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Can "X" social media intentionally blur distinction to escape its accountability -- Tushar Mehta

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : Freedom of speech must ensure adoption of legal discourse, hence "X" social network can't escape accountability. Illegal contents posting on X platform, can't be taken a safe harbour, its accountability remains there where it should be subjected to rigorous responsibilities. The other day, centre submitted to Karnataka High Court that unlawful

contents could endanger, jeopardise the very fabric of our constitution and charged the owner Elon Musk of harbouring under the IT act 'safe journey for easy protection. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta distinctly differentiated between protected speech which would contribute significantly to meaningful democratic and unlawful that undermines societal stability.



X had moved HC seeking to restrain govt departments from taking coercive action against it for the content on the X

social platform site said "unlawful and unjustified orders harm the C and its ability to operate. The issuance of

information blocking orders sans following due procedure of law in violation of IT act, violates X's right to

equality under article 14 and detrimentally impacts its business. Tushar Mehta added proliferation of what can be termed as unlawful content on social media platforms poses an unprecedented threat to public discourse, democracy and societal stability. Safe harbour does not mean blanket immunity can have implication for all social media platforms. The protection

of safe harbour for internet intermediaries was never an unconditional entitlement but a privilege contingent upon strict adherence to statutory duties. Intermediaries actively use algorithm boost content shaping public opinion and influencing social harmony or disorder. Such role necessitates heightened accountability, demanding robust regulation exceptionally tailored for

social media, emphasised the centre govt. It might be perhaps "X" had confused itself with the play of sections 69 A and 79 of the IT act. It said section 69 A pertains evidently to govt orders for blocking content with serious penal consequences for non-compliance whereas section 79 deals with due diligence obligations to maintain 'safe harbour' protection.

Amrit Pharmacies forget to provide affordable medicines

Chandigarh : The Amrit Pharmacies were virtually tasked to provide affordable medicines to seriously ill patients. Nevertheless, the concern is demanding a 17.5 % mark up, a significant rise from the 7 % proposed 2 years ago. It has been, however, learnt that PGI officials are negotiating with AMRIT to maintain it to protect the patient's



little economy. Amrit outlets never charge any handling fees were accepted as vital source for affordable treatment. Reports are

emanating that AMRIT outlets are storing branded generics to harvest high profit margins. Successful inhouse system as in Lucknow, PGI must go for raising own economic pharmacy. Here direct procurement from manufacturers could relieved patients, bypassing middlemen's charges so called commission.

22 drug deaddiction centres, besides Doctor's role in Punjab raided by ED

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : Illegal sale of drug in Chandigarh, Barnala and Ludhiana was found available including other 22 centres. Dr Amit Bansal has been the prime accused in the case who has been running all these 22 drug deaddiction centres in Punjab.

Against Dr Amit Bansal, multiple FIRs have been registered by the Punjab police since he has also been engaged in selling drugs from his deaddiction centres. Dr Bansal through his



deaddiction centres had misused his facility and was allegedly involved in illegal sale of these drugs, sources revealed. Rupinder Kaur, drug inspector assisted Dr Bansal in providing incorrect inspection reports with regard to pilferage of medicines from his hospitals.

High quality desi ghee dominated by Patanjali

Commissioner News Service

P'kula: Patanjali cow suth desi ghee has gained popularity on account of its high quality, purity and economic rates in tricity markets claimed PK Rao Marketing Manager. He adds saying this pure cow ghee is preferred by those who prioritise natural and organic options. During 2021, the claim of high purity was made in October 2022, sample BKD 2458 was taken for purity test and won clientele applause and wide acceptance. For the quality emergence conventional ayurvedic Bolana procedure is adopted by the dairy engineers. Cow pure milk is manufactured from white butter/curd. The quantum of cow milk is put on mild flame specific span of time until it got



melted for ghee. It is widely claimed that cow milk is scared substance, often used in religious rituals besides Aurvedic treatments. Cow ghee must be used before 9 months from date. Milk fat is inherently expensive. Its current exdairy price of Rs 460, -- 470 / is way above Rs 125 - 130, wholesale range for refined palmolien, soybean or sunflower

Pilots' body prompts notices to US Media

Commissioner News Service

Mumbai : As the reports are not based on facts, the Federation of Indian Pilots, President Capt CS Randhawa called out Wall Street Journal and Reuters, charging them against not basing their reports on authentic contents while highlighting Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau 'preliminary report on AI - 171 plane crash. For misleading the public leading they bring their own ramifications, when they are not investigative



body, said Mr CS Randhawa. We hereby strongly condemn and we have also issued legal notices to the wall street journal and Reuters.

MC yet to collect Rs 100 Cr from govt institutions, receives Rs 10 Cr from PGI

Chandigarh : From long pending due property tax, the local Civic body has been able to collect Rs 10 Cr the gigantic amount ever recovered. A detailed reconciliation process between PGI and MC continued with a series of negotiations, follow ups, notices and finally procurement on hands. The total calculated arrears stood at Rs 24



Cr of which PGI has cleared half of the total amount, sources revealed. Many other institutions still owe over Rs 100 Cr in property tax and service charges. The other key defaulter

not paying property tax be included Punjab University (Rs 60 Cr), Engineering deptt of Chandigarh Administration (Rs 17 Cr) and Chandigarh Railway Station (3 Cr). The institutions had failed to clear the dues during April-May rebate period are now facing 25 % penalty on the total amount along with 12 % annual interest.

