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# The Commissioner

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## Astronaut Subhanshu Shukla becomes symbol of courage, dedication and commitment to science --Yogi Adityanath

Commissioner News Service  
Delhi/Luknow : On the eve of successful return to earth of Subhanshu Shukla, after completing the Axiom -4 mission, multiple leaders felicitated the astronaut. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath led the tribute on X which is scintillating and glorious. Welcome back to earth ! Every Indian, especially the people of Uttar Pradesh is proud. Ms Maya Wati Bahujan Samaj Party said " The new of India' s astronaut Shukla returning safely after conducting several study in space is not only encouraging for youth but also moral boosting of India and all

space scientists and institutions behind this adventurous success. The four-member Axiom -4 mission had lifted off on June 25 and reached the ISS the very next day. They were supposed to stay for 14 days, the mission was extended by nearly three days due to unfavourable weather.

Our journey has been an incredible one and far beyond what I had imagined since I arrived at the ISS. I take back fond memories and learnings from the ISS. I believe that the science experiments we performed at the ISS will have bigger implications beyond the science

itself." He also lauded the joint efforts taken by all crew members at the ISS to help the Axiom 4 mission exclaimed Mr Shukla. "The one thing I take back is what humanity can achieve and is capable of doing when we work with a common goal," he said. "See you soon on Earth," signed off the astronaut Mr Shukla. After undocking the spacecraft, astronauts will undergo a rehabilitation program of about seven days under supervision of Flight Surgeons to acclimatize to Earth's gravity.

## Award for visually challenged in chess championship by Director sports UT

Commissioner News Service  
Chandigarh : National Association for the Blind (NAB) with All-India Chess Federation for the Blind (AICFB), Department of Sports, U.T. Chandigarh, and Federal Bank Limited hosted this Championship which was a testament to the

determination and talent of the visually challenged athletes. Somendra, the favourite and top seed became the Champion true to his ranking and Satya Prakash Shrivastava won the Silver. During the closing ceremony, Shri Sorabh

Arora, Director, Sports, Chandigarh, praised the participants and organizers for their dedication and commitment to promoting inclusive sports. He reiterated the Chandigarh Administration's pledge to continue supporting specially abled athletes and hosting

national and international-level championships. Shri Vinod Chadha, Honorary President of NAB, expressed gratitude to Shri Arora, Sports dept and Federal Bank for their invaluable support in making the championship a success.

## Heavy rains hit poultry farming, bird sheds collapsed

Commissioner News Service  
Lalru ( Jaul Kalan ) Due to heavy incessant rains this week , poultry farming suffered considerable loss ,as over 22, 000 poultry birds died very painfully at Viren Poultries,

Parveen Garg, President Poultry Association, Lalru zone. Besides many other, rain washed away precious birds , due to accumulation of water that is beyond

bemoaned description . Poultries loss may be seen to realise as enumerated in the pictures. The loss can never be easily made up, said the other victim of water flooding, on the condition of anonymity.

## Tehsildar accused of meting out maltreatment to woman clerk

Commissioner News Service  
Zirakpur : Against the maltreatment administered to women class, one victim Sapna Gandhi filed her personal grievance on 11th July , Friday , with the Chairperson Punjab State Women Commission based at Mohali . The deed typist , dealing clerk, had gone with her party seeking their document registered at the end of Tehsildar office . On the turn of their registry , the tehsildar got infuriated when she narrated the details and je got up from his chair and uttered unethical, undesired language against the status of women .The dealing clerk alleged that if any plausible shortcoming was there , that could have been mentioned on the registry document and returned to her for onward compliance, but that was not honoured, As per existing protocol, defi-

ciencies must be marked on the document and returned for further rectification and necessary action of the higher authorities . The Commissioner News Service, while cross checking , Mr Sumeet Dhillon , the tehsildar on duty declined her version and said that he advised the typist to wait for her turn but she wanted her party work done on top precedence. Her registry work , however , was done as per the existing regulations

## Retribution follows for past claims -- Laadi, Babbar Khalsa

Commissioner News Service  
New Delhi : In view of firing at Kapil Sharma ' cafe in Surrey, Harjeet Sigh Laadi claimed responsibility of Babbar Khalsa , a terror group, The firing was in response to "backing Modi 's Hindutva ideology while investing in Canada." The country Canada is not your playground.

Take your blood -money back to India. Canada will not allow violent Hindutva ideology to

take root in Canadian soil under the guise of business.

