



## BJP, CONG CANDIDATES BANK ON PARTY MANIFESTOS

BJP, Cong candidates for P'kula seat seek votes on party manifestos, AAP face focuses on civic issues. **P2>>**



## CLOSED SINCE 2018, KALKA SCHOOL IN A SHAMBLES

Lack of a management committee, internal politics leave age-old girls school in Kalka in a shambles. **P2>>**



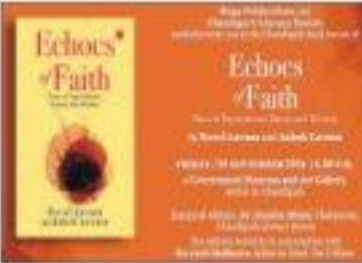
## ON NATIONAL CINEMA DAY, TICKETS TO COST ONLY ₹99

On National Cinema Day, tickets in theatres will be available for ₹99. Let's see what's playing in Chandigarh. **P4>>**

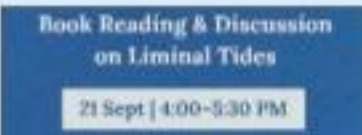


### WHAT'S ON

#### CHANDIGARH



**Book launch:** Chandigarh Literary Society to organise the launch of 'Echoes of Faith; Tales of Explorations, Nature and Divinity', by Novel Lavasa and Ashok Lavasa; Government Museum and Art Gallery, Sector 10; 6 pm



**Book Reading & Discussion on Liminal Tides**  
21 Sept | 4:00-5:30 PM  
The Project: 500-511, Sector 17-C, Chandigarh

**Book reading:** Liminal Tides by Soumitra Banerji; The Browser, Sector 8-C; September 21, 4 pm onwards

#### APNI MANDI

Chandigarh: Sectors 24 and 46

Mohali: Kumbhara

Panchkula: Sector 20

Please send information about events in tricity at: [whatson@tribunemail.com](mailto:whatson@tribunemail.com)

### IN BRIEF

#### YOUTH HELD FOR RAPING MINOR

**Zirakpur:** A youth was arrested for allegedly raping an 11-year-old girl. The suspect was identified as Sahil, 19, of Peer Muchhala. In a complaint to the police, the victim's father stated that his daughter had gone to school but did not return home on time. When he enquired about her, he came to know that Saahil, an employee at a coffee shop, had taken her away. The police said the suspect had come in contact with the girl through social media. **TNS**

#### CITY YOUTH HELD WITH HEROIN

**Chandigarh:** The UT police have arrested a 20-year-old youth carrying 21.78 gm heroin. The police said the suspect, Harsh, alias Chand, of Sector 52, was arrested from the ISBT in Sector 43. **TNS**

# Heritage panel allows verandah outside Chief Justice courtroom

DUSHYANT SINGH PUNDIR  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19

In a significant development, the Chandigarh Heritage Conservation Committee (CHCC) has granted approval for the construction of a verandah in front of court number 1 at the Punjab and Haryana High Court, which serves as the courtroom of the Chief Justice.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the committee chaired by UT Adviser Rajeew Verma.

Currently, verandahs are only constructed in front of court numbers 2 and 9. The newly approved verandah will provide much-needed shelter and convenience to people, particularly during the rainy season.

The proposal, presented before the committee, highlighted that the Chandigarh Master Plan had provisions for a verandah in front of court number 1. However, this part of the plan was never executed. The verandahs in front of other courtrooms, from court numbers 2 to 9, were constructed along with the original High Court building.

It is the first time that construction work has been sanctioned for the Chief Justice's

Aimed at providing shelter to High Court visitors from rain



An undated photograph of Le Corbusier in front of Punjab & Haryana High Court. COURTESY: HC WEBSITE

court verandah.

A member of the committee emphasised that before starting the construction, the original archive drawings of the building would be thoroughly checked to ensure historical accuracy.

In addition to the verandah, the committee also gave approval to the construction of disabled-friendly washrooms on the premises of the High Court, making it more accessible to all visitors, including those with disabilities.

The Punjab and Haryana High Court building is an integral part of Chandigarh's Capital Complex, which was designated a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 2016. The Capitol Complex, spread over more than 100 acres in Sector 1, is a masterpiece of modern architecture designed by Le Corbusier. Its iconic structures include the Open Hand Monument; Tower of Shadows, the Legislative Assembly, and the Secretariat, all set against the backdrop of the Shivalik hills.

These new developments aim to preserve the historical integrity of the High Court while also addressing practical needs for modern usage. Recently, the CHCC held discussions on the management of the Capitol Complex. The Management Plan of the Capitol Complex, includes Holistic Development Plan of High Court, expansion of building adjacent to security personnel building near Open Hand Monument; construction of one floor on existing lawyer chamber; iron grill fencing all around the perimeter of the Punjab and Haryana High Court building and segregation of court premises into low and high security zones; and provision of covered verandah in front of court room 1 of the Chief Justice court.

## 'Ceiling covering' wasn't part of Corbusier plan

SAURABH MALIK  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19

Le Corbusier was apparently not in favour of a "ceiling covering" in front of the Secretariat-facing courtrooms in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, as evident from the Delhi High Court's former Chief Justice Rajinder Sachar's account in the HC's golden jubilee souvenir.

The Chandigarh Heritage Conservation Committee (CHCC) has now granted approval for the construction of a verandah in front of court number 1, which serves as the courtroom of the Chief Justice.

