



Ambedkar Times Weekly

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Sh. Ishwar Dass Pawar: Pioneer of Dalit Social Mobility in Punjab

Prem Kumar Chumber

(Editor-in-Chief: Ambedkar Times & Desh Doaba)

Sh. Ishwar Dass Pawar is a household name in the Doaba region of Punjab and among the early diaspora. He was among the first selected Punjab Civil Service officer from the Ad Dharmi community of the region. Ad Dharmis of Punjab were the pioneers of the Dalit movement in the Northwest India. Sh. Pawar Ji served the cause of the



Ishwar Das Pawar
District and Sessions Judge (retd.)

Samaj through his bold decisions in the direction of Dalit empowerment. When he was appointed as the passport issuing officer in the region, he made great contribution towards helping his people reach foreign lands to improve their life conditions. To obtain a passport one needs to show some property, which

lowest of the low were deprived of first because of customary regulation of razanamas and later on Punjab Land Alienation Act of 1900. Sh. Pawar saw to it that this formidable hurdle should not come in their way to obtain passports. It was during his tenure at the Passport office that a large number of people belonging to various Scheduled Castes (SCs) communities started reaching abroad. Currently SCs of Punjab constitute the second largest emigrant group from Punjab in North America and Western Europe.

Sh. Pawar Ji learnt to serve one's community from the teachings of Ad Dharm movement. Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia, the founder of the glorious Ad Dharam movement of Punjab, influenced Pawar Sahib deeply. Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia Ji used to go to Chandigarh to meet Sh. Pawar Sahib at his residence and Mrs. Pawar look after them passionately as both of them were well aware of their commitment towards the Dalit Samaj. ID Pawar was not only a source of aspiration for his people but also great support to help them at various levels of administration for their day-to-day life requirements. Ambedkar Times and Desh Doaba weeklies take pride in popularizing teachings of Sh. I. D. Pawar by publishing excerpts from his well-acclaimed autobiography "My Struggle in Life". Our thanks also to Sh. Pamas Rai Bhatti whose contribution towards the publication of this valuable treasure of our Samaj was duly recognized by Pawar Sahib in the preface of "My Struggle in Life"

Remembering a man with a vision: Chaudhry Ishwar Das Pawar

On his 118th birth anniversary, which falls on May 9, 2025, I remember Chaudhry Ishwar Das Pawar, my father-in-law, as an anchor that I can relate to, a teacher I can learn from, a hero I can look up to, a role model I can be proud of, and a constant source of guidance.

This is an occasion to reflect upon and remind ourselves of the salient features from his life. And how he tried to change the conditions of exploited community in his own modest way. We express genuine emotion and appreciation for the significant contribution of the 'marg darshak', in order that his inspiration does not get marginalised or lost sight of.

His commitment was to spread education and knowledge, inspired no doubt by the idols like Jyotiba Phule and Baba Sahib Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. On a personal level, he talked fondly of his admiration for Babu Mangu Ram Mugolwalia, the founder of the Ad Dharmi movement in Punjab, in his crusade and relentless fight against deep rooted caste prejudices..

Pawar Sahib lived his life with determination, resilience, and above all, love in heart. He was a pillar of support for the community, offering sage advice when needed. His strength of character was an inspiration in the face of adversity, and his unwavering faith in the goodness of others, remained steadfast throughout his life. No matter what the situation was, he upheld his principles with an unshakeable resolve.

He had a knack for imparting wisdom without making it appear instructional. He led by example. On the value of kindness, his common refrain was, 'You never know what the other person is going through, so choose kindness whenever possible.' This philosophy was reflected in every interaction he had, and it's a lesson we

should hold close to our heart.

The countless people he helped grow professionally and socially, is a testament to his legacy. It extends his official job titles and in fact beyond borders. In the U.K. and the U.S. an overwhelming number of Indians revere him, for he made it possible for their parents' generation to migrate to the lands of opportunities. It was he who made it possible, through his pioneering changes in regulation,

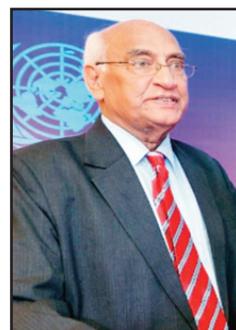
The great man is remembered as a pillar of strength for the down-trodden community. He helped lift and empower them. Love, respect, and kindness were not merely words to him. These were principles that he lived by every day.