## Dont slander Air India crash crew sparks Indian pilot Asso

New Delhi: An association of Indian pilots has defended the crew of the Air India Flight 171 which crashed in June, killing 260 people. The crew "acted in line with their training and responsibilities under challenging conditions and the pilots shouldn't be vilified based on conjecture" said Indian Commercial Pilots Association. A preliminary report did not blame the pilots. It said seconds

after take-off, both of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner's fuel-control switches moved to the "cut-off" position, starving the engines of fuel. The report released on Saturday gave details of the cockpit voice recording with one pilot asking the other why he "did the

cut-off", to which the other replies that he didn't. The recording doesn't clarify who said what. Data shows the switches were then moved to "run" position, but the plane crashed within seconds. Describing the pilots and crew in India as the "backbone of this civil aviation", he said India had "the most wonderful workforce in terms of pilots and the crew in the whole world".

## 8 for maldehyde plants violate pollution air, water pollution act sans environmental clearance

Commissione News Service  
Yamunanagar: Since 8 different units located in Yamunanagar, Jathlana, Jagadhari, Chhachhrauli Radaur and other places have been transgressing air (prevention and control of pollution) act 1981 , and water (prevention and control of pollution act 1974 , closure notice besides environmental compensation have been served by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board. These formaldehyde environmental defaulting plants have been designated as cancer catalysts by deputy civil

surgeon. Formaldehyde is a catastrophic chemical used in the production of resin, that helps binds together plywood layers, which remains mandatory sans any other substitute said Sudhir Mohan Executive Regional, Officer of Haryana State Pollution Control Board.

## 2500 cases of illegal liquor confiscated

Commissioner News Service  
Chandigarh (Dariya): From an illegal warehouse in Daria, 2500 cases of liquor were seized on Saturday. The UT excise department captured 2,500 cases of illicit liquor from an unauthorised warehouse in Daria village during a raid . The raid was conducted following a tip-off by scrupulous persons. During the operation, the department discovered multiple cartons of liquor brands stored illegally, which they suspect was to be supplied to cities

outside Chandigarh. The entire stock was confiscated, and the premises were sealed immediately. During the operation, the department discovered multiple cartons of liquor brands stored illegally. The entire stock was confiscated, and the premises were sealed.

## Permanent Cure of Piles

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Chandigarh : Enforcement Directorate seized 30 passports from illegal possession of an unauthorised immigration agent involving in facilitating wrong migrations through the donkey route. Agents had conducted cash and hawala transactions worth several

crores by duping prospective clients, said an official of ED squad. cracking over perpetrators taking donkey routes for foreign

territory. Various incriminating documents, records and digital devices were recovered . Second leg persons / human traffickers were used to arrange illegal route resources outside of India in connivance with donkers, said ED following the searches.







EDITORIAL ~

Aadhar card, Pan card  
are adequately  
proven document

A large proportion of the electorate does not possess any of the 11 documents, election commission has asked them to produce. And, a significant chunk of them are from the marginalised groups. Some of the commonly issued documents have been inexplicably left out, including EPIC. This betrays as erudite observers have pointed out, a clear social bias. A m b i g u o u s communication on the issue is further wreaking havoc in the everyday lives of ordinary people, pushing them to navigate a bureaucratic dystopia. Officials are asking them to prove their citizenship in a very specific and narrow manner in a context where the state has not issued any c i t i z e n s h i p document. They have already proven they exist the (Aadhaar, PDS and M N R E G A authentications), they are known (a range of KYC initiatives without which you cannot get a phone or even send a rupee from here to there these days) and they are voters (who voted in a government of their choice just a year ago). But none of it matters to official institution. It is a deep sense of constitutional duty and historical reflection and must

to know as to how we laid the foundations of a great experiment in democratic self-rule: A Republic where every adult, regardless of social or economic standing, would enjoy the equal right to vote. During, the first General Elections in 1951-52, the Republic was still nascent, scarred by the Partition, burdened by illiteracy and unfamiliar with the idea of universal adult franchise. Yet, the Indian people reposed an unshakable faith in the electoral process because they believed that the i n s t i t u t i o n conducting it would act with fairness, firmness and full independence from the executive. Our faith must not be shaken because recent reports emerging from Bihar regarding the ongoing intensive revision of electoral rolls are deeply troubling. Allegations suggest that the process is disproportionately affecting the poor, the landless and the s o c i a l l y marginalised, precisely those for whom the right to vote has often been the only real instrument of empowerment. The ongoing revision exercise appears to be both exclusionary and disempowering. To

