

The Aman Sandesh Times

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People suffer breathing problems as Gas leaked in Ice Factory



₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Jalandhar: In a major development, panic gripped the area after a type of gas started to leak in an ice factory in Jalandhar. Jalandhar Gas Leak incident came to the fore in an ice factory near Domoria Bridge. In response, the police have closed the road from both sides and all the traffic is being sent over the Domoria bridge. On receiving the information about the incident, the police of Thana-3 and the fire brigade team reached the spot. At present, the police have sealed the area. No one will be allowed to go on the said road. Police will open the route only after the effect of gas leak

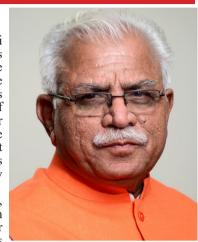
As per the information received, the ice factory is built along with the building of MBD Books, which comes under Thana 3. During the gas leak, people passing near Domoria bridge are facing difficulty in breathing. However, it has not been confirmed which gas has leaked from the factory. Local people stated that due to the gas leak, they are having irritation in their eyes, and people located at a distance of more than a kilometer are having difficulty in breathing. Many people are still trapped inside the factory.

"We are ready to welcome"-Manohar Khattar

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Sirsa MP Kumari Selja, who has raised eyebrows with her absence from the Congress's campaign for the Haryana Assembly election, has been invited by former Chief Minister and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar to join the BJP. Selja, one of the senior-most Dalit faces in Congress, wields influence in several Assembly constituencies.

Addressing an event in Haryana, referring to Selja's absence from the Congress's campaign, Khattar said, "One of our Dalit sisters has been insulted and abused by the Congress. She is sitting at home, but the Hoodas (Bhupinder Hooda and Deepender Hooda) and the Gandhi (Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi) family are not even ashamed."
He further said that the BJP had inducted many leaders into its fold and was ready to welcome Selja as well. "We are ready to welcome her to the party," he added. Responding to Khattar, Congress Rajya Sabha MP Pramod Tiwari said the BJP made the offer as



it doesn't have support among the voters. Tiwari called Kumari Selja a "dedicated soldier of Congress".

Rumours of a rift in the Haryana unit of the Congress gained traction after Selja was not seen during the party's manifesto launch event by national president Mallikarjun Kharge.

The Assembly polls will take place in Haryana in a single phase on October 5, and counting of votes in the 90-member Assembly will be held on October 8.

Bengal doctors resume duties partially after 42 days impasse over Kolkata rape

₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Junior doctors today morning rejoined their duties partially at various government-run hospitals in West Bengal after a hiatus of 42

They were on 'cease work' agitation in protest against the rape and murder of an on-duty woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital.

The junior doctors rejoined their duties in essential and emergency services at all state-run hospitals but not in the outpatient department

"We have started rejoining duties today. Our colleagues have started returning to their respective departments since this morning only in essential and emergency services, but not at the OPDs. Please do not forget that this is only a partial resumption of duties," Aniket Mahato, one of the agitating doctors. He said his other colleagues have already left for flood-hit districts of the state where they would start 'Abhaya clinics' (medical camps), to demonstrate their commitment to public health even amid ongoing



The agitating doctors said that they would wait for another seven days for the administration to fulfill their demands for justice for the deceased doctor and the removal of state health secretary or else they would start another round of 'cease work'.

another round of 'cease work'.

The doctors have been protesting since August 9 when the body of a woman medic was found at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, demanding justice for the deceased doctor as well as removing key officials from their posts alleging their involvement in the case.

their involvement in the case. The CBI, which is investigating the case, has arrested several people, including former principal of the RG Kar Hospital, in connection with its

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh appointed as next IAF Chief



▼THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Delhi : New Government has appointed Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh, PVSM, AVSM, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the next Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of Air Chief 30, 2024. Marshal, with effect from

the afternoon of September 30, 2024.

The present Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari, PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC demits office on September

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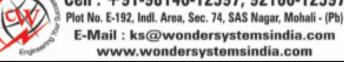
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Cancer Moonshot on agenda during PM Modi's US visit: Why it's important for India

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the annual Quad summit with leaders from Australia, Japan and the United States starting today in Delaware, US.

Besides issues like the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, maritime security and climate and clean energy, the leaders will be discussing Joe Biden's ambitious project - the Cancer Moonshot Initiative.

WHAT IS THE CAMOONSHOT INITIATIVE? CANCER

The Cancer Moonshot, funded by the 21st Century Cures Act in 2016, focuses on areas of cancer research with the greatest potential to benefit patients through new investments.

The initiative has united patients, advocates, researchers, and doctors to work together, advancing research to improve the lives of cancer patients, those at risk, and their families. The goal is to speed up progress in preventing, detecting, and treating cancer.

Joe Biden inaugurated the initiative when he was the vice president during the Obama presidency, following the death of his son Beau Biden from glioblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer.

The initiative focuses on addressing these key areas to reduce the burden of

WHAT IS THE SIXTH QUAD CANCER MOONSHOT INITIATIVE ABOUT?

The Quad Cancer Moonshot Initiative is a program that will focus on expanding cervical cancer preventive measures, increasing human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations, which target the primary cause of cervical cancer, and improving patient treatment options, as per a report by the New York Times.

Cervical cancer is a type of cancer that occurs in the cells of the cervix, the lower part of the uterus that connects to



the vagina.

It's primarily caused by persistent infection with high-risk strains of the human papillomavirus (HPV). Early detection through screening significantly improves treatment outcomes. It is a highly preventable and treatable disease when detected early. Despite this, cervical cancer remains the fourth most common cancer among

Health Organisation (WHO). In 2020, the WHO launched a global strategy aimed at eliminating cervical cancer. This plan sets ambitious targets, including the goal of vaccinating 90% of girls against the human papillomavirus (HPV) by the age of 15.

women globally, according to the World

HPV is the leading cause of cervical cancer, and widespread vaccination could significantly reduce the incidence of the disease.

In 2021, just five months into his presidency, Biden announced a new partnership with Japan, India and Australia to expand global vaccine manufacturing capacity. Biden's cancer moonshot aims to "end cancer as we

The President and First Lady announced the plan to rekindle the initiative and set a goal of reducing the death rate from cancer by 50% over the next 25 years. In June, US First Lady Jill Biden announced a five-year commitment to Gavi, an international organisation that works to expand access to vaccines and that will support the effort, of over \$1.58 billion.

Australia has set a goal to eliminate cervical cancer by 2035, potentially becoming the first country to do so. It is also leading efforts to reduce the disease within the region.

The Quad Cancer Initiative, led by US Ambassador to Australia Caroline Kennedy, will build on Australia's progress in combating cervical cancer. In September 2022, Biden discussed the initiative at the John F. Kennedy

Presidential Library in Boston, marking the 60th anniversary of Kennedy's historic "moonshot" speech on space exploration.

In the Union Budget 2024, Finance Nirmala Minister Sitharaman encouraged vaccination for girls aged between 9 and 14 years for the prevention of cervical cancer.

According to the National Cancer Institute, clinical trials are the way new cancer prevention, screening, and treatment approaches are evaluated, and they are a fundamental part of how cancer drugs and devices are developed

and brought to patients. HOW DOES INDIA STAND TO GAIN FROM THE CANCER MOONSHOT PROGRAMME?

While India is in the midst of an increasing epidemic of noncommunicable diseases, the cancer moonshot initiative will help advance cancer prevention, early detection and treatment through the US-India Cancer Dialogue.

Non-communicable diseases, including cancer, cause 63% of all deaths in India. By 2025, cancer cases in the

country are projected to rise by nearly 13% compared to 2020. Besides this, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women in India. In August, the US Embassy in New Delhi hosted the first US-India Cancer Moonshot Dialogue, emphasising research collaboration and innovation. US Ambassador Eric Garcetti highlighted the partnership's significance in promoting a healthier future through shared values and joint action.

According to a statement from the US Embassy, the US-India Cancer Moonshot Dialogue aims to advance collaboration on AI-driven innovation for cancer care, novel therapies such as vaccines and immunotherapy, and costeffective, equitable treatment options.

