



CHANDIGARH

Petrol / Ltr. Rs: 94.24/-
Diesel / Ltr. Rs: 82.40/-
LPG Rs: 812.50/-

PANCHKULA

Petrol / Ltr. Rs: 95.85/-
Diesel / Ltr. Rs: 88.67/-
LPG Rs: 829.50/-

MOHALI

Petrol / Ltr. Rs: 96.96/-
Diesel / Ltr. Rs: 87.26/-
LPG Rs: 812.50/-

GOLD & SILVER

Rates per gram

24 CARAT GOLD	22 CARAT GOLD
₹71,000/-	₹66,900/-
SILVER	₹84/-

SUNDER JEWELLERS

SCO 94, Sec. 35-C, Chandigarh
Phone: (172) 2813902, 5088902



MOHALI WEATHER 10:30 AM

Temperature 31°C

Sunset: 7:18 PM

Wednesday, 31.07.2024
Sunrise 5:40 AM (IST)

Next Full Moon
19 Aug 2024
Next New Moon
04 Aug 2024

BBSSL Scheme Brings New Hope For Hry Farmers

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, who is also the Minister of Cooperation informed the Lok Sabha regarding the Bhartiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL). This disclosure came in response to an unstarred question posed in the Lok Sabha by Shri Satpal Brahmachari regarding the extent to which farmers in Haryana are benefiting from the BBSSL scheme.

Data on Farmer Participation According to the Ministry, BBSSL, established under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002, has seen substantial participation from Haryana. Promoted by major cooperative organizations like IFFCO, KRIBHCO, NAFED, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), and the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), BBSSL began with an initial paid-up capital of ₹250 crore. Each of the five promoters contributed ₹50 crore, with the authorized share capital set at ₹500 crore. As of now, BBSSL has received 683 applications from Haryana, out of which 32 applicant societies are from Sonapat. Out of these, 26 cooperatives have been granted membership. On July 23, 2024, BBSSL obtained a seed license from the Government of Haryana, enabling it to start operations through its network of member cooperatives in the state.

Activities and Objectives The BBSSL scheme is designed to revolutionize seed production and distribution in India. Through its network of cooperatives, BBSSL will focus on producing, procuring, and distributing quality seeds



under a single brand. The scheme aims to improve crop yield and establish a system for preserving and promoting indigenous natural seeds.

Impact on Rural Economy The implementation of the BBSSL scheme is expected to significantly boost the rural economy and seed production. By increasing the production of quality seeds through cooperatives, the scheme aims to reduce India's dependence on imported seeds and enhance overall agricultural productivity. This initiative aligns with the broader goals of the "Make in India" campaign and the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India). Moreover, BBSSL's activities are expected to promote inclusive growth through the cooperative model, under the slogan "Sahakar-se-Samridhi" (Prosperity through Cooperation). Farmers stand to benefit from better prices for high-quality seeds, increased crop production through the use of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, and dividends distributed from the surplus generated by the society.

Wayanad landslides: PM Modi speaks to Kerala CM and assures help from Centre. announces ex-gratia

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan today (July 30) and assured him of all possible assistance from the Centre following the landslides in Wayanad district, which resulted in the deaths of eleven people, including children.

"Distressed by the landslides in parts of Wayanad. My thoughts are with all those who have lost their loved ones and prayers with those injured. Rescue ops are currently underway to assist all those affected. Spoke to Kerala CM Shri @pinarayivijayan and also assured all possible help from the Centre in the wake of the prevailing situation there." PM Modi wrote in a post on X. Official sources said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi also spoke with the two Union ministers from Kerala, Suresh Gopi and George Kurien, about the current situation. Modi has instructed BJP president J P Nadda to mobilize party workers in the region to assist with the ongoing relief efforts.

PM Modi announces ex-gratia The Prime Minister has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh from PMNRF for the next of kin of each deceased in the landslides in parts of Wayanad. The injured would be given Rs. 50,000. Leader of the Opposition and former Lok Sabha MP from Wayanad Rahul Gandhi also expressed condolences to the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones. "I am deeply anguished by the massive landslides near Meppadi in Wayanad. My heartfelt condolences go out to the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones. I hope those still trapped are brought to safety soon," he said. The Congress leader said that he have have spoken to the Kerala Chief Minister and the



Wayanad District Collector, who assured me that rescue operations are underway. "I have requested them to ensure coordination with all agencies, set up a control room, and inform us of any assistance needed for the relief efforts. I will speak to Union Ministers and request them to provide all assistance possible to Wayanad. I urge all UDF workers to assist the administration in the rescue and relief operations," he added. Five ministers being deployed in Wayanad Forest Minister AK Saseendran has arrived at the site, and Minister Ramachandran Kadanappally is expected to arrive shortly. Revenue Minister K Rajan, Public Works Minister Mohammad Riyas, and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Minister OR Kelu will travel to Wayanad by air from Thiruvananthapuram. Opposition Leader VD Satheesan is also set to depart for Wayanad. According to the Kerala Chief Minister's Office, 250 members of Fire and Rescue, Civil Defence, NDRF, and the Local Emergency Response Team are currently involved in the rescue operation in Wayanad's Chooral Mala. An additional NDRF team has also been directed to reach the site immediately.

Mamata Banerjee slams Centre after Jharkhand train derailment: Is this governance



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kolkata : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today slammed the central government over the series of train accidents and wondered whether there will be no end to Centre's callousness. In a social media post, Banerjee wondered whether this is governance as the train accidents have become a regular affair. "Another disastrous rail accident! Howrah-Mumbai mail derailed in Chakradharpur division in Jharkhand today early morning, multiple deaths and huge number of injuries are the tragic consequences." She posted on X. "I seriously ask: is this governance? This series of nightmares almost every week, this unending procession of deaths and injuries on railway tracks: for how long shall we tolerate this? Will there be no end to the callousness of Government of India?" she added. Two persons were killed and 20 others injured as at least 18 coaches of the Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed in Seraikela-Kharsawan district early to, officials said.

la-Kharsawan district early to, officials said. The accident occurred at 3.45 AM near Barabamboo, around 80 km from Jamshedpur, under Chakradharpur Division of the South Eastern Railway (SER), they said. SER spokesperson Om Prakash Charan said there was another derailment of a goods train nearby, but it was not yet clear whether the two accidents occurred concurrently. "Two persons were killed and 20 injured as 18 coaches of Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed near Barabamboo. Rescue operations are on and an NDRF team is rushing to the spot," West Singhbhum Deputy Commissioner Kuldeep Chaudhary, who is camping at the accident site. He claimed that the "Howrah-Mumbai train hit the stationary goods train". The accident site is near the border between West Singhbhum and Seraikela-Kharsawan districts.

SC grants bail to NCP leader Nawab Malik on medical grounds

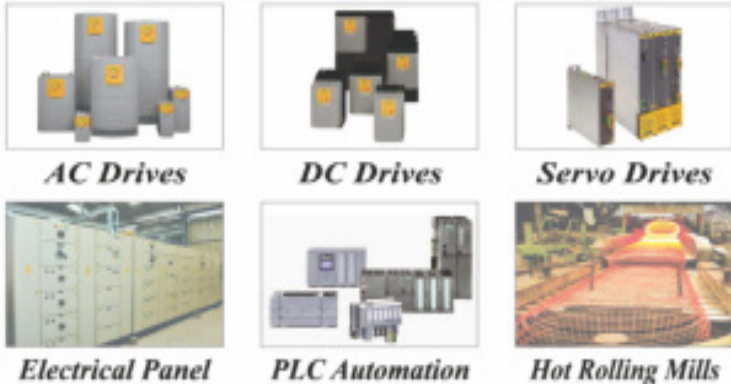


THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Supreme Court today granted bail on medical grounds to former Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik in a money laundering case. A bench of justices Bela M Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma took note of the submissions of a counsel, appearing for Malik, that he was suffering from various ailments. The top court said medical bail to Malik will be valid till disposal of the regular bail plea before the Bombay High Court. Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the ED, did not oppose grant of bail, and said the interim medical bail may be made permanent.

The ED had arrested Malik in February 2022 in the case allegedly linked to the activities of fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim and his associates. Malik had sought relief from the high court, claiming he was suffering from a chronic kidney disease apart from various other ailments. He also sought bail on merit. The ED's case against Malik is based on an FIR filed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) against Ibrahim, a designated global terrorist and a key accused in the 1993 Mumbai serial bomb blasts, and his associates under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

ENGINEERING YOUR SUCCESS



Wonder Systems India Pvt Ltd.
Cell : +91-98140-12597, 92166-12597
Plot No. E-192, Indl. Area, Sec. 74, SAS Nagar, Mohali - (Pb)
E-Mail : ks@wondersystemsindia.com
www.wondersystemsindia.com

For our valuable Readers, If you want to share any News, Information, Grievances, or inputs etc with us, please send us on our

Whatsapp Number: 8968900999

or send an e-mail to: theamansandeshtimes@gmail.com

Note: Your name and identity will be kept confidential if you wish for.

Amarjit Singh
075890-90001
093161-30691

Jasvinder Singh
98148-39124

Bajaj Associates (Regd.)

PROPERTY & INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS
(GMADA APPROVED)

Office : S.C.F. 28, Phase 5, Near Punjab & Sindh Bank
S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) - 160059 (INDIA)

Tel : 0172-2260750, 2226643

E-mail : bajajassociates@yahoo.com

Which rules were flouted by Delhi coaching centre where 3 students died?

