

BJP saves its face, gets its Mayor

HINA ROHTAKI
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 8

FROM 21 seats last term to 12 this time, the BJP faced huge embarrassment as new entrant AAP managed to get 14 seats. The only way to save its skin was to have its Mayor—and that's what the BJP did.

In the municipal election results declared on December 27, 14 seats were won by AAP, 12 by BJP and one each by Congress and one by Akali Dal councillor.

Just few days before the mayoral poll, the AAP and Congress had been alleging that the BJP was trying to contact their councillors and indulging in horse trading. The AAP had even levelled allegations that the BJP had offered Rs 50 lakh to Rs 75 lakh to three of its councillors to make its Mayor.

BABLA'S JOINING WAS CRUCIAL FOR BJP

Just few days before the polls, Congress leader Devinder Singh Babla along with his wife Congress councillor Harpreet Babla who got the highest vote margin of 3,100 votes had shifted to the BJP. Their joining proved crucial for the BJP which was struggling to increase its seats. It wanted to reach the magic number of 14, a number which the AAP had.

With Babla joining, the BJP finally managed to increase its seats to 13. It already had the vote of ex-officio member MP Kiran Khur who is a BJP leader and has the right to vote. This made them reach the magic number of 14.

There was a point when both AAP and BJP reached the magic number of 14 and everyone thought it was a tie. However, that one vote which was declared invalid paved the way for the BJP's win.



During the ruckus at MC Hall after BJP candidate Sarabjit Kaur was elected Mayor in Chandigarh on Saturday. Kamleshwar Singh

BJP, Cong had hidden alliance, will approach court, says AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 8

UPSET AT having lost the Mayoral election by just one vote, the AAP leaders on Saturday alleged that the BJP and Congress had hidden alliance.

AAP leaders Jarnail Singh and Raghav Chadha addressed the media after the counting was over for the mayoral elections.

Singh said, "You can well imagine how BJP and Congress got together to make its Mayor unethically. Unethical means were used. First the Congress sent its own councillor (Harpreet Babla) to BJP to join and then itself abstained from voting. Then BJP had its way."

Chadha stated that the BJP and Congress had hidden alliance so

that the AAP may not make its Mayor. The same trick they will try in Punjab elections as well, he said.

"We got the maximum number of seats in the municipal polls which was 14. Both BJP and Congress had such a deal that Congress first sent its councillor to BJP and then BJP declared our one vote invalid. Similarly, BJP, Congress and Akalis will try the same thing in Punjab as well so that Aam Aadmi Party may not win but we won't let it happen," he said.

Both the AAP leaders alleged that the officers were siding with the BJP.

"How is it possible that a torn ballot paper in BJP's favour is valid but a ballot paper with a tick mark at its back in AAP's favour is invalid?" asked AAP leader Raghav Chadha alleging that the officers

were toying the BJP's line.

"BJP has done a very shameful act by tarnishing the dignity of democracy in the election of the mayor. In order to maintain the fairness of the election of the mayor, the votes should be re-counted and the mayor should be re-elected failing which Aam Aadmi Party will resort to litigation," Singh said.

Chadha said, "BJP had contested the mayor's election on the basis of secret alliance with Congress. The two parties entered into a secret pact to keep AAP out of the mayor's race and deliberately cancelled a vote of an AAP councillor and got elected the mayor of BJP."

He said that the BJP and the Congress were all out to prevent the candidate of AAP from becoming the Mayor of Chandigarh.

That is why under the secret agreement, the councillors of Congress were not allowed to participate in the mayoral elections.

He alleged that the AAP councillors were not even allowed to raise objections.

The AAP leaders expressed doubts stating that these political parties may enter into a similar 'secret pact' to prevent AAP from forming the government in Punjab.

He appealed to the people of Punjab to cast their vote wisely, as the vote given to the Congress would only benefit the BJP.

"AAP will continue its fight against corruption and coercion from streets to elected house. AAP would approach the court and fight the legal battle in the Chandigarh Mayor case," Chadha said.

