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## MOHALI WEATHER 10:30 AM

Temperature 31°C

Sunset: 6:27 PM

Sunday, 15.09.2024  
Sunrise 6:05 AM (IST)

Next Full Moon

17 Sep 2024

Next New Moon

02 Oct 2024

## Damaged swings, slides, over grown weed pose safety concerns for all in Mohali Parks

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Mohali :** Most of the Parks in Mohali have turned into a safe haven for the road romeos and anti-social elements, as per the present situation of the majority of parks in Mohali it won't be wrong to say that Mohali Municipal Corporation has totally forgotten to keep a watch and maintain the parks falling under its jurisdiction, residents, industrialists feel that a vigil needs to be kept on such places to avoid any untoward incidents from occurring. Residents stated that the parks around their houses are in deplorable condition and reflect a picture of utter neglect, the parks that were once playgrounds for children are now posing safety concerns due to the damaged swings, slides and over grown grass. Team The Aman Sandesh Times found Many of the swings in the parks in different phases/ sectors are currently in a damaged state, with broken iron handles and damaged slides posing a significant threat to the safety of children who come to play. Pertinently, most of the children who come to play in this park range from 3-10 years.

Due to the lack of repair and maintenance, swings, made of both plastic fiber and iron, have deteriorated over time. Public parks and playgrounds have always played a crucial role in encouraging healthy activities in the community. However, the deterioration of these parks has resulted in a lack of visitors, as families increasingly choose to stay away due to inadequate management. The plastic slider swings are significantly deteriorated, with some having become completely unusable,



while others, despite their damage, remain in operation, presenting a potential hazard to children. Similarly, seat poles of certain rotating swings are worn out, indicating that they may not last much longer.

A resident expressed that children could be seriously injured if iron poles of the swings in parks collapse suddenly. "Despite several complaints, parks in the cities remain in deplorable conditions. Children need time away from the screen times but parents have no option but to keep their children at home due to the state of parks in the city," said a father of a five-year-old daughter and added that purpose of the parks is to cater to the children, families for their recreational activities

But in reality, locals pointed out, these places are totally neglected by the authorities and demanded that "There should be CCTV surveillance in as these are meant for children for their safety. The municipality should also consider deputing an employee or worker at the parks to take care and attend to the children in case of any assistance is required. A security guard should be appointed at these parks to avoid unwanted guests such as beggars, and anti-social elements who misuse these parks suggested residents.

Industrialists stated that owing to poor maintenance of parks in Industrial Area Phase 8, are full of weeds. Plastic wrappers, paper plates, bottles, sachets, broken glass bottles and cigarette butts are strewn all over in the parks and even visitors cannot pass due to filthy smell and smoking by some people at every corner of the parks.

## Sonia Gandhi pays last respects to veteran CPI-M leader Sitaram Yechury

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** Former Congress President Sonia Gandhi today visited the Communist Party of India (CPI-M) headquarters and paid her last respects to the veteran Left leader Sitaram Yechury, who passed away after a prolonged battle with pneumonia. Sonia Gandhi offered floral tributes to the CPI-M veteran, whose body has been kept at AK Gopalan Bhavan, the party headquarters for public viewing and paying homage. "Party workers and his well-wishers can visit the Gopalan Bhavan between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and pay tributes to the late Sitaram Yechury," the CPI-M said in a statement earlier.

After paying homage to the veteran, Sonia Gandhi also met his family members and extended support in their moment of grief. Earlier, Sonia Gandhi offering her



condolences over Yechury's demise remembered their close association during UPA-I.

I am very saddened by the passing away of Sitaram Yechury. We had worked

closely together during 2004-08 to begin with and the friendship that had been established then continued till his very end. He played a pivotal role in UPA-I and more recently contributed immensely to the formation of INDIA group in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections," said the longest-serving Congress president.

She also lauded his "uncompromising" commitment to the values of the Indian Constitution and said that his 12-year stint in Parliament will remain etched in

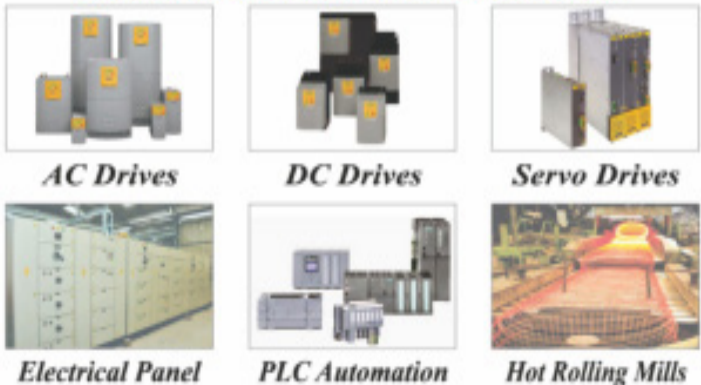
history.

A day ago, Yechury's body was kept at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) for students to pay homage. It was here that Yechury made his foray into political space. He joined the Students Federation of India (SFI) at JNU and was elected its President thrice, starting in 1977.

CPI-M General Secretary Sitaram Yechury breathed his last at the AIIMS on Thursday, following a prolonged illness. He was 72. He was in critical condition for the last few days and was on respiratory support before passing away on September 12. He was admitted to the hospital on August 19.

The demise of Sitaram Yechury saw condolences pouring in from all political quarters including the BJP leaders.

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# Will India and China work together, improve bilateral relations???

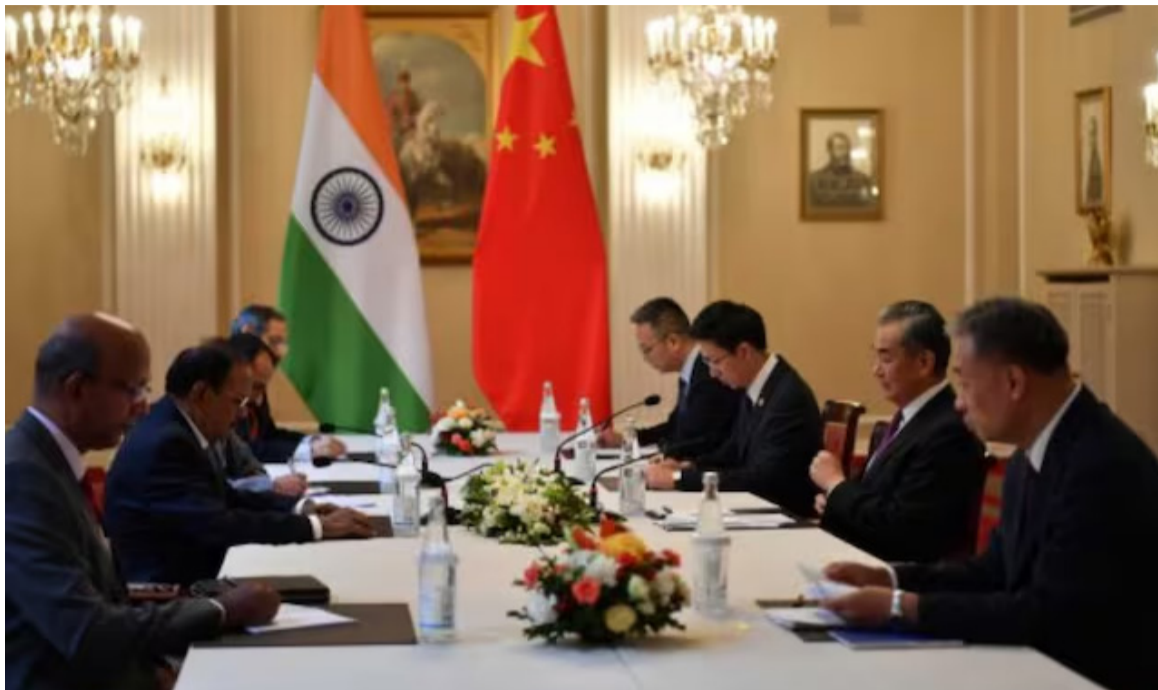
## THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Highlighting that troops have disengaged at four places in Eastern Ladakh, including Galwan Valley, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said India and China have agreed during their meeting in Russia to work together to create conditions for the improvement of bilateral relations. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks on the sidelines of a meeting of the BRICS high-ranking officials responsible for security matters in St Petersburg in Russia on Thursday where they discussed the progress made in the recent consultations on border issues, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a press release.