even attempt to do something so monumental and so far-reaching this at such short notice and in such a short time frame is a recipe for disaster. The institution is doing this in a state with high out-migration rates and a geography disrupted by floods. So, there are the obvious logistical challenges that seem to have not been taken into account. The other issue is of propriety. The institution the commissioned is heading has been facing a range of accusations, which, according to multiple stakeholders, citizens of conscience and critics, have not b e e n comprehensively and credibly responded to. Instead, they accuse the subjective element being economical with i n f o r m a t i o n disclosures, unyielding in, discussions and dialogue and , most woefully, belligerent in your public outreach. All of this reeks of bad faith. It has become somewhat of a moralistic stunt these days to throw the rulebook at your detractors. There is nothing that should stop us, those in public service, from going above and beyond to earn people’s trust in our institution integrity.

Administrator approves giving free books  
till Class XII from next session

CHANDIGARH : The UT Administration has decided to provide free textbooks to all students from Class I to XII of government schools from next academic session. Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria has given approval to the proposal. Earlier, the benefit was limited up to Class VIII. The initiative is aimed at supporting students from economically weaker sections and reducing the dropout rate in higher classes. At present, around 1.5 lakh students are enrolled in 112 government schools across the city. With the Administration focusing on boosting education infrastructure, many parents have opted to shift their children from private to government schools, particularly in Class XI and XII. “Extending free textbooks till Class XII will ensure that no child is deprived of learning due to financial constraints,” said a senior official. This administrative step comes alongside other



measures to boost education in the city such as solar-powered buildings to cut down on school bills and campaigns against drug abuse among schoolchildren. UT Administrator Kataria, who is a former educator, is closely monitoring the ongoing changes in the government schools here. In another significant step, the Administration has decided to prepare government school students for the competitive examinations from next session. Under the proposed initiative, students scoring 85 per cent or above in Class XII will be eligible for free coaching and guidance for the civil services examinations. Recognising that many meritorious students are unable to afford costly coaching after school, the Administration has begun

drafting a plan to ensure that talent is not hindered by financial constraints. Kataria has directed officials to design a framework for this initiative, which will include mentorship, study material and possibly partnerships with reputed institutes providing coaching for the UPSC exams. “This effort is not just about academic support but also opening pathways for the underprivileged youth to dream bigger and achieve leadership roles in society,” stated the official. Recently, the UT Administrator felicitated 16 students — children of group B, C and D employees of the Raj Bhawan — for their exemplary performance in the Class X and XII board examinations. The Governor also felicitated aspiring NEET/JEE students who were enrolled in professional courses (post Class XII) and postgraduates preparing for competitive exams and gave them cash awards.

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 capial  
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 Punjabi (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.

100 CTU diesel buses on expiry of  
operational lifespan to go off  
tricity roads in November

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : After reaching their operational lifespan, the buses will no longer be roadworthy and have to be removed from the local routes, said officials of the UT Transport Department. Commuters in the tricity would have to face inconvenience as nearly 100 diesel buses of the Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU) operating on local routes will be condemned in November this year. These 100 aging diesel buses, currently operating from Depot No. 4, are to be replaced by electric buses. The existing fleet, which includes non-AC green and AC red automatic diesel buses, was allotted to the city under a special scheme during the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. The department had submitted a proposal to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for the procurement of environment-friendly buses under the Central government’s PM e-Bus Sewa scheme so that the Administration can process the tender at its level and buy 100 electric buses as replacement of diesel buses. However, the proposal is yet



to be approved. Officials stated that it was now certain that even if the approval was received, there would be a shortage of buses on the local route by the end of this year, as it would take at least two to three months to finalise the tender process and select the company. Even if the process was completed by August or September, the selected company would not be able to deliver 100 buses till November, they added. The shortage of buses would affect routes of Chandigarh as well as Mohali and Panchkula as only CTU buses run for public transportation in the tricity. Officials said buses could be diverted from the long routes to the local routes, but it would affect the long routes, from which the CTU gets more revenue. About 350 buses of CTU run on local routes while about 230 run on long routes.

