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MOHALI WEATHER 10:30 AM

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Sunset: 6:16 PM

Wednesday, 25.09.2024

Sunrise 6:13 AM (IST)

Next Full Moon

17 Oct 2024

Next New Moon

02 Oct 2024

Difficult to accept Siddaramaiah was not behind the curtain: HC in MUDA case

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Bengaluru : In a major blow to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Karnataka High Court today rejected his petition challenging the legality of the Governor's nod to an investigation against him over the alleged Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) land scam. Siddaramaiah had challenged the approval given by Governor Thawarchand Gehlot for an investigation against him under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act and Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. The Governor gave the nod to a probe after he received petitions by three activists, who alleged irregularities in the allotment of 14 sites to Siddaramaiah's wife by the MUDA in a prime locality.

In its order, the single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna said it was difficult to accept that Siddaramaiah was not "behind the curtain" during the entire transaction of MUDA land, in which his family allegedly benefitted approximately Rs 56 crore.

"It is rather difficult to accept that the beneficiary of the entire transaction to which compensation is determined at Rs 3.56 lakh to become Rs 56 crore is not the family of the petitioner... How and why the rule was bent in favour of the family of the Chief Minister is what is required to be investigated into," Justice Nagaprasanna ruled.

In the petition, Siddaramaiah had argued that the Governor's sanction order was in violation of statutory mandates, and



contrary to Constitutional principles, including the advice of the Council of Ministers, which is binding under Article 163 of the Constitution of India.

On this, the court said that it is difficult to expect the Cabinet, nominated by the Chief Minister, to be unbiased while deciding the issue of grant of sanction to prosecute their leader.

"The facts narrated in the petition would undoubtedly require investigation, in the teeth of the fact that the beneficiary of all these acts is not anybody outside but the family of the petitioner (Siddaramaiah). The petition stands dismissed," Justice Nagaprasanna said.

The case pertains to allegations that compensatory sites were allotted to Siddaramaiah's wife, BM Parvathi, in an upmarket area in Mysuru that had higher property value as compared to the location of her land that had been "acquired" by MUDA. MUDA had allotted plots to Parvathi under a 50:50 ratio scheme in lieu of 3.16 acres of her land, where MUDA developed a residential layout.

Shock to Pb government from SC. petition for admission under NRI quota in MBBS rejected

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Supreme Court, today, rejected the AAP-led Punjab government plea challenging the High Court's order to trash the expansion of the 'NRI quota'. The state government's policy aimed at extending the quota benefits to distant relatives to gain admission to medical and dental colleges in Punjab.

The apex court came down heavily to the Punjab government's plea and said, "This fraud must end now."

The bench, led by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, called the scheme a "money-spinning machine" and dismissed all the petitions related to it.

"This NRI business is nothing but a fraud. We will put an end to all this.... now the so called precedents must give way to primacy of law."

The SC bench termed the HC verdict in the matter as "absolutely right" and highlighted the impact of such extensions to meritorious students. "Look at the deleterious consequences... the candidates who have three times higher marks will lose admission (in NEET-UG courses)," said the SC bench.

The admission of distant relatives of a 'mama, tai, taya' who are settled abroad ahead of meritorious



candidates is completely unacceptable and cannot be allowed, said the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

The Punjab government extended the benefit of NRI quota to distant relatives of NRIs, so that they can take admissions in MBBS and BDS courses run by the colleges in Punjab.

The Punjab and Haryana High Court trashed the state government's move to extend college admission benefits to distant relatives like "uncles, aunts, grandparents, and cousins" on September 10. Under the current scheme, 15% of total seats have been reserved for NRI candidates in private and government medical institutes. According to a Hindustan Times report, all medical and dental colleges in Punjab reserve approximately 185 NRI quota seats in MBBS and 196 seats in BDS. However, most of them remain vacant due to the absence of eligible candidates.

Rahul Gandhi raises concern on unemployment in Hry. slams BJP

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Congress Leader and Lok Sabha Lop Rahul Gandhi expressed concern about the increasing unemployment rate in Haryana. He posted a video on his X-handle highlighting the issue.

He said, "During my visit to America, I met the youth from Haryana who are spending their time in a foreign country, away from their families and home. When I met his family on returning to India, their eyes were filled with pain." "Lack of opportunities has taken away the children from their families from the support of their old age," Rahul Gandhi added.