Asked whether the two countries were close to a breakthrough to revive the bilateral ties frozen for over four years due to the military standoff in Eastern Ladakh, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a media briefing on Friday that the two militaries realised disengagement in four areas and the situation along the border is stable.

"In recent years, front-line armies of the two countries have realised disengagement in four areas in the Western sector of the China-India border, including the Galwan Valley. The China-India border situation is generally stable and under control," Mao said.

Her comments come a day after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said in Geneva that roughly 75 per cent of the "disengagement problems" with



China are sorted out but the bigger issue has been the increasing militarisation of the frontier.

Doval and Wang are the Special Representatives for the India-China border talks mechanism.

Elaborating further about the Doval-Wang meeting, the Chinese Foreign Ministry release said both parties expressed the belief that the stability of the China-India relations is in the fundamental and long-term interests of the two peoples and conducive to regional peace and development.

China and India agreed to implement the consensus reached by the heads of the two countries,

enhance mutual understanding and trust, maintain continuous communication, and create conditions for boosting bilateral ties, it said.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, stressed that facing a turbulent world, China and India as two ancient eastern civilisations and emerging developing countries should adhere to independence, choose unity and cooperation, and avoid consuming each other, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

Wang expressed the hope that the two sides will properly handle their differences in a pragmatic approach and find the right way to get along with each other and push the China-India relations back on track for healthy, stable, and sustainable development.

During their meeting, both Wang

and Doval discussed progress made in recent consultation on border issues and agreed to deliver on the common understandings reached by leaders of the two countries, enhance mutual understanding and trust, create conditions for improving bilateral ties and maintain communication to this end, she said.

A press release on the talks issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India and China on Thursday agreed to work with "urgency" and "redouble" their efforts to achieve complete disengagement in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh.

In the meeting, Doval conveyed to Wang that peace and tranquillity in border areas and respect for the Line of Actual Control (LAC) are essential for the return of normalcy in bilateral ties, the MEA press release said.

The Doval-Wang meeting came two weeks after India and China held diplomatic talks during which they agreed to intensify contacts through diplomatic and military channels to find a resolution to the outstanding issues.

The Indian and Chinese militaries have been locked in a standoff since May 2020 and a full resolution of the border row has not yet been achieved though the two sides have disengaged from a number of friction points.

The ties between the two countries nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

India has been maintaining that its ties with China cannot be normal unless there is peace in the border areas.

The two sides have so far held 21 rounds of Corps Commander-level talks to resolve the standoff.

Now we will see that Will India and China work together, improve bilateral relations.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by:  
Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date  
15th Sep

**Born on 15th Sep :** 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.

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<p><b>Aries</b> (March 21 - April 19)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Pressure from seniors at workplace and discord at home might bring some stress- which would disturb your concentration at work. Your creative talents will prove to be highly lucrative if put to proper use. Enjoy a peaceful and quiet day with family.</p>	<p><b>Taurus</b> (April 20 - May 20)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Meditation and yoga will prove to be beneficial for spiritual as well as physical gains. Any negligence in the workplace or business can cause you financial loss today. This is the perfect day to attract the attention of others without doing much on your side.</p>	<p><b>Gemini</b> (May 21 - June 20)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Do not get gloomy and depressed. Financial hassles seem to get over as your parents extend support. Friends and family members take up most of your time. Physical existence is now of no consideration, as you feel yourself into each other in love all the time.</p>
<p><b>Cancer</b> (June 21 - July 22)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Your tremendous effort and timely support by family members would bring desired results. But keep working hard to maintain current spirit going. All the money you had invested in the past to make your future prosperous will reap fruitful results today. This is the perfect day to attract.</p>	<p><b>Leo</b> (July 23 - Aug 22)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Spend your valuable time with your children to get rid of stress. You will experience the healing power of child. As they are the most powerful spiritual and emotional personality on earth. You yourself will feel rejuvenated. Today, you are likely to attain economic benefits due to your children.</p>	<p><b>Virgo</b> (Aug 23 - Sep 22)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Refuse to worry about your health. It is a powerful vaccination against illness. Your right attitude will beat the wrong attitude. Be secretive about your investments and about your future goals. Health of parents improves and they shower their love on you. Your beloved will seem</p>
<p><b>Libra</b> (Sep 23 - Oct 22)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Avoid high calorie diet and stick to your exercise. Be secretive about your investments and about your future goals. Children could disappoint as they fail to live upto your expectations. You need to encourage them to see your dream fulfilling.</p>	<p><b>Scorpio</b> (Oct 23 - Nov 21)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> You are likely to spend your time in sports to maintain your physical stamina. Financial hassles will be eased out with the help of your friends. Someone you live with will be annoyed if you have been ignoring your household duties. Don't bend to love.</p>	<p><b>Sagittarius</b> (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 ::</b> Your anxiety will disappear as you take command of the situation. You are likely to understand that it is as unsubstantial as a soap bubble which collapses at the first touch of courage. Improvement in finances is certain.</p>
<p><b>Capricorn</b> (Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Take complete rest to regain your energy. Today, you can seek advice from the seniors of your family about finance management and savings and use them in your daily life. Unexpected good news later in the day brings happiness and cheers.</p>	<p><b>Aquarius</b> (Jan 20 - Feb 18)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Divert your thought and energy to what you wish to see in physical reality. There is no point in imaging only. The problem so far with you is that you don't try but only wish. Economically, today is going to be a mixed day. You can acquire monetary profits hard.</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> (Feb 19 - Mar 20)</p> <p><b>Sep 15th 2024 :</b> Today's entertainment should include sports activities and outdoor events. Some natives of this zodiac sign may have to spend money on any land-related issue today. Friends and family members take up most of your time.</p>

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## Lions Club organised mega camp

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Mohali :** Lions Club Panchkula Premier organized mega camp series in different schools of Mohali, where chief guest Lion Atul Kumar Sharma ji participated.

An 80 liter capacity water refrigerator-cum-purifier was installed in Government Primary and Middle School, Phase X, Mohali, to provide cool water to students during summer. Used books for students at Meritorious School in Sector 70, Mohali were donated to the school library. Frequently used medicines were also provided for the school dispensary. Along with this, 200 registers for needy students and 1500 sanitary pads for the school's pad dispensing machine were provided.

A seminar was organized to spread awareness about eye care and exercise, in which Lion member Parvinder Singh gave advice to the students. Along with this, Mrs. Anita Sharma gave



information about the importance and obstacles of yoga in life. A seminar on menstrual health and hygiene was conducted by Dr. Akanksha Dogra, Gynecologist, SGHS Hospital Sohana, Mohali for adolescent girl students.

