

POLITICS RAGES OVER ZILA PARISHAD, BLOCK SAMITI POLLS

Bajwa moves HC, demands extension of nomination date

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5 Alleging breakdown of democratic norms, Leader of Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Partap Singh Bajwa on Friday approached the High Court, seeking extension of the last date for the filing of nomination papers for the zila parishad and block samiti elections.

He asserted that widespread incidents of tearing, snatching and destruction of nomination forms on December 4 had prevented several candidates from filing valid nominations. Bajwa sought directions to the State Election Commission to extend the deadline and also to constitute an independent monitoring mechanism or appoint observers to ensure peaceful, fair and transparent polls. He also pressed for an inquiry by the CBI or any other Central agency into the conduct of Patiala SSP Varun Sharma, following the surfacing of alleged



audio recording purportedly directing police personnel – among other things – to disrupt the nomination process.

In his petition, Bajwa maintained, “Numerous candidates could not file the nomination papers on the last date, December 4, as there were multiple instances of snatching and destroying of nomination papers, cases of illegal detentions, persons being waylaid and picked up and candidates not allowed to reach the venue etc.” “There were videos and photos captured that showed persons running away with candidates’ nomination papers, fights taking place,

brawls breaking out, candidates not allowed to reach the venue, NOCs not issued, and officials concerned nowhere to be found,” he added.

Calling the alleged misconduct of the police “serious one”, Bajwa said, “If during an election, the very police that is supposed to ensure free and fair elections would start indulging in the abuse of power, undermining the law of the land and restraining the Opposition candidates from filing nomination papers, the faith of the people would be shaken in the democratic process. Therefore, it is imperative that immediate time-bound investigation is initiated by a Central agency in the matter concerned.”

Advocate Arshpreet Khadiyal appeared for Bajwa before the Chief Justice to make an oral mentioning. The request was allowed by the High Court and now the matter would be taken up on December 8.

Ruling AAP used gangsters to intimidate Oppn: Warring

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

Punjab Congress president Amrinder Raja Warring on Friday alleged that state’s ruling AAP took gangsters’ help to intimidate Opposition leaders wanting to contest the zila parishad and block samiti polls scheduled for December 14.

He also accused the state government of reducing the Punjab Police from “being custodians of law to the watchman of the ruling party leaders”.

“Right form intimidating candidates to forcibly preventing them from reaching the nomination centres, the police were being used openly to win the elections, be it the Assembly bypoll or panchayat elections,” he said. — TNS

Patiala police lodge six FIRs over ‘snatching’ of papers

MOHIT KHANNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, DECEMBER 5

Under fire from Opposition parties for allegedly aiding ruling AAP in the run-up to the zila parishad and block samiti elections, the Patiala police have registered six FIRs involving accusations of the snatching and tearing of nomination papers.

The FIRs come a day after Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal released an audio clip, purportedly having a conversation between Patiala SSP Varun Sharma and other officers discussing ways to “block Opposition candidates from filing nominations”.

The FIRs could not independently verify the veracity of the recording.

The SAD has submitted a written complaint to the State Election Commission, seeking the immediate suspension of the officers named in the audio and demanding a probe by the CBI, NIA or any other Central agency.

The controversy deepened on Friday when the Patiala police registered a case against an “unidentified person” caught on camera snatching papers from a woman SAD candidate in Ghanaur.

Alkali leader Sarabjeet Singh Jhinjer released photographs claiming the man seen fleeing with the papers was an AAP worker and photographed earlier with Ghanaur MLA Gurlal Singh. “Despite this, police booked the accused as unidentified,” claimed Jhinjer.

Repeated attempts to contact the MLA for comment were unsuccessful.

According to police records, six FIRs have been filed in different police stations over incidents of snatching or tearing of nomination papers. Only two accused have been identified so far, while the rest remain untraced.

In Shambhu Kalan, the returning officer reported a video showing a man snatching papers from a woman outside the University College, Ghanaur. The Shambhu

police registered a case against an unidentified person.

At Julkan, Inderjit Kaur of Majra Khurd alleged that three masked men intercepted her and snatched her block samiti nomination file. A case has been lodged against unidentified accused.

In Patiala, locals nabbed Gural Singh of Jhandi village after he allegedly tore nomination papers under the pretext of checking documents. The Tripuri police registered a case.

In Nabha, Congress candidate Gurmeet Kaur’s papers were snatched and torn by two unidentified men outside the BDPO office. The Kotwali police have initiated an investigation. Two more cases were registered in Samana. In one of the cases, the accused was identified as Hardeep Singh of Kamalpur, who allegedly snatched a candidate’s file at the SDM office.

In another incident at the same office, an unidentified man snatched and fled with the nomination papers of Jagwinder Singh of Bishanpura.