There was a clear manifestation of the humanist's selfless devotion in Pawar Sahib, without expecting personal recognition or reward. The best

tribute to him will be to learn lessons from his life, follow the lifelong ideals for which he fought. The younger generations should shake off the inertia and throw off the yoke of subordination. Only then would they be able to occupy their rightful place as equal citizens in the society.

From my personal experience let me say that perhaps, Pawar Sahib's greatest role was that of a family man. The devotion to his noble wife Laxmi Devi was the kind of love one reads about in fiction. Pure, unwavering and eternal. Together they built a foundation of love that extended to his children. His dedication to the family was the pillar upon which they built their lives.

Long live the ideals of Chaudhry Ishwar Das Pawar and his cherished memory. His legacy lives on in each of us, who had the privilege to know him. His wisdom will guide his admirers as they navigate their lives. And while his absence may be the cause of grief, the comfort lies in knowing that his spirit and love will live on within us, eternally.



V.B. Soni
Ambassador (Retd.)

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Buddha Purnima festival celebrated with great pomp and devotion at Ambedkar Bhawan To be free from suffering, everyone should adopt Panchsheel - Bhante Chandra Kirti

Jalandha- The 2569th holy Buddha Purnima festival was celebrated with great pomp and devotion by Ambedkar Mission Society Punjab (Regd.) at the

Prof. Balbir, Vice President of Ambedkar Mission Society Punjab (Regd.), said that the Dhamma of the Tathagata Buddha is a scientific religion

job unit president Advocate Kuldip Bhatti, general secretary Sunny Thapar, Ambedkarite leaders Jaswinder Wariana, Parminder Singh Khuttan and Gautam

gar was served. A two-minute silence was observed in memory of the 27 people killed in the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and the Indian soldiers and



historical place Ambedkar Bhawan, Dr. Ambedkar Marg, Jalandhar. On this occasion, Venerable Bhikkhu Chandra Kirti, Budh Vihar, Tarkhan Majara (Phillaur) administered the Panch Sheel and gave Dhamma sermons. Venerable Chandra Kirti said in his discourse that Prince Sidhartha, despite having all kinds of royal comforts in his life, renounced his home and family for the welfare of the suffering people and after searching for the scientific causes of these sufferings for 6 years, he concluded that there is suffering, and the cause of suffering is craving, attachment, desires, and longings. Renunciation of these desires is the only solution to suffering. To be free from suffering, he emphasized on adopting the Panchsheel.

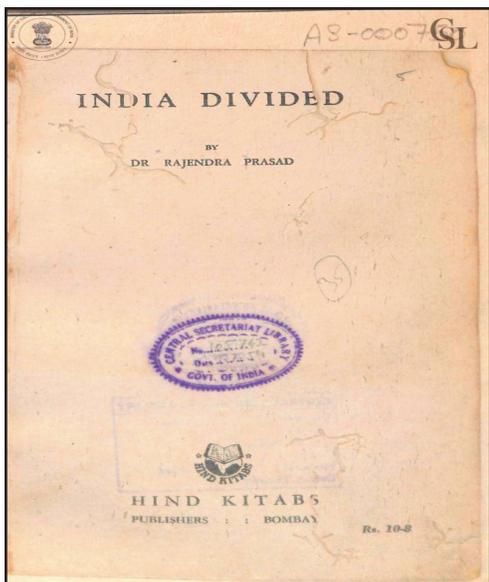
which talks about making this worldly world full of happiness instead of otherworldly pleasures. He said that the waves of greed, attachment and attachment arising in the mind are the cause of human suffering. The only way to achieve happiness is to remove these causes. Dr. G. C. Kaul, General Secretary of Ambedkar Bhawan Trust (Regd.) and Patron of the Mission Society, said that the central point of the ideology of Tathagata Buddha is man. The aim of Buddhism is to make human life happy and prosperous on this earth. Life can become happy only by adopting this great philosophy in the true sense. Dr. Kaul said Buddhism has nothing to do with rituals, hypocrisy and superstitions. All India Samta Sainik Dal (Regd.) Pun-

Sampla also presented their views on Buddhism. Talented child Rajat of Sofipind village performed his song on Tathagata Buddha. The stage was well conducted by Baldev Raj Bhardwaj, General Secretary of Ambedkar Mission Society.

