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R.N.I. REGD. NO. 70959/99; (PB) 1048/99; Zirakpur, Wednesday 1st July, 2026 Vol 23, Edition 27 Page 6 Rs 2/-

Pragati Paper Industries disseminate unchecked carbon smoke, pump back untreated water into ground depth



Above illustrated snaps of Pragati Papers adequately substantiate the deadly discharge of carbon smoke besides toxic water not being treated as per the anti pollution law

Commissione News Service
Handesra (Lalru) : Every human nurtures in society an intent to breathe the clean air and drink potable water but since no raid is carried out by the pollution control environmental engineers, last week on 22, 24 June, the

industrial unit as usual practice was seen discharging polluted toxic smoke. Several inhabitants including XEN (Retd) Sardara Singh BSNL gathered to lodge grievances for stringent action under the Air (Prevention and Control

of Pollution) Section 21, 22 act 1981. It has been noticed hardly any action is taken under the violation of the constitutional pollution norms. They bemoan saying that this industrial unit was being catered special privilege in destroying the environ-

mental sanctity and masses were subjected to burning diseases, bronchitis, epidemic diseases of different types. Polluted smoke causes airways in the lungs and evolves as a disease of asthma which becomes later chronic. The diseases emerges as a

inflamed swell. Carbon smoke restricts breathing and results in coughing, wheezing and chest congestion. Carbon ashes may be seen falling over the naked head, human bodies moving besides the road. The long loose rope is

given to the mill workers and effluents are not treated but buried directly into the earth. Hundreds of factory workers plead against the aggravated quality of unhygienic water as they nurture problem of knee joint pain and osteoarthritis.

The action can be initiated under Water (Prevention & Control) under section 25, 26, 1974. Many ailments like asthma, pigmentary disorders, conjunctivitis, diarrhoea due to filthy polluted air and water stemming subsequently

preying the masses. Despite many efforts of Commissioner News Service there was no response from the on-duty SDO Aushpreet (Environment) Lalru region where grievances of the inhabitants could be lodged.

India defies US - Iran war, exports 7.5 % hike in basmati rice

Commissione News Service
Riyadh : Saudi Arabia remained the top buyer from India importing 10.55 LMT valued at Rupees 8323 Crores compared to 11.73 the previous year. In accordance with the data released by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics compiled by agricultural and processed food products export development

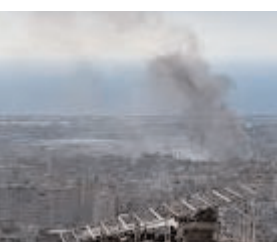


Authority export volume reached 66 .21 lakh metric tonnes. Despite geo political tensions Iran followed closely increasing its imports

to roughly 10 LMT valued at Rs 6,971.44 C up from 8.55 LMT, Iraq ranked third, purchasing, 7.64 LMT valued at Rs,5582.56 Cr .

Hezbollah warns of civil war ! Israel, Lebanon and United States sign a trilateral frame work

Commissioner News Service
Lebanese Ambassador Nada Moawad and her Israeli counterpart, Yechiel Leiter, signed the document alongside the US at the State Department in Washington Tehran: Ahead of the signing, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio described the agreement as an important first step. "Today we've taken the first step in what will be a difficult journey, without a doubt, but an important and an essential and a necessary one," Rubio said. "It's the beginning of the beginning. There's a lot of work ahead," he added. The agreement will be implemented through a trilateral Military Coordination Group for Lebanon, Rubio said in a statement. He added that Washington would commit significant resources to support the effort,



including an immediate \$100 million in humanitarian assistance in coordination with the United Nations, Reuters reported. The statement also said the US reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the Lebanese Armed Forces' capabilities to "more effectively establish sovereignty throughout Lebanese territory," with more than \$30 million to be provided under existing US authorities and appropriations. Israel's ambassador to the United States, Yechiel Leiter, said the agreement marked a new chapter in relations between the two countries.

Ayodhya lawyers asso decline to represent Ram Temple fraud accused

Commissioner News Service
Ayodhya : In an emergency conclave, it was decided that any lawyer contesting the Ayodhya embezzlement case would be fined Rs 5 lakh fine said Kalika Prasad Mishra president of Bar Association Ayodhya. "No lawyer will represent the accused in the case and if



anyone does, a fine of Rs 5 lakh will be imposed on them," he said.

Passport rules 1980 amended new passport fee goes to 2500/-, TATKAL 6000/-

Commissioner News Service
New Delhi : Making announcement, 'a passport is not a citizenship proof but a travel document, the Ministry of External Affairs has raised the passport fees across categories. While the fee for a new passport is now Rs 2,500, up from Rs 1,500; tatkal passports cost up to Rs 6,000. The new rules will come into force with effect from July 1, 2026. The passport fee structure has been revised through an amendment to the Passports Rules, 1980. In accordance with a notification dated June 20, published by MEA on Thursday, for an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of passport containing 36 pages, the normal fee would be Rs 2,500, while for tatkal it would be Rs 5,000 for the same category. At present, application fee for an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of a passport containing 36 pages stands at Rs 1,500, and



for tatkal it is Rs 3,500 for the same category. Similarly, the application fee for an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of a passport containing 60 pages has been hiked from Rs 2,000 to Rs 3,500 and for tatkal, the revised fee will be Rs 6,000 as against Rs 4,000 for the same category. In its notification, the government also issued a Schedule which will substitute the "Schedule IV to the Passports Rules, 1980". The revised schedule mentions two sub-categories — for applicants (18 years of age and above/minors aged between 15 to 18 years, if applied under this category); and minor applicants (below 18 years of age).

