging technologies, semiconductor collaboration, green transition, innovation and resilient supply chains. India is also likely to seek stronger partnerships with Nordic nations in clean energy, digital infrastructure and advanced manufacturing sectors.

This will be the first visit of Prime Minister Modi to Norway, and will mark the first visit from India to Norway in 43 years.

From May 15 to 17, the Prime Minister will visit the Netherlands and participate in engagements linked to the third India-Nordic

Summit, which is expected to focus on green technology, climate action, digital innovation, trade and sustainable industrial partnerships.

MEA Secretary (West) Sibi George said, "During the visit, the Prime Minister will hold bilateral talks with the Prime Minister of the Netherlands. He will also meet their Majesties, King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima. Prime Minister is also expected to address the Indian community and meet top business leaders of the Netherlands."

This would be Prime Minister's second visit to the Netherlands. Last one was in 2017. The visit comes at an important juncture in the bilateral ties of both the countries. Our partnership has considerably deepened over the last few years across traditional sectors like trade, investment and

priority sectors of what that is, water, agriculture and health as well as people, the MEA said.

"The visit to the four European countries comes in the backdrop of the India-EU FTA that we finalised earlier this year," Sibi George said.

Officials said the visit will primarily focus on trade, technology, clean energy, innovation, defence cooperation, resilient supply chains and strategic investments, while also advancing India's broader economic and geopolitical engagement with Europe and the Gulf region.

A major highlight of the European leg will be Modi's visit to Sweden, where he is scheduled to address the European Roundtable for Industry alongside European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. The forum brings together top business leaders from the European Union, EFTA countries and the United Kingdom, reflecting India's growing role in Europe's economic and strategic priorities.

The forthcoming visit reflects the growing depth of India-Sweden ties under the India-Sweden Innovation Partnership announced in 2018.

Sweden today is one of the world's most innovative economies, and India and Sweden increasingly view each other as complementary innovation and technology partners, the MEA said.

During the visit, the prime minister will hold consultations with the Prime Minister of Sweden covering the spectrum of bilateral actions, including trade and investment, green transition, AI and emerging technologies, resilient supply chains, difference, cooperation, space, collaboration, climate action, and people-to-people ties.

The Prime Minister will be the chief guest at the round table for industry, representing business leaders from the European Union.

India secures extradition of terror-financing accused Iqbal Singh from Portugal

The Government of India has successfully secured the extradition of fugitive Iqbal Singh from Portugal in a major breakthrough against transnational

drug trafficking and financing terrorism. He will now face trial before courts in India.

The extradition was carried out under the bilateral extradition

coordination between the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Investigation Agency, Central Bureau of Investigation and the Indian Embassy in Lisbon, working alongside Portuguese agencies.

Officials described the extradition as a significant step in India's continuing crackdown on fugitives involved in organised crime, narcotics trafficking and terror-linked activities abroad.

In an official statement issued in Lisbon on 13 May 2026, the Indian government thanked Portuguese authorities for their cooperation and support in ensuring the successful extradition.

The development underscores New Delhi's growing international coordination in pursuing wanted fugitives and dismantling global criminal and terror-financing networks.

treaty between India and Portugal and followed the issuance of an Interpol Red Notice against the accused.

Indian authorities said the operation involved close

crime and terror financing networks.

According to the Embassy of India Lisbon, Iqbal Singh, also known as Shera, is accused of multiple serious offences, including

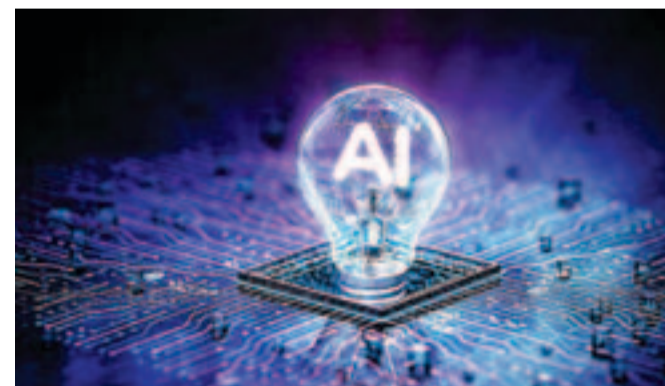
India's AI ambitions require public-private partnership model for scalability: AI4India

India's journey toward scaling artificial intelligence is shifting from a question of basic capability to a focus on how these technologies are developed and governed. As the nation eyes leadership in the global AI landscape, a public-private partnership model is emerging as the necessary framework to balance rapid innovation with digital sovereignty, according to the AI4India Weekly substack. The blueprint for this trajectory resides in India's previous digital successes, such as the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

As per AI4India, these success stories rarely emerge from pure state control or unrestricted private-sector dominance. Instead, they thrive on a collaborative architecture that allows public infrastructure and private innovation to work together at scale. AI4India.org, a non-government entity, is working to democratise access to Artificial Intelligence and ensure social and inclusive growth for India. "Neither the government nor the private sector can achieve this alone. What we need is a true fusion -- a strong public-private partnership," stated Lt. Gen. Rakesh Kapoor AVSM, VSM (Retd.) during a roundtable on "New and Emerging Opportunities in AI" hosted by AI4India and the Centre for Policy Research and

Governance (CPRG). This direction remains visible in the current policy approach. The weekly substack highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocating for a public-private partnership model for pooling critical AI resources like compute power, emphasizing the hybrid nature of the emerging strategy.

The government recognizes that it cannot build a competitive ecosystem at the required



speed alone, given the massive investments needed for semiconductors, cloud capacity, and research. "But leaving AI entirely to market forces also carries risks. Fragmented systems, concentration of power, foreign platform dependence and uneven access could undermine both innovation and digital sovereignty," the organization wrote. It also noted Union IT Minister

Ashwini Vaishnaw, highlighting how AI can strengthen existing digital systems and improve public service delivery, while institutions like the NPCI begin to integrate AI into payments and grievance redressal.

A meaningful framework for this partnership requires multiple layers of cooperation. The government funds foundational infrastructure, including sovereign compute capacity and Indian-

language resources, while creating regulatory guardrails. Public institutions then play a central role in sectors like healthcare and education, where large-scale data systems already exist. The AI4India Weekly mentioned that the private sector focuses on the application layer, building tools for MSMEs and citizen-facing services. Startups develop specialized solutions for sectoral workflows, while larger firms contribute infrastructure and research. Academic institutions act as the third pillar by supporting foundational research and talent

development to strengthen long-term capability. "If India can replicate the collaborative architecture that powered UPI, it may not only build a competitive AI ecosystem but also define a governance model for how large-scale technologies can be deployed in the digital age," the weekly substack stated.

Study raises possibility of country without butterflies



A study has been released, which for the first time tallies butterfly data from more than 76,000 surveys across the continental United States. The results: between 2000 and 2020, total butterfly abundance fell by 22 per cent across the 554 species counted. That means that for every five individual butterflies within the contiguous US in the year 2000, there were only four in 2020.

Action must be taken," said Elise Zipkin, a Red Cedar Distinguished Professor of quantitative ecology at Michigan State University and a co-author of the paper. "To

lose 22 percent of butterflies across the continental U.S. in just two decades is distressing and shows a clear need for broad-scale conservation interventions," Elise added. In this paper, Zipkin and Haddad were among a working group of scientists with the USGS Powell Center for Analysis and Synthesis who aggregated decades of butterfly data from 35 monitor programs, including records of over 12.6 million butterflies.

Using data integration approaches, the team examined how butterfly abundances changed regionally and individually for the 342 species with enough

data. Abundance is a term that threatens to become ironic. Butterfly populations dropped an average of 1.3% annually across the country, except for the Pacific Northwest. But even that encouraging result came with a caveat.

Further scrutiny of the apparent 10% increase in overall abundance in the Pacific Northwest over the 20-year study period was credited largely to the California tortoiseshell butterfly, which was enjoying a population boom not expected to be sustained. "This is the definitive study of butterflies in the U.S.," said Collin Edwards, the

study's lead author. "For those who were not already aware of insect declines, this should be a wake-up call. We urgently need both local- and national-scale conservation efforts to support butterflies and other insects. We have never had as clear and compelling a picture of butterfly declines as we do now." Edwards had been a postdoctoral research associate at Washington State University, Vancouver, and now works at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The results reveal that 13 times as many species declined as increased - with 107 species losing more than half their populations.

AJAY MALHOTRA FATEHGARH SAHIB: With the Bassi Pathana Municipal Council elections scheduled for May 26, the nomination process that began on May 13 has already run into trouble. Candidates intending to file their nomination papers are reportedly facing serious inconvenience as the Municipal Council office has not yet issued the mandatory No Objection Certificates (NOCs)

required for filing. Officials have cited the absence of the Executive Officer (EO)—currently on leave—as the reason for this delay. Notably, the additional charge of Bassi Pathana's EO had been assigned to Chetan Sharma, the Executive Officer of Mandi Gobindgarh, who already oversees three other municipal councils. According to him, the heavy workload has caused unavoidable delays in issuing the documents. Reacting

strongly to the situation, BJP senior leader Kuldeep Singh Sidupur from the Bassi Pathana constituency said that if the Municipal Council fails to provide essential documents like the NOC on time, then the notification issued by the State Election Commission loses its significance. He criticized the administrative lapse, stating that such negligence undermines the democratic process.

NEWS BRIEF

Major Anju Bala Singh holds meeting regarding MC elections



YUGMARG BUREAU MORINDA: BJP's activities are continuously intensifying in various wards of Morinda in view of the Municipal Council elections 2026. In this regard, a special meeting was held under the leadership of senior BJP leader Major Anju Bala Singh, in which local development, organizational strength and election strategy were discussed in detail. Addressing the meeting, Major Anju Bala Singh said that the BJP believed in development, transparency and public welfare politics and the people of Morindawere fully prepared for change this time. She expressed confidence that the BJP will contest all the seats in the Municipal Council elections with strength and register a historic victory. She said that the people of the city have faced basic problems for a long time, including sanitation, broken roads, streetlights, sewerage and drinking water.

Hema Malini launches the Mero Mathura app

YUGMARG BUREAU MATHURA, MAY 14

Mathura MP Hema Malini launched the Mero Mathura app, the newly built app of Mathura Vrindavan Nagar Nigam, today. The app has digitized most of the citizens' services, which will enhance convenience, empower people, and promote accountability. "Locals have access to a wide range of on-demand services, can file complaints, can ask for help in emergencies, and can serve their statutory liabilities, without visiting Nagar Nigam offices, sitting comfortably at their home," Hema Malini said. This will eventually speed up the process. Nagar Aayukt Jag Pravesh said that Citizens can register and track the status of their problems regarding Road, Water, and Waste, and may contact the concerned officer in need. They can pay



property tax and apply for on the city's temples and Ghats, their locations, timings, and Festival certificates on their mobile phones. "Information on contact details of officers, location of public conveniences on a map, and access to information about facilities for women, men, and specially abled citizens are some other features on the app." He added. Apart from this, the app also has comprehensive information

said complete care is taken to ensure the confidentiality of stored data. The data is fully encrypted and secure. Moreover, login to the app required the use of one's biometric fingerprint and a PIN code. The app is developed and run in collaboration with HDFC Bank and is available on the Google Play Store, and can be downloaded freely, he added. Nagar Aakukt is hopeful that the app will cater to the needs of locals and a large number of visitors coming to the city. The actor turned politician also inaugurated 500 solar lights installed by HDFC Bank for MVDA at Govardhan Parikrama Marg in Govardhan. "This is going to benefit lakhs of devotees who perform Parikrama of Govardhan town round the clock, around the year," Poooran Prakash MLA Baldev said.