Sukhbir seeks case against Patiala SSP

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LUDHIANA, DECEMBER 5

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Friday urged Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav to register a criminal case against Patiala SSP Varun Sharma for allegedly directing district police officers to “illegally detain Opposition candidates”.

“We will not sit till we make the SSP pay for taking the law on to himself. We will file a formal application against the SSP. We will strive to get a free and fair probe done into the conference call done by him to all district police officers in which he asked them to prevent Opposition candidates from reaching government offices to file their nominations by detaining them at their residence or enroute and even prevailing upon returning officers not to accept nomination papers of Opposition candidates,” he alleged. “By doing so, the SSP has not only violated the oath of his office by acting as a stooge of AAP but also the Constitution,” Sukhbir alleged.

No role in Gang Canal event, it was personal function: BJP

JUPINDERJIT SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

The BJP on Friday distanced itself from the now-cancelled Ferozepur programme marking 100 years of the Gang Canal, with state party chief Sunil Jakhar saying it was a “personal event” and not an official party function.

The event was cancelled on Thursday after some Punjab BJP leaders reportedly told the central party leadership that the sharing of riverwaters was an emotive issue in the state and farmers had been up in arms in the past against the water supply to Rajasthan through the canal.

Jakhar said the party had no role in organising the event. “The Punjab BJP is committed to safeguarding interests of Punjab. No individual will be permitted to use the party platform for anything that hurts Punjabi sentiments,” Jakhar added.

According to party sources, Jakhar had alerted the BJP’s national leadership about the sensitivity of the issue. Several senior leaders from Punjab also spoke directly to party national general secretary

BL Santosh, urging him to stop the programme.

Late Thursday evening, while on his way from the Amritsar airport to Ferozepur, Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal received calls from the Prime Minister’s Office and the party high command asking him to return to Delhi immediately, according to a source. He cancelled the visit and returned.

‘Unnecessary row created’
Ferozepur BJP leader Rana Gurmeet Singh Sodhi said an unnecessary controversy was created over the issue.

“Meghwal ji only wanted to perform a puja at the canal head to thank Punjabis. Nothing political was planned,” Sodhi claimed. “It was a thanksgiving function, not a provocative one,” he added.

The Gang Canal, the foundation stone for which was laid in 1925, takes water from the Sutlej in Punjab to Rajasthan to irrigate large tracts of farmland. The Congress, which is Punjab’s main Opposition, was quick to slam the celebrations as a blatant display of the BJP’s disregard for Punjab’s woes. Leader of the Opposition

in the state Assembly Partap Singh Bajwa and state Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring had criticised the event.

Bajwa branded the event “insensitive and provocative” and described the Gang Canal as a “British-era reward to Bikaner’s Maharaja at Punjab’s expense”.

Subdued puja
Despite the cancellation of the main event, a quiet puja was performed at the canal headworks in Hussainiwala on Friday morning by a small group of people from Bikaner, a source said. No political leader from Punjab or Rajasthan was present.

Meanwhile, Union Law Minister and Bikaner BJP MP Arjun Ram Meghwal attended a programme making 100 years of the canal near Siriganaganar.

While narrating the story of Maharaja Ganga Singh of Bikaner, during whose time the construction of the canal began, Meghwal presented Bollywood song “Sau Saal Pehle Mujhe Tum Se Pyar Tha” sung by Lata Mangeshkar and Mohd Rafi for Dev Anand and Asha Parekh in “Jab Pyar Kisi Se Hota Hai”.

Farm unions block rail tracks over power Bill, 600 activists ‘detained’

MOHIT KHANNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, NOVEMBER 5

Members of several farm unions under the banner of the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) on Friday blocked railway tracks across 19 districts to oppose the draft Electricity Amendment Bill, 2025.

The “rail roko” protest led to widespread delays, cancellations and intense standoff with the police, further straining relations between the farm unions and the state government.

Sarwan Singh Pandher, coordinator of the KMM, said more than 600 farm activists, including top leadership, were detained or put under house arrest hours before the protest. He alleged that the Punjab Police conducted raids at the homes of farm leaders early in the morning to stop them from reaching the protest sites.

A video from Nabha, purportedly showing police personnel entering the house of a farm leader during the wee hours, went viral and fuelled anger among activists.

In Patiala, the detentions sparked backlash, prompting farmers to gather at railway tracks in Kakrala, Nabha and Shambhu, which



Farm activists raise slogans against the Centre. VISHAL KUMAR

delayed several passenger and express trains.