It will also focus on precision medicine, cancer genomics, regulatory frameworks for clinical trials, and

capacity building.
The sixth Quad Summit brings together India, Australia, Japan and the United States. PM Modi will join US President Joe Biden, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida today.

India will be hosting the next Quad



Atul Sharma



Birth Date 22 th Sep

Born on 22 th 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. WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY.











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Aries

(March 21 - April 19)

Sep 22th 2024: Take care of health and set things in order. Today, your parents may become worried because of your extravagant lifestyle and spending, and therefore you may have to fall prey to their anger. Health of your spouse may cause worry and need some medical attention.



(June21 - July 22)

Sep 22th 2024: You might feel slightly run-down mentally and physically- A little like a perfume today. Those who were rest and nutritious food will go a long way in lifting your energy. Your efforts to save money can fail today. Although you do not have to worry about it, as the situation will soon improve.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Sep 22th 2024: A day when smile will Sep 22th 2024: Health remains good. perpetually be on your face and strangers will seem familiar. If you wish to lead a smooth life and maintain a stable standard of living, then you need to remain attentive today regarding your finances. You will be only change your mood but also help in able to clear all outstanding family debts.



Labricorn

Sep 22th 2024: Spend some time with Sep 22th 2024: You would get relief close friends in order to relax. At the from the tensions and strains of life which close friends in order to relax. At the beginning of the day, you may suffer from any financial loss, which can spoil the whole day. Great day to pamper yourself and do things that you enjoy the most.



lautus

(April 20 - May 20)

Sep 22th 2024: Today you will have ample of the time to do things to improve your health and looks You know the importance of money very well, which is why the money you save today will major difficulty.



(July 23 - Aug 22)

unnecessarily blowing their money till now should control their actions from today and start saving up. Social activity in the evening will turn out to be much better than you expected.



Scorpio

Today will prove to be economically better than the rest of the days and you will earn enough money. Very good day to go on a picnic with your wife. It will not sorting out your misunderstandings.



Aquarius

you have been experiencing for long. It is right time to change your life style to permanently keep them a bay. You need encourage them to see your dream



bemini (May 21 - June 20)

Sep 22th 2024: Share the family problems with your wife. Spend some amount of time for each other to rediscover and reaffirm yourself as a loving nurturant couple. Your children too will catch the vibrations of joys and peace harmony at



(Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Sep 22th 2024: Your childlike nature will surface and you will be in a playful mood. There is a possibility of money loss today, hence you are required to remain alert while making transactions or signing any document. Experience pious and pure



Saqittarius

Sep 22th 2024: You will remain very active and agile today. Your health will fully support you today. Not a very beneficial day- so check your money situation and limit your expenses. You would meet the person who loves you more than his life.



Pisces

Sep 22th 2024: Mould your thoughts to some positive thinking as you fight the fearsome monster of fear otherwise you would become the passive and unrelenting victim of this arch demon. Don't reveal information that is personal and confidential.

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CM Mann expressed grief over the death of MLA Kunwar Vijay Pratap's wife

№THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann today expressed grief over the tragic and untimely demise of Madhumita, wife of Amritsar North MLA Kunwar Vijay Pratap, who succumbed to a briefillness. She was 53 years old and leaves behind a husband and two daughters.

In a condolence message, the Chief Minister said he was deeply saddened to learn of the demise of Madhumita ji, who was the source of strength for her family and the inspiration



for her husband's success. Pb CM said that this is a great loss for the society and especially for the

family and added that Madhumita ji was a pious soul, who fully supported her husband Kunwar Vijay Pratap to render exemplary service to humanity as a police officer and now as an elected representative of the people.

The Aman Sandesh Times

Expressing his heartfelt condolences to the family, the Chief Minister prayed to the almighty to give eternal abode to the departed soul at his feet and give strength to the family members and relatives to bear the irreparable loss in this hour of grief.

People will vote on the issues of education & healthcare: MLA Kulwant Singh and Dr. Sushil Gupta

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Haryana's Panchkula honest and senior Chartered Accountant, Prem Garg, is not only conducting a door-to-door campaign himself, but a key feature of his election campaign is his team, who meet or call at least twenty people daily to inform them about his spotless image.

Starting from the market in Sector 5, Prem Garg spent the entire day engaged in door-to-door meetings, where he received overwhelming support. In the evening, the state president Sushil Gupta



and MLA Kulwant Singh, MLA Kuljit Randhawa and Vidhan Sabha Incharge Surinder Rathi inaugurated the party office in Sector 17, Panchkula. On this occasion, Aam Aadmi Party Haryana's state president,

Sushil Gupta, Kulwant MLA Singh shared that Kejriwal's policies development and clean politics convinced the people Haryana, Delhi following Punjab, and it's that time

for change. Particularly in Panchkula, residents from both urban and rural areas are leaving no stone unturned in supporting an intellectual candidate with a clean image like Prem Garg.

Abolition of reservation is in DNA of Congress - Naib Singh Saini

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini said that abolition of reservation is in the DNA of Congress. They do not want the development of the poor, they are working to crush the constitution. Congress has always used Dalits as its vote bank.



Babasaheb Ambedkar. Now

they are mentally Kumari torturing she Selja, humiliated. She is a great leader so what is the problem if she has to become the Chief Minister. Congress always suppressed coming from dalit community.

Residents of Jalvayu tower demands security and safety

◆THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali: The incidents of theft are increasing day by day in Jalvayu Tower, the biggest housing society located in Sector 125 New Sunny Enclave. Despite tight security, the courage of the thieves has increased. The society management is also completely silent about the increasing incidents of theft. Actually, there is no committee in the society and EO Kharar has been appointed as its manager by the SDM. Some people of the society have been assigned different responsibilities by

Recently, a thief easily stole a bicycle parked outside a house on the third floor in R Block through the lift and escaped. Apart from this, it is known that an Activa scooter and many other children's bicycles and car batteries have also been stolen from the society. After the theft, when the victim Manu



Sharma reached the society office with a complaint, the security in-charge appointed by the manager, Narinder Verma, refused to show her the CCTV footage and sent her back saying that if you cooperate, we are finding out. Manu Sharma said that he contacted them for three consecutive days but no action was taken and neither was the CCTV footage shown. After this, he also complained to the police and the manager. After which the manager removed Narinder Verma from his post and appointed a new security in-charge. Sukhwinder

Singh has now been appointed in his place.

But no clue has been found about the thief vet. The victim said that no action has been taken even on the complaint given by her to the police. Society residents

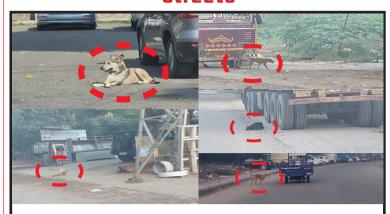
say that there are about 1300 flats in the society and they deposit money every month as maintenance. There are about 350 cameras installed in the society, out of which only 150 cameras are working and due to many cameras in parking lots and lifts not working, the incidents of theft are increasing.

This is also the result of lax work by the security personnel. Residents demanded that the administration should pay attention to avoid any major incident may occur in the society.

PIC OF THE DAY

WHO CARES...?

Stray dogs Continue to Rule the Streets



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali: India has the highest number of stray dog attacks in the world, along with the highest cases of rabies deaths. Several incidents of stray dog attacks have led to a public outrage against stray dogs, who have now been vilified as a menace and a threat to public safety. Due to the slow pace of implementation of the animal birth control programme for stray dogs in the city, their population has doubled in the last five years posing a threat to citizens, These Cows that were earlier found in large numbers near meat stalls. garbage dumps, and in residential areas.