Dense plantation to originate foundation of Green Wall

By Vidya Rattan Sharma



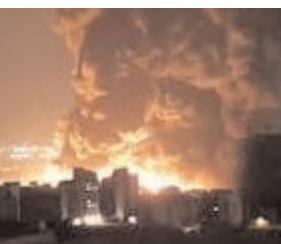
"The outer physical looks of the Dadumajra dumping ground is set to get metamorphosed if subjected to conscientious vegetation efforts. A significant range of flowering shrubs, trees would soon adorn the former stinking site of the garbage, refuse now gone under the stark surveillance of forest, environment department. With the one man tree is an environment philosophy and citizen initiative. It emphasises to underline that every individual should assume accountability to plant and care at least one tree. The green wall is vertical structure, intentionally covered with vegetation. The diversifying range of tree would subsume Pilkhan (200), Pipal (500), Camphor (300) and Bamboo (3000) to

transform the fertile compendium landscape with green filus benjamin 1000 eco refreshing garden. Besides Punjab and Haryana High Court, the Centre too had taken suo motu notice of the proliferating voluminous stench of garbage over the dumping ground. The accumulation of refuse had become focus of the visitors, even all high ranking officials were seen on 10 June scurrying to oversee the hazards of the mounds of legacy solid waste eliminated from the obnoxious pile up. The phenomena of JCB machines tackling

rubbish over the mounds of solid waste witnessed tractor trolleys loading and unloading fresh soil, plastic waste protruding the earth. The dynamic scenario never cornered such momentum where bureaucrats had to rush to personally oversee the management gone in disarray. The director environment, however, can not abstain from the ongoing preservation process of greenwall legacy and yet wishes amazing wealth of heritage belonging to ever prospering Chandigarh town.

Tehran condemns US strikes, saying violation of MoU

Commissioner News Service
Tehran : United States and Iran have traded strikes for the first time since signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) last week, raising tensions days before the two sides are set to meet for the next round of talks. The US military said it carried out the strikes in retaliation for a drone attack on a cargo ship a day earlier in the Strait of Hormuz. This came after US



President Donald Trump accused Iran of carrying out that attack Iranian state media reported that a projectile struck near a pier in the city of

Sirik near the Strait of Hormuz. Iran said Qeshm island has also been hit. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said it targeted locations in the region where US forces are deployed in retaliation for the Trump administration's latest attack. We know the conflict enters the 120 th " day, despite the declaration of ceasefire .

Advanced weapons systems sold to Qatar, Saudi by Israel

Commissioner News Service
Jarusalem : Advanced Israeli-made defence systems, including aircraft protection technology and pilot helmet systems for F-15 fighter jets, have been supplied to Qatar and Saudi Arabia despite the absence of formal defence ties with either country, according to a report published on Sunday. The report by Haaretz, based on publicly available photo-



graphs and defence procurement documents, said the equipment was delivered through contracts linked to US defence manufacturers. According to the report,

three of the 11 aircraft operated by Qatar's royal family were fitted with Elbit Systems' C-MUSIC airborne defence system between 2020 and 2022 while undergoing maintenance in Basel, Switzerland. The Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani travelled to Tehran last year aboard one of the aircraft equipped with the Israeli-made defence system.

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EDITORIAL -

Nuclear watchdog to execute Iran inspection

Taking note of improved indigenous LPG production and the projected availability of imported cargos, govt decided to reduce the diversion of C3-C4 streams to the LPG pool. "The enhanced allocation of C3-C4 streams for non-LPG uses will be implemented while ensuring that domestic LPG availability remains unaffected and aggregate indigenous LPG production is maintained at not less than 40,000 tonnes per day," said the petroleum ministry. Govt also issued orders under the Essential Commodities Act directing oil refiners to divert C3-C4 streams from petrochemical and other downstream uses and use them exclusively for LPG production. Indigenous LPG production was increased from nearly 30 per cent to almost 50 per cent. As domestic production increased and demand stabilised, the govt raised LPG allocation to commercial users up to 70 percent.

"We explored opportunities to cooperate in the energy sector. India remains committed to enhancing energy security through dialogue, partnership and mutually beneficial engagement," said Hardeep Puri, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister. Indian basket crude prices returned to pre-conflict levels Wednesday, with the basket priced at \$70.71 per barrel, reducing the import bill, easing inflationary pressures and improving the financial position of the Centre and oil marketing companies. It averaged \$69.01 per barrel in Feb but rose to \$113.49 in March and \$114.48 in April before softening marginally in May. The basket has averaged \$86.31 per barrel in June so far. Govt also issued orders under the Essential Commodities Act directing oil refine.. The UN nuclear watchdog will carry out inspections in Iran soon following an interim peace accord between the US and Iran, but

modalities have yet to be finalised, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Rafael Grossi said Wednesday. The two countries signed a 14-point memorandum of understanding last week set-The two countries signed out broad agreements in principle to end the war. The interim accord paved the way for 60 days of talks aimed at hammering out thornier de-tails, including issues related to Iran's nuclear programme. "The inspections will in-deed take place," Grossi addressed press conference in Japan, an audio recording of which the IAEA posted online. "We will be working on the modalities dates, procedures, places very soon," he said of dis-cussions with Tehran. Iran has not informed the IAEA how much of its enriched uranium survived the attacks or where it is. The IAEA estimates Iran had 440.9 kg of uranium enriched to up to 60% before Israel launched the first attack on June 13 of last year.