Chief Justice Sachar was virtually of the opinion that trouble poured, along with the rain, for the advocates in Le Corbusier's High Court. But the French architect was determined to not allow his original plan of architecture to be changed. The "verandah" there (in front of courtroom No. 2 to 9 at the same site) was actually completed in Corbusier's absence.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



A police team examines the crime scene at an immigration firm's office in Dera Bassi on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: NITIN MITTAL

# Gunshots fired at immigration firm office in Dera Bassi

MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 19

Two unidentified youths fired five to six rounds at an immigration-cum-coaching institute in an extortion bid in broad daylight at Dera Bassi this afternoon.

Before fleeing, the assailants threw a paper slip demanding one "Khokha" from Harwinder Singh, the owner of Education Point Immigration Services and Consultants. The gunshots were aimed at the main gate of the firm and no one was injured in the incident.

Sources said the threat letter was delivered to the firm on the instructions of Manjit Singh, alias Gurri, of Khedi Gujranwala, currently lodged in Tihar Jail.

The police said apparently it looked like an extortion threat. The forensic team also reached the spot, which is situated around 100 metres from the Dera Bassi police station, to

Possibly an extortion threat, say police; incident captured on CCTV camera

gather evidence in the case. SSP Deepak Pareek constituted teams to investigate the case.

The statement of the owner and the employees have been recorded. "No one has been injured in the incident," he said. This is the second such incident in the past two months. On July 20, shots were fired at a diagnostic laboratory in the main market. Three bike-borne juveniles, students of a government school, claiming allegiance to the Kaushal Chaudhary gang, were arrested later. The trio had entered the Apollo Imaging and Path Lab and handed a threat letter to an employee. After handing the slip, one of them fired in the air before fleeing. —TNS



A CCTV grab of the attackers.

# Shaheed-e-Azam's statue at airport to be unveiled on Sept 28

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 19

A 30-ft-high statue of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh will be unveiled at the Mohali airport on his birth anniversary on September 28.

The gunmetal statue, in an iconic Bhagat Singh pose, has been installed near the entry of the international airport and is visible from a distance, evoking curiosity among the visitors here.

The 6.42-crore project, christened Nishan-E-Inqilab plaza, also includes horticulture, electrical, and civil works by providing red stone pavement, black granite platform, flower pocket, grassing, and lighting.

The median of the entry and the exit road of the airport, measuring 266 ft, is being given final flourishes

before the inauguration these days. Besides, two video walls will come up at the site.

Officials said the statue was installed on August 2 and all the work would be completed by September 20. GMADA and the Department of Information and Public Relations are undertaking the development project.

The airport was christened as Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport, Chandigarh, on September 25, 2022.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann will dedicate the statue to people on September 28.

"Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh's statue will also remind the supreme sacrifice made by him to commuters from Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir and other states," he had said recently.



The statue of Shaheed Bhagat Singh at the entry to the Mohali airport. TRIBUNE PHOTO: PRADEEP TEWARI

HEIGHT OF STATUE  
**30 FT**  
COST OF PROJECT  
**₹6.42 CR**

# 19-yr-old killed, 3 hurt in car-truck collision

PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19

A 19-year-old boy died while another three were injured when the car they were travelling in collided with a truck near the Chandimandir toll plaza on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday. The deceased has been identified as Ansh Nagpal (19), a resident of Panchkula who was driving the car. Those injured were Rehan (17), Saksham (18) and Sanyam (20).

The police said the four youths were going from Panchkula to Kalka around 2 am when the incident took place. —TNS

# 5-yr-old dies as car hits bike

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19

A five-year-old boy died while his father sustained injuries after a car hit their motorcycle in Sector 24 here today.

The victim was identified as Amav (5), a Sector 24 resident. He and his father Pankaj were going to a nearby chemist shop when the accident took place.

The police said both victims were rushed to Government Multi-Specialty Hospital (GMSH) in Sector 16 where Amav was declared brought dead. On a complaint of the victim's father, a case was registered at the Sector 11 police station. The car driver fled after the incident, leaving

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# Crossing Sec 62 traffic lights nightmare in rush hour

With hospital nearby, ambulances, patients and attendants in vehicles remain stuck in gridlock

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 19

Traffic congestion near the Sector 62 light point during the daytime has become a bane of commuters. Road users, ambulances, patients and attendants in private vehicles remain stuck here for eternity as a large number of vehicle refuse to budge in times of emergency.

Many a times traffic lights are not functional here, further compounding the problem. Residents complain that a traffic cop was a rare sight here. A resident said repair of a slip road in Sector 62 was hanging fire for several months.

"If the next traffic light is red for a bit longer, two queues of vehicles stretching for almost a km are formed. One can see ambulances and



An ambulance stuck in traffic near a hospital in Sector 62, Mohali, on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: VICKY

emergency vehicles stuck here many a times," said an elderly KN Bhargava, who had come to a private hospital nearby in Sector 62.

Serpentine queues of vehicles can be seen here during the morning and evening rush hours. Impatient drivers often turn unruly and way-

ward, leading to a chaotic situation in a matter of minutes. It does not help that a shopping mall has recently come up in the vicinity here, multiplying the traffic woes for the road users. During morning and evening hours, the area, which has a number of government offices, is crammed

with vehicles of employees. Residents complain that idling vehicles, app-based taxis, autos and private vehicles congest the area. "During evenings on weekends, the crowd is unruly. It not only disturbs the free flow of the vehicles but also increases the risk of accidents," they said.

Traffic police officials said they try their best to keep the flow of vehicles unhindered near the hospital area. "Challenging drive is carried out on regular basis. A PCR is stationed round the clock in the area. People should also drive responsibly," said DSP City2 Harsimran Singh Bal.

# Chain snatchers target teacher near school

ZIRAKPUR, SEPTEMBER 19

Two bike-borne youths snatched the gold chain from a teacher of Little Angles School, Vasant Vihar, Phase-1, Dhakoli, outside the school premises this afternoon.

