Devotion runs deep as Sawan Monday draws thousands

HT Correspondents
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VARANASI/PRAYAGRAJ:: Shiva temples in Varanasi and Prayagraj witnessed large crowds on the second Monday of Sawan, with devotees arriving from Sunday night to offer Jalabhishek and prayers amid chants of 'Har Har Mahadev'.

In Varanasi, large crowds thronged the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and other major Shiva shrines.

Baba Vishwanath was adorned in the special Gauri-Shankar (Shankar-Parvati) form. Officials showered flower petals on devotees walking towards the shrine.

Kashi Vishwanath Temple Trust CEO Vishwa Bhushan Mishra said zigzag barricading had been extended across a larger area of the temple complex to reduce queues on roads. Additional shelters, air coolers, RO drinking water,

ORS and other facilities were provided, while three medical aid centres and free ambulances were deployed.

Large crowds were also reported at temples of Mritunjay Mahadev, Gauri Kedareshwar, Tilbhandeshwar, Shooltankeshwar, Markandey Mahadev, Sarangnath Mahadev and the Vishwanath temple at BHU.

Police divided the city into five zones and 15 sectors for crowd and security management.

Fire tenders, QRTs, lost-and-found centres, medical facilities, ambulances and designated parking areas were also arranged.

District magistrate Satyendra Kumar inspected arrangements at the Kashi Vishwanath temple and interacted with Kanwariyas and reviewed facilities.

He also monitored security through CCTV from the control room.

In Prayagraj, thousands of devotees visited the Mankameshwar Mahadev temple on the Yamuna banks, with queues stretching nearly a kilometre. Jalabhishek and other rituals began around 4 am after the temple opened in the early hours.

A special Shringar of Lord Shiva was held on Sunday evening, followed by an offering of Chhappan Bhog comprising 56 varieties of delicacies.

Temple Mahant Brahmachari Shridharanand Maharaj said the shrine, referred to as Kameshwar in religious texts, is traditionally associated with Lord Ram, who is believed to have performed Jalabhishek there during his exile.

The administration deployed additional police personnel and installed barricades and CCTV cameras.

Separate queues were arranged for men and women, with a dedicated exit route for women devotees.

The traditional horse cart race, or Gehrebazi, was also held on Arail Road on Monday evening, with nearly a dozen participants. The race is held every Monday during Sawan in Prayagraj.

People gather to offer prayers to Lord Shiva at Kashi Vishwanath temple on the second Monday of the month of 'Sawan', in Varanasi. PTI

The traditional horse cart race (Gehrebazi) underway on Arail Road in Prayagraj on Monday evening. HT PHOTO

'Widow's adopted son can inherit hubby's property'

HT Correspondent
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PRAYAGRAJ: The Allahabad high court has held that a son adopted by a widow after her husband's death is deemed to be the adopted son of the deceased husband as well and is entitled to inherit his share in the property.

Justice Chandra Kumar Rai dismissed a petition filed in 1983 by Prayagraj resident Ram Kripal, challenging a consolidation authority's order recognising Ramji as the adopted son of Moti Rani and her deceased husband Murlidhar,

Allahabad high court HT FILE

Murlidhar had died issueless and his share in the property devolved on his widow. Ramji claimed that Moti Rani had adopted him through a deed dated August 2, 1960, making him entitled to Murlidhar's share. The court, in its July 30 judgment, relied on the Supreme Court's ruling in Sawan Ram vs Kalawanti and another judgment in the Subhash Misir case. It held that an adopted son of a widow is deemed to be the son of her deceased husband and, on the widow's death, inherits the husband's property as his heir.

"Considering the ratio of law laid down by the Apex Court and this Court, there is no illegality" in the consolidation authorities' decision recognising Ramji as the adopted son of Moti Rani and Murlidhar, the court said.

HC STAYS ARREST OF AFZAL ANSARI IN THREE ARMS LICENCE FIRs

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PRAYAGRAJ: The Allahabad high court on Monday stayed the arrest of Ghazipur Member of Parliament Afzal Ansari in three FIRs registered by Ghazipur police over alleged irregularities in the purchase and sale of firearms on his licence, which allegedly went missing.

All three FIRs were registered at Kotwali police station after police allegedly found missing official records, irregularities in weapon transactions and an untraceable rifle purchased on Ansari's licence.