328 more electric buses to be inducted under Central scheme from October

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : Sanctioned under the PM e-Bus Sewa Scheme this year. The UT Administration would most probably start getting 328 electric buses in transition to environmentally friendly transportation. A total of 428 electric buses for the city had been sanctioned under the scheme by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Out of these, 100 buses were sanctioned to replace the 100 diesel buses following their condemnation post completion of their operational lifespan of 15 years from Depot IV of the Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU). Out of the 100



sanctioned electric buses for Depot-IV, 60 electric buses have already been inducted and are operational, while the remaining 40 buses are scheduled to be added by June, said officials. The CTU is at present operating a fleet of 140 electric buses on Tricity routes. The delivery of 328 additional electric buses sanctioned under the PM e-Bus Sewa Scheme is expected to commence in October

this year, as the ministry has floated e-tender for procurement of the buses. Officials stated the UT Administration planned to replace all diesel buses with electric buses by the end of 2027-28 to promote eco-friendly, sustainable and green public transport in the city. For the first lot of 100 electric buses, the UT Administration has signed an agreement at the lowest amount of Rs 61.80 per km with the operator. Under the hiring model procurement, maintenance and operation will be looked after by the operator, while the revenue will be collected by the department.

MC intensifies drive on illegal vendors at Apni Mandis

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : Twenty-nine challans were issued to violators acting on repeated complaints from local residents about vendors occupying MC land before the designated market hours. Enforcement teams removed tents, tables, batteries, weighing scales from public spaces. The Municipal Corporation continued its



enforcement drive against encroachments at Apni Mandis. It removed unauthorised items from the Apni Mandi in Sector 43.

'Sohana canal water rising project' launches its operation
Rs 48.5L plan : MLA

Commissioner News Service MOHALI : The Rs 48.5 lakh project, aimed at meeting the area's growing demand for drinking water, was formally inaugurated on Monday by Mohali MLA Kulwant Singh. In view of Sohana village's growing population and historical significance, the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Punjab, on Saturday commenced work on the 'Sohana Canal Water Rising Project'. Sohana's drinking water supply was presently being met through five tubewells, which were no longer sufficient to cater to the rising demand. "With this in mind, the project has been planned to connect the village with the GMADA Canal Water Supply Scheme through a new rising main pipeline," added the MLA. The MLA further said, "Upon completion of the project, Sohana will receive approximately 1.3 million litres of additional water per day, significantly strengthening the existing water supply system and ensuring a regular supply of safe drinking water for residents. The project will also provide a permanent solution to the problems of low water pressure while reducing dependence on tubewells."



Kulwant said the department would begin construction of two new underground storage reservoirs (UGSRs) within the next month to facilitate efficient storage and distribution of the additional water. The combined cost of the canal rising and two UGSR projects is approximately Rs 98 lakh. The MLA said the new pipeline and storage infrastructure would enhance the reliability and efficiency of the village's water distribution network, particularly during the summer season when water demand is at its peak. The project will create a more sustainable and dependable drinking water system for the future, he added. Describing the initiative as a significant step towards strengthening civic infrastructure, Kulwant said the project reflected the Punjab Government's commitment to providing better amenities and ensuring long-term water security for the residents of Sohana.

In online fraud case, 2 more arrested

Commissioner News Service PANCHKULA : A Panchkula resident was duped of Rs 14.13 lakh. The police have arrested in a three-year-old online fraud case two more accused from Rajasthan. The accused have been identified as Vikram Singh Bhandari, a resident of Bharatpur; and Dilkhush Meena, from Dausa district in Rajasthan. A total of four accused have been arrested in the case so far. Ayush Kumar Mishra and Piyyush Kumar Tripathi, both residents of Rewa district in Madhya Pradesh, were arrested in 2023. A portion of the crime proceeds and several ATM cards were



recovered from them. According to cybercrime police station in-charge Yudhveer Singh, the accused, posing as CISO officers, made the victim transfer Rs 14.13 lakh to various bank accounts. A case was registered in May 2023. The victim had transferred Rs 8.40 lakh to Vikram's account. During interrogation, he admitted to selling his account to criminals. He revealed the name of co-accused Dilkhush Meena, who was also arrested.

Division of industrial plots in Master Plan-2031 proposed by Chd Admn

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : An addendum to the proposed amendments concerning the fragmentation of industrial plots in Industrial Area Phase-I and II has been issued as part of the ongoing deregulation exercise aimed at promoting optimum use of industrial land. The UT Administration has recommended the fragmentation of industrial plots in the proposed amendments to the Chandigarh Master Plan-2031. The addendum, approved by the Administrator, is to be read in continuation of the proposed amendments already notified on May 22. It has been proposed to permit the fragmentation of larger industrial plots into smaller plots, subject to approval of revised planning and zoning, and compliance with other conditions prescribed under the applicable policy. The policy governing such fragmentation shall be notified separately by the Chandigarh Administration. Detailed information



regarding the proposed amendments and the addendum is available on the official website of the Department of Urban Planning, Chandigarh Administration. Submitting suggestions, Col (ret'd) Gursewak Singh, president of the Residents' Welfare Association, Modern Housing Complex (MHC), Sector 13, suggested that with high density population, the area has the highest car density. "In the absence of designated parking, vehicles are often parked on roads, pedestrian paths, or in front of neighbouring houses, leading to disputes and conflicts," he said.

