Muslims offer namaz at site near Bhojshala complex

Hans News Service
Dhar

A day after the Supreme Court granted permission, Muslims offered prayers on Friday at a site near the Bhojshala-Kamal Maula complex in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh amid heavy deployment of police personnel. The arrangements for the namaz at the site, survey number 612, near Bhojshala was selected by the Muslim community leaders during a meeting with the district administration.

A good number of devotees turned up for the Friday namaz for the first time after the Madhya Pradesh High Court ruled in May that the Bhojshala-Kamal Maula Mosque complex was a temple dedicated to Goddess Saraswati. The Supreme Court on Thursday permitted Muslims to offer Friday prayers at the premises of a dargah adjacent to the disputed Bhojshala complex.

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It directed the Madhya Pradesh government to ensure that Muslims are allowed to offer namaz at the site between 1 and 3 pm on Friday. Accordingly, the administration made necessary arrangements for the namaz, officials said. The prayer time was set from 1 to 3 pm. Around 2.30 pm, more than 150 Muslims arrived for prayers, officials said. Although it was raining at that time, the worshippers offered their prayers, they said.

A meeting was held prior to this between the district administration and the Muslim community. Barricades were erected around the Bhojshala complex for security purposes, the official said. A large police force was deployed in and around Bhojshala as a precautionary measure. The prayers were offered at survey land number 612. Abdul Samad, a member of Kamal Maulana Welfare Society, representing the Muslim side, said, "We presented our demands before the Supreme Court. They listened to them with complete seriousness and issued an order directing us to offer namaz at the location adjoining the Kamal Maula mosque." They specified survey numbers 611, 612, and 596. They instructed us to arrange and offer prayers within whichever survey numbers provided, and make arrangements, he said.

"Mann should tell people how many poll promises have been fulfilled"

Hans News Service
Chandigarh

HARYANA Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Friday said that his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann should tell people how many of the Aam Aadmi Party's pre-poll promises have been fulfilled so far. With only about four months left before the next assembly elections in Punjab, people deserve to know how many of these promises have been kept, Saini said, questioning if the Mann government would be able to fulfil the remaining promises within the short time left.

The Haryana chief minister, who was speaking at an event to mark the 87th martyrdom day of Shaheed Udham Singh in Punjab's Sanaur, said that only a BJP government could fulfil the dreams envisioned by the legendary freedom fighter for the development of the youth.

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Taking a swipe at the Aam Aadmi Party government, he remarked that a state's development is driven not by slogans but by intent and commitment. Saini also targeted the Punjab government over alleged "irregularities" in the excise inspector recruitments, describing it as a grave injustice to deserving youths.

Referring to the claim of a speaker at the event that the

Punjab government had fulfilled only 30 per cent of its electoral promises, Saini asked Chief Minister Mann to reveal how many of these promises had actually been implemented and whether he could fulfil the remaining commitments within the next four months. Drawing a parallel with the BJP's election manifesto in Haryana, he said the party had made 217 'Sankalps' (promises) during the 2024 assembly polls, of which 70 have been fulfilled in just one-and-a-half years, while the remaining 147 would also be implemented soon.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India is scaling new heights in terms of development while simultaneously taking pride in its rich heritage, Saini said, adding that the Haryana government is working with the same vision and has undertaken several welfare initiatives for farmers, women and youth. Recalling the life and legacy of Shaheed Udham Singh, Saini said the revolutionary devoted his life to the service of the nation and avenged the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in London. Udham Singh distinguished between the British people and British imperialism; his struggle was never against any religion, community or nation, but against injustice, the Haryana chief minister said.

MP man watches son die in ambulance

Hans News Service
Mandla

IN a heart-wrenching tragedy that exposed the failure of basic emergency care, a man was forced to watch his 21-year-old son take his final breaths in a government ambulance after its oxygen supply allegedly ran out mid-journey in Madhya Pradesh's Mandla district.

A purported video of the incident, which occurred in the tribal-dominated district on July 27, surfaced on social media on Friday. The patient, Ajit Baraiya, a resident of Sunhera Mal village under Bamhani police station limits, had been undergoing regular dialysis at the district hospital, officials said.

According to the family, Ajit's father called for an ambulance to take him to the community health centre at Bamhani after his condition deteriorated. They claimed that during the drive to the

community health centre, the patient was denied oxygen, despite him having difficulty breathing.