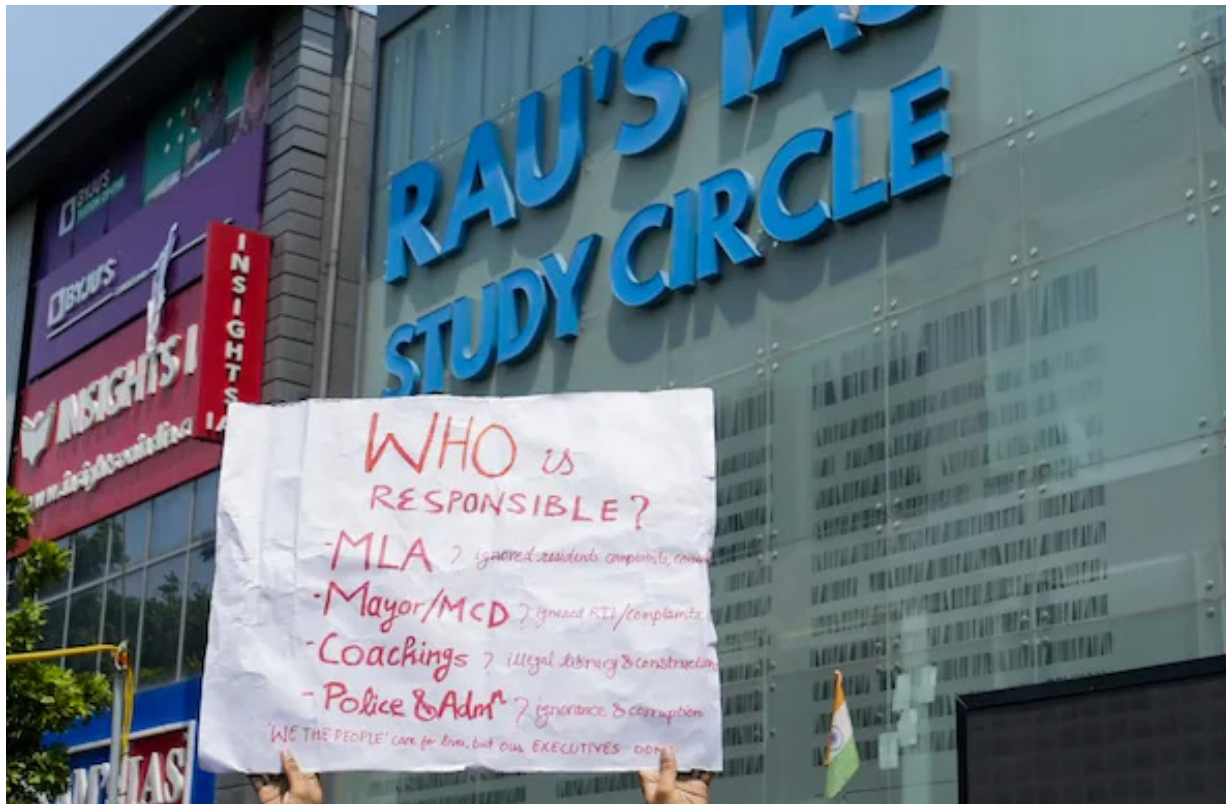
THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Classrooms and libraries in basements, no proper drainage facilities are some of the rampant safety violations found in several coaching centres across Delhi. These violations were also found at Rau's IAS Study Circle coaching institute in Rajinder Nagar, where three civil service aspirants lost their lives on Saturday evening due to flooding in the basement.

The victims, Shreya Yadav from Uttar Pradesh, Tanya Soni from Telangana, and Navin Dalwin from Kerala, were caught in the deluge after heavy rains inundated the basement of the centre. The incident has ignited widespread student protests, with protesters accusing local authorities of severe negligence in ensuring the safety standards of educational institutions.

Meanwhile, the total goods and services tax collected (GST) from coaching centres across the country has more than doubled in the last five years, according to the government data shared with the Rajya Sabha. From 2019-20, the total GST collected from coaching was Rs 2,240.73 crore. It grew to Rs 5,517.45 crore in 2023-24.

After the Delhi High Court took note of the Mukherjee Nagar fire incident in June last year, the Delhi Police submitted a status report in which they mentioned that as many as 583 coaching institutes were running in Delhi. According to



the report, out of 583 coaching institutes, only 67 have fire safety certificates, while 516 institutes do not have a fire safety certificate.

The use of the basement shall be subject to clearance from the fire authorities and other statutory bodies as per the relevant provisions of the Master Plan of Delhi (MPD) 2021 and the Unified Building Bye-Laws, as amended from time to time.

As per Unified Building Bye-Laws 2016, for educational buildings (schools or colleges), a basement or cellar room may be designed, constructed, altered, converted, or used for

the purpose of study or instruction, provided it meets fire safety requirements.

As per rules laid down in the Unified Building Bye-Laws for Delhi, 2016, the construction of the basement shall be allowed by the Sanctioning Authority in accordance with the land use and other provisions specified under the Master Plan for Delhi/Zonal Development Plan.

1. Every basement should, in every part, be at least 2.4 m in height from the floor to the soffit of the beam and 2.4 m in minimum width.

2. Adequate ventilation shall be provided for the basement.

3. The maximum finish level of the ground floor above the basement shall be up to 1.5 m and shall be measured with respect to the average surrounding ground level, open level, or setback level.

4. An adequate arrangement shall be made such that surface drainage does not enter the basement.

5. The walls and floors of the basement shall be watertight and be so designed that the effects of the surrounding soil and moisture, if any, are taken into account in the design and adequate dampproofing treatment is given.

6. Access to the basement shall be either from the main or alternate staircase providing access to the building.

7. For all types of buildings having more than one basement, fire clearance will have to be obtained.

The coaching centre was using the basement as a library, even though civic authorities had said it could be used as storage. The coaching centre received a No Objection Certifi-

cate (NOC) earlier this month, in which clearance was given for the three-storey building, a stilt parking space beneath the building, and a basement, which was supposed to be used as a storage area.

The owner of the coaching centre admitted that the basement of the institute did not have any drainage facilities. It has also been reported that it had only one entry and exit point.

As per reports, the coaching industry in India is worth Rs 58,088 crore, of which civil services coaching institutes contribute Rs 3,000 crore. Delhi is often considered the hub of UPSC-CSE coaching.

Lakhs of students from several states, including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and the southern parts of the country, come to Delhi to study in coaching institutes in Rajinder Nagar and Mukherjee Nagar.

In a reply to Rajya Sabha on July 24, 2024, the Department of Revenue shared the GST collection of Rs 5517.45 crore from coaching institutions in the financial year 2023-24.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by:
Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date
31 st July

Born on 31 st July: They can read the motives of others and are good judges of character. These ambitious, career-oriented people have a pragmatic nature yet dream large. They possess a generous soul and the desire to be part of the crowd but may be unwilling to show these aspects of their personality. They are consistent, dependable, and loyal. They often have more than their share of emotional ups and downs in romantic love. Finding the right person can be a chore, but when they do, they want that person with them for a lifetime. This could relate to a difficult childhood or feeling left out of the family. They are sometimes unsure in their parenting role. They believe in strict discipline but don't want to restrict their children the way they themselves may have been. The people born on this date are worriers and often suffer from worrier's ailments: headaches, backaches, upset stomach, and sleeping disorders.

WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

DEV BHOMI SOLAR SOLUTIONS

Solar Water Heating System, Solar Street Lights, Solar Inverter, Others S.P.V. Systems & Fabrication works

E-139, Industrial Area, Phase-7, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali - 160055
devbhomisolar@gmail.com, dpsharma5248@gmail.com

DP SHARMA
98557-25248
84270-06368

 <h3 style="color: red;">Aries</h3> <p>(March 21 - April 19)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Maintain your mental health-which is prerequisite for spiritual life. Mind is the gateway of life because everything whether it is good/bad comes through mind. It helps in solving life problems and endows one with requisite light.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Taurus</h3> <p>(April 20 - May 20)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Be an optimistic and look at the brighter side. Your confident expectations open the door for realization of your hopes and desires. Today, you will understand the importance of money and how unnecessarily spending it can negatively affect your future.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Gemini</h3> <p>(May 21 - June 20)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Chances of recovering from physical illness on the card. Surplus money should be invested in real estate. Your excessive energy and tremendous enthusiasm will bring favorable results and ease domestic tensions Your beloved will seem a bit irritated- which will add pressure on your mind.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Cancer</h3> <p>(June 21 - July 22)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Give every man an ear you might find solution of your problems. Any of your movable property can get stolen today. Hence, you need to take good care of them. You will be torn in many different directions if you try to take care of everyone's demands. Avoid being forceful in love affairs.</p>
 <h3 style="color: red;">Leo</h3> <p>(July 23 - Aug 22)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : You will remain very active and agile today. Your health will fully support you today. Real estate investment would be lucrative. Good advice from family members will bring gains to you today. Travel will promote romantic connection. You will not get good results in the office today.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Virgo</h3> <p>(Aug 23 - Sep 22)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Keep your diet under control and exercise to stay fit. An old friend of yours can advise you on how to earn more profits in business today. If you follow his/her advice, you're definitely in luck. Don't let your friends take advantage of your generous nature. Emotional disturbances could trouble you.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Libra</h3> <p>(Sep 23 - Oct 22)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : You will find people around you highly demanding-Don't promise more than you can deliver- and don't stress yourself to exhaustion just to please others. Trouble seems to be brewing on the home front so take care of what you say. Use your discretion power in love today.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Scorpio</h3> <p>(Oct 23 - Nov 21)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Your doubting nature may show you the face of defeat. Investment concerning your residence will be profitable. Short trip to the relative brings moment of comfort and relaxation from your daily hectic schedule Likely to feel the presence in absence of your partner.</p>
 <h3 style="color: red;">Capricorn</h3> <p>(Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Be an optimistic and look at the brighter side. Your confident expectations open the door for realization of your hopes and desires. Those who are managing their business with their close ones or relatives need to remain very careful today, otherwise financial losses can occur.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Aquarius</h3> <p>(Jan 20 - Feb 18)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Use your energy to help someone in distress. Remember-what is the use of this perishable body if no use is made of it for the benefit of others. Today, you can learn the skill of accumulating and saving money and put it to the right use. Period of tension may prevail but family support will help you.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Sagittarius</h3> <p>(Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Building castle in the air won't help you. You should do something to live upto family's expectations. You know the importance of money very well, which is why the money you save today will be useful in the future and get out of any major difficulty. Your thirst for knowledge will help you make new friends.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Pisces</h3> <p>(Feb 19 - Mar 20)</p> <p>July 31 st 2024 : Your kind nature will bring many happy moments today. Explore new investment opportunities that come your way today- but commit yourself only after you have studied the viability of these projects. Some cleaning up around your house needs to be done immediately.</p>

WE ARE HIRING

EXPERIENCED & FRESHERS

**CONTENT WRITERS
REPORTERS | ANCHORS
VIDEO EDITORS | CAMERAMAN**

GOOD SALARY

MUST BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH, HINDI, PUNJABI

APPLY NOW

SEND YOUR CV TO

theamansandeshtimes@gmail.com

+91 89689 00999

F-78, PHASE 7, INDUSTRIAL AREA, MOHALI, SAS NAGAR

Plantation Drive along entire western front- 2024

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : On 30th July 2024, Sh. Yogesh Bahadur Khurania, IPS, Special DG Border Security Force, Western Command inaugurated a massive plantation drive under the campaign #Plant4Mother for the current monsoon season along the entire Western borders of the country and also at BSF Campus Lakhnaur to carry forward the vision of Honorable Prime Minister of planting 80 crore trees by September 2024 and 140 Crore trees by March 2025 as a mark of love and respect for one's own Mother and for protecting and preserving Mother Earth. During the event organized at BSF campus Lakhnaur, Mrs. Ruchira Khurania, President BWWA, families and troops planted saplings of various fruit bearing plants.

On the occasion, Sh. Y. B. Khurania, IPS, Special DG BSF Western Command reiterated the importance of Tree plantation for the community and for future generations that shall provide cleaner air to breathe by increasing green cover and also mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. The saplings are being planted every year by BSF in such campaigns during



monsoon season to ensure greater survivability. This mega plantation campaign is being organized at all Frontiers up to BOP level from Kashmir to Gujarat, in which kith and kin of the troops are also participating with great zest and fervor with aim to surpass the previous year target of planting 13 lakh saplings. Deserts, creeks and denuded

patches are the areas of prominence for this mega plantation drive in order to combat environmental issues like desertification, soil erosion, etc. He also emphasized that BSF has always been committed towards its social responsibilities along with its primary objective of defending the borders of the nation.

