



Paying their tribute at the Kargil War Memorial. *Shuaib Masoodi*

Tiger Hill Vir Chakra now directs traffic in a small Punjab town

Satpal Singh, ex-8 Sikh, killed officer who got Pak's highest gallantry award

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
BHAWANIGARH (SANGRUR),
JULY 25

AT A road intersection in Bhawanigarh, a small town in Sangrur district of Punjab, Head Constable Satpal Singh is busy directing traffic. But a close look at his uniform tells you he is no ordinary traffic policeman. On his shirt, he wears four rows of medal ribands, including one that's half blue-half orange. The Vir Chakra.



Satpal Singh on duty in Bhawanigarh. *Express*

INSIDE

'HUSBAND KILLED IN DRASS, WE LIVED TOGETHER FOR ONLY 2 MONTHS' PAGE 8

to help the 19 Grenadiers capture Tiger Hill.

Eighteen personnel, including three JCOs, died while beating back Pakistani attacks on Tiger Hill. Most who survived

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

In US, Johnson & Johnson agrees to pay \$1 billion for its faulty hip implants, in India brazens it out

Firm claims no adverse reports in India, patients hit a brick wall

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

ON MAY 7, Johnson & Johnson agreed in a Texas court to shell out \$1 billion to settle about 6,000 lawsuits filed against the global pharma giant by patients in the US who used its "defective" Pinnacle hip implants for 10 years from 2003 to 2013 before the product was withdrawn.

In India, the contrast is stark. Here, J&J is fighting a government order asking it to pay Rs 20 lakh to Rs 1 crore to patients who used its faulty ASR hip implants, a product that came after Pinnacle. And on Pinnacle itself, there is deafening silence.

Unlike ASR, J&J has claimed in India that it has received no adverse event reports on Pinnacle. Medical records accessed by The Indian Express show otherwise.

In November, an investigation by The Indian Express identified three patients suffering from the adverse effects of the Pinnacle implant. Now, there are four more — and counting.

Three of them say they didn't even know that they had Pinnacle implants in their bodies and in at least two cases, there is a clear email trail that shows J&J knew things had gone horribly wrong.

Each of these patients has launched personal battles, knocked on doors. So far, they have hit a brick wall.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Nandakishore Joshi in Navi Mumbai. (right) Seema Mittal in Delhi. *Narendra Vaskar, Amit Mehra*



J&J says no suffering patients in India. Meet some of them

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, JULY 25

WHILE JOHNSON & Johnson has challenged the government's order asking it to pay an estimated 4700 patients — from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 1.22 crore each — who got its ASR hip implant, when it comes to the identical Pinnacle implant, the company has claimed that there are "no adverse reports from any patients." And that Pinnacle was not recalled like the ASR but only withdrawn — an attempt to limit its

liability.

Over four months, The Indian Express tracked down eight patients — five men and three women — who had the Pinnacle implanted and are now facing its consequences. Investigating their medical records, their communication with doctors and, in some cases, with Johnson & Johnson as well, paints a story of suffering, neglect and indifference.

Of patients hitting a wall when it comes to seeking justice even as they fight debilitating pain, organ damage, pseudo-tumours, the toxic effects of excess

cobalt-chromium in the blood. Here are four of them:

1. NANDAKISHORE JOSHI, 61
MUMBAI, PINNACLE IMPLANT:
OCTOBER 2007

PATIENT: Joshi, a retired employee of a multinational civil engineering firm, is the sole earner of the family, including his wife and two college-going children. Movement restricted, difficulty in walking, fears the effects of metal poisoning in the blood.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

EXPLAINED

SIMPLY PUT
WHAT IMRAN KHAN SAID IN THE U.S., WHAT HE MEANT
PAGE 13

SENT TO POWER MINISTRY

Shunted out, Finance Secy puts in papers the day after

Garg pushed for sovereign bonds in foreign currency in overseas markets

SUNNY VERMA & AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

IN APPARENT signs of unease in the economic policy establishment at the Centre, the top bureaucrat in the Finance Ministry has sought voluntary retirement from service, a day after he was moved to the Power Ministry in a broader reshuffle just three weeks after the presentation of the Union Budget.

Outgoing Finance Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg was seen as a powerful bureaucrat, a key driver of decision-making in the Ministry and one of the architects of the controversial Budget proposal to issue sovereign bonds in foreign currency in overseas markets, which was opposed by influential sections of the government.

Garg is seen as behind the Centre's proposal mandating the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to share 75 per cent of its surplus funds with the Union government. He had also played a pivotal role in seeking a



Subhash Chandra Garg hands over charge to Atanu Chakraborty Thursday. *Ministry of Finance/Twitter*

review of the Reserve Bank of India's economic capital framework to get access to the regulator's reserves — areas where the Finance Ministry and the regulators have seen major differences.