DC inspects modern model of Vriddha Kedar Sarovar created by Arya Prayas Organization

RANVIR PARASHAR KAITHAL, MAY 14



Kaithal Municipal Council will construct a birdhouse in center of Vriddha Kedar Sarovar, where birds can take shelter. Additionally, walkway built in Vriddha Kedar Sarovar will be renovated, including fountains, music systems, electrical systems and other improvements. DC Aparajita issued necessary instructions to Municipal Council officials in this regard. She inspected restoration model of Vriddha Kedar Sarovar prepared by Arya Prayas Organization and issued instructions for necessary improvements. DC instructed Municipal Council officials to ensure that visitors to Jawahar Park, Children's Park and Vriddha Kedar Sarovar for morning and evening walks face no inconvenience. Necessary improvements should be made to ensure this. Model developed by Arya Prayas Sanstha is a very good model.

Municipal Council officials should seek cooperation of organization's members. MC EO Sandeep Solanki informed DC that a birdhouse is being constructed in the center of the Vriddha Kedar Shrine at a cost of approximately Rs. 50 lakh, where birds can take shelter. A bird tower will also be built in center. Its base will be reinforced with RCC and stone pitching techniques. Boats will also be operated in this area. In next phase, pond at this shrine will be connected to another pond. She also stated that a tender of ₹50 lakh has been issued for improvements to entire park's pathways, fountains, electrical systems and other works. Arya Prayas Sanstha members Satish Kathuria, Vijay Goyal, Subhash Shastri, Sachin Goyal, Dr Prabhakar Puri, Saurav Dhiman and Sant Ram briefed DC on model's features and discussed ongoing work. They praised DC's efforts to renovate park and said it would be very beneficial for public.

DAV Public School shines in CBSE Class XII results, Yuvraj Singh tops Science with 97%



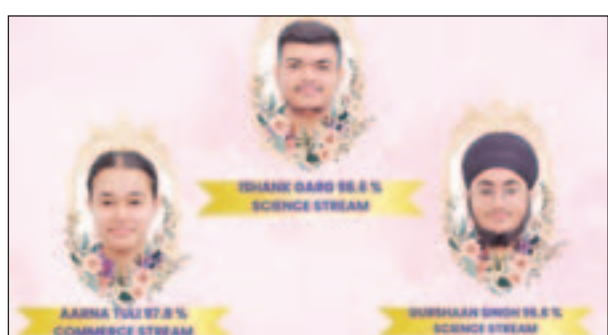
RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR: A wave of joy, pride, and celebration swept across DAV Public School, Professor Colony as the school achieved a spectacular performance in the CBSE Class XII Board Examination this year. The outstanding results once again reflected the school's commitment to academic excellence, discipline, creativity, and holistic development. Leading the Science stream, Yuvraj Singh brought laurels to the school by securing an exceptional 97%, setting a remarkable benchmark through his dedication and perseverance. In the Commerce stream, Niharika achieved a brilliant 95.2%, while Ishita from the Humanities stream excelled with an impressive 94.8%, making the institution proud with their stellar achievements. Adding more glory to the result, seven students scored above 90%, showcasing the consistent academic strength and hard work of the students as well as the relentless guidance of the teachers. The school also celebrated extraordinary subject-wise achievements. Ekta scored a perfect 100 out of 100 in Informatics Practices (IP), demonstrating exceptional command over the subject. In the field of performing arts, Yuvraj Singh and Tulsi achieved a perfect 100 out of 100 in Music, highlighting the school's emphasis on nurturing talent beyond academics as well. Expressing immense happiness over the remarkable success, Principal Vijay Kashiv congratulated the students for their hard-earned achievements and appreciated the dedicated efforts of teachers and parents.

Shri Harkrishan Public School gets 100 per cent result



HANS RAJ KURUKSHETRA: Shri Harkrishan Public School, Jhansa once again achieved a 100% result in CBSE Class 12 Board Examinations for 2025-26 academic session. Students of school, by achieving excellent scores, not only made their parents but also school proud. Saniya secured first place with 91.0% marks. Harshpreet Kaur secured second place with 91.0% marks, while Manmeet Singh scored 90.8%. Furthermore, Bakshinder Kaur scored 88.4% and Armaan Singh scored 88%, achieving outstanding results. School management, principal, and entire staff extended their heartfelt congratulations to students and their parents on this proud achievement. Students expressed their joy by distributing sweets. Students attributed their success to their hardworking teachers, Principal Ravneet Kaur and Director G.S. Sara. School Director G.S. Sara wished all students a bright future and encouraged them to achieve similar success in future. Teachers like Ranjodh Singh, Amandeep Kaur, Usha Devi, Veena Sharma, Urmila, Shivani Verma, Mandeep Kaur, Sidak Singh were present.

St. Mary's Convent School achieves 100% board result



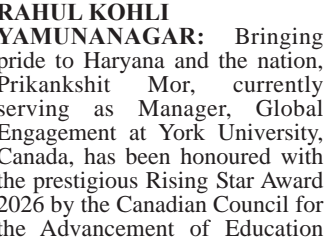
RAKESH BHAYANA PANIPAT: St. Mary's Convent Senior Secondary School, Panipat, recorded an outstanding 100% pass result in the 2026 board examinations, with students delivering exceptional performances across Science and Commerce streams. The achievement brought pride to the school, students, and parents alike. In the Science stream, Ishank Garg emerged as the topper with an impressive 98.6%, followed by Gurshan Singh with 96.6% and Palak Panwar with 96.4%. In the Commerce stream, Arna Tuli secured the top position with 97.8%. Gayatri Batra and Shiven jointly stood second with 95.8%, while Shagun Preet secured third place with 95.4%. A total of 126 students appeared for the board examinations this year, and all passed successfully, ensuring a perfect pass percentage. Among them, 34 students scored above 90%, 47 students secured marks between 80% and 90%, 33 students achieved between 70% and 80%, while 12 students scored below 70%.

SDM Devendra Sharma holds meeting of officials to speed up HPV vaccination campaign



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: SDM Devendra Sharma held a meeting in his office on Thursday with the principals of all private schools of Kunjpura block regarding HPV vaccination. In the meeting, the SDM instructed the school principals to speed up the HPV vaccination campaign being run to prevent girls aged 14-15 years from cervical cancer. Make girls and their parents aware about maximum vaccination so that no eligible girl in the district is deprived of vaccination. In the meeting, he said that the Government of India was running an HPV vaccination campaign to prevent girls aged 14 and 15 years from cervical cancer. When girls of this age group get this vaccination, they will be safe from this deadly disease. He told that cervical cancer was a deadly and dangerous disease for women. Women have to face a lot of trouble and pain in this disease. The Government of India is providing free HPV vaccine to girls aged 14-15 years for the healthy and bright future of their daughters. He appealed that daughters of the above age group should get this vaccination. This does not have any side effect on the health of women and girls. This vaccine will play an important role in protecting daughters from serious diseases like cancer in future.

Haryana's Prikankshit Mor wins prestigious Canadian Rising Star Award



RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR: Bringing pride to Haryana and the nation, Prikankshit Mor, currently serving as Manager, Global Engagement at York University, Canada, has been honoured with the prestigious Rising Star Award 2026 by the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAEE). The award was presented during a national ceremony held at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, on April 30, 2026, in the presence of leading academicians and education professionals from across Canada. The Rising Star Award is regarded as one of the most respected honours in Canada's higher education sector and recognizes exceptional early-career professionals for leadership, innovation, and professional excellence. Prikankshit Mor earned this recognition within just two years of his professional career, a rare achievement in the highly competitive global education field. His work in global engagement, international partnerships, alumni relations, strategic communications, and advancement services received widespread appreciation.

Distt admin conducts successful mock drill to assess preparations of departments concerned to deal with floods

YAGYA DUTT SHASTRI PEHOWA, MAY 14

Civil Sub-Divisional Officer Anil Kumar Doon said that the district administration was conducting mock drills to prevent loss of life and property due to flood waters during the rainy season, which were successfully completed. It is not possible to prevent natural disasters from occurring, but the administration is always striving to reduce the losses caused by these disasters. In this direction, all the departments have jointly conducted mock drills and tested their preparations. The deficiencies noticed by the administration during this will be completed in time, so that there is no shortage in dealing with the disaster situation. Through this practice, common people can be saved during such accidents with the help of mutual coordination. SDM Anil Kumar Doon was inspecting the mock drill test in Jhaansa village of Pehowa block on Thursday as per the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Vishram



Kumar Meena. He said that Dera Mohammad Sahib and Narwana Branch Canal of Jhaansa villages were selected, in which the mock drill test was practiced jointly by all the departments. At such a time, a camp was set up for me in Jhaansa CSC. Staging area was marked for food and water drinking in Grain Market Jhaansa. Animal Husbandry Department made arrangements for fodder for the animals and other arrangements were made in ambulance tractor trolley to bring the animals to a safe place.

Students of SDCSA School come out with flying colour in Class 10 Board's exams

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 14

In the Class 10 results declared by the Haryana School Education Board, the students of SDCSA School have set a new record by getting 100 percent result. Out of 100 students, 24 students have got merit and 55 have got first division. Class 10 student Dilip stood first in the school by scoring 95.6 per cent marks, student Manisha stood second by scoring 92.2 per cent marks, Naman stood third by scoring 90.6 per cent marks, Kajal got 88.8 per cent, Lavish got 88.6 per cent, Dev got 87.6 per cent, Nichiket got 86 per cent, NamanPanchal got 85.4 per cent and Raman



got 85.4 per cent. Dilip, who stood first has also achieved special achievement by scoring 98 marks in Science and Sanskrit, 95 marks in Mathematics and 91 marks in Hindi. Sameer student has brought laurels to the school by scoring 98 marks in Social Science, Lavish by scoring 95 marks in Physical Education and 91 marks in Hindi, Tanish by scoring 92 marks in Punjabi and Nichiket by scoring 91 marks in English subject. On this occasion, Managing Committee President Ravindra Singh Bhatia and other members congratulated the participating students and their parents. Overjoyed with this happiness, Principal Renu Gupta also motivated the students and said that they were proud of the success of the students, because there was no substitute for hard work. Success definitely kisses the feet of those students who work hard in life.

In Haryana Board results, Preet from Baba Shrivannath School scores 94.4 pc marks



YAGYA DUTT SHASTRI PEHOWA: In the Class 10 results of the Haryana Board, students from Baba Shrivannath Senior Secondary School—operated by the Bharatiya Shiksha Samiti under the patronage of Shri Panchayati Akhada Mahanirvani—have delivered an outstanding performance. Principal Khajan Mehla informed that a total of 69 candidates appeared for the examination, all of whom passed with good marks. Among them, 19 candidates secured a place in the merit list. The overall pass percentage for the Board stood at 89.6%, whereas BSN School achieved a 100% pass rate. He further detailed the individual scores: Preet secured 94.4%; Gurleen, 92.4%; Komal, 91%; Raj Mishra, 90.2%; and Harman, 90%. Diya, Mahakpreet Kaur, and Jaspreet Singh—all three—scored 88.4%; Mahak, 87.2%; Gurdeep, 86.8%; Tamanna Saini, 85%; Moh Bhowmik, 83.8%; Anamika and Nancy, 83.6%; Vansh Garg, 83%; Alka Kumari, 80.8%; Ishika, 80.4%; Mohit, 80%; and Noor Jahan secured 80% marks. Bhushan Gautam, Secretary of the Management Committee, stated that education imparts knowledge and skills, which ultimately lead to success in life.

Kapurthala Police arrest two vehicle thieves, 21 stolen bikes and car recovered



ASHISHPURI KAPURTHALA: Kapurthala Police has taken major action against theft incidents by arresting two vehicle thieves. Police recovered 21 stolen motorcycles and one stolen Maruti car from the accused. Giving information in this regard, SP (D) Harinder Singh said that the accused used to carry out thefts in Kapurthala and nearby districts, and several criminal cases had already been registered against them in the past. Both accused were presented before the honorable court, and the police obtained one day of remand for further investigation. SP (D) Harinder Singh stated that an CIA Staff team led by ASI Darbara Singh was patrolling near Kanjli when they received a tip-off from an informer. The informer said that Ravi Kumar, son of Sarwanjit and resident of Chuharwal, was waiting on Kanjli Road to sell stolen motorcycles to customers. Acting on the information, the police team immediately conducted a raid and arrested the accused.

Religious program organised at SS Jain Sthanak



JAIBEER RANA THAMBER MULLANA: In the religious program organized at SS Jain Sthanak located in Mullana, Shramani Ratna Ji Maharaj and her disciples Shramani Ratna Ji Maharaj and sermon leader Mahasadhvi Shri Sucheta Ji Maharaj, while addressing the devotees, said that human life was obtained with great difficulty hence it should be used for good deeds, religion and human service. He said that the real aim of life was self-welfare and adopting morality. During this, melodious singer Mahasadhvi Dr. Shri Samiksha Ji Maharaj and neophyte Shri Arhati Ji Maharaj mesmerized the devotees by giving melodious presentation of bhajans. The entire atmosphere became devotional with hymns and sermons. SS Jain Sabha spokesperson Shripal Jain said that on May 17, a grand program would be organized at Mullana Jain Sthanak in the presence of PravarchanPrabhavika Mahasadhvi Shri Sucheta Ji Maharaj to commemorate the initiation anniversary of Mahasadhvi Shri Kailashwati Ji Maharaj and Mahasadhvi Dr. Shri Samiksha Ji Maharaj.

Karnal International School excels in CBSE Class XII results; students deliver impressive performance



CHAMANLAL KARNAL: Karnal International School has once again upheld its reputation for academic excellence with commendable results in the CBSE Class XII Board Examinations. The successful outcome has brought great pride and satisfaction to the school community. The overall result reflects a strong performance, with a large number of students scoring above 80%, 90%, and even 95%, showcasing their dedication, disciplined efforts, and the school's supportive academic environment. Hritik Raj (Medical Stream) emerged as the school topper with an outstanding 97.8%. Several students also achieved perfect scores in individual subjects. Divyam Luthra (Non-Medical Stream) scored a perfect 100 in Mathematics and Fine Arts. Prasanjeet (Medical Stream) secured 100 marks in English, while Ram Pratap and Nikhil Yadav (Medical Stream) achieved 100 marks each in Fine Arts. The achievement was celebrated on campus with the distribution of sweets among students and staff, adding to the joyful and proud atmosphere. Chairman Colonel Arun Datta congratulated the students for their hard work, dedication, and outstanding performance, and appreciated the teachers for their continuous guidance, commitment, and sincere efforts in shaping the students' success.

DINKAR GAWRI

HANSI: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has stated that under the rule of the BJP—which misleads the glibble public of the nation and the state by invoking the rhetoric of a 'triple-engine government'—not a single promise has been fulfilled on the ground. The people of Haryana have now become fully acquainted with this "government of promises and announcements." The consequences of this realization have also begun to manifest. A recent example is the election for the Municipal Council Chairperson in Uklana, where the public effectively held up a mirror of truth to the BJP. In a statement issued to the press, the party's District President, Rajendra Sorkhi, noted that during this local-level election in Uklana, the entire Cabinet—including the Chief Minister—along with numerous senior leaders, were actively engaged in the election campaign. The entire government machinery was blatantly misused. Despite this, the courageous people of the region voted against the BJP candidate and ensured the victory of an independent candidate. Gradually, the falsity of the BJP's promises and the flaws in its policies are being exposed before the public.

CM Mann at anti-drug awareness programme says, "We will erase blot of drugs from Punjab"

VERMA BATALA; Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Thursday asserted that the Punjab Government would erase the "blot of drugs" from the state at any cost, saying the ongoing Yuth Nashean Virudh campaign has already delivered a major blow to the narcotics network with over 63,707 drug smugglers arrested in 437 days and illegal properties built through drug money being demolished across Punjab.

Addressing an anti-drug awareness programme dedicated to the 38th Gurugaddi Divas of Sant Trilochan Das Ji Maharaj in Batala, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said the fight against drugs and organised crime had now become a people's movement, with every Punjabi standing shoulder to shoulder with the Punjab Government.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the simultaneous crackdown under the 112-day Gangstran Te Vaar campaign, ongoing welfare measures for women and healthcare, and credited the strict anti-beadbi law enacted by the Punjab Government for bringing an end to incidents of beadbi of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji in the state.

Addressing the gathering, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "The Punjab Government launched Yuth Nashean Virudh more than 400 days



ago and this campaign has achieved resounding success. We have cracked the backbone of the drug trade and the big fishes involved in this crime have been put behind bars. This crackdown against drugs will continue with full force until this menace is completely wiped out from Punjab." He stated that under the campaign, the Punjab Government had not only snapped the supply lines of drugs but had also ensured rehabilitation of victims while demolishing and confiscating properties of smugglers. "If Punjabis make a firm resolve to make Punjab drug-free, then no force can stop us from achieving this noble mission. I seek the wholehearted support and

cooperation of people to turn this fight into a people's movement," CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said.

Highlighting Punjab's spiritual legacy, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "Every inch of this sacred land carries the footprints of great Gurus, saints, seers and martyrs who taught us to stand against tyranny, injustice and oppression. Inspired by their teachings, the Punjab Government launched this crusade against drugs and the results are now visible on the ground. The day is not far when Punjab will become completely drug-free."

The Chief Minister stated Punjab has always been recognised as the food bowl and sword arm of the

nation, with its people known worldwide for courage, resilience and enterprise. "Previous governments neglected Punjab's development, which disillusioned the youth and forced many to leave the state. Today, the Punjab Government is making every effort to restore the pristine glory of a 'Rangla Punjab'," CM Bhagwant Singh Mann added.

Emphasising welfare-oriented governance, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "The tax money of people belongs to the people and we are spending it judiciously on their welfare. Today, people's money is being invested in schools, hospitals, roads and infrastructure instead of corruption and loot."

New Happy Public School shines in CBSE Class 12 results; Vanshika tops with 97%

RAHUL KOHLI

YAMUNANAGAR: The students of New Happy Public School, Yamunanagar, brought laurels to the school by delivering outstanding performance in the CBSE Class 12 Board Examination. The overall result of the school was highly impressive and inspiring, reflecting the hard work, dedication, and discipline of the students. Vanshika secured the first position in the school by scoring 97% marks. Aarushi and Shabad Rohilla secured the second position with 95% marks each. Shagun Devi scored 94.6%, Garima 93%, Oshika 91.4%, Nitasha Rani 89%, Raksharth Verma, Sandhya Verma and Tarun Gupta 88.6%, Chirag 88.2%, Kunal 87.4%, Aryan Kumar and Kushank 87.2%, Vaibhav and Trisha 87%, Sakshi 86.8%, Chirag Kumar 86.4%, Lovish Behal 86.2%, Nidhi Panchal 84.6% and Parul 84.2%, bringing pride to the school.

Students also performed remarkably well in various subjects. In English, Vanshika scored 97 marks; Shabad Rohilla, Aditya Mishra, Vaishnavi Sharma and Shagun Devi scored 96; Kanika, Kushank and Garima scored 95; Aarushi, Chirag Kumar and Niyam Kashyap scored 94; Aryan Kumar, Chirag and Diksha Rana scored 93; Tanvi Pal scored 92; while Vaibhav, Jasleen Kaur, Rohan, Sakshi, Sandhya Verma and Kunal scored 91 marks. In Physics, Aarushi scored 92 marks, Shabad Rohilla 89, Aryan Kumar 84, Vaibhav 82 and Kushank 81 marks. In Chemistry, Shabad Rohilla scored 93, Aarushi 90, Aryan Kumar and Chirag Kumar 86, and Vaibhav 81 marks. In Mathematics, Aarushi scored 95, Chirag 78, while Aryan Kumar and Kushank scored 74 marks. In Biology, Shabad Rohilla scored 95, Janvi



Rani and Raksharth Verma scored 89, and Vaibhav scored 86 marks. In Accountancy, Vanshika scored 97, Tarun Gupta 95 and Shagun Devi 91 marks. In Business Studies, Nitasha Rani scored 95, Vanshika 94, Oshika and Shagun Devi 91, while Garima scored 90 marks. In Economics, Garima, Oshika, Shagun Devi and Lovish Behal scored 95, Kunal scored 94 and Vanshika scored 93 marks. In Physical Education, Vanshika scored 97, Dhananjay Bindra 96, Diksha Rana and Kushank 95, Aarushi and Shorya Chauhan 94, Raksharth Verma and Shagun Devi 93, Chirag and Sakshi 92, while Shabad Rohilla, Aditya Mishra, Trisha, Jasmeen Kaur, Lakshay Saini and Sandhya Verma scored 91 marks. In Music, Shabad Rohilla, Aarushi, Chirag, Chirag Kumar and Vanshika scored a perfect 100 marks and made the school proud. Unnati and Garima scored 99 marks. Raksharth Verma, Lakshay Saini, Srishri Shambook, Nitasha Rani, Shagun Devi and

Lovish Behal scored 98 marks. Trisha, Dhananjay Bindra, Yashika Dhiman, Jasmeen Kaur, Anishka Rana, Annu, Parul, Sakshi and Umang scored 97 marks. Pulkit, Khushal, Vaishnavi Sharma and Oshika scored 96 marks, while Apardeep Singh, Ritesh, Nisha Meena, Sandhya Verma and Kulkum Vishwakarma scored 95 marks. School Principal Dr. Bindu Sharma expressed her happiness over the excellent results and said that the achievement of the students is the outcome of their hard work, the dedication of teachers, and the continuous support of parents. She congratulated all the students and wished them a bright future. School Chairman Sh. G. S. Sharma also congratulated the successful students, parents and teachers. He stated that the outstanding result reflects the quality education and disciplined environment of the school. He encouraged the students to continue achieving excellence in the future as well.