Nowadays they are seen across the city and in public places in large numbers. Citizens wanted the programme to be expedited by increasing the mumber of doctors, and extending the facilities at the post operative centre. Residents claim that they have been spotting stray puppies in the area. It is concerning Some dogs chased children on their way to school. We are terrified after heanug incidents of dog bites and attacks in the city," residents said. As stray dog attacks increase, the Centre has decided to reach out to the States, local self-governments (LSGs) and Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) on implementing the new set of Animal Birth Control Rules prepared by the Ministry of Animal Husbandry recently. Notified on March 10 last year, the Rules put the onus of maintaining and controlling the population of stray dogs on LSGs and RWAS. Talking to sources Secretary of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), S.K. Dutta, said the

Rules of 2001, based on the Prevention of Cruelties to Animals Act, 1960, were amended to "adopt humane procedure for controlling stray animal population through open methods of surgeries and operations. After reviewing these Rules the Ministry, in consultation with AWBI revised these Rules and notified it of March 10, 2023, he said. The Ministry has requested all Chief Secretaries and State government departments to ensure proper implementation of these nev rules. Sources added that nature of the dogs should be considered while dealing with complaints about man-anima conflict 'No court allows relocation o dogs. Dog is a territorial animal. They cannot be kept in closed confinement and they will be more furious if we do so. Animal welfare activists who go for feeding dogs face harassmen at some places. So, we have framed set of actions to be followed by RWAs and LSGs. It is elaborated in the new set of rules," he said. The new Rules prescribe that Animal Birth Contro (ABC) programmes for sterilisation and immunisation of stray dogs are to be camed out by LSGs. The Ministry is also concerned about complaints of cruelty involved in carrying our ABC programmes. "By effective implementation of these Rules, ABC can be conducted by local bodies which will help in reducing stray dog population while addressing anima welfare issues. Dr. Dutta said if garbage is managed at the source, stray animals can also be managed.

But Who Cares??

Serving patients is the noblest service-DC

▼THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Jalandhar: Divisional Commissioner Mr. Pradeep Sabharwal said that serving patients is the noblest service, and Shri Satya Sai Seva organisation's contribution in this field is commendable. He was visiting the government hospital in Jalandhar along with Mr. Nimesh Pandya, All India President of Shri Satya Sai Seva organisation. During the visit, he inspected the kitchen and pharmacy and also served breakfast and porridge to the

The Divisional Commissioner stated that our society needs such institutions that come forward for the welfare of humanity to assist those in need. He mentioned that his father, Mr. Prem Pal Sabharwal, served in Civil Hospital and ESI for nearly 40 years and now he too is taking special steps for the convenience of the patients. He informed that Shri Satya Sai Seva organisation is taking special measures for patients' welfare in almost every district of

Inspecting the food quality, Mr. Sabharwal noted that the organization is running a kitchen in the Civil Hospital where around 300 patients and their attendants are provided free breakfast, porridge, and other meals by volunteers.

While reviewing the free medicines being provided to patients, the Divisional Commissioner mentioned that the organization is also running a pharmacy in the government hospital, where free medicines (including Erthoprotine for kidney patients and general medicines for others), as well as free medicines and glasses for eye patients, are provided. He also mentioned that two free ambulances are being operated by the organization in Jalandhar and Patti for the needy, and it also handles the cremation of unclaimed bodies. The organization has also provided an advanced machine worth Rs. 3.25 lakh for free blood tests in Civil Hospital Jalandhar. Additionally, the organization has provided AC labs, AC blood banks, and AC operation theaters, along with fans and water coolers for the hospital.

Divisional Commissioner added that under the leadership of Mr. Nimesh



Pandya, the organization has adopted 108 villages in the Majha border area, where they are conducting free medical camps and taking initiatives in education and sports for children. The organization runs special classes for children in these villages through its affiliated Bal Vikas Sanstha, and in these classes, children are inspired to become responsible citizens with moral values. Additionally, children are being introduced to the sport of Kabaddi, and competitions are organized at the village and block levels.

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Nimesh Pandya, All India President of Shri Satya Sai Seva organisation, National Coordinator Shri Koteswar Rao, Zonal President Dr. Sanjay Agarwal, and other distinguished personalities of the organization are on a two-day visit to Punjab. During this visit, Mr. Nimesh Pandya also held a state-level conference at the village Nadala, where the performance of district presidents of Puniah was reviewed to ensure that the service to humanity is carried out more diligently.

Prominent amongst those present were SDM Jai Inder Singh, Civil Surgeon Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Secretary District Red Cross Society Inderpal Singh, Anil Sharma, Avinash Sharma, Rajinder Bhalla, Vijay Mahajan, Sanjeev Chadha, Akash Malhotra, Ram Sewak, Ramu, Vikas Kapoor, Jeeti Sahga and several other notable figures.

Every Vote Strengthens Democracy: Hry CEO

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Haryana Chief Electoral Officer, Pankaj Agarwal said that the Election Commission of India, along with the Chief Electoral Officer's office, has implemented special measures to increase the voting percentage in the 15th Haryana Legislative Assembly General Election on October 5, compared to the last election.

Voters are being encouraged to cast their votes through various SVEEP activities, including slogan writing, painting, street plays, and poster making.

Election Conversations in Chaupals Expected to Increase Percentage

The Chief Electoral Officer further said that the voters of Haryana are politically aware. In both Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, the voting percentage here has consistently been higher than other states.

In the last Assembly elections, the voter turnout was 68.31 percent. To further increase participation this time, it is the duty and right of every citizen, along with the Commission, to take part in the "Festival of Democracy - Pride of the State" during the Haryana Assembly Elections 2024 by casting their valuable vote, as every vote contributes to a higher turnout.

Agarwal further said that a team of senior officials from the Election Commission of India recently visited Haryana to review preparations for the Assembly elections. The team asked the officials to focus on increasing the voting percentage as much as possible.

The voters of Haryana are already politically aware, having discussions about the elections actively in 'Chaupals' and at 'Khat-Mudhas'. Therefore, there is no reason why the voting percentage cannot increase in Haryana, he added.

He said that yesterday the Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officers, Superintendents of Police and other officers and employees involved in the election process including the Chief Electoral Officer's



office have assured the Election Commission officials that effort shall be made to increase the voting percentage by 5 percent as compared to the last Assembly elections.

Every vote cast by the citizens is not just a mark on a finger but a new ray of hope for a strong democracy, said Mr. Agarwal.

He said that aware voters turn the activities run under the SVEEP initiative into a campaign to increase voter turnout and play an important role in enhancing participation.

To increase the voting percentage in the Assembly General Elections, all districts in the state are actively engaged in promoting awareness campaigns, with significant participation educational institutions and various departments.

Besides, mehndi and painting competitions organized by students from schools and colleges, rallies are being taken out in villages to encourage voters to increase participation in the elections. These efforts are playing an important role

in raising voter awareness.

SVEEP Campaigns Highlight the Vital Importance of Every Vote

Agarwal said that the administration is actively and effectively fulfilling its responsibility on social media platforms to promote voter awareness and encourage participation in the electoral process.

The significance of each vote is being communicated to voters through various SVEEP campaigns. The citizens of the state should participate enthusiastically in the great festival of democracy on voting day i.e

PM Modi to interact with party workers on Sept 26 ahead of Hry polls

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Ahead of the Haryana Assembly polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday announced the 'Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot' programme, where he will interact with Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) workers, volunteers, and supporters from Haryana.

He will interact with the party workers on September 26 at around 12.30 through NAMO app, PM Modi said in a post X. He further shared a link on X and called for questions and suggestions from the supporters ahead of the interactive session 'Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot'.

"Our workers, volunteers, and supporters have pledged to



make the lotus bloom at every

booth in the Haryana assembly elections. We will have the privilege of interacting with them in the program 'Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot' on September 26 at around 12.30 pm through the Namo app. Do send your questions and suggestions," read PM Modi's post.

Voting for 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.

AAP demands funds to clear private hospitals' dues

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: Union Health Jagat Prakash Minister Nadda hit out at the Punjab government and asked it to clear dues to private hospitals under the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

"I urge Shri @BhagwantMann to clear the dues of the hospitals as soon as possible, for there are many families, especially our hardworking farmers, benefitting under Ayushman Bharat programme", Nadda posted on

"Instead of cheering on the party unit in Delhi, it would suit Bhagwant Mann to concentrate on the dwindling state of affairs in Punjab", the post added.

Stressing that the Ayushman Bharat scheme was launched to help financially backward ensuring medical cover, Nadda claimed



"Due to the mismanagement of the Bhagwant Mann government in Punjab, people have lost access to free healthcare".

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)led Punjab government has been struggling financially since 2023, due to the rising debt and falling revenue clubbed with the rising cost of subsidies.

The AAP has reacted to the Union minister's attack, hitting back at him and demanding funds from the Centre.