European Union announces fresh curbs on Russian oil exports

New Delhi : In order to throttle funding for Moscow' war machines sanctions were imposed on oil supply. The curbs levied by European Union would jeopardise its export to Africa and Europe. The refinery depends on exports to Europe and Africa as a small retail network of 6750 fuel stations limits domestic sales.



Curbs on products derived from Russian oil could cloud exports, impacting operations and threatening jobs. The curbs would also

derail Rosneft' bid to exit the venture because sanctions make repatriation of profit impossible. The new measures include lowering the current price cap of \$ 60/ barrel, the threshold at which countries, outside the G 7 grouping of 7 developed economies can buy Russian oil and access Western shipping as well insurance services.

Who would be probable BJP national president around August 15

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is likely to get a new national president around Independence Day, according to source-based reports in the national media. The current national president, JP Nadda, has held the post since January 2020. His term was extended to steer the party through the 2024 general elections. The BJP and its ideological parent, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), have yet to officially finalise a name for the post. The party is said to favour a candidate with organisational experience. The names include former union minister Dharmendra



Pradhan. He hails from Odisha, where the BJP stormed to power for the first time last year. His nomination could strengthen the party base in Odisha, as he has deep experience working inside the organisation. Another name is that of union minister Bhupendra Yadav, who is considered close to home minister and top BJP leader Amit Shah. Hailing from Ajmer in Rajasthan, Yadav is an MP

from Alwar, and he is currently the minister for environment, forests and climate change. The third name doing the rounds is that of former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. He has strong organisational experience and a massive mass appeal. He is currently the agriculture minister in the Narendra Modi cabinet. According to the report, another name has joined the list of probables: BD Sharma. He is a senior leader in the BJP and is known for his strong influence within the party. Former Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar has also said to be in the list of probables.

Stripping Justice Varma's HC judgeship constitutionality challenged

New Delhi : The faulting process was adopted by the in-house enquiry panel. Mr Varma raised question as to why the Panchnama of the discovered cash was not prepared by the Delhi police and Delhi Fire Services. That evidence could have been suffice evidence. Mr Varma



accused the media trial as an unsubstantiated material. Justice Varma wasj hand-

ed over the panel report on May 4. The then CJI had advised him to resign or seek voluntary retirement. The inhouse procedure as far as it usurps parliamentary procedure to recommend removal of judges, violates the doctrine of separation of powers.

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EDITORIAL

Legacy institution of Dalai Lama would continue

In order to raise the China appointed Panchen Lama's profile in preparation for his role in recognising the 14th Dalai Lama's reincarnation and later being his principal tutor, Gyaltzen Norbu is likely to accompany Xi Jinping during his visit to Tibet. Xi Jinping's visit would reinforce the the importance accorded to Tibet by the CCP leadership while simultaneously heighten the already restrictive security controls imposed across the TAR and on Tibetans. In the post-14th Dalai Lama phase, Beijing can be expected to enhance pressure on India and try and promote division and discord within the exiled Tibetan community. It will seek to describe the Central Tibetan Administration as a secessionist outfit and warn India not to support it or the reincarnate Dalai Lama. India's stance over the years, however, in spite of Chinese pressure, especially since 1980, has not wavered and the government will in all probability recognise the reincarnation accepted by the Tibetan people. Prime Minister Modi's birthday greetings to the 14th Dalai Lama is a signal. There are indications that plans are being finalised for celebrating the 60th

anniversary of the so-called "peaceful liberation" of Tibet around mid-September. Reports indicate that Xi Jinping will probably visit Tibet to take part in these celebrations. Xi Jinping's interest in Tibet has been visible ever since he was appointed Vice-President of China and even earlier, if one recalls that his mother is a practising Buddhist. As Party Secretary of Zhejiang province, he successfully organised China's First World Buddhist Forum in 2001. The 14th Dalai Lama has unequivocally declared that he will not be reborn under an authoritarian regime thus ruling out the possibility of his being reincarnated inside the People's Republic of China. With this, it is certain that the Chinese, notwithstanding the irony of the situation, will contest the "genuineness" of the 14th Dalai Lama's reincarnation and announce a candidate of their own. This piquant situation will affect the approximately seven million Tibetans inside China and also the wider Tibetan diaspora. The 14th Dalai Lama's 90th birthday on July 6 was an important event. That day, the 14th Dalai Lama made the long-awaited announcement confirming that the institution of the Dalai Lama will

continue. Despite various long attempts by China's Communist regime, including negotiations with the Dalai Lama's representatives, to ensure that the 14th Dalai Lama either returns or is reincarnated inside China, it is now definite that the 14th Dalai Lama will be reincarnated outside China. This is a development that the Chinese leadership has tried hard to avoid. In an unusual paper published in June 2013, obviously with high-level approval, Jin Wei, a senior faculty in the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)'s Central Party School, cautioned that in the "post Dalai Lama phase, the exiled Tibetan government will probably join other extremist organisations to engage in extreme violence." He said China must, therefore, make every possible effort to "avoid the embarrassment of a twin Dalai Lama" situation, like that of the Panchen Lama. Highlighting the status of the Dalai Lama among the Tibetan people, he tellingly observed that during his extensive travels in Tibet, ordinary people had told him: "In this life I depend on the Communist Party, in the next life I depend on the Dalai Lama."

Compounding regime of synthetic milk

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, 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.

Mohali civic bodies goes for land mark achievement in collecting Rs 11.4 cr property tax



Commissioner News Service
MOHALI : The Punjab Government's One-Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme has helped post major recovery as it offers significant relief on pending property tax. The Urban Local Bodies of the district have collected a record Rs 11.43 crore in property tax dues within just 19 days. As per the data, from July 1 to July 19, 2025, the municipal councils across the district recorded collections as follows: Banur civic body Rs 17.02 lakh, Dera Bassi civic body Rs 96.45 lakh, Kurali civic body Rs 22.25 lakh, Kharar civic body Rs 2.09 crore, Lahrur civic body Rs 12.39 lakh, Nayagaon civic body Rs 32.50 lakh and Zirakpur civic body Rs 7.53 crore. Under the OTS scheme, residents with unpaid or partially paid property tax

dues till March 31, 2025, can avail full waiver of penalty and interest if they clear the principal amount in full by July 31, 2025. If the dues are paid between August 1 and October 31, 2025, then 50 per cent of the penalty and interest will be waived. After October 31, full penalty and interest as per applicable laws will be reinstated. In view of the overwhelming response, the municipal corporation or council offices will remain open on weekends to facilitate citizens who are otherwise busy during weekdays till July 31. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Komal Mittal, urged all residents to take full advantage of the scheme by visiting their respective civic authorities and clearing their outstanding property tax dues within the stipulated period.

8.7% samples of food testing fail to meet quality test in Chandigarh

Commissioner News Service
CHANDIGARH : The Food Testing Vans, equipped with compact laboratories, travel to various colonies and market places across the city, especially during morning hours when fresh food items are purchased. The service has proven especially useful for families and health-conscious individuals looking to avoid adulterated products. Residents of Chandigarh are increasingly turning to mobile food testing vans to check the safety of everyday consumables such as milk, water, ghee and cooking oil. Operated by the Health Department in collaboration with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), these mobile vans have tested 4,939 food samples in the past year — out of which 432 or 8.7 per cent failed quality standards. The initiative allows citizens to get their food items tested on the spot for just Rs 20 per sample. Among the key findings are milk samples diluted with water and desi ghee tainted with vanaspati oil. Of the 340 milk samples tested, several failed, while two ghee samples contained unsafe substitutes. Some drinking water and raw edible oils also failed to meet minimum quality benchmarks. Officials revealed that 4,508 samples passed the safety test, but those that failed included paneer, sweets, spices and even snacks laced with non-



permitted colours and additives. A particularly alarming discovery was that 30 food samples were found to be contaminated with industrial oil — a substance never meant for human consumption. Experts warn that long-term exposure to such adulterants can lead to severe health consequences, including liver and gastrointestinal issues. To increase accountability, the vans also conduct random surprise inspections in local markets, with special focus on edible oils sold in bulk — a category frequently found to be adulterated. Vendors found repeatedly selling substandard food are blacklisted. Sukhwinder Singh, designated officer at the FSSAI, Chandigarh, noted the encouraging rise in citizen participation. "People are now proactively bringing samples from local dairies and street vendors to be tested. On Saturday, we organised a drive outside the Sector 33 park between 6 am and 9 am. We cover more sectors every week, and our second van, which was commissioned in 2018, is stationed at different civil hospitals on scheduled days," he said.

Prepare your own sale deed draft with help of registry clerk

Commissioner News Service
PATIALA : "The new system will ensure the completion of registry processes within 48 hours, making the procedure faster, more transparent, and hassle-free. Citizens will now receive all relevant updates via WhatsApp, eliminating the need for frequent office visits and reducing dependence on middlemen or agents" said local MLA Ajitpal Singh Kohli. Aimed at streamlining and simplifying the property registration process the 'Easy Registry' system was formally launched. Residents can now choose any sub-registrar office within the district to register their property, based on their convenience. He further informed that by dialing helpline number 1076, citizens can request service assistants to visit their homes to help prepare the necessary documents.



The Easy Registry system offers a range of citizen-friendly services. These include online document submission, digital pre-verification of documents, and the ability for users to schedule their own appointments at any sub-registrar office as per their convenience. Additionally, citizens now have the option to prepare their own sale deed drafts, and service assistants can assist in preparing registry documents from the comfort of one's home. All these features are designed to ensure a smooth, paperless, and efficient registration experience.

Cash strapped Punjab to borrow Rs 8,500 cr capitial amount during July-Sept

Commissioner News Service
CHANDIGARH : The planned borrowings are within the permissible limit set by the RBI. We are raising loans at the lowest rate of interest prevailing in the market till March 2024, the state's total outstanding debt stood at Rs 3.82 lakh crore, which is over 44 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) disclosed an official from Finance Department on anonymity. The Punjab Government is set raise a loan of Rs 8,500 crore in the second quarter of the ongoing fiscal year (July to September). The market borrowings to be undertaken by the state government have been approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). According to information available with the cash-strapped government would raise a loan of Rs 2,000 crore in July, Rs 3,000 crore in August and Rs 3,500 crore in September. After these borrowings, the total loan raised by state government during this fiscal year will go up to Rs 14,741.92 crore. In April and May, the government had raised Rs 6,241.92-crore loans.