A bench of Justices Siddharth Varma and Achal Sachdev granted the government time to respond and stayed Ansari's arrest.

It clubbed the three petitions and directed that they be listed after three weeks.

Police have alleged that official records were deliberately removed in collusion with arms clerks.

\The FIRs name Ansari, former arms clerk Gaurishankar Lal and another clerk, Sugriv Tiwari, and invoke charges of cheating, forgery, criminal conspiracy and relevant provisions of the Arms Act.

According to the petitioner's counsel, FIRs for missing official documents relating to the years 1983 to 1987 were registered in July 2026, which is highly belated.

Confinement over conversion: HC asks father, UP to pay ₹25L

Jitendra Sarin
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PRAYAGRAJ: The Allahabad high court has ordered the father of two adult sisters and the Uttar Pradesh government to jointly pay Rs 25 lakh compensation after holding that the women were illegally confined at their parental home following their decision to convert from Hinduism to Islam.

The court said that both sisters are free to reside at any place and with any person of their own choice, without any interference from their father or any other person.

The court further directed the women's father to hand over the passport, educational certificates, identity documents, bank passbooks, cheque books, conversion-related documents and personal belongings to both women within seven days.

However, the court clarified that the investigation into an FIR registered by the sisters' father regarding forcible conversion of both women would proceed strictly in accordance with the law and remain uninfluenced by its observations in the present proceedings.

Justice Sandeep Jain passed the order while allowing a habeas corpus petition concerning Diya Bhatia alias Zoya Diya Bhatia (20) and Ansha Bhatia alias Amina Anshu Bhatia (35).

The order was passed after the two women told the high court that they had voluntarily embraced Islam — Anshu in 2020 and Diya in 2021 — out of their own faith, conscience, mental peace and spiritual solace.

They alleged that their father subsequently confined them in the parental home against their wishes because of their decision to change their faith.

After interacting with both women, the court recorded that their responses were "spontaneous, coherent and unequivocal" and that nothing emerged to indicate that either was acting under coercion, fear, inducement or undue influence.

The court observed, "Once an individual attains majority, the Constitution recognises her autonomy to take decisions relating to faith, belief, residence, association and every other facet of personal liberty, subject only to restrictions sanctioned by law."

Counsel for the state government opposed the habeas corpus petition while relying on an FIR lodged by the father of the women alleging forcible and deceitful conversion from Hinduism to Islam.

It was argued by the state government counsel that the alleged conversion formed part of a larger organised conspiracy having ramifications for the "sovereignty, integrity and unity of the nation", and that releasing the women could prejudice the ongoing investigation.

The high court, however, found that the question of whether the conversion complied with the 2021 Act could not justify their continued confinement.

Justice Jain observed that upon attaining majority, parental authority has to yield to constitutional liberty and individual autonomy.

"Any restraint upon the movement or liberty of such person, except lawful authority, would constitute illegal confinement and amount to a direct infringement of the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution," the court remarked.

In its order dated August 6, the court also found fault with the State machinery for failing to protect the women's liberty. The court remarked that the State, instead of securing their release, had permitted the illegal detention to continue under the cover of the criminal proceedings and had, through its acts of omission and commission, "lent tacit support to the continued deprivation of the fundamental rights" of the women.

The court remarked: "The Constitution does not confer upon parents a licence to incarcerate their major children merely because they disapprove of their faith, beliefs or personal choices. The Constitutional rights cannot be eclipsed by parental authority, social morality or majoritarian sentiment."

"Equally disturbing is the conduct of the State and its instrumentalities. The State, which bears the highest constitutional obligation as the sentinel and protector of the life and liberty of every citizen, instead of securing the release of the corpus from their unlawful confinement, permitted the continuation of such illegal detention under the ostensible cover of the criminal proceedings initiated pursuant to Case Crime No. 228 of 2025. The record unmistakably reveals that the State machinery failed to discharge its constitutional obligations and, by its acts of omission and commission, lent tacit support to the continued deprivation of the fundamental rights of the corpus. Such executive inaction and constitutional indifference cannot receive judicial approbation and renders the State equally accountable in public law for the violation of the fundamental rights guaranteed to the corpus," the high court said.