MCM holds bridge course on Social Sciences' Research

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Postgraduate Department of Sociology at Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, organised an online bridge course titled 'Beginners in Research in Social Sciences'. Ms Guneet Kaur and Ms Shaurya, Research Scholars in Sociology, Panjab University, were the resource persons for this course that shed light on an array of topics including identification of a research problem after considering the feasibility of the topic, developing a sound theoretical framework, the importance of review of related literature, and publishing a research paper. The resource persons discussed the tools

of data collection and techniques of data analysis. The basic characteristics and assumptions of various statistical measures like measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, coefficient of correlation and regression models that can be applied on data to arrive at conclusions were dwelt upon during the course. The skill of reporting the results of the study with a discussion to correlate the same with established studies was also taught. Further, the use of MS Word, Power Point and Excel in developing a research paper and writing a thesis was explained through live demonstration. In a significant ses-

sion on plagiarism check and citation style, knowledge of various free online softwares like Plagcheck was shared with the participants. Online tools like Mendeley and the Citation machine were also discussed. The course proved to be an enlightening one for the aspiring researchers. Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava expressed gratitude towards the resource persons for equipping the participants with skills in the specialised field of social sciences research. She asserted that the course would help the participants to develop their research portfolio effectively and thus, achieve new milestones in their career.

Team of B.Tech ME students from CGC Landran wins Rs. 75,000 in national-level hackathon competition

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : A team of Mechanical Engineering (ME) students from Chandigarh Engineering College (CEC)-CGC Landran, has bagged the third prize of Rs. 75,000 in the prestigious SAP iTech Hack Fest 2024, a national-level hackathon competition held at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Competing against more than 100 colleges from across India, Team Rudraksh comprising third-year B.Tech-ME students Shivam Pandey, Rohit Singh, Piyush Kumar, Lovenshu led by their mentor Prof. (Dr.) Saurabh Chaitanya, brought laurels to CGC Landran with their innovative project - 'Borewell Rescue Robot', in the Crowd Sourced Disaster Management category of this national-level Hackathon. Their project was judged on parameters including Code & Design, Usability, Innovativeness, Desirability, Demo, and Presentation. Hack fest 2024 brought together the



brightest minds in engineering and technology from different parts of the country and provided them with a great platform to collaborate, innovate and develop ground-breaking solutions to real world problems. Expressing their happiness, the students said, "Participating in the SAP iTech Hack Fest 2024 was an incredible experience. Our project winning this accolade from among so many others presented by talented teams from all over India, is a matter of great pride for us

and has been such a confidence booster. We are grateful to our mentor and all our faculty members at CGC Landran for their steadfast support and guidance. We look forward to participating in and, winning many more such competitions, for our college" Satnam Singh Sandhu, Chairman, CGC Landran and Rashpal Singh Dhaliwal, President, CGC Landran congratulated the team. They said, "We are proud of Team Rudraksh's accomplishment. Their success highlights the dedication, efforts and innovative thinking of our students and faculty. It also reinforces our institution's remarkable legacy rooted in imparting quality education with a focus on innovation, research, hands-on learning, providing strong mentorship, and boundless opportunities to its students to excel in their chosen fields and contribute meaningfully to society."

AAP will win record number of seats in Hry Assembly elections: Prem Garg

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Panchkula : Senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Prem Garg said that AAP will win record number of seats in Haryana Assembly elections. Every single worker of AAP is busy in preparations for the Assembly elections and till BJP is wiped out, the workers will continue to work hard in this manner. Whichever candidate AAP fields from Panchkula Assembly, all AAP leaders and workers will support him unitedly and will work to ensure his victory with record number of votes. This time, in the first budget of BJP's Central Government, Haryana remained empty handed.

The Central Government kept Haryana completely backward. No major announcement was made for Haryana. Everyday essential goods have been made expensive,



due to which those goods have become out of the reach of the common man. Prem Garg of Aam Aadmi Party said this while talking to journalists. He said that Congress and BJP have looted the country. No attention is being paid to the education and health conditions in the country. The education condition is deteriorating day by day

and patients are not getting treatment in government hospitals. And poor people are wandering here and there.

He said that Aam Aadmi Party has made the education condition in Delhi number one in the whole of India and health facilities have also been provided very well by the Kejriwal government. He said that the coming time belongs to Aam Aadmi Party. People are now fed up with Congress and BJP and people have made up their mind that the Aam Aadmi Party government will come to Haryana this time and the Aam Aadmi Party government will do the work of making Haryana number one in the whole country.

PIC OF THE DAY

WHO CARES...?

Roadside Encroachments continues in Mohali



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : Illegal encroachments outside showrooms, at marketplaces, roadsides have become a common affair. We often see that owners of showrooms encroach upon public many vendors have encroachment over spaces on roadsides leading to regular traffic congestion.

Residents of Mohali raises a question does the concerned officials really have any concrete policy against roadside encroachments in the city? Unfortunately, with the present situation of roads in Mohali it seems concerned officials have no such plan so far, as a result illegal grabbing/ encroachment of roadsides is continuing unabated in almost every part of Mohali.

Residents stated without carrying out a massive anti-encroachment drive, the Mohali Municipal Corporation would have no meaning at all. Despite the fact that the Mohali Municipal Corporation has constructed pathways for the convenience of pedestrians, a majority of them have been encroached by the street vendors, no checks have been conducted to restrict such vendors from illegally occupying the footpaths stated residents.

Residents also add that the number of street vendors occupying the pavement had increased significantly in recent months.

A senior citizen added encroachments are so massive in the evening that pedestrians are forced to step on the road. "Although the encroachments are comparatively less in the morning, it still causes more inconvenience to the early morning walkers. Some vendors set up food stalls with plastic sheets tied to serve as a shelter during evenings. With many public spots located in the area, traffic snarls are a common sight. Main Phases dividing roads witnesses a lot of traffic throughout the day and it is unsafe to walk on the roads, but there is no other way. Residents complain that the illegal hawkers selling items on footpaths are causing traffic congestion as people randomly park their vehicles on the road to purchase fruits and vegetables from these vendors. The vehicles parked on the road occupy the space meant for vehicles to commute. It is pertinent to mention that the traffic around Phase 1 Mohali Village road in the city and at other places such as Phase 4, Phase 11 are the common places where traffic moves at a snail's pace during the evening hours.

Residents said the levelled footpaths were created as parking spaces for vehicles, but now have been illegally encroached upon by vendors on roads which causes traffic congestion. **But Who Cares???**

Minister Chetan Jouramajra encourages farmers to plant fructiferous saplings for further strengthening crop diversification



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Punjab Horticulture Minister S. Chetan Singh Jouramajra today called upon farmers to embrace fructiferous sapling plantation, saying that these saplings are being provided at affordable rates through the Horticulture Department.

He said that this initiative is part of a broader strategy to promote crop diversification across the state.

While highlighting that the current monsoon season will present an optimal window for planting fruit-bearing trees, Chetan Singh Jouramajra said that this approach will offer a sustainable alternative to the traditional wheat-paddy crop rotation, which led to significant groundwater depletion in the region.

The Horticulture Minister specifically recommended the cultivation of various fruit trees, including mango, guava, litchi, chiku, citrus varieties, jamun, bael and jackfruit. He noted that these saplings are readily available at government-op-

erated nurseries under the Horticulture Department at reasonable prices.

Meanwhile, Director Horticulture Shailender Kaur, IFS said that farmers seeking more information can contact the department's Nodal Officer on mobile number 7508018803.

Noting the multifaceted benefits of fruit tree cultivation, the Director outlined advantages such as environmental preservation, water conservation, crop diversification, and substantial increase in farmers' income.

Shailender Kaur reiterated Chief Minister S. Bhagwant Mann-led government's commitment to supporting Punjab's agricultural community in adopting more sustainable and economically viable farming practices, stating that this initiative is part of broader efforts to address environmental concerns while enhancing the economic prospects of the state's farming sector.

MP Arora raises issue of underage drunk driving in Parliament



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Ludhiana : Rajya Sabha MP Sanjeev Arora raised the issue of underage drinking and driving across the country and gave suggestions to the government to deal with the issue in the ongoing session of Rajya Sabha. While expressing his concerns over instances of underage drinking and driving in the country, Arora said a recent road accident in Pune shook the country. He termed this road accident of frightening significance. He added according to RTI information, out of 100 pubs operating in Pune only 23 were licensed. Arora pointed out that underage drinking and driving is a major concern. He said in Delhi itself, there is 573 percent increase in challans for underage driving compared to last year in first quarter of this current fiscal. He further mentioned in his address that fake IDs are another major challenge to curb underage drinking. Arora recommended specific measures to the government to overcome the present situation. He stressed the need for carrying out regular and surprise inspections of establishments. He advocated for stricter penalties for those violating the

law by serving alcohol to underage customers. Further, Arora suggested initiating public awareness campaigns to educate both the young and the public highlighting legal consequences, health risks, and potential for addiction associated with underage alcohol consumption. Arora suggested to the government to collaborate with the hospitality industry, educational institutions and NGOs to develop a strategy to address underage drinking. He suggested arranging training for servers on identifying fake IDs and refusing service to minors, as well as educational programmes in schools and colleges about the dangers of underage drinking. Arora further suggested the need to give more power to common citizens and empowering them by developing mobile apps through which they can click pictures and geotag the area of the offenders thereby helping the law enforcement officials. Concluding his address, he said he believes that a multipronged approach involving stricter enforcement, public awareness initiatives and collaboration with stakeholders is essential to effectively address this issue.

Expedite disposal of timber stock to prevent rotting: Himachal CM Sukhvinder Sukhu to Forest Corpn



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Shimla : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu today directed the Forest Corporation to expedite disposal of timber wood stock from its depots to prevent rotting and resultant losses. The Chief Minister today presided over the 214th meeting of the Board of Directors of Himachal Pradesh State Forest Development Corporation (HPFSDC) here today. He directed the officers to take necessary measures to expedite the disposal of the timber wood stock accumulated in the corporation's depots so that it could be prevented from rotting. The Chief Minister said that it was for the first time, the HPFSDC would engage in mining activities from the Beas river after obtaining FCA clearance. Additionally, he directed the corporation to blacklist defaulting contractors and initiate recovery proceedings against them besides barring them from participating in future tenders. A total of 618 trees were damaged in Shimla city during last year's monsoon fury, the sale of which has brought an earning of Rs 2.50 crore for the corporation. He commended the corporation's efforts for earning profits of Rs. 2.17 crore during the financial year 2021-22, Rs 8 crore during 2022-23 and Rs 10.04 crore in 2023-24. Sukhu said that 100 Van Veers

would be engaged to address the staff shortage in the Forest Corporation. He assured that the state government would provide full cooperation to strengthen the Forest Corporation, aiming to make it a self-reliant and profitable organisation. Sukhu also asked to explore the possibility of delegating powers to Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs) along with the officers of the corporation to cut down trees coming in the ways of linear projects after the first stage clearance of FCA so as to avoid unnecessary delays. The Board of Directors gave its approval to grant a bonus to the employees of the Corporation for the year 2022-23, benefiting about 227 employees and to increase daily wages to Rs. 400, benefiting the corporation's daily wagers. It was also decided to grant another instalment of 4 per cent DA to all employees from April 1, 2024 and to regularise 80 employees who have completed two years of contractual service. The Corporation presented a cheque of Rs 51 lakh to the Chief Minister for the CM Relief Fund. Vice Chairman HPFSDC Kehar Singh Khachi, Principal Secretary Forest Amandeep Garg and Secretary to Chief Minister Rakesh Kanwar along with senior officers of the HPFSDC attended the meeting.