In a bureaucratic reshuffle by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet Wednesday, the government moved Garg to the Power Ministry, appointing Gujarat-cadre officer Atanu Chakraborty at the helm of the Department of Economic Affairs in his place.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

High-profile exit puts question mark on Budget plans

A TOP Finance Ministry bureaucrat being moved out and seeking voluntary retirement puts a question mark on key announcements in the Union Budget 2019-20 including the planned overseas bonds. It has injected fresh uncertainty in the bond, currency and equity markets, which have generally responded adversely since the Budget this month. To calm the waters is the Govt's first test.

WORLD



PRITI PATEL AMONG 3 INDIAN-ORIGIN MINISTERS IN NEW BRITISH CABINET

PARIS SIZZLES, LONDON BOILS AS RECORD HEAT THREATENS EUROPE
PAGE 16

Opposition cracks in Rajya Sabha, Bill to dilute RTI slips through...

BJD, TRS, YSRCP and ADMK (28 MPs in all) vote with Govt

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

FROM BELLIGERENT to despair and then anger — the mood in the Opposition camp in Rajya Sabha swung from one extreme to the other within a span of five hours as the BJP Government secured the support of fence-sitters BJD, TRS, YSRCP and AIADMK to defeat the

Opposition bid to force referral of the contentious Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to the select committee.

The Bill, which gave the government powers to decide salary and service terms of the statutory body head and its members, is seen by critics as diluting the law passed by a voice vote.

In a setback, the much-touted Opposition unity also came undone as the BSP, which

attended a meeting convened by UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi only yesterday, was absent from the House when the motion moved by Trinamool Congress's Derek O'Brien was put to vote. The NCP did not take part in the debate and Congress sources said its four members, too, were not present during voting.

Together the four regional parties that broke ranks with the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Karnataka: Speaker disqualifies 3 Cong rebels

JOHNSON T A
BENGALURU, JULY 25

KARNATAKA SPEAKER K R Ramesh Kumar Thursday disqualified three rebel Congress MLAs under the anti-defection law for anti-party activities, including association with the BJP to bring down the Congress-JD(S) coalition government in a trust vote two days ago.

Those disqualified are R Shankar, who was elected as an Independent from Rannebennur before joining the Congress in June after being made a minister, and Ramesh Jharkiholi of Gokak and his associate Mahesh Kumatahalli of Athani in Belagavi, who were dissidents in the party for over 12 months.

The disqualification under the tenth schedule of the Constitution means the three will be stripped of their status as legislators and not be able to contest an election during the remaining 46-month term of the current Assembly, the Speaker

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

...And Lok Sabha passes triple talaq law as Opp blames Govt for bulldozing Bills

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR & LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

AMID OPPOSITION protests over Bills being pushed through Parliament without proper legislative scrutiny, the government Thursday succeeded in getting the triple talaq Bill cleared by Lok Sabha. The Muslim Women

(Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill 2019 that makes the practice of instant triple talaq a penal offence, and for which ordinances were issued three times, was cleared by the House with 303 votes in favour and 82 opposed.

The last Lok Sabha too had passed the Bill which remained pending in Rajya Sabha where the NDA does not have majority.

On Thursday too, the Congress demanded that the Bill be sent to a Standing Committee. The Opposition maintained that the Bill "lacks bonafide intention, is with a political motive to harass Muslims and violates fundamental rights".

BJP ally JD (U) too expressed strong reservations against the Bill, saying it will lead to lack of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh to be a lot quieter: HC bans loudspeakers, PA systems, loud music

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SOFI AHSAN
CHANDIGARH, JULY 25

DECIBEL LEVELS across Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh are set to go south with the Punjab and Haryana High Court ordering a ban on use of loudspeakers or public address systems in private or public places including community halls, banquet halls, temples, mosques and gurudwaras if there's no written permission from the authorities. And even this permission cannot be granted 15 days before or during

annual examinations.

There's also a ban on celebratory firing and live show songs glorifying liquor, drugs and violence. Directing police chiefs to ensure compliance, the High Court has underlined that "glorification of violence has given rise to culture of gangsters in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory Chandigarh".

The only exception made on the use of loudspeakers and public address systems is between 10 pm and 12 midnight during a cultural or religious festive occasion of a limited duration not exceeding 15 days in all during a calendar year.

Moving to curb noise pollution on a clutch of petitions seek-



Curbs on noise levels from sound systems. *File*

ing enforcement of regulations on noise pollution and ban on songs promoting "vulgarity" and

gun culture, the division bench of Justices Rajiv Sharma and Harinder Singh Sidhu, in a judg-

ment released Thursday, issued detailed guidelines to the two states and the Chandigarh administration.

Authorities have been instructed to keep visiting and monitoring public places, private places, auditoriums, conference rooms, community halls, banquet halls, temples, mosques and gurudwaras. District Magistrates, Senior Superintendents of Police and Superintendents of Police of each district have been made personally responsible for compliance.

"The peripheral noise level of a privately owned sound system or a sound producing instrument shall not, at the boundary

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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