“The police stayed outside our houses till 3 pm. They released our leaders only after the protest ended,” said Pandher. “Despite the crack-down, we managed to hold blockades at 21 locations. More reports are still being collected,” he added. < Farm unions said the protest was aimed at pressuring the Centre to withdraw the Electricity Amendment Bill, 2025, which they fear would accelerate privatisation of power sector and burden rural consumers with higher tariffs. Their key demands include the removal of prepaid electricity meters. The unions

also slammed the Punjab Government for forcibly selling public properties.

The blockade severely disrupted movement on crucial routes, including the Delhi-Amritsar, Amritsar-Jammu, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Ferozepur, Sangrur, Bathinda, Tarn Taran and Gurdaspur lines.

Multiple long-distance and intercity trains were delayed, short-terminated or cancelled. Hundreds of passengers were left stranded at major junctions, waiting for clarity on rescheduled services.

“We will not allow the policies that destroy the livelihoods of Punjab’s farmers,” said Pandher.

PAK VISA VIOLATION BY SARABJIT KAUR Lahore HC notice to state

RAJ SADOSH

ABOHAAR, DECEMBER 5

After initial hearing on the new constitutional petition on the alleged violation of visa rules by Sikh pilgrim Sarabjit Kaur from India, the Lahore high court on Friday issued a notice to the state.

HC advocate Imtiaz Rashid Qureshi confirmed that the petition had been resubmitted after removing the previous objections, which the HC fixed for hearing before a single bench today. The bench of Justice Farooq Haider issued a notice to the state after the initial hearing and sought its response within two weeks.

It was mentioned in the petition that Sarabjit Kaur has been going to places other than the scheduled pilgrimage limits, continuing to stay in Pakistan despite the expiry of her visa.

This petition has been filed by former Member of Punjab Assembly and former Parliamentary Secretary for Human Rights and Minority Affairs Mahendra Pal Singh through his lawyer Advocate Ali Chengizi Sandhu.

The federal government, Ministry of Interior, FIA, Punjab government, Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee and Punjab Minority Affairs Department have also been made parties in the petition.

According to the petition, Sarabjit Kaur, a native of Muktsar district of Indian Punjab, entered Pakistan on November 4. She was issued a 10-day single-entry religious visa, under which she was restricted to only a few specific pilgrimages — such as Nankana Sahib, Kartarpur, and approved religious sites — until November 13.

The petition contended that Sarabjit Kaur did not comply with the prescribed conditions of the visa, travelled beyond the pilgrimage limits, continuing to stay in Pakistan despite the expiry of the visa which clearly fell under the category of overstay and violation of Pakistani laws. It was also claimed that Sarabjit Kaur was facing fraud and cheating cases in India, hence, granting her a visa, raised several serious legal and security questions.

7.3% affected by mental health disorders in 13-17 age group: Centre on MP’s query

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 5

The prevalence of mental health disorders in the 13-17 years age group is around 7.3 per cent, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Prataprao Jadhav said in a written response to Lok Sabha MP Raj Kumar Chabbewal.

Jadhav said the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) had been sanctioned for implementation

in 767 districts for which support is provided to states through the National Health Mission. He said that facilities under DMHP include outpatient services, assessment and counselling to persons with severe mental disorders. There are 47 government-run mental hospitals in the country, including three central mental health institutions. — TNS

Families of missing youths seek Putin’s intervention

AMRITSAR, DECEMBER 5

Families of those fighting for Russia in the war against Ukraine has urged Russian president Vladimir Putin to intervene and send their relatives back to India.

Sinder Pal Kaur said her son Budh Ram Singh had gone left for Russia in 2024 and the family last spoke to him over the phone in March.

Sukhpreet Kaur, sister-in-law of Budh Ram, said he had last spoken to the family on

March 26, 2024, conveying that he would not be able to communicate with them for a fortnight since he would be deployed at the front.

The family has been running from pillar to post to know the fate of their son who was recruited into the Russian Army, probably as a helper.

They requested PM Narendra Modi to take up the matter with Russia. Arjun of Karnal’s Gharaunda Choura village said his 21-year-old brother

Anuj went to Russia on study visa about 10 months ago. He added that there were over 60 youngsters from Haryana who went to Russia this year.

He said a majority of them were tricked to join defence services. He said they recently submitted a memorandum at the offices of President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister, Ministry of External Affairs, National Human Rights Commission, Home Ministry, requesting to ensure the safer return of youngsters. — TNS

Qadian-Beas rly track ‘unfrozen’, work to start soon

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GURDASPUR, DECEMBER 5

The Railways have decided to restart work on the 40-km Qadian-Beas rail track, with Minister of State Ravneet Bittu ordering officials to “unfreeze” the railway line which was earlier put in the “freeze” category following technical issues relating to alignment, land acquisition and “petty politicking”.

Deputy Commissioner Rahul Chaba has been juggling offices and holding meetings. He is supported by Sukhchain Singh, ADC (RD), Sangrur, who is the lone senior officer presently working in this politically important district.