Doctors later put him on oxygen after referring him to the district hospital, but the supply in the ambulance ran out during the journey, following which he died in his father's lap, the family alleged. Speaking to local reporters, the deceased man's distraught father said, "My son died gasping for breath in the ambulance.

The ambulance arrived one hour after we dialled for it, and the oxygen supply ran out 3 km into the journey to the Mandla district hospital, and he died before we could reach there." Ajit would have survived had the oxygen been available throughout the journey, he said tearfully. A video of the incident, which is doing rounds on social media, shows the man lying on a stretcher inside the ambulance with his father by his side.

The tragic incident has prompted the administration to launch an inquiry.

'Pb govt committed to fulfilling dreams of freedom fighters'

Hans News Service
Sunam

PUNJAB Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Friday said the AAP government is firmly committed to fulfilling the dreams of the freedom fighters who made supreme sacrifices for the nation. During a state-level function here to commemorate the 87th martyrdom day of Shaheed Udham Singh, Mann said the legendary revolutionary's unparalleled patriotism and supreme sacrifice would continue to inspire generations to serve the nation selflessly and the nation would forever remain indebted to the iconic martyr.

Earlier, the chief minister paid floral tributes and laid a wreath at the memorial in honour of Shaheed Udham Singh. Mann also posted on X to pay tribute to Shaheed Udham Singh. "On the martyrdom day of the great revolutionary

Shaheed Udham Singh Ji, who avenged the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, I pay my humble tributes to him. His unparalleled sacrifice for the honour and dignity of the nation will forever remain a great source of inspiration for all of us."

Addressing the gathering here, Mann said Shaheed Udham Singh made the supreme sacrifice for the freedom of our country. It was a matter of immense pride and satisfaction for him to be part of the solemn occasion to pay tribute to the iconic martyr, he added. He said India's freedom struggle witnessed countless sacrifices by brave sons and daughters of the nation who laid down their lives to free the country and pave the way for an egalitarian society committed to the welfare of the weaker and underprivileged sections.

The chief minister said, "Today, we have gathered here to express our highest gratitude to this great patriot while commemorating the day on which Shaheed Udham Singh embraced martyrdom. He avenged the dastardly act committed by the erstwhile British government at Jallianwala Bagh, where hundreds of unarmed and innocent Indians were mercilessly shot dead under the administration of the then Lieutenant Governor of (undivided) Punjab, Michael O'Dwyer. "Shaheed Udham Singh ensured that Michael O'Dwyer was brought to justice at Caxton Hall in London."

Every stage of collection at Ram Mandir filmed

Hans News Service
New Delhi

The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has tightened surveillance over donations offered by devotees at the Ram temple, with every stage of the collection and counting process now being videographed as part of enhanced transparency measures introduced amid an ongoing probe into the alleged theft of temple offerings. Trustee Mahant Dinendra Das told PTI that the new system has been in place since July 25 and covers the entire chain of handling donations -- from removing empty boxes from the counting room to transporting, filling, sealing and returning them under continuous camera surveil-

lance. An eight-member monitoring team has been deployed, and the process is being recorded through 360-degree cameras, he said.

Around 40 donation boxes installed across the temple premises are now being emptied on different days instead of all at once, Das stated.

"Before a donation box is emptied, the entire process of taking an empty box from the counting room, carrying it to the donation box, placing the offerings in it and returning the sealed box to the counting room is videographed," he told PTI, adding that two professional videographers have been deployed for the purpose.

The monitoring team comprises two bank employees, two trust representatives, two private security personnel and other designated staff.

No factionalism in Punjab Congress, claims Baghel

Hans News Service
Fatehgarh Sahib

PUNJAB Congress in-charge Bhupesh Baghel dismissed reports of factionalism in the state unit on Friday, saying the media and a few individuals were exaggerating the issue, while asserting that all party leaders would work together under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi. Addressing a press conference in Fatehgarh Sahib, Baghel said he had met with all senior Punjab Congress leaders, including former chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi, and submitted his report to the party high command. He said Channi's meeting with Congress general secretary KC Venugopal further clarified that the entire state leadership would remain united.

Gudiya rape-murder

Cop, key witness in custodial death case, suspended

Hans News Service
Shimla

FAMILY members of Constable Dinesh Sharma, a key witness in the 2017 custodial death case linked to Gudiya rape-murder, has accused police of subjecting him to mental harassment and urged the Himachal Pradesh government to take action against those responsible for it.