BJP jailed AAP ministers who did good work in Delhi: Bhagwant Mann

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann launched a scathing attack on the BJP-led central government, accusing it of imprisoning Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders who have made significant improvements in Delhi's education and health sectors. Mann condemned the arrests of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, his former deputy Manish Sisodia, and ex-Minister Satendar Jain, terming them politically motivated. "When education improved, Manish Sisodia was put in jail, when health services improved, Satendar Jain was put in jail, and when it was seen that the whole country is supporting Arvind Kejriwal, he too was arrested and put in jail by the BJP government," Mann said at a public meeting. Mann urged the public not to be



swayed by minor concessions like the recent Rs 100 price cut for cooking gas, and called for sweeping political change in Haryana and across India under Arvind Kejriwal's leadership. "Modi ji loots for almost four years and in the end gives a lollipop to the public by reducing the price of LPG cylinder by Rs 100," Mann said. Ahead of assembly elections in

Haryana, the Punjab Chief Minister warned voters against falling for such lollipops. He appealed to them to bring AAP to power in the state. "This time Haryana has jhaadu (broom, AAP's poll symbol). Earlier only houses and shops were cleaned with a jhaadu, this time under the leadership of Arvind Kejriwal, the whole of India will be cleaned," he asserted. AAP earlier announced it will be fighting the Haryana assembly elections on its own. The Arvind Kejriwal-led party had previously allied with the Congress and gained one seat in the Lok Sabha polls in the state. Now it will be contesting in all 90 assembly seats solo.

Central team inspects site of electrocution in Chandigarh's Sector 8

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : A two-member team of technical experts from the Central Electricity Authority, Delhi, today inspected the spot where a 17-year-old boy was electrocuted in Sector 8 here on July 17. Sources said the team would take a day or two to submit the report to the UT Administration after getting approval from their authorities. The victim, Mayank of Sector 7, was the son of the Deputy Director in Enforcement Directorate here. While crossing the railings next to a transformer, he came into contact with it and was electrocuted. On the directions of Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Banwarilal Purohit, Deputy Commissioner Vinay Pratap Singh had on July 19 ordered a magisterial inquiry into the tragic fatal incident. SDM (Central) Naveen was entrusted with the task to conduct and complete the magisterial inquiry in 10 days by associating technical experts in the field of power from Delhi. Purohit had visited the site of the incident to assess the situation first-



hand and instructed a comprehensive investigation to determine the cause of death, identify any lapses by officials, and recommend necessary precautions to prevent such occurrences in the future. The Administrator had expressed his displeasure at the uncovered and exposed fuses of the power transformers and instructed the Engineering Department to take immediate measures to ensure the safety of residents in vicinity of electric transformers and poles in Chandigarh to prevent cases of electrocution.

He emphasised the urgency for the electricity wing of the Engineering Department to secure or cover areas around transformers to prevent such incidents and mandated strict adherence to all safety regulations set by the Power Ministry. Purohit had issued strict instructions to both the civil and police administrations to take stringent action against those found responsible for the boy's death. He also called for fixing accountability within the department concerned. An Executive Engineer and a Sub-Divisional Engineer were placed under suspension pending the inquiry. A 17-year-old boy was crossing the railings next to a transformer in Sector 8 on July 17 when he came into contact with it and got electrocuted. The victim, Mayank of Sector 7, was the son of the Deputy Director in Enforcement Directorate.

PU looks to industry for commercialising patents

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Panjab University (PU) was granted 47 patents from January 2023 to April this year. During the year 2022, 12 patents were granted to the university. The highest number of patents came in the field of pharmaceutical science. "Efforts are being made to connect researchers with industrial sector so that technologies developed can be commercialised," said Vice-Chancellor Renu Vig. She added that during the assessment period 2017-22 for NAAC accreditation, the university had published 55 researches and was granted patents for nearly 30. "Earlier, faculty members published papers in journals rather than filing patents," said the VC when asked about the rise in the number patents granted to the university. Giving an insight on university's plans to boost research and commercialise final products, Prof Manu Sharma, Director, Centre for Industry Institute Partnership Programme, said, "We are organising a transfer of technology conference in association with Punjab State Council for Science and Technology on November 22 and 23 this year. Each scientist will be given 10 minutes for articulation of his/her patent before people from industries. The aim is to transfer the invention from academia to industry." Dr Indu Pal Kaur, professor, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was granted five patents as the primary inventor of the product. On November 9 last



year, she was granted the patent in association with Atin Kalra for orally dispersible taste masked formulations of bitter drugs. "Most antiviral drugs are very bitter with poor bioavailability. There is hardly any organised research happening in the area to design child-friendly dosages that can ensure delivery of efficient and correct dose to kids. This technology describes fast dissolving mini tablets and films for bitter antiviral drugs," said Prof Kaur. Prof Dr Maninder Karan, Prof Dr Karan Vasishth and junior research fellow Meenakshi Verma of the department were granted patent for 'Novel polyherbal composition for prevention and treatment of inflammation and arthritis'. "Arthritis is a painful, chronic and inflammatory disease of both old and young. It requires long-term treatment. Sometimes, the treatment has to be taken throughout life. Most treatments have serious side-effects, most common being gastric effects. This invention is based on an innovative

and unique natural remedy which is as effective as synthetic drugs but without any gastric side-effect, rather it provides additional gastric protection and can be taken orally or applied locally," said Dr Karan. Prof Seema Kapoor of Dr SS Bhatnagar University Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology, PU, in association with Professor Uma Batra of the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Punjab Engineering College, was granted a patent for 'Multi-substituted calcium phosphate for biomedical applications and the method of synthesis thereof' in February this year. Prof Kapoor said the patented product offers significant benefits for treating various bone and dental-related issues and can be commercially manufactured. Panjab University is organising an Investors' Summit from March 3 to March 5 next year, registrations for which would close on August 31. Entrepreneurs will pitch their business plans before investors. For participation in the summit, business plan has to be around some patented technology. The Department of Science & Technology-sponsored Technology Enabling Centre of the PU will conduct 10 training sessions and give as many assignments so as to prepare budding entrepreneurs for the summit.

Kumbhra sub-centre not in pink of health

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : The health and wellness centre at Kumbhra village here is unique in itself as patients and pregnant women have to go up a dozen stairs for consultation. Around 8 to 10 pregnant women visit this facility daily, laboriously climbing up the narrow stairs in shabby, unhygienic conditions. Broken toilet seats and waste furniture greet them at the cave-like entrance here. The sub-centre is housed in village panchayat dharamshala for a decade now. Decades-old scrap is dumped in the hall on the ground floor of the building, the first floor has three-room dispensary with a makeshift toilet and the top floor has a dharamshala. The climb-up is an arduous task for pregnant women who come along with their kids. Not only this, the narrow stairs with steep gradient has uneven steps which pose the risk of tripping while climbing up or down. In need of instant medical treatment and emergency, locals consider it no less than a dispensary. Expectant mothers visit here for



consultation and medical advice. Nearly 100 expectant and new mothers are registered here.

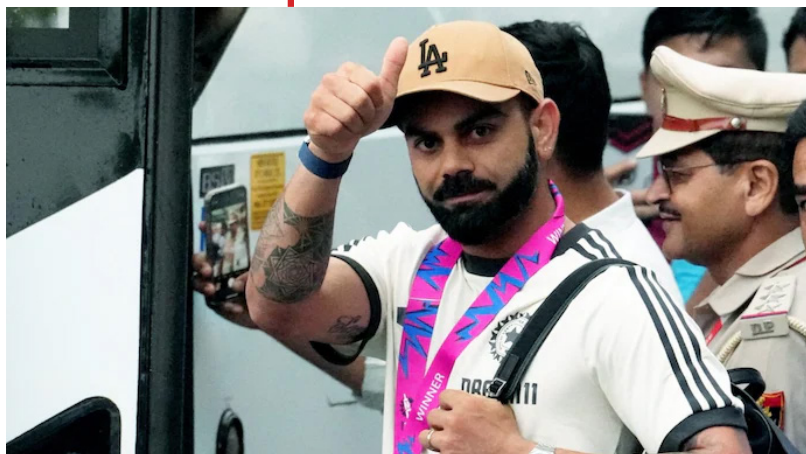
A community health officer and ANMs (auxiliary nursing midwife) are posted here. In times of cholera outbreak in the village, it acts as a makeshift medical camp with two-three lady doctors and nurses. Parul, Rekha, and Seema, who had come for a check-up, said it was very tiresome and risky going up and down as visitors jostle for space in the narrow staircase. "Pregnant women along with their children face great difficulty handling their kids here," said a female visitor. "The surroundings are dirty and unhygienic. This is not how a dispensary looks like. The medical staff's silence on the state of affairs says all," said another visitor. Imagine the number of visitors here as a medical camp was set up to attend to patients with cholera-like symptoms. From the look of the sub-centre, it is clear that it once started as a makeshift arrangement, but with time and official apathy, it became a permanent fixture.

Smiles, handshakes and selfies: Virat Kohli greets fans at Colombo airport

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : India's star batter Virat Kohli shared a heartwarming interaction with the fans at the Colombo airport in Sri Lanka. Kohli landed in the island nation for India's upcoming ODI series against Sri Lanka on July 29. He looked all smiles as he greeted the Indian fans and clicked pictures with them. He was patiently waiting for his turn at the check-in counter and the star-struck fans tried to capture him. Indian captain Rohit Sharma, alongside KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Kuldeep Yadav and Harshit Rana arrived the day before yesterday.

Kohli and Rohit will also kick-start their practice session in Colombo before the ODI series. There were speculations about if the star duo would take part in the series or not. However, Rohit was named as the captain of the team and Kohli was also included in the 15-member squad. Kohli and Rohit will make a return to the ODIs after November



2023 and will aim to get in the groove. They both boast of a great record against Sri Lanka in the ODI format and will look to only better it in the series. They will both return to the cricket field a month after India's victory at the T20 World Cup 2024. That day itself, Rohit and Kohli announced their retirement from the shortest format for India and said that they will continue to serve the country in the rest of the two formats of the game.

After Sachin Tendulkar, Kohli has the most number of runs

against Sri Lanka in the ODI format. He has played 53 ODI matches and scored 2594 runs at an average of 63.26 at a strike-rate of 93.91 with 10 centuries and 12 fifties.

The ODI side has started training under the assistant coach Abhishek Nayar in Colombo. Meanwhile, the other players from the T20Is will also join the team after completion of the series. India lead the series 2-0 against Sri Lanka in the shortest format and will aim for a clean-sweep as they play the 3rd T20I on July 30, Today.