NV distillery challenges  
exorbitant duties in  
High Court

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : The demand of excise duty was based on an arbitrary invocation of Order 1-AAA of the Punjab Excise Fiscal Orders, 1932, and Rule 37 of the Liquor Licence Rules, which, were not applicable to distilleries and ran contrary to the Punjab Distillery Rules, Senior Advocate Mohan Jain argued for the NV Distillery before the division bench of Justice Lisa Gill and Justice Sudeepti Sharma. The Punjab and Haryana High Court has issued notice of motion to Punjab on a petition filed by Rajpura-based NV Distilleries Pvt Ltd, challenging the jurisdiction and legality of a demand for excise duty running into several crores imposed on 22,936 cases of Indian made foreign liquor (IMFL) allegedly found unaccounted during an inspection in 2020. Jain relied on Rule 122-D of the Punjab Distillery Rules,



1932, to contend that a distillery is permitted to manufacture up to 10% of its previous year’s production or up to 10,000 cases, whichever is higher, in anticipation of permit approval. Given that NV Distilleries had manufactured 10,97,565 cases in 2019-2020, it was entitled to manufacture 1,09,756 cases in advance, a figure far exceeding the 22,936 cases at issue. Jain further contended that the authorities compelled the distillery to pay an additional 10% duty as directed by the Excise and Taxation Commissioner and another 15% duty imposed by the Additional Chief Secretary-cum-Financial Commissioner, Taxation.

Such demands, he argued, were in violation of Rule 122-D and amounted to coercion since the distillery was threatened with suspension of its licence, a position, he said, was contrary to settled Supreme Court law. He submitted that the 22,936 cases of IMFL remain sealed on the distillery premises since 2020-2021 and sought the court’s permission to sell the seized stock with an undertaking to pay the requisite excise duty upon sale. Jain also highlighted the operational scale of NV Distilleries, which produces nearly 20 alcoholic beverages, some exported to markets like the USA and UAE, and pointed to financial losses, stock depreciation, and hardship faced by over 500 families employed at the facility due to its partial sealing since 2020. The matter is listed for further hearing on August 27.

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.

State-of-the-art trauma centre set  
to open in August at GMCH-32

Commissioner News Service CHANDIGARH : The state-of-the-art facility, with a capacity of 259 beds, is expected to bolster the city’s burdened emergency services. The Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 32, has finalised scheduled for opening its newly built trauma centre this August. According to GMCH Medical Superintendent Dr GP Thami, while construction has been completed, the installation of medical equipment is still underway. He said a proposal to hold the trauma centre’s inauguration on the same day as the institute’s 11th convocation has been submitted to the UT Administration. The name of the chief guest for the event is still under discussion. Originally sanctioned in 2019 with an expected completion timeline of a year and a half, the trauma centre project faced significant delays during the Covid-19 pandemic. The project again gained urgency as the existing emergency block began operating beyond capacity. Authorities are optimistic that the new facility will ease



overcrowding and allow the reallocation of the old emergency space for other departments. With this, the city will also house two dedicated trauma centres — the other being at PGIMER — enhancing the region’s preparedness to handle critical emergencies. The trauma centre is part of GMCH’s larger effort to bolster its emergency healthcare infrastructure. Currently, the hospital operates around 150 emergency and trauma beds combined, which often proves inadequate during peak hours. The existing emergency wing has long been unable to accommodate the growing patient load, leading to situations where patients were

managed on stretchers in crowded corridors. The new wing is expected to significantly improve patient care and response times. The late Dr BS Chavan, the former director of GMCH, had secured funding of Rs 52 crore for the expansion, aiming to separate trauma care from general emergency services. GMCH’s 11th convocation, previously postponed due to regional tensions at the Indo-Pak border, has been rescheduled for August 2. Initially it was supposed to happen on May 2 and Union Health Minister JP Nadra was expected to preside, but Minister of State Anupriya Patel had later been finalised as the guest of honour. Degrees in medicine, nursing, paramedical sciences and allied disciplines will be awarded during the ceremony. In addition to the trauma centre launch, the hospital administration is also exploring options to utilise the vacated space in the main building for expanding the gynaecology department, which is facing persistent bed shortages.

The Commissioner

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Time for amending the constitution  
pleads Nepal opposition leader  
'Prachanda'

Commissioner News Service  
KATHMANDU : The rights of the Nepali people must be further institutionalised. For this, Mr Prachanda opposition leader claimed constitutional amendments are necessary to ensure the inclusion and recognition of those who have historically been neglected. On Monday, Dahal highlighted, while addressing the session of the House of Representatives. Former Nepali Prime Minister and leader of the opposition CPN-Maoist Center Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' offered to rally support for a constitutional amendment if his clauses are met. Dahal stated that if the current coalition government, led by the Nepali Congress and CPN-UML, dares to move forward with constitutional amendments, his party, as the main opposition, is prepared to take responsibility for



securing the required two-thirds majority in Parliament. "The constitution must be revised to guarantee the identity and rights of excluded, oppressed castes, classes, regions, and communities. Dissatisfactions that have remained since the promulgation of the constitution should be addressed--the governance, electoral system, renaming of provinces, territorial issues, decentralised approach, inclusiveness, and social justice. If the government is willing to amend the constitution, I would like to convey to the government: If the government has the

courage, I am ready to take the responsibility of securing the required majority as the leader of the main opposition," Dahal said. He highlighted the need for progressive amendments in areas such as governance structure, electoral system, provincial names and boundaries, fiscal federalism, inclusivity, and social justice. "The functioning of the state should have met the expectations of the people, but it hasn't. The governance system has failed to meet the expectations of the people. Public trust in the system is eroding. A serious review is now essential," Dahal said. Dahal also warned that the government's current behaviour poses a greater threat to republicanism than any monarchist or external force. He further argued that the electoral system, governance style, and structural framework have contributed to growing public dissatisfaction.

Of 655 pharmaceutical units, mere  
122 register for upgrade in Himachal

Commissioner News Service  
SOLAN : Despite manufacturing every third drug in the domestic market, the state's pharmaceutical industry is battling a major crisis. Only 18 per cent units have registered for the revised Schedule M stipulation of the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) norms by May 11. The norm made mandatory by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in December 2023 had been conditionally extended for the small and medium manufacturers having turnover of Rs 250 crores or less, up to December end. Though the industry had sought extension to improve their infrastructure, training of personnel and arranging financial resources, they were required to submit their plan for upgrading their unit before the central licence approving authority by May 11 to convey their seriousness. Once upgraded, it will bring them on a par with the



global World Health Organisation's manufacturing standards. The large manufacturers, having turnover of more than 250 crores have, however, implemented the norm by June 2024. Majority of the firms fall under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) category. One can gauge the dismal scenario from the fact that out of 655 pharmaceutical firms, barely 122 have registered for upgrade, thus putting a question mark on the remaining units. The scenario was equally dismal nationally where among 6,000 micro small and medium

pharmaceutical firms only 1,246 have applied for the extension till mid-June. The revised norms have been enforced to ensure the quality and safety of pharmaceutical products being manufactured in India while strengthening their domestic position. Several cases of global drug recalls and domestic cough syrups causing infant mortality abroad have adversely hit the image of the nation's pharma industry, thus prompting the authorities to introduce stringent norm. Contrary to these mandates, the MSMEs rue that they were unable to arrange the requisite funds amounting to crores to implement the new norms. A manufacturer will have to implement a slew of modifications related to manufacturing premises, plant and equipment, product quality review, pharmaceutical quality system, quality risk management and computerised storage systems.

France to stimulate  
national economy to double  
defence budget by 2027

Commissioner News Service  
Paris (France) : While addressing traditionally French President Emmanuel Macron's to the armed forces on the eve of Bastille Day, amid what he described as a deeply concerning shift in the global security landscape. On Sunday evening, Macron disclosed an acceleration of national defence spending, with the budget set to reach EUR64 billion by 2027 instead of the previously scheduled 2030 target. Macron confirmed that the increased funding would not be financed through borrowing but rather by stimulating the national economy. An additional EUR3.5 billion will be allocated in 2026, followed by EUR3 billion in 2027, nearly doubling France's defence expenditure compared to 2017 levels. He explained that the extra funds would address critical



shortcomings, including ammunition shortages, and support the development of smart and precision weaponry, as well as capabilities in unmanned aerial systems, space defence and electronic warfare. The budget will also support the modernisation of ground-based air defence systems. Macron also announced that he had tasked the Minister of the Armed Forces with initiating a strategic dialogue with European partners on the future role of France's nuclear deterrence, with the outcome to be presented by the end of the year.