Addressing the media here on Wednesday, Dinesh's brother, Suresh, alleged that the constable was transferred five times in one-and-a-half months and claimed he

has now been suspended. Shimla Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Gaurav Singh, however, denied the allegations and said that Dinesh was suspended due to his repeated disobedience of departmental orders. Suresh said Dinesh's son is severely disabled and is unable to walk.

"His father's presence is very crucial for his daily care and transportation to school. Dinesh had requested the authorities to defer his transfer on humanitarian grounds. However, instead of receiving relief, he has been suspended after he visited the Lok Bhavan to raise the same issue," he said. Suresh further claimed that Dinesh was on duty when Suraj, one of the accused in the Gudiya rape and murder case in Kotkhai in Shimla district, died in police custody.

He said that Dinesh later testified before the court about the incident, and his testimony proved to be a significant development in the case. He said that the testimony contributed to the conviction of eight police personnel, including the then IG, who were sentenced to life imprisonment by a CBI court in Chandigarh.

Demanding justice, Suresh said the family would move the Himachal Pradesh High Court, the Human Rights Commission and, even the Supreme Court if they failed to get relief at the state level.

Periodic evaluation of teachers key to quality edn: Raj Governor

Hans News Service
Kota

RAJASTHAN Governor Haribhau Bagde on Thursday pitched for periodic evaluation of teachers every five years to improve the quality education, and asserted that the exercise would neither affect their jobs nor pension benefits. Inaugurating the two-day national workshop, "Healthy and Educated Woman: Empowered Nation" (Swasth evam Shikshit Mahila: Sashakt Rashtra), at the State Institute of Agriculture Management (SIAM) here, he said national development extends far beyond economic metrics and rests on intellectual growth, honesty, curiosity and a commitment to lifelong learning.

The workshop was organised jointly by Agriculture University, Kota, and Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas (SSUN), New Delhi, and attended by nearly 300 scientists, educators, medical experts, social workers, researchers and students from across the country. Calling on students and scholars to cultivate a habit of continuous study and ask probing questions, the governor urged them tot imbibe the values of Indian knowledge traditions and Vedic education. To ensure high educational standards, Bagde proposed that teachers be assessed every five years to evaluate their knowledge and teaching abilities, saying such evaluations would provide a clear picture of the quality of education being imparted to students. Addressing concerns over the proposal, he said the evaluation process would have no bearing on teachers' service conditions, including their jobs and pension benefits, even as some teacher organisations have opposed the move. Bagde also highlighted the state's efforts to make Rajasthan drug-free and India's campaign to eliminate tuberculosis.

They call me manhoos: Govt teacher's last message to mother

Hans News Service
Dehradun

"SORRY Mummy. I am leaving. I have been enduring all this for the past six months. I can't bear it anymore." These are probably the last words of Srishti Kandari, who was found hanging from a ceiling fan at her in-laws' home.

Srishti, a government teacher who got married in November last year, was found dead on Wednesday. Her husband Saurabh Khatri, who worked at the Uttarakhand Secretariat, her mother-in-law Parveena Devi and sister-in-law Charu have been booked in a case of dowry death.

The 30-year-old woman left behind a purported video for her mother, detailing in heartbreaking

Srishti, a government teacher who got married in November last year, was found dead on Wednesday. Her husband Saurabh Khatri, who worked at the Uttarakhand Secretariat, her mother-in-law Parveena Devi and sister-in-law Charu have been booked in a case of dowry

detail the ordeal she had been through in the last six months.

"These people can never change. "I thought everything would be fine... then I thought it would get better later, but these people call me 'manhoos' (inauspicious) every day," she says in the selfie video, sobbing uncontrollably and barely getting her words out.

The purported 56-second video, Srishti's last testament, came into the public domain on Thursday night and quickly went viral.

According to the police, Srishti allegedly hanged herself from the ceiling fan in a room at her in-laws' home in the Harrawala area on Wednesday.

She was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her dead.

Srishti, as tears rolled down her eyes, said that she could no longer bear the mental anguish and stress caused by the mistreatment she faced at her in-laws' house over the past months.

According to the police, the case has been registered at the Doiwala police station under Section 80(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) based on a complaint filed by the deceased's mother, Seema Kandari.

Srishti was employed as a teacher at a government school in Tehri district.

In the complaint, Srishti's mother alleged that ever since the marriage, her daughter had been subjected to mental and physical harassment over dowry demands and other issues.