Tense outside as BJP leader detained

SAURABH PARASHAR
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 8

MOMENTS AFTER the information spread about the invalidity of an Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) councillor's vote paving the way for BJP's Sarabjit Kaur to win the Mayoral elections, hundreds of AAP supporters protested outside the MC office on Saturday. AAP supporters raised anti-BJP slogans and accused the Chandigarh administration of collusion with the BJP.

"The officers, who were supervising the mayoral election process, played the trick. They deliberately invalidated the vote of an AAP councillor. BJP was exposed in this election. Chandigarh has given a clear cut mandate to AAP in the civic body elections but it is a mockery of the system as all three posts including the mayor, deputy mayor and senior deputy mayor have gone to BJP", Sudhir Kashyap, an AAP supporter from Kajerha area, said.

AAP Co-In-Charge, Pradeep Chabra, said, "This is disgusting the people of Chandigarh. People will never forgive BJP for their misdeeds. AAP is in the majority. When BJP failed to buy our councillors, they twisted the election process." Meanwhile, angry AAP supporters tried to break into the MC building and climb the main gate but were prevented by the standing police personnel. Over 200 police personnel including four SHO's were deployed for maintaining the law and order situation inside and outside the MC building. Tense moments were witnessed when a BJP leader, Pappu Shukla, who had contested in MC election from Ward number-15 but lost, confronted the AAP protesters and engaged in verbal arguments with them. Pappu Shukla was accompanied by his supporters. Meanwhile, Pappu Shukla also indulged in heated arguments with the police personnel.

HC tells private school of P'kula to restore online classes of minor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANCHKULA, JANUARY 8

HEARING THE plea of a minor girl, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has directed a private school of Panchkula to restore her online classes which were reportedly discontinued on non-payment of fee.

The petitioner, a nine-year-old girl, through her father submitted that she was not permitted to attend online classes and take examination as certain component of the fee had not been paid. Now even though the said component has been paid, the facility of online classes has not been resumed. The official respondents have failed to take action despite repeated representations.

The counsel for petitioner, Amar Vivek Aggarwal and Neha Nathi, argued that the principal reason for discontinuing the petitioner's classes was that the petitioner's parents had allegedly not paid the component of "other charges" even though full tuition fee stands paid on a monthly basis. The levy of these

other charges was such illegal once the tuition fee as demanded had been paid. Moreover, when the petitioner's parents enquired about the details thereof, they were not informed for many weeks about the details and the basis of such charges. Thereafter, the school disconnected her online classes. Even when the parents paid the requisite amount on December 24, 2021, the online classes and tests of the petitioner were not restored.

Numerous complaints were made to the state authorities and administration. Under the Right to Education Act, 2009, the school could not deny regular studies to the student, the petitioner's counsel argued.

After hearing the matter, a Bench of Justice Sudhir Mittal issued notice to the respondents, state of Haryana and a private school in Panchkula for April 6, 2022.

"Meanwhile, respondent No. 4 (private school) is directed to resume the online classes of the petitioner immediately on receipt of a certified copy of this order," the Bench ordered.

Man gets extortion calls for Rs 2 crore, case registered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MOHALI, JANUARY 8

THE KHARAR police registered a case of a resident of Desumajra on Saturday who was allegedly being extorted for Rs 2 crore. The accused has not been identified yet.

The complainant alleged that he had been receiving calls from unknown callers demanding Rs 2 crore from him and threatening him that in case the money

was not paid it would have an adverse effect.

"The caller threatened to kill me and my father in case I did not pay the money," the complainant alleged.

Police registered a case under sections 387 (whoever, in order to the committing of extortion, puts or attempts to put any person in fear of death or of grievous hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Kharar (sadar) police station.



A Father-Son duo from Himachal simplifying Ayurveda

Easiest way to start your day: India's first Diabetic care Ayurvedic effervescent tablet brand by Muditam Ayurveda

ASIT KANT GUPTA, Abhay's father has been practicing Ayurveda for the last 40 years and they have a family legacy of 120 years in this business. Muditam Ayurveda has a vision of creating modern-age ayurvedic products for the Indian market.