Kotak Solitaire To Support Faridabad's Affluent Through its Manufacturing & Engineering Boom

FARIDABAD: Kotak Mahindra Bank is presenting its invite-only affluent programme "Solitaire" to Faridabad's founder families and professionals as Haryana's industrial economy expands and the city consolidates its position as one of North India's most important manufacturing hubs. Faridabad—home to a large mixed-engineering MSME base, a thriving auto-component ecosystem, and suppliers to leading OEMs—is witnessing growing demand for faster credit, sophisticated treasury solutions and premium wealth services that Kotak aims to support through Solitaire. Pranav Mishra, President and Chief Distribution Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank, said,

Aditya Birla Health Insurance launches Activ Yuva, a Wellness-First Health Insurance Plan for Young India

Ludhiana: Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Ltd. (ABHICL), the health insurance arm of Aditya Birla Capital, today announced the launch of Activ Yuva, a health-focused insurance plan designed for the evolving lifestyle and wellness needs of young Indians. As part of the offering, a comprehensive wellness programme has been introduced that builds on ABHICL's HealthReturns™ proposition, rewarding individuals for everyday healthy behaviours across nutrition, fitness, and recovery. Commenting on the launch of Activ Yuva, Mr. Mayank Batwail, Chief Executive Officer, Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited, said, "Health insurance must evolve with changing consumer lifestyles and wellness habits.

IndiGo and Single.i announce Strategic Partnership; Enable New Avenues to Earn Loyalty Rewards

CHANDIGARH LUDHIANA—IndiGo, India's preferred airline, today announced a partnership with Single.i to enable IndiGo BluChip members to earn rewards in a simpler, faster way on their everyday spends across brands such as McDonald's (West and South), Wow! Momo, Snitch, Colobar, Himalaya and Pizza Hut, amongst many others. Through this integration, customers can link their debit or credit cards on the IndiGo Single.i Portal and start earning IndiGo BluChips automatically when they shop across a wide network of high consumption categories like fuel, shopping, dining and many more without coupons, codes, or any extra steps. Neetan Chopra, Chief Digital and Information Officer, IndiGo, said, "IndiGo BluChip is designed to be truly easy to earn and easy to redeem, while continually strengthening IndiGo's value proposition for our loyal customers. We are pleased to partner with Single.i, a collaboration that further enhances the experience of IndiGo BluChip members by offering them additional opportunities to accelerate rewards and benefits through everyday spending—whether on dining, shopping, fuel or other daily essentials.

Sector 7 SOCIAL to Host Beach Pour Resin Art Experience

CHANDIGARH: Sector 7 SOCIAL, the neighbourhood café-bar, is set to host a Beach Pour Resin Art Experience on Sunday, 17th May, from 4 PM onwards. Designed for art enthusiasts and curious beginners alike, the session will bring together participants for an immersive resin-pouring experience inspired by ocean textures, fluid art techniques, and hands-on creative expression in a relaxed SOCIAL setting. The experience will feature guided resin-pouring activities, allowing participants to explore colour play, layered pours, and different textures while creating their own beach-inspired artwork. With all materials provided during the session, guests will be able to personalise their pieces and experiment freely through an easy, art-led format. Entry also includes a food cover.

Pepperfly launches its new store in Jalandhar

JALANDHAR: Pepperfly, the leading e-commerce furniture and home goods company, announced the launch of its new store in Jalandhar. The offline expansion is in line with the company's aim to penetrate niche markets and strengthen its omnichannel consumer engagement strategy. Pepperfly's store footprint currently spans across 90+ cities with 150+ stores in the country. Pepperfly stores have transformed the furniture retail landscape in India. The company's omnichannel strategy is driven by the expansion of FOF (Franchise Owned Franchise Operated) stores across the country, currently working with over 100 unique partners. The new store, launched in partnership with Mr. Chirag Jain, is situated at Choti Baradari, Taj Market at Jalandhar in Punjab, spanning a carpet area of 1600 sq. ft. It offers customers a first-hand experience of an extensive catalogue of furniture and home décor products from 1000+ brands. Customers will receive specialized design advice from the company's interior design consultants.

North India Tourism Expo & Conclave 2026 to be Held in Chandigarh on May 29

CHANDIGARH: ICM Group will organize the North India Tourism Expo & Conclave (NITC) 2026 on May 29, 2026, in Chandigarh. NITC is a unique B2B platform aimed at promoting the diverse tourism sectors of North Indian states and Union Territories while giving a new direction to regional tourism. The conclave will focus on Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. The event is aligned with the Ministry of Tourism's national tourism agenda and supports key initiatives such as Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat - Dakho Apna Desh, Meet in India, and Wed in India. Key highlights of NITC 2026 will include business networking, investment opportunities.

The Climate Pledge, co-founded by Amazon, launches blueprint to electrify India's freight highways in collaboration with C40 Cities

Chandigarh: The Climate Pledge (TCP), co-founded by Amazon, today published India's first evidence-based roadmap for shifting freight transport from diesel to zero-exhaust-emission battery electric trucks (BETs) in collaboration with C40 Cities (a network of around 100 cities worldwide working on climate action). The National EV Highway Guidance Framework recommends a phased plan to electrify India's busiest freight routes by 2027, beginning with 20 priority highways identified by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, expanding to industrial centres and ports and ultimately creating a seamless, EV-ready national freight network by 2035. ("Framework"). India's freight demand is expected to grow significantly in the coming years, increasing the need for cleaner transport solutions. Road transport already accounts for nearly 70% of goods movement in the country, while medium and heavy-duty trucks, despite making up just 3% of vehicles on the road, contribute around 53% of particulate emissions. With demand projected to grow over four-fold by 2050, initiative will boost strengthening from grassroots the intake of players pool for all categories of International Cricket Selection across multiple age groups & format for Malaysia. "The newly developed "Double Wicket -T3 Format", Under -14,U-16,U-19,U-23 and 23+ in leather ball, tennis ball open ground and tennis ball box cricket will be

Maison Céleste: Where Art, Craftsmanship and Modern Luxury Converge in Every Thread

CHANDIGARH, In a world where fashion often leans toward mass production, Maison Céleste is quietly charting a different path—one that celebrates individuality, craftsmanship, and the art of thoughtful design. Emerging as a contemporary luxury womenswear label, Maison Céleste is built on the belief that what a woman wears should feel as unique as she is. This philosophy is not just an idea but the very foundation of the brand, influencing everything from its silhouettes to its signature prints. At the heart of Maison Céleste lies a deeply artistic process. Each design begins not on a machine, but digitally and on paper—hand-drawn and hand-painted by the founder, transforming raw inspiration into wearable art. These exclusively designed details, in-house prints are then brought to life on carefully selected fabrics, ensuring that no piece feels ordinary or replicated. In an industry saturated with repetitive patterns, this commitment to originality gives the brand a distinct and personal identity. The first collection focuses on co-ord sets and kaftans—silhouettes that embody both ease and elegance. Fluid in movement yet refined in structure, these pieces are designed to transition effortlessly through the day, adapting to different moments without losing their sense of sophistication. The emphasis on breathable, premium fabrics and tailored stitching further enhances their appeal, offering a balance between comfort and luxury. What makes Maison Céleste particularly compelling is its inclusivity in design. Rather than catering to a narrow demographic, the brand creates for women across age groups—those who value timeless style over fleeting trends. Each garment is thoughtfully curated to feel elegant, versatile, and enduring, making it relevant beyond seasons.



AMRITSAR: High blood pressure, commonly known as hypertension, is often referred to as a "silent killer" because it usually shows no obvious symptoms in its early stages. Despite this, it has become one of the leading causes of heart disease, stroke, and cardiac arrest. On the occasion of World Hypertension Day, experts from Fortis Escorts Hospital Amritsar advised people to remain alert and undergo regular health check-ups.

Dr. H.P. Singh, Director, Non-Invasive Cardiology, Dr. Arun Chopra, Director, Cardiology, and Dr. Deepak Kapila, Director, Cardiology, Fortis Escorts Hospital Amritsar said that continuously elevated blood pressure causes hardening of the arteries, putting extra strain on the heart and affecting its functioning. They stated that nearly one in every three adults in India is affected by high blood pressure, while many remain unaware of their condition. According to the doctors, normal blood pressure is considered below 120/80 mm Hg, while a consistent reading of 130/80 mm Hg or higher is considered hypertension. Extremely high blood pressure may lead to symptoms such as severe headache, chest pain, breathing difficulty, dizziness, and blurred vision. The specialists urged people to adopt a balanced diet, exercise regularly, manage stress effectively, and monitor their blood pressure from time to time to avoid serious health complications.

Malaysia Cricket Board to Jointly launch Global Mega Street Cricket League(GMSCL)

Global Mega Street Cricket League (GMSCL) the international brand for Gail Mohalla Cricket League (GMCL) is set to launch its Malaysia Cricket Season jointly with Malaysia Cricket Board. Speaking on the development Baba Inder Preet Founder, GMSCL said " This joint

introduced across Male & Female category. Teams and individual players on the most valuable unified player international point system will be selected to represent the multi-format leagues. Also international top performing players will be invited to play in the local tournaments across all 11 Nations participating in the Global Mega Street Cricket League (GMSCL) and will give them ample opportunity to showcase their cricketing skills & talent. In case the overseas performances meet the criteria set by the

Local cricketing board then they might also get a chance to play from the Malaysian Teams irrespective of their domicile. Inter School, Inter College, Inter Club, Corporates & Open Age Group Tournaments in T-10, T-15 and T-20 along with T-3 Double Wicket Format will be introduced as well at national level tournaments.



Two Narayanites Selected for Indian Team at International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2026



CHANDIGARH: Narayana Educational Institutions today announced Akshat Srivastava and Sumant Gupta have been selected to represent India at the 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2026, to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 25 September to 5 October 2026. Notably, 2 of the 5 members of the official Indian team are from Narayana Educational Institutions, a testament to the institution's commitment to nurturing world-class scientific talent. Akshat Srivastava emerged as the Overall Topper at OCSC and was honoured with the prestigious C. L. Bhat Memorial Award, while Sumant Gupta was recognised as the Theory Topper at OCSC. Rakesh Kumar Yadav, Vice President & Prodigy Head, Narayana Group, said, "This is a proud moment for the entire Narayana family. Akshat and Sumant have demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication, and we are confident they will make India proud at IOAA 2026." Sharani Ponguru, Director, Narayana Group, said, "At Narayana, we believe in nurturing curiosity, discipline, and scientific excellence from an early stage. Akshat and Sumant's remarkable achievement is a reflection of their hard work and the academic culture we strive to build. We congratulate them and wish them continued success as they represent India on the global stage at IOAA 2026."