Life on Earth began 1.5 billion years earlier than previously thought

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

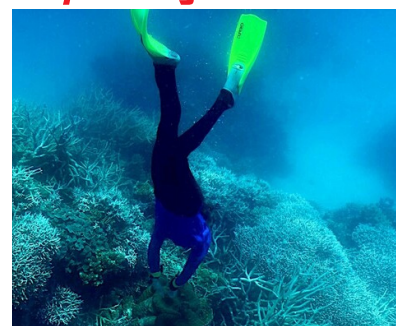
New Delhi : An international team of scientists has uncovered environmental evidence of the earliest experiments in the evolution of complex life on Earth. This finding, led by researchers from Cardiff University, challenges the widely accepted timeline that animals first emerged around 635 million years ago. The team discovered evidence of a much earlier ecosystem in the Franceville Basin near Gabon on the Atlantic coast of Central Africa, dating back over 1.5 billion years earlier than previously thought.

Their study, published in Precambrian Research, describes a unique episode of underwater volcanic activity following the collision of two continents, creating a nutrient-rich environment conducive to early biological evolution. Dr. Ernest Chi Fru, the lead author and a Reader at Cardiff University's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, highlighted the significance of phosphorus availability in the environment as a key component in the evolution of life.

"The availability of phosphorus in the environment is thought to be a key component in the evolution of life on Earth, especially in the transition from simple single-cell organisms to complex organisms like animals and plants," Dr. Chi Fru explained.

The Cardiff-led team identified a link between environmental change and nutrient enrichment, which may have triggered the evolution of large-sized fossils of macroorganisms from this period. These fossils, the earliest of their kind in the geologic record, have been a subject of debate among scientists.

Geochemical analysis of marine sedimentary rocks deposited 2.1 billion



years ago provided new insights into these large fossils. Dr. Chi Fru elaborated, "We think that the underwater volcanoes, which followed the collision and suturing of the Congo and São Francisco cratons into one main body, further restricted and even cut off this section of water from the global ocean to create a nutrient-rich shallow marine inland sea." This isolated environment allowed cyanobacterial photosynthesis to thrive, leading to the oxygenation of local seawater and the generation of a substantial food resource. This, in turn, provided sufficient energy to promote an increase in body size and more complex behavior in primitive animal-like life forms. However, the restricted nature of this water mass and the hostile conditions beyond it likely prevented these early life forms from spreading globally.

The study suggests a two-step evolution of complex life on Earth: the first major rise in atmospheric oxygen content 2.1 billion years ago, followed by a second rise 1.5 billion years later.

This discovery not only pushes back the timeline for the emergence of complex life but also provides crucial insights into the environmental conditions that facilitated this significant evolutionary leap.

'Raayan' box office Day 4: Dhanush's film runs wild domestically and globally

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : 'Raayan' entered its first week on a decent note at the box office. The Dhanush-starrer collected around Rs 5 crore nett, taking the total of five days to near Rs 50 crore nett domestically, reported the trade website Sacnilk.

The film gained maximum business from the Tamil markets where 'Indian 2' couldn't fetch what was expected from it. 'Raayan' earned around Rs 41.7 crore nett from the Tamil market alone. Its total stands at Rs 47.90 crore.

Friday: Rs 13.65 crore
Saturday: Rs 13.75 crore
Sunday: Rs 15.25 crore
Monday: Rs 5.25 crore

At the worldwide box office, the film has already created some solid records. 'Raayan' has emerged as one of the highest-grossing Tamil films of the year globally by recording a worldwide gross of over Rs



70 crore in three days. Out of this, around Rs 22 crore gross is from the overseas market alone.

The A-rated film has almost surpassed the lifetime gross of Dhanush's previous film, 'Captain Miller', which grossed around Rs 75 crore in its overall run worldwide. The film will also cross the total gross earnings of 'Ayaalan' in no time. The Sivakarthiskeyan-starrer

grossed around Rs 76.60 crore in its lifetime run at the worldwide box office and 'Raayan' has already neared that mark.

The ultimate aim for the film will be to surpass the lifetime collection of 'Indian 2'. The Kamal Haasan-starrer earned around Rs 145 crore gross in its overall run worldwide and if 'Raayan' maintains the same speed, it is going to be a cakewalk for the film.

Brands face legal action for using Olympic medalists' images without sponsorship

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Brands using photos, images, and videos of Indian Olympic medal winners in congratulatory advertisements or messages without sponsoring the athletes are set to receive legal notices for infringing on personality rights, executives representing the athletes.

Manu Bhaker, the 22-year-old shooter who secured a bronze medal at the Paris Olympics, has seen a surge in congratulatory messages from brands that are not associated with her.

According to Neerav Tomar, Managing Director of IOS Sports & Entertainment, which manages Bhaker, "Almost two dozen brands not affiliated with Manu have released congratulatory ads on social media featuring her images. This constitutes unauthorised 'moment marketing,' and legal notices will be served to these brands."

Among the companies that have featured Bhaker's image are Bajaj Foods, LIC, FIITJEE, Oakwood International School, Praneet Group, Radha TMT, Apricot Bioscience, Kineto, Xtrabrick Realtors, and Parul Ayurved Hospital. Efforts to reach these companies for comments yielded no responses, ET said. Moneycontrol could not independently verify the report.

Bhaker endorses sports gear and fitness fashion company Performax Activewear, while negotiations are on with several other brands for endorsements or sponsorships.

The issue of unauthorised use of athletes' images is becoming increasingly com-



mon, executives said.

"Brands that do not sponsor our athletes cannot legally use their images in advertisements. If they do, we will take strict legal action," said a spokesperson from Baseline Ventures, representing boxer Nikhat Zareen and badminton players Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy.

Legal experts say while laws exist to protect personality rights, enforcement is often slow and not as robust as in markets like Europe or the US.

"There should be immediate legal remedies for such cases. The government needs to address this issue, especially given that these are national champions with significant personal brand value," another sports management executive was quoted as saying by ET.

While the laws are in place, they are not comprehensive enough and celebrities have not pursued enough litigation compared to their counterparts in other regions, experts say.

It's story TIME

The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

A certain Wolf could not get enough to eat because of the watchfulness of the Shepherds. But one night he found a sheep skin that had

been cast aside and forgotten. The next day, dressed in the skin, the Wolf strolled into the pasture with the Sheep. Soon a little Lamb was following him about and was quickly led away to slaughter. That evening the Wolf entered the fold with the flock. But it happened that the Shepherd took a fancy for mutton broth that very evening, and, picking up a knife, went to the fold. There the first he laid hands on and killed was the Wolf. The evil doer often comes to harm through his own deceit.



ADMISSION OPEN

SESSION 2024-'25
AY CLASS TO CLASS IX



Kids 'R' Kids School

www.sjpresidiumchd.com

0172-5074951, 7347244242

Sector 42-C, Chandigarh



ENROLL NOW

Andhra Pradesh government to soon issue Pattadar Passbooks with official seals

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Amaravati : The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to issue Pattadar Passbooks to land owners with official seals, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has said.

The decision was made on July 29, when, during a meeting with officials, the Chief Minister said former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy had wasted Rs 15 crore for getting his own photos printed on the passbook.

"The State Government, as promised during the electioneering and as per the demand of the people, has decided to issue passbooks with official seal. The officers have already submitted a copy of the passbook carrying the official seal," an official release stated.

"Arrangements have been made in such a way that if the QR Code is scanned all the details of the property, the address of the property, and the maps clearly show the exact location of the property. The previous government had spent funds heavily for the survey of agricultural lands in the name of resurvey," the release added.



Following the announcement, state's Education Minister, Nara Lokesh, in an X post said the Pattadar Passbooks will carry the emblem of Andhra Pradesh.

He also slammed Jagan Mohan Reddy's party, YSRCP, and alleged his government plunged the state into a financial crisis.

"Dear people of Andhra Pradesh, Your land Pattadar's Passbook will now carry AP's Emblem (Rajamudra)," Nara Lokesh tweeted.

"The YSRCP government not only plunged our State into a financial crisis but also spent 700 Cr. to get the 'Axe' CM's image printed everywhere, including on your land passbooks. This wasted money which belonged to you," he added.

"Our NDA government is devoted to you and committed to protecting your lands and dignity. This step is yet another affirmation of this promise," Nara Lokesh wrote on X.

Announcing the new passbooks, Naidu said, "Though the Centre has never mentioned about the issue of laying stones in the directions for resurvey, Mr Jagan has prepared granite stones only for carving his pictures."

"Exercise is on by the government on what to do with the 77 lakh granite stones carrying Mr Jagan's pictures," he said.

"The tentative estimates to delete these pics from the stones cost another Rs 15 crore. The public money amounting to Rs 700 crore is going waste due to Mr Jagan's thirst for his pictures," the Chief Minister said.

"BJP won't ever give me a second chance": Former wrestling body chief

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Lucknow : Former MP from Kaiserganj and Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh - denied a ticket from Uttar Pradesh in this election amid glare over sexual harassment allegations against him -- today said he would never get a second chance from the party.

Back in May, asked if the allegations had cost him a poll ticket, the former MP had said, "My son has got a ticket". Karan Bhushan Singh has won the constituency -- which his father had represented since 2009 -- in the general election that followed.

Talking to reporters in Parasur today, Brij Bhushan Singh said, "The BJP will never give me a chance now. I know the party will not give me a chance. I don't dream like Mungerilal. Those who want to, can".

The former chief of the Wrestling Federation of India has been accused of sexually harassing several women wrestlers.



He has pleaded not guilty, denying any wrongdoing.

"When I have not committed any mistake, why will I admit it?" he had said.

Today, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh had gone on a tour of his former parliamentary constituency in Gonda district of UP. He had made a stopover at Parasur, where a Samajwadi Party leader, Om Prakash Singh, had been murdered in broad daylight. He had gone there to meet the family members.

The Yogi Adityanath government, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh said, "does not support criminals". "The police are working on the murder case. I demand financial help from the Chief Minister," he said.

Amid a massive row over the allegations and a weeks-long protest by the country's top wrestlers last year, he was removed from the top post of the Federation. He was not allowed to contest the Lok Sabha election either and his son was fielded instead. The trial in the case started last week. Indian Penal Code sections relating to sexual harassment, use of force against a woman and criminal intimidation have been slapped on the heavyweight leader.

Puja Khedkar got disability certificate despite no nod from physiotherapist

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Pune : Several discrepancies have emerged in the locomotor disability certificate issued by a civic hospital near Pune to controversial IAS probationary officer Puja Khedkar, documents accessed exclusively.

Khedkar, who is facing scrutiny over allegations of manipulating disability and OBC certificates to gain entry into the civil services, was issued a 7% locomotor disability certificate by Yashwantrao Chavan Memorial (YCM) Hospital in August 2022.

Obtained exclusive documents exposing inconsistencies in the disability certification practices at YCM Hospital. The documents show that despite the physiotherapy department at YCM reporting no disability, the hospital administration issued Khedkar a certificate indicating a 7% locomotor disability in her left knee.

The Pune Collector's Office has initiated a probe into the matter following instructions from the 'DIVYANG' Welfare Commissionerate.



tor disability certificate that said she had 7% instability in her left knee due to an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear from a minor accident in 2018.

When Khedkar visited the physiotherapy department, the findings did not match the initial diagnosis. The physiotherapists found no systemic disability in her knee and did not confirm the 7% instability noted by the resident doctor.