Abhay mainly identified some key problems with traditional juices like Amla, Aloe vera and diabetic-care juices, which people usually consume for various purposes. These juices are usually packed in bulk-sized bottles, have lesser compliance and inconsistency. Hence, he saw an irregularity in consumption of these traditional juices by people while traveling. Also, most people avoid consuming these juices because of their bad taste.

The idea of simplifying the experience of having traditional juices by converting them into an effervescent tablet has a lot of benefits, such as:

- Tablet-based juices are tastier as the combined fruit flavor complements the herbs and the formulation. The Amla Orange Crush is a game-changer, which can prove to be a healthy alternative to sugary drinks and sudden sugar cravings
- These juices are easy to carry, make and drink. You just have to drop a tablet in a glass of water, wait for the fizz, and enjoy your drink
- Each tablet has a quantified dosage, unlike traditional juices, which make intake more controlled
- With every effervescent tablet you take, you obviously drink a glass of water,



"2020 was hard for all of us, why should incorporating Ayurvedic lifestyle be so hard, was the first question that came across my mind when I first time observed my grandmother taking Karela juice during the pandemic. I instantly saw a potential problem which was the birth of Muditam Ayurveda." – said **Abhay Gupta** (Founder & CEO of Muditam Ayurveda), a 26-year-old entrepreneur.

which keeps you hydrated
■ A 20-day dose can literally fit in your pocket. So no more excuses during travel
Abhay belongs from a business family and helps his father manage their retail outlet "Nawal Kishore & Sons" at Nahana, Himachal Pradesh. Abhay has an experience with medicine and business and possess the goal to make Ayurveda more accessible and convenient for people. He believes Ayurveda is a way of life and going back to our roots will help find solutions to modern problems. Asit Gupta has successfully formulated many effective ayurvedic concoctions like Ayush-Veda Kadha, Dr Veda's Pain Relief Oil, and Onion Hair oil. Ayush-Veda Kadha

gained popularity in the nearby area when the pandemic had hit. Other formulations for Kadha were harsh on the stomach or were bitter but their formula was liked by many people across Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. "Muditam Ayurveda is the first company in India to prepare a time-tested formula of Karela Jamun crush in the form of effervescent tablets. Customers and people are telling us that they have benefitted immensely from the product. It has helped to maintain their blood sugar levels naturally. Karela Jamun crush is sugar-free yet sweet," says Mr. Gupta. Karela is known for curing diabetes as it has nutritional benefits like vitamins C, A, E, B1, B2, B3, and B9, minerals

like potassium, calcium, zinc, iron, magnesium, and many antioxidants. This helps in regulating the sugar level in the human body. Jamun is best for secreting the digestive enzyme called bile, which helps in the proper digestion and clears the stomach by removing unwanted toxins. Aloe vera juice, with the taste of apple, works as a detoxifier in the body and with regular use, one can notice an improvement in skin and hair too. Similarly, Amla juice is the richest source of Vitamin C which helps in the improvement of eyesight and aids in hair growth.

The company wants "to influence young people who are unable to take care of themselves due to hectic schedule and modern



lifestyle, even if they believe in the goodness of Ayurveda but consuming powders, juices are a challenge and chaotic task." Muditam Ayurveda has 15 products in its portfolio, while the brand is divided into its prod-

ucts into two segments. One, is the Reinvigorated Ayurveda, which focuses on tablet-based juices. They are present on various D2C online platforms like Amazon, Flipkart and muditamayurveda.com, and presently delivered across India, while the company also offers other traditional premium products like Giloy tablets, Tulsi tablets, Ashwagandha tablets, Tulsi drops, Amla powder, Shikakai powder, Ritha powder. So far, they have served more than 50 thousand customers from their offline and online channels and are heading for more growth.

Fun Fact –
"Vitamin C is water-soluble, and the body does not store it. To maintain adequate levels of vitamin C, people need to consume food rich in vitamin C every day."

Scan this code to visit website



MUDITAM AYURVEDA, Nahana, Himachal Pradesh

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