Members present at the camp included club president Dinesh Sachdeva, project chairman dr SS Bhamra, secretary Ikshpal Singh, treasurer Raman Kumar, SH Brar, GS Grewal, Pawan Pahuja, and Manjit Bhamra were also present.

## 3 Congress leaders appointed as Sr Observers for Haryana Assembly polls

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chandigarh :** Partap Singh Bajwa, leader of Opposition, Punjab among three leaders appointed as Congress Senior Observers for the ensuing Assembly elections. The other two leaders are former Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and Senior Congress leader Ajay Maken.

After failing to reach a seat-sharing arrangement with Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the Congress has fielded candidates for 89 seats out of 90 in the Assembly election. The party has left one seat for the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

Haryana is expected to witness a triangular fight between the ruling BJP, Congress, and Aam Aadmi Party. The BJP has been in power in the state for the last ten years, winning the last two consecutive Assembly elections. But this time the party is facing a tough fight from the Congress.

In the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the BJP and the Congress won five seats



each out of 10 seats in the state. A total of 1561 candidates have filed their nominations for the Assembly elections that are scheduled to be held on October 5.

Agarwal said that 1561 candidates from different political parties and independent candidates have filed 1747 nomination papers, which have been scrutinised.

Agarwal said that candidates who have filed nominations for the elections can withdraw their nominations until September 16.

After this date, the final list of candidates for the 90 assembly constituencies of the state will be published, and on the same day, the election symbols will also be allotted by the concerned returning officers, he added.

In the 2014 Haryana Assembly elections, 1351 candidates had contested, whereas in the 2019 Assembly elections, this number was 961.

Voting for the 90-member legislative assembly in Haryana will be held on October 5. Votes will be counted on October 8 along with that in Jammu and Kashmir.

Haryana Chief Electoral Officer Pankaj

## PIC OF THE DAY

### WHO CARES...?

## No end to road side Encroachments in Mohali



### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Mohali :** Illegal encroachments on roadsides by street vendors have become a common affair in Mohali. It has been noticed that roadside encroachments are leading to regular traffic congestion.

The traffic on all roads like Phase 4 Entry and in Phase 1 moves at a snail's pace during the morning and evening rush hours, moreover several vital roads turned from residential areas into a commercial hub over the past few years.

Resident said, "The district administration had constructed footpaths for the safe movement of pedestrians, but roadside vendors have illegally encroached upon the roads as well as the footpaths and cause traffic congestion." Residents/Commuters while talking to The Aman Sandesh Times said, ever-increasing encroachments in different localities of the city have become a permanent source of nuisance for commuters with roadside bazaars, street hawkers and push up carts, prop up almost along every main or connecting road.

Residents added, "Seeing them doing all this bravely also raises doubt of alleged involvement of some officials who could provide them shelter." The Aman Sandesh Times team found that the numbers of street vendors is multiplying, choking the busy stretches and slowing down traffic. Even National Highway on International Airport Road has not been spared, with the number of carts on its wide pavements going up every week.

The encroachers range from food vendors to vegetable sellers, nurseries, and fruit, furniture shops. Road is further eaten up by illegal parking that makes traffic chaotic in many parts of the city, squeezing moving vehicles into one lane and in They are everywhere encroaching busy roads, pavements and footpaths leaving no space for pedestrians. Most of such roadside businesses Mohali areas have been set up without permission from relevant authorities, encroaching space illegally cannot be acceptable. But Who Cares???

## OPD services set to restart from Monday as Punjab Doctors announce to end ongoing strike

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chandigarh :** Punjab doctors under the banner of Punjab Civil Medical Services Association (PCMS) have announced to end their ongoing strike following the meeting with Punjab Health Minister Dr. Balbir Singh today.

The association said that the government has accepted all our demands without any conditions. The strike has been withdrawn. OPD will continue to function as usual. Even during the strike, our OPD was functioning for some time. OPD timings will also be



increased by 2 hours on Monday and Tuesday. The Health Minister said that a meeting was held with Punjab Civil Medical Services Association (PCMS) in a good atmosphere and all their demands

are justified. Due to security, recruitment of doctors, and promotion of doctors were stopped during the previous government, but now we will start it again

## Hindi Divas Celebrated at GGSCW-26

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chandigarh :** Department of Hindi, Guru Gobind Singh College for Women, Sector 26, Chandigarh celebrated Hindi Divas on 14th September 2024. A Rangoli competition was organised on the occasion. Students from various streams participated enthusiastically in the competition as well as the celebrations of Hindi Divas.

Vice Principal, Ms. Prabhjot



Kaur appreciated the celebrating such a special efforts of the department in day.

## 7,555 cases with Rs.40.44 cr awards resolved in National Lok Adalat



### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Ferozpur :** By directives from the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), Delhi, a National Lok Adalat was held across India today. Following the orders of Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhwalia, Executive Chairman of the Punjab State Legal Services Authority, and under the guidance of Virinder Agarwal, District and Sessions Judge of Ferozpur, the District Legal Services Authority of Ferozpur organized the Lok Adalat in the district courts.

A total of 22 benches were set up for the event, including 12 benches in the Ferozpur Sessions Division, 1 bench at the Permanent Lok Adalat, 3 benches in Zira, and 1 in Guru Har Sahai. Additional benches were created at the Consumer Court, Ferozpur, and 3 revenue courts. In total, 19,902 cases were listed, out of which 7,555 cases were resolved. The Lok Adalat

passed awards amounting to Rs 40,44,36,263. Various types of cases were addressed, including civil cases, criminal cases eligible for settlement, cheque bounce cases, recovery cases, traffic challans, domestic disputes, motor accident claims, and pre-litigation cases involving bank recoveries and private finance companies. To assist the public, the District Legal Services Authority set up help desks at the public entry gates of the District Court Complex in Ferozpur, as well as at Zira and Guru Har Sahai. Chief Judicial Magistrate and Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, Ferozpur, Ms Anuradha, stated that decisions made in Lok Adalat cannot be appealed and are considered final decrees, providing parties with a sense of satisfaction and relief from prolonged legal battles. The next Lok Adalat is scheduled for December 14, 2024, as per NALSA guidelines.

## Contract awarded by NHAI, to be commissioned by mid 2025- MP Sanjeev



### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Ludhiana :** National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has given a contract to Kabir Infra Private Limited for the construction of Bicycle Track along 4-lane Laddowal Bypass from km 0.000 to km 17.041 linking NH-95 with NH-1 via Laddowal Seed Farm at Ludhiana. Giving this information here on Saturday, MP (Rajya Sabha) from Ludhiana Sanjeev Arora added that NHAI has notified that Kabir Infra Private Limited's bid for a contract price has been accepted by the Competent Authority for and on behalf of NHAI.

He said construction of this dedicated bicycle track will provide a safe and segregated space for cyclists, encouraging the use of eco-friendly transportation and promoting public health within Ludhiana city.

He reiterated that this project is a major win for Ludhiana and Ludhianvis who are immensely grateful to the NHAI for recognizing this need and taking decisive action.

The work on this project will start in coming week. He said this project has been started as a pilot project by the NHAI because such kind of projects rarely exist in the country.

He termed this development as a "major achievement" because he has been working hard to get this project launched for the last sometime.

In this regard, he had taken up the matter

with Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Jairam Gadkari, the NHAI Chairman Santosh Kumar Yadav and all others concerned.