This has raised serious concerns about the accuracy of the disability certification process at YCM Hospital.

The 2023-batch trainee IAS officer has also been booked by the Delhi Police's Crime Branch for allegedly submitting false information to UPSC about her identity to avail more attempts at the civil service exams than she is eligible for.

The Centre has also formed a single-member committee to examine all documents submitted by Khedkar.

While applying for her disability certificate, Puja Khedkar had told YCM hospital doctors about a minor accident in 2018 that led to an injury to her left knee. However, as per the exclusive documents obtained by India Today, no medical records from that year were checked, and no MRI scan was performed during her examination. On August 23, 2022, Khedkar visited YCM Hospital to secure a disability certificate, using what was later found to be false address proof from a fake ration card. The next day, Khedkar got a locomo-

Markets turn flat in highly volatile trade tracking sluggish global trends. Fresh foreign fund outflows

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Palghar : Equity benchmark indices climbed in early trade today but were trading flat in a highly volatile trade tracking sluggish global market trends and fresh foreign fund outflows.

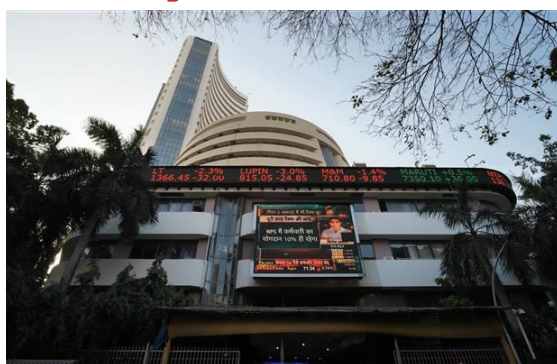
The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 46.5 points to 81,402.34 in early trade. The NSE Nifty went up by 13.15 points to 24,849.25.

However, later both the benchmark indices turned flat.

Among the Sensex firms, PowerGrid Corp, NTPC, Tata Motors, Asian Paints, Titan, Bajaj Finserv and Hindustan Unilever were the major gainers. UltraTech Cement, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Mahindra and Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone and Nestle India were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong were quoting lower. The US markets eked out modest gains and closed higher.

"Sustained capital flows into mutual funds and the retail investor enthusiasm will keep the market resilient. The ele-



tee (FOMC) meeting on Wednesday and the commentary from the US Federal Reserve chief Jerome Powell will be keenly watched by market participants for clues of interest rate cuts.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.41 per cent to USD 79.45 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,474.54 crore, according to exchange data.

The 30-share BSE Sensex closed higher by 23.12 points or 0.03 per cent at 81,355.84, its all-time closing high.

The NSE Nifty ended marginally up 1.25 points or 0.01 per cent at an all-time closing high of 24,836.10. During the day, it surged 164.9 points or 0.66 per cent to hit a fresh lifetime peak of 24,999.75.

ulated valuations continue to be a concern, particularly in the broader market. A healthy trend in the market now is that high quality stocks with good earnings visibility are gaining strength on buying by institutions.

"At high valuations unexpected triggers can cause market corrections. Therefore, investors have to be a bit cautious chasing stocks now," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said.

The Federal Open Market Commit-

'Rail Minister is Reel Minister': Opposition rips Centre over train accidents



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Opposition parties today launched a scathing attack on the BJP-led central government following the latest train accident in Jharkhand, which left two people dead and 20 injured.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav hit out at the government's track record when it comes to rail safety, stating, "This government wants to make a record in train accidents. They had record number of paper leaks, and now railway accidents. This government only makes big claims. People are losing their lives. The government should do something about it so that such accidents do not happen in future."

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, while offering condolences to the victims' families, asked the government to fix accountability following a spate of railway accidents and take measures to prevent such incidents.

Banerjee, a former Railways Minister, tweeted, "I seriously ask: is this governance? This series of nightmares almost every week, this unending procession of deaths and injuries on railway tracks: for how long shall we tolerate this? Will there be no end to the callousness of Government of India?!"

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi questioned the government's response to increasingly frequent instances of rail-related mishaps, accusing it of "shameful apathy".

"With several deaths and no accountability till date, I guess this also won't have any im-

pact. Announce compensation, promise enquiry and move on to another PR Instagram reel," Chaturvedi said.

She further attacked Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, calling him a "Reel minister," and criticised overcrowding in trains, stating, "People are travelling in toilets but the government is not ashamed."

Trinamool Congress leaders Sushmita Dev and Sagarika Ghose accused the Railway Ministry of zero accountability, with Dev stating, "This is becoming the new normal. Accountability of @AshwiniVaishnaw ji is zero. The GOI has no answers whatsoever."

Ghose wondered how many more train accidents it would take for the Centre to take action, saying, "How many more train accidents shall it take for the Modi government to wake up from its slumber? People are suffering, people are being put through hardships and misery while the Modi government continues to escape accountability and responsibility for rail safety."

The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) also slammed the Centre, urging the Railways Minister to focus on railways instead of making social media reels. The ruling party also distanced itself from the accident and said Chief Minister Hemant Soren and the INDIA bloc were not involved in any way.

The accident occurred when at least 18 coaches of the Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed in Jharkhand's Seraikela-Kharsawan district early today.

Bengal woman killed by daughter. boyfriend for disapproving their relationship

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kolkata : A minor girl and a minor boy were arrested for allegedly killing the girl's mother in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district. The arrested boy was a friend of the girl. The incident came to light after the 14-year-old girl's father lodged a complaint, claiming that his daughter had killed his wife along with one of her friends.

The crime was committed at their house on June 6, the father claimed. He said that he filed the complaint after over a month because both the minors had threatened to kill him if he filed a case.

The man alleged that his daughter was in a relationship with the boy, whom she met on social media, for over one-and-a-half years.

However, the victim often used to scold her daughter for the same and did not approve of her relationship, he said.

Following that, both of them decided to kill the girl's mother, he said in the complaint.

The girl called her friend to her house on the night of June 6, and the



boy allegedly strangled her mother and punched her in her chest.

When the girl's father woke up, the boy allegedly pushed him out of bed. The boy then threatened to murder him if he revealed the incident to anyone.

The man said that he filed his wife's death as a natural death and cremated her in the afternoon.

The minors were arrested after the man's complaint and will be produced before the Juvenile Justice Board.

Police said that both of them had confessed to the crime.

A case has been registered, and further investigation is on, police said.

DESTINATION
THE ULTIMATE BEGINNING

CANADA

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

WANT TO STUDY IN CANADA

> UG AND PG COURSES WITH 6.0
> ALL PAYMENT AFTER VISA

↓

APPLY NOW

+91 9300270000
WWW.ULTIMATEDESTINATION.IN

S.C.O. 17, GROUND & 1ST LEVEL, PHASE-1, SAS NAGAR MOHALI - PUNJAB

'White Dudes for Harris' raise \$3.7 million. Mark Ruffalo, Jeff Bridges show up

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Tokyo : A Zoom call featuring celebrities and elected officials raised over \$3.7 million for US Vice President Kamala Harris's presidential campaign. The call, titled 'White Dudes for Harris', attracted more than 180,000 participants and included Hollywood stars like Mark Ruffalo, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Sean Astin, Mark Hamill, and Josh Gad.

Actor Jeff Bridges, known for playing 'The Dude' in the 1998 film *The Big Lebowski*, made a surprise appearance to voice his support for Kamala Harris, saying, "I'm white, I'm a dude, and I'm here for Harris." The call, held on Monday evening (local time), lasted over three hours and saw top Democratic officials, including Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, and Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, also present. The Zoom call was marked by a mix of humour and serious discussion, with participants taking swipes at Republican nominee Donald Trump and his running mate JD Vance. Governor Walz, a potential running mate for



Harris, said it was an opportunity for white men to show that Trump did not represent all white men, while Governor Pritzker joked about joining a call called "Couches Against Trump, better known as CATS", a reference to Vance's "childless cat ladies" attack on prominent Democrats. Actor Josh Gad pointed out that the 'White Dudes for Harris' call was a stark contrast to the testosterone-heavy Republican National Convention. "They have Kid Rock, Kevin Sorbo and a dolphin aficionado, and we have the Hulk, Samwise Gamgee, Luke Skywalker and Mayor Pete just on the Zoom," he

said. The call was part of a series of Zoom gatherings aimed at raising money and rallying support for Harris after US President Joe Biden announced his withdrawal from the presidential race and endorsed her. Previous Zoom calls, such as 'White Women for Harris', have also seen an overwhelming turnout, with over 164,000 attendees. These events have featured celebrities who previously supported Biden's campaign, demonstrating the need for Harris to appeal to diverse segments of the population.

The campaign has welcomed the assistance, with communications director Michael Tyler stating, "Winning campaigns are powered by real, organic support." After she became the Democratic Party's de facto presidential nominee, Republicans have disparaged Harris, a woman of colour, as a "diversity hire". They have criticised her focus on diversity, equality, and inclusion, suggesting that her political career was aided by Democratic efforts to promote diversity.

Trump calls Kamala Harris 'worse candidate' than Biden for presidential polls



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Washington : Former president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has called his likely Democratic opponent, Vice President Kamala Harris, a "worse candidate" than President Joe Biden, who she replaced more than a week ago.

"I think she (Harris) is the worst candidate than him (Biden). She is far more radical left," Trump told Fox News host Laura Ingraham in an interview on Monday, his first after Harris, 59, became the presumptive nominee of the Democratic Party. Harris officially declared her candidacy after incumbent President Biden withdrew from the race for a second term on July 20. She is expected to be officially declared as the presidential candidate by the Democrats next month.

"I thought she was a little younger. I mean, she's 60 years old. I didn't realise she was 60. She's talking a big game. But her game is pretty bad. She was the border czar. She's trying to pretend that she wasn't," Trump said. "She was for defunding the police. She was for open borders. She was for having anybody come in. Now I notice that they're actually saying they want to have immunity for everybody that came into the country, and they want to have citizenship," Trump alleged, asserting that giving citizenship to everybody would destroy the country. "It's in such bad shape. Our country has never been in a position like this. In addition to which we could end up in a third world war. We have 20 million people that have come into the country. I would say by now 20 (million) is probably going over that number," he said.

Trump reiterated his allegations that the Democratic establishment staged a

coup against Biden. "They staged a coup against the president of the United States. They went to him and told him 'You are leaving. You are way down in the poll'. Seventeen points, I think," he said.

"It's like you're in a fight with somebody, and you're really winning, and they take him out and they put somebody else in. Nobody ever heard of this before," he added.

"This is a coup. They took him. They said even though you got 14 million votes, you're out. And he said 'I am not going out'. They took him out. He was losing badly, so they took him out. He wants something to say. He's sitting there with nothing to do, nobody to talk to. They threw him out. This was a coup, the first one of the president of the United States," Trump said.

Trump also said that while he "probably" will debate Harris, he "could also make a case" to avoid a face-to-face confrontation with her, CNBC News reported.

After the interview's broadcast, the Harris for President campaign said Ingraham practically begged Trump on Fox News to commit to debating Harris.