A statement by the party said "JP Nadda should know that the Centre has held back Punjab's National Health Mission funds valued at Rs 800 crore for the last two years. We demand from Mr Nadda that he release Rs 8,000 crore under various schemes that the Centre owes to

Punjab. If you care so much about the people of Punjab, why have you held back the money".

Notably, Punjab's Private Hospital and Nursing Home Association (PHANA) has put a stop to cashless treatment under the government's health insurance schemes like the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. PHANA said that private

hospitals in Punjab will only render treatment under the government scheme only after the state clears Rs 600 crore as

Laying of RCC pipeline approved for smooth disposal of storm water

₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: The Finance and Contract Committee of Municipal Corporation Chandigarh approved various developmental agenda items including laying the RCC pipeline from house no. 3001 to tail end at Patiala Ki Rao for smooth disposal of stormwater during heavy rainfall in Maloya Colony, Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 41.39 Lacs.

The meeting of F&CC was held here today under the Chairmanship of Kuldeep Kumar, Mayor and attended by Vinay Pratap Singh, IAS, Commissioner and other members of the committee namely Jaswinder Kaur, Maheshinder Singh Siddhu, Lakhbir Singh, Taruna Mehta and other senior officers of MCC.

The members of committee discussed other various important agenda items in detail and accorded approval for the following:

The committee discussed the agenda item regarding extension of Animal Birth Control (ABC) centres at sector 38 West and Raipur Kalan, Chandigarh and recommended the same for final decision in the ensuing General House Meeting.

The committee discussed the agenda item for renewal license (agreement) Chandigarh washerman cooperative (Regd.) workshop industrial society Ltd., Sector 15-D, Chandigarh and recommended the same for final decision and preparing one policy for all the Dhobighats in the coming General

House meeting. ·The F&CC recommended the agenda item for final decision regarding additional four monkey deterrent personnel (MTW) staff to control the monkey menace in Chandigarh.



The committee discussed agenda item regarding reducing the rent of Circus Ground, Sector 17, Chandigarh and recommended the same for the ensuing General House meeting.

·The Committee discussed and accorded approval to the celebration of 37th Chrysanthemum show-2024. Repairing/Construction of road

gullies and replacing of chocked storm water drainage lines at various places before providing and fixing of interlocking paver Complex, Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.14 Lacs. ·Up-gradation of Market at Sector 7 (Inner Market), Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 48.06 Lacs.

Providing chair & Podium in Community Centre at Milk colony & village Ďhanas, Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.66 Lacs. ·Augmentation of Street Light on

Roads near plot no. 23, Industrial Area, Phase-1, Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 35.83 Lacs. Up-gradation of Market at Sector 8 (Inner market), Chandigarh at an

estimated cost of Rs. 37.70 Lacs.

·Re-laying of concrete track after demolishing existing damaged track in Green Belt, Sector 21 C&D and demolishing of existing paver track and construction of cement concrete walking track in park front of H.No.1125, Sector 19, Chandigarh at an estimated cost of Rs. 20.66 Lacs.

Meenakshi Dahiya HCS officer arrested, sent to judicial custody

₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested HCS Meenakshi Dahiya late on Friday night. Following her arrest, the duty magistrate in Panchkula placed Dahiya in judicial custody.

This action occurred shortly after the Punjab and Haryana High Court denied her application.

The ACB's arrest of Meenakshi Dahiya is linked to allegations of bribery involving an officer from the fisheries department



in Panchkula.

She was booked for extortion and under the Prevention of Corruption Act by the AntiCorruption Bureau (ACB) on May 29, Dahiya allegedly demanded Rs 1 lakh on a WhatsApp call from District Fisheries Officer Rajan Khora.

On the complaint of District Fisheries Officer Rajan Khora, the ACB laid a trap and arrested Dahiya's peon Satyender Singh for taking a bribe of Rs 1 lakh on May

29. Her stenographer Joginder Singh was also arrested.

Smuggling module busted by Rural police

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh: DGP Punjab Police tweeted that in an intelligence operation, Amritsar Rural Police busted a cross-border smuggling module by arresting two suspects and recovering 4 Glock-26 pistols.

He said that the accused were in contact with a Pakistanbased smuggler, who was



as been pushing huge consignments of weapons and drugs into Indian rritory through drones and other means. Investigation on-going to establish backward & forward linkage

sending large consignments of weapons and narcotics into Indian territory through drones



and other means. He further said that more investigation is being done in this regard.

Alia Bhatt Reveals Karan Johar Predicted that She will Marry Ranbir Kapoor: "He Has a Sixth Sense"

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: The new season of The Great Indian Kapil Show is all set to release on Netflix. Ahead of the episode's release, the makers shared a new promo video featuring Alia Bhatt and Karan Johar. In the clip Alia Bhatt reveals that the filmmaker knew that she and Ranbir Kapoor would end up marrying the moment they became friends. Alia says in the clip, "Let me tell you something about Karan. I don't know if he actually does something but he has a sixth sense. So he predicts, 'I think they will be a good couple'. So when Ranbir and befriended each other, he said..." Karan Johar teased Alia and said, "Befriended each other?"

The actress continued..."He very clearly told me, Alia this is it." KJo added, "Yes, I



knew. I knew when she started becoming a friend that this relationship will culminate into a wedding and this will be the rest of her life."

The makers, sharing a new promo from the show on social media, wrote, "KJo manifested Ralia. Karan Johar manifested Ralia for real. Watch The Great Indian Kapil Show Season 2 kal se, har Funnyvaar, 8 pm,

only on Netflix."

Ranbir Kapoor married his Brahmastra co-star Alia Bhatt in April 2022 at their house Vastu, in front of a few family members and close friends. The star couple had been dating for over 5 years before getting married. Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor welcomed their first child, a baby daughter on November 6 the same year.

Audiences have had enough, action movies need an interval

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chennai : Guns. Swords. Machetes.

If these words make you squirm and raise your eyebrows, you might be experiencing action fatigue. The last five years in Indian cinema have been dominated by films heavy on action and violence. While 2022 and 2023 saw action films like RRR, Pathaan, Animal, Leo, and Jailer succeed, 2024 has been a contrasting story, with only a few exceptions.

What's causing the action fatigue? There's been a unanimous chatter across the country, with people wanting to watch light-hearted comedy films. This year, movies like Stree 2, Madgaon Express, Aranmanai 4, and Tillu Square, have received rave reviews.

received rave reviews. FILMS AND CHANGING TRENDS

Every decade, Indian cinema undergoes a shift where a particular genre is maximised. In Tamil cinema, the 2010s saw a surge of horror comedies, thanks to Raghava Lawrence's Kanchana and Sundar C's Aranmanai films.

In Malayalam cinema, the release of Mohanlal's Drishyam led to a wave of similar films. Following the monumental success of the Kannada film KGF, gangster films have been on the rise. Telugu cinema is known for its mass masala entertainers, which have remained in vogue for decades.

Dhanush and Nithya Menen-starrer

Dhanush and Nithya Menen-starrer Thiruchitrambalam, which released in 2022, won two National Film Awards. Tamil director Mithran Jawahar said,

Tamil director Mithran Jawahar said, "From my experience as a director, the trend keeps changing every decade. When Ajith Kumar's Kadhal Kottai was released in 1996, many romantic films of the same genre found their audience. Similarly, people feel attracted to action, horror and other genres on and off," he said.

The filmmaker said that he was initially sceptical of Thiruchitrambalam, a lighthearted romantic film. "It was the time when films like Yash's KGF and Allu Arjun's Pushpa: The Rise were ruling the roost. While Dhanush and I were confident, there was not much expectation initially. We piqued everyone's curiosity with the trailer. I was worried if people would enjoy a light-hearted film. When I went to Rohini theatre in Chennai on Day 1, I was confused if the audience would like it. Then, I went to Kamala Theatre in Chennai. I understood that we shouldn't underestimate the audience. I felt that the audience felt a respite watching a film that is enjoyed by the family audience," he explained

explained. NEED FOR ACTORS TO REINVENT THEMSELVES

The Covid-19 pandemic changed the way people consume films. It widened the horizon for the viewers, by exposing them to world cinema, including Korean and Japanese, among other languages. As we see a shift in the way a product is being consumed, it is imperative that we need to reinvent it.