The state government targets to raise Rs 34,201.11-crore loans this year. By the end of March 2026, the state's total debt is likely to touch Rs 4 lakh crore. This means that each Punjab (considering the state population to be 3 crore) will have an average debt of Rs 1.33 lakh by the end of this fiscal year. Earlier this year, a report on debt-stressed states in the country, tabled in Parliament by Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, had expressed concern that Punjab's debt-to-GSDP ratio was the second highest in the country. During the first two months of this fiscal year (April and May), the state's revenue deficit was Rs 5,513.65 crore. The state received Rs 12,903.04 crore in revenue receipts, while the revenue expenditure stood at Rs 18,416.69 crore.

UT celebrates Van Mahotsav-2025 by conserving nature through Paudh Mela

Commissioner News Service
CHANDIGARH : The UT Forest Department put on display a rich collection of saplings, including fruit-bearing, flowering, ornamental/shade-giving, medicinal and kitchen garden species. The Municipal Corporation and Engineering Department also participated with informative exhibits in celebrating the Van Mahotsav-2025. The Department organised a 'Paudh Mela' at the Lake Club parking area as a key part of the ongoing Van Mahotsav celebrations. UT Chief Secretary Rajeev Verma inaugurated the event, which featured over 20 thematic stalls showcasing a wide spectrum of efforts and innovations in forest and wildlife conservation, pollution control, renewable energy and community-driven environmental initiatives. The Chandigarh Renewable



Various NGOs, including Yuvsatta, Youth Innovative Society and Global Youth Federation, along with eco clubs from local schools, namely Vasudha Eco Club (GMSSS-22A), Soanjana Eco Club (GMSSS-46D), and Nag Kesar Eco Club (PM Shri GMSSS-14, Dhanas), displayed a diverse range of eco-friendly products, including vermicompost from dead leaves, cloth bags from fabric scraps, herbal juices, terracotta items, dhoop battis made from dry flowers and handicraft by self-help groups.

Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society showcased electric vehicles and other renewable energy solutions, reflecting the UT's focus on sustainable and clean development. Verma, along with Mandip Singh Brar, Secretary, Forest and Wildlife, flagged off a wildlife rescue van and motorbikes. These vehicles, procured under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority scheme, will strengthen the department's capacity to respond swiftly to man-animal conflicts and enable rapid wildlife rescue operations. Verma said over 5 lakh saplings would be planted across Chandigarh during Van Mahotsav-2025, which was formally inaugurated by the Punjab Governor and UT Administrator on July 5.

August 14 new dress code deadline for Chandigarh school faculty

Commissioner News Service
CHANDIGARH : "Considering requests from teachers and their union, and reviewing the practical constraints, the time by which all teachers are required to be in uniform is extended to August 14," read an order. The directives of UT Education Department reads "All teachers will make best use of the time and get the uniform stitched, so that we all wear the uniform by the Independence Day." Last going with August 14 as the new deadline for implementing the dress code for faculty of the local government schools has gone final. Earlier, the department had decided to implement the same from July 20. Before that, the department had ordered implementation of a dress code for teachers and principals in government schools on June 30.



However, the order was declared null and void a few hours later. The order was withdrawn considering the objection over the uniform colour, raised by the faculty members. Recently, the department changed the colour combination and outlined ivory colour full suit with a shade darker dupatta for female teachers. Lower could be salwar or salwar-pant or ivory coloured saree and blouse with beige or golden border. For male teachers, it is blue shirt (formal) and grey trouser. For female principals, maroon saree and maroon blouse with golden/beige

border or plain maroon suit with golden/beige dupatta. Male principals are required to wear a white shirt (formal) and grey trouser. The order, which was later withdrawn, had specified off-white shirt and a golden/beige lower (salwar or pant) or off-white saree with beige or gold border for females, and for male teachers, it was formal white shirt and navy blue trousers. It was in April this year that the department had announced to introduce a dress code for teachers, making Chandigarh the first city in the country to implement uniform for schoolteachers. The initiative, taken by the Education Department on the advice of UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria, was first introduced at the PM Shri Government Model Senior Secondary School, Dhanas.

Aadhaar Enable Biometric Attendance System at private colleges ?

Commissioner News Service
CHANDIGARH : The Department of High Education (DHE) is planning to ask the private colleges to follow suit. Having implemented the Department of Personnel orders for mandatory Aadhaar Enable Biometric Attendance System at local government college the department is considering compliance of biometrics attendance at private colleges. The Department of Personnel had asked, in February, all departments, boards, corporations under the UT Administration to implement the biometric attendance, and in March the government college authorities began the process. As the new session in local



colleges begins this month, the DHE is now considering asking the private colleges to follow the same attendance system. Several private colleges affiliated with Panjab University are not directly under the DHE, but are relevant to higher education in Chandigarh considering receiving aid and technical guidelines besides following the lines of the University Grants Commission. "The discussions are most likely to start next month with the higher officials in the department (DHE). Our

office may have already written to the private colleges, but the department will be involving the private college managements only after discussing the matter with the higher authorities. Since local colleges partially functions under the banner of DHE, the rule shall be ideally extended to all the educational institutions but we cannot just ignore the UGC guidelines as well. We have to wait till next week," said a highly placed official, requesting anonymity. Meanwhile, the plan has received a mixed response from the heads of the private colleges. Though many appreciated the introduction of the programme, they opted to remain tight-lipped when asked about its implementation in their respective colleges.