Finally, Charan Das Sandhu, President of the Mission Society, thanked all the speakers and the audience and said that our Buddha Purnima event is dedicated to the ongoing movement to free the Mahabodhi Mahavihara in Bodh Gaya from non-Buddhists and the Mission Society demands that the BT Act 1949 be repealed immediately and the possession of the Mahabodhi Mahavihar be handed over exclusively to the Buddhists. After the ceremony, a kheer lan-

innocent people killed during the recent Indo-Pakistan war, floral tributes were paid to them and condolences were expressed to the families of the deceased. On this occasion, Dr. Mahendra Sandhu, Tilakraj, Harbhajan Nimta, Nirmal Binji, Advocate Harbhajan Sampla, Principal Paramjit Jassal, Chaman Das Sampla, Professor Arinder Singh, Hari Singh Thind, Dhani Ram Sood, Rajinder Jassal, Jyoti Prakash, Charanjit Singh, Master Jeet Ram, Sewa Singh, Master Sukhcharan Kumar, Pishori Lal Sandhu, Gurdial Jassal, Bibi Sunita, Bindu Bangar, Kavita Dhande and a large number of devotees were present. This information was given by Baldev Raj Bhardwaj, General Secretary of Ambedkar Mission Society, through a press statement.

India Divided, Authored by Dr. Rajendra Prasad



INDIA DIVIDED									
Hindia and Musalman majority districts of the Punjab									
Province	Population	Muslims	Hindus	Christians	Others	Others	Others	Others	Others
Amritsar	2,30,000	1,10,000	1,20,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Delhi	1,50,000	70,000	80,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Rawalpindi	1,20,000	60,000	60,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	1,00,000	50,000	50,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	80,000	40,000	40,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	70,000	35,000	35,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	60,000	30,000	30,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	50,000	25,000	25,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	40,000	20,000	20,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	30,000	15,000	15,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	20,000	10,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	10,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
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Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Muzaffargarh	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Chenab	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Sheikhpura	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lyallpur	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Faisalabad	5,000	2,500	2,5						