Accused Arrested for murdering woman and burning her body in Himachal



JAIBERA RANA THAMBER BARARA: Acting with promptness and efficiency, the Barara Police have uncovered a sensational truth behind a missing person case. Demonstrating exceptional vigilance, a joint team led by Barara Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Suresh Kaushik, Station In-charge Surinder Singh, and Outpost In-charge Hakam Singh has successfully arrested the prime accused in the murder of a young woman. The accused has been identified as Sandeep alias Appu, a resident of Janakpuri Colony, Barara, who runs a shop dealing in solar panels and inverter-batteries in Barara. During a press conference, Barara DSP Mr. Suresh Kumar shared detailed information regarding the entire case. According to the details of the case, on May 13, 2026, the complainant, Jaspal Singh—a resident of Naggal—filed a missing person complaint regarding his niece at the Barara Police Station. The complaint stated that his niece had left Baba Laboratory in Barara without informing anyone of her whereabouts. The police immediately registered a case and initiated an investigation. When the police conducted an inquiry utilizing technical resources, the case—initially presumed to be a simple missing person matter—turned out to be a brutal murder.

Sony launches BRAVIA 3iI with XR Processor, 120Hz Display in India

Ludhiana/Chandigarh: Sony India has unveiled the new BRAVIA 3iI television series, bringing advanced AI-powered picture processing and premium entertainment features to Indian households. The latest BRAVIA 3iI series is powered by Sony's XR Processor™, which combines artificial intelligence and cognitive intelligence to analyse content similar to human sight and hearing, delivering enhanced depth, colour, contrast and clarity in real time. Equipped with XR TruMotion Pro™, the television reproduces billions of vibrant colours with deeper blacks and brighter highlights, while XR Clear Image technology reduces noise and blur for sharper visuals. Motionflow XR further ensures smooth and fluid action during movies, sports and gaming. The BRAVIA 3iI also supports Dolby Vision™, Dolby Atmos™ and DTS:X™, offering cinematic HDR visuals and immersive surround sound for an enhanced home entertainment experience. Sony said the newly designed speakers improve dialogue clarity and overall sound resolution.

Committee chairperson Megha Bhandari honours meritorious students



CHAMAN LAL KARNAL: In the Class 10 and 12 examination results declared by the Haryana Board of School Education, students from all three centres of the Haryana Welfare Society for Persons with Hearing and Speech Disabilities—Karnal, Hisar, and Gurugram—delivered a stellar performance, achieving a 100 per cent pass rate and bringing glory to the institution. On this occasion, Megha Bhandari, Chairperson of the Haryana Welfare Society for Persons with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, honoured the students by garlanding them and offering them "ladoods". While extending her heartfelt congratulations to the students, parents, and teachers on this

magnificent achievement, she remarked that any goal can be attained through hard work, discipline, and the guidance of teachers. She stated that the success of these children with special needs serves as an inspiration to society and proves that, given the right opportunities and proper guidance, these children can excel in every field. The Assistant Directors and staff members from all the Society's centers expressed their delight at the students' success and wished them a bright future. She further informed that, under the aegis of the Society, a total of 82 students appeared for the Class 10 examinations and 54 students for the Class 12 examinations, and every single student achieved success.

Forest Hill Resort (FHR) Collaborates with Afforestt to Re-Wild Landscape into a Sustainable Eco-Sanctuary



CHANDIGARH: In a major step towards sustainable hospitality and ecological conservation, Forest Hill Resort (FHR)—located in close proximity to Chandigarh, has partnered with Afforestt to undertake a large-scale natural rewilding and habitat restoration initiative across the resort landscape in the Shivkoll forests near Chandigarh. Notably, Afforestt is an organisation known internationally for ecological restoration and native forest regeneration projects. According to Devinder Sandhu, Director, Forest Hill Resort, the initiative reflects a deeper commitment towards preserving the natural character of FHR's nearly 2,000 acres, located adjacent to the 10,000-acre Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary. "The initiative will redefine eco-conscious hospitality. We want to build awareness around conservation and sustainable tourism," said Sandhu. "Our aim is to position the Chandigarh-Shivkoll region through FHR, prominently on the national & global eco-tourism map."

The Climate Pledge, co-founded by Amazon, launches blueprint to electrify India's freight highways in collaboration with C40 Cities

SHIMLA: The Climate Pledge (TCP), co-founded by Amazon, today published India's first evidence-based roadmap for shifting freight transport from diesel to zero-exhaust-emission battery electric trucks (BETs) in collaboration with C40 Cities (a network of around 100 cities worldwide working on climate action). The National EV Highway Guidance Framework recommends a phased plan to electrify India's busiest freight routes by 2027, beginning with 20 priority highways identified by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, expanding to industrial centres and ports and ultimately creating a seamless, EV-ready national freight network by 2035 ("Framework"). India's freight demand is expected to grow significantly in the coming years, increasing the need for cleaner transport solutions. Road transport already accounts for nearly 70% of goods movement in the country, while medium and heavy-duty trucks, despite making up just 3% of vehicles on the road, contribute around 53% of particulate emissions. With demand projected to grow over four-fold by 2050, scaling electric freight will be key to reducing emissions and improving efficiency. This Framework outlines practical pathways, aligned with the Government's focus on electrification and sustainable mobility, and India's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

DSGMC to file criminal complaint against false publicity, rumours: says Harmeet Singh Kalka

NEW DELHI: President of the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, Harmeet Singh Kalka, while addressing a press conference here today, said that the level of negative and cheap politics being carried out by former president Paramjit Singh Sarma for his political strategy is highly condemnable and unfortunate. He said that for the past few days, a fake poster has been going viral on WhatsApp and other social media platforms in which the photograph of Juhar Singh has been misrepresented by adding pictures of some other leaders and using provocative and irresponsible language. Kalka said that the poster is completely fake and fabricated, and its main objective is to mislead the Sangat and disturb the atmosphere of the gurdwara elections. Harmeet Singh Kalka stated that the most shocking and regrettable aspect is that this poster was itself forwarded on WhatsApp by Paramjit Singh Sarma. He said that it is extremely shameful for people who claim to do politics in the name of the Guru Panth to share such false material. Kalka appealed to the Sangat that if anyone receives any such fake material, they should immediately bring it to the notice of the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee.



NEWS BRIEF

Minerva High School of Mohan Nagar performs brilliantly

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA: In Class 10 results announced today by Haryana Board of School Education, students of Minerva High School, Mohan Nagar performed brilliantly and brought laurels to school and their parents. Expressing happiness, school's Principal, Rajiv Chawla, informed that 32 out of 33 students passed. Kumari Mansi, Kumari Tanvi and Kumari Jyoti made school proud by securing a place in merit list. 21 students of school passed in first division. School management committee extended heartfelt congratulations to all parents and students and wished them a bright future.

Arya Senior Secondary School, Kurukshetra, achieves 100% results in 10th grade

HANS RAJ YADAV
KURUKSHETRA: Haryana Board of School Education, Bhiwani, announced annual 10th grade exam results. The 10th grade results at Arya Senior Secondary School, Thanesar, Kurukshetra were excellent. Eleven students made it to merit list and 24 secured first division. Bhavishya secured first place in school with 84% marks. Gaurav Kumar secured second place with 83.4% marks and Diya secured third place with 82% marks. School's Principal, Rajkumar Saraf, Managing Director, Jai Kishan Sharma and Secretary, Naresh Kumar Goyal blessed students, congratulated teachers for their excellent results and wished them a bright future. School Principal Baldev Raj Saini blessed children on occasion of their excellent exam results and congratulated all teachers. Ladus were distributed in school by children.

The House of Suntory launches Toki Suntory Whisky Black in India

HISAR: The House of Suntory proudly introduces Toki Suntory Whisky Black in India, a new expression joining the Toki portfolio that embodies the spirit of reinvention, blending tradition and innovation to capture the essence of old-meets-new Japan. Having made its debut earlier this year in global retail across key Indian airports including Mumbai and Delhi Duty Free, Toki Black is now available in Haryana, with plans to expand to other markets across India soon. Rooted in the Japanese philosophy of balancing tradition with innovation, Toki Black captures a deeper, richer side of Japanese whisky craftsmanship, now tailored for India's growing community of premium whisky enthusiasts. Crafted using Hakushu heavily peated malt and Hakushu grain, Toki Suntory Whisky Black has a refined, gently smoky character that adds more depth to the smooth taste of Toki Suntory Whisky. "Toki," meaning "time" in Japanese, reflects the balance between tradition and innovation. This new expression builds on the original Toki while staying true to the brand's heritage. The expression opens with layered aromas of baked apple, oregano, and honeysuckle, leading into a palate of butterscotch sweetness balanced with clove, cinnamon, and toasted rosemary.

Deputy Commissioner reviews preparations for Dalhousie Municipal Council elections

SUBHASH MAHAJAN
CHAMBA: Mukesh Rapsal on Wednesday visited Dalhousie to review preparations for the upcoming Municipal Council elections. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected various polling stations, the strong room, counting centre and other arrangements related to the election process. He directed the concerned officials to ensure that all necessary measures are taken for conducting the elections in a free, fair and peaceful manner. He also reviewed the availability of basic facilities at polling booths, including security arrangements, electricity supply, drinking water and other essential amenities. Mukesh Rapsal said that all preparations were being made in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India. He added that officials and employees assigned election duties had been given the required instructions to ensure the smooth conduct of the electoral process.

Shakti Public Senior Secondary School records excellent Class XII results; Parth Sharma scores Punjab rank

DORAHA, (AMRITSAR ANAND): Students of Shakti Public Senior Secondary School delivered an outstanding performance in the Class XII Arts and Science stream examinations, bringing laurels to the institution. Parth Sharma emerged as the school topper by securing 488 out of 500 marks and also achieved the 13th rank in Punjab. School Principal Jatinder Sharma said that in the Science stream, Anjanay Vaid and Gaganjot Singh jointly secured the second position with 465 marks each, while Ronit Sharma bagged the third position with 456 marks. In the Humanities stream, Paramraj Singh secured the first position with 478 marks, followed by Riya with 467 marks and Gurleen Kaur with 463 marks.

Amber ranks first in Punjab after securing 37 state merits during the session 2025-26

CHOWK MEHTA, MAY 14—AMRIK SINGH - It is a matter of great pride for the entire region that the renowned educational institution of the region, Amber Public School, Nawana Tanel, is making historical achievements. It has secured 19 merits from the 8th results announced yesterday, 11 state merits from the 10th results and 7 state merits from the 12th results, i.e. a total of 37 merits, and has reached the first position in Punjab. These achievements have been possible due to hard work, strong willpower, mutual cooperation and efficient management. The school's Chairman Mr. Sampurn Singh, Director Mr. Sukhwinder Singh, Principal Mr. Balkar Singh Hundal and Advisor Juginder Singh thanked God a lot. And gave the credit for this historical success to its hardworking and experienced staff. It is worth mentioning that Amber School has been fortunate to get merits in the board classes every year for the last ten years.

Acharya Sanjay Muni calls responsible conduct in difficult times true patriotism

PATHANKOT, (SHARANAJET): Acharya Sanjay Muni, while supporting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal in the national interest, said that all political parties should stand united for the country's unity, integrity and welfare during the present circumstances. Acharya Sanjay Muni said that the Prime Minister's call to use petrol, diesel and other petroleum products judiciously is the need of the hour. He added that initiatives such as adopting 'work from home', avoiding unnecessary foreign travel, organising wedding ceremonies within the country and exercising restraint in purchasing gold could help strengthen the nation's economy. He said patriotism is not limited to sacrifice alone, but also includes performing one's duties honestly and responsibly during difficult times. Referring to the ongoing crisis in West Asia, he noted that disruptions in the supply of petrol, diesel and gas were affecting India, which imports a large quantity of these resources from abroad, thereby impacting foreign exchange reserves. Acharya Ji further stated that increasing demand for gold also raises dependence on foreign countries.