Supreme court recommends  
names for Five high courts

Commissioner News Service  
NEW DELHI : In accordance with separate law ministry notifications, Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. He was so far the acting chief justice of that court. As many as a total of five Chief justices were appointed in different high courts said the law ministry, on Monday. Justice Vibhu Bakhru, a judge of the Delhi High Court, has now been elevated as chief justice of the Karnataka High Court, while Justice Ashutosh Kumar, the acting chief justice of the Patna High Court, is now chief justice of



the Gauhati High Court. Similarly, Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi, a judge of the Patna High Court, has been appointed as its chief justice. Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan of the Himachal Pradesh High Court is now the chief justice of the Jharkhand High Court. Their names were recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium on May 26.

Nomination for vacant posts of  
sarpanches, panches to be filed  
until 17 July

Commissioner News Service  
TARN TARAN : District Election Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner Rahul said here on Sunday that the schedule in this regard has been released by the State Election Commission. The DEO-cum-DC said the nomination papers would be filed from July 14 to 17 from 11 am to 3 pm and the scrutiny to be held done on July 18 and the date of withdrawal has been fixed on July 19. The election process is to be completed till July 28. Polling for vacant



posts of sarpanches (nine posts) and panches (99 posts of member panchayats) in the district would be held on July 27 from 8 am to 4 pm and the counting completed the same day. The DEO-cum-DC said the nomination papers and other relevant papers are available on the

website of the State Election Commission and the other details of the vacant posts of sarpanches and panches with reservation, name of the returning officer, the assistant returning officer along with the whole election schedule is available on the website of the district administration.

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.

The advertisement features a collection of Patanjali personal care products. In the foreground, there are several bottles of 'Kesh Kanti' hair oil and 'Dant Kanti' toothpaste. Behind them are boxes of 'Kesh Kanti' hair wash and 'Dant Kanti' toothpaste. The products are arranged in a way that showcases the variety of the brand. The background is a soft, light green with a subtle floral pattern. 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 and Ayurvedic ingredients.



## 125 kg paneer seized , samples sent for lab test

Commissioner news service

Ludhiana : Food safety teams of the local health department shut a soya chaap manufacturing unit in Lohara for allegedly flouting hygiene rules and seized 125 kg of paneer from a dairy in Chet Singh Nagar on Wednesday. The crackdown began in the early morning with a naka (checkpoint) set up on



Hambran Road Singh Nagar, where 125 kg of paneer was seized due to quality concerns. Samples of paneer and ghee were also collected for laboratory examination.

## ‘Organs of Pak actress turned black, insects eating body for long time

Commissioner News Service

Karachi : The body of Pakistani actress and model Humaira Asghar Ali was found nearly a year after her death, lying unnoticed in her upscale Karachi apartment, the initial post-mortem report revealed. The 32-year-old actor's decomposed body was found by a police team last week while executing a court order to vacate the flat, Pak police reported. The post-mortem examination paints a



grim picture. Forensic experts confirm that Humaira's body was in an "advanced stage of decomposition," with key organs reduced to an unidentifiable mass and her facial features completely unrecognisable.

## 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. "India's population story is not a crisis, it's a crossroads," Poonam Muttreja, Executive Director of the Population Foundation of India, said during a function marking



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 on Tuesday, 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.

## Tharoor nurtures strained relations with congress high command

Commissioner News Service

Thiruvananthapuram : The Congress party in Kerala on Thursday (July 10,w 2025) appeared to struggle to stay clear of Thiruvananthapuram MP Shashi Tharoor's controversial article that blamed late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her son, Sanjay Gandhi, for the "unspeakable cruelty", including forced vasectomy and slum demolitions, in New Delhi, during the Emergency. Kerala's Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan sidestepped questions from the journalists whether the Congress deemed Mr. Tharoor's bid to rake up the Emergency's "dark past" was a wilful act of dissidence aimed at putting the party's



national and State leadership on the defensive ahead of the crucial local body polls in 2025 and the Assembly elections in 2026 in Kerala. Responding on the sidelines of the Opposition United Democratic Front (UDF) leadership meeting in Kochi, Mr. Satheesan said: "I read Mr. Tharoor's article and I have an opinion about it, which I reserve for myself. Mr. Tharoor is a member of the Congress

Working Committee. No Congress leader in Kerala will hazard an adverse comment about Mr. Tharoor. If at all, if any party worker has a difference of opinion, the person can approach the All India Congress Committee (AICC), which is the sole arbitrator on matters concerning Recently, Mr. Tharoor had spelled trouble for the Congress by amplifying on social media a survey by a Mumbai-based organisation, which placed Mr. Tharoor as the most-preferred Chief Ministerial candidate in Kerala, far outpacing other Congress and Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] contenders, including Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and K.K. Shairla

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