Arora had taken an initiative in this regard after he attended an event of AICMA (All India Cycle Manufacturers' Association) Awards Ceremony organized to celebrate World Bicycle Day last year, wherein the demand was raised to build bicycle track and promote cycling and the industry as well. Vijay Munjal, Group Chairman, Hero Eco, SK Rai, Managing Director, Hero Cycles Ltd, Tejvinder Singh of Big-Ben Group (JSTS) and Onkar Singh Pahwa, CMD, Avon Cycles were among those present on the occasion. Later on, Arora took up this matter at various platforms highlighting demand to construct bicycle track in Ludhiana, which is a hum of the industries, especially bicycle and bicycle parts.

He hoped that the setting-up of bicycle track will not only promote cycling in Ludhiana and other parts of the city but it will also encourage eco-friendly mode of transportation.

He asserted that there is a dire need to promote benefits of cycling among the masses particularly when there exist environmental and health issues due to one or another reason. He said he is happy that finally, his efforts have shown positive and constructive results.

## Meeting held on Eradication of Beggary in U.T.

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chandigarh :** A meeting under the chairmanship of Smt. Anuradha S. Chagti, CCS, Secretary, Social Welfare was held at U.T. Secretariat, Chandigarh to discuss key issues related to beggary in the Chandigarh. During the meeting, the advisory issued by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Protection & Rehabilitation of Individuals engaged in begging was discussed in detail, with a special emphasis on its recommendations to address the issue of beggary and the underlying factors contributing to it.

The implementation of the SMILE Scheme, formulated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, was also a focal point of the discussions.

The scheme aims to provide comprehensive rehabilitation, education, and skill development opportunities for beggars, in line with the government's vision of eradicating the beggary.

The Chairperson, Smt. Anuradha S. Chagti, provided clear directives to the departments and stakeholders present, emphasizing a coordinated approach towards making Chandigarh a beggar-free city.



She stressed the importance of awareness campaigns aimed at educating the public on the need to avoid giving alms to beggars through print as well as digital media, as this would help curb the human trafficking networks that often operate behind such activities. Smt. Chagti further highlighted the urgent need for public cooperation and urged all citizens to play an active role in eliminating the menace of beggary. "By not giving alms to beggars, we not only discourage this practice but also disrupt the human trafficking rackets that exploit vulnerable individuals for begging," she said.

The Secretary also directed the involved departments to ensure effective

implementation of awareness drives, rescue drives, shelter facilities, and rehabilitation initiatives.

Further steps will be taken in line with the compliance of the Chairperson as the administration is committed to working with all stakeholders to bring meaningful change and ensure the well-being of those affected by beggary in Chandigarh.

The meeting was attended by representatives from various departments, including the Department of Education, Municipal Corporation, Estate Office, UTCPS (Union Territory Child Protection Society), DCPU (District Child Protection Unit), Department of Health, Department of Technical Education, Department of Public Relations, Department of Police as well as members from Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs), Market Committees, Beopar Mandal, and other stakeholders

## Minister Gurmeet Khudian presides over 32nd NVS National Level Basketball Championship

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Ferozpur :** The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) organized a National Games and Sports Meet for students at the cluster, regional, and national levels every year. The 32nd NVS National Level Basketball Championship, held from September 11 to 13 at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Mahiya Wala Kalan, Ferozpur, saw Patna's team emerge victorious.

The event was also attended by MLA Zira Naresh Kataria and Assistant Commissioner D.D. Sharma from the NVS Regional Office, Chandigarh.

The event showcased stellar performances from players like Daneshwar (Shillong), Shyamli (Patna), Aman (Chandigarh), Jyoti, Sushant (Patna), and Anchal (Chandigarh).

Punjab's Cabinet Minister for Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Food Processing, Gurmeet Singh Khudian, graced the prize distribution ceremony as the chief guest. He commended the players and announced a grant of Rs 1 lakh from his discretionary fund to the school. Minister Khudian congratulated the winning teams and players, emphasizing the importance of participation in sports. He highlighted that



sports help in relieving stress and keeping youth away from negative influences. He expressed hope that these players would achieve great heights in the future and inspire others.

Teams from eight regions, including Bhopal, Jaipur, Shillong, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Patna, Lucknow, and Pune, participated in the championship. Matches were held for boys and girls in the Under-14, Under-17, and Under-19 categories. The Patna teams won in the Under-14 and Under-17 boys' categories, while Chandigarh teams excelled in the Under-17 and Under-19 girls' categories. The overall trophy was awarded to the Patna region. The prize distribution ceremony

featured cultural performances, including Kathak, Bhangra, and Giddha, which were enjoyed by all attendees. Special guests included SDM Zira Shri Gurmeet Singh, Nagar Council President Gurpreet Singh Jaj, and several school officials and teachers.

On this occasion, SDM Zira Gurmeet Singh, Municipal Council President Gurpreet Singh Judge, Guralal Singh, School Principal Swarnjit Kaur, Vice Principal Sunil Kumar, Senior Teacher Jaswinder Pal, VS Meena, Sunil, Raj Kumar, Kanwalpreet Kaur, Ashwani, RK Garg, Satveer Kaur, Mona, Kulveer Singh along with PE Teachers Bhagwant Kaur, Charanbir Singh, Paras Monga were also present.

## Freshers' Party Held At Ggscw-26



### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chandigarh :** Guru Gobind Singh College for Women, sector 26, Chandigarh, a premier higher education institution with A+ NAAC grade, organised a freshers' party to welcome the new batches of students at its campus.

The event was a spectacular blend of music, dance, and camaraderie, setting the tone for the new academic year and creating unforgettable memories for the newcomers.

The event included a series of dazzling performances by seniors, including dance routines and musical acts highlighting the diverse talents within the college community. One of the main attractions of the evening was the ramp walk, where participants showcased their confidence and charm in front of a panel of judges. Ms. Harpreet of B.Com won the title of Miss Fresher, while Chahaita (BCA) bagged the first runner up position, with Stanzin Angmo (BA) winning the second runner up position.

Khushi (BCom) was awarded the title of Miss Charming and Aman Khan (BA) won the title of Miss Elegant.

The DJ set the dance floor on fire with a mix of popular tracks, and the dance floor was soon packed with students enjoying themselves. A special photo booth was also set up by VADA club of the college to apprise students about substance abuse.

Ms. Prabhjot Kaur, Vice Principal encouraged the students to embrace every opportunity and transform it into success.

She urged them to participate in various activities, be it clubs, sports, or cultural events to make the most of their journey in the college. The freshers' party concluded with a vote of thanks by the Dean, Student Welfare, who expressed gratitude to all who contributed to making the event a grand success.

The event ended on a high note, leaving the new students excited and enthusiastic about their journey ahead at the college.

## CP67 Mall Hosts Grand Finale of Red FM's 'College ke Tashanbaaz' Talent Hunt

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Mohali :** CP67 Mall, the region's most iconic shopping destination, buzzed with excitement as it hosted the grand finale of Red FM's 'College ke Tashanbaaz,' a talent hunt aimed at showcasing the vibrant and diverse talent of college students.

The event, which began on August 19, saw participation from 12 colleges across the Tricity, Amritsar and Jalandhar with CP67 Mall as the presenting sponsor.

After weeks of intense competition, 23 participants were shortlisted for the finale, where they displayed their exceptional talent across various categories. The grand finale was judged by an esteemed panel of experts, including renowned lyricist, actor and producer Bunty Bains, celebrated creative director and choreographer Deepak Tagger and Shubham, another noted



choreographer.

The event culminated with the announcement of The bhangra Regiment as the winner, who took home a cash award of ₹11,000, a trophy and a certificate, and Vinay Sharma as the runner-up, who received a trophy and a certificate. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Umang Jindal, CEO of Homeland Group, CP67 Mall, said, "We are thrilled to have partnered with Red FM for this exciting event.

'College ke Tashanbaaz' not only brought out the extraordinary talent of our youth, but also provided them a platform to showcase it.

At CP67 Mall, we always strive to create

opportunities for young talent and support activities that foster creativity and innovation. I congratulate all the participants and winners who made this event a resounding success.

The grand finale of 'College ke Tashanbaaz' was a huge hit among attendees, making it yet another memorable event hosted by CP67 Mall, the favourite hub of entertainment and shopping in the region.

## SRK's King eyeing Eid 2026 release, possible clash with Love And War

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Dehli :** Superstar Shah Rukh Khan and his daughter, Suhana Khan, will share screen space for the first time in King. The film will reportedly go on the floors in January 2025 and is eyeing a release in 2026.

About the release details of King, a Pinkvilla report stated, "A film like King is apt for the Eid 2026 period and that's what Shah Rukh Khan and Siddharth Anand are aiming at. It has been a while since a Shah Rukh Khan film release on Eid, and this would mark his return to the festival after the historic success of Chennai Express. Given the timelines of shoot chalked out at the moment, the makers will make it to the Eid 2026 release slot." The report also contained shoot details of the film: "The first schedule of King commences in Mumbai from January, followed by a marathon



schedule in Europe. The makers have done multiple rounds of recce in Europe to identify virgin locations that bring scale to King. The film features SRK in the titular role with Suhana Khan, Abhay Verma, and Abhishek Bachchan."

The idea is to shoot the action at real locations as also the studio set up, to bring in the right blend of realism to the story-

telling pattern. The makers aim to establish a new form of action with Shah Rukh Khan in King, and the superstar is also excited to venture into this territory," the report further said.

On the work front, Shah Rukh Khan had quite an eventful 2023 with three back-to-back releases - Pathaan, Jawan and Dunki.

## The GOAT Vijay film earns nearly ₹7 crore on second Friday

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Dehli :** The GOAT box office collection day 9: The film opened well in theatres but has been witnessing a constant dip in its numbers. As per Sacnilk.com, the film earned nearly ₹7 crore. In The Greatest of All Time, Vijay is seen in a double role, playing a father as well as his son.

The film collected ₹178 crore [Tamil: ₹156.4 crore; Hindi: ₹11.3 crore; Telugu: ₹10.3 crore] in week one of its release. On day nine, it earned ₹6.50 crore nett in India in all languages as per early estimates. So far, the film has collected ₹184.50 crore. The GOAT had an overall 33.07% Tamil occupancy.

The first half of GOAT is extremely engaging with the director setting up the stage for superb interval block that takes you by surprise. There is a lot of family drama and high-octane action in various missions around the world before the film hits the



interval. Post interval, the film takes off with a face off between the Gandhi and Sanjay and the director tries to keep it fast-paced. Through the film, Venkat Prabhu shows he is a fanboy of Vijay, the Kollywood (references to Ghilli, Thirumalai, etc) and the climax of the film definitely proves this." The film, helmed by Venkat Prabhu, featured Vijay in the

lead role. Apart from Vijay, the cast includes Prashanth, Sneha, Prabhudheva, Vaibhav, Ajmal Ameer, Mohan, Ajay Raj, Aravind Akash, Laila, Meenakshi Chaudhary, Yogi Babu, Sneha, Yugenran, Premgi Amaren, and VTV Ganesh among others.

Vijay left his fans in awe with his action-packed avatar in the trailer. It introduced Vijay as a field agent and spy who has carried out over 65 successful operations in his career. The film is produced by Kalpathi S Aghoram, Kalpathi S Ganesh and Kalpathi S Suresh of AGS Entertainment.

## Vinesh Phogat didn't want to challenge sports court's verdict



### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Dehli :** Days after Vinesh Phogat alleged lack of support from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) during her appeal against disqualification from the Paris Olympics, senior lawyer Harish Salve revealed that the former wrestler had chosen not to challenge the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) verdict. The CAS had upheld the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) decision to disqualify Phogat and rejected her appeal for a joint silver medal in the women's 50kg wrestling category.

Vinesh Phogat was disqualified from the final of the women's freestyle 50kg wrestling event after being found 100g over the permissible weight limit on the day of the final.

As a result, Phogat was eliminated from the competition and relegated to the last spot. Upset by the decision, she appealed to the CAS, and Harish Salve represented her on behalf of the national Olympic body. However, after a week-long hearing, the ruling did not go in Phogat's favour, and she returned from Paris empty-handed. The appeal against the disqualification was filed at the CAS by French pro bono lawyers in Paris.

Recently, the Haryana-born wrestler made pointed remarks against IOA President PT Usha, accusing the organisation of a lack of support and coordination. Phogat also expressed her frustration over the leniency

from her legal team, which she believes cost her the chance to win a medal.

In response to her allegations, Salve clarified the proceedings and highlighted the lack of coordination from Phogat's legal representation.

"There was a complete lack of coordination, lack of cohesion for quite some time initially. That's because the very good law firm which had been engaged by the Indian Olympic Association was told by some lawyers who the athlete had engaged that 'we will not share anything with you, we will not give anything to you. It was very late we got everything,'" Salve told TimesNow.

Phogat didn't want to carry it any further: Salve Salve stated that they fought the case vigorously and even offered Phogat the option to appeal the CAS verdict in the Swiss Court. However, she chose not to pursue it any further.

"Later on, we got everything and we fought hard. In fact, I even offered that lady that maybe we can challenge it in the Swiss court of appeal against the arbitration award but I was told by the lawyers that my impression is she didn't want to carry this any further," he added.

A day after her disqualification from the Games, Phogat announced her retirement from wrestling. She ventured into politics last week, joining the Indian National Congress ahead of the Haryana Assembly Elections.

### It's story

## Controlling Anger

There was a young boy who could not control his anger. He would say whatever came to his mind, even if it

hurts people. His father asked him to hammer in a nail in the backyard fence whenever he got angry. In the beginning, he used up a lot of nails. But as time went by, he started using less.



The father then asked him to start removing a nail each day; he didn't get angry. When he removed all the nails, the father asked him to see the holes in the fence. He reminded him that the fence would never be the same. Likewise, the things he had said to people could never be erased.

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## Stalin returns to Chennai with Rs 7,600 crore investment

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Chennai :** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, who was on a 17-day US visit, returned to Chennai today morning after garnering investments totalling Rs 7,600 crore for the state.

Stalin was received by his cabinet colleagues, DMK leaders and officials at the airport. He left for the US on August 17, accompanied by his wife Durga Stalin and a horde of officials.

During his visit, Stalin met the officials of the US automobile major, Ford in Chicago, and the company was all set to re-enter Tamil Nadu, three years after exiting from the state. The company has submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the State government, outlining its intention to utilise the existing plant.

Ford decided to shut down its engine and vehicle assembling plant in Chennai in 2022.



While announcing the company's intent to restart its operations in Tamil Nadu, Ford Motors' President Jim Farley said the company would add 2,500 to 3,000 team members in the next few years.

She said that with the company's engine manufacturing team in Sanand and customer and dealer support team, India would be Ford's second-largest employee base worldwide.

The state government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with American construction and engineering equipment manufacturing company Caterpillar to expand the operations of the US company in the state.

The company will invest an amount of Rs 500 crore to expand operations in the Krishnagiri and Tiruvallur districts of the state. The state government in a statement said that the MoU to this effect was signed in the presence of CM Stalin in Chicago. After assuming office in May 2021, Stalin travelled to Japan, Spain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on business garnering trips before the US visit.

## Congress MLA Zuber Khan passes away

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Jaipu :** Congress MLA (from Alwar's Ramgarh, Zuber Khan (61) passed away early today morning. He breathed his last at his farm house in Dhai Padi near Alwar city at 5:50 A.M. His funeral will be held in Ramgarh today evening. Party officials said that he had undergone liver transplant a year ago. He was unwell for one-and-a-half years but due to exertion during the Lok Sabha polls, his health challenges worsened, said party workers.

His health deteriorated further around 15 days ago. Zuber Khan's wife Safia is active in politics and has also been an MLA. Now, after the death of Zuber Khan, the total number of Assembly seats that have become vacant in the state has gone up to seven.

Hence Assembly bye-elections will be held on seven seats now as five seats had



earlier gone vacant as the sitting MLAs won Lok Sabha polls and became MPs. Recently, the sixth seat, Salumber became vacant due to the demise of BJP MLA Amritlal Meena. The five seats which will undergo bypolls after their MLAs won the Lok Sabha elections are Dausa, Jhunjhunu, Devli Uniyara, Khinvsar and Chauasi. Zuber Khan, the deceased MLA shared good relations with the Gandhi family.

He completed his school studies in Alwar and then went to Delhi where he did his post-graduation from Jamia Millia Islamia. Zuber Khan is survived by his two sons Adil (29), and Aryan (26).

Zubair Khan became an MLA for the first time in 1990 from Ramgarh in Alwar on a Congress ticket. At that time, he was 25-years-old.

He became an MLA again in 1993 and after this, he was the National Vice President of the NSUI and National Working President of the Youth Congress. He was also the District President of the Congress.

After this, he became an MLA once again in 2003 and thereafter the Whip in the Assembly. However, he lost the election in 2008 and in 2013. In the 2018 elections, his wife Safia Khan was given a ticket by the Congress and she won. Zuber Khan again became an MLA in 2023.

## 2 die as SUV sinks in waterlogged underpass

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Faridabad :** Two people died when their SUV drowned in the waterlogged Old Faridabad underpass in Haryana during the early hours of today.

The incident occurred at around 2 a.m. when the speeding vehicle failed to stop despite warnings from police. The underpass, filled with 10 to 12 feet of water, became a death trap for the SUV, which was travelling at a high speed. Both occupants of the car drowned as the vehicle submerged completely.

Despite police efforts, only one body was recovered during the night, while the second was retrieved in the morning. The victims, both bank employees, included one who worked as a manager at the HDFC Bank's Gurugram branch. Both underpasses in the city, including the Old Faridabad underpass, are submerged, leading police to block access to these areas. However, the SUV did not stop even after the police



rider gave them a signal to avoid the underpass.

Heavy rain has lashed Faridabad for the past three days, causing significant waterlogging across the city, which has turned several areas into virtual rivers. The tragic incident occurred due to the darkness and severe waterlogging, which the victims did not notice as they drove into the flooded underpass. Despite their attempts to escape from

the locked vehicle, they were unable to get out in time. While one victim passed away on the spot, the second was in critical condition but later succumbed to their injuries.

The heavy rains have severely impacted connectivity throughout Faridabad, and authorities continue to monitor and respond to the ongoing weather conditions.

## Green Hydrogen a historic opportunity to redefine energy systems, create jobs

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** India has ushered into a new era of energy transition driven by a shared commitment to advancing the 'Hydrogen Agenda', Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shripad Naik, has said. The Green Hydrogen commitment is a historic opportunity to redefine energy systems, create jobs and secure a cleaner planet for future generations.

Addressing the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024), Naik emphasised the government's unwavering commitment to advance clean and green energy.

The minister highlighted the National Green Hydrogen Mission with an initial outlay of Rs 19,744 crore as a comprehensive strategy, encompassing demand creation, production, R&D, infrastructure, regulatory frameworks, international partnerships, and most importantly,



skill development and job creation. Naik also underscored the importance of youth, affirming that by empowering the youth with necessary skills, India is equipping them to be the architects of a sustainable future.

According to Professor Ajay K Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the government, the commitment to Green Hydrogen is not just about meeting emission targets. "It is about seizing a historic opportunity to redefine our energy systems, create

new jobs, and secure a cleaner, healthier planet for future generations", he told the gathering.

Bhupinder S Bhalla, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, highlighted the transformative potential of Green Hydrogen for India's energy sector.

He said that Green Hydrogen is not just a new energy source, it is a pathway towards a future where clean energy is the norm, and industries are decarbonised.

"The journey ahead will be challenging, but our collective ambition is strong, and the opportunities are vast," he noted. Green Hydrogen is more than just a technological innovation — it symbolises a new era in energy where sustainability meets economic viability.

Jyoti Vij, Director General of FICCI, said the country's transition goals will require concerted efforts from both the government and industry. The conference highlighted India's dedication to international collaboration

## Zomato Partners With Indian Railways To Delivery Food At Over 100 Train Stations

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** Do you also crave fancy food on train journeys? If yes, then we have some good news for you. You no longer have to choose between the same old veg and non-veg platters while travelling on the train. Now, you can now order food directly from Zomato, the popular food delivery application. , September 13, Zomato CEO Deepinder Goyal revealed that the company has entered a partnership with IRCTC. Their latest collaboration has been named, Zomato - Food Delivery in Trains. Sharing the announcement on X (formerly known as Twitter), Deepinder Goyal wrote, "Update: Zomato now delivers food directly to your train coach at over 100 railway stations, thanks to our partnership with IRCTC. We have already served 10 lakh orders on trains. Try it on your next journey!"

Reactions were quick to follow. A user wanted to know, "That's nice. Considering trains usually run late, how does Zomato manage this? Say, I order something thinking that the train will reach at station X at 1pm, but it reaches at 3pm. Does the delivery agent wait that long?"

Cash on delivery option should be available for train orders



as there might be many cases in which Zomato is unable to deliver the order like the train is late, delivery boy unable to find the coach, delivery boy/restaurant becomes late," suggested another. Praising the initiative an individual commented, "I appreciate the way Zomato management keeps experimenting with new ideas. Some may succeed, while many may not, but it reflects their continuous pursuit of growth." Re-sharing the post, IRCTC wrote, "IRCTC is committed to enhancing rail passengers' journeys by providing a wider range of quality food options. Through strategic partnerships, we offer a variety of quality food, ensuring a satisfying experience onboard our trains."

At present, eighty-eight cities are already using Zomato - Food Delivery in Trains. 10 lakh orders have been delivered to customers across 100 stations.

## 1 dead, 2 injured as building collapses

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** A man allegedly strangled his wife to death in Delhi, for using social media, police said. The accused has been identified as Ram Kumar, 33, a resident of Delhi's Razapur area.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Rohini, Pankaj Kumar, said, "A murder case was reported in PS Prashant Vihar in which a person named Ram Kumar, aged 33 of Razapur, confessed that he has murdered his wife by strangling her." After enquiring further into the matter, it was revealed



that his wife used to be more active on social media, which triggered an argument and led to this incident. A case has been registered in the matter and further investigation is underway, the police said. More details are awaited.

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## India-Indonesia conference on Sep 14-15 to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Bali** : The International Conference titled 'Echoes across the Waves: Revisiting the Intersections of India and Indonesia's Shared Cultural Heritage' is set to take place on September 14 and 15 in Bali.

It aims to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Indonesia.

This event, organised by the Consulate General of India in Bali, the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS), the External of India, Jakarta said.

The conference seeks to reinvigorate discussions on the profound cultural connections between the two nations through academic presentations and expert discussions.

The inaugural session on September 14 will feature an exhibition showcasing historical, linguistic, religious, and artistic exchanges between the two countries.



The opening ceremony will be addressed by distinguished figures including an esteemed Chief Guest from the Indonesian Government, Ambassador Sandeep Chakravorty of India to Indonesia, Dr Shashank Vikram, Consul General of India in Bali, Dr Sarup Prasad Ghose, Director of MAKAIAS, and Shri Arindam Mukherjee, Director of ISCS. On September 15, the conference will feature a series of academic sessions

covering topics such as ancient maritime trade routes, Hindu-Buddhist traditions, linguistic and literary comparisons, cultural innovations in art and cuisine, and modern reflections on cultural exchanges.

These sessions will be led by prominent scholars and civil society representatives from both nations, aiming to explore the contemporary influences and future potential of the shared cultural heritage.

## WHO clears world's first Mpox vaccine for limited use in select countries

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi** : The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced the MVA-BN vaccine as the world's first vaccine against Mpox to be added to its prequalification list.

The prequalification approval is expected to facilitate timely and increased access to this vital product in communities with urgent needs, to reduce transmission and help contain the outbreak. WHO's assessment for prequalification is based on information submitted by the manufacturer, Bavarian Nordic A/S, and review by the European Medicines Agency, the regulatory agency of record for this vaccine.

"This first prequalification of a vaccine against mpox is an important step in our fight against the disease, both in the context of the current outbreaks in Africa and in the future," said WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"We now need urgent scale up in procurement, donations and rollout to ensure equitable access to vaccines where they are needed most, alongside other public health tools, to prevent infections, stop transmission and save lives."

The MVA-BN vaccine can be administered in people over 18-years of age as a 2-dose injection given 4 weeks apart. After prior cold storage, the vaccine can be kept at 2-8°C for up to 8 weeks.

"The WHO prequalification of the MVA-BN vaccine will help accelerate ongoing procurement of the mpox vaccines by governments and international agencies such as Gavi and Unicef to help communities on the frontlines of the ongoing emergency in Africa and beyond," said Dr Yukiko Nakatani, WHO Assistant Director-General for Access to Medicines and Health Products.

"The decision can also help national regulatory authorities to fast-track approvals, ultimately increasing access to quality-assured mpox vaccine products." The WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization reviewed all available evidence and recommended the use of MVA-BN vaccine in the context of an mpox outbreak for persons at high risk of exposure.

While MVA-BN is currently not licensed for persons under 18 years of age, this vaccine may be used



"off-label" in infants, children and adolescents, and in pregnant and immunocompromised people. This means vaccine use is recommended in outbreak settings where the benefits of vaccination outweigh the potential risks.

WHO also recommends single-dose use in supply-constrained outbreak situations. WHO emphasizes the need to collect further data on vaccine safety and effectiveness in these circumstances. Available data shows that a single-dose MVA-BN vaccine given before exposure has an estimated 76% effectiveness in protecting people against mpox, with the 2-dose schedule achieving an estimated 82% effectiveness.

Vaccination after exposure is less effective than pre-exposure vaccination. Good safety profile and vaccine performance has been consistently demonstrated in clinical studies, as well as in real-world use during the ongoing global outbreak since 2022.

In light of the changing epidemiology and emergence of new virus strains, it remains important to collect as much data as possible on vaccine safety and effectiveness in different contexts. Since the triggering of the emergency use listing for mpox vaccines by WHO Director-General on 7 August 2024, WHO has conducted product and programmatic suitability assessments of MVA-BN vaccine.

The findings of the assessments are particularly relevant in the context of the declaration of a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) related to the upsurge of mpox in Africa," said Dr Rogerio Gaspar, WHO Director for Regulation and Prequalification. "We are progressing with prequalification and emergency use listing procedures with manufacturers of two other mpox vaccines: LC-16 and ACAM2000.

## US accuses Russian state media

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Washington** : The United States Department of State has hit Russian state media and RT with new sanctions, accusing it of playing key role in carrying out 'covert influence activities' aimed at undermining American elections and democracies.

The State Department said it is starting a diplomatic campaign to alert nations about the risks associated with RT activities and disclosed declassified US intelligence findings suggesting RT is completely integrated with Russia's intelligence operations worldwide.

"We took these steps based on our conclusion that Rossiya Segodnya and these five subsidiaries are no longer merely firehoses of Russian Government propaganda and disinformation; they are engaged in covert influence activities aimed at undermining American elections and democracies, functioning like a de facto arm of Russia's intelligence apparatus," the US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, said.

Blinken alleged that the leaders of RT oversaw an online crowdfunding project to provide military gear to Russian forces fighting in Ukraine, in addition to their covert influence operations. According to Blinken, Russian forces engaged in combat in Ukraine received "sniper rifles, suppressors, body armour,



night vision equipment, drones, radio equipment, personal weapon sights, and diesel generators" as a result of the crowdfunding campaign, reported. "Thanks to new information, much of which originates from RT employees, we know that RT possessed cyber capabilities and engaged in covert information and influence operations and military procurement," Blinken said. The announcement by the US State Department comes as part of a larger US government initiative to reduce RT's influence around the world, according to report.

"We're taking steps to hold accountable those who weaponise disinformation

to undermine our democracy. That's what we did just last week when the State Department, the Justice Department, the Treasury Department, and the FBI took a series of coordinated actions to counter Russian influence and interference in our elections and in our democracy," Blinken said.

"In addition to imposing sanctions, visa restrictions, and other measures, the State Department also designated the Russian state-funded and directed media company Rossiya Segodnya and five of its subsidiaries, including RT, under the Foreign Missions Act. As a result, these actors are now required to notify the State Department of all personnel working in the United States as well as their property," he added. Notably, the announcement of sanctions comes just a week after federal prosecutors declared that two RT staff members would face criminal charges for surreptitiously transferring about USD 10 million to a US business in order to produce and promote programming that favoured Russian interests.

## NASA astronauts eager to vote from space in US elections

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Washington** : NASA Astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore expressed their desire to vote in the upcoming US presidential elections in November, from the International Space Station, as their stay in the space has got extended at least till February 2025.

Williams and Wilmore participated in a press conference above 250 miles above Earth from the International Space Station, where the two astronauts had been since June, reported the New York Post.

The press conference came a week after the Starliner returned to earth. The pair had launched aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft on June 5 for its first crewed flight, arriving at the space station on June 6.

A decision was made to return Starliner to Earth without its crew and the spacecraft successfully returned on September 6 after more than three months in space. It made a safe landing at White Sands Space Harbour in New Mexico.

Both the astronauts will remain on the international space station as part of the



Expedition 71/72 crew and return home in February 2025 aboard the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft with two other crew members on NASA's SpaceX Crew-9 mission. The astronauts said they have requested for a ballot, terming voting as an "important role" played by citizens. "I sent down my request for a ballot today, as a matter of fact, and they should get it to us in a couple of weeks," Wilmore said. "It's a very important role that we all play as citizens to be included in those elections and NASA makes it very easy for us to do that. We're excited for that opportunity." Notably, astronauts have been voting

from space since 1997, when the Texas legislature passed a bill allowing NASA employees to vote from space, the New York Post reported.

That year, NASA astronaut David Wolf became the first American to vote from space on the Mir Space Station. In 2020, NASA astronaut Kate Rubins also performed her civic duty from space on the ISS. Wilmore said that the extended stay was "trying at times," and there were some tough times all the way through. Sunita Williams said the transition to station life was "not that hard" since both had previous stints there. This is my happy place. I love being up here in space," she said.

"A test flight means that we're probably going to find some stuff.

We've done as much as we can to look at the envelope that we're going to operate in but this is the first time we've had humans in space in Starliner and we did find stuff and we made the right decisions and we're here and that's how things go in this business," she further added.

## Canada concludes funding arrangements for largest space program

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Ottawa** : Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a funding agreement with Telesat to complete and operate Lightspeed, one of the world's most innovative satellite networks.

With a loan of 2.14 billion Canadian dollars (US\$1.57 billion) from the federal government, Telesat Lightspeed will be Canada's largest-ever space programme, the Prime Minister said in a news release.

Telesat Lightspeed will expand internet and 5G networks in communities across Canada, reports news agency. As a low-Earth-orbit satellite network, it will take less time to send and receive



information and accelerate the federal government's work to connect all Canadians to high-speed internet by 2030, the release said.

According to the release, the network

will also help the government of Canada bolster its satellite communications technology and support the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) modernisation. The program is already underway, with the first of an initial 198 low-Earth-orbit satellites scheduled to launch in 2026, according to the release.

Established as a Crown corporation in 1969, Telesat is now a Canadian-controlled and publicly traded corporation and one of the world's largest and most innovative satellite operators.

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## Amit Shah extends heartfelt wishes on occasion of Hindi Diwas



Amit Shah  
@AmitShah

समस्त देशवासियों को हिंदी दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ।

सभी भारतीय भाषाएँ हमारा गौरव भी हैं और विरासत भी, जिन्हें समृद्ध किये बिना हम आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते। राजभाषा हिंदी का हर भारतीय भाषा के साथ अटूट रिश्ता है। इस साल हिंदी भाषा ने देश की राजभाषा के रूप में जनसंवाद व राष्ट्रीय एकता के 75 वर्ष पूरे किए हैं। मुझे विश्वास है कि सभी भारतीय भाषाओं को एक साथ लेकर राजभाषा हिंदी विकसित भारत के संकल्प को चरितार्थ करने की दिशा में निरंतर अपना योगदान देती रहेगी।

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah extended his heartfelt wishes to people on Saturday on the occasion of Hindi Diwas.

Taking to social media handle X on Hindi completing 75 years as the official language of the country, Amit Shah wrote in a post that all Indian languages are our pride and heritage, and without enriching them, we cannot move forward.

"All Indian languages are our pride and heritage, without enriching them we cannot move forward. Official language Hindi has an unbreakable relationship with every Indian language. This year Hindi has completed 75 years of public communication and national unity as the official language of the country.

I am confident that by taking all Indian languages together, official language Hindi will continue to contribute towards realizing the resolution of a developed India," Amit Shah posted in Hindi.

The Union Minister will also be inaugurating the 'Bhartiya Bhasha Anubhag' on Saturday with an objective to promote use of Indian languages along with Hindi and establish better coordination between them.

He will be conducting the inauguration of 'Bhartiya Bhasha Anubhag' while attending the inaugural session of official language Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the 4th Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan being organised by Department of Official Language on September 14-15 here in the national capital on the occasion of Hindi Diwas.

Keeping in view the intent of the Constitution and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's direction, a Home Ministry statement mentioned, the Department of Official Language of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had proposed to establish Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag with the objective of promoting the use of Indian languages along with Hindi and establishing better coordination between them.

Inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and under the able guidance of Union Home Minister, the Official Language Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been organising Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan every year since 2021, the statement said. Hindi Diwas is observed annually on September 14 to commemorate the decision to adopt Hindi as one of the nation's official languages.

## 2 soldiers killed, 2 injured in gunfight with terrorists

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Jammu :** Two army soldiers were killed in a gunbattle with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district. The White Knight Corps confirmed the news on X, along with pictures of the soldiers. "#GOC White Knight Corps and all ranks salute the supreme sacrifice of the #Bravehearts; offer deepest condolences to the families," the White Knight Corps wrote on X.

Two other Army soldiers were also injured in the encounter and are undergoing treatment. Security has been heightened in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar following the encounter between security forces and



### WE SALUTE OUR BRAVEHEARTS

Nb Sub Vipran Kumar

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CHATROO, KISHTWAR - 13 SEP 2024

terrorists in the upper reaches of Naidgham village.

Earlier, a local resident of the area said that the situation remains grim in Kishtwar. Thakur Rangeel Singh, a local resident of the area, said. "Around 3-3:30 we got to

know that an encounter broke. We got to know that four of the Indian army soldiers had been injured. The situation is quite tense here, and the area has been cordoned off by the Indian Army."

## PM Modi to visit to Jharkhand, Gujarat, & Odisha

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**New Delhi :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to embark on a three-day visit to Jharkhand, Gujarat, and Odisha starting tomorrow.

During his visit to Jharkhand, he will inaugurate six Vande Bharat trains, which include the Tatanagar-Patna Vande Bharat train, at the Tatanagar Junction Railway Station.

He will also inaugurate the foundation stone and officially dedicate several railway projects valued at over 660 crore rupees to the nation. Mr. Modi will also distribute approval letters to 20,000 beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin in Tatanagar. The Prime Minister is scheduled to engage with the recipients of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in



Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Additionally, he will officially open the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST) at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. The Prime Minister will also inaugurate the Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project and take a Metro ride

from Section 1 Metro Station till GIFT City Metro Station. In the evening, Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than eight thousand crore rupees in Ahmedabad. 17th September, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Odisha. He will interact with the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban. Mr Modi will also lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation various development projects worth more than three thousand 800 crore rupees in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

## Bulgaria seizes nearly 125 kg of smuggled gold

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Sofia :** Bulgarian law enforcement authorities have seized 124.708 kg of smuggled gold items worth US\$6 million at the country's Kapitan Andreevo checkpoint, authorities said. "This was the largest amount of contraband gold seized at the Bulgarian borders," the National Customs Agency (NCA) said in a statement. The items were found in a car with Bulgarian registration, which arrived at the checkpoint at 7:30 p.m. local time and was



travelling from Bulgaria to Turkey, reports news agency, citing the statement. According to the NCA, the

driver and his companion, one Bulgarian citizen and the other with dual Bulgarian-Turkish citizenship, said they had nothing to declare. However, a thorough inspection that lasted over 13 hours revealed gold ingots, bars, jewellery and coins, which were hidden in various places in the car.

## Juice Vendor Arrested, Boy Detained For Mixing Urine in Drinks

### THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

**Ghaziabad :** A juice vendor was arrested and a 15-year-old boy detained over allegedly serving fruit juices mixed with urine to customers, police said.

According to a police officer, the arrest was made following complaints by the public that the juice seller had been serving fruit juice to the customers after mixing human urine in it.

ACP Ankur Vihar Bhaskar Verma said the accused has been identified as Aamir. Upon getting information police reached



and conducted a search of his juice stall and recovered a plastic cane filled with urine. Police said they interrogated

the owner about a container filled with urine but he could not give any satisfactory reply.

A juvenile has been detained, Mr Verma said, adding that further action is being taken in the matter.

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RNI NO.: PUNENG/2020/81962 Owner & Publisher : Atul Sharma

Owner, Publisher, Printer Atul Sharma Printed by: Atul Industries, Plot No. F-78, Industrial Area, Phase-7 S.A.S. Nagar Mohali.  
Published by - F-78, Industrial Area, Phase-7, Mohali 160055, Editor: Atul Sharma, E-mail: theamansandeshtimes@gmail.com | Website: www.amansandeshtimes.com