The victim, Sunita, had just parked her scooter when the youths, who were following her, approached her. One of them got down from the bike and snatched her gold chain.

The gateman of the school, Jagdish Kumar, noticed the person fleeing with the chain and tried to stop him. However, he managed to evade him and fled with his accomplice. Jagdish fell on the road while trying to nab the suspects. The incident was captured on a CCTV camera.

Dhakoli police post in charge Gursher Singh said they had registered a case. —TNS



## SCHOOL NOTES



A team of martial art experts at Bhavan Vidyalaya.

### BHAVAN VIDYALAYA, PANCHKULA

The school, in association with SPIC MACAY, hosted a captivating session on 'Kalaripayattu', Kerala's traditional martial art, showcasing its unique combat techniques, indigenous medicinal practices and significance in religious worship. Principal Gulshan Kaur welcomed Rajeev KP and his team of experts, who demonstrated mesmerising feats like chattom (jumping), ottam (running) and marichil (somersault), emphasising mind-body coordination and agility. Approximately 400 students engaged in the productive session.

### POLICE PUBLIC SCHOOL, CHANDIGARH

A free health check-up was conducted for the students by a non-governmental organisation (NGO), Tushar Foundation. Students belonging to the age group of 3-13 years attended the camp. A general check-up was done and a specialist check-up for ENT problems was also conducted.

### PMLSD PUBLIC SCHOOL, CHANDIGARH

The primary wing of the school celebrated 'Hindi Diwas' to commemorate the adoption of Hindi as the official language of India. Competitions such as 'Sulekh Pratyogta', 'Kavita Sunao Pratyogta' and 'Kahani Sunao Pratyogta' were organised. Principal Monica Sharma distributed certificates to the winners. Anaira won the 'Talent Trove 2024' title, during an inter-school fancy dress competition.

# P'kula BJP, Cong candidates bank on party manifestos in battle of ballot

AAP nominee sticks to local issues, promises to end civic problems among others.

RAVNEET SINGH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19** While BJP Candidate Gian Chand Gupta and Congress candidate Chander Mohan are seeking votes on the basis of the manifestos of their respective parties, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) candidate Prem Garg is meeting leaders, cutting across party lines, and focussing on ground issues of the residents. He recently met Congress leader and former Panchkula Mayor Upinder Ahluwalia to seek votes.

Gian Chand Gupta, accompanied by party leaders Banto Kataria, BB Singhal, Mayor Kulbhushan Goyal, Ranjita Mehta, and others went around seeking votes in Sector 15, Chandi Kotla, Sector 10 and Billa, Jaswantgarh, Tibba, Kanoli and Naggal villages, among other areas.

He said the BJP's 'sankalp patra' (election manifesto) was one, which fulfilled the aspirations of the people. He said the BJP's manifesto was a pledge the state's development.

Gupta said their manifesto



AAP candidate Prem Garg with former Panchkula Mayor Upinder Kaur Ahluwalia at her residence.

had a development roadmap for the entire state. "The BJP fulfilled the resolutions it made in 2014 and 2019. We will also fulfil the resolutions of 2024 with guarantee," he said. He said the announcements made by the Congress party were merely a bundle of lies and deceit.

Campaigning on the same lines, Congress' Chander

Mohan went to Sector 21, Behar village, Industrial Area Phas-I, Ramgarh village, Dabkauri, Sector 4 and Khatali, among other places.

He said the Congress party had included the matters revolving around the whole society in its manifesto. He said upon coming to power, the party would provide a legal guarantee for MSP on

crops, carry-out a caste survey, provide gas cylinders for Rs 500 and give Rs 2,000 to every woman aged between 18-60 on a monthly basis.

Meanwhile, The AAP candidate Prem Garg, who has been focussing on resolving civic problems, visited areas such as Billa, Bunga, Tibbi, Khetpurali, Belwali, Asrewali and Barwala villages,

## 147 apply to vote from home in P'kula

PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19

A total of 147 elderly and disabled persons have applied to cast votes from home. District Election Officer Yash Garg said their votes would be collected by a team of the returning officer. He said according to the Election Commission of India, people above 85 years of age and those with more than 40 per cent disability were allowed to vote from home. For this, they have to file applications under form 12-D.

The DEO said there were 5,556 voters in the age group of above 85 year in the district. Out of these, 2,303 were in Kalka Assembly and 3,253 in Panchkula Assembly segment. There were 166 voters in the age group of more than 100 years, out of which 84 were in Kalka Assembly and 82 in Panchkula Assembly segment. Also, there were 2,472 divyang voters in the district — 1,218 in Kalka and 1,254 in Panchkula. There were 303 blind voters in the district, 145 in Kalka and 158 in Panchkula.

He said 51 voters of Kalka, including 26 divyang and 25 elderly, had filed applications to cast vote from home. In Panchkula Assembly constituency, 96 voters filed the application, including eight handicapped and 25 elderly individuals. — TNS

## Permission mandatory for advertisements: DC

**PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19** Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer Yash Garg today said permission from the Media Certification & Monitoring Committee (MCMC) was mandatory to run advertisements in cinema halls, cable and newspapers. "All cable operators have to ensure compliance with the Cable TV Network Regulation Act, including the rules pre-

scribed by the EC. Strict action will be taken against those who violate orders," he said.