In his post, he slammed the BJP government saying, "In 10 years, the BJP has done grave injustice to the youth of the entire country including Haryana by snatching employment opportunities from them."

He further said, "Our resolve is that as soon as the Congress government is formed, we will create such an ecosystem in Haryana in which the youth will not have to go away from their loved ones to fulfill their dreams." Earlier on September 20, Rahul Gandhi had paid a surprise visit at the residence of Amit Singh, a man he had met while



on his tour of the United State. Rahul Gandhi met Amit's father Veer Singh at the family house in Gogripur village. Amit Singh had gone to America one and a half years ago, where he had met with an accident and was injured.

It was while he was recuperating that Rahul Gandhi had gone to meet him in the US. At the time he promised Amit that he would meet his parents and video call him from their home.

Gandhi met Amit's mother Biramati and his father Veer Singh on his visit and left the residence after giving a video call to Amit. Biramati, Amit's mother said that Rahul Gandhi said that he met Amit and the visit to their home was a surprise visit.

Security tightened in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of second phase of polling on Sept 25

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

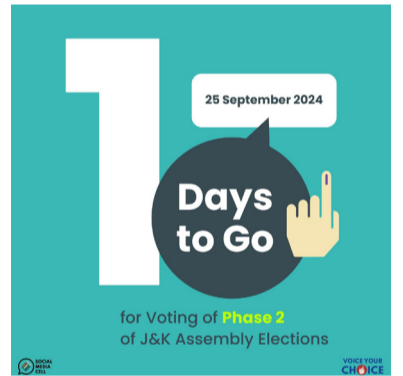
Rajouri : As Jammu and Kashmir gears up for the second phase of assembly elections on September 25, security measures have been intensified in the Rajouri district.

In response to safety concerns, security forces have been stationed in various locations, and thorough checks of vehicles are being conducted.

26 assembly constituencies spread over six districts will go to the polls in this phase.

These districts are Reasi, Rajouri, and Poonch in the Jammu region and Srinagar, Budgam, and Ganderbal in the Kashmir Valley.

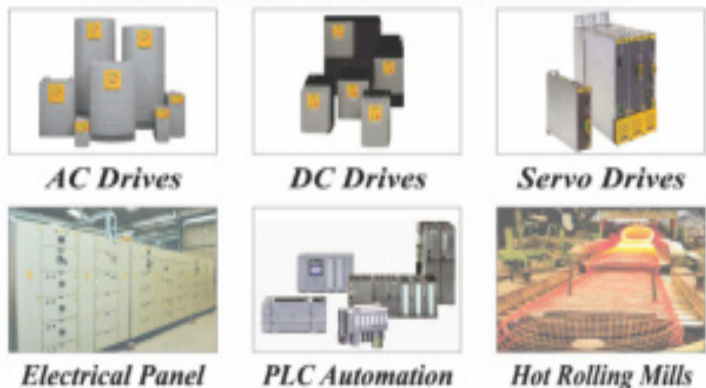
About 25.78 lakh eligible voters will decide the fate of 239 candidates in this phase. Campaigning for the second phase of polling ended yesterday evening. Assembly



elections are being conducted in three phases in the Union Territory.

The counting of votes will take place on October 8. Over 61 percent of polling was recorded in the first phase of assembly elections on September 18, while the third phase of elections covering the remaining 40 assembly segments will be held on October 1.

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Chandrayaan-3's Pragyan rover discovered more than an ancient crater on the Moon

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Indian scientists were left in awe by a groundbreaking observation made by the Pragyan rover as part of the Chandrayaan-3 mission.

The rover, tasked with exploring the lunar surface, reported an ancient crater close to its landing site, but that was not all that the images revealed.

The pictures taken by the little rover revealed a remarkable absence of large boulders (greater than 1 meter) in its vicinity at the Shiv Shakti Point, located in the Moon's south polar region.

