

NEWS BRIEF

Amb Bazaar  
shopkeepers set up  
refreshment stall



**AVINASH CHAUHAN**  
**AMB:** On Monday, presenting an example of human service in front of Bachat Bhawan, a short distance from Amb Bazaar, the local shopkeepers of the market set up a stall of Hawa Halwa Chana and cold water for the passersby. The shopkeepers say that providing cold water to thirsty passersby in this scorching heat is the biggest charitable act. Himachal Pradesh Youth Congress General Secretary Raghav Thakur has praised this initiative of the shopkeepers and has appealed to other shopkeepers to participate in similar social works. Himachal Pradesh Youth Congress General Secretary Raghav Thakur said that this noble work of shopkeepers is not only providing relief to the people but is also strengthening the spirit of service and cooperation in the society. Shopkeepers Sanjay Sharma, Krishna Kumar, Kunal Sharma, Akshat, Rahul Mehta, Alib, Dhruv etc. were present on this occasion.

**Shri Krishna Katha**  
concludes with call for  
inner revolution: Sadhvi  
Rupeshwari Bharti



**DINESH AGARWAL**  
**SHIMLA:** A grand seven-day Shri Krishna Katha organized by Divya Jyoti Jagrati Sansthan at Shri Ram Mandir in Shimla culminated with an enlightening discourse by Sadhvi Rupeshwari Bharti, disciple of Shri Ashutosh Maharaj Ji. Through the divine episodes of Lord Krishna's life, she revealed profound spiritual truths and emphasized that the Lord's katha is not just a story—but a transformative revolution. Sadhvi Ji highlighted that Lord Krishna's life is an eternal source of inspiration. "True transformation begins when the divine awakens within us. Only then does a human truly begin to understand the divine," she said. Referring to scriptures, she reminded the audience that the ultimate goal of human life is union with God.

## HPSLA delegation meets CM, secures assurance on promotions, DA, and transfer policy review

AVINASH CHAUHAN  
AMB, JUNE 16

A delegation of Himachal Pradesh School Lecturers Association's Una unit met Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu in Una on Monday. During this, the association raised various burning issues related to the lecturer class before the Chief Minister, which included topics like promotions, DA notification and transfer policy. The delegation was led by HPSLA Una District President Shashi Saini, who personally discussed in detail with the Chief Minister and apprised him of the hopes and expectations of the teacher community. Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu listened to all the demands seriously and gave a clear assurance to release the promotion list for the post of



Principal soon. He said that the promotion process is in the final stage and the government is completely serious about the future and morale of the teachers. Regarding the pending Dearness Allowance (DA) notification, the Chief Minister clarified that it may take some time, but the government is also fully sensitive towards it and action will be taken as soon as possible. Shashi Saini said that the most important discussion was regarding the 30 km

restriction imposed in the transfer policy, on which the Chief Minister gave clear indications that the government will re-examine the practicality of this policy and necessary amendments will be considered keeping in mind the problems of teachers. Speaking to the media after meeting the CM, Shashi Saini said that this was not just a list of demands, but a dialogue related to the honor, future and service of teachers. The Chief Minister listened to the matter very attentively and deeply. He hopes that in the coming days, big decisions will be seen in the interest of teachers. Thanking the Chief Minister on behalf of the union, he said that the teachers of the state always stand with the government with positive cooperation, but at the same time are united for their rights and respect.

**KISHORI LAL BAINS**  
**UNA, JUNE 16**

A delegation from the Midas Care Worker Union, Bathu, met Comrade Jagtaram Sharma, National INTUC Organizing Secretary and State General Secretary, at Dehla village to highlight the ongoing injustices faced by workers in the industry. During the meeting, the union representatives informed Sharma that seven workers had been suspended without valid reason and 18 others were served illegal notices by the management. They expressed deep concern over what they called arbitrary actions, sparking unrest among workers in the region. The delegation also criticized the inaction of district INTUC officials and the government in safeguarding workers' rights. Comrade Sharma



listened attentively to the delegation's grievances and assured them of firm action. "I will stand shoulder to shoulder with the workers and escalate this issue to the Delhi office and concerned high-level authorities," he stated. He promised to initiate talks with both the management and the administration to seek resolution. Sharma further added that the matter would be brought to the notice of INTUC National President Dr. G. Sanjeeva Reddy, State President Rani Pratibha

Singh, Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, and State INTUC President Hardeep Singh Bawa. He made it clear that any action taken against the interests of the workers would not be tolerated. The General Secretary concluded with a commitment to develop a concrete plan to address the workers' concerns and facilitate dialogue between workers and management to reach a long-term resolution.