"Why won't Donald Trump give a straight answer on debating Vice President Harris? It's clear from tonight's question-dodging: he's scared he'll have to defend his running mate's weird attacks on women or his own calls to end elections in America in a debate against the vice president," said Harris for President spokesperson Ammar Moussa.

"Vice President Harris will be on the debate stage (on) September 10th. Donald Trump can show up, or not," Moussa said.

US works to prevent Israeli counterattack on Lebanon amid threat of all-out war

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The United States is scrambling to prevent a full-blown war between Israel and Lebanon, as tensions soar following a deadly rocket attack on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights that killed 12 children. Reuters reports citing sources that the US is leading a diplomatic push to dissuade Israel from targeting Beirut or critical Lebanese infrastructure in retaliation for Saturday's attack, which Israel blamed on the Iran-backed Hezbollah group. Hezbollah has denied involvement.

Israeli officials, while vowing a harsh response, have indicated a desire to avoid a wider conflict. Two officials told Reuters that Israel is preparing for a limited military operation, possibly lasting several days. The focus of Washington's diplomacy has been to convince Tel Aviv to limit its retaliation, Reuters reported citing officials. This includes urging against strikes on densely populated areas like Beirut and its Hezbollah-dominated southern suburbs, as well as key infrastructure.

Lebanese officials, including Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib and Deputy Parliament Speaker Elias Bou Saab, have publicly appealed for restraint and warned of potential consequences for Israel if it targets civilian areas. However, both acknowledged that an Israeli



retaliation is likely. While expecting an Israeli attack, they expressed hope for a limited escalation on both sides.

"Israel will escalate in a limited way and Hezbollah will respond in a limited way. These are the assurances we've received," Bou Habib said.

The US, Lebanon, and Israel are engaged in intense diplomatic talks to contain the situation. However, two Western diplomats told Reuters that Israel has not committed to avoiding strikes on Beirut, its suburbs, or civilian targets.

Meanwhile, Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian has warned that any Israeli attack on Lebanon would have "serious consequences" for the Jewish nation. Despite the heightened tensions, US Nation-

al Security Council spokesman John Kirby downplayed the risk of all-out war. He also reaffirmed Washington's "ironclad" support for Israel's security against Iran-backed threats, including Hezbollah. Israel, meanwhile, has vowed a "harsh" response. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, "The state of Israel will not and cannot let this pass. Our response will come and it will be harsh."

Israel's security cabinet authorised Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant to decide on the nature and timing of response to the Hezbollah strike.

Gallant told his US counterpart Lloyd Austin that Israel would hold Hezbollah responsible for the deadly attack, sharing evidence that he said implicated the group. Hezbollah has "firmly denied" firing projectiles into the village of Majdal Shams, where the children were killed.

The Golan Heights, seized by Israel from Syria in the 1967 war and later annexed, has been a flashpoint in the region. The latest violence marks a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.

2 children dead in 'ferocious' knife attack at UK dance workshop, teen arrested

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

London : At least two children were killed, and nine people injured during a "ferocious" knife attack at a dance workshop in north-west England, police said. A 17-year-old boy has been arrested, and a knife seized after the bloody attack.

A witness described seeing bloodied children running from a community center where a Taylor Swift-themed dance and yoga event for children aged about 6 to 11 was taking place in Southport, a seaside town near Liverpool. An advertisement for the event promised "a morning of Taylor Swift-themed yoga, dance and bracelet making."

Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the attack "horrendous and deeply shocking." Merseyside Police said officers were called at about noon to an address in Southport, a seaside town of about 1,00,000 people near Liverpool. It called it a "major incident" but said there was no wider threat to the public. Detectives were not treating the attack as terror-related, the force said.

The suspect, who has not been identified, lived in a village about 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the site of the attack, police said. The North West Ambulance Service said medics treated eight people with stab injuries.



workers carrying children "covered in red, covered in blood. She said she could see the stab wounds in the backs of the children."

"All this stuff never really happens around here," he said. "You hear of it, stabbings and stuff like that in major cities, your Manchesters, your Londons. This is sunny Southport. That's what people call it. The sun's out. It's a lovely place to be."

Britain's worst attack on children occurred in 1996, when 43-year-old Thomas Hamilton shot 16 kindergarten pupils and their teacher dead in a school gymnasium in Dunblane, Scotland. The U.K. subsequently banned the private ownership of almost all handguns.

Mass shootings and murders with firearms are rare in Britain, where knives were used in about 40 per cent of homicides in the year to March 2023. Several headline-grabbing attacks and a recent rise in knife crime have stoked anxieties and led to calls for the government to do more to clamp down on bladed weapons.

ries. The injured were taken to local hospitals, including a children's hospital.

Bare Varathan, who owns a shop down the street, said he saw between seven and 10 bleeding children running from the Hart Space, a community hub that offers classes for expectant mothers, babies and children. "They had been stabbed here, here, here, everywhere," he said, indicating the neck, back and chest. "They were all aged about 10. One of them was really seriously injured."

Ryan Carney, who lives with his mother in the street, said his mother saw emergency

Woman sent to Jail For overfeeding 53 Kg dog to death in New Zealand

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Zealand : A woman from New Zealand was sentenced to two months in prison after her dog, who weighed 53 kilograms (118 pounds) and was severely obese, died, as per a report in Newsweek. According to a statement from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), the dog, named Nuggi, was found by police in 2021 weighing about 54 kilograms (120 pounds) and nearly immobile. Nuggi was taken from his owner's Auckland house, where police discovered "a number of" dogs, and given over to the SPCA.

Nuggi died of a liver haemorrhage even though it lost 8.8 kilograms (19.6 pounds) or around 16.5 per cent of his body weight in two months while in the care of the SPCA. The organisation claims that an autopsy disclosed additional health issues, including Cushing's illness and liver problems. According to the statement, the owner pleaded guilty to failing to provide for the dog's medical, behavioural, and physical needs. As a result, the Manukau District Court in Auckland sentenced the owner to two months in jail



Westwood said in a statement.

"Sadly, we see animals on a daily basis that are underweight, starved or malnourished, but it's equally heartbreaking to see a helpless animal that's been severely overfed," he continued. The SPCA added that the pet dog was fed around 10 pieces of chicken every day

along with dry food. Nuggi allegedly struggled to travel around 10 meters to the car when veterinarians took him away from his owner, pausing three times to gather breath. The SPCA said, "His legs could not support his huge body."

"Part of being a responsible dog owner is providing your pet with an appropriate diet and daily exercise, which was clearly not the case here. Nuggi was being drastically overfed, and instead of seeking help or amending the behaviour, his owner continued to overfeed him until he could barely walk. This is unacceptable," Mr Westwood added.

and a fine of \$1,222 NZD (\$720). It is also said that she will not be allowed to own dogs for a year.

Veterinarians using a stethoscope were unable to detect Nuggi's heartbeat because of his extreme weight, according to the SPCA statement. The dog also had a lot of skin growths, especially on contact regions like his elbows and tummy, and his claws were enlarged. Further, Nuggi had conjunctivitis as well.

Todd Westwood, SPCA Chief said that the dog was "drastically overfed" and "clearly" did not have proper care. "Nuggi was one of the most obese animals we've ever come across," Mr

Venezuela snaps ties with 7 nations over poll rigging claims after Maduro win



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Caracas : Venezuela has severed diplomatic relations with seven Latin American nations that questioned the legitimacy of President Nicolas Maduro's election victory, expelling their diplomatic missions and withdrawing its own staff from those countries. Maduro's Foreign Minister Yvan Gil ordered the immediate departure of diplomatic personnel from Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, Panama, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay, citing "interventionist acts" by these nations.

"Venezuela reserves all legal and political rights to enforce, preserve and defend our inalienable right to self-determination," the Maduro government said in a statement, according to the Miami Herald. "We will confront all actions that threaten the climate of peace and coexistence."

The move comes after these countries expressed concerns over the results of Sunday's presidential election, which Maduro won with 51.2 per cent of the votes according to the regime-controlled electoral council. Opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia and his coalition claim they have obtained 73.2 per cent of the voting tallies, disputing the official results. Urrutia's ally and opposition leader Maria Corina Machado argued that a review of voting records shows a "mathematically irreversible" lead for him, with 6.27 million votes to Maduro's 2.75 million, the Associated Press reported.

Thousands of Venezuelans took to the streets to protest what they called a sto-

len election, chanting "Freedom, freedom!" and "This government is going to fall!" Security forces responded with tear gas and rubber bullets.

The opposition has vowed to continue challenging the election results, which they claim were tainted by fraud and political intimidation.

The diplomatic fallout has exposed a deep divide in Latin America, with some nations supporting Maduro's government and others rejecting the election outcome.

Peru recalled its ambassador to Caracas because of the "very serious" results announced in Venezuela, while Costa Rica's President Rodrigo Chaves rejected what he called the "fraudulent" outcome.

Chilean President Gabriel Boric called Maduro's victory "hard to believe", while Colombia's Foreign Minister Luis Gilberto Murillo called for an "independent audit" of the result. Argentina's right-wing President Javier Milei wrote in a social media post: "DICTATOR MADURO, OUT!!!"

On the other hand, allies Cuba, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Honduras have congratulated Maduro on his victory.

The United States, Britain, and the European Union have expressed concerns over the election's legitimacy, calling for transparency and a fair count of votes.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken stated that the announced result "does not reflect the will or the votes of the Venezuelan people."

Russia and China, however, have congratulated Maduro on his victory.

SC dismisses petition seeking review of its VVPAT verdict



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Supreme Court has refused to review its verdict rejecting PILs demanding return to the paper ballot system or a 100% cross-verification of votes cast through EVMs with Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips.

"We have carefully perused the review petition, as also the grounds in support thereof. In our opinion, no case for review of the judgment dated 26.04.2024 is made out. The review petition is, accordingly, dismissed," a Bench of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta said in its July 25 order, rejecting the review petition. The Bench had on April 26 dismissed a PIL filed by Arun Kumar Agrawal seeking return to the paper ballot system or a 100% cross-verification of votes cast through EVMs with VVPAT slips even as it issued certain directions to the Election Commission to strengthen the current EVM system. Giving the thumbs up to the EVM system in the midst of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Bench had said, "EVMs offer significant advantages. They have effectively eliminated booth capturing by restricting the rate of vote casting to 4 votes per minute, thereby prolonging the time needed and thus check insertion of bogus votes. EVMs have eliminated invalid votes, which were a major issue with paper ballots and had often sparked disputes during the counting process. Furthermore, EVMs reduce paper usage and alleviate logistical challenges. Finally, they provide administrative

convenience by expediting the counting process and minimising errors."

"...keeping in view the vast size of the Indian electorate of nearly 97 crore, the number of candidates..., the number of polling booths..., and the problems faced with ballot papers, we would be undoing the electoral reforms by directing reintroduction of the ballot papers," it had said.

However, the petitioner contended EVMs didn't allow voters to verify that their votes have been accurately recorded.

"There are mistakes and errors apparent on the face of the impugned order..., and as such there are sufficient reasons which require review of the impugned order/judgment," read the review petition filed on May 10 by Agrawal, on whose PIL the top court had delivered the April 26 verdict.