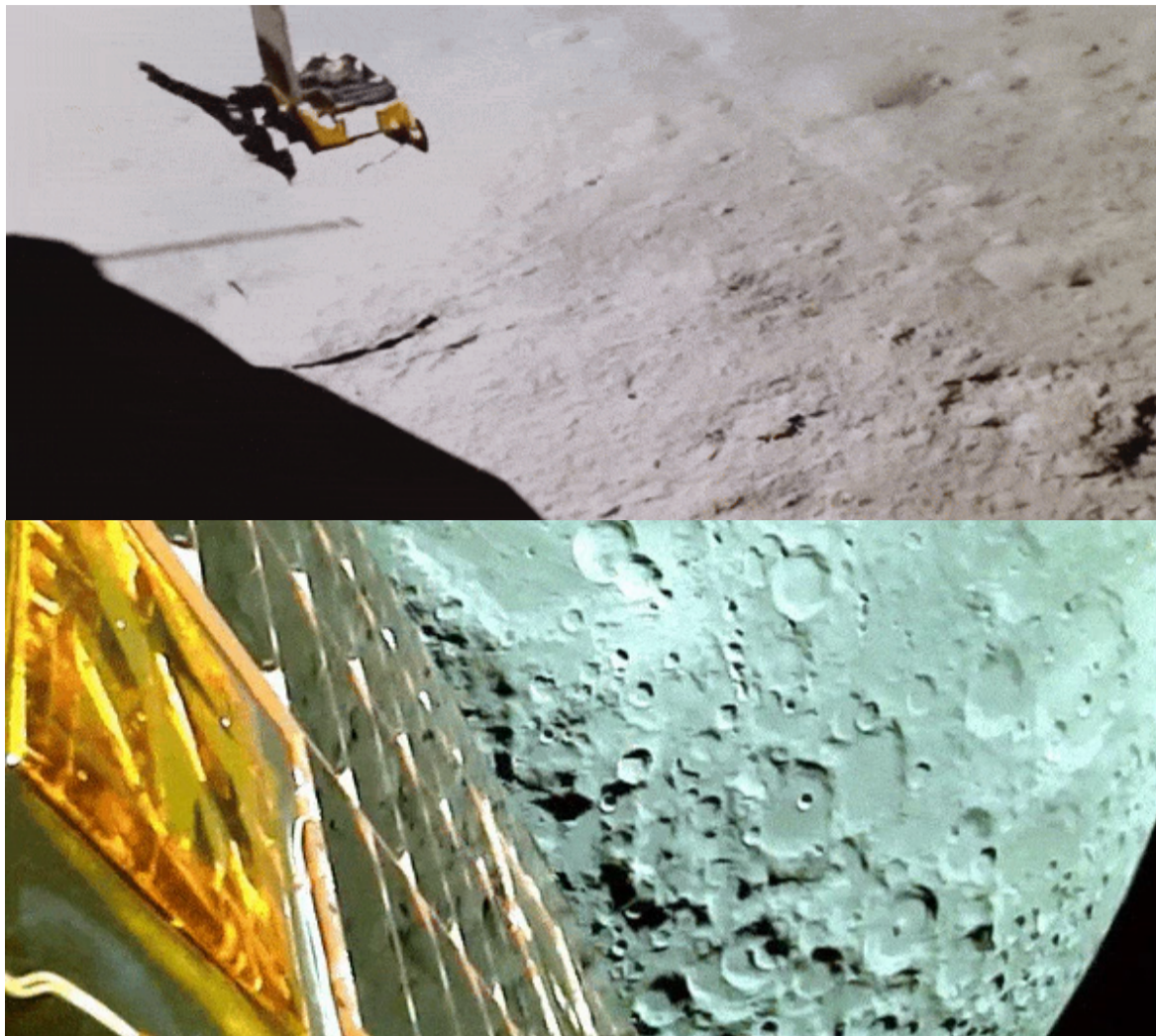
This observation suggests that the boulders once present in the region have been subjected to billions of years of space weathering and erosion, indicating the area's extreme age.

THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN MEETS THE EYE

What astonished scientists further was the question of where the material that currently covers the region came from.

The answer lies in the South Pole-Aitken (SPA) basin, one of the largest impact craters in the solar system.

The SPA basin, while mostly



situated on the far side of the Moon, extends to regions near the lunar south pole, just 350

kilometers southwest of the Shiv Shakti Point.

Over billions of years, numerous impacts in the SPA basin have ejected materials, which have gradually filled craters in surrounding regions, including the site explored by Pragyan.