CHB exhorts allottees to pay dues before July 15 or face recovery notices

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : 'Launching a public camp for verification and reconciliation of outstanding dues on properties held under leasehold, license, hire purchase, rental and tenancy schemes' was announced by the Chandigarh Housing Board on Monday. Cautionary message has been issued that failure to resolve discrepancies before the July 15 deadline will trigger recovery proceedings. The camp, running from July 1 to July 15 on all working days between 11 am and 4 pm, will be held at the multipurpose hall on the sixth floor of the CHB office. Freehold



properties are excluded from the exercise. CHB has asked all allottees and transferees of residential dwelling units and commercial properties under its jurisdiction to first verify their outstanding dues online at [receipts and supporting documents for account reconciliation. The board has made clear that it will treat the exercise as final. Once the July 15 deadline lapses, CHB will freeze outstanding dues as per its own records and issue demand notices for recovery, leaving no further room for allottees to contest figures. The move is significant given the large volume of CHB properties across Chandigarh held under non-freehold tenures, where long payment histories, partial settlements and disputed ledger entries have historically created reconciliation backlogs.](https://payonline.chb.gov.in/AccountStatement/Show before approaching the office. Those who find discrepancies in the portal-displayed figures must visit the CHB office with original payment</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Western disturbance to take over Punjab, Haryana from July 2

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : Over the past 24 hours, the highest maximum temperature recorded in Punjab was 44 degrees Celsius at Bathinda, while the lowest minimum temperature was 26.3 degrees Celsius at Pathankot. A heatwave was experienced in Patiala. With a fresh western disturbance expected to affect north-west India from July 2, the weather department has predicted heavy rains and a fall in temperature later this week, bringing relief from the above normal temperatures and isolated heatwave conditions prevailing over parts of Punjab and Haryana. Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is likely



over Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh and Delhi during July 2-4, according to a bulletin issued by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on June 29. Isolated to scattered rainfall is expected over these areas during June 29 to July 1 and then on July 5. Though light rain along with thunderstorms and gusty winds occurred at a few places in Punjab and Haryana over the past 24

hours, the maximum as well as minimum temperatures in both the states were above normal. Kaithal, Rohtak, Jhajjar, Mahendergarh, Rewari and Nuh districts in Haryana and Pathankot, Gurdaspur and Ropar districts in Punjab received varying amounts of rain, according to an IMD bulletin of June 29. Heat waves and warm night conditions occurred at a few places in both states. In Haryana, the highest maximum temperature was 45 degrees Celsius while the lowest minimum temperature was 28 degrees Celsius, both at Bhiwani. Heat waves were reported from Ambala, Karnal, Rohtak And Bhiwani.

Daily crawling by 30-minute to stop in Mohali-Ambala drive by October

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : The Zirakpur-Panchkula bypass is expected to cut 30 to 40 minutes off a route that forces commuters through a daily crawl on NH-5 and the Airport Road. The spur, running 10.3 km near Rajo Majra village, will not save minutes on an existing route so much as create one that did not exist before — a direct, signal-free corridor giving Ambala, Delhi and Chandigarh traffic a straight shot to Zirakpur, Panchkula, and onward to Baddi and Shimla. "In Punjab, we have approved Rs 1,463.95 crore for the construction of a six-lane, access-controlled greenfield spur linking the Ambala-Chandigarh section of NH-205A with the Zirakpur bypass," Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari had said. Come October, the drive from Mohali's IT City to Ambala will be 30 minutes shorter, according to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials. The 30-km Ambala-IT City stretch of the Ambala-Chandigarh Greenfield Corridor



— currently 89 per cent built — has neared its revised completion date. A little earlier, by September, commuters on the Mohali-Sirhind run will get their own 30-minute relieve, with that 27.37-km corridor now 91 per cent complete. One relief has already arrived. The IT City-Kurali section has been thrown open to traffic, and motorists travelling that stretch are already saving 45 minutes that would otherwise have gone into navigating Kharar and the choked Mohali Airport Road. The biggest single prize, however, remains out of reach for now. The 106.92-km Sirhind-Sehna extension — still awaiting Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) clearance — promises to cut a full 90 minutes off the Mohali/Chandigarh-Bathinda

run once approved, officials said, calling it the single largest time-saving leg of the entire ring. The most significant development recently is administrative rather than visible on the ground — but it changes everything for two of the network's most delayed links. The NHAI has issued letters of award (LOA) for both the Rs 1,878.31-crore Zirakpur-Panchkula bypass and the Rs 1,463.95-crore greenfield spur connecting the Ambala-Chandigarh Expressway to that bypass, clearing the way for the construction. "As part of the Tricity Ring Road project, the corridor will decongest key urban junctions across Mohali, Chandigarh and Panchkula by diverting through-traffic," he had said while clearing the spur, adding that it would "enable faster, seamless connectivity towards Himachal Pradesh, particularly the Shimla region". The Pinjore bypass has already been completed and is operational, easing pressure on one of the more congested approaches to Panchkula.