Mr. D. C. Ahir's Writings

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 44. The Great Buddhist Kings of Asia
 45. Buddhism and Hinduism Ambedkarism
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 49. Dr. Ambedkar on Buddhism, 1982
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 64. Dr. Ambedkar on Indian History, 1997
 65. Dr. Ambedkar on Jews and Negroes, 1998
 66. Dr. Ambedkar at the Round Table Conferences, London, 1999
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- Conferences/Seminars**
1. International Seminar-cum-Vipassana Course at Dhammagiri, Igatpuri, Maharashtra, 20 December 1986-1st January 1987.
 2. National Seminar on Dr. Ambedkar and Buddhism, Department of Buddhist Studies, Delhi University, 15 December 1987.
 3. All India Seminar on Buddhism and National Unity, Department of Buddhist Studies, Delhi University, 16-18 March, 1988.
 4. Seminar on India-Sri Lanka Cultural Interaction organised by Asoka Mission, New Delhi, 31 July-2 August 1990.
 5. International Buddhist Conference, Japanese Temple, Bodhgaya, 5-10 December, 1990.
 6. Seminar on Dr. Ambedkar, Politics and Religion, organised by Bodhisattva Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Maha Sabha, Lucknow, 9 February 1991.
 7. National Seminar on Dr. Ambedkar, Science and Society, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, 8 March 1991.
 8. International Workshop on Dr. Ambedkar, Buddhism and Social Change, organised by the Bhikkhu Jagdish Kashyap. Institute of Buddhist and Asian Studies, Samath, 29-31 March, 1991.
 9. National Seminar on Dr. Ambedkar organised by the Government of India, Ministry of Welfare, New Delhi, 15 April, 1991.
 10. National Seminar on Dr. Ambedkar organised by SahityaAkademi, New Delhi, 18-20 August 1991.
 11. Seminar on Contribution of Buddhism to Modern India – Services rendered by AnagarikaDharmapala and Dr. Ambedkar, Maha Bodhi Society of India, Sarnath, 18-20 November 1991.
 12. National Convention on World Peace and Humanity through Buddhism, Maha Bodhi Society of India, New Delhi, 14 December 1991.
 13. Seminar on Buddhist Revival Movement in India organised by the Maha Bodhi Society of India, Lucknow, 8 March 1992.
 14. Seminar on the place of Buddhism in Dr. Ambedkar's Thought, Department of Buddhist Studies, Delhi University, 12 April, 1992.
 15. National Seminar on Moho Pandit Rahul Sankrityayan, organised by the Head of the Department of Pali &Prakrit, Nagpur University, Nagpur, 19-20 March, 1994.
 16. National Seminar on Future Priorities, Programmes and Role of Babasaheb Ambedkar National Institute of Social Sciences relevant to thoughts and philosophy of Dr. Ambedkar and Contemporary issues of Socio-Economic Development of Weaker Sections of Society, organised by Dr. Babasahed Ambedkar National Institute of Social Sciences, Mhow, Madhya Pradesh, 12-14 April 1994.
 17. International Seminar on Vipassana – Its Relevance to the Present World, organised by Vipassana Research Institute, Igatpuri and hosted by VipassanaSadhanaSansthan, New Delhi, along with Yoga Club, I.I.T., New Delhi 15-17 April, 1994.
 18. Symposium on Hindu and Buddhist Traditions: Distinction without Difference?, organised by Max Muller Bhavan with and at India International Centre, 29 February 1996.
 19. National Consultation on Meeting of Religions and Cultures, organised by Commission for Education and Cultures, CBCI Centre, I, Ashok Place, New Delhi, Catholic Bishops Conference of India, 24-28 February, 1997.
 20. Seminar on 50 Years of Independence – Contribution of Buddhism, organised by the Maha Bodhi Society of India, Sarnath, 15 August 1997
 21. Seminar on Buddha Dhamma and its Relevance to the Contemporary Society, organised by Buddha Dhamma Sangha, (Buddhist Students Union), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 5 March 1999.
 22. World Conference on Religious Freedom, Religious Freedom: A Fundamental Right in the 21st Century organised by International Religious Liberty Association, Maryland, USA, and 1RLA India, Hosur, Tamil Nadu, at New Delhi, 16-18 November, 1999.

- Shiv Shankar Das

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Assemblyman Hoover's Representative Report

Victory in Our Fight to Protect Children from Predators

In a recent floor session, Assembly leadership prioritized criminals over victims in a move that can only be de-

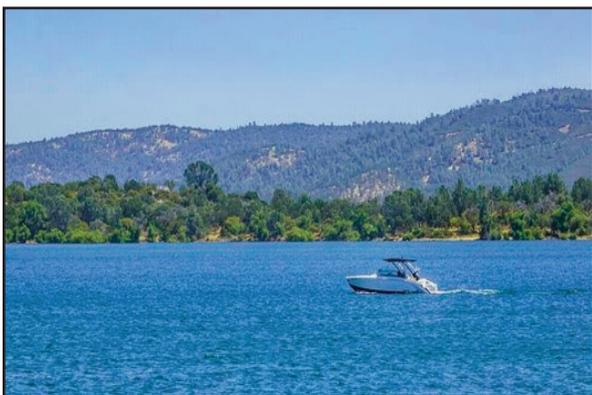


scribed as playing politics with public safety. They stripped a bipartisan bill, AB 379, of its protections for minors that make it a felony to purchase sex from a 16- or 17-year-old in California. They then replaced these protections with vague "intent" language that would do nothing to hold predators accountable. I voted against this attempt to water down the bill and mislead Californians with empty promises.