Ruban Mathivanan, Managing Director of Chennai's GK Cinemas, agreed that people were developing an aversion towards action and violent films.

"After the Covid-19 pandemic, theatres are bombarded with action, thriller and gangster films almost every week. While this genre appeals to the youth population,



it also stops the family audience from coming in. We need to have a wide variety," he told India Today Digital.

Trade analyst Ramesh Bala mentioned that the fatigue is more in the North than in the South. "Actors like Akshay Kumar, Ajay Devgn, John Abraham and Tiger Shroff built their entire career doing full-fledged action films. What was once their USP has now become repetitive for the audience. It's high time that these stars think about reinventing themselves," he remarked.

STAR ACTORS AND THE IMAGE THAT COMES WITH THEM

Viewers are so used to seeing actors in certain kinds of roles. Take, for example, Superstar Rajinikanth. When he does mass entertainers, they get overwhelming reviews despite their shortcomings, but when there's a slight deviation from his genre of films, the films are met with mixed reviews. Pa Ranjith's Kabali was one such film. Despite being a box office winner, it failed to meet everyone's expectations.

expectations.

Director Mithran Jawahar shared his thoughts regarding the same and said, "Apart from Dhanush, I don't think I would have got anyone to agree with Thiruchitrambalam's script. Dhanush believed in me. Since he had known me for years, he expressed his confidence. Sun Pictures, the production house, too believed in me. If Dhanush had said no, I would have been able to do the film with a newcomer probably."

newcomer, probably."
2024 saw Akshay Kumar-Tiger Shroff's Bade Miyan Chote Miyan, Sidharth Malhotra's Yodha and several other action films. However, they failed to rake in the moolah.

Ramesh Bala mentioned that this is becoming a problem in Bollywood. "South film industries are pioneers of mass masala entertainers. Here, action and violence are part of a story which is a mix of different genres. However, in Bollywood, these high-octane action films are a separate genre. Since it's become repetitive, they fail to impress the audience."

Ruban felt that mixing up genres or having an exciting story that stays true to the action genre has high chances of working in theatres.

working in theatres.
"In 2024, Thalapathy Vijay's GOAT, which is an action film, is the biggest hit. There are two reasons for this - Vijay's star power and family sentiments in both halves of the film. Similarly, the Hindi film Kill did reasonably well in the South. Malayalam film Manjummel Boys and Dhanush's Raayan stuck to their genres and made a mark for themselves, while Nani's Saripodhaa Sanivaaram is a perfectly crafted masala entertainer," he

IND vs BAN: Yashasvi Jaiswal breaks Sunil Gavaskar's 51-year-old Test record

◆THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Young Indian opener Yashasvi Jaiswal has added yet another feather to his cap by breaking a long-standing record held by the legendary Sunil Gavaskar in the ongoing Chennai Test against Bangladesh. Jaiswal, who is playing in his 10th Test match, now holds the record for the most runs by an Indian batter in their first 10 Test matches, overtaking Gavaskar's tally of 978

Jaiswal's total has reached 1,094 runs, cementing his place in the history books during the first Test match against Bangladesh at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. While he managed only 10 runs in the second innings after a well-crafted 56 in the first, his performance was enough to break Gavaskar's 51-year-old record, which had stood since 1973.

Jaiswal's exceptional run tally places him fourth on the all-time list for most runs after 10 Tests, with only Don Bradman (Australia), Everton Weekes (West Indies), and George Headley (West Indies) ahead of him. MOST RUNS AFTER FIRST 10 TESTS

Don Bradman (Australia) - 1,446



Everton Weekes (West Indies) - 1,125

George Headley (West Indies) - 1,102 runs

Yashasvi Jaiswal (India) - 1,094 runs Mark Taylor (Australia) - 1,088 runs Jaiswal has been a standout performer for India in 2024, accumulating 806 runs in 13 innings this year alone. His remarkable consistency with the bat has made him India's top run-scorer across formats in international cricket for 2024.

In this Test, he demonstrated his resilience on Day 1, playing a crucial role with a well-constructed

56 when India's star batsmen-Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, and Shubman Gill-failed to make significant contributions. Jaiswal's performance solidifies his position in India's Test team, with an astounding career average of 67.16, supported by two centuries and four half-centuries.

With 1,094 Test runs, Jaiswal is also closing in on India's top spot in the ICC Test rankings, currently held by Rohit Sharma. Jaiswal's rapid rise in international cricket is being closely watched, as the youngster continues to push boundaries and break records on t.

It's story

The Rabbit and the Partridge

A partridge could not find food near its home, so it travelled far away to some cornfields. It stayed there for a few days

before returning home. Meanwhile, a rabbit had found the empty nest and made itself at home. When the partridge returned, they both fought over whose house it was. The other animals suggested



going to a judge. They found a praying cat by the river and decided to ask for help. Seeing how the cat was praying, they trusted it. The cat heard them both out but asked them to come closer as he couldn't hear well. When they got closer, the cat killed and ate them both.



JPC on Waqf Bill to hold meetings across 5 states from September 26

◆THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 is set to hold informal discussions across five states between September 26 and October 1, engaging various stakeholders in an effort to refine the proposed changes to the Waqf Act. This Act governs the management

This Act governs the management of registered Waqf properties throughout the country.

The first consultation will take place in Mumbai on September 26, bringing together representatives from the Maharashtra Government, the Ministry of Minority Affairs, and the Maharashtra Waqf Board.

This initial meeting will pave the way for subsequent consultations by focussing on addressing critical issues such as transparency, efficiency, and empowerment in the management of Waqf properties.

The following day, September 27, the JPC will hold discussions in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Stakeholders in attendance will include representatives from the Gujarat Government, the Gujarat Waqf



Board, and other relevant parties. In addition to government officials, legal professionals from the Bar Council, Lawyers Associations, and Mutawalli Associations will share their insights on how the proposed reforms might affect the management of Waqf properties in the state.

On September 28, the JPC will move to Hyderabad, which is home to several prominent Waqf properties in India.

The discussions in Hyderabad will involve participants from the Waqf Boards of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, as well as the State Minority Commissions from both states. Additionally, the Chhattisgarh

Waqf Board will take part in these discussions. Following this, the JPC will head to Chennai, Tamil Nadu, for consultations on

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, for consultations on September 30 and then to Bengaluru, Karnataka, for discussions on October 1.

Across these

meetings, key aspects of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 will be examined, including the digitisation of records, more rigorous auditing processes, enhanced legal measures for dealing with encroachments, and the decentralisation of Waqf management.

The JPC's nationwide consultations are aimed at gathering feedback from government officials, legal experts, Waqf Board members, and community representatives from the five states, as well as Union Territories, to ensure a comprehensive approach to reforming the Waqf Act.

SEBI's new rule: Mutual fund houses can now trade credit default swaps

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has allowed mutual fund houses to engage in the buying and selling of Credit Default Swaps (CDS). This decision is geared towards enhancing liquidity in the corporate bond market. Previously, mutual funds were limited to participating in Credit Default Swap (CDS) transactions solely as buyers. This restriction was in place primarily to mitigate credit risks associated with corporate bonds held in fixed maturity plans (FMPs) lasting over one year.

Credit Default Swaps (CDS) can be likened to insurance contracts within the market realm, serving as a safeguard against a borrower's default. These financial instruments play a crucial role in helping mutual funds effectively navigate and mitigate risks associated with the debt securities they have in their portfolios. In securing a CDS, a mutual fund commits to paying a premium to the seller in return for financial protection should a designated bond (referred to as the reference entity) fail to meet its financial obligations.

In the recent circular issued on September 20, Sebi announced that mutual funds will now have the liberty to also act as sellers in CDS transactions. This expanded role in CDS transactions will serve as an additional investment avenue for mutual funds, broadening their portfolios and strategies.