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Preventive detention of anti-social elements up to 12 months, Bill passed by West Bengal Assembly

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : The West Bengal Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026, was passed by the state Assembly on Monday with 176 members voting in favour of the Bill and 42 against it. A stringent provision of preventive detention for up to 12 months without trial will be enforced. Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Bill said, "It is aimed at preventing riots and other forms of violence and will be used against anti-social elements." Asserting that the legislation would not be misused, the CM said several states/UTs – including Maharashtra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand – had already implemented comparable legislation. The new legislation was specifically aimed at tackling goons, the CM said the legislation was aimed at addressing loopholes in the existing laws and ensure accountability for those



involved in violence and the destruction of property. Adhikari said that existing laws did not have the provision to recover the cost for property destruction from those involved in violence, directly or otherwise. He added that the new law was not just about sending people to jail, but also about seizing their movable and immovable assets. He also slammed the previous TMC government, accusing it of failing to take action against anti-social elements. Meanwhile, the TMC has raised objection to various provisions of the Bill. Party leader Kunal Ghosh alleged

that the legislation was contrary to constitutional rights and contained significant loopholes. He said that while everyone supported action against "goonda culture", existing legal provisions under the IPC, CrPC and the new criminal laws had already empowered the police and investigating agencies to act against offenders. He further claimed that the government was using its legislative majority to pass the Bill despite concerns over its provisions. Talking about the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, Adhikari said that a draft Bill would be placed before the state Cabinet on July 2 and discussed. Later, it would be tabled in the Assembly. The draft committee is being headed by former Supreme Court Judge Ranjana Desai. Notably, Justice Desai has been roped in by all BJP-ruled states for the UCC draft committee.

Toddler loses eyesight permanently as govt doc administers cough syrup

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : The severe reaction caused by the wrong medicine and alleged medical negligence had resulted in the child permanently losing his eyesight, confirmed the family, doctors at AIIMS. A 19-month-old child allegedly lost his eyesight permanently after being administered the wrong medicine at a government hospital in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar district, triggering fresh questions over patient safety in public healthcare facilities. The incident has assumed political significance as it took place in the district overseen by the state's Health Minister, while the family has sought action against those responsible. The child, a resident of Bhusa Kamalpur village in Sagar district, was taken by his father, Indraj Vishwakarma, to the Civil Hospital in Banda after developing mild cold, cough and redness in the eyes. According to the family, the child was examined by paediatrician Dr Himanshu Verma, who prescribed eye drops, paracetamol and other medicines. The family has alleged that



during treatment, hospital staff mistakenly put a medicine meant for clearing mucus into the child's eyes. Soon after, his condition deteriorated. He was first shifted to the Sagar District Hospital before being referred to AIIMS, Bhopal, as his condition turned critical. Following the incident, the child's father submitted a written complaint at the Banda police station against the duty doctor and hospital staff, seeking legal action. The Health Department has also initiated an inquiry. The Chief Medical and Health Officer of Sagar has constituted a three-member committee to investigate the incident and has sought its report within seven days. Alongside the departmental probe, the police are conducting a separate investigation into the matter.

Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth to take over charge of Army chief

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : The appointment of Army Chief comes just a month after two other changes at the top. Chief of Defence Staff General NS Raja Subramani and the new Navy Chief, Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, took charge of their respective posts. Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth took over as the next Army Chief on Tuesday, while the Indian Air Force (IAF) will get a new Vice Chief, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, on Wednesday, marking a change at the top of the military hierarchy. Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth is from the Armoured Corps and was commissioned in December 1986. It is the first time in more than three decades that an



Armoured Corps officer became the Army Chief. The last Armoured Corps officer to hold the post was General Roy Chowdhury, who retired in September 1997. Lt Gen Seth has extensive experience across the operational, strategic, capability development and institutional domains, contributing significantly to the Indian Army's combat effectiveness and long-term transformation. In the IAF, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit will take

over as the next Vice Chief on Wednesday, July 1. Notably, he will be the senior-most officer in line when the present IAF Chief, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, superannuates in October this year. Air Marshal Dixit, who is currently serving as the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (CISC) a tri-services organisation under the Chief of Defence Staff—has been part of the process of promoting jointness and setting up the proposed theatre commands. He is a fighter pilot and later served as the commanding officer of the Flight Test Squadron at the Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE) in Bengaluru.

'Champat Rai sacrificed career, personal life for Ram temple': pleads his brother

Commissioner News Service
BIJNOR : The brother of Champat Rai, who resigned as the general secretary of the Shri Ram Jannabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, on Monday defended him against allegations of embezzling donations for the Ram temple, saying his brother had sacrificed both his personal life and career for the Ram temple movement and the service of the nation. 'Rai had dedicated his entire life to the cause of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the Ram temple movement, and national service'. Stressed Sunil Bansal, a resident of Nagina in Bijnor district and Champat Rai's brother. Following allegations of large-scale embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple, questions have arisen regarding Champat Rai's involvement,



prompting his resignation from the trust. Champat Rai previously worked as a teacher in Rohtak in 1970-71 before becoming a physics lecturer at RSM Degree College in Dhampur in 1972. Bansal, added that during the Emergency, police tried to arrest him while he was teaching, but he later surrendered at the local police station, according to Bansal. Rai resigned from his teaching position in 1980-81 to devote himself fully to the RSS. Bansal described the allegations against his brother as politically motivated, asserting that