Chief Secretary reviews public transport services and road safety measures in Chandigarh



CHANDIGARH: Sh. H. Rajesh Prasad, IAS, Chief Secretary, Chandigarh Administration, today reviewed the functioning of the Transport Department, Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU) and State Transport Authority (STA), with emphasis on strengthening public transport services, expansion of the e-bus fleet and improving road safety mechanisms in the city. Present during the meeting were Sh. Diprava Lakra, IAS, Secretary Transport, Chandigarh Administration

along with Joint Secretary-cum Director Transport, Secretary STA UT Chandigarh and GM, CTU. During the meeting, it was informed that 397 buses are presently operational within Chandigarh city, while 269 buses are operating on inter-state routes. It was also apprised that 139 e-buses are currently operational and 41 additional e-buses under the PM e-Bus Sewa Scheme are expected to be inducted by June 2026. It was further informed that

procurement of 328 additional e-buses for Chandigarh has been initiated through CESL under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India. The Chief Secretary directed the department to ensure advance planning and timely infrastructure readiness for smooth operation of the expanded e-bus fleet. Emphasizing financial sustainability and improved public outreach, the Chief Secretary directed CTU and CCBSS to optimize routes,

improve operational efficiency and further strengthen commuter-friendly services to maximize public convenience and transport accessibility. Reviewing the functioning of the State Transport Authority, the Chief Secretary stressed strict monitoring and implementation of the "Safe Transportation Policy for Students" (STRAPS) to ensure safety of school children. He also directed early resolution of issues related to panic alert integration with ERSS-112 in coordination with Chandigarh Police.

The Chief Secretary also directed the department to create public awareness regarding Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities and appealed to vehicle owners to scrap old vehicles only at authorized centres to avail incentives being provided by the Administration. Directions were also issued to curb illegal roadside scrapping activities in coordination with the concerned departments. Reviewing infrastructure-related initiatives, the Chief Secretary directed expeditious operationalization of the Automated Inspection & Fitness Certification Centre to enhance transparency and reduce human intervention in vehicle fitness testing. He also directed that the Regional Driving Training Centre in Chandigarh be made functional at the earliest to promote safe and trained driving practices in the city.

Khalsa Collegiate School Mehta's Class XII results are excellent

AMRIK SINGH
CHOWK MEHTA—Khalsa Collegiate School Mehta's Class XII results are excellent. The students of Khalsa Collegiate School Mehta excelled in the Class XII results announced by the Punjab School Education Board yesterday. The medical, non-medical, commerce and arts students of Sant Giani Gurbachan Singh Ji Khalsa Collegiate Mehta Chowk, an educational institution run under the guidance of the current head of Dandami Taksal and president of Sant Samaj, Shriman Sant Giani Harman Singh Ji Khalsa Bhindranwala Ji, performed very commendably. The hard work of all the students was commendable. Shubhmeet Kaur, Mansukhwinder Singh, Shivpratap Singh from medical stream, Navraj Singh, Jugraj Singh, Parampreet Singh Arunpreet Singh from non-medical stream, Sandeep Kaur, Navjit Kaur, Ravjot Singh from



commerce stream, Manpreet Kaur, Ravnish Singh, Yuvraj Singh from arts stream have brought glory to the school by securing first, second and third rank respectively. On this occasion, Sardar Sukhdev Singh congratulated all the students, thanked the teachers and congratulated the children and their parents. After this, the school

principal Sardar Gurdeep Singh Jalal Usma and the staff members made the school's shining stars happy and said that the tireless hard work of the students and the dedication of the teachers have made this success possible. These results prove that every goal can be achieved with dedication and true hard work.

Gurdev Sharma Debi distributes pension approval documents to beneficiaries in Ludhiana

LUDHIANA, MAY 14 (SARABJIT SUFI): Gurdev Sharma Debi distributed approved pension documents to needy elderly pensioners, widows and differently-abled beneficiaries during a function held at the local BJP office in Isa Nagar. Zero-balance bank accounts were also opened for beneficiaries on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, Debi said that public service has always been her life's mission. He stated that the free Facilitation Centre operating at the BJP office has been helping needy families by providing information about various central and state government welfare schemes along with free online application services. Highlighting the BJP's outreach efforts, Gurdev Sharma Debi said the party's



objective is to ensure that the benefits of central government schemes reach every citizen, including people living in remote areas. He also criticised the functioning of Punjab government facilitation centres, alleging that people continue to face

difficulties in getting routine work completed despite tall claims made by the government. Among those present on the occasion were Deepak Johar, Gurdeep Singh Neetu, Sanjay Khatak, Jagdish Sabharwal and several local residents.

Marginal MSP hike leaves farmers disappointed, says Inderjit Goraya

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Inderjit Singh Goraya has termed the Central Government's announcement regarding the minimum support price (MSP) for Kharif crops for the 2026-27 season as inadequate and impractical, stating that the marginal increase has caused widespread disappointment among farmers. Reacting to the MSP announcement, Goraya said that an increase of only Rs 72 in the procurement price of paddy was unjustified in the current inflationary environment. He added that the hike announced for other crops also appeared to be merely symbolic and insufficient to provide meaningful relief to the farming community. He alleged that the decision reflected what he described as the insensitive approach of the Modi government towards farmers. Goraya said that before coming to power, the Bharatiya Janata Party had repeatedly promised to implement the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers and ensure remunerative prices for crops based on the Swaminathan formula. According to Goraya, despite assurances made over the years, including claims by Prime Minister Narendra Modi about doubling farmers' income by 2022, the promises remained unfulfilled and largely symbolic. He stated that farmers are currently facing rising input costs and shrinking incomes, while adverse weather conditions and crop diseases over the past two seasons have pushed many cultivators into financial and mental distress. Goraya said that the government should determine MSP by ensuring at least 50 per cent profit over the cost of production, in line with the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission.

SMS Memorial Public School students shine in Class 12 results



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
TARAORI: SMS Memorial Public School once again recorded an excellent Class 12 board examination result, with students delivering an impressive performance and bringing laurels to the institution. From the Science stream, Gagandeep, Lakshita and Komal secured top positions. In the Commerce stream, Sushant, Akshay, Navreet and Arshdeep excelled in the examinations. In the Arts stream, Dhanshwari, Anmol and Manraj achieved the highest marks. The school campus witnessed celebrations as students marked their success, while teachers congratulated the achievers and distributed sweets. School manager Gursharan Singh Grewal said that success is achieved not merely through marks, but through hard work, discipline and self-confidence. He encouraged students to remain dedicated towards their goals and continue striving for excellence. Principal Dr Vibha Kaushik said that the Class 12 result plays an important role in shaping students' future direction. She attributed the success to the students' hard work, parental support and the guidance provided by teachers. She also motivated students to set high goals in life and pursue them with dedication and perseverance. The students credited their success to the blessings of their parents, the tireless efforts of teachers and the continuous guidance provided by the school. The school management expressed pride over the achievements of the students and wished them success in their future endeavours.

Pratap Public School students excel in Class 12 examinations



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
TARAORI: Pratap Public School once again achieved outstanding Class 12 board examination results, continuing its tradition of academic excellence and setting a new benchmark in scholastic performance. School chairperson Hunny Chaudhary and director Pithi Chaudhary congratulated the students on their remarkable achievement and said the success was the result of the students' hard work, discipline and the dedicated efforts of the teaching staff. In the Commerce stream, Garvit and Japandeep secured 94.8 per cent each. In the Arts stream, Chakshu Singh secured 94 per cent, while in the Science stream, Garvish Munjal secured 93.4 per cent marks. A total of nine students scored above 90 per cent, while 32 students secured positions in the merit list. The school stated that 73 per cent of students achieved distinction and 93 per cent passed the examination in first division. In subject-wise achievements, Dikshant and Anshika scored

98 per cent in English. Five students secured 100 per cent marks in Fine Arts, while 59 students scored above 90 per cent in the subject. In Physical Education, three students scored 96 per cent, and 18 students secured above 90 per cent marks. Garvish Munjal obtained 97 per cent in Mathematics, while Garvit scored 96 per cent in Economics. Five students secured above 90 per cent in Economics. Dikshant also scored 96 per cent in Biology. Chakshu Singh secured 96 per cent in History and 92 per cent in Geography. Karandeep Singh obtained 95 per cent in Political Science, while Japandeep scored 94 per cent in Business Studies. Garvit secured 93 per cent in Accounts, Harpreet Singh scored 90 per cent in Hindi, and Jyoti Dhiman obtained 90 per cent in Computer Science. Principal Vikas Ultrajay congratulated the students, parents and teachers on the achievement and said the results reflected not only academic success but also the values, discipline and dedication nurtured by the institution.

Information regarding 'Samadhan Shivirs' must be effectively disseminated to public: Vishram Kumar Meena

DALBIR SINGH MALIK
KURUKSHETRA: Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena stated that information regarding the 'Samadhan Shivirs' (Resolution Camps) must be effectively conveyed to the general public through various mediums. This ensures that people receive complete details regarding the day and time of the camps, enabling them to register their grievances and have them resolved. He emphasized that the issues faced by every citizen visiting the Samadhan Shivir are being addressed. In these camps, every problem is heard with seriousness, and resolutions are being provided on the spot through the concerned departments. Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena was listening to the grievances of the public during a Samadhan Shivir held on Thursday at the auditorium of the Mini Secretariat. Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena, Superintendent of Police Chandra Mohan, and Additional Deputy Commissioner Vivek Arya listened to complaints related to CRID (Citizen Resources Information Department) and other departments during the Samadhan Shivir. They also issued necessary directives to the officials of the respective departments to resolve these issues. Every single grievance brought to the camp is being treated with utmost seriousness to ensure that every individual benefits from the camp in a timely manner. He further stated that, acting on the directives of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Samadhan Shivirs are being organised every Monday and Thursday at both the district and sub-divisional levels, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Indri MLA intensifies public outreach campaign for Kashyap Jayanti in Kaithal on May 24



PRITI SAINI
SADHAURA: Indri MLA Ramkumar Kashyap has intensified his public outreach campaign in connection with the upcoming Kashyap Jayanti celebrations, scheduled to be held in Kaithal on May 24. As part of this initiative, MLA Ramkumar Kashyap visited the village of Chuharpur Kala, where he met with members of the community and appealed to them to attend the Kashyap Jayanti ceremony in the largest possible numbers. The event was presided over by the village Sarpanch, Geeta Ram Kashyap, and the State Vice President of the Haryana Kashyap Rajput Sabha, Baljinder Kashyap. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Ramkumar Kashyap stated that the Kashyap community has always moved forward with a spirit of social unity, brotherhood, and development. He emphasized that such events hold special significance in strengthening the community and connecting the new generation with their culture and history. He called upon the community

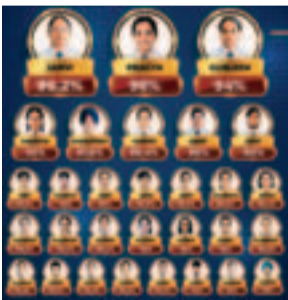
members to travel to Kaithal—accompanied by their families—to ensure the success of the programme. The MLA remarked that Kashyap Jayanti is not merely a festival, but a symbol of the community's unity and dignity. He also conveyed a message to the youth, urging them to step forward in the interest of the community and to strive for progress in the field of education. During the event, prominent dignitaries of the village welcomed the MLA and engaged in discussions regarding ways to further strengthen the solidarity of the Kashyap community. Sarpanch Geeta Ram Kashyap noted that there is immense enthusiasm among the community members regarding the upcoming ceremony, and that a large number of people are expected to arrive in Kaithal. Many senior members of the community, as well as youth and women, were present on this occasion. Together, everyone resolved to make the Kashyap Jayanti celebrations a historic event.