शहीद कैप्टन विजय प्रताप सिंह महाविद्यालय
आवाजापुर, सकलडीहा, चन्दौली
आवश्यकता है
स्ववित्तपोषित योजनान्तर्गत स्नातकोत्तर स्तर पर
प्राचार्य,
प्रवक्ताओं-हिन्दी, समाजशास्त्र, भूगोल गृहविज्ञान एवं एम०कॉम० (कामर्स) और स्नातक स्तर पर राजनीतिशास्त्र, अर्थशास्त्र एवं शिक्षाशास्त्र विषयों की।
योग्यता एवं वेतनमान- यू.जी.सी. एवं महात्मा गांधी काशी विद्यापीठ वाराणसी के मानक के अनुसार। इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी अपने समस्त शैक्षिक एवं आवश्यक दस्तावेजों के साथ शीघ्र आवेदन करें।
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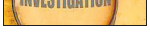
{ PRAYAGRAJ DIVISION } BETWEEN APRIL-JULY

383 traders fined ₹19.73L for weights violations

HT Correspondent
letters@htlive.com

PRAYAGRAJ : The legal metrology department imposed penalties totalling Rs 19.73 lakh on 383 traders across Prayagraj division for violations involving weights, measures and packaged commodities during inspection drives between April and July.

Prayagraj recorded the highest penalties at Rs 11.70 lakh from 178 traders, followed by Fatehpur (Rs 4.08 lakh from 76),



FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Pratapgarh (Rs 2.30 lakh from 73) and Kaushambi (Rs 1.65 lakh from 56).Assistant controller Arvind Kumar Yadav said inspection drives were conducted in Prayagraj, Kaushambi,

PRAYAGRAJ RECORDED THE HIGHEST PENALTIES AT RS 11.70 LAKH FROM 178 TRADERS

Fatehpur and Pratapgarh between April and July this year.

During the period, officials detected irregularities at 383 establishments.

"The most common violations involved sweets being sold below the declared weight. Similar discrepancies were found at bakeries, grain stores and grocery outlets. In some instances, LPG cylinders were also found containing less gas than the quantity specified," Yadav said.

Officials also checked weighing instruments and packaged commodities for mandatory declarations such as maximum retail price (MRP). Proceedings remain pending in 115 cases, while inspectors have been directed to continue regular inspections and raids.

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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES MORTGAGED TO BANK,
UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

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 Rule 8 (6) and / or 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES/SECURED ASSETS