Champat Rai had given up "everything" for the RSS, the Ram temple movement, and the service of the country. Earlier on Monday, the Faizabad Bar Association demanded that Champat Rai, Anil Mishra and Gopal Rao - all associated with the management of the temple (but not mentioned as accused in the FIR) -- "must leave" Ayodhya. The lawyers warned that if the trio did not leave "within three days", the entire city of Ayodhya would be blockaded and no one would be allowed to enter. The Bar said it would seek registration of an FIR against Champat Rai, Gopal Rao and Anil Mishra under BNSS Section 156(3), which empowers a magistrate to order the police to investigate a cognizable offence if the police have not acted on a complaint.

Pilgrims advised to check registration process as Amarnath Yatra 2026 slated to begin from July 3

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : Tourists between the ages of 13 and 70 can undertake the yatra and registrations will begin from April 15, the LG told reporters at the Lok Bhavan here. The annual pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir will commence on July 3 and conclude after 57 days on August 28, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said. The dates for the yatra were decided at a meeting of the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) under the chairmanship of Sinha. "The Amarnath Yatra will commence on July 3 and conclude on August 28. Overall, this year's pilgrimage will be slightly longer, lasting about 57 days," the LG said. Registration for the pilgrimage has been made mandatory and will begin from April 15. The minimum age for pilgrims has been fixed at 13 years and the maximum at 70 years, he said. "Advance registration can be carried out through about 556



designated bank branches across the country, while online registration will also be available through the official website of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board," Sinha said. Yes Bank, ICICI Bank, Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India and Axis Bank will facilitate registrations through their branches, he said. The LG said the first puja will be performed on June 19, on the occasion of Jyeshtha Purnima. The pilgrimage will commence from the twin tracks—the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steeper Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

BJP's commitment to make Thiruvananthapuram 2036 Olympics venue generate political uproar

Commissioner News Service
Thiruvananthapuram : BJP Kerala unit urge it would request the Centre to include the city as one of the venues for the 2036 Games. In its manifesto for the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation election. BJP's local body election manifesto promise to develop the state capital into a co-host city for the 2036 Olympics triggered a political row, with leaders of both LDF and UDF on Monday calling it a fake claim. The International Olympic Committee is yet to announce the host for the 2036 edition of the world's biggest sporting event. However, there have been reports that India is bidding for the Games with Ahmedabad as its proposed main host city. Kerala Education Minister V Sivankutty accused BJP of deceiving the people of Thiruvananthapuram. "When the Union Government has bid for the



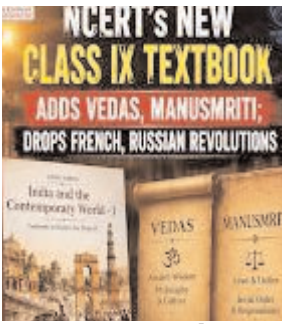
Olympics in Gujarat, how can BJP here claim that Thiruvananthapuram will be a venue?" He further said as part of the bidding process, BJP is planning for the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad, he claimed. He asked whether BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar considered the people of Thiruvananthapuram "fools". "The proposal submitted to the Olympic body has no mention of Thiruvananthapuram. This is a trick because BJP has nothing to say about development," he said. Senior Congress leader K Muraliedharan also hit out at BJP on its election manifesto,

saying that, fearing defeat, the party had begun making "fake promises". "They know they would not even become the main opposition party this time. Hence, such claims," he said. State Revenue Minister K Rajan echoed a similar view, stating that the host for the 2036 Olympics had yet to be announced, but BJP claimed the event would be held in Thiruvananthapuram. Reacting to the criticism, Chandrasekhar said that other political parties would realise the proposal later. "They do not understand how it will happen. We will teach them after we get the opportunity to govern," he said. BJP is currently the main opposition in the CPI(M)-governed Thiruvananthapuram Corporation. The local body election in the state will be held in two phases on December 9 and 11.

The advertisement features a collection of Patanjali personal care products. In the foreground, there are several bottles of 'Kesh Kanti' hair oil in different scents like 'Natural', 'Anti-Dandruff', and 'Protein'. Next to them are boxes of 'Dant Kanti' toothpaste. A bottle of 'Coconut Hair Wash' is also visible. The background is a soft-focus image of more Patanjali products, including boxes of 'Dant Kanti' and bottles of 'Kesh Kanti'. The Patanjali logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the tagline 'Prakriti ka Ashirwad' (Blessing from Nature) written below it. The overall aesthetic is clean and natural, reflecting the brand's focus on Ayurvedic ingredients.

Politics annexes emergency chapter in NCERT class 9 book drops Preamble and Secularism

Commissioner News Service
New Delhi : A new National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) Class 9 Social Science textbook released on Thursday introduces a discussion on the Emergency imposed by then prime minister Indira Gandhi while omitting the Preamble and references to "secular" and "secularism" that featured prominently in the previous Class 9 textbook, triggering now a political row. The revised textbook, released under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National



Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023, discusses the Constitution through its making, democratic institutions and fundamental rights but does not reproduce the Preamble or explain its terminology. It also introduces the Emergency for the first time in the revised

Class 9 curriculum, describing it as a period when democratic institutions came under severe strain and citizens' freedoms were curtailed. The changes reignited a political battle between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress, with Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan saying future generations should understand the "dark deeds of the Emergency" and the Congress alleging that the move was driven by "divisive politics" and an attack on constitutional values.