Using high-resolution images

from the Orbiter's OHRC (Optical High-Resolution Camera), scientists identified ray-like structures on the lunar surface. These rays act as channels, showing the direction in which materials from impact craters were ejected and deposited.

Pragyan's own observations

of such ray structures further confirmed that the region has received material not only from the SPA basin but also from nearby impact craters.

Researchers were able to estimate the thickness of the ejecta layer at the landing site to be around 2,300 meters. Of this, approximately 1,400 meters were contributed by the SPA basin, while 580 meters came from 12 other nearby basins.

Even relatively newly formed craters added their share, further contributing to the layer of material surrounding the Shiv Shakti Point.

Pragyan's findings have provided Indian scientists with a wealth of information about the Moon's geological history, particularly about how the region's ancient surface was shaped over time.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by:
Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date
25 th Sep

Born on 25 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.

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 Aries (March 21 - April 19) Sep 25th 2024 : Be an optimistic and look at the brighter side. Your confident expectations open the door for realization of your hopes and desires. You may witness tremendous profit in business today. You can give new heights to your business today.	 Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Sep 25th 2024 : Take the support of family members to relieve from your tension. Accept their help gracefully. You must not bottle up feelings and pressure within. Sharing your problems frequently would help you. Devote your spare time in selfless service.	 Gemini (May 21 - June 20) Sep 25th 2024 : Fear of socialising may unnerve you. Encourage your self-esteem to remove this. Your unrealistic planning will lead to paucity of funds. Social events will be perfect opportunity to improve your rapport with influential and important people.
 Cancer (June 21 - July 22) Sep 25th 2024 : Playing with kids would give you a wonderful healing experience. People of this zodiac sign who carry out business from abroad are likely to benefit financially today. Someone you live with will be annoyed if you have been ignoring your household duties.	 Leo (July 23 - Aug 22) Sep 25th 2024 : Neglecting your parents could mar your future prospects. Good times never last too long. Man's deeds are like the waves of sound. These rebound to produce a melody or a jarring noise. They are the seeds-we reap only what we sow.	 Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) Sep 25th 2024 : Your fondest dream will materialize. But keep your excitement under control as too much happiness may cause some problems. You can acquire money from an unknown source today, which will resolve many of your financial troubles.
 Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22) Sep 25th 2024 : Use your energy to help someone in distress. Remember-what is the use of this perishable body if no use is made of it for the benefit of others. Today, seek the blessings of your elders before going out of the house, as it will benefit you.	 Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Sep 25th 2024 : Today is also a good day to follow religious and spiritual interest. You know the importance of money very well, which is why the money you save today will be useful in the future and get out of any major difficulty.	 Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) Sep 25th 2024 : Tension at home would make you angry. Suppressing them would only increase physical problem. Get rid of it with physical activity. It is better to leave the irritating situation. Friends will come to your aid if needed.
 Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) Sep 25th 2024 : Your doubting nature may show you the face of defeat. Money position will improve later in the day. Spending time with children will be important. Romance rules your heart and mind. Today you will be in the spotlight-and success is well within your reach.	 Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) Sep 25th 2024 : Avoid overeating and keep a check on your weight. Today, you can face money-related issues, and ask your father or a father-like individual you cherish for suggestions. Your ability to impress others will bring rewards.	 Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Sep 25th 2024 : A reunion with an old friend will brighten up your spirits. You'll come to understand the fact today that investing often proves to be very beneficial for you, as any old investment made by you an offer profitable returns.

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Dy Mayor demands at least 10% of crores earned by GMADA for the Municipal Corporation Mohali

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : A demand letter has been written by Dy Mayor Mohali Kuljit Singh Bedi to the Chief Minister Punjab demanding Rs 250 crore to the Municipal Corporation Mohali. As per demand at least 10 percent (Rs. 260 crore) of the 2605 crores earned by GMADA the latest auction and a copy of the same has also been sent to the CA, GMADA.

Deputy Mayor Kuljit Singh Bedi has given the data and said that there was an agreement between the Municipal Corporation and GMADA that 25 percent of the development works conducted by the Mohali Municipal Corporation will be given by GMADA. Mohali Deputy Mayor stated that earlier, there was an agreement with during the previous Municipal Corporation, under which GMADA was to give 50 crores for development of parks to the Municipal Corporation every year, but that too was not given by GMADA.