"The petitioner respectfully seeks review on the following issues as have been dealt with in judgment dated April 26, 2024: i) Feasibility of counting of all VVPAT paper slips in terms of time to be taken and additional manpower, ii) Vulnerability of SLU (symbol loading units) and iii) Percentage of VVPAT slips counted for tallying with EVM votes after Chandrababu Naidu...Judgment," Agrawal had submitted.

Seeking physical counting, the review petition had insisted that counting of all VVPAT slips can be done "accurately with a fraction of the employees and at a fraction of cost and within five to eight hours". However, the top court turned it down.

24 killed, hundreds feared trapped in Wayanad landslides. Army called in

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : At least 24 people have been killed and hundreds are feared trapped after massive landslides struck the hilly areas near Meppadi in Kerala's Wayanad district today morning amid heavy rain. Multiple agencies, including the NDRF, and the Army have been deployed for rescue operations. Mundakkai, Chooralmala, Attamala, and Noolpuzha villages were among the worst affected areas. In a statement, the Indian Army said they have deployed 225 personnel, including medical teams. Two Air Force helicopters, a Mi-17 and an ALH (Advanced Light Helicopter), have also been put into service.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and assured him of all the help from the Centre to deal with the crisis. The Prime Minister's Office has announced a compensation of Rs 2 lakh for the families of those killed in the landslides. Those injured will receive Rs 50,000.

A purported video, shared by West Coast Weatherman on X, showed the site of landslides in the district, known for its picturesque locales. Several roads have been swept away, with uprooted trees and destroyed huts dotting the landscape. Vehicles washed away in floodwaters could



be seen stuck in tree trunks. Rescue operations were hindered due to incessant rain and some areas were unreachable due to huge boulders blocking the path of rescue workers. In a statement, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said, "All possible rescue operations will be coordinated on the landslides in Wayanad."

"Since we got to know of the incident, the government systems have joined together in the rescue operation. Ministers will visit Wayanad and lead the activities," the Chief Minister said.

Meanwhile, a control room was opened in the wake of the landslides. Helpline numbers 9656938689 and 8086010833 were also issued for emergency assistance. In a post on X, Rahul Gandhi said he was

deeply anguished by the landslides and the loss of lives caused by the same.

"I am deeply anguished by the massive landslides near Meppadi in Wayanad. My heartfelt condolences go out to the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones. I hope those still trapped are brought to safety soon," he wrote.

"I have spoken to the Kerala Chief Minister and the Wayanad District Collector, who assured me that rescue operations are underway. I have requested them to ensure coordination with all agencies, set up a control room, and inform us of any assistance needed for the relief efforts," Rahul Gandhi said. "I will speak to Union Ministers and request them to provide all assistance possible to Wayanad. I urge all UDF workers to assist the administration in the rescue and relief operations," he tweeted.

The India Meteorological Department has issued a red alert in northern districts of Kerala for today.

Kasaragod, Kannur, Wayanad, Kozhikode, and Malappuram were expected to receive heavy rain today, the weather department said.

It also advised locals and tourists to exercise extreme precaution in the wake of heavy rain.

Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka to visit landslide-hit Wayanad

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will visit landslide-hit Wayanad, party sources said.

Landslides hit the hilly Wayanad district on Tuesday, leaving 70 people dead. The landslides triggered by heavy rainfall, which occurred early on Tuesday, have left a trail of destruction in its wake, with several houses destroyed, water bodies swollen and trees uprooted.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi condoled the loss of lives in the landslides and urged United Democratic Front (UDF) workers to provide all help to those affected.

Rahul Gandhi, who represented Wayanad in the 17th Lok Sabha, said he has spoken to Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and the Wayanad district collector, who have assured him that rescue operations are underway.

The former Congress chief expressed deep anguish over the loss of lives in the massive landslides near Meppadi in Wayanad.

"My heartfelt condolences go out to the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones. I hope those still trapped are brought to safety soon," he said in a post on X.



"I have spoken to the Kerala chief minister and the Wayanad district collector who assured me that rescue operations are underway. I have requested them to ensure coordination with all agencies, set up a control room and inform us of any assistance needed for the relief efforts," Rahul Gandhi said. The Congress leader said, "I will speak to the Union ministers and request them to provide all assistance possible to Wayanad."

He urged all UDF workers to assist the administration in the rescue and relief operations.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi said she was deeply saddened to see the devastation caused by the massive landslide

near Meppadi in Wayanad. "My heartfelt condolences and prayers are with all those who have lost loved ones. I hope and pray that everyone is brought to safety as soon as possible," she said.

"I urge the government to take immediate action to expedite relief and rescue operations and request UDF workers to step forward to do all they can to be of support and comfort to all those affected by this tragedy," Priyanka Gandhi said on X.

Speaking in the Lok Sabha later, Rahul Gandhi demanded the Centre extend all possible support for the rescue and rehabilitation of those affected.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour, he also sought enhanced compensation to the next of kin of those killed in the landslides and restoration of vital transport and communication lines.

Rahul Gandhi won Uttar Pradesh's Rae Bareilly and Kerala's Wayanad seat this time but decided to represent Rae Bareilly in the Lok Sabha. Priyanka Gandhi is slated to contest the bypolls in Wayanad whenever they take place.

Rs 10 lakh to families of students killed-VK Saxena



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena announced financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh for the families of each of the three civil service aspirants who died after flooding in the basement of a coaching centre in Central Delhi's Old Rajinder Nagar. Saxena, according to an official statement issued by Raj Niwas, visited the UPSC coaching hub of Old Rajinder Nagar and interacted with the students protesting over the incident. During the meeting, the LG assured prompt disciplinary action against officials of Delhi Fire Services (DFS), police, and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) responsible for the incident within 24 hours.

He promised that nobody responsible for the deaths of the civil service aspirants would be spared.

As per the Raj Niwas statement, a joint task force of MCD and DFS, formed under the directions of the Delhi High Court following a fire incident at a coaching institute at Mukherjee Nagar earlier this year, will also conduct a survey of all the buildings in the Rajinder Nagar area.

The joint task force will seal all the basements and other illegal structures that are in violation of the building bylaws, the Master Plan Delhi (MPD) 2021, and the fire safety norms, the statement stated.

It will also undertake a similar audit in Mukherjee Nagar, Kalu Sarai, Neb

Sarai, Ber Sarai, Vijay Nagar, Outram Line, Hudson Line, Gupta Colony, and other coaching hubs of the city and seal off all illegal basements and other such structures, it added.

The Lieutenant Governor also promised to establish a regulatory mechanism to rationalise and fix rents promptly in response to protesters' complaints about exorbitant rent charges.

"The grievances of students regarding exorbitant rentals, fees, and electricity charges will be looked into by a committee. Fixation of upper limits will be undertaken as a long-term measure," the statement reads.

He also assured me that all these actions would be completed within two weeks.

As per the statement, there will be zero tolerance for "illegal structures" of coaching or any other commercial institutions in residential areas.

"In case a building is operating completely in violation, action to demolish the building shall be taken as per the rules," it said.

Meanwhile, the Centre has constituted a high-level panel to probe into the death of the students at Rau's IAS Study circle.

Three civil service aspirants died Saturday evening after water from a flooded drain gushed into the basement of Rau's IAS Study Circle, where a library had been set up.

18 coaches of Mumbai-bound express derail after colliding with goods train. 2 dead

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : At least two passengers were killed, and six others injured after 18 coaches of the Mumbai-bound Howrah-CSMT Express derailed in Jharkhand on Tuesday following a collision with a goods train. A rescue operation is currently underway at the accident site.

The accident happened at around 3.45 am in Bara Bambu village near Chakradharpur. Ambulances and rescue teams rushed to the site soon after the derailment was notified.

Om Prakash Charan, a spokesperson for the South Eastern Railways (SER), told news agency PTI that there was another derailment of a goods train nearby, but it was not yet clear whether the two accidents occurred concurrently.

"At least 18 coaches of the 22-coach 12810 Howrah-Mumbai Mail via Nagpur derailed near Barabambo station in SER's Chakradharpur division at 3.45 AM," he said. Of these, 16 were passenger coaches, one power car and one pantry car, he said.

"Six passengers were injured in the accident and provided medical aid in Barabambo. They are now being taken to Chakradharpur for better treatment," another senior SER



official said.

The reason for the derailment was being ascertained, he added.

Meanwhile, three trains were cancelled, while one each was short-terminated and diverted as the route was affected after the derailment.

The cancelled trains were Howrah-Kantabanji Ispat Express (22861), Kharagpur-Dhanbad Express, and Howrah-Barbil Express.

South Bihar Express (13288) was diverted, and Asansol Tata Memu Pass Special Train (08173) was short-terminated at Adra.

In an official statement, the Indian Railways said, "Train No. 12810 Howrah-CSMT Ex-

press has derailed near Chakradharpur, between Rajkharwan West Outer and Barabambo in Chakradharpur division."

"ARME with Staff and ADRM CKP on site. 6 persons have been injured. All have been given first aid by the Railway medical team," it said.

In an X post, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee offered condolences to the families of those killed in the train accident. She also questioned the governance over the accident.

"Another disastrous rail accident! Howrah- Mumbai mail derailed in Chakradharpur division in Jharkhand today early morning, multiple deaths and huge number of injuries are the tragic consequences. I seriously ask: is this governance?," she tweeted.

"This series of nightmares almost every week, this unending procession of deaths and injuries on railway tracks: for how long shall we tolerate this? Will there be no end to the callousness of Government of India?! My heart goes out to the bereaved families, condolences to the next of kin," the Chief Minister said.

Woman stabbed in Navi Mumbai, body dumped in bushes, accused arrested

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : A man was arrested today for allegedly killing a 20-year-old woman, whose body was found in the bushes near a railway station in Navi Mumbai's Uran. Dawood Sheikh was arrested in Karnataka's Shahpur Hill area after a two-day manhunt by Maharashtra police.

Amit Kale, DCP, Crime Branch, Navi Mumbai, said Dawood had confessed to killing Yashashree Shinde. However, the motive is yet to be ascertained. The DCP said Dawood was hiding with his relatives in Karnataka.

Police said Dawood, against whom the family of the victim had filed a POCSO case in 2019, was a resident of Bengaluru and came to Uran on July 22 to meet the woman.

The woman's family filed a complaint at the Uran police station after she went missing morning. The woman worked at a private firm in Belapur.

The woman's body was found in the



bushes near the railway station. There were multiple stab injuries on her stomach and back. The woman's face was also disfigured, but police said it might have been done by wild animals or dogs.

A case under Section 103 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was registered, and eight teams were formed to trace the accused.

DCP Kale said the postmortem report

had not revealed any evidence of sexual assault.

"Dawood killed the girl by stabbing her with a knife. Eyewitnesses said dogs were eating the girl's face when they found the body," he said.

Deepak Sakore, Additional Commissioner (Crime),

Navi Mumbai, said the accused and the victim had met on the day of the murder. "The family of the victim had filed a POCSO case against the accused in 2019. But they were in touch with each other," Sakore said.

Police suspect that the murder could be a case of a one-sided love affair. The reels posted by Dawood Sheikh on his social media were based on infidelity and spurned lovers.