Synthetic milk dominates market unchecked by health authority

We over 70% of populace digest daily the pulverised synthetic milk which comprises a definite quantity of detergent, urea, caustic soda, sodium hydroxide and fats, cautioned the otherday, Dr Harsh Vardhan, former Union Minister for Science & Technology.

In accordance with Food Safety & Standard Authority of India, the quality of milk in question doesn't conform to the parameters laid by the stipulated law.The excess water added to the milk may destroy the intake of nutritious specific values,which are immensely harmful. The unnatural milk also comprises certain quantity of insecticides and metal which are destructive to human health. One day, skimmed milk sample of 548, only 577 were found to be carrying ample quantity of glucose. It has been noticed while storing, packaging, certain quantity of detergent particles enter the openly placed quantity of bare milk.The demand for the genuine quality milk is not being met hence the glut of synthetic milk would continue to rein in the prevailing market.



Artificial imitation of natural milk remains harmful to human health. Its excessive use inflict very serious damage on human body causing swelling in the eyes and many other complication in the liver and kidney. The journey of synthetic milk, now a days, has been heading from urban area to rural populace to acclimatise to their propensities. Our nation has been notoriously becoming famous, leaving concentration away from genuine natural milk.

Now fait accompli, we are tolerating assortment by of chemicals, urea, by compulsion as the occupation of genuine dairy farming has been going in very lackadaisical race even government controlled units are losing curiosity in natural milk. What a catastrophic approach, but against whom? remains puzzling.

"Over U.S.-Iran meeting in Qatar, Tehran denies any conclave in near future

Commissione News Service

Trehan : Iran has requested a meeting that will be held in Qatar on Tuesday despite Tehran denying that any technical talks on the deal aimed at ending the West Asia war were planned." said Donald Trump, United States of



America. The announcement came after Iran

held its first talks with Oman on managing the Strait of Hormuz since the U.S.-Iran deal was signed, and as Washington and Tehran agreed to halt their attacks, which had strained the agreement.

8th pay commission, working on proposed hikes

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : The 8th pay commission chaired by former Supreme Court Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been conducting multiple state visits and meetings with employee representative groups, unions and stakeholders to gather views ahead of its own recommendations. It is expected to make significant decisions by mid-2027. Constituted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year, the 8th Pay Commission is set to make big decisions on salary hikes and fitment factor, based on which updated compensation for central government



employees and pensioners will be finalised.. Around 50 lakh central government employees and around 65 lakh retired central government pensioners, including defence personnel and retirees respectively will be impacted by the decisions. The commission also includes Pankaj Jain, a former IAS, as Member-Secretary,

and Professor Pulak Ghosh, tenured Professor of Finance, Memb Fitment factor is the multiplier that converts old basic pay into revised basic pay. A higher factor in this case means a sharper jump in salaries and pensions. It also influences gratuity-linked calculations, provident fund contributions and other inputs linked to basic pay. For example, for fitment factor between 2.60 to 2.85, salaries might jump by 24-30%. This further means that a current basic pay in the range of Rs 20,000-22,000 may rise to approximately Rs 46,600-57,000.

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Bullet train to run on tracks from 15 August 2027 - Railway minister



Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : The maiden "Bullet" train equipped with 16 coaches 11 of AC-3, 4 of AC-2, 1 of AC-1. A total of 823 travellers would be able to board the envisaged train, disclosed Mr Ashwani Vaishnav, the Railway minister.

In systematic schedule of planned phases, first would run from Surat to Bilimora, followed by other Vaapi - Surat, Vaapi Ahmedabad. Thane Ahmadabad.In the last run Mumbai to Ahmadabad would be covered, commented the minister.

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U.S. conducts strikes against 'multiple targets' in Iran

Commissioner News Service

Tehran : The U.S. Central Command targeting various sites, including military surveillance infrastructure conducted its assignments on Iran

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun apprised U.S. President Donald Trump that he hoped Washington would help prevent violations of a framework agreement with



Israel and ensure consented commitments are fulfilled, particularly by pressing Israel to withdraw from occupied areas in southern Lebanon. Nabatieh al-Fawqa had been

hit by drones and warplanes. Bahrain accused Iran on Saturday of launching a new drone attack targeting the island nation. Iran accused the United States on Saturday of violating their deal to end the war, after Washington launched strikes on Iranian territory and Tehran responded with attacks on U.S. targets in the Gulf.

Bihar Governor Margherita to represent India in Iran on Khamenei funeral



Commissioner News Service

Tehran : On the event of funeral of Khamenei in Iran ,the Governor, MoS Margherita will represent India.. Bihar Governor Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita will represent India at the state funeral and burial ceremonies of Iran’s Supreme Leader

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khaenei. PM Narendra Modi had been formally invited by Iranian PresidentPezeshkian to attend the ceremonies. The Prime Minister will not be, however , able to participate as he will be on a pre-scheduled visit to Indonesia, New Zealand and Australia during the same period.