Last week, following immense public outcry, Assembly leaders in the Supermajority admitted defeat in their attempted manipulation of AB 379. New amendments to the bill have restored the felony provision for adults who solicit sex from a 16- or 17-year-old minor. While this is a major win, our work is not done. We now must make sure that the bill passes and reaches Governor Newsom's desk, where he has indicated he will sign it.

Update on Folsom Lake Closure

Last week, I, along with other local legislators, sent a letter to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Parks



and Recreation (California State Parks) regarding the current Folsom Lake closure. We expressed concern that the quarantine restrictions imposed by California State Parks do not strike an appropriate balance between protecting the

environment and preserving our local boating economy. More specifically, we urged federal and state agencies to work quickly to develop decontamination procedures that would allow boaters to responsibly access the lake while still safeguarding it from the threat of the golden mussel.

In their recent response, California State Parks acknowledged that Reclamation supports the use of decontamination procedures as a potential measure to provide lake access while mitigating the impact of the invasive species. Their response specifies that Reclamation endorses the use of outside vendors to perform these decontaminations.

Over the past week, we have had productive conversations with both state and federal agencies about the importance of implementing these procedures immediately. We have local businesses standing by - ready and willing to do this work - but are only waiting for the green light from California State Parks.

My office will continue to stay in contact with all parties involved, and we appreciate the attention being given to resolving this pressing matter. You can view the response from California State Parks here.

New Podcast Episode



In this week's episode of the Point of Order podcast, I was joined by Assemblymember Jeff Gonzalez to discuss key legislative updates during the busiest time of our legislative calendar. We revisit the ongoing conversation on oil refineries exiting California and examine current legislation that will further increase the cost of fuel in the state. We also explore bills that would impact

solar customers, improve literacy in our state, and pose potential threats to school choice. Finally, we break down the ongoing controversy surrounding legislation aimed at protecting 16- and 17-year-olds from being purchased for

sex. As anticipated in this week's episode, we have already seen encouraging progress toward restoring these protections, but our discussion offers insight into the politics and floor debate that brought us to this point.

You can watch, listen, and follow the podcast here.

District Ribbon Cutting: Urban Baths in Folsom

My team had the pleasure of attending and celebrating the ribbon cutting of Urban Baths in Folsom. As Folsom's very first bath house, Urban Baths has been serving the community for nearly a year, offering a unique and refreshing approach to relaxation and wellness.

Backed by a passionate and welcoming team, Urban Baths provides a variety of amenities in a serene environment that fosters both individual and communal well-being. Guests can enjoy cold plunges, saunas, massages, salt therapy, and more-creating a space for rest, renewal, and self-care. The facility is clean, spacious, and thoughtfully maintained, with fresh towels and shower shoes always available for guests' comfort. With the motto "relax simply, because life is complicated enough," Urban Baths embraces the importance of slowing down and prioritizing wellness.

Thank you to the Folsom Chamber of Commerce for organizing this event and supporting Urban Baths. We look forward to seeing the continued success of this local gem and the positive impact it will have on the Folsom community.

Location: 9611 Greenback Ln, Folsom, CA 95630

Ground-breaking Celebration for New Quick



Quack Car Wash in Orangevale

My team recently had the honor of joining the Orangevale Chamber of Commerce and community members to celebrate the official groundbreaking of the brand-new Quick Quack Car Wash in Orangevale. Located at 8900 Greenback Lane, right across from Walmart, this new location will bring convenient, eco-friendly service to the heart of the community.

Founded in 2004, Quick Quack Car Wash has expanded across California and earned a reputation for providing fast, high-quality service while giving back to the communities they serve. The Orangevale location is expected to open within the next year and will offer residents a reliable and accessible car wash experience.

We are excited to see another business investing in Orangevale and supporting the local economy. Stay tuned for progress updates and be sure to stop by once the doors officially open!



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Dr. Paramjit S Takhar, MD



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