The Sebi noted that the Reserve Bank of India in a circular in February 2022 stated that the framework for the Credit Default Swap (CDS) market has been revised to promote development. This revision includes the expansion of the base of protection sellers to major non-bank regulated entities, such as mutual funds. Top points:

1. Mutual Fund Schemes as buyer of CDS
a. Schemes may buy CDS only for the purpose of hedging their credit risk on debt securities they hold in various schemes. The exposure of CDS shall not exceed respective debt security exposure, and such exposure may not be added to gross exposure of the scheme.

b. In case the protected debt security is sold, schemes shall ensure that the respective CDS position is closed within fifteen working days of selling the above protected debt security.

c. The exposure of any protected debt security, for determining single issuer, group, sectoral limits and credit risk for various purposes including Risk-o-meter and Potential Risk Class (PRC) matrix of MF schemes, shall be considered as exposure to either issuer of debt security (reference entity) or seller of CDS, whichever has higher credit rating (lowest long term rating of instruments of the seller of CDS shall be considered for comparison).

d. The exposure shall form part of overall single issuer limits for the reference entity or seller of CDS, whichever is applicable. In case of same rating for reference entity and seller of CDS, the exposure shall then be considered on reference



entity and not on seller of CDS.

e. MF schemes shall buy CDS only from such sellers that have instruments with lowest long-term rating of investment grade and above. 12.28.5. Schemes may buy CDS for investment grade and existing below investment grade debt securities in the portfolio, if any.

2. Mutual Fund Schemes as seller of CDS a. The selling of Credit Default Swaps (CDS) by Mutual Fund Schemes is permissible under certain conditions. Specifically, MF Schemes are allowed to sell CDS only within the scope of investing in synthetic debt securities. This means that they may sell CDS on a reference obligation that is backed by Cash, Government Securities (G-Sec), or Treasury Bills. It is important to note that Overnight and Liquid schemes are prohibited from selling CDS contracts. b. Cash, G-Sec and T-bills can act as cover.

Government securities with maturity within +/- 6 months of the maturity of respective debt security (reference obligation) shall act as cover and such cover may be used for maintaining margin requirements on respective CDS. c. The required amount of cover shall be enough to ensure that notional amount does not exceed the value of cover kept, which shall be calculated as follows:
Notional amount in CDS sell contract (+) \square Buffer, for price fluctuations on government securities, kept as cover: The buffer shall be calculated to address interest rate risk on government securities.
d. The buffer shall be at least equal to three times the daily haircut applicable for the said G-sec instrument in case of repo transactions on Clearing Corporation of India Limited. The value of cover kept shall be reviewed on a daily basis.

e. The cover shall be earmarked to CDS sell position and can be used for maintaining margin requirements on respective CDS. However, investment in aforesaid instruments as cover shall not be considered as part of Liquidity Ratio

be considered as part of Liquidity Ratio – Redemption at Risk (LR-RaR) and Liquidity Ratio - Conditional Redemption at Risk (LR-CRaR) eligible instruments and shall not be sold or used for any other purpose till CDS sell position is open.

and shall not be sold or used for any other purpose till CDS sell position is open.

f. The exposure of synthetic debt security (notional amount) shall be considered in respective single issuer, group issuer and sectoral limits. Such exposure to the issuer, group and sector of the issuer shall be equal to the notional amount.

g. The value of cover kept shall be reviewed on a daily basis.

Fixed calendar for workplaces: Shashi Tharoor speaks to EY worker's father

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor today shared the "heartrending" conversation he had with the father of the Ernst and Young employee who died allegedly due to work pressure and said he would propose legislation dealing with "inhumanity" in workplaces in the next session of Parliament. In a post on X, Tharoor said Sibi Joseph, the father of Anna Sebastian

In a post on X, Tharoor said Sibi Joseph, the father of Anna Sebastian Perayil, suggested to him to propose legislation in Parliament for a fixed calendar to regulate working hours across all workplaces.

"He suggested, and I agreed, that I raise the issue of legislating, through Parliament, a fixed calendar for all workplaces, whether in the private sector or the public, that would not exceed eight hours a day, five days a week," Tharoor tweeted.

Anna Sebastian Perayil, who joined E&Y India in March, died on July 20 after complaining of exhaustion. The incident came to light earlier this week after her mother Anita Augustine's open letter to the



company went viral, in which she alleged that Anna was subjected to "extreme work pressure".

Stressing that "human rights do not stop at the workplace", Tharoor said, "Inhumanity at the workplace must be legislated out of existence with stringent punishment and fines for offenders. Will raise this matter at the first opportunity during the next session of parliament."

The incident triggered widespread outrage on social media, especially over the fact that no one from E&Y attended the funeral of the employee. Ernst and Young India chairperson Rajiv Memani also came under heavy criticism after he denied the claim that "work pressure" was behind the death of the employee.

Taking cognisance of the incident, the Centre has launched a probe into the circumstances that led to the death of Anna Sebastian. "A thorough investigation into the allegations of an unsafe and exploitative work environment is underway," Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlaje said earlier this week.

Digital payment transaction surges to Rs 1.669 lakh crore in First 5 months of FY 2024-25

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: The digital payment transaction volume grew to nearly 19 thousand crore in the Financial Year 2023-24 compared to over 2,000 crore in the Financial Year 2017-18, according to Union Finance Ministry.

The volume of the Unified Payments

The volume of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions also increased by more than 13 thousand



crore from nearly ninety crore

during the same period.

The Ministry further added that UPI transaction value has reached 200 lakh crore rupees in the Financial Year 23-24. It also informed that UPI is currently facilitating live transactions in seven countries.

seven countries. These are UAE, Singapore, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, France, and Mauritius.

Female Student of NIT Patna dies by Suicide. Body Found in Hostel

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Patna: A female student of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Patna was found hanging inside her hostel room on the campus located in Bihta on the outskirts of the Bihar capital, police said on Saturday.

The body of the woman, who hailed from Andhra Pradesh, was found hanging from the ceiling fan of her hostel room. A suicide note was also found at the spot.

"A call was received by the police around 10.15 pm on Friday informing that a female student committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling fan inside her hostel room. Police reached there and found her



body... she was taken to the nearest government hospital, where she was declared brought dead," a police statement said, without identifying the deceased.

"The body has been sent for postmortem examination... the deceased is a resident of Andhra Pradesh... her family members have been informed. A suicide note has also been found at the spot... All scientific evidence is being collected from the spot and further investigation is underway," the statement said.

The exact cause of the incident is not yet known, it added. As the news of the student's death spread, a large number of students of the institute gathered outside the campus and raised slogans against the institute's administration.

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Sti Lanka votes to elect new President

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Millions of Sri Lankans were casting their votes today to select a president who will face the task of bolstering the South Asian country's fragile economic recovery following its worst financial crisis in decades.

More than 17 million of Sri Lanka's 22 million people are eligible to vote in an election that has shaped up to be a close contest between President Ranil Wickremesinghe, main opposition leader Sajith Premadasa and Marxist-leaning challenger Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who led in one recent opinion poll.

Citizens in the capital Colombo lined up early at polling booths, which were guarded by security personnel, as voting began at 7 a.m. (0130 GMT). It was proceeding peacefully across the island nation, according to local media.

Polls close at 4 p.m. (1030 GMT), with counting scheduled to start shortly afterward. The Election Commission is expected to announce the winner. Over 13,000 polling stations were set

up across the country and 250,000 public officials deployed to manage the election, R.M.L. Rathnayake, the head of Sri Lanka's election commission, told

This is the first election since Sri Lanka's economy buckled in 2022 under a severe



foreign exchange shortage, leaving the Indian Ocean island nation unable to pay for imports of essentials including fuel, medicine and cooking gas.

Thousands of protesters marched in Colombo in 2022 and occupied the president's office and residence, forcing then-President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to

flee and later resign.

Buttressed by a \$2.9 billion bailout programme from the International Monetary Fund, Sri Lanka's economy has posted a tentative recovery, but the high cost of living remains a core issue for many voters.

Although inflation cooled to 0.5% last month from a crisis high of 70%, and the economy is forecast to grow in 2024 for the first time in three years, millions

remain mired in poverty and debt, with many pinning hopes of a better future on their next leader.

Whoever wins the election will have to ensure Sri Lanka sticks with the IMF programme until 2027 to get its economy on a stable growth path, reassure markets, attract investors and help a quarter of its people climb out of crisis-caused

poverty.
"Your decision at the polls today will shape the future of our nation, not just for the next five years, but for generations to come," Foreign Minister Ali Sabry posted on X in support of Wickremesinghe. "Use your vote wisely so Sri Lanka can continue its recovery and move forward towards a sustainable and prosperous future."