US technology access once granted to India would stay permanent : Union IT Secretary S Krishnan

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : At the two-day Pax Silica Summit in the United States, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Secretary S Krishnan reaffirmed India's position on regulating emerging technologies besides emphasising the country's stand that the technology sector still necessitates intensive room for innovation and time for reg-



ulation has not reached as yet. "Our position on regulation in this space is that right

now it is still time for innovation. It's not yet time to actually look at regulation in the sector, which is a position that India has held," said Krishnan ,the IT Secretary. "We've also stated, that IT ministry also stated, that if there is a need to regulate and if the time is right, we will not hesitate to operationalize. he added.

India’s vision is to make Indian Ocean an Ocean of Opportunity: PM Modi in Seychelles

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi :Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India envisions an Indian Ocean where maritime security is ensured alongside economic prosperity and where partnership is not based on size, but on mutual respect and trust. “Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an Ocean of Opportunity,” Prime Minister Modi said after delegation-level talks with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie, during which they reviewed the full spectrum



of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

“We believe the Indian Ocean is our shared home; its security, sustainability, and prosperity

are our shared responsibility,” PM Modi said in Seychelles. “We will share India’s successful experience in Digital Public Infrastructure with Seychelles,” the Prime Minister said. “We believe the defence and security of India and Seychelles are integral to each other,” he noted. “We will continue to explore new opportunities for the industries of both our countries. Work will also be done to enhance connectivity between India and Seychelles,” he added.

Row over alleged theft of donations from India's landmark Ram temple



annually. Queries over the handling of cash, valuable jewellery, gold and silver offered by devotees have triggered a political controversy and petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court seeking a court-monitored investigation by the federal police.

The state government has set up a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to inquire into the allegations. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust - an independent trust which

manages the shrine has denied alleged glitches . Then police, however , on Thursday named eight people in a report alleging embezzlement, disclosed Gaurav Grover senior police officer. All eight in custody being questioned are expected to be produced before a magistrate within the next day or two, he added. The complex, which also includes six smaller temples, draws 70,000 to 80,000 devotees daily, with crowds tripling on weekends and festivals.

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'New probe sensitises police on Secret Call, Deleted Chats of Ketan Aggarwal murder case

Commissioner News Service

Mumbai: Siya Aggarwal just before 34 minutes had conversation with Chetan Choudhry , details of new findings have surfaced in the latest interrogation .

The accused 20-year-old woman in the Pune fort murder case had dialled her lover and co-accused about half an hour before she allegedly pushed her fiancé off a cliff, police have found.

Citing their call details record (CDR), which is now being seen as their final go-ahead for the chilling murder plot to eliminate her fiancé Ketan Aggarwal, 25. The revelation followed an in-depth forensic examination of the mobile handsets of Goyal and Chaudhary, sources said.

The last call between her and Chaudhary is being treated as the most significant digital evidence of a conspiracy, uncovered by the technical surveillance team of the Pune Rural



Police in the sensational murder probe.

The police believe that during the call, Goyal gave her precise location to Chaudhary -- a viewpoint in the fort -- and confirmed there were no other tourists in the vicinity.

They are now cross-referencing the recovered deleted data, location logs, and internet IP addresses from the time of the final call, trying to present this as irrefutable evidence in court to establish a case of pre-planned murder under Section 103 of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita.

The police allege Siya Goyal pushed Kerala Aggarwal off a cliff at Lohagad fort in Pune on June 18, since she did not want to go ahead with their November wedding.

'WHO IS WHO' AT SAS NAGAR (MOHALI)

HELPLINE DISTT SAS NAGAR

Municipal Corporation : 1800137007

SDM : 0172-2219580

Fire Brigade : 101, 0172-2225902

Electricity Complaint : 9646115973 (Online)

Police Control Room : 100, 0172-2210357, 58

DSP Office : 0172-2272003, 0172-2272045

SSP Office : 0172-2219211, 212, 2219356, 2219357 (M) 9115516066

PUDA Office : 0172-2215308, 10, 11

Punjab School Education Board : 3047444

Industrial Area : 0172-2250910

Police Station Ph-1, 0172-2272850, Ph-II, 9115516027, 9115516015

Police Station Mataur : 9115516020

Police Station Suhana : 9115516029

Police Station Balaugi : 9115516040

Police Station Zirakpur: (M) 95929 16063

COMPLAINT CENTERS

Water Supply : 18001802468

Mohali Division Electricity Complaint Number : 9646115973

COMPLAINTS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Street Light : 0172-5044907, Sanitation Branch : 0172-5044907

Birth and Death : 0172-5044902,

Engineering Branch : 0172-5044909, 5044907 (O)

OTHER HELPLINE

WOMEN - 1091 & CHILDREN - 1098

VIGILANCE HELPLINE - 1800-1800-1000

0172-2231669, 0172-2216142

HEALTH SUVIDHA CENTER

Civil Hospital Phase-6, Mohali

Multi Specialists Government Hospital Phone 0172-2225464

Cheema Medical Complex Phase 4, Multi Speciality, Child

Specialist 3101030 Ambulance, Mobile 9815400070

PUDA OFFICE - 0172-2215308

PASSENGERS SERVICE

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CTU : 0172-2704005

PRTC : 0172-2704128

Haryana Roadways : 0172-2704014,

Himachal Roadways : 0172-2704015

Railway : 0172-2641656

Airport : 0172-2654832

FUNERAL PHONE : 9914855855

GRAVEYARD : 9888970033, 0172-2236403