S. N.	Name of the Account / Name of the Branch	Description of Properties	O/S Bal as on 31.07.2026 / Date of 13 (2) / Date of 13 (4) / Nature of possession (Physical/Symbolic)	Reserve Price / EMD (Rs. in Lakh)/ Bid Increase Amount / Last date of deposit EMD	Date and Time of E-Auction	Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors
1-	**Borrowers : 1- M/s Ujjwal Sarees Showroom** SA- 1/1, Pandeypur, Varanasi, 221007 **2- Mr. Munna Jaiswal** Gram Hiramanpur, Post Sarnath Varanasi 221007 **3- Pratibha Jaiswal** Gram Hiramanpur, Post Sarnath Varanasi 221007 **Branch: ARMB Varanasi (833100)**	**1.** EM of land and building situated at Arazi No. 247, at Mauza Hiramanpur Pargana - Shivpur Tehsil & Distt- Varanasi UP, area 105.66 sqr mtr vide Sale deed no. 5452 dated 27/10/2018 registered at Book no.- 1, Zild No.- 8739 pages 79 to 112, (Owner Shri Munna Jaiswal S/o Late Vinod Prasad Jaiswal), **Boundary as per sale deed : East-** Land of Mr. Sandeep Kumar Dubey, **West-**House of Mrs. Poonam Devi and 4' wide road, **North-** House of Mrs. Pratibha Jaiswal, **South-** Kachha Rasta 12 Ft. Wide, **2.** EM of land and building situated at Arazi No. 246 and Arazi no. 247, at Mauza Hiramanpur Pargana - Shivpur Tehsil & Distt- Varanasi UP, area 178.20 sqr. Mtr. And 105.66 sqr mtr vide Sale deed no. 4545 dated 06/12/2006 registered at Book no.- 1, Zild No.- 2748 pages 37 to 62, AND Sale deed no. 5451 dated 27/10/2018 registered at Book no.- 1, Zild No.- 8739 pages 53 to 70, (Owner Smt. Pratribha Jaiswal W/o Shri Munna Jaiswal), **Boundary as per sale deed : East-** Land of Seller Mr. Sandeep Kumar, **West-**House of Mrs. Poonam Devi, **North-** Road 10 Ft. Wide, **South-** Land of Shri Munna Jaiswal **3.** EM of land and building situated at Arazi No. 247, at Mauza Hiramanpur Pargana - Shivpur Tehsil & Distt- Varanasi UP, area 126.39 sqr mtr vide Sale deed no. 3358 dated 06/06/2013 registered at Book no.- 1, Zild No.- 5832 pages 363 to 386, (Owner Smt. Pratribha Jaiswal W/O Shri Munna Jaiswal), **Boundary as per sale deed : East-** Kachha ratsta 10 feet wide, **West-** Kachha ratsta 8 feet wide, **North-** Land of Munna Jaiswal, **South-** Kharanja road 10 feet wide **4.** EM of land and building situated at Arazi No. 247, at Mauza Hiramanpur Pargana - Shivpur Tehsil & Distt- Varanasi UP, area 139.90 sqr mtr vide Sale deed no. 2064 dated 25/04/2019 registered at Book no.- 1, Zild No.- 9016 pages 109 to 148, (Owner Shri Munna Jaiswal S/o Late Vinod Prasad Jaiswal), **Boundary as per sale deed : East-** Kachha rasta 4 feet wide, **West-** Land of Roly Srivastava, **North-** Land of Bhagwati Upadhyay, **South-** House of Pratibha Jaiswal	**Rs. 1,05,99,852.93** with further interest w.e.f 01.08.2026, plus Dl and other charges incurred, minus recovery (For all accounts and properties) **27.03.2026** **10.06.2026** Symbolic	**Property-1** **19,76,000 /-** **1,97,600/-** **50,000/-** **10.09.2026 04:00 PM** **Property-2** **51,69,000 /-** **5,16,900/-** **50,000/-** **10.09.2026 04:00 PM** **Property-3** **23,42,000 /-** **2,34,200/-** **50,000/-** **10.09.2026 04:00 PM** **Property-4** **30,41,000 /-** **3,04,100/-** **50,000/-** **10.09.2026 04:00 PM**	**11.09.2026 11:00 AM to 04.00 PM**	**Not Known**
2-	**M/S Sri Sai Infraventures Private Limited Borrowers : 1) M/S Sri Sai Infraventures Private Limited,** Add: 133/3 shiv Shakti Nagar Colony Narayanpur Dafi , Varanasi UP-221011 **Borrower/Director : 2) Yogeshwar Upadhyay S/O Salik Upadhyay,** Add: 133/3 Shiv Shakti Nagar Colony Narayanpur Dafi Varanasi UP-221010 **Borrower/Director : 3) Smt. Shashi Upadhyay W/o Yogeshwar Upadhyay** Add: 133/3 Shiv Shakti Nagar Colony Narayanpur Dafi Varanasi UP-221010 **Branch: ARMB Varanasi (833100)**	EM of Land and construction on Arazi No. 133/2 area-5331.20 sqft. i.e. 495.46 Sqmt. situated at Mauza-Dafi, Pargana-Dehat Amant, Tehsil & District- Varanasi, registered as per deed No. 4176 dated 10.07.2009 at the office of Sub Registrar office II-Varanasi, at Book No. 1, vol. No.-2931, pages 301 to 334 (Owner- Smt. Shashi Upadhyay W/O Yogeshwar Upadhyay), **Boundary (as per deed): East-** Kaccha rasta 9 ft wide , **West-** Land of Rajendera and others, **North-** Land of Jawahir and others, **South-** Boundry of Gujrati Devi and others	**Rs. 71,05,754.38** with further interest w.e.f 01.08.2026, plus Dl and other charges incurred, minus recovery **17.08.2020** **10.08.2022** Symbolic	**2,79,75,000/-** **27,97,500/-** **1,00,000/-** **10.09.2026 04:00 PM**	**11.09.2026 11:00 AM to 04.00 PM**	**Not Known**

following further conditions. **1.** The properties are being sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" 2.** The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. **3.** The Sale will be done by the undersigned through **e-auction platform provided** at the Website **https://ebkray.in/baanknet.com** on above mentioned date & time and bidders are advised go through the portal **https://ebkray.in/baanknet.com** for taking part in the auction.. **4.** For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer **https://ebkray.in/baanknet.com & www.pnbindia.in** or Contact **Sri Rudra Nand-Chief Manager, the Authorised Officer (Mobile No. 9204057664)**