Sri Lanka's ranked voting system allows voters to cast three preferential votes for their chosen candidates.

If no candidate wins 50% in the first count, there is a second round between the two frontrunners, with the preferential votes of other candidates redistributed, an outcome analysts say is likely given the close nature of the election.

Why Kerala-born businessman's name has come up in Hezbollah pager blasts?

№THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : As thousands of pagers exploded in Lebanon, killing nearly 20 and injuring thousands of Hezbollah members, it created an intel map for Israel. However, it also triggered a wild goose chase as the world tried to understand how Israeli spy agencies manage to rig the pagers with explosives. Surprisingly, in the complex maze of companies and shell firms, the name of a Kerala-born person, who is now a Norwegian citizen, has also emerged.

Telex, a Hungarian media outlet, reported that a Bulgarian company, Norta Global Ltd, was behind the pager's deal. Norta Global was founded by Rinson Jose, a Norwegian citizen, reported The Cradle. A number of Kerala-based media outlets reported on Friday that Rinson Jose was born in Wayanad and moved to Norway after completing his MBA.

Rinson's father, Jose Moothedam, is a tailor and had worked in a tailoring shop at Mananthavady, reported Manorama Online. He is known as 'Tailor Jose' in the locality, it said.

An investigation by Bulgarian security agency SANS said no such shipment passed through the country, thus clearing Rinson Jose and his Norta Global.

It is interesting to know how a person born in Kerala somehow featured on the list of people who might be anyhow

linked to the pagers. HOW MAZE OF COMPANIES PUT LENS ON RINSON JOSE

After thousands of pagers being carried by Hezbollah members exploded, the focus shifted to locating the manufacturer.

This is a complex web of companies straddling continents. One of the reasons for the complexity could be that the Israelis created shell companies to not iust hoodwink Hezbollah, but to make any investigator run in circles.

The pagers that exploded with Hezbollah members carried the brand name of Taiwanese company Gold Apollo.

However, Hsu Ching-Kuang, founder and president of Gold Apollo said that the "product is not ours. It only had our brand on it".

The Gold Apollo president linked the exploding pagers to a Hungary-based company, BAC Consulting. Hsu said that those pagers were made by the Budapest-based company, which had a three-year licensing agreement with his firm.

Sources, however, told Hungarian media outlet Telex that BAC Consulting



was "simply an intermediary in the transaction"

Telex reported that BAC did not carry out any activity, it did not even have an office, and it was only registered at the address.

Most likely BAC Consulting is a shell firm set up by Israel.

"The managing director of BAC Consulting, Cristiana Bársony-Arcidiacono, dealt with a Bulgarian company, Norta Global Ltd, based in

Sofia," reported Telex.
This Bulgaria-based Norta Global is reportedly founded by Rinson Jose, the

person born in Wayanad, Kerala. HOW DID RINSON JOSE COME UNDER SCANNER

"Although on paper it was BAC Consulting that signed the contract with Gold Apollo, Norta Global was actually the one behind the [pagers] deal," Telex reported quoting sources.

It was the Middle East-focused website The Cradle that linked Norta Global to Rinson Jose. Norta Global was founded in 2022 by

Norwegian citizen Rinson Jose, reported The Cradle. It was located at a residential address in Sofia, Bulgaria's capital, and registered with a "headquarters service provider", which hosts 196 other companies, it said.

An investigation by Bulgaria's National Security Agency (SANS) gave a clean chit to Rinson Jose and his Norta Global. SANS had on Thursday launched an investigation into the role of any Bulgarian company in connection with the exploding pagers after the Telex

report.
"Following verifications, it has been indisputably established that communication equipment corresponding to those that exploded on September 17 was imported, exported or manufactured in Bulgaria," SANS said, according to a report in Barron's.

The SANS said there was no record that the pagers entered the European Union legally via Bulgaria, adding that the Bulgarian customs had not registered the products.

Indian embassy official found dead under mysterious circumstances in US

₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: An Indian embassy official died under mysterious circumstances inside the embassy premises in Washington.

According to a statement by the Indian embassy, the incident happened on Wednesday, September 18, and is currently under investigation by the local police and Secret Service.

The probe into the embassy official's death is covering all the angles, including the possibility of suicide, the statement by the Indian embassy

"With deep regret, we wish to confirm



that a member of the Embassy of India passed away in the evening of 18th September 2024. We are in

touch with all relevant agencies and members of the family to ensure the swift transfer of the mortal remains to India," the Indian Embassy said in a statement.

"Additional regarding the deceased are not being released out of concern for the family's privacy. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family

in this time of grief," it said, without giving any further details.

Zelenskyy to visit US next week

₹THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Washington: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will travel to Washington for talks with President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris as he presses for the US to allow Ukraine to use Westernprovided weapons to strike deeper into Russia.

"I'm looking forward to hosting my friend President Zelenskyy of Ukraine next week at the White House," Biden said in message posted on X. "During his visit, I'll reaffirm America's commitment to supporting Ukraine as it defends its freedom and independence.'

The Biden administration still is not convinced that it should give Ukraine the authority to launch long-range missiles deeper into Russia, and US officials say they are seeking more detailed information about how Kyiv would use the weapons and how they fit into the broader strategy for the

US officials said they have asked



Ukraine to spell out more clearly its combat objectives should the administration green light loosening restrictions on long-range weaponry. officials Administration concerned that loosening restrictions would have limited impact and come with great risk. Russian President Vladimir Putin last week warned that Russia would be "at war" with the United States and its NATO allies if they allow Ukraine to use the longrange weapons.

US defense officials have repeatedly argued that the long-range missiles

are limited in number and that Ukraine already is using its own long-range drones to hit targets farther into Russia. Zelenskyy is notably meeting separately with Harris, who is looking to succeed Biden. She last met with the

Ukrainian president in July at an international gathering in Switzerland to discuss the war, shortly before Biden announced he was abandoning his bid for reelection and

endorsed Harris. Former President Donald Trump has repeatedly said that he would move to quickly end the war should he win the November election.

His running mate, Senator JD Vance, said in a recent interview with the "Shawn Ryan Show" that Trump's plan would include establishing a "demilitarized zone," and Ukraine would not reclaim territory that Russia occupies and would agree not to join NATO.

Rare polar bear shows up outside woman's house in Iceland, cops shoot it dead

◆THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

London: A rare polar bear that was spotted outside a cottage in a remote village in Iceland was shot by police after being considered a threat, authorities said. The bear was killed afternoon in the northwest of Iceland after police consulted the Environment Agency, which declined to have the animal relocated, Westfjords Police Chief Helgi Jensson told The Associated Press.

"It's not something we like to do," Jensson said. "In this case, as you can see in the picture, the bear was very close to a summer house. There was an old woman

The owner, who was alone, was frightened and locked herself upstairs as the bear rummaged through her garbage, Jensson said. She contacted her daughter in Reykjavik, the nation's capital, by satellite link, and called for help.

"She stayed there," Jensson said, adding



that other summer residents in the area had gone home. "She knew the danger." Polar bears are not native to Iceland but occasionally come ashore after traveling on ice floes from Greenland, according to Anna Sveinsd3ttir, director of scientific collections at the Icelandic Institute of Natural History. Many icebergs have been spotted off the north coast in the last few

Although attacks by polar bears on humans are extremely rare, a study in

Wildlife Society Bulletin in 2017 said that the loss of sea ice from global warming has led more hungry bears to land, putting them in greater chance of conflicts with humans and leading to a greater risk to both. Of 73 documented attacks by polar bears from 1870 to 2014 in Canada, Greenland, Norway,

Russia, and United States — which killed 20 people and injured 63 — 15 occurred in the final five years of that

period. The bear shot was the first one seen in the country since 2016. Sightings are relatively rare with only 600 recorded in Iceland since the ninth century.

While the bears are a protected species in Iceland and it's forbidden to kill one at sea, they can be killed if they pose a threat to humans or livestock

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Never supplied ghee to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam- Amul



↑THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Amid a row over animal fat being used in the making of Tirupati laddoo, Indian dairy brand Amul issued a clarification, stating that it never supplied ghee (clarified butter) to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD).