## Curetech Group organises refreshing Chabeel and Langar on Gurgurab

ANWAR HUSSAIN  
BADDI, JUNE 16

On the auspicious occasion of Gurgurab, Curetech Group, one of India's leading pharmaceutical companies, organized a refreshing chabeel (sweetened water distribution) and halwa-chana langar at Curetech Chowk under the leadership of CEO Sumit Singla, who also heads the Amit Singla Social Welfare Society. With temperatures soaring above 40 degrees Celsius in the Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh (BBN) region, this initiative came as a blessing for commuters and locals alike. Several members of the Curetech family, local industrialists, youth organizations, and social workers enthusiastically participated in the community service. Speaking on the occasion, Sumit Singla said, "This year, many parts of the country have seen extreme heat, with temperatures hitting 45-50 degrees. In BBN too, the weather has been punishing. This chabeel and langar was a small effort from the



Curetech family to provide some relief to people on the roads." He also noted signs of a welcome weather change and potential rainfall in the near future. Appreciating the active participation of youth groups and the industrial community, Singla said, "Be it tree plantation drives or organizing chabeels, all sections of society are contributing wholeheartedly. Curetech Group will continue to take part in such welfare activities." Curetech Plant Head J.P. Gupta added, "Whether it's tree plantations, environmental efforts, or food and water drives, the group has always led from the front.

## Paonta Sahib police working at behest of Sukhu govt: BJP

**SANAJY AGGARWAL**  
**DHARAMSHALA:** Former Speaker of Himachal Pradesh Assembly, Kangra-Chamba Lok Sabha constituency BJP in-charge and MLA Vipin Singh Parmar, BJP General Secretary Trilok Kapoor, former District Palampur BJP President Vinay Sharma have expressed strong reaction on the FIR lodged against BJP State President Dr. Rajiv Bindal and MLA Sukhrum Chaudhary in the recent case in Paonta Sahib. BJP leaders said that whatever is happening in Paonta Sahib is unfortunate and worrying. Accusing the police and administration of injustice and one-sided action towards the victim's family, they said that law and order is becoming completely biased. He said that the said case has been registered against 50 people on the charge of violating section 163 of BNS. He said that the police is harassing the victim's family and their associates, while on the other hand is supporting the accused party and a particular community, which is absolutely wrong and condemnable. He said that such incidents will not be tolerated at all in Devbhoomi. He alleged that the police is not taking any action against the family and supporters of the accused, while the victim's family is being constantly harassed.



## Field consultation held at Abhilashi University to assess climate challenges for SHDR

**DINESH AGARWAL**  
**SHIMLA, JUNE 16**

As part of field-level consultations for the State Human Development Report, teams from UNDP and the Department of Environment, Science, Technology & Climate Change (DEST&CC), Government of Himachal Pradesh, interacted with 112 people including women farmers and self-help groups at Abhilashi University, Mandi. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. H.K. Chaudhary, welcomed the team and emphasized the importance of climate resilience in this ecologically sensitive region, located at the edge of the Wet Temperate Zone, where climate change is significantly impacting cropping patterns and livelihoods. Ms. Monika Sharma, Coordinator UNDP introduced the teams and briefed the community on the State Human Development Report (SHDR) process, stating that the visit aimed to understand how climate change is affecting people's daily lives and livelihoods. Dr. Suresh Attri, Chief Scientist at DEST&CC, also informed the team about the



research and development (R&D) collaboration between the state government and the institution with respect to conservation of millets grown in the region. He also appreciated the efforts of Dr.Ritika, a professor at Abhilashileading a DEST&CC-supported project to conserve germplasm of local crop varieties such as millets and pulses through ex-situ conservation. To date, she has conserved over 60 varieties, barcoded them, and encouraged women self-help groups (SHGs) to undertake value addition by producing millet-based products. Smt. Raksha and Sheha, members of a local SHG, shared that they began processing millets in 2019. Today, around 230 women are engaged across five locations, producing biscuits significantly improving their livelihoods.