Only certified advertisements will be broadcast he said, adding: "The certificate issued by the committee will have the seal and signature of the competent officer concerned. The operator has to take care that only CDs bearing the seal should be played as advertisement," he said. — TNS

## Lance Naik cremated

NURPUR BEDI SEPTEMBER 19

Lance Naik Baljit Singh, who died in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, was cremated at Jhaj, his native village, today. The 29-year-old was part of Army's 57 Engineer Regiment's 2 Para Special Force. On Tuesday a vehicle, carrying him and four others fell into a 200-ft-deep gorge while confronting terrorists. The other soldiers were critically injured. — TNS

## Man gets 20-yr jail for rape

RUPNAGAR, SEPTEMBER 19

A Rupnagar court sentenced Anandpur Sahib resident Rahul Kumar to 20 years imprisonment for raping a 19-year-old mentally challenged girl on September 15, 2022. A case was registered at the Sri Anandpur Sahib police station on the statement of the brother of the victim.

As per the prosecution, the victim worked at a shop. On September 6, 2022, she complained of acute stomach

ache and after a medical check-up was found six months pregnant. Thereafter, the girl disclosed that the accused Rahul, along with a juvenile boy, tried separately by the Juvenile Justice Board, who worked at a nearby shop forcibly took her to a godown several times and raped her.

The court of Sessions Judge, Rupnagar, convicted and sentenced Rahul to seven years rigorous imprisonment

(RI) and fined him Rs 5,000 under Section 366, 20 years RI and Rs 50,000 fine under Section 376-D, 20 years RI and Rs 50,000 fine under Section 376 (2) (j) (i) (n) and 2 years RI along with Rs 3,000 fine under Section 506 of the IPC. All sentences were directed to run concurrently. Ninety per cent of the fine imposed upon the convict on its realisation was further directed to be paid as compensation to the victim. — TNS

## Cop booked on bribery charge

MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 19

The Vigilance Bureau (VB) registered a graft case against an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Karamvir Singh, posted at Sadar police station, Kharar, for taking a bribe of Rs 15,000. A spokesperson said a case was registered against the

official based on a complaint lodged by Sukhwinder Singh, a resident of Maloya Colony, Chandigarh, on the Chief Minister's anti-corruption action line. The complainant alleged that the accused ASI had taken a bribe of Rs 15,000 in lieu of

facilitating the bail of his relatives in a case registered at the police station. During verification the allegations were found to be true. On the basis of this report, a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act was registered against the ASI at VB police station, flying squad, Mohali. — TNS

## Panchkula man duped of ₹2 lakh

PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19

A resident of Sector 20 was duped of Rs 2 lakh after his bank account details were obtained by a miscreant through a dubious application. The man fooled Yashpal Singla in the name of updating his household LPG connection record in Pune.

Singla said he received a message on his phone stating that his gas connection at his house in Pune had been disconnected. During a phone call, an individual, claiming to be an employee of Maharashtra Natural Gas Limited (MNGL) directed him to download an applica-

tion and collected his connection and bank account details on the pretext of recharging it. Singla said the bank informed him that four transactions of Rs 50,000, each were carried-out through his account. The police have registered a case in the matter. — TNS



A view of the dilapidated building of Hindu Girls Senior Secondary School in Kalka; and (right) furniture dumped in a classroom. TRIBUNE PHOTOS: RAWI KUMAR

# Closed since 2018, Kalka girls school in a shambles

RAVNEET SINGH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**PANCHKULA, SEPTEMBER 19** The lack of a management committee and internal politics has left an age-old girls school in Kalka in complete shambles as it has remained shut for six years. Trees and bushes have grown out of the school, which was the only government-aided school for girls in the city. The property that has over 40 classrooms and science labs has been shut since 2018.

The Hindu Girls Senior Secondary School, Sohan Nagar,

### Internal politics blamed for its closure

Kalka, was opened in 1918. Run by a management committee made up of the area's residents with government aid, the school was gradually upgraded to the senior secondary level and also provided coaching for BA and BE courses for a few years.

But as of today, the school property, in the middle of Kalka city, lies in ruins. On entering the school, one is greeted with wild grass and shrubs that seem to have

taken over the front lawn. Windowpanes in the classroom are broken, and the benches gather dust as they lie disorderly stacked in a few rooms. Due to the lack of management of the property, weeds have grown on balconies, and rainwater continues to damage the concrete.

A resident pointed out, "Former Kalka MLAs Lachhman Singh, Kishori Lal, and Kanti Prakash Bhalla have functioned as the presidents of the school management committee."

Anurag Jindal, a confectionary manufacturer in the

neighbourhood, claimed all his family members studied at the school. "My parents and grandparents also studied on this very premises," he said. The man, however, kept mum when asked about the reasons behind its closure.

Another resident of the area, requesting anonymity, said the school's closure was partially due to internal politics among the members of its management committee.

According to a former member of the school's management committee, it closed in 2018 after the state government

absorbed its regular teachers into other neighbouring schools. Requesting anonymity, he said, "The school property is large with over 40-50 rooms. But the student count at our school witnessed a sudden drop after a near-by government boys' school was turned co-educational. The management committee resigned after the teachers were absorbed in other schools. Since then, the residents have failed to form a management committee due to political interests."

The matter is within the knowledge of the state Education Department.

District Education Officer (DEO) Satpal Kaushik said the government absorbed the staff into other schools in 2018. "The school management committee could run it on its own, but they failed to do so."

He said the Education Department had recently demanded information regarding the feasibility of running it again. "We have sent a report on the matter. The state government will take a decision," he said.