“The two officers are meeting the public, holding important meetings, attend-

ing video conferences, attending meetings by seniors in Chandigarh and also attending to senior leaders visiting the CM’s city,” said a junior-rung officer. “Sometimes we have no one to spare if more than two Cabinet ministers turn up or if there is an important VVIP visit,” stated an official in the district administration.

The post of the ADC (G) Sangrur fell vacant after the government shifted Amit Bamby as ADC (G) Barnala. Vikas Hira was named as his replacement on November 28. Interestingly on the same date, Ankur Mahindroo, who was posted as ADC Khanna, was transferred to Sangrur instead of Hira. However, Mahindroo could not be relieved due to the Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti polls.

Public is also facing harassment as the post of Regional Transport Officer is vacant ever since the transfer orders of Naman Markan came last week. Lal Vishwas Bains, who was transferred here from

Nakodar, is yet to join the office. Sources said he was yet to be relieved from Nakodar.

“Almost 10 days ago, I had met the RTO and explained my problem pertaining to a lost RC. Now I am told he is transferred and the new officer is yet to join. I went to complain to the DC, only to be told that he is holding meetings for the Zila Parishad polls,” Gurpreet Singh, a Sangrur resident, told *The Tribune*.

Further, the post of Assistant Commissioner (General) is also vacant. The government had transferred Kirpal Vir Singh to Sangrur, but it is learnt that he was already on leave and yet to join.

The charge of SDM Lehra-ga and Moonak is handled by a single officer who has to shuffle between the two important subdivisions. The Executive Officer of Sangrur Municipal Council, which is in news for open burning of garbage and unattended garbage dumps, has the additional charge of Devgarh in Patiala.

APPENDIX -IV-A E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (IES)									
E-Auction-Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002									
Registered Office: 9th Floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001, Phones:-011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Web - www.pnbhousing.com Karnal Branch: PNB Housing Finance Limited, SCO 218-219, 2nd Floor, Sector 12, Part 1, City Centre Huda, Karnal - 132001									
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) & guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) (described in Column no-D mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the construction/Physical Possession of which has been taken/retained/ described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" as per the details mentioned below. Notice is hereby given to borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrowers/ mortgagor(s) since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule 9(3) & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 amended as on date. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.pnbhousing.com									
Loan No./Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor(s)/Legal Heirs (A)	Demand Amount & Date (B)	Nature of Possession (C)	Description of the Properties Mortgaged (D)	Reserve Price (RP) (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	Last Date of Submission of Bid (G) (F)	Bid Incremental Rate (H)	Date of Auction & Time (I)	Known Encumbrances/Co-Debt (J)
HOU/KAR/1222105 8399 B.O. Karnal, Gajraj Jadu, Mrs. Kamlesh	Rs. 27,91,806.43 as on 08-08-2024	Physical Possession	All that part and parcel of property House Measuring 85 Sq. Yds. New Property ID No.3BDL8862, Patel Park, Shankar Garden, Gali No.6, Across Railway Line, Bahadurgarh District, Jhajar-124507. Composed in Khasat No.1476/1476, Khatoni No. 2160, Khara No.3756/2610 min (0-11), 69/1331 share of kitta 1 Rakka "Isad 0 Bghe 11 Bawe as per the Deed Usika No.859 Dated 15.02.2023 in favour of Kamlesh W/o Gajraj Jadu, Boundaries: East: Street 10 Ft Wide (34 Ft. 0 inch), West: Plot (34 Ft. 0 inch), North Plot Parmeshwar (22 Ft. 5 inch), South-Street 10 Ft. Wide (22 Ft. 5 inch)	Rs. 2357000	Rs. 235700	23-12-2025	10.00 AM	10-12-2025 24-12-2025 10:00 AM 02:00 PM 5:30 PM	Not Known
* Together with the further interest @18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and/or realization thereof. ** To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the column no-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser(s)/bidders are requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances. 1. As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL the authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets 2. The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pleading in the proceedings/orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K. Including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and satisfy themselves in all respects prior to submitting tender/bid application form or making Offer(s). The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form 3. Please note that in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s)/the purchaser is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money, if any, deposited) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of (bidder/s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the sale consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the property/secured asset shall be resold. 4. C1 INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED would be assisting the Authorized Officer in conducting sale through an e-Auction having its corporate office at Plot No.68, 3rd Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon, Haryana 122003 Website- www.bankexams.com. For for an assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with Rahul Dua, Contact Number: 18001201800, is authorised person of PNBHFL or refer to www.pnbhousing.com									
Place: Karnal, Dated: 06.12.2025									
Authorized Officer, M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited									