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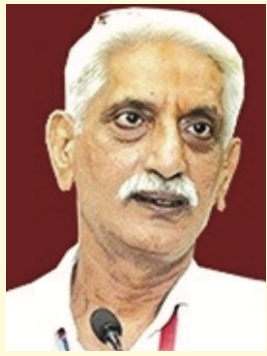
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Introduction

Whose Responsibility Is Women's Safety in Vehicles?

Have you ever wondered whether the panic buttons installed in Delhi's vehicles since 2013 have become nothing more than toys?

The responsible authorities are the Delhi Transport Department, Delhi Traffic Police and Delhi Police.

They stand together when it comes to issuing challans and penalising the public, but when it comes to public interest and women's safety, they appear to stand separately.

Sanjay Kumar Bathla
Editor-in-Chief, Parivahan Vishesh

In 2012, an incident that took place on a moving bus shook the entire nation and forced people to come out onto the streets demanding justice.

Considering the gravity of the situation, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, announced the formation of an inquiry committee chaired by Justice Usha Mehra, a retired judge of the Delhi High Court.

In its report submitted in 2013, the committee clearly pointed out several lapses on the part of the Transport Department and the Delhi Police.

The committee made several recommendations. However, why have the Delhi Transport Department and Delhi Police still not been able to fully implement those recommendations?

The Question: Who Is More Powerful?

Is it the Ministry of Home Affairs or the officials working in government departments?

The answer appears clear: Government officials seem to have become more powerful.

Whether it is:1. An order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India;2. An order issued by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India;3. An order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;4. An order of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Delhi; or5. An order of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court;

government departments in Delhi—particularly:1. Delhi Police;2. Delhi Traffic Police;3. Delhi Transport Department; and4. Municipal Corporation of Delhi;

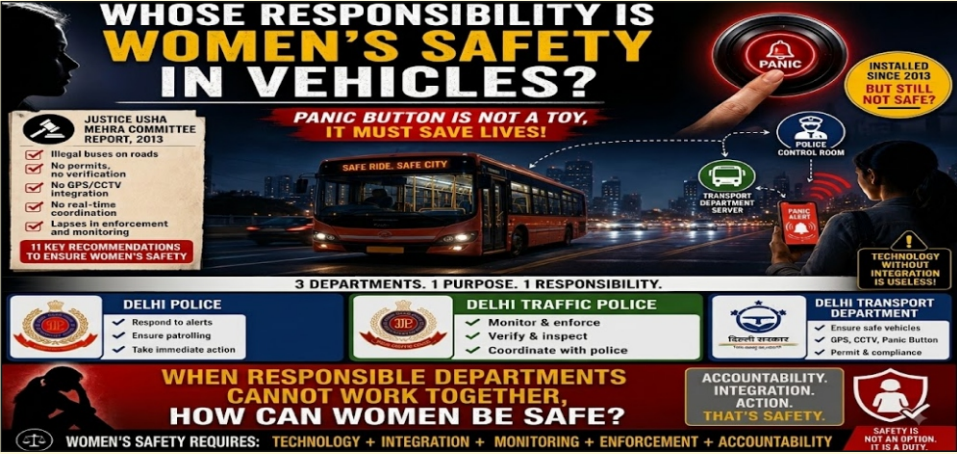
often appear to function according to their own methods, rather than implementing such directions in their true spirit.

The surprising part is that neither the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Government of India, the Delhi Government nor the Delhi High Court appears to initiate effective accountability or disciplinary action against officials for such alleged non-compliance. Instead, orders affecting the public are sometimes passed on the basis of affidavits submitted by these very departments, without any additional independent verification of their claims.

It is our responsibility to bring this issue to the public's attention.

We are presenting some portions of the report of the committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, regarding women's safety in vehicles.

Even in 2026, the recommendations made in 2013 have not been fully implemented. One major reason, as alleged, is that the Delhi



Police has not been prepared to integrate the VLTD (Vehicle Location Tracking Device) application and panic-button control system installed by the Transport Department with the police control-room system.

As a result, the Transport Department may claim that it has complied with the recommendations of the committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs and with directions issued from time to time by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, if the system is not actually integrated and monitored, such compliance remains merely on paper.

In other words, instead of becoming an effective tool for women's safety, the panic button risks becoming nothing more than a toy.

When Two Government Departments Responsible for Women's Safety Cannot Work Together, How Can Women Be Safe in Delhi?

This raises the fundamental question:

Who is responsible for women's safety?—Justice Usha Mehra Committee Constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs1. Background

On 16 December 2012, following the horrific gang-rape of Nirbhaya in Delhi, there was nationwide outrage and a massive movement demanding better protection for women.

The Central Government subsequently took several measures. One of them was the constitution of the Justice Usha Mehra Committee.2. Constitution of the Committee

On 26 December 2012, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, constituted a one-member inquiry commission headed by Justice Usha Mehra, a retired judge of the Delhi High Court.

The notification was issued under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.3. Terms of Reference

The principal responsibilities assigned to the committee included:1. Investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident of 16 December 2012.2. Identifying lapses on the part of persons and authorities responsible for the incident;3. Making recommendations to improve women's safety in Delhi; and4. Suggesting measures to improve the functioning of the police and other agencies.4. The Committee's Report

Justice Usha Mehra submitted the report to the Ministry of Home Affairs on 22 February 2013.Among the key observations were:-Police lapses: The PCR van did not reach the scene in time and there were coordination failures within the control room.-Hospital-related lapses: The report also raised concerns regarding the immediate and appropriate treatment provided to the victim at Safdarjung Hospital.

Major recommendations included:1. Increasing the number of

PCR vans and enhancing patrolling in Delhi;2. Establishing 24×7 women's help desks at police stations;3. Making street lighting, CCTV and GPS in public transport mandatory;4. Increasing the number of fast-track courts; and5. Providing gender-sensitisation training to vehicle drivers.5. Action Following the ReportSeveral recommendations of the committee subsequently found their way into government initiatives, including the Nirbhaya Fund and various women's safety programmes. Changes were also introduced within the Delhi Police.

An Important Distinction

Justice Usha Mehra Committee-Constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs:-Administrative inquiry commission, 2012:-Objective: Investigation of lapses and recommendations for corrective measures.

Justice J.S. Verma Committee- Three-member committee comprising Justice J.S. Verma, Justice Leila Seth and Gopal Subramaniam;-Objective: Recommendations for changes in laws relating to sexual violence and women's safety.---Justice Usha Mehra Committee Report: Recommendations Relating to the Transport Department

Constituted: 26 December 2012 by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

Report submitted: 22 February 20131. What Was the Objective of the Committee?

Following the gang rape of Nirbhaya on a moving bus on 16 December 2012, the Justice Usha Mehra Commission was assigned three broad responsibilities:1. To investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident;2. To identify lapses by the police and administration; and3. To recommend measures to improve women's safety in Delhi, with public transport being a major area of concern.2. Major Findings Relating to the Transport Department

The committee found that the bus used in the incident was operating illegally.

Major lapses included:1. No valid permit: The bus did not have a stage-carriage permit but was being used to carry passengers at night after operating as a school bus.2. No valid fitness certificate: The vehicle's fitness certification had expired.3. Tinted windows: The bus had dark/tinted windows and curtains, contrary to Supreme Court directions.4. No proper verification: The driver and conductor had not undergone proper police verification. The driver had previously been accused in a case involving the rape of a minor.5. No GPS or route monitoring: The bus did not have GPS, and the Transport Department did not have information about its route.

The committee highlighted serious failures in the enforcement mechanism of the Transport Department.---3. Eleven Major Recommendations Relating to the Transport Department

What Has Been Demanded? The complainant has demanded the following actions from MoRTH and the competent authorities:

- Immediate Investigation: Identify the source of the data and check whether the information is being sourced from VAHAN, SARATHI, mParivahan, eChallan or any other government system.
- Review of API and Logs: Forensic examination of access logs, authentication, third-party integrations and credentials
- Investigation of App and Channels: Technical investigation of the said mobile app and Telegram channels.
- Immediate Suspension: Temporarily suspend any API or integration agreement if it has been compromised.
- Impact Assessment: How many people's data has been affected, and what type of data has been leaked.
- Action Under DPDP Act: Legal and regulatory action if violations are found.

Public Interest Aspect The government provides limited information to citizens through mParivahan and the Parivahan portal, but that is purpose-based and secure. If the same data is being extracted and sold in bulk through unauthorized apps, then this is not only a violation of privacy but also opens the door to fraud, stalking and targeted scams.

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In the public interest, it is necessary that MoRTH, NIC and CERT-In jointly

1. Conduct a time-bound investigation to determine the data source,

2. Access mechanism and



MV Act. File a case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. For repeat offenses: cancel license + vehicle seizure.

2. Government Departments And Officials: If an accident happens at a black spot/road and no improvement was made despite Supreme Court orders, then take action against the concerned PWD/Municipal Corporation/NHAI official under Section 198A MV Act.

- If an accident happens due to encroachment or potholes, file a criminal case against the concerned PWD/Municipal official of that area
- The department head should be held responsible for not installing speed breakers and signage near school zones and hospitals
- Make a "Road Audit" mandatory after every accident and make the report public.

A. Permit and Operation1. Night-time operation of private buses

Private buses should not operate after 9:00 PM unless they possess a special permit for night services.Question: Has the Transport Department fully implemented this recommendation even today?2. Misuse of school, charter and rural-service buses

If school buses, charter buses or rural-service vehicles are used as passenger buses, their permits should be immediately cancelled and the vehicles seized.

Question: What effective action has been taken by the Transport Department against such violations?3. Digital permit and route database

A comprehensive digital database of duplicate permits and routes should be created and shared in real time with the Delhi Traffic Police.Current concern: The issue appears to remain largely confined to planning and meetings rather than effective real-time implementation.---B. Vehicle Safety Standards4. GPS and Panic ButtonsAll public-service vehicles should have GPS and panic buttons. The GPS system should be connected to the Delhi Police Control Room and the Transport Department's server.

GPS/VLTD systems and panic buttons have since been installed in vehicles. However, the major question remains whether the systems are effectively integrated with the Delhi Police Control Room and the Transport Department's monitoring infrastructure.

If the technology exists but the agencies responsible for responding to alerts are not effectively connected to it, the purpose of the panic button is defeated.5. Complete prohibition of tinted glass, curtains and films

Tinted glass, curtains and films should be completely prohibited, and the enforcement wing should conduct monthly inspections. The Supreme Court's 2012 directions should be strictly implemented.

Observation: There has been considerable compliance in this area.6. CCTV cameras

Every bus with more than 20 seats should have at least two CCTV cameras, with recordings preserved for 30 days.

Concern: An effective monitoring and control mechanism involving the concerned departments remains essential.---C. Verification7. Police verification of vehicle owners and drivers/conductorsPolice verification of vehicle owners, drivers and conductors should be mandatory.

Employing a driver without verification should result in cancellation of the owner's permit and criminal proceedings.

Question: What is the responsibility of vehicle owners if the concerned department itself has not established a clear, effective and accessible mechanism for driver verification and issuance of verification certificates?8. Women's safety training

Every driver and conductor should receive gender-sensitisation and disaster-management training through the appropriate training system before receiving a PSV badge.

The quality, effectiveness and monitoring of such training also require independent and impartial evaluation.---D. Enforcement and Monitoring9. Restructuring of the Transport Department's enforcement wing

The enforcement mechanism should be strengthened, including 24×7 mobile court vans in every district and special night-time enforcement drives.

Ground reality: Illegal buses continue to operate, and the problem appears to remain significant.10. Public helpline

The public transport helpline 42424242 should be connected with the Transport Department so that passengers can send photographs and vehicle numbers through WhatsApp and lodge complaints.

Concern: There is no clearly visible and effective time-bound

mechanism for action on complaints. Enforcement should not become merely a source of revenue through challans; it must result in actual improvement in public safety.11. Data integration

The servers of the Transport Department, Traffic Police and Dial-100 should be integrated so that an automatic alert can be generated whenever an illegal bus is detected.

Question: Why has such integrated real-time monitoring still not become an effective operational reality?---4. What Happened After the Report?1. Nirbhaya FundThe Nirbhaya Fund was established.

Question: How effectively and transparently has the money been utilised? This requires public scrutiny and accountability.2. GPS and panic buttonsGPS systems and panic buttons were installed in buses.

Concern: The crucial monitoring and response mechanism required to make these systems effective remains the central issue.

3. Amendments to the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 2014Requirements relating to CCTV, GPS and panic buttons were incorporated for public-service vehicles.

Concern: Technology alone cannot provide safety unless it is connected to a functioning monitoring and emergency-response system.

4. Operation ShishtacharThe Transport Department initiated action against private buses operating at night.

Concern: Such enforcement appears to have weakened over time, and the situation is alleged to have deteriorated again.

5. PSV Driver BadgesThe issuance of PSV badges without police verification was restricted.

However, the mandatory periodic verification and review mechanism, including the six-monthly verification process referred to in the discussion, requires examination as to whether it is actually being implemented.---The Committee Had Already Warned in 2013The committee emphasised that its recommendations should not remain confined to paper and that compliance reports should be submitted to the Lieutenant Governor at regular three-month intervals.

Yet, even today, serious questions remain regarding implementation.---Ground Reality

Even today, concerns continue regarding:- Illegal buses:- Vehicles operating without proper permits;- Tinted windows and curtains;- Drivers without proper verification;- Inadequate monitoring;- Lack of effective real-time data integration;- Panic buttons whose alerts may not result in an immediate and coordinated response; and- Lack of clear accountability among the agencies responsible for women's safety.

The Fundamental Question Remains: If the Transport Department, Delhi Traffic Police and Delhi Police are all responsible for ensuring women's safety, who will take responsibility when the systems created for that very purpose fail to work together?

A panic button is meaningful only when pressing it results in an immediate, identifiable and accountable response.

Installing a button in a vehicle is not the same as providing safety.Women's safety requires technology + integration + monitoring + enforcement + accountability.

Until all five work together, the question will continue to remain:---"Whose Responsibility Is Women's Safety in Vehicles?"Source: Justice Usha Mehra Commission Report, 22 February 2013, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The report is in the public domain and may also be obtained through the RTI mechanism.

Alleged Leak of Personal Data from Government Database: Privacy of Crores of Vehicle and License Holders at Risk

Parivahan Vishesh News

Accusation of Unauthorized Use of Data from VAHAN, SARATHI, eChallan

Demand for Investigation Under DPDP Act 2023 - Circulation on Play Store App and Telegram Channels

Presented by: Pinki Kundu, Co-Editor, Parivahan Vishesh

A serious question has been raised about the security of government records related to road transport. In a complaint, it has been alleged that personal data linked to VAHAN, SARATHI, eChallan and other portals operated by MoRTH/NIC is allegedly being made publicly available through unauthorized mobile applications and Telegram channels.

The complainant and Co-Editor of Parivahan Vishesh, Pinki Kundu, has called this matter a "serious privacy, data-security and cyber security concern" and has demanded an immediate technical and administrative investigation by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

What is the Matter The complaint refers to a specific Android application: "Vehicle Information App – Vehicle Details - Vehicle Owner Address & Name" Play Store Link: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=rto.owner.address.parivahan.car.malik.address.finder

The allegation is that by simply entering a vehicle registration number in this app, details such as vehicle owner's name, permanent and current address, RTO details, insurance information, chassis and engine number, PUC details are being displayed.

The app description also states that the developer has no affiliation with any State RTO. The complainant has also said that she is

submitting some Telegram channels, screenshots, and reports generated from the app as evidence.

Key Concerns The complaint raises 5 major points:

1. Unauthorized Access and Dissemination: Access of citizens' personal information by non-government platforms.
2. Security Controls: Questions on the adequacy of MoRTH/NIC database, API and access mechanisms.
3. Third-Party Intermediary: Whether any authorized vendor or API is leaking this data.
4. Massive Exposure: Aggregation and potential commercial use of data of crores of vehicle and driving license holders.
5. Legal Compliance: Alleged violation of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 and other rules.

Applicable Laws and Regulations The following legal provisions are at the center of this entire case:

- Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (DP Act): Under Section 8, it is the responsibility of the Data Fiduciary to protect data and prevent unauthorized processing. Section 8(5) mandates the reporting of a data breach to the Board.
- Information Technology Act, 2000: Section 43A and IT Rules 2011 provide for compensation in case of negligence in protecting sensitive personal data.
- IT Rules 2021: Responsibility of intermediaries to remove illegal content and cooperate.
- Access to Public Records: Under the Motor Vehicles Act, some vehicle-related information may be provided for limited public purposes, but its large-scale aggregation and commercial use is not permitted.

At the judicial level, in Puttaswamy vs Union of India 2017, the Supreme Court recognized privacy as a fundamental right. On this basis, data protection becomes the responsibility of the State.

What Has Been Demanded? The complainant has demanded the following actions from MoRTH and the competent authorities:

- Immediate Investigation: Identify the source of the data and check whether the information is being sourced from VAHAN, SARATHI, mParivahan, eChallan or any other government system.
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1. Conduct a time-bound investigation to determine the data source,

2. Access mechanism and

"Zero Tolerance" Won't Come From Fines Alone It Will Come From Accountability

Parivahan Vishesh News

If we want to stop road accidents, we must go beyond checking documents. We need strict legal action on speeding, drunk driving, and road conditions.

Even after Supreme Court and Government of India orders, why the silence on road improvements and officer accountability?

Author: Pinki Kundu, Co-Editor, Parivahan Vishesh - In Public Interest

If we want to stop road accidents, we must go beyond checking documents. We need strict legal action on speeding, drunk driving, and road conditions.Even after Supreme Court and Government of India orders, why the silence on road improvements and officer accountability?Author: Pinki Kundu, Co-Editor, Parivahan Vishesh _ In Public Interest

Where Is The Root Of The Problem?

1. Lack of Speed Control: Overspeeding and drunk driving are the biggest causes. A drunk driver has no control over the vehicle. But how much action is actually taken on this?
2. Poor Road Conditions: Encroachments, potholes, dividers without lights. A bad road is itself a major accident waiting to happen. Who is responsible for this?
3. Lack of Awareness: Both drivers and pedestrians are careless about traffic rules. We break rules to get ahead, and then express regret after an accident.

Will having the right documents stop accidents caused by speeding, drunk driving, or broken roads? Absolutely not. Until we legally target speed, the driver's mental and physical condition, and the condition of roads, "Zero Tolerance" will remain just a slogan.

Checking vehicle documents is important. It helps catch stolen vehicles and criminal activity. But treating this as the definition of "Road Safety" is self-deception.

The Real Solution: Law, Punishment, and Compassion To stop road accidents, we need concrete changes in the law and fixed accountability for everyone.

Key Demands:
1. **Strict Punishment For Vehicle Owners And Drivers**
2. **Fix Accountability For Government Departments And Officials**
3. **Make Public Awareness A National Campaign**

What Does The Law And The Supreme Court Say? Road safety is not just the job of the police. The Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Government of India made this clear long ago:

1. Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety: In the case S. Rajaseekaran vs Union of India, the Hon'ble Supreme Court formed a committee and gave strict directions to states. It said fixing black spots, encroachments, and bad road design is the responsibility of state governments and must be done within 3 months. Contempt action

can be taken for negligence.

2. Motor Vehicles Amendment Act 2019: The Central Government added Section 198A. Under this, if an accident happens due to faulty road design, poor maintenance, or lack of signage, then the contractor, consultant, and concerned government official can face a fine of up to Rs 1 lakh and liability for compensation.

3. Good Samaritan Law 2015: The Government of India gave legal protection to people who help accident victims. Still, people are afraid to help. It is also the government's responsibility to implement this law at the ground level.

The Laws Exist. But Where Is The Implementation?

The Real Root Of The Problem

1. Driver Behavior: Driving drunk, overspeeding, talking on mobile. A drunk driver has no control over the vehicle.
2. Road Conditions: Potholes, illegal encroachments, dividers without reflectors. These are "moving accidents" themselves.
3. Lack of Awareness: No knowledge of rules, and fear is only of challans, not of losing life. Vehicle documents are necessary, but they are not a tool to prevent accidents.

Our Demand: Make Laws, And Also Fix Punishment

1. Vehicle Owner And Driver: For death caused by drunk driving, overspeeding, and negligence, don't just impose a fine under the

MV Act. File a case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. For repeat offenses: cancel license + vehicle seizure.

2. Government Departments And Officials: If an accident happens at a black spot/road and no improvement was made despite Supreme Court orders, then take action against the concerned PWD/Municipal Corporation/NHAI official under Section 198A MV Act.

- If an accident happens due to encroachment or potholes, file a criminal case against the concerned PWD/Municipal official of that area
- The department head should be held responsible for not installing speed breakers and signage near school zones and hospitals
- Make a "Road Audit" mandatory after every accident and make the report public.

3. Public Awareness Campaign: Traffic education from school itself.

- Make traffic education compulsory in schools and colleges.
- The campaign should not be "Fear The Challan" but "Save Lives."

Life Is The Greatest Religion Life is precious. Follow traffic rules. And most importantly — don't turn away from an injured person on the road. The Good Samaritan Law is with you.

The supreme religion is saving lives, there is no greater work. He who saves a dying lamp is the true Ram in this world. God himself bows his head to those who forget caste and creed and save someone's life.

Conclusion The Hon'ble Supreme Court has

purposes.

Note: This article has been prepared based on the facts given in the complaint and public documents. The veracity of the allegations is yet to be investigated by the concerned authorities.

Get Ready — We're Coming Soon!

PARIVAHAN VISHESH NEWS DOORDARSHAN

Given the continuous support and cooperation that Parivahan Vishesh Newspaper has received from all of you over the past three years, and considering its growing role in amplifying your voice day by day, the management of Parivahan Vishesh Newspaper and Transport Vishesh News Limited have decided to launch the public's own channel, 'Parivahan Vishesh News Doordarshan,' from the month of October.

The objective of this initiative is to public interest news, news, public welfare information, public awareness, and important updates more rapidly and effectively to the Government of India, various State Governments, and all political organizations before anyone else.

Great News! Now your voice will resonate across the entire world. After 3 successful years of the Parivahan — now, a new revolution!

We hope that just as you have supported and contributed to taking 'Parivahan Vishesh Newspaper' to great heights in today's era, in the same way, you will continue to support 'Parivahan Vishesh News Doordarshan,' which is being launched to become the voice of the people, and help us make it the world's largest news channel.



Sanjay Bathla
Editor in chief



GAS / ACIDITY?

ANGINA / HEART ATTACK?

CHEST PAIN— GAS, ANGINA, OR HEART ATTACK?

LEARN THE DANGER SIGNS AND 5 PREVENTATIVE MEASURES.

- 1. EAT HEART-HEALTHY**
- 2. AVOID UNHEALTHY FOOD**
- 3. STAY ACTIVE DAILY**
- 4. MANAGE STRESS & SLEEP WELL**
- 5. REGULAR CHECK-UPS**

There is another practical aspect that is often overlooked. India lies in the Northern Hemisphere. From a climatic and architectural perspective, sunlight behaves differently on the northern and southern sides of a building throughout the year. This is one reason why traditional architectural principles often treated the placement of openings, windows and doors differently on different sides. A South-facing property, by its very nature, may

NEXT MONDAY — THE SERIES CONTINUES!

We have challenged many popular beliefs about North and East. We have now looked beyond the fear surrounding South. But what about the fourth direction? Is West really as ordinary as people believe...or does it hold some powerful, lesser-known secrets? Next Monday, in continuation of this series, we will discover the UNKNOWN FACTS ABOUT “WEST-FACING HOUSES”. Because the best direction is not necessarily the one everyone tells you is best...It may simply be the direction that is best aligned with YOU.



Weekly Numerology



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PARIVAHAN VISHESH NEWS

Water Element, Movable Nature and Night-Strong Sign: Cancer is the fourth sign of the zodiac. If Aries represents the beginning of creation, the first desire, courage and action; Taurus represents the nourishment, stability, resources and preservation of that creation; and Gemini develops knowledge, thought, curiosity, communication and mental exchange, then Cancer provides life with an emotional foundation, security, nourishment, home, family, motherhood and inner happiness. Thus, in the natural zodiac, Cancer is a very important point of transition. Here, consciousness moves beyond merely knowing the external world and learns to create a safe world within itself. The fundamental nature of Cancer is to nurture, protect, create bonds, experience emotions, protect one's family and loved ones, and prepare a secure foundation for life. Therefore, it would not be appropriate to call Cancer merely the sign of emotions. It is the sign of the mind, motherhood, memory, sensitivity, intuition, domestic happiness, land, residence, family, moral values (values and impressions), emotional security and the power that nourishes life. In Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra, Cancer is described as a water sign, predominantly sattvic, night-strong, Prishtodaya and ruled by the Moon. In the classical description, its complexion is described as pale red and it is called a many-footed sign. In the Kala Purusha, Cancer is associated with the heart. The lord of Cancer is the Moon. The Moon is the primary significator of the mind, emotions, mother, memory, nourishment, rasa, sensitivity, popularity, masses, mental receptivity and happiness. Therefore, the nature of the Moon expresses itself extremely naturally in Cancer. This is why Cancer particularly increases emotional receptivity, attachment to family, maternal feelings, sensitivity and the need for security within a person. The symbol of Cancer is the crab. The crab has a hard shell outside and a soft body inside. This is a beautiful symbol of the deeper nature of Cancer. A Cancer person may appear strong, cautious and sometimes hard from the outside, but internally they are extremely sensitive and emotional. They do not reveal their inner softness before everyone. Only after trust is established do they open their real emotional world. This symbol of Cancer tells us one more important thing. The crab carries its home with it. Similarly, for a Cancer native, home is not merely a place of residence. Home is the center of their mental and emotional existence. Wherever they receive security, belonging and emotional acceptance, they feel truly established there. Water Element: Cancer is a water-element sign. In Vedic astrology, the water element is related to emotions, sensitivity, receptivity, nourishment, flow, intuition, life-giving power and mental experience. Water sustains life. Water nourishes. Water provides coolness. Water absorbs its surroundings and takes the form of the vessel in which it enters. In the same way, Cancer deeply absorbs its environment, family and emotional circumstances. The nature of water is not hard, but it possesses an extremely powerful transformative capacity. A river can slowly cut through even stone. The ocean can influence enormous mountains. In the same way, the strength of Cancer is not always direct or aggressive. Its strength lies in sensitivity, patience, nourishment, emotional intelligence and continuity. Cancer is that expression of the water element in which water does not merely flow, but holds and nourishes life. Therefore, motherhood, family, home, food, milk, water, emotional security and protective powers are particularly visible in Cancer. When the water element is balanced, compassion, sensitivity, intuition, love, empathy, adaptability, emotional intelligence and the ability to

nurture others develop in a person. When the water element becomes imbalanced, excessive emotionality, mood fluctuations, insecurity, emotional dependence, holding on to the past, anxiety and the tendency to absorb the emotions of others excessively may arise. Therefore, the spiritual teaching of Cancer is that emotion should not be made into a weakness, but into a subtle power of the consciousness. The Moon as the Lord of Cancer: The lord of Cancer is the Moon, and Cancer is the own sign of the Moon. In Vedic astrology, the Moon is the significator of the mind, mother, emotions, memory, nourishment, happiness, popularity, imagination, sensitivity and mental receptivity. In Cancer, the Moon expresses its natural nature very simply (naturally and effortlessly). The Moon itself does not remain stationary. It continuously changes through the waxing and waning phases. Therefore, emotional and mental fluctuations can also be seen in Cancer, which is ruled by the Moon. The mind of a Cancer native absorbs the environment very quickly. The happiness, stress, love, sorrow or insecurity of people around them can quickly affect their mind. Therefore, the right environment is extremely important for Cancer. A strong Moon gives a Cancer native emotional intelligence, intuition, compassion, popularity, good memory, maternal qualities and the ability to understand the needs of people. If the Moon is afflicted, weak or influenced by malefic factors, this same sensitivity can manifest as anxiety, an unstable mind, excessive emotionality, insecurity, fear, mood changes and excessive attachment to the past. Cancer as a Movable Sign: Cancer is one of the four movable signs. The other movable signs are Aries, Libra and Capricorn. Movable means moving, having motion, initiating change and creating movement in circumstances. The movable power of Aries manifests through direct action and courage. The movable power of Cancer manifests through emotion and protection. It is extremely important to understand that being a movable sign does not mean merely moving externally or continuously changing places. The fundamental meaning of movable nature is to generate movement and initiate change. Cancer initiates change in emotional circumstances. It creates a home. It organizes the family. It changes the environment. It connects people. It recognizes a person's needs and attempts to prepare circumstances for them. This is why Cancer is emotionally active. It does not merely feel; it also acts on the basis of its emotions. If there is a problem in a family, a Cancer person does not merely observe the problem; they move forward to find a solution. If someone feels insecure, they try to provide that person with security. If there is imbalance in the home, they try to reorganize the environment. This is the movable nature of Cancer. This power of the movable sign can sometimes also create restlessness. Due to continuously changing emotions, a person may sometimes make one decision and sometimes another. Therefore, Cancer needs to develop emotional stability and discrimination. The most beautiful expression of Cancer occurs when its movable energy transforms emotion into action. Night-Strong Sign: Cancer is a night-strong sign, meaning that it gains greater strength during the night. In the Parashari tradition, Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Sagittarius and Capricorn are placed among the night-strong signs, while the other six signs are considered day-strong. The night-strength of Cancer can also be beautifully understood in connection with its lunar nature. The Moon is the principal light of the night. When the direct light of the Sun is reduced, the light of the Moon gives direction to human beings. Night is more connected with inner experience, contemplation, memory, emotion and subtle receptivity than with external activity. Similarly, the strength of Cancer is seen not merely in external display but in inner experience and emotional understanding. Therefore, it is not appropriate to measure the strength of Cancer only through external courage. Its real strength lies in emotional depth, intuition, protection and mental receptivity. Feminine Sign: Cancer is a feminine or even sign. In Vedic astrology, feminine does not mean weakness. Feminine nature represents the power of receiving, nurturing, protecting, developing and sustaining life. In Cancer, this power is particularly expressed through motherhood. Therefore, Cancer natives are often caring, family-oriented, emotionally available and capable of providing security to others. Sattva Guna: Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra describes Cancer as predominantly sattvic. Sattva is associated with purity, balance, light, compassion, discrimination, peace and welfare. The sattvic expression of Cancer gives a person the capacity to help others, nourish the family, protect the vulnerable and provide emotional support. However, if the Moon and Cancer are under malefic influences, this sensitivity can move from sattva toward emotional instability. Therefore, a



complete prediction cannot be made merely by looking at the sign. The strength of the Moon, its house, nakshatra, aspects, conjunctions and dasha must be studied. Purushartha and Cancer: Cancer is the fourth sign of the natural zodiac and has a deep relationship with happiness, home, mother, land, inner security and emotional foundation. In the natural horoscope, the fourth house is the house of happiness, and therefore Cancer is connected more with the inner foundation upon which the other achievements of life are built than with external achievements. Aries initiated life. Taurus gave resources and stability. Gemini gave knowledge and connection. Cancer asks: After all this, where is my own home? Who is my family? Where do I find mental peace? Whom do I protect? And from whom do I receive emotional security? This is the fundamental field of Cancer. Cancer in the Kala Purusha In Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra, Cancer is associated with the heart among the limbs of the Kala Purusha. In traditional interpretation, Cancer is also associated with the chest, thorax, heart, lungs and areas connected with nourishment. The heart is not merely a physical organ. Symbolically, the heart is also considered the center of love, compassion, emotion and intimacy. Therefore, the relationship between Cancer and the heart is extremely deep. A Cancer person often experiences things not merely through the intellect but through the heart. If Cancer, the Moon or the relevant houses are seriously afflicted, then, according to the complete horoscope, matters related to the chest, heart, lungs, digestion, fluid balance in the body or mental stress may be studied. One should not reach a conclusion about any disease merely on the basis of the sign. Cancer in the Natural Zodiac: Cancer is the fourth sign in the natural zodiac. Aries is the beginning of an individual's existence. Taurus stabilizes the body and resources. Gemini connects the individual with the surrounding world. Cancer brings the individual back within and connects them with home, family, mother and emotional security. Therefore, the fourth house and Cancer have a deep symbolic relationship with each other. The fourth house is related to mother, happiness, home, land, vehicles, domestic life, mental peace, the foundation of education and inner contentment. Thus, the fundamental question of Cancer is: Where does life receive true happiness and security? Cancer and Mother: The most important relationship of Cancer is with the mother. The Moon itself is the primary significator of the mother, and Cancer is the own sign of the Moon. Mother is not merely the person who gives birth. In the astrological sense, mother is the power that provides life with nourishment, security, emotional foundation and belonging. Therefore, when Cancer is strong, maternal qualities, care and responsibility toward family may increase in a person. For the actual happiness from the mother, the relationship with the mother and her circumstances, detailed study of the fourth house, fourth lord, Moon and other relevant factors is necessary. Home and Domestic Happiness: Cancer is the sign of the home. But here, home does not mean merely a house. Home is the place where a person feels safe. Therefore, for Cancer, home is a symbol of emotional security. It is not necessary that a Cancer native always wants a beautiful or large house. For them, it is more important that there is love, belonging, peace and emotional security in the home. This is why a Cancer native may take special interest in decorating the home, keeping the family together, preserving family traditions and making the home environment pleasant. Land and Property: Because of the natural relationship between the fourth house and Cancer, matters of land, home, property and residence are also connected with Cancer. Water and land are also connected with agriculture and the nourishment of life. Therefore, strong Cancer and fourth-house conditions can be important for land, houses, real estate, agriculture, water resources, hotels, housing, homeland or domestic happiness. However, for actual property yogas, it is necessary to examine the fourth house, fourth lord, Mars, Venus, Moon and the tenth house along with the complete horoscope. Emotional Nature: The

emotions of Cancer are deep. This sign does not merely see things; it feels them. The energy of a place. The behavior of a person. The atmosphere of the home. The condition of the family. Old memories. All these can have a long-lasting effect on the mind of Cancer. The Moon is the significator of memory. Therefore, a Cancer person can often remember old experiences, places, people and events for a long time. This memory is both their strength and their challenge. If memory becomes knowledge through experience, the person becomes extremely wise. If memory becomes attachment to the past, the person may experience difficulty moving forward. Cancer and Intuition: One of the most special powers of Cancer is intuition. A Cancer native may sometimes feel, without any obvious logical reason, that a person is happy, troubled, hiding something or that something has changed in the atmosphere. This ability can be understood through the subtle receptivity of the Moon and the water element. However, it is necessary to distinguish between intuition and fear. A person with a strong Moon may experience intuition clearly, whereas with an afflicted Moon, the same sensitivity can take the form of fear and imagination. Memory and the Past: Cancer has a very deep relationship with memory. It remembers the old home. It remembers old relationships. It remembers childhood events. It remembers the संस्कार (values and impressions) of parents. It preserves family stories. Therefore, Cancer possesses the ability to carry culture, tradition and family memory forward to the next generation. This is why the higher expression of Cancer is not merely personal emotionality but also the preservation of culture. Cancer and Nourishment: Cancer is the power that nourishes life. A mother nourishes a child. Water nourishes the Earth. Food nourishes the body. Love nourishes the mind. Security gives consciousness the opportunity to develop. Therefore, Cancer symbolizes all these nourishing powers. A Cancer native often has the desire to recognize and fulfil the needs of others. For this reason, fields such as food, hotels, hospitality, care, education, counselling, medical services, childcare and public service can be suitable areas for strong Cancer and Moon influences. Relationships and Family: For Cancer, relationships are not merely social contracts. Relationships are the foundation of emotional security. It desires relationships in which there is trust, belonging, protection and emotional availability. A Cancer native can be very protective toward their loved ones. They may consider a family problem to be their own problem. They may be ready to make sacrifices for their people. But if this same feeling turns into possessiveness, the person may interfere with the freedom of others. Therefore, the life lesson of Cancer is that love should contain protection, not control. Movable Nature and Emotional Action: The movable nature of Cancer does not allow it to remain merely sensitive. It inspires it to do something on the basis of its emotions. If a child is troubled, it will care for them. If there is a problem in the family, it will search for a solution. If there is insecurity at home, it will create security. If someone is alone, it will try to make them experience belonging. Therefore, the movable energy of Cancer can be called the energy of emotional action. Leadership Style of Cancer: Cancer's leadership is not commanding like Aries or royal and demonstrative like Leo. Cancer leads through care. It may see the team as a family. It can understand people's needs. It can provide emotional support to people during a crisis. Thus, Cancer represents protective leadership. A strong Cancer person can create an institution, family or organization where people feel safe and connected. Social Nature: A Cancer person is capable of understanding the emotional atmosphere of society. They can understand what makes people happy and what hurts them. Therefore, the influence of the Moon and Cancer can be useful in areas such as politics, public relations, social service, hospitality, public care, counselling and fields connected with masses. Cancer and Food: The Moon and Cancer are connected with nourishment. Food does not nourish only the body; it is also connected with emotional

experience. Home-cooked food, mother's cooking, family meals and communal meals can have special emotional meaning for Cancer. For this reason, food, dairy products, hotels, restaurants, catering, hospitality and the food industry can be associated with Cancer, especially when the Moon, fourth house and other relevant planets are strong. Cancer and Water: Because Cancer is a water-element sign, it has a symbolic relationship with water, seas, rivers, lakes, ponds, reservoirs and places connected with water. Water is the foundation of life, and Cancer symbolizes protection and nourishment. Therefore, water resources, maritime fields, water transportation, beverages, fisheries and water-based businesses may also be associated with Cancer. Professional Fields: Cancer can have special ability in fields where care for people, emotional understanding, security, nourishment, housing or interaction with the masses is required. Medical services, nursing, counselling, psychology, education, hospitality, hotel business, food industry, dairy, agriculture, real estate, property management, interior design, home-related businesses, public service, social work, childcare and family-oriented businesses can be potential fields. However, the actual profession cannot be determined merely from the sign. The tenth house, tenth lord, Sun, Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, nakshatra and dasha, along with the complete horoscope, must be studied. Cancer and Wealth: The relationship of Cancer with wealth is seen more as security rather than directly as greed. A Cancer person wants wealth so that the family remains secure, the home remains secure, the future remains secure and resources are available during times of crisis. Therefore, the financial mindset of Cancer can be security-oriented. It may be attracted toward emergency savings, property, family assets and safe investments. If the Moon and wealth houses are strong, a person may be capable of creating a good financial arrangement for the family. Positive Characteristics of Cancer: The positive characteristics of Cancer include compassion, sensitivity, maternal qualities, intuition, memory, dedication toward family, protection, nourishment, emotional intelligence, adaptability, imagination, empathy, patience and the ability to understand the needs of others. Such people often become safe spaces for others. They do not merely give advice; when required, they stand beside others. Challenging Characteristics of Cancer: When the energy of Cancer becomes imbalanced, excessive sensitivity, mood changes, emotional dependence, insecurity, possessiveness, attachment to the past, excessive worry, emotional reactions and the tendency to close oneself within can arise. The hard shell of the crab is a beautiful symbol of this. When Cancer is hurt, it may sometimes close itself inside its shell rather than communicate. Therefore, it is necessary for Cancer not to suppress emotions but to express them in a healthy manner. Cancer and Forgiveness: Because Cancer has strong memory, it can be difficult for it to let go of old pain. Sometimes a person may remember an event from many years ago with the same emotional intensity. Therefore, forgiveness is an important part of the spiritual development of Cancer. Forgiveness does not mean considering a wrong action to be right. Forgiveness means freeing oneself from that old emotional bondage. When Cancer learns to respect the past while living in the present, its emotional strength increases greatly. Highest Spiritual Expression: The highest expression of Cancer is maternal consciousness. Maternal consciousness does not mean merely becoming a mother. It is the consciousness that keeps life safe. That protects the vulnerable. That feeds the hungry. That supports the sorrowful. That makes a home into a shelter. That connects society. And that uses its resources for the preservation of life. Therefore, a spiritually evolved Cancer person does not care only for their own family, but may also consider the larger society as their family. The spiritual lesson of Cancer is to develop emotional attachment into universal

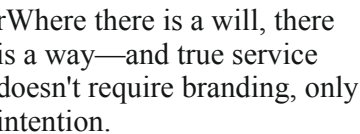
compassion. Cancer and Devotion: The Moon is the significator of the mind. When the mind connects with the world, attachment arises. When the mind connects with God, devotion arises. Therefore, the emotional power of Cancer can be transformed into devotion. At the higher stage of Cancer, a person's love does not remain limited to one particular person. It gradually expands from family to society, from society to all living beings and ultimately toward God. This is the spiritual evolution of emotional consciousness in Cancer. Nakshatra Relationship: The fourth pada of Punarvasu, all four padas of Pushya and all four padas of Ashlesha fall within the Cancer sign. Therefore, different mental and behavioral expressions can also be seen within Cancer itself. The fourth pada of Punarvasu carries the feeling of renewed light, return, rebuilding and optimistic restoration. Pushya is associated with nourishment, protection, discipline, righteousness and the power of development. Ashlesha expresses a more subtle, deep, psychological and mystical nature. Therefore, every Cancer native is not the same. The nakshatra and pada in which the Moon is placed can greatly change the emotional expression of the person. Actual Prediction of the Sign: It is extremely important to understand that the complete prediction of a person's life cannot be made merely by looking at Cancer. If Cancer is the Ascendant, its meaning will be different. If the Moon is in Cancer, its meaning will be different. If the Sun is in Cancer, its meaning will be different. If another planet is placed in Cancer, the result will be different. The house in which the planet is placed, the nakshatra, conjunctions or aspects from other planets, the placement of the lord of Cancer, the Moon, the dasha that is operating, and the position in the Navamsha and other divisional charts must all be studied together. This is the scientific method of Parashari astrology. Life Lesson of Cancer: Aries teaches us how to begin. Taurus teaches us how to remain stable. Gemini teaches us how to learn and communicate. Cancer teaches us how to give life an emotional foundation. Cancer tells us that knowledge and resources alone are not sufficient. A human being needs a home, belonging, security and a place where they can be themselves without fear. Therefore, Cancer is the emotional foundation of human life. Highest Purpose of Cancer: Cancer is not merely the sign of emotions. It is the sign of the consciousness that sustains life. Being a water-element sign, it provides sensitivity, nourishment, receptivity and intuition. Being a movable sign, it gives the power to transform emotions into action and initiate change in circumstances. Being night-strong, its power is seen more in inner sensitivity, mental experience and subtle receptivity than in external display. Aries initiated life. Taurus gave life resources and stability. Gemini gave life knowledge and communication. And Cancer gave that life home, emotion, nourishment and security. Cancer teaches us that true strength does not lie only in conquering the external world. True strength also lies in making the place where life can develop safe. Its highest purpose is to transform emotion into compassion, attachment into love, security into protection, memory into wisdom and the individual family into the larger human family. When the emotional power of Cancer becomes connected with discrimination and Dharma, the individual no longer remains merely the protector of their loved ones, but becomes a shelter for society, a foundation for the family and a medium of compassion for humanity. Dr. N. Pujaprasun

Dr. Pujaprasun N.



level resolution camps will be held under the chairmanship of SDM Abhinav Siwach in Bahadurgarh, SDM Vishal Kumar in Badli, and SDM Renuka Nandal in the Beri Mini Secretariat Complex. Complaints received at these camps will be resolved on a priority basis.





Because safety begins with a value. And that value is respect.

Fragmenting Families, Changing Values, and an Increasingly Lonely Society



Dr Vijay Garg

Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

Parivahan Vishesh News

Dr. Vijay Garg

Fragmenting Families, Changing Values, and an Increasingly Lonely SocietyDr. Vijay GargFamily has always been one of the strongest foundations of human society. It is the first place where a child learns love, cooperation, respect, responsibility, compassion, and the importance of relationships. For generations, the family provided not only emotional security but also a sense of identity, belonging, and continuity. However, rapid social, economic, and technological changes are transforming the structure and functioning of families. As traditional family bonds weaken, society is increasingly witnessing changing values and a growing sense of loneliness. The traditional joint family system once brought several generations under one roof. Grandparents, parents, children, uncles, aunts, and cousins shared responsibilities, experiences, celebrations, and difficulties. Children learned many life lessons simply by observing different generations. Today, smaller families and greater geographical mobility have become common. Young people often move to cities or other countries for education and employment, while elderly parents may remain alone. Physical distance can gradually become emotional distance if relationships are not consciously maintained. One of the major reasons behind changing family relationships is the increasing pace of modern life. Long working hours, academic pressures, financial concerns, commuting, and professional competition leave people with limited time for meaningful interaction. Even when family members are physically together, their attention may be divided

among smartphones, social media, television, online entertainment, and work-related messages. Technology has made communication easier, but it has not necessarily made relationships deeper. A family may sit together at the dining table while everyone is busy looking at a different screen. Messages may be exchanged throughout the day, yet genuine conversations may become rare. Digital connectivity cannot completely replace the warmth of face-to-face interaction, a shared meal, a caring conversation, or simply sitting together in silence. Changing values are another important dimension of this transformation. Earlier, concepts such as adjustment, sacrifice, patience, collective responsibility, and respect for elders were strongly emphasized. Today, individual freedom, personal achievement, privacy, and independence have become increasingly important. These values are not inherently negative. In fact, individual freedom and equality are essential to a healthy society. The challenge arises when personal interests completely replace empathy, responsibility, and consideration for others. The changing nature of relationships is particularly visible among younger generations. Children need opportunities to interact with parents and grandparents, not merely for academic guidance but also for emotional development. Grandparents can become important sources of stories, traditions, cultural knowledge, and family history. At the same time, younger people can help older generations understand new technology and changing social realities. A healthy family is one in which generations learn from one another. The weakening of family connections can also contribute to loneliness. Loneliness is not simply the absence of people; a person can



feel lonely even while surrounded by others. What matters is the presence of meaningful relationships in which people feel heard, respected, valued, and emotionally supported. When family conversations disappear, individuals may increasingly seek companionship through digital platforms, yet online interaction cannot always provide the depth and stability of genuine human relationships. However, it would be wrong to blame modernity alone. Families themselves must adapt to changing circumstances. Women's education and employment, migration, urbanization, economic independence, and new career opportunities have transformed family roles. These changes should not be viewed as threats to family life. Instead, they provide an opportunity to create more equal, respectful, and flexible family relationships. The answer is not to return blindly to the past. Every generation faces different realities. The real need is to preserve the positive values of the past while embracing the constructive possibilities of the

present. Respect should coexist with equality. Tradition should coexist with rational thinking. Individual freedom should coexist with responsibility. Modern technology should coexist with meaningful human interaction. Small family practices can make a significant difference. Eating together whenever possible, celebrating festivals collectively, visiting elderly relatives, listening to children without constantly judging them, sharing household responsibilities, and creating regular periods without digital distractions can strengthen emotional bonds. Families do not always need grand gestures; often, consistent attention and genuine presence matter more. Schools and communities also have an important role. Education should not focus exclusively on academic achievement. Children should learn empathy, communication, cooperation, respect, conflict resolution, and social responsibility. Community activities, libraries, cultural programmes, sports, volunteering, and intergenerational gatherings

can create spaces where people build relationships beyond their immediate households. The elderly deserve special attention in this changing social landscape. Their experience and wisdom are valuable social resources. Instead of treating older people as dependent members of the family, society should recognize their potential contribution as mentors, caregivers, storytellers, volunteers, and guides for younger generations. A strong family does not mean a family without disagreements. Differences of opinion are natural. What matters is the ability to communicate, forgive, compromise, and remain connected despite differences. Relationships become stronger not because conflicts never occur, but because family members learn how to resolve them with patience and respect. The future of society will depend not only on technological progress and economic development but also on the quality of human relationships. Buildings may become taller, cities may become smarter, and technology may

become more powerful, but none of these can replace the emotional security created by caring relationships. The family is changing, and change is inevitable. But changing family structures do not necessarily have to mean declining family values. The task before us is to redefine family relationships according to contemporary realities while retaining the timeless principles of love, respect, compassion, responsibility, and togetherness. A society becomes truly prosperous when its people do not merely live longer or earn more, but also feel connected, valued, and cared for. If we can preserve the warmth of relationships while embracing the opportunities of modern life, we can build a society that is not only more advanced, but also more humane.

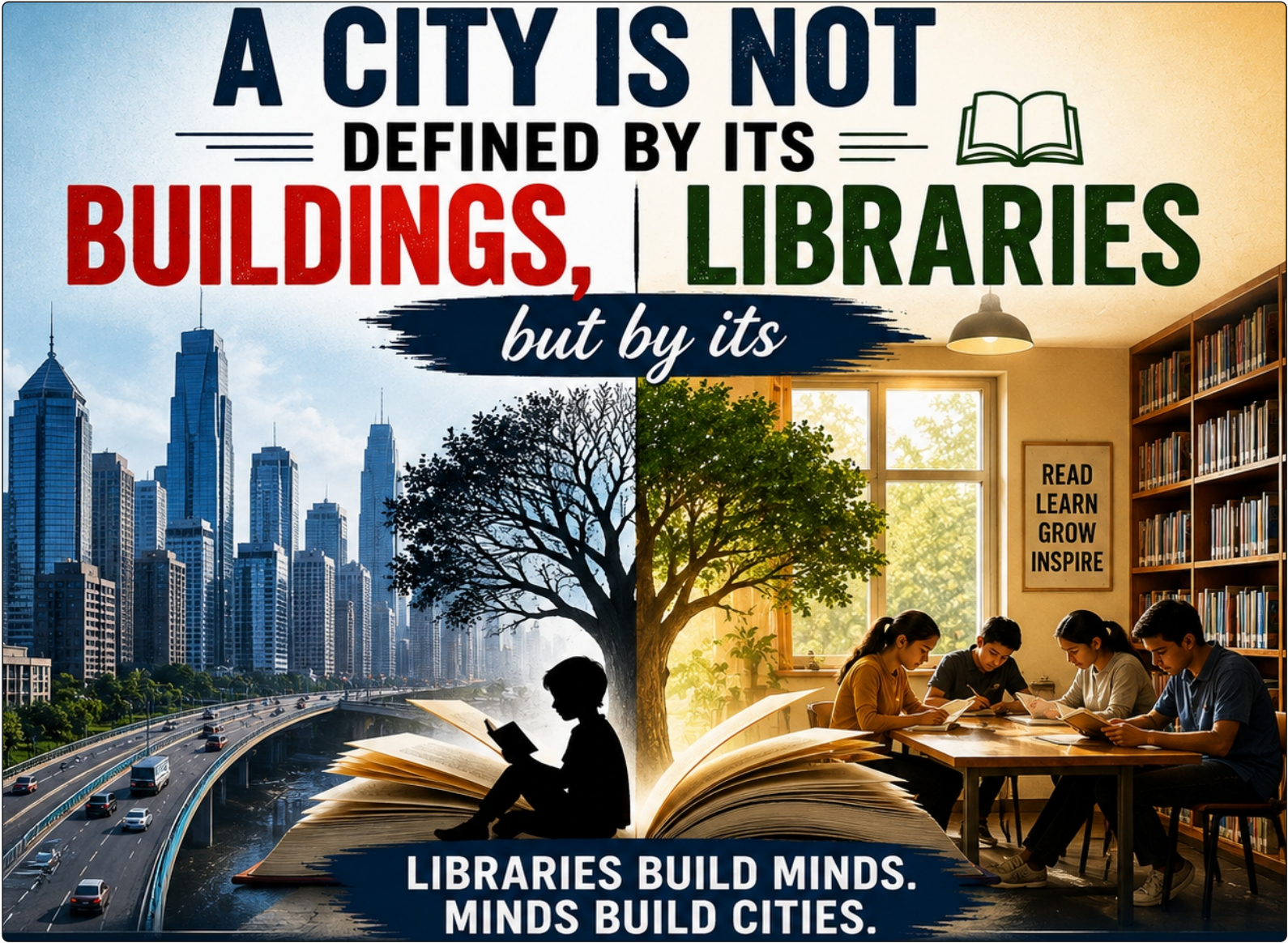
Dr Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

A City Is Not Defined by Its Buildings, but by Its Libraries

Parivahan Vishesh News

Dr. Vijay Garg

A City Is Not Defined by Its Buildings, but by Its LibrariesDr. Vijay GargWhen we think about a city, we often think about its roads, bridges, shopping malls, high-rise buildings, markets, monuments and modern infrastructure. A city with wide roads and impressive buildings is often considered developed. But there is another, quieter measure of a city's progress—its libraries. Buildings show how much a city has grown physically. Libraries reveal how much it has grown intellectually. A city may have magnificent towers, luxurious malls and expensive commercial centres, but if its libraries are neglected, empty or disappearing, something important is missing from its cultural life. A library is not merely a room filled with books. It is a centre of knowledge, imagination, curiosity, learning and democratic access to information. Libraries Are the Intellectual Heart of a CityA good library provides something that no shopping mall can provide—the opportunity to discover ideas. Inside a library, a child can travel through history, a student can prepare for an examination, a researcher can explore new knowledge, a writer can find inspiration and an elderly person can continue learning. People from different social and economic backgrounds can sit together in the same space and access knowledge. That makes a library one of the most democratic institutions in a city. A wealthy student may have access to a large personal collection of books and digital resources, but many students cannot afford them. For such learners, a public library can become a bridge between ambition and opportunity. A Library Is More Than a BuildingThe real value of a library cannot be measured by the size of its building or the number of books on its shelves. A successful library is a living learning space. It should encourage reading, discussion, research, creativity and independent thinking. Modern libraries can provide printed books as well as newspapers, journals, e-books, digital databases, computers and educational resources. But technology should complement the library, not replace its basic purpose. A library should remain a place where people can sit quietly, think deeply and read without constant digital distraction. Libraries and ChildrenThe reading habits of children are strongly influenced by their surroundings. If a city provides



attractive, accessible and child-friendly libraries, children are more likely to develop a relationship with books. A child who enters a library may initially pick up a colourful storybook. Later, the same child may develop an interest in science, history, geography, literature or technology. The journey from curiosity to knowledge often begins with a book. Libraries can also help children discover interests beyond their school textbooks. A school curriculum may provide essential knowledge, but a library can open the door to a much wider world. Libraries and StudentsFor students, libraries can be especially valuable. Not every student has a quiet study room at home. Not every family can afford a large collection of reference books. Not every learner has access to expensive educational resources. A well-equipped public or community library can provide a quiet environment, reference material and opportunities for

self-study. In this sense, libraries can contribute to educational equality. They can help ensure that learning opportunities are not determined entirely by family income or social background. Libraries Build Reading CultureA reading culture does not develop merely because books are available. People need spaces, encouragement and opportunities to read. Libraries can organise reading clubs, storytelling sessions, book discussions, lectures, debates, exhibitions and interactions with authors. Such activities can transform a library from a silent storage space into an active cultural centre. A city with a strong reading culture is likely to have citizens who are more curious, informed and willing to engage with different ideas. Libraries in the Digital AgeSome people argue that the internet has made libraries unnecessary. After all, millions of books, articles and educational

resources are available online. But this argument misunderstands the role of libraries. The digital world provides enormous quantities of information, but information is not the same as knowledge. The internet can give us thousands of search results. A library can help us develop the patience to read, compare, understand and think. Digital platforms are often designed to capture attention quickly. Libraries can provide the opposite experience—a space for concentration and reflection. The future library, therefore, should not compete with technology. It should intelligently integrate technology with traditional reading. Libraries and Community LifeA library can also become a meeting place for a community. Students can study there. Senior citizens can read newspapers. Young people can participate in discussions. Writers can meet readers. Local history can be preserved. Educational programmes can

be organised. In this way, a library becomes part of the social infrastructure of a city. It can create connections between generations and encourage people to share knowledge rather than merely consume entertainment. Libraries Preserve Local MemoryEvery city has a story. Its history, literature, newspapers, photographs, manuscripts, biographies and local records are part of its collective memory. Libraries can help preserve this heritage. A city that protects its historical documents protects its identity. Future generations should be able to discover what their city looked like, how its people lived, what they read, what they believed and how the city changed over time. Libraries can serve as guardians of this memory. The Problem of Declining Reading HabitsOne of the major challenges today is the declining habit of sustained reading. Short videos, rapid digital content and constant notifications compete for people's attention. Many

people read headlines but not complete articles. They watch summaries instead of exploring subjects in depth. This does not mean that young people have stopped learning. Rather, the way they consume information is changing. Libraries can respond to this change by becoming more attractive, interactive and accessible while continuing to promote deep reading. The answer to changing reading habits is not to abandon libraries. It is to reinvent them. What Should a Modern City Do?Every city should aim to develop a strong network of public, school, college and community libraries. Libraries should be: easily accessible; welcoming to children and young people; equipped with updated books and digital resources; supported by trained staff; connected through digital catalogues; open for reading clubs and educational activities; accessible to people with disabilities; and linked with schools, colleges and community organisations. A library should not be treated merely as another government building. It should be viewed as an investment in the intellectual future of the city. The Real Measure of DevelopmentA city can measure its development through many indicators—income, employment, infrastructure, transport, healthcare and education. But there is another question worth asking: How much does the city invest in the minds of its people? Libraries answer this question. A new road may make transportation faster. A new mall may increase commercial activity. A new building may change the skyline. But a library can change a person's way of thinking. And when people's thinking changes, the city itself changes. Therefore, the real identity of a city should not be judged only by its buildings, roads and markets. It should also be judged by the quality of its schools, the strength of its reading culture and the accessibility of its libraries. Buildings make a city visible; libraries make it thoughtful. Buildings show the wealth of a city; libraries reveal its intellectual wealth. A city with magnificent buildings but neglected libraries may look modern from the outside, but a city filled with active libraries, curious readers and lifelong learners possesses something far more valuable—a living culture of knowledge. The true identity of a city is not only in its skyline; it is also on its bookshelves.

Dr Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

More than 300 students were trapped in the school due to the flood

Parivhan Vishesh News

Manoranshan Sasmal, State Head Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Rain and flood conditions continue in many parts of the state. Because of this, common life is chaotic. Meanwhile, low pressure in the Bay of Bengal has raised concerns. Because its effect may cause more rain. A sad scene has been witnessed in Kulsahi village of Pattamundai block of Penthapal panchayat of Kendrapara district. 300 students of Ashram Residential School of the village are trapped in water due to flood. Yes, after

receiving the news, the district administration reached the school and took stock of the situation. Kendrapara Deputy Collector Arun Nayak reached the spot and took stock of the situation, and people from the fire department have also reached. LOW PRESSURE HAS BECOME A CLEAR LOW PRESSURE WHICH WILL BREAK DOWN IN 24 HOURS! According to the information received, a plan has been made to evacuate the students stuck in the water and shift them elsewhere, and for Sunday, food and drink and dry necessities have been prepared for all the students. The relocation will be done on Monday after the rehabilitation in the nearby village is complete.



Controversy over ISKCON again, Rath Yatra in 4 cities in one day

Parivhan Vishesh News

Manoranshan Sasmal, State Head Odisha

Bhubaneswar : Controversy over ISKCON again. Rath Yatra in 4 cities in one day. ISKCON in controversy again over unseasonal Rath Yatra. Intense dissatisfaction over chariot pulling in 4 cities in Canada and England. A few weeks after the completion of Mahaprabhu's Rath Yatra, Bahuda and Niladribije in Puri, a controversy has erupted again over the organization of Adinia Rath Yatra abroad. A section of Jagannath lovers has raised strong objections to the Rath Yatra organized by ISKCON in Scarborough, Canada and Luton, Cardiff and Southampton in England on the 8th. The allegation is that the Rath Yatra and Sannun Yatra are organized at a time different from the tradition and fixed date of the shrine and the prevailing customs and traditions of the Sri Jagannath culture.

Jagannath lovers and diaspora Odias in the country and abroad



Felicitation ceremony held in Delhi to honour newly elected Bar Council members

Parivhan Vishesh News

Hisar/Haryana,

Naresh GunpalAdvocate Dayaram Badaliya and his team organised a felicitation ceremony at Priyanka Party Hall, Dwarka in honour of the newly elected members of the Bar Council of Delhi, Advocate Mehmood Paracha, Advocate Garima Bhardwaj and Advocate Ramita Sehrawat and Advocate Sunita Kalsan, member of the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana.A large number of advocates participated in the function and congratulated and wished the newly elected Bar Council members.

On this occasion, Advocate Sunita Kalson, Advocate Mahmood Paracha, Advocate B.S. Jakhar, Advocate Garima Bhardwaj and Advocate Ramita Sehrawat were honoured with shawls and bouquets of flowers.Addressing the programme, Advocate Mahmood Paracha and other members of the Delhi Bar Council expressed their views on the interests of advocates, strengthening of the Bar and the challenges faced by young advocates.

The speakers said that it is necessary for everyone to

work together to protect the interests of the advocates and strengthen the bar institutions.

On this occasion, Advocate Sunita Kalson, a member of the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana, stated that she is committed to strongly raising the issues and rights of young, female, and Dalit advocates within the Bar Council. She added that advocates who fight for justice should also have the right to justice, equality, and respect.

Advocate Kalson said that a large number of young lawyers enter the legal profession after completing their law studies, but in the initial stages they face numerous challenges such as financial difficulties, lack of adequate guidance, lack of chambers and practice opportunities, and professional stability. The Bar Council and senior advocates should work together to develop effective mechanisms to address these problems.

He stated that providing young lawyers with better opportunities, guidance, and a respectful work environment should be a priority for the Bar. The event aimed to strengthen mutual cooperation, solidarity, and professional interests among the legal community.



Suman, the candidate arrested in the JPSC exam scam, gave a shocking statement.



Parivhan Vishesh News

Suman Saurabh is from Hazaribagh, the deal was done for 80 lakhs, the money was transferred from the bank.

Kartik Kumar Parichha, State Head - JharkhandRanchi, Jharkhand:

The CID, which is investigating the JPSC scam case, has today recorded the statement of the arrested candidate Suman Saurabh, a resident of Barkagaon, Hazaribagh, in which shocking results are visible.He told the CID that an agent named Pawan had struck a deal with him for 80 lakh rupees in exchange for final selection in the 14th JPSC exam. This included 20 lakh rupees before the preliminary examination, 40 lakh rupees before the main examination, and 20 lakh rupees before the interview.

His confidence was solidified after passing the PT exam. He paid only 1.6 million rupees, the agreed amount, in five installments. The bribe amount was deposited in a bank account. The CID is now investigating his and accused Pawan's bank account details. Information is being gathered about how and where the money traveled.

PT candidate Suman Saurabh told the CID that after graduating in 2020, he was preparing for competitive exams. He appeared for the JPSC exam twice and failed in the seventh and eleventh grades.

After this, in the year 2023, he also failed in the JSSC CGL exam. Many of his acquaintances succeeded in all three exams. This made him worried. He had heard that there was no solution without setting. After this, he got information about Prakash Kumar, the maternal uncle of his friend Diwakar Kumar. It was also learned that

Prakash Kumar is a resident of Harli in Hazaribagh and gets people work on contract at NTPC and other places. Suman Saurabh met Prakash Kumar and then got acquainted with him.According to Suman Saurabh, after listening to his friend Diwakar Kumar's uncle, Prakash Kumar, he introduced him to an agent, Pawan Singh, who facilitated JPSC exam arrangements. Pawan told him that a vacancy had been announced for the 14th JPSC exam and that he would help him pass, but it would cost a total of 80 lakh rupees.

The installments were also divided: 20 lakh rupees would be paid for passing the PT exam, 40 lakh rupees for passing the Mains exam, and 20 lakh rupees for passing the interview. The money had to be paid in installments, so Suman and Saurabh agreed.Pawan had said that only those questions whose answers he knew should be filled in and the rest should be left out. Suman Saurabh's exam took place on April 19, 2026, at the Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir examination center in Bokaro. In the first shift, he answered only 38 questions and left the rest of the OMR sheet blank. In the second shift, he answered only 48 questions and left the OMR sheet blank. He gave his roll number and carbon copy to Pawan Singh.

Bribe amount transferred after giving preliminary exam

According to Suman Saurabh, after taking the preliminary exam, he transferred 1.2 million from his father's account to Pawan Singh's Axis Bank account in Ranchi in four installments. He transferred another 400,000 after the results were announced on July 2, 2026. After the results were announced, his OMR sheet went viral on the internet. This sparked a CID investigation, and he was arrested.

Some successful candidates said they secured their jobs through their talent, not through bribes or recommendations. Two candidates selected in the 13th JPSC competitive examination have also come forward, claiming they were selected not through bribes or recommendations but through their talent. They will also provide proof of this to the police. One of these participants has been selected for the post of DSP.

He stated that he had previously made it to the interview stage of the JPSC exam, scoring 62 marks, and this resulted in his failure. He scored 66 marks in the 13th JPSC exam and is currently a DSP. Just because he sat before the board of JPSC member Dr. Ajita Bhattacharya does not mean he succeeded by paying money. This is a false allegation.

Another successful candidate has also said that he succeeded in the examination due to his talent and has rejected the allegations made by Abhay Tiwari.

It is worth noting that Abhay Tiwari had admitted during the interrogation by the CID that in the 11th to 13th JPSC Civil Services Competitive Examination, a syndicate comprising JPSC members Dr. Ajita Bhattacharya, Dr. Jamal Ahmed, the then Chairman L. Khiangte etc. had arranged betting and benefited seven candidates in the interview.

This syndicate included coaching director and agent Aditya Pandey,

Dr. Ajita Bhattacharya's personal assistant, Brajram, Ramveer Singh, director of the exam conducting agency TDPL, and Dharmendra Kumar, computer operator for L. Khiangte. Rupees 15 lakhs per candidate were extorted for interview assistance alone.