Class 12 students of Modern Education Sr Sec School, Adhoya, triumph through hard work



JAIBEER RANA THAMBER
BARARA: Modern Education Senior Secondary School, Adhoya (Ambala), has once again achieved a 100% result. Today, students and their parents visited the school to meet with Principal Gemal Dahiya and the teaching staff, expressing their gratitude and seeking their blessings. Gemal Dahiya met with everyone, not only congratulating them on their results but also encouraging them with best wishes for a bright future. Addressing the students, the Principal remarked that this result is merely one milestone in their lives, and by successfully navigating many such stages, they can personally shape a better future for themselves. In the Class 12 results, students such as Divya Mehra, Simran, Sunidhi, Nandini, Bhavishya, Tania, Priya, Khushpreet, Prabhat, and Devansh delivered exceptional performances, bringing glory to the school. School Manager Indu Kapoor congratulated all the students and wished them a bright future.

DAV Public School shines in CBSE Class XII results; Janhvi tops with 96.2%



per cent marks. Yashika secured 90.4 per cent, while Aman and Vijay Kumar scored 90 per cent each. The school also recorded an impressive overall performance, with 22 students securing above 80 per cent marks in the board examinations. Congratulating the students, parents and teachers on the achievement, the Principal said the remarkable results reflect the students' hard work, discipline and determination along with the dedicated guidance of teachers and continuous support from parents. The Principal also extended best wishes to the students for their bright future and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in the years ahead.

KULWINDER KARWAL
SARDULGARH: Students of DAV Public School delivered an excellent performance in the CBSE Class XII examinations, bringing laurels to the institution with outstanding academic results. Janhvi emerged as the school topper by securing 96.2 per cent marks, while Pragya Rathore closely followed with 96 per cent. Gurleen Kaur secured 94 per cent marks, Shradha Sharma scored 92 per cent, and Anmolpreet Singh achieved 91.8

Regular service of Amrit Bharat Express between New Jalpaiguri and Amritsar introduced

MALIGAON: Indian Railways has introduced the regular service of the Amrit Bharat Express train between Amritsar and New Jalpaiguri, providing enhanced connectivity between North India and North Bengal. The Amrit Bharat Express Train (Amritsar-New Jalpaiguri) from Amritsar Junction has been flagged off today by Shri Ravneet Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industries from Amritsar station. Train no. 14664/14663 (Amritsar-New Jalpaiguri) - Amritsar will run on weekly basis departing every Thursday from Amritsar and every Saturday from New Jalpaiguri. The introduction of this regular weekly service is expected to significantly benefit passengers travelling between Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal by improving rail connectivity and providing a convenient travel option.



Train no. 14664 will depart from Amritsar every Thursday at 12:45 hrs w.e.f from 14th May, 2026 and will reach New Jalpaiguri at 04:15 hrs on every Saturday. In the return direction, train no. 14663 will depart from New Jalpaiguri every Saturday at 08:00 hrs w.e.f from 16th May, 2026 and to arrive at Amritsar at 02:20 hrs on every Monday. During its journey in both directions, the train will halt at Sitliger Junction, Bagdogra, Arariya, Raghpur, Sakri Junction, Raxaul Junction, Markataganj Junction, Gorakhpur, Bahni, Gonda Junction, Sitapur Junction, Bareilly, Saharanpur Junction and Ludhiana Junction apart from other stations. The Amrit Bharat Express will consist of 22 coaches, offering comfortable and

affordable travel facilities to passengers. The train will pass through the newly constructed Aaria-Galgolia route providing rail connectivity for a vast section of population from North Bengal and Bihar. The train is also expected to strengthen trade, tourism and cultural exchange among the states along its route, thereby contributing to regional economic growth and development. Enhanced rail connectivity between North India and eastern parts of the country will facilitate easier movement of people, agricultural produce, commercial goods and small businesses, further boosting economic activities across the connected regions.

AXIS BANK LTD. Retail Asset Centre, 2nd Floor, Property # T.E. Municipal 3003/142/18, Malhar Road, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana - 141001. Corporate Office: Axis House, 8th Floor, Bombay Deying Mills Compound, Pandurang, Suthar Marg, Work. Number-40025 Registered Office: Tinsuli, 3rd Floor Opp. Samarbhawan Temple, Opposite Samarbhawan Temple, Law Garden, Elanoraba, Ahmedabad-380006.

Notice to the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Axis Bank Ltd., Retail Asset Centre, SCO 390, 8th Floor, Sector-26, Panchsala under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued and notified dated 27-01-2002 calling upon S/DH VINAYAK AGENCIES THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR SHRI AJAY SHARMA to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 5,15,38,188/- (Rupees Five Crore Fifteen Lakh Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight Only) together with further unpaid interest thereon at the contractual rate of interest from 27-01-2022 till the date of payment, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 12th day of May of the year 2026. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Axis Bank Ltd., Retail Asset Centre, SCO 397-368, Sector-34A, Chandigarh 160022 for an amount of being Rs. 5,15,38,188/- (Rupees Five Crore Fifteen Lakh Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight Only). You are also liable to pay future interest from 27-01-2022 and all other Charges Expenses thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (3) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the immovable property

Equitable Mortgage of Residential Property measuring 186.66 sqm comprised in Khata No. 19/2258, Khata No. 1622/1750 as per Jamabandi for the year 2001-02, situated at MC No. B-XXXX-4261/2, Street No. 8, Abadi Durgai Park, Village Haldwasi/Kalan, locally known as Durgapuri, Off Hospital Street, Ludhiana, Punjab as per Sak Deed No. 2441, registered on 02-05-2008, owned by Shri Ajay Sharma S/o Shri Manma Lal Sharma. Boundaries as per Document-North-Neighbour 70' 0", East-Neighbour 24' 0", South-Neighbour 70' 0", West - Street 20' wide 24' 0".

Date: 12.05.2026
Place: Ludhiana
Sd/- (Authorized Officer),
Axis Bank Ltd.

NORTHERN RAILWAY			
E-AUCTION NOTICE			
For and on behalf of President of India, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (P) Northern Railway, Ambala Cantt., invites bids through e-Auction Leasing on REPS website for contract of leasing of parcel space (4/3 MT) in SLR/SLRD compartment of Brake vans in various Mail/Express Trains over Ambala Division as per following details:-			
Sl. No.	Auction Catalogue No.	Auction start date & time	Auction close date & time
1.	UAMB-SLR05-A2026 (08 lots)	20.05.2026/12:00	20.05.2026/13:40
Sl. No.	Train No.	To-from	Compartment
1.	15744	BTI-BLGT	RSLR-I
2.	14218	COG-PYGS	FSLR-I
3.	20990	COG-UDZ	FSLR-I
4.	22710	AADR-NDJ	FSLR-I
5.	14522	UMB-DLI	FSLR-I
6.	19306	UHL-NDL	FSLR-I
7.	22696	COG-YPR	RSLR-I
8.	14218	COG-PYGS	RSLR-I

For participating in the e-Auction or for any other information related to e-Auction Leasing process, prospective bidders are advised to visit www.reps.gov.in. 1585/2026

AXIS BANK LTD. Retail Asset Centre, 2nd and 3rd Floor, Property No. 7-E, Malhar Road, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana - 141001.

Corporate Office: "Axis House", C-7, Media International Centre, Pandurang Bulbar Marg, Work. Number - 40025, Registered Office: "Tinsuli", 3rd Floor Opp. Samarbhawan Temple, Law Garden, Elanoraba, Ahmedabad - 380006.

E-AUCTION NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMovable ASSETS IN ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (SARFAESI ACT) AND IN EXERCISE OF POWERS CONFERRED UNDER SECTION 13(12) OF THE ACT, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the undersigned hereby invokes the powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 12th day of May of the year 2026. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Axis Bank Ltd., Retail Asset Centre, SCO 397-368, Sector-34A, Chandigarh 160022 for an amount of being Rs. 5,15,38,188/- (Rupees Five Crore Fifteen Lakh Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight Only). You are also liable to pay future interest from 27-01-2022 and all other Charges Expenses thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (3) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the immovable property

Equitable Mortgage of Residential Property measuring 186.66 sqm comprised in Khata No. 19/2258, Khata No. 1622/1750 as per Jamabandi for the year 2001-02, situated at MC No. B-XXXX-4261/2, Street No. 8, Abadi Durgai Park, Village Haldwasi/Kalan, locally known as Durgapuri, Off Hospital Street, Ludhiana, Punjab as per Sak Deed No. 2441, registered on 02-05-2008, owned by Shri Ajay Sharma S/o Shri Manma Lal Sharma. Boundaries as per Document-North-Neighbour 70' 0", East-Neighbour 24' 0", South-Neighbour 70' 0", West - Street 20' wide 24' 0".

Date: 12.05.2026
Place: Ludhiana
Sd/- (Authorized Officer),
Axis Bank Ltd.

Jena Malone recalls "bad fan experience" after release of 'Stepmom'

NEW DELHI
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Lifestyle

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FIFA World Cup final to feature first-ever halftime show with Madonna, BTS and Shakira

Actor and musician Jena Malone has recalled an unsettling fan encounter she experienced at the age of 14 following the release of the 1998 drama 'Stepmom', according to People. Malone, who played Anna, the daughter of Susan Sarandon's terminally ill character Jackie Harrison in the film, said the incident occurred while she was attending school in New York. "I remember there was one bad fan experience I had on a subway, and it was right after Stepmom came out, which is another one that I feel like really people hold dear to their hearts," Malone said, as per the outlet. Recalling the interaction, she said, "Some woman just looked at me across from on the subway and she's like, 'Were you that little girl in Stepmom?' And I was like, 'Yeah.' She's like, 'I just wanted to slap you.'" The comment left Malone startled at the time. "I wasn't the best socially adapted human, so that was an interesting one," she said. "And I was like, 'If I'm alone in public, maybe I should be like, 'No, that's not me,' just in case.'" The actor added that she would have felt "a little bad for lying" if she had denied her identity. Malone also shared that her 8-year-old son, Ode Mountain, whom she shares with Ethan DeLorenzo, often notices when she avoids acknowledging fan recognition in public. "Sometimes I just don't feel like saying 'yes.' Sometimes I feel protective in front of my son, but then he'll be like, 'Did you just lie? You just lied to the mom. Go back and tell them that you were that person,'" she said, according to People. She added humorously, "He does not like it at all. And sometimes he'll answer for me, 'Yes, she is. Would you like an autograph?' He's like, 'Here she is. Let's all line up.' It's so funny." Released in 1998, 'Stepmom' also starred Julia Roberts as Isabel, the woman preparing to marry Jackie's former husband. The film explored themes of family, illness and blended relationships as Jackie struggles to accept a new maternal figure in her children's lives. Apart from acting, Malone recently returned to music with the release of her new album Flowers for Men on May 8, marking her first album release in more than a decade. Describing the record as "sci-fi folk," Malone said the album explores relationship dynamics and emotional expectations. "I was reading a lot of relational books -- lots about love, lots about all the different attachment theories, different love relational styles from polyamory to ethical non-monogamy, to relationship anarchy," she said about the inspiration behind the album, according to People.

Sonakshi Batra on working with veteran actor Suhita Thatte: "I learn something new in every scene"

CHANDIGARH: Zee TV's Jagadhatri has been winning hearts with its emotional storytelling, thrilling twists and strong characters. What makes the show different is how it beautifully balances emotions, family drama and suspense together. While Jagadhatri (Sonakshi Batra) looks like a simple and soft-spoken girl at home, she is actually a fearless undercover officer, Agent JD, who fights criminals and handles dangerous missions with confidence. However, at home, she often faces problems because of her stepmother and aunt, who keep troubling her and treating her badly.

But through every difficult moment, Aaji (grandmother) has always stood beside Jagadhatri as her biggest strength and support. Ever since Jagadhatri lost her mother, Aaji played by Suhita Thatte has protected and encouraged her through every challenge. Aaji is the only person in Jagadhatri's family, apart from Shivaay, who knows that she is actually undercover officer Agent JD. Instead of being shocked or upset after learning the truth, Aaji chose to stand by Jagadhatri, support her and protect her secret from the rest of the family.

Viewers recently saw how Aaji pretended to be upset with Jagadhatri after her marriage to Shivaay (Farman Haider), while secretly continuing to support her at every step. Audiences are especially loving the heartwarming camaraderie between Jagadhatri and Aaji on screen, as their emotional moments beautifully capture the pure and unbreakable bond between a grandmother and granddaughter.

Talking about these emotional scenes and her experience of working with veteran actress Suhita Thatte, actress Sonakshi Batra shared, "Jagadhatri and Aaji's bond is one of the most beautiful relationships in the show for me. Ever since Jagadhatri lost her mother, Aaji has been her emotional strength and biggest support system. Even when the entire family misunderstands her or treats her unfairly, Aaji quietly stands beside her like a shield. I think that unconditional love is what makes their relationship so special and emotional. The recent track, where Aaji finds out that Jagadhatri is actually an undercover police officer and still chooses to protect her secret, touched me deeply. Even though Aaji is pretending to be angry in front of the family, her love and pride for Jagadhatri can still be felt in every scene. It reminds me a lot of my own grandmother and the comfort, warmth and support that grandparents bring into our lives."

Fiction Rankings See Major Shake-Up as Zee TV's Vasudha Emerges Among India's Top-Rated Shows

CHANDIGARH: In a landmark moment for Indian television, Zee TV has solidified its position at the forefront of the entertainment industry as its flagship show Vasudha surges ahead to become the No. 1 ranked fiction show across all Hindi General Entertainment Channels (GECs). Delivering an impressive 1.8 TVR, Vasudha has not only claimed the top spot but has also redefined the competitive hierarchy of Indian television programming. Long-standing category leaders, such as Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi and Anupamaa, have now been surpassed, marking a significant shift in audience preferences and content leadership.

This milestone reflects more than just strong performance as it signals a transformational shift in the television landscape. Viewer loyalty is evolving, and audiences are actively embracing fresh narratives, relatable storytelling, and new-age characters. At the heart of this shift are Vasudha's central characters, Vasudha and Dev, who have quickly become household names and cultural touchpoints, resonating deeply with viewers across demographics. Their growing popularity symbolizes a new era of audience connection and engagement, redefining what it takes to lead in today's entertainment ecosystem. With Zee TV at the helm of this change, the network offers advertisers access to a rapidly consolidating audience base that is actively gravitating toward its content. This shift is expected to influence media investment strategies, as brands align themselves with platforms delivering both reach and cultural resonance. As Vasudha continues its upward trajectory, the industry is witnessing the emergence of a new leadership paradigm—one that places Zee TV at the center of the evolving entertainment narrative. With audiences embracing new heroes and stories, the future of television is being rewritten—and Zee TV is leading the charge. Commenting on the milestone Mangesh Kulkarni, Business head of Zee TV, said, "The phenomenal success of Vasudha marks a pivotal moment for us and for the industry at large. Zee TV has grown through the year to become No. 3 GEC. It reflects a clear shift in audience preferences and reaffirms our belief in the power of authentic, emotionally engaging storytelling. We are proud to have 3 shows featuring in the top 5 shows of India. This signifies viewers' love for Zee TV and the future growth potential it holds. This is a result of our focus on core Indian middle class, authentic yet cinematic storytelling."



The 2026 FIFA World Cup final is set to get a major dose of entertainment as Madonna, Shakira and BTS have been announced as performers for the tournament's first-ever halftime show, Billboard said. Global Citizen made the announcement on Thursday, revealing that the three global music acts will perform during the World Cup final on July 19 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. According to Billboard, the halftime show will run for around 11 minutes. The announcement was made through a fun social media video featuring Coldplay's Chris Martin along with popular characters like Elmo, Cookie Monster, Kermit and Miss Piggy. BTS also appeared during a FaceTime moment in the video. According to Billboard, this will mark a special moment in FIFA World Cup history as it will be the first time the final match will include a halftime show similar to the Super

Bowl format. Shakira's connection with the FIFA World Cup goes back many years. The singer recently announced "Dai Dai" with Burna Boy as the official song for the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Earlier, her song "Waka Waka (This Time for Africa)" became one of the biggest World Cup anthems during the 2010 tournament in South Africa. Shakira is also set to perform in New Jersey and New York in July as part of her Las Mujeres Ya No Lloran World Tour. Madonna is also preparing for a busy month with the release of her upcoming album "Confessions II", which will arrive on July 3. The singer recently released songs including "Bring Your Love" with Sabrina Carpenter and "I Feel So Free." Meanwhile, BTS made a major comeback earlier this year with their sixth studio album "ARJANG", their first full project after the members completed military service. The album debut-

ed at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart and remained there for three weeks. The group is currently on their ARJANG WORLD TOUR. According to Billboard, the halftime show is being organised by Global Citizen along with Coldplay singer Chris Martin. The event will also help raise funds for the FIFA Global Citizen Education Fund, which aims to support children's education and football opportunities around the world. Last week, FIFA had also announced performers for the opening ceremonies of the 2026 World Cup. Katy Perry, Future, Tyla, LISA and Anitta are among the stars who will perform across events in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Interestingly, both Madonna and Shakira have previously headlined Super Bowl halftime shows. Madonna performed at the 2012 Super Bowl, while Shakira shared the stage with Jennifer Lopez during the 2020 edition.

Samantha Ruth Prabhu's 'Maa Inti Bangaaram' gets a new release date, to be out on June 19



Samantha Ruth Prabhu's film 'Maa Inti Bangaaram' has been postponed. The film, which was earlier supposed to hit the theatres on May 15, will now release on June 19. Sharing the update, Samantha on Wednesday took to Instagram and wrote, "It's time to pull the trigger. #MaaIntiBangaaram in theatres worldwide on JUNE 19, 2026."

She also shared the new posters of the film. Samantha stands draped in a deep crimson silk saree, bangles on her wrist, a shotgun at her fingertips. Maa Inti Bangaaram follows a woman who arrives in a traditional household as the new daughter-in-law - composed, obedient, scrutinised. What the family doesn't know is what she's hiding. When the past she buried refuses to stay buried, she must protect the very people who don't fully trust her, without ever letting them see who she really is, read a press note. Speaking about the film, Samantha Ruth Prabhu earlier said, "Maa Inti Bangaaram tells the story of a woman whose strength comes as much from her vulnerability as from her courage," as per a press release. She added, "Playing this character and nurturing this film as a producer has been an incredibly fulfilling journey for me. The world of this film is rooted and emotional with a narrative style dedicated to being family first and slice of life, whilst maintaining its quirky, edgy energy. I'm truly excited for audiences to experience this story and connect with its spirit when it reaches them." Produced by Raj Nidimoru, Samantha and Himank Duvvuru, the film is helmed by acclaimed filmmaker Nandini Reddy.

Satinder Sartaaj visits iconic Melbourne cricket ground



Ahead of his concert in Australia, popular Punjabi folk singer Satinder Sartaaj recently visited the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground. On Wednesday, Satinder took to Instagram and shared a video from his visit to MCG, where he also got an opportunity to hold the World Cup trophy. "Honoured to hold the World Cup at the iconic @mcg today, truly a privileged & memorable moment! Grateful for the warmth, hospitality & love at this special media event ahead of this week's shows on Sat. 16th & Sun. 17th May (Additional) at @rodlaerverarena Melbourne. Heartfelt thanks to @australianportsmuseum @cricketaustralia @amankhannaofficial @creative_events_australia @firdausproductionglobal," he captioned the post. Meanwhile, Satinder, who has been basking in love for his recent song Jaiye Sajna from 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge', recently met with veteran actor Sunny Deol. Taking to Instagram, Sunny shared pictures from their meeting and also shared his thoughts about his love for Sartaaj's music. In his caption, the actor spoke about how he has been listening to the singer for a long time and often plays his songs.

Neha Dhupia, Angad Bedi come together for new show 'Double Date', trailer released

Couple Neha Dhupia and Angad Bedi have come up with a new talk show 'Double Date'. On Wednesday, the trailer of the show was unveiled, giving fans a glimpse into a fun-filled ride packed with laughter, crazy games, candid conversations, and heartwarming moments. The first episode of Double Date will premiere tomorrow, Thursday, 14th May, on Neha Dhupia's YouTube channel @nehadhupiaofficial, with fresh new episodes dropping every week on Thursdays. Check out the trailer here. The exciting guest lineup on Double Date includes some of the most loved celebrity duos such as Huma Qureshi with brother Saqib, Tejasswi Prakash and Karan Kundarra, Rakul Preet Singh with Jackky Bhagnani, Soha Ali Khan with sister Saba Ali Khan, Aparshakti Khurana with wife Aakriti Khurana, Rhea Chakraborty with brother Showik Chakraborty, and Rasika Dugal with husband Mukul Chadda, read a press note. Speaking about the vision behind the show, Neha and Angad shared in a combined statement, "We started Double Date because we wanted to create something together that felt genuinely fun not just for us, but for everyone watching. Having experienced both sides of conversations and interviews, we wanted to give our guests a safe and comfortable space where they could truly let loose, be goofy, vulnerable, spontaneous, and completely themselves without the fear of gotcha questions. The show gave us the chance to go on crazy dates, try new things, and make unforgettable memories with our close friends, things we probably wouldn't have done otherwise. From competing over pizza-making and bowling to go-karting and so much more, every moment has been filled with laughter, madness, honesty, and pure fun. It's been a complete blast for all of us."