The Indian diary brand's clarification came after social media posts claimed Amul had supplied ghee to the temple.

"This is in reference to some social media posts mentioning that Amul Ghee was being supplied to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD). We wish to inform that we have never supplied Amul Ghee to TTD," Amul's statement read. "We also wish to clarify Amul Ghee is made from milk at our state-of-the-art production facilities, which are ISO certified. Amul Ghee is made from high-quality pure milk fat. The milk received at our dairies passes through stringent quality checks, including adulteration detection as specified by FSSAI," the statement added.

A major controversy broke out after Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu claimed that animal fat and other sub-standard ingredients were used in the making of Tirupati laddoo during the previous YS Jagan Mohan Reddy-led government.

The Central government also reacted to the controversy,

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with Union Health Minister JP Nadda seeking a report on the matter from the Andhra Pradesh government and promising suitable action after examining it. Food Minister Pralhad Joshi called for an investigation into the allegations.

JAGAN MOHAN REDDY REJECTS ALLEGATIONS

Meanwhile, Jagan Mohan Reddy rejected the allegations, saying that the adulteration issue was taken up to divert public attention from the Chandra Babu Naidu government's 100 days of rule. Naidu is such a person who will use God also for political gains,

Jagan Mohan Reddy said.
"This is diversion politics. On the one hand, people are expressing their anger at Chandrababu Naidu's 100 days' rule. They are demanding what happened to their "Super six" (poll promises). Under these circumstances, in order to divert the public attention,

this concocted story," he said.
"Is it fair to play with the sentiments of crores of devotees across the world," Reddy asked

All samples, tests and results mentioned in lab test reports as evidence occurred under the NDA government, Reddy asserted.

Further, Reddy said he would write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud over Naidu's alleged undermining conduct towards the Tirumala deity

Congress chief Kharge extends condolences to families of BSF jawans killed in accident

NATHE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge today extended condolences to the families of four Border Security Force (BSF) jawans who lost their lives in a tragic accident that occurred in Jammu and Kashmir's (J&K) Budgam district while they were returning from election duty.

Taking to his social media handle on X, the Congress chief remarked, "Extremely pained to hear about the terrible tragedy in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam, where 4 BSF Jawans have lost heir lives and around 28 Jawans have been injured, as the bus carrying them for election duty, fell into a gorge."

"Our heartfelt condolences to the families of the bravehearts. May they get the strength to overcome this irreparable loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the injured, as we wish them a speedy recovery," he added.

The tragic accident occurred in Budgam



district of J&K on Friday evening when a bus carrying the BSF personnel veered off the road and fell into a deep gorge, resulting in the loss of four jawans and injuries to 28 others.

The bus that was transporting 36 jawans posted on election duty met with the accident near Brel village of Waterhail in Budgam district, causing the bus to crumple completely.

J&K authorities are investigating the cause of the accident.

A rescue operation was initiated with the assistance of residents in the area and the injured were rushed to nearby hospitals.

Reacting to the incident, the J&K Police chief stated on Friday, "We mourn the loss of these dedicated soldiers who tirelessly served the nation. We pray for the speedy recovery of the injured and assure them of all necessary support and assistance by the Jammu and Kashmir Police."

PM Modi leaves on 3-day visit to US

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today embarked on a three-day visit to the United States, packed with a series of high-level meetings and engagements. Modi will begin his tour by attending the 4th annual Quad Leaders' Summit at Wilmington in Delaware.

During the Summit, a host of issues, ranging from climate change to critical emerging technologies, are expected to be discussed among the members of the

grouping.
Prime Minister Modi is also scheduled to hold a bilateral meeting with US President Joe Biden along with other leaders of the QUAD grouping. In the departure statement ahead of his US visit, Prime Minister Modi said, he is looking forward to joining his colleagues President Biden, Prime Minister Albanese, and Prime Minister Kishida for the Quad Summit.

He said the forum has emerged as a key group of like-minded countries to work for peace, progress, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region. On his scheduled meeting with the US



President, Modi said, the meeting with President Biden will allow them to review and identify new pathways to deepen further India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership for the benefit of our people and the global good.

Afterward, Prime Minister Modi will travel to New York where he interact with the Indian community on the 22nd of this month.

month. He is also scheduled to meet with top executives of leading US-based companies to explore greater collaboration in emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Computing, and Semiconductors

Semiconductors.
The Prime Minister in his statement said he is looking forward to engaging with the Indian diaspora and important American business leaders.

He said, these are the key stakeholders and provide vibrancy to the unique partnership between the largest and the oldest democracies of the world.

On the final day of his visit, Modi will address the 'Summit of the Future' at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The theme of the Summit is 'Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow' which aims to foster global cooperation on critical challenges faced by the international community.

On participation in the United Nations' The Summit of the Future, the Prime Minister said, this is an opportunity for the global community to chart the road ahead for the betterment of humanity.

The Prime Minister said he will share

The Prime Minister said he will share views of the one-sixth of humanity as their stakes in a peaceful and secure future are among the highest in the world.

Major train mishap averted after fishplates, keys found on tracks

◆THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi: Yet another attempt to derail a train was reported, this time in Gujarat's Surat district as the fishplates and keys of the railway tracks were found removed on Saturday, raising concerns over nefarious plans of antinational elements to cause a derailment. The incident took place early on Saturday near the Kim Junction railway station when a trackman inspecting the tracks around 5 A.M. noticed the tampering.

The Station Master and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) were immediately informed, and repairs were swiftly carried out to prevent any disruption to train services, officials confirmed

This incident follows a series of similar attempts to sabotage train operations in recent times.

On September 10, miscreants attempted to derail a train in Rajasthan's Ajmer by placing two cement blocks, each



weighing around 100 kg, on the railway tracks between Saradhana and Bangadh. One of the blocks was hit by a goods train but fortunately, no major damage was sustained.

Just a day earlier, on September 9, another sabotage attempt was reported when an LPG cylinder, along with a bottle of petrol and matchboxes, was found on the tracks near Kanpur, aimed at derailing the Bhiwani-Prayagraj Kalindi Express.

The loco pilot was able to hit the emergency brakes to avert a major

accident. Investigations at the scene further revealed disturbing evidence, including matchsticks, a petrol bottle, and a bag of gunpowder, indicating a more elaborate conspiracy. The country has witnessed multiple train derailment

attempts in recent months.
On August 27, four coaches derailed in the Udhna

Railway Yard near Surat following heavy rains. Prior to this, on August 17, at least 20 coaches of the Sabarmati Express derailed near Kanpur Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh after the train struck a boulder, causing significant damage.

These incidents highlight growing concerns over the safety of train operations across the country, as authorities continue to investigate and prevent further attempts to sabotage the Indian Poilways.

Mobile internet to be suspended for recruitment test on Sept 21, 22

♦THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Ranchi: Mobile internet services will be temporarily suspended throughout the state for more than five hours over two days, commencing on Saturday, in light of the Jharkhand General Graduate Level Combined Competitive Examination (JGGLCCE).

This measure aims to prevent any malpractice during the examination, as stated in an official announcement.

The Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission will examine 823 centres, with around 6.40 lakh candidates expected to appear for the test.

The suspension will take effect from 8 AM to 1:30 PM on September 21 and 22. The official statement indicated that this action is intended to ensure that the examinations are conducted in a manner that is free, fair, and transparent



It has been noted that in previous instances, certain individuals engaged in dishonest practices by utilizing various mobile applications, including Facebook, WhatsApp, X (formerly Twitter), Telegram, and YouTube, which depend on Internet or Wi-Fi access.

"The Government of Jharkhand seeks to eliminate any loopholes in the examination process that may raise doubts in the public mind regarding the integrity of the recruitment process, potentially leading to law and order issues that could impact public safety," the statement further said. "The Government of Jharkhand has thoroughly evaluated the situation and concluded that, in the interest of conducting a free, fair, and transparent public examination, it is both prudent and necessary to mitigate all possible loopholes by temporarily disabling

mobile Internet, mobile data, and mobile Wi-Fi connectivity during examination hours on the designated days," the official statement reads.

The Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission will conduct the examination in 823 centres, with around 6.40 lakh candidates expected to appear for the test, the official statement furuter added.