## CM's Housing Scheme for widows and single women brings hope and dignity to needy in Bilaspur

**AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY**  
**BILASPUR:** Chief Minister's Widow and Single Women Housing Scheme is bringing a wave of dignity and empowerment to the lives of underprivileged women in Bilaspur. Implemented with commitment by the district administration, the scheme aims to provide safe, well-equipped, and permanent housing to widowed, divorced, and single women belonging

to economically weaker sections. Deputy Commissioner Rahul Kumar informed that under the scheme, financial aid of up to Rs. 3 lakh is being provided in two installments to eligible women to help them construct pucca houses. Special emphasis is being laid on ensuring that the houses come with essential facilities like electricity and water. The eligibility criteria are designed to include the most vulnerable.

## Negi Case: HC extends interim protection to IAS Officer Harikesh Meena till July 14

**AGENCY**  
**SHIMLA, JUNE 16**



The Himachal Pradesh High Court on Monday extended interim protection from arrest to IAS officer Harikesh Meena till July 14 in connection with the abetment to suicide case of HPPCL Chief Engineer Vimal Negi. The decision came after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) orally requested more time to complete its review of the case and submit a detailed response to Meena's bail plea. The matter was heard in Court No. 8, where the counsel appearing for the CBI stated that the agency is currently in the process of collecting case records from various state agencies.

The CBI is analysing the material on a daily basis and, at this stage, is not in a position to provide a comprehensive reply. Without opposing the extension of interim relief, the CBI sought additional time to prepare its stand in the matter. Accepting the oral request, the Court extended Meena's protection from coercive action until the next date of hearing, which has now been

fixed for July 14. The court also directed rectification of an error found in the memo of parties submitted by the petitioner's counsel. It is worth noting that neither the Special Investigation Team (SIT) — which was earlier probing the matter — nor the CBI, which took over the investigation on the directions of the High Court, has so far filed any plea seeking cancellation of interim bail granted to either Harikesh Meena or HPPCL Director (Electrical) Desh Raj. Vimal Negi, who was working as Chief Engineer with the Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL), went missing from the corporation's headquarters in New Shimla on March 10. His body was later recovered from the Bhakra Dam on March 18.

## SFURTI workshop empowers traditional artisans in Bilaspur with modern tools and market access



**AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY**  
**BILASPUR:** In a significant initiative to uplift and empower traditional artisans, a one-day awareness workshop under the SFURTI (Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries) was organized at Hotel Prem Sagar, Bilaspur. Sponsored by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, the program attracted 40 participants including self-help group members, NGO representatives, and local entrepreneurs engaged in traditional handicrafts and small-scale industries. The workshop aimed to provide artisans with sustainable employment, access to modern equipment, training opportunities, and exposure to broader markets. Speaking on the occasion, General Manager of Industries Department Jiya Ram Abhilashi emphasized the importance of preserving and modernizing traditional skills to ensure livelihood resilience. Senior Manager Asma Rizvi delivered an insightful presentation detailing the SFURTI scheme's objectives—cluster formation, design innovation, packaging upgrades, e-commerce integration, and creation of common facility centers.

## Grand Bhandara and Jagran to be held at Nagni Mata Temple in Pakka Tiala on June 19



**SANJEEV MAHAJAN**  
**NURPUR:** The New Chinmaya Subhash Chandra Bose Memorial Yuvak Mandal of Pakka Tiala (Kandwal) is set to organize the 23rd annual grand bhandara and jagran at the ancient and revered Nagni Mata Temple in Pakka Tiala on June 19. Preparations for the event have already begun, with an organizing meeting held by the mandal members. This year's event will feature devotional performances by 14-year-old Harsh Sikander, winner of Zee TV's Little Champs, and popular Pahari folk singer Ishant Bhardwaj, who will sing praises of Mata Nagni during the night-long jagran. Yuvak Mandal member Romi, alias Mukesh, shared that the bhandara will begin at 1 PM and the jagran will start at 9 PM on June 19. He appealed to residents of the village and surrounding areas to participate in large numbers and seek blessings from Mata Nagni. Among those present at the preparatory meeting were Sunil Kumar Sanju, Mohan, Romi, Sunil, Rashpal, Bhuky, Sanju, Kaka, Mitthu, Vansh, Ansh, Raj, Shabhi, Bholu, Ankush, Ishu, Jolly alias Rishu, Manish, and Mannohan.