The enforcement wing of the MC removing illegal tarpaulin sheets on Wednesday; and (right) vendors caring little about the drive put up the sheets back on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTOS: PRADEEP TEWARI

## Day after, Sector 22 vendors put up tarpaulin sheets again

Enforcement wing had removed these from vending site

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** A day after the enforcement wing of the local Municipal Corporation removed illegal tarpaulin sheets put up by registered vendors at the vending sites outside Sector 22's Shastri Market, things were back to square one today. Without any fear of law, the registered vendors again put up tarpaulin sheets at the vending sites, implying that

the enforcement staff's drive here had no impact at all and the anti-encroachment drives were merely an eyewash. Many of them have also occupied more space than what was earmarked to them. Besides, there is very little difference between the street vending site and the Shastri Market shops. For some, these vending sites seem to be part of the Shastri Market as some have even erected small structures, which is

totally against the norms of the Street Vendors Act. "Implementation of the Act is a failure in the city as neither the 6'5' earmarked space is being followed by the registered vendors, nor unregistered vendors are being removed from across the city. All are hand-in-glove, thereby this issue will never get resolved. Even Punjab and Haryana High Court's directions in this regard have failed to move officials," said

a shopkeeper from the Sector 22 market preferring anonymity. Similarly, the enforcement wing of the MC three days ago removed illegal street vendors from outside the Terraced Garden, Sector 33, but it was back to normal the next day. The officials only act the day the matter is reported in the media. But the very next day of their drive no one bothers and it's back to normal.

## Commission directs Mohali DC to attach Omaxe office

RAMKRISHAN UPADHYAY

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** The State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Chandigarh, has directed Deputy Commissioner, SAS Nagar, Mohali, to attach the office premises of M/s Omaxe Chandigarh Extension Developers Pvt Ltd situated at India Trade Tower, New Chandigarh, Mullanpur, including all articles lying therein, and appoint a receiver to recover Rs 1 crore of a consumer.

Kaur, a resident of Chandigarh. In the application she prayed before the commission for implementation of its order dated February 2, 2016. In the order the commission had directed M/s Omaxe Chandigarh Extension Developers Pvt Ltd to pay interest of 12 per cent on the deposited amount of 75.80 lakh to the complainant from December 3, 2013, till the date of offer of possession after obtaining the completion certificate. It had also directed it to pay compensation of Rs 2.50 lakh to the complainant. Later on an appeal filed by the builder the National Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Delhi, had modified the order and directed it to pay 9 per cent interest on the amount to the

complainant within one month. It also directed to pay Rs 50,000 as compensation instead of Rs 2.50 lakh. Sundari Mehtab Kaur in the complaint had said she had booked a plot in the upcoming township 14 years ago. She said the commission had passed the above order in her favour but the builder had not followed it. After hearing the arguments the commission said, "In this execution application Rs 1 crore is recoverable by the decree holders. We direct SAS Nagar DC to attach the office premises of M/s Omaxe Chandigarh Extension Developers Pvt Ltd. The commission has directed the DC and tehsildar for strict compliance of the order while fixing the next date of hearing on September 20.

## Sec 26 school shuttlers bag three titles

MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 19

SGGS Collegiate Public School, Sector 26, bagged triple delight on the concluding day of the CBSE Badminton Tournament: Cluster XVII organised by Manav Mangal Smart School. In the girls' U-14 final, the Sector 26 team bagged the title by defeating Shivalik Public School, Sector 41. Sacred Heart Senior Secondary School, Sector 26, shared the joint third spot with hosts Manav Mangal Smart School. The Sector 26 team won the girls' U-17 title by defeating Mind Tree School. Shemrock Senior School, Sector 69, claimed the third position. The Sector 26 team won the third title of the girls' U-19 category, while Alliance International School, Patiala, claimed the second position. — TNS

## Amit claims 100m gold in athletics c'ship

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** Amit Kumar claimed the 100m gold medal in the masters' 35 years' event during the ongoing State Senior, U-23 and Masters Athletics Championship at the Sector 7 Sports Complex. Sambajeet Singh won the second place and Varinder Thakur finished third. Khema Ram won the 800m event, followed by Amit Kumar at the second

position. Dr Sachin won the high jump title in the same age group. In the 40 years event, Rajiv Kumar claimed the gold medal, followed by Savinder Singh at second and Santosh Kumar Gupta at third. Kuldeep Kaur won the title in discus throw in the women's 50 years age group, while Dr Neelam Pal claimed second position and Gurdeep

Kaur third. In the 35 years age group, Poonam, Rajkala and Neelam claimed the top three positions, respectively. In the senior 10,000m event, Kusum and Muskan claimed top two positions, respectively. Sadhand won the women's 800m race, followed by Aarti at second and Rekha at third place. In the women's 200m event, Sonia, Tashu and Simran bagged

top three positions, respectively, and in the men's senior category, Himanshu, Lokesh and Sanjay Gupta bagged the honours. In discus throw, Sunny bagged the first position, followed by Anil at second and Vishal at third. In the 1500m race of the U-23 group, Kumari Nitika won the gold medal, followed by Kashish at second and Jyotsna at third position. — TNS

## Three engg college teachers in top 2% list of scientists

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** Three faculty members of the Punjab Engineering College (PEC), Chandigarh, Prof Alakesh Manna, Prof Kamal Kumar and Prof Sandeep Kumar have been named in the list of top 2 per cent scientists of the world released on Wednesday by a team of scientists from Stanford University and the Elsevier BV-A, a leading science publisher. Prof Alakesh Manna has been recognised for his career-long contributions to research from 2002 to 2024. A faculty member of the Mechanical Engineering Department, Prof Manna is the recipient of the Prof DN Tripathi Excellence in Research Publication Award (2010) and the Best Research Paper Award at WCE London (2016). He has authored two books and is also a Fellow of



(L to R) Prof Alakesh Manna, Prof Kamal Kumar and Prof Sandeep Kumar of the Punjab Engineering College.

the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and the Institution of Engineers (India). Dr Kamal Kumar, Associate Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department, has been recognised in the 'Authors Single Year List-2024'. This marks the fourth consecutive year he has received this honour. His groundbreaking research focuses on magnesium-based biodegradable implants, including bone scaffolds, microstructure refinement and multi-layered surface

coatings to control the degradation rate in such implants. Prof Sandeep Kumar from the Physics Department has been recognised in both single year and career-long research categories in the field of materials science. His work centres on advanced functional materials and nanomaterials-based devices for environmental and healthcare applications. With over 14,500 citations, Prof Kumar's research has been published in numerous international journals.

## DAV teacher accused of harassing girls relieved

AKASHDEEP VIRK

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** An assistant professor of the DAV College, Sector 10, who was accused of sending inappropriate messages via social media to some girl students of the college, has been asked to proceed on leave and relieved of charges he was holding in official capacity.

A meeting of a nine-member internal complaint committee was called today in the college and the accused teacher was asked to appear before it next week. The complainant(s) have also been sent a mail by the college administration, asking them to come forward so that an appropriate inquiry can take place.

The college authorities had received an anonymous complaint with screenshots of email against the assistant professor. The college had received similar complaints against the accused teacher in December 2023 as well, but no action was taken, the sources claimed.

The teacher has been asked to proceed on 10-day leave so that the complainants do not feel intimidated. The officiating principal, J Khatri, has confirmed the development.

However, it has been claimed by sources that some teaching faculty members from the college have been trying to deter the complainants by conveying to them that their parents will also be involved in the inquiry.

## MC finance committee meet today, curbing monkey menace on agenda

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** In view of the rising monkey menace, the MC has proposed to engage four additional monkey deterrent personnel. Since monkeys have been excluded from the purview of the Wildlife Protection Amendment Act, 2023, effective from December 19, 2022, the MC is trying to take steps, which can help curb the menace.

"The MC needs to take proactive measures to mitigate the monkey menace.

The corporation has been receiving an increasing number of complaints regarding the monkey menace," said the MC proposal. The agenda will be placed in the forthcoming meeting of the Finance and Contract Committee (F&CC) on Friday. The estimated expenditure for this is approximately Rs 12 lakh per year.

It has been proposed to hold the Chrysanthemum Show at the Terraced Garden, Sector 33,

in the second or third week of December. This year the approximate expenditure will be Rs 24.22 lakh.

A request has been received from Tibetan Refugee Potlala Market Association, Chandigarh, to reduce the rent. "The current rent of the same land is 32,500 per day (40 lakh for the period of 120 days). They have requested to reduce monthly rent or provide 50% space at minimum rate," the proposal said. — TNS

## PU dept holds seminar on safety at workplace

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** Dr Harvansh Singh Judge Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital today organised a seminar related to women safety titled 'How Safe Am I at My Workplace?'. The event was organised by the Dental Institute in association with the Panjab University Alumni Association and The Institute of Innovation Council at the lecture theatre 1 of the Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital, south campus, Panjab University.

The seminar was led by Dr Nimisha Nagpal, a renowned eye surgeon, who focused on the safety of healthcare professionals in workplace environments. Candles were also lit in solidarity.

The seminar was open to all and attracted a large number of students, faculty and professionals from across the university. Among the attendees were Dr Deepak Kumar Gupta (Director and Principal of Dr HSIJDS), Prof Latika Sharma (Dean, Alumni Relations) and Dr Nandita Singh. They expressed their appreci-



Participants of poster-making and slogan-writing competitions.

ation for the critical insights shared by Dr Nagpal and emphasised the importance of workplace safety, especially in healthcare settings.

**Pran Nath Vohra Oration on PU foundation day** Panjab University will celebrate its foundation day on October 1 at 11am in the university auditorium with an event featuring the Pran Nath Vohra Oration to be delivered by Prof Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to

the Government of India. This year's celebration is especially significant as it celebrates the 100th birth anniversary of late Dr Om Prakash Vig, an eminent chemist and former Chairperson of the Department of Chemistry at PU. To commemorate his contributions, Chairperson of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council Prof Sood will release a biography chronicling Prof Vig's life

and work and a commemorative postal stamp issued by the Postal Department of India.

**Poster-making event held** The National Service Scheme, Panjab University, in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights and Duties organised a poster and slogan writing competition on the theme 'Say no to drugs'.

In slogan writing competition, Manya Luthra Institute of Educational Technology & Vocational Education bagged the first prize. The second position was bagged by Kunika from Department of Hindi and third position by Arik Plarch from the Centre for Human Rights and Duties.

In poster making competition, Kareena from Department of Evening Studies won the first prize, Khyati from University Institute of Fashion Technology & Vocational Development bagged second position and Sejal from Department of Fine Arts, MCM DAV College for Women bagged third position.

## Raptors, Gladiators script win in golf league

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** In the ongoing Chandigarh Golf League-2024, Canam Raptors played down Hunting Hawks 4-3 at the Chandigarh Golf Club. Green Gators and Soaring Eagles played out a tied match while Jubilee Chandigarh Gladiators took home a 5-2 win over Empire.



Golfer Karandeep Kochhar tees off during the golf tournament at the Chandigarh Golf Club. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAWI KUMAR

out a 1-up win. The Hawks picked up two points on the

17th hole to bring the match close with GS Bakshi and

Narbir Singh Kahlon, which went past the crucial finish line.

Gators dominated the singles with Dilsher Sukhija and Rabbin Saini winning their games. The Eagles controlled the four-ball games as they won three and halved one. The only one in which they didn't score anything was the anchor game as Kunal Nandwani and Armaan Mahal won with a clutch putt on the final hole. Dilmick Lamba and Puneet Sood scored the biggest win for the Eagles with a 4&3 win while Dr Narinder Arora and Dr Vinninder Sachdev combo carding 4&2. Gladiators scored their first

win by sweeping the singles, courtesy Col Naajit Singh and Col SDS Bath, who won 6&5. Rahul Sehgal and Inderpreet Singh won 5&3 in the anchor game, while KPS Bhatti and Satinder Dhilon recorded a 2-up win. Suneet Sehgal and Amardeep Brar logged points for the Empire.

For Panthers, K Raghav Bhandari won his first game of the season with a 5 and 4 win, which the pair of Simarinder Singh and Bhavkaran Singh anchored to close out a 3&1 win. Gp Capt YS Sidhu and Jagdev Singh Mahi won the only full point for Tigers with a 3&2 win as their other pairs went down in two close games.

## UT Cricket Association holds annual general meeting

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 19** The 44th annual general meeting of the Union Territory Cricket Association (UTCA), Chandigarh, was held recently. During the meeting, UTCA president Sanjay Tandon said during the last season 2023-24, a total of 1,400 players got registered against the 2,820 registered in 2024-25. He appreciated the conduct of the recent Gully Cricket Tournament, which has been registered in the Asia Book of Records.

Last year, the UTCA selec-

tors shortlisted 35 players and after this edition, as many as 50 players have been selected. This year a total of 3,072 players from 302 teams participated in the tournament, informed Tandon. He said last season the UTCA had participated in 91 matches of 15 different tournaments. Despite the rain-interrupted matches, the performance of the teams was satisfactory, he claimed.

For the upcoming BCCI domestic season, Tandon said the UTCA would be hosting a total of 59 matches. "To make the perform-

ance of the teams more effective, emphasis has been laid on fitness and training. By organising regular camps, the support staff are making their strong points more effective and working on their weak points," added Tandon.

Apart from camps, the UTCA has provided exposure to the players through inter-state friendly matches. Earlier, UTCA's secretary Veninder Sharma presented the annual report of the association while treasurer Alok Krishan presented the account details.



**THE SABARMATI REPORT ON WAY**



On Thursday, actor Vikrant Massey took to Instagram and shared a new poster of *The Sabarmati*

Report along with the release date of the much-awaited film, which was postponed thrice. He wrote, "The burning truth will be out on 15th November! Stay Tuned!"

**Tribune**

# Life Style

CHANDIGARH | FRIDAY | 20 SEPTEMBER 2024

**25 years!**

In her 25th year as an actress, Kareena Kapoor Khan says she still has the same passion, enthusiasm and drive as a newcomer stepping into Bollywood.



FATIMA SANA SHAIKH



YUVRAJ SINGH



YUVRAJ WITH HIS FATHER YOGRAJ SINGH

With a slew of biopics on famous sportsmen from the country in the pipeline, including one on the life of ace cricketer Yuvraj Singh, the excitement has reached a crescendo

MONA

SIX sixes in six balls — Yuvraj Singh's iconic 2007 T20 World Cup feat is as remarkable as his phoenix-like return from cancer! The cricketer from Chandigarh, who touched dizzying heights of fame, has had an indomitable coach in his father, Yograj Singh, a strict disciplinarian. Yuvraj's story is now set for an outing on celluloid.

Reportedly backed by T-Series, this real-life sports drama is touted as 'a grand celebration of Singh's extraordinary journey'. While there is still a cover on who will get into Yuvraj's shoes, Fatima Sana Shaikh is likely to play his love interest.

His father — actor and cricketer Yograj Singh — is all excited. "This is another of my dreams and by my guru's grace, it is due to be fulfilled," shares Yograj, basking in the glory of his latest film *Bibi Rajni's* success. Proud of his son, he says, "Yuvi is a legend and a film on him should be legendary. Something like Sylvester Stallone's *Rambo*."

With a considerable body of work in cinema, we ask if he will be associated with the film? "It's all about how Yuvi and the director of the film wants it. If they want me to act or use my voice, I am all for it. Rest, you know, I go with whatever my children want. It's a call that Yuvi is going to take."

While Yuvraj's journey on the field is remarkable, his battle with cancer is exemplary. Yograj wishes for a humane portrayal of Yuvraj's life, "A son like Yuvi comes into your life if you have done many good deeds in previous births. I am so grateful to the Almighty for giving me a son like him. Not only is he one of the best that cricket world has ever seen, but also a wonderful human being. He has always supported those in need, which says a lot about his character. You wouldn't know, but Yuvi is happier in someone else's happiness and success than his own achievements." That's something Yograj believes makes Yuvraj even a better coach than the

## Saluting sporty spirit



MIRABAI CHANU



AMMY VIRK AND JAGDEEP SIDHU



JHULAN GOSWAMI



ABHINAV BINDRA

player he was. "Yuvi is giving way more to cricket than what the game has given him. He is coaching young players like Abhishek Sharma and preparing them for great innings of life."

In Yuvraj and his achievements, and now a biopic in the making, Yograj sees vindication of his life too, "Yuvi tells me, 'Pitaji, now I realise that hadn't you been the way you had been, I wouldn't have battled cancer!'"

While there are huge ups, there is only one regret that Yograj has.

"I wish Yuvi had played 100-150 Test matches. But then all that he has achieved is miraculous in itself, especially the laurels he gathered after defeating cancer. His film is going to be a blockbuster too," he shares.

Yuvraj isn't the only city boy to have his life story out for a screen outing. The first Indian individual Olympic Gold Medal-holder Abhinav Bindra is an inspiration to millions. A biopic based on his illustrious shooting career is long due. In pre-production stage for a while now, the film stars Anil Kapoor and his son Harsh Vardhan Kapoor. The latter is also producing the film.

Cricket remains India's favourite sport, and there is another cricketer whose life story will be showcased on screen. One of the fastest and greatest female bowler of all times, Jhulan Goswami's life, struggles and success will witness a Netflix outing by the end of 2024. Titled *Chakda Xpress* after her hometown, Chakda, in West Bengal, the film has Anukshka Sharma in the lead role. The biographical sports drama is being directed by Prosit Roy, who has to his credit the horror film *Puri* and crime thriller *Paatal Lok*.

Recently, a social media post saw film and sports fans in a tizzy as the 'official' trailer of *Rohit Sharma: The Hitman*, starring Jr NTR, was released. A fan video, a mock concept, certainly bats for Sharma or Hitman's film soon!

Away from the lure of cricket, Tokyo Olympic silver medalist, weightlifter Mirabai Chanu's life too will witness an outing on celluloid. The film will be helmed by OC Meira.

As sports biographical dramas have gained quite a traction lately, filmmaker-writer Jagdeep Sidhu explains, "Sports biographical dramas come with their fan base and have an inspiring motivational story. Everyone dreams of doing something great, so the audience relates to the theme and hence this remains a popular genre in the film industry." Sidhu, who wrote the National Award-winning film *Harjeeta*, a sports biopic that celebrates the life of field hockey player Harjeet Singh, adds, "Any film takes about six months, it took about eight months for this one. I spend considerable time with my subject, his family, friends, and others associated with him."



STREE 2

On National Cinema Day, tickets across theatres will be available for ₹99. Here's a look at what's playing in Chandigarh

## The big screen experience

If for some reason you hadn't had an opportunity to catch a film in cinema halls for long, how about today?

On National Cinema Day, tickets in theatres will be available for Rs 99 only! First celebrated in India on September 23, 2022, by the Multiplex Association of India (MAI), to mark the reopening of cinema halls after the Covid-19 pandemic, the day has now become an occasion to bring cinephiles together.

This Cinema Day, there are some eclectic titles for tricity residents. Leading the pack is

*Stree 2*, touted as the most successful Hindi film ever. However, you have to be lucky to get a ticket, as till the filing of this story shows were being booked rapidly!

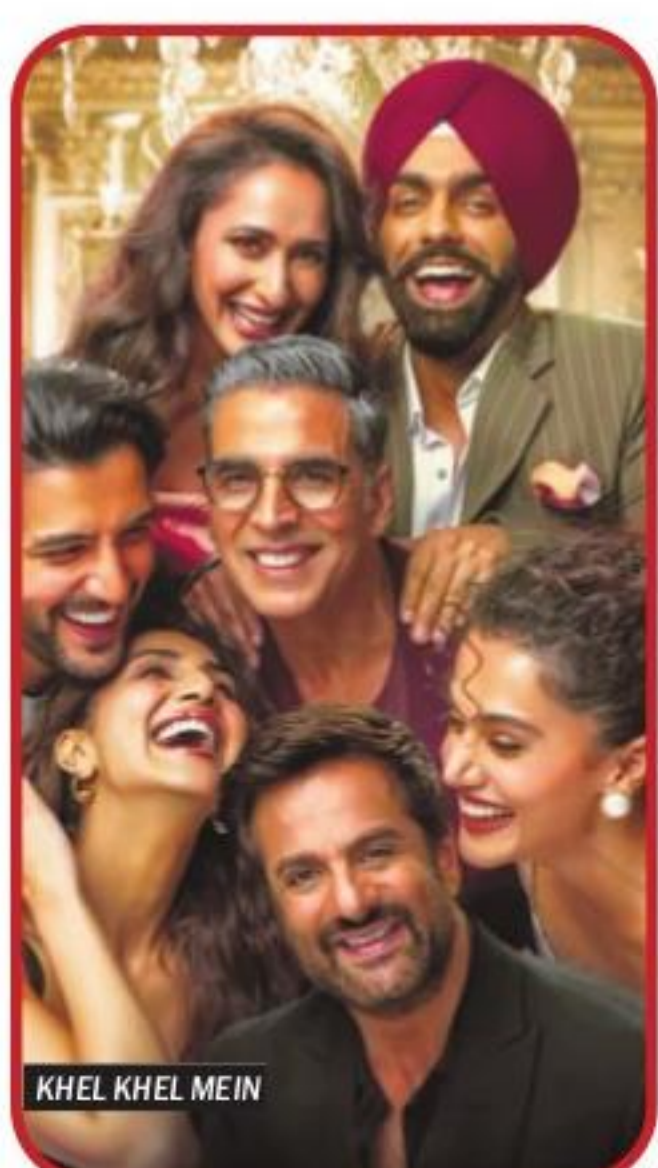
Murder mystery *The Buckingham Murders* and comedy *Khel Khel Mein* are the other Hindi titles playing in Chandigarh cinemas. Action thriller *Yudhra* and romantic comedy *Kahan Shuru Kahan Khatam* add to the genres and variety.

If Punjabi is your pick, there is Gippy Grewal-directed *Ardaas Sarbat De Bhale Di* and Babu Mann-starrer *Sucha Soorma*. Also

there is, *Bibi Rajni*, which stars Rupri Gill and Yograj Singh, and *Gandhi 3: Yarran Da Yaar* with Dev Kharoud in the lead role. Friday also sees the release of a Punjabi cop story *Jahankilla*.

English films include suspense thriller *Joker: Folie à Deux*, psychological drama *Speak No Evil* and action animation *Transformers One*.

Adding to the variety, Malayalam mystery *Kishkindha Kaandam* and Indonesian horror film *Dancing Village: The Curse Begins* have a few shows. Re-releases include *Tumbbad*, *Laila Majnu* and *Veer Zara!* — TNS



KHEL KHEL MEIN