Date : 10.08.2026 Place : Varanasi STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) AND / OR 9(1) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002 Authorised Officer - Punjab National Bank

LIC LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA
Divisional Office - Jeevan Prakash B 12/120, Gauriganj Bhelupur, Varanasi
Phone No. 0542-2450879 E-mail : ox.varanasi@licindia.com
Enlistment Notice for Air Travel Ticket Agents

Applications are invited from agencies/firms/companies or similar institutions qualified to work as travel agents for air travel, having 03 years of experience in booking air tickets and having the correct license from the relevant authorities, for empanelment with the Corporation to provide services to the Divisional Office of Varanasi (under which Uttar Pradesh is situated). Such institutions having authorization/license to carry on the above business can apply. The services are permissible for two years, which can be renewed for one year.

Applications can be made in cash or by bank demand draft of Rs. 236/- payable to Life Insurance Corporation of India. This application form can also be downloaded from our website: **www.licindia.in** . All downloaded applications must be accompanied by a cash receipt for Rs. 236/- or a demand draft as described above. For further information, please contact our above office. Applications must reach the following address **by 3:00 PM on August 27, 2026**

Manager (Office Services) Life Insurance Corporation of India, Divisional Office, Jeevan Prakash, B 12/120 Gauriganj Bhelupur, Varanasi (U.P.)-221001

The Senior Divisional Manager reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason.

Senior Divisional Manager

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दूरभाष-0515-2821690, फैक्स नं0 0515-2821573
Website: undaunao.in, Email-aeroadc@yahoo.com, undaunao-up@gmail.com
Letter No.- 266/VPRA/(2026-27) Date 10.08.2026

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

On behalf of Vice Chairman, Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority (USDA). Bids are invited from experienced contractors/ contracting firms/organization to bid for the "Empanelment of Architect/ Urban planners and Subject Matter Experts (SME's)" for Empanelment at Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority.

Details of RFP can be downloaded from website https://etender.up.nic.in from date 12.08.2026

Proposal Submission Start Date	- 12.08.2026
Deadline for sending queries	- 20.08.2026
Pre-bid Meeting	- 24.08.2026
Last Date for Submitting response	- 31.08.2026

Note:-

1. The RFP Notice shall be available on website of Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority (USDA) at www.usdaunnao.in and RFP Documents can be downloaded from UP Electronics Corporation website https://etender.up.nic.in. Interested bidders are requested to visit the websites regularly and update themselves with regard to any change or additional information related to the tender.

2. The cost of Bid document/E-Tender processing fee and registration fee is required to be deposited through Bank Detail as follow:- Name of Bank : BANK OF BARODA, IFSC Code: BARB0UNNAOX, Account No.: 12050100013012 (As shown in the RFP document). No other mode of payment will be accepted otherwise tender will be considered as ineligible.

Further enquiry can be made from Secretary Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority (USDA) on mobile No. 7565801201 during office hours (10:00 AM to 5:00 PM).

Secretary
Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority

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REGIONAL OFFICE-DEORIA
INVITATION OF BIDS / OFFERS FOR PREMISES ON LEASE

Central Bank of India, Existing Branch office, Deoria requires premises is ready possession / ready for possession within 03 months. Location of below mentioned branch:

Sr. No.	Branch	Address nearby branch address	Proposed Premises Carpet Area
1.	Barhaj	Barhaj, Deoria	Total Carpet Area 800 - 1000 Sq.ft. (±20%)

Premise should be preferably on the ground floor with adequate parking space and with 10-20 KVA of 440 volt, 3 –phase connection for their Branch / Office also location of the proposed premise should be on road. No brokers or intermediaries please. Priority will be accorded to Government / Semi Govt. bodies or public sector undertakings. Kindly download the formats / terms and conditions from the website : http://www.centralbank.bank.in or collect the same from our Regional Office at Nagar palika Road, Deoria during office hours. The last date for Submission of offers is 08.09.2026 up to 04:00 P.M., which shall be accompanied with a EMD of Rs. 3000/- (Refundable). Bank reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Date:10.08.2026 REGIONAL HEAD Regional Office - Deoria