The Commissioner

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Free Trade Agreements to boost ties with UK, Maldives : PM

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : After the severe strain with Maldives, the PM's visit to country would be phenomenal as it comes refreshing after the sour relations and President Mohamed Muizzu came to power in November 2023. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will pay a four-day visit to the United Kingdom and the Maldives from July 23 in a high-stakes diplomatic tour focused on improving bilateral ties and signing the landmark Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Britain. In the first leg of the trip, the PM will visit the UK from July 23 to July 24, where he will sign the FTA. The agreement is poised to impact 99 per cent of Indian exports to the UK by reducing tariffs, thereby facilitating British exports such as whisky and cars to India. This will be PM Modi's fourth visit to the UK. "PM Modi will hold bilateral



discussions with his UK counterpart, Keir Starmer. Besides, he is also expected to call on King Charles III," said the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in a statement. "The two sides will also review the progress of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with a specific focus on trade and economy, technology and innovation, defence and security, climate, health, education and people-to-people ties," the MEA said. From the UK, the PM will fly to the Maldives on July 25. It will be his first visit to the island nation since Muizzu came to power. The visit is seen as a critical

opportunity to address lingering concerns, foster mutual cooperation and reaffirm India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy in the Indian Ocean Region. The focus will be on rebuilding trust and establishing a more robust partnership, crucial for regional stability and India's strategic interests. PM Modi's last bilateral visit to the Maldives was in June 2019. "The PM will undertake a state visit to the Maldives on July 25-26 on the invitation of President Mohamed Muizzu. This will be the PM's third visit to the Maldives and the first visit by a head of state or government to the Maldives during the presidency of Muizzu," the MEA said. The PM will be the 'Guest of Honour' at the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the Independence of Maldives, the readout said.

Khojkipur found to be carrying severe pollutants : HPPCB

Commissioner News Service
PANIPAT : The drain covers approximately 40-km stretch in Panipat district and 10 km in Karnal. In Panipat, drain-1 and drain-2, considered to be the major cause behind the Yamuna pollution, flow through the city and rural areas. To reduce the pollution load in Yamuna, the Irrigation Department would treat the water flow at three places -- Kachroli, Kurar and Khojkipur -- before it meets the river. The department has constructed a storage reservoir-cum-match box treatment structure at drain number 2 near Kurar village to treat the water. The process to construct two more structures is underway. The 8-km-long drain-1 flows from Kabri road to Chautala road and after that it meets drain-2, which meets the Yamuna at Khojkipur village. Scores of industrial units, bleaching and dyeing units along drain-2 discharge untreated effluent directly into it. As per the sources, the samples collected by the HSPCB from Khojkipur failed multiple laboratory tests and also revealed severe pollution levels. The biological oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD), the total dissolved solids (TDS), oil and grease were found more than permissible limits. Now, to reduce the pollution load in Yamuna, the Irrigation Department has decided to treat the water of drain-2 in stretches before it meets with Yamuna. Suresh Saini, XEN, Irrigation Department said approximately 80 cusec water, which is badly polluted, flows on an average during the non-rainy season. During the rainy season, the heavy water flows from it due to which the pollution is diluted and the drain gets cleaned, he further said. Now, it has been decided to treat the drain water by making three MBT structures at Kachroli, Kurar and Khojkipur. The structure at Kurar has been constructed at Rs 10 crore, he said. As per the project, the water would be stored in the drain for around 15 days at Kachroli, Kurar and Khojkipur. A total 98 hectare metre water would be stored in the 12 km area at



Kachroli for around 5-6 days. Around 112 hectare metre water would be stored in around 13.5-km area at Kurar and after that around 125 hectare water would be stored at Khojkipur MBT structure in 14.50-km stretch, he said. During the storage at three steps, water would be treated and its BOD and COD level would be reduced with aerator and other equipment, he added. According to the project, approximately 335 hectare metre water would be stored at three places, which would not only increase the ground water level, but also make micro-irrigation in 10,000 acres possible, he said. Recently, Rajesh Khullar, Chief Principal Secretary to Chief Minister visited Kurar village to inquire about the MBT structure and also directed for sampling of the water after storage and after releasing of the water. DC Virender Kumar Dahiya said the tender process for the Kachroli project has begun while the department has prepared estimates for the Khojkipur project. These projects would help farmers in irrigation and fisheries, the groundwater would be recharged and the clean water would be discharged into Yamuna, which would also help in reducing the pollution load, the Deputy Commissioner maintained.

Installation of CCTV cameras with real-time recording must, authority mandates schools

Commissioner News Service
NEW DELHI : The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has amended affiliation norms to mandate schools to install CCTV cameras with real-time audio-visual recording at all places other than toilets, disclosed an official on Monday. "Safety of students is one of the paramount accountability of a school and ensure that the students get a safe and cohesive eco-system in the school. The safety has two aspects- (a) safety from scrupulous unsocietal elements (b) safety for the overall well-being of the children with reference to bullying and other implicit threats. "All of such probabilities can be prevented with a vigilant and sensitive staff and with the usage of the latest technology," CBSE Secretary Himanshu Gupta said. To ensure the safety of students in the school premises, the board has made an amendment in Chapter 4 (Physical Infrastructure) of Affiliation Bye Laws-2018 by incorporating a clause about CCTV installation. "The school should install high resolution CCTV cameras with audio visual facility at all the entry and exit points of the school, lobbies, corridors, staircases, all the classrooms, labs, library, canteen area, store room, playground and other common



areas except toilets and washrooms with real time audiovisual recording. "These CCTV cameras must be equipped with a storage device with the capacity of holding footage of at least 15 days. It shall be ensured that a backup of a minimum 15 days be preserved, which may be accessed by the authorities, if required," Gupta added. As per the Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools, NCPCR, "School Safety" has been defined as creating a safe environment for children, starting from their homes to their schools and back. "This includes safety from any kind of abuse, violence, psycho-social issue, disaster: natural and manmade, fire, transportation. Emotional safety is especially important because it is often difficult for teachers and parents to detect emotional problems and difficulties in children. "Bullying can cause victimized students to suffer from lower self-esteem and daily stress about their well-being," Gupta said.

Gurugram holistically aims zero emission by 2050

Commissioner News Service
GURUGRAM : As Gurugram features among the top polluted cities in the country, the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) has drawn a holistic plan to reduce emissions in the city. The authority has drafted a 'net zero 2050' document, contouring the goals for urban policy-making to make Gurugram a zero emission city. Net-zero refers to the point at which a specific area or city is able to remove from the atmosphere all green house gases (GHGs) it is emitting. Effectively, it ensures that no additional carbon or other GHGs are being added into the atmosphere.



The document elaborates on the way forward to implement sustainable development strategies like construction of green buildings, setting up of centralised cooling plants in housing societies, adoption of cleaner technologies and increasing the share of electric vehicles over the next 25 years. The plan deals in four major arenas — energy, waste, transport and greenery.

Mamata alarms against BJP's 'linguistic terrorism' before assembly poll 2026

Commissioner News Service
KOLKATA : "If this linguistic profiling doesn't stop, our resistance movement will reach New Delhi. If needed, there will be a second language movement against the BJP's terrorism on the Bengali language... From July 27, a movement will start in Bengal in protest against the attack on Bengalis, Bengali language and 'Bhasha santras' (linguistic terrorism)," Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee roared against the BJP supremacy. Sharpening her 'Bengali asmita' pitch ahead of the 2026 polls, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday accused the BJP of unleashing "linguistic terrorism" on Bengalis, asserting that the fight for identity and language will continue until the saffron party is defeated.



Addressing a massive Martyrs' Day rally in Kolkata, Banerjee gave a clarion call to defeat the BJP in the Assembly elections and eventually oust it from power at the Centre, declaring. The first Language Movement was in 1952 in erstwhile East Bengal (now Bangladesh), where people demanded that Bengali be made one of the official languages of Pakistan. The United Nations had announced February 21 as International Mother Language Day to honour the Bengali Language

Movement. "We must win more seats in the 2026 Assembly polls and then march to Delhi to defeat the BJP," she said. Banerjee gave her party workers the slogan "Zobdo hobe, stobdho hobe. Amader darshon, tomader bisorjon," (They will be seized, they will be silenced. Our ideology, your downfall), as a rallying cry for the 2026 Assembly elections. "The BJP wants to erase our identity, language, culture and pride. But, I promise you, till the time we oust them from the Centre, our fight will continue," she said. Accusing the BJP of harassing Bengalis in states ruled by it, Banerjee alleged attempts to erase the identity of the community — from NRC notices to exclusion of names from voter lists and even detention camps.

Punjab govt advances procurement of paddy date, to start from Sept 15

Commissioner News Service
SANGRUR : The paddy procurement process used to start every year from October 1. The moisture level in the crop spikes in October due to colder nights and morning hours. Bhagwant Mann made the announcement after inaugurating a public library in Dhuri. The Chief Minister on Sunday said government agencies would start procuring paddy two weeks in advance from September 15 to prevent damage to crop due to high moisture level.



Earlier, the state government had allowed the transplantation of paddy from June 1 instead of June 15. "Due to this, the crop will start arriving in grain markets 15 days in advance," he said. Mann said earlier farmers faced harassment during the procurement process due to high moisture levels.

"At that time, blackmailing of farmers also starts in grain markets," he said. The CM also said he recently met Union Food and Public Distribution Minister Pralhad Joshi, asking him to increase the commission of the arhtiyas (commission agents). He said the Union Minister had given assurance to him in this regard. "If needed, the government would lead a delegation of arhtiyas to meet the Union Minister in Delhi," he added.

The advertisement features a collection of Patanjali personal care products. In the foreground, there are several bottles of Kesh Kanti hair care products, including Reetha, Shikakai, Anti-Dandruff, and Coconut Hair Wash. Next to them are bottles of Dant Kanti toothpaste and Divya Dant Manjan mouthwash. The background is a soft-focus image of more Patanjali products, including boxes of Kesh Kanti hair care and Dant Kanti toothpaste. 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 organic ingredients.

Captain might have cut fuel supply, suggests voice recording : Air India crash

Commissioner News Service
New Delhi: A voice recording from the cockpit of the Air India aircraft that crashed on June 12 suggests it was the captain who cut off the fuel supply to the engines, according to a report by Reuters. The claim, based on information from US officials involved in the probe, adds a new dimension to the ongoing investigation. Preliminary findings Although the findings are not part of any formal documentation, the US assessment has emphasised the probable cause of the crash of flight AI171, which killed more than 260 people. The incident is still under investigation. Inside the cockpit According to the report, the first officer was in control of the Boeing 787 during take-off when he questioned the captain over moving the fuel switches from 'RUN' to



'CUTOFF'—a condition that stops fuel flow, starving the engines. The officer also reportedly urged the captain to immediately restore the supply. A preliminary report released by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) on July 12 confirmed that one pilot had asked the other why the fuel was cut off. The response was a denial. The report did not specify which pilot made which statement. The two pilots were Captain Sumeet Sabharwal and First Officer Clive Kunder, who

had logged 15,638 and 3,403 total flying hours, respectively. While there is no video footage from inside the cockpit to verify which pilot moved the switches, the US analysis, supported by other investigative leads, suggests the captain may have done so. The AAIB's initial findings revealed that fuel switches on both engines were toggled from "RUN" to "CUTOFF" seconds after take-off, though the reason remains unclear. Closed-circuit TV footage from the airport showed the deployment of the ram air turbine—a backup power source—indicating a loss of engine thrust. The London-bound aircraft climbed to 650 feet before beginning to lose altitude. The switches were later returned to "RUN" mode, triggering an automatic restart attempt.

Commissioner News Service
Jalandhar : Under the Prevention of money laundering act (PMLA) for a t t a c h i n g i m m o v a b l e properties worth 7.31 cror in Ludhiana and Mohali , a provisional order hass been issued by zonal office Jalandhar. The illegal call centre was being managed by Ankush Bassi, Piyush Malik and Gurmeet Singh Gandhi Based on an FIR, by the Punjab Police

under different sections of Indian panel code, the E n f o r c e m e n t Directorate initiated investigation. They were accused of committing fraud with foreign nationals by i m p e r s o n a t i n g customer support representatives and manipulating them into buying gift cards and virtual digital assets.' Through crypto exchange ,the gift cards and digital assets were later encashed in India b6 the accused.

All 12 accused in train blast freed, verdict would be challenged : Fadnavis

Mumbai : The lower court passed a verdict in 2006 after the blasts, ATS apprehended the accused with evidence and had presented before the court. The high court acquitted all convicts , we will certainly file challenge into the Supreme court. "We all are shocked and



pained by the verdict. I have spoken to CM Fadnavis who has assured govt will seek help of top legal experts" said BJP's Kirti Somlaya who had been advocating survivors.

The lower court had awarded the death sentence . I am convinced that Apex Court would do the justice for the blast survivors.

India's population reaches crossroads, no crisis : NGO

Commissioner News Service
Population Foundation of India, has urged a shift away from fear-driven debates on overpopulation or fertility decline, calling instead for policies that centre on dignity, rights, and opportunities, particularly for women, youth, and elderly. The NGO, in a statement on World Population Day 2025 on Friday (July 11, 2025), asserted that India's population challenges are not about numbers but about justice, equity, and investment in human potential. "We must stop oscillating between fears of 'overpopulation' and 'population collapse,' and instead focus on what really matters, gender equality, reproductive autonomy, and inclusive public investment," she added. The foundation's statement



the occasion. The NGO asserted that India's population challenges are not about numbers but about justice, equity, and investment in human potential. "We must stop oscillating between fears of 'overpopulation' and 'population collapse,' and instead focus on what really matters, gender equality, reproductive autonomy, and inclusive public investment," she added. The foundation's statement

focused on three key areas for policymakers. The first is realising the gender dividend; family planning must move beyond female sterilisation to a range of contraceptives, with both men and women sharing responsibility. "We need men to be part of the solution as active participants, not merely as supporters. It's men's onus to ensure women's safety at home as well as at the workplace," Ms. Muttreja said.

India, China plan to disengage troops in Depsang, Demchowk

Commissioner News Service
Beijing : Jaishankar met Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing and said he apprised him about the recent development of the India-China relationship. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday met Chinese President Xi Jinping during his first visit to China since ties between India and China soured in 2020 Sharing a picture from the meeting, Jaishankar wrote on X that he spoke to Jinping about the development of India-China bilateral ties and also conveyed greetings of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to him. "Apprised President Xi of the recent development of our bilateral ties. Value the guidance of our leaders in that regard," a part of Jaishankar's tweet read. The external affairs minister was accompanied



by his counterpart. Ties between India and China began to significantly improve last year in October, following a meeting between PM Modi and President Jinping on the sidelines of a summit in Kazan in October 2024. "I am confident that my discussions in this visit will maintain that positive trajectory," said Jaishankar. After the crucial meeting in Kazan, India and China had announced plans to disengage troops in Depsang and Demchok, the two fashpoints in Ladakh where the Indian and Chinese armies clashed since 2020.

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In regime of father Bhupesh Baghel, Rs 2100 Cr liquor scam son now arrested

Commissioner News Service
Raipur (Chhattisgarh) : Mr Chaitanya Baghel son of former CM Chhattisgarh was arrested from his residence in Bhilai by Enforcement Directorate in connection with alleged Rs 2100 Cr liquor scam. At a special PMLA court in Raipur, Chaitanya was presented, later was sent to ED



custody for 5 days. Mr Chaitnaya didn't cooperate during the searches. The father son duo at present are staying in the same house. The congress party alleged that the move envisaged to suppress probable discussion on deforestation in Tamnar region of Raigarh district linked to a particular industrialist.

Defend regional security against rising threat of terrorism -- China

Beijing : China firmly opposes all forms of terrorism and strongly condemns the terrorism attack which occurred on April 22 this year. China called on regional countries to enhance counter terrorism cooperation to safeguard regional security on Friday in a guarded reaction to the US designating "The Resistance Front," a proxy of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT), as a foreign terrorist organisation for its involvement in the Pahalgal terror attack. Lin Jian spokesperson from foreign ministry disclosed when asked about the US State Department's statement designating TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation. In a statement, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio earlier said the Department of State is designating the TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). The US designation of TRF was expected to have its echo in the UN Security Council, especially the 1267 Committee of the UNSC, an important counter terrorism mechanism that designates terrorists and their organisations. Several Pakistani terrorist groups and individuals are listed under the UN Security Council's



1267 sanctions regime, which imposes asset freezes, travel bans, and arms embargoes. These include LeT, Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), and Jamaat-ul-Dawa (JuD), along with key figures like Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar. After the Pahalgal attack, the UNSC issued a strong statement on April 25 condemning the attack, but references to TRF and LeT were reportedly dropped from the statement following objections from Pakistan and China. Highlighting the importance of the US designation of TRF as a terrorist group, Pakistan's daily Dawn said in its report that Thursday's statement from the State Department seemed to echo India's viewpoint, which has claimed that the little-known newly-formed group was actually a "front and proxy" of the banned LeT. Twenty-six people were killed in the April 22 attack in Pahalgal, Jammu and Kashmir.

5 Jets of which country during Indo Pak conflict were downed ?

New Delhi : Our country has right to know : Modi govt faces questions again after Donald Trump says five jets down The Narendra Modi government found itself in a corner on Saturday once again over losses during the post Operation Sindoor skirmish with Pakistan after US President Donald Trump said that five fighter jets had been downed in the four days. "Modi ji, what is the truth about the 5 jets? The country has the right to know!" Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi wrote on social media on Saturday afternoon. The Congress said Prime Minister Modi should now himself make a clear and categorical statement in Parliament on Trump's claims over the last 70 days. "We stopped a lot of wars," Trump said. "And these were serious, India and Pakistan, that was going on. Planes were being shot down in the air. I think five jets were shot down, actually. India and Pakistan, he said, "were going at it, and they were back and forth, and it was getting bigger and bigger, and we got it solved through trade. We said, you guys want to make a trade deal. We're not making a trade deal if



you're going to be throwing around weapons, and maybe nuclear weapons, both very powerful nuclear states." Congress MP Manickam Tagore questioned what was stopping the government from "issuing clarifications" over the matter and whether it is "afraid of telling the truth" on how cessation of hostilities took place between India and Pakistan. Trump did not specify the break-up of the five jets downed – of how many were Indian or Pakistani. But Trinamool MP Mahua Moitra asserted that India had lost at least one Rafale. First, it was Chief of Defence Staff Anil. Then, India's defence attaché in Jakarta Captain Shiv Kumar said in June that India lost some aircraft because the military had been told not to hit Pakistan's air defences. "After the loss, we changed our tactics and we went for their military installations," Captain Kumar said.

Manish Tewari, MP participates in RWA coordination parley



Commissioner News Service
Chandigarh : A joint meeting was organized by the RWA Coordination Committee of Ward No. 23 (Sectors 34, 35, and 43) at the Community Centre in Sector 43, where Chandigarh MP Manish Tewari was invited as the chief guest, and Area Councillor Premlata attended as the guest of honor. Citizens of the ward passionately participated and shared their concerns with the MP. Rajesh Rai, President of Sector 43B, welcomed the chief guest. The MP honored senior citizens of the ward with mementos. Issues were raised by Ashok Parashar, Vikram Chopra, and Lokesh Chopra from Sector 43, R.S. Dhillon from Sector

34 RWA, and Amarjit Singh Sibia from Sector 35. The RWA also demanded 60 CCTV cameras and 50 convex mirrors for the ward from the MP. The event witnessed participation from Senior Deputy Mayor Jasbir Bunty, Deputy Mayor Tarun Mehta, Councillor Hardeep Singh, Aam Aadmi Party President Vijay Pal Singh, former Councillor Chandramukhi, C R A W F O R D Chairman Hitesh Puri, FOSWAC Chairman Brijendra Singh Bittu, Naresh Salwan, Jaswinder

Singh, Narendra Chaudhary, and hundreds of notable citizens, including a significant number of women and senior citizens. In his address, MP Manish Tewari assured that he would continue raising Chandigarh's issues actively in Parliament. Criticizing the rising electricity bills and fixed charges, he questioned how the company could increase charges without adding new infrastructure or expanding existing facilities. He promised to raise these points effectively in the JERC meeting on July 25. Prem Lata, Area Councillor thanked MP Manish Tewari, other dignitaries, ward residents, and all RWAs for the successful organization of the meeting.

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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

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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

Punjab Roadways : 0172-2704023
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