While sharing the data, Bedi said that in the year 2021-22, Rs 16 crore were given to the municipal corporation by GMADA, Rs 15.81 crore in the year 2022-23, Rs 17.08 crore in the year 2023-24, (25 percent) was given to the municipal corporation under the agreement. He said that the current year 2024-25 is more than half over but till now not even one rupee has been given by GAMADA to the Municipal Corporation under the 25 percent agreement.

Deputy Mayor Kuljit Singh Bedi said that



the city of Mohali has developed a lot and the responsibilities of the municipal corporation are also increasing towards the city.

Bedi said that for the mechanical cleaning of the main roads and B roads of Mohali city, GMADA had to pay 10 crore rupees for the purchase of vehicles, which has not been paid yet, while the contractor company has also started two vehicles by spending money themselves and the other two vehicles are also coming.

He said that the Mohali Municipal Corporation has written two letters to

the Chief Administrator of GMADA to pay about Rs. 25 crores for this year in addition to Rs. 10 crores for vehicles, but the officials of GMADA have not made any payment to the Municipal Corporation due to which the city development works are being affected and the image of the municipal corporation is being adversely affected.

Deputy Mayor Kuljit Singh Bedi said that the situation of water drainage in Mohali is very bad and due to rainwater entering people's houses, people suffer huge losses. He said that at least 100 crore rupees are required for its management. He said that similarly, there is a dirt system of sewerage in Mohali which has reached its expiration date and is collapsing at many places and needs to be replaced. He said that the sewage often gets stuck and overflows at some places due to which people have to face a lot of trouble and there is also a fear of spreading diseases.

He demanded that immediate attention should be given to this aspect and the money due from GMADA should be given to Mohali Municipal Corporation as the money for all the work from passing the map to extension fee and other works is taken by GMADA while in all the other cities these works are done by Municipal Councils or Municipal Corporations. He said that the Mohali Municipal Corporation has no other source of income, so funds should be made available to the Municipal Corporation from Gmada immediately.

PIC OF THE DAY

WHO CARES...?

Mohali roads in poor state



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : Residents, commuters and Industrialists in Mohali have expressed concern over the deteriorating condition of roads in different parts of the city including Industrial Area Phase 7 and 8B. Commuters said majority of the roads in Mohali, had developed more several deep pits and added that everybody was aware of the poor condition of the road as it is frequented by officials

of the administration. and also said that the officials concerned were aware of the fact that these pits caused more accidents. Most of the cuts in the road are found at the centre, forcing drivers to stick to the sides even on narrow lanes. Neither the main nor interior roads have been spared, making for bumpy rides and forcing residents to learn to circumvent potholes and uneven patches.

But Who Cares???

"Discharge your duty with utmost dedication, sincerity, honesty and commitment" - CM Mann

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : A day after new ministers were sworn in Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann asked the newly inducted Ministers of the state Cabinet to discharge their duty with utmost dedication, sincerity, honesty and commitment to ensure that benefits of pro-people schemes are percolated to people at ground level.

While, interacting with the Cabinet Ministers, Bhagwant Singh Mann said that the people of the state have bestowed a huge responsibility on everyone by giving a whopping mandate to them.

Chief Minister said that it is the bounden duty of every Minister to work hard for the well-being of the people and the progress of the state. He said that it is the need of the hour to restore the pristine glory of the state and make Punjab a frontrunner state in the country.

CM Bhagwant Mann said that fresh



young blood has been infused in the state cabinet adding that these new Ministers will further work hard to take the state to the zenith of its glory. He called upon the Ministers to serve the public with missionary zeal so as to ensure that the issues of immense public importance are resolved at the earliest.

CM Mann said that the state

government has already embarked on several pro-people and development-oriented schemes for the welfare of the public adding he hoped the new Ministers will further ensure the meticulous implementation of these schemes.

Congratulating the new Ministers, the Chief Minister asked them to serve the people of the state with full enthusiasm and devotion. He expressed hope that the new Ministers will further work wholeheartedly to cherish the aspirations of the great freedom fighters and national leaders.

Bhagwant Singh Mann envisioned that the new Ministers would also act as a catalyst to implement the policies and programs of the state government in the right earnest.

Pb Govt releases Rs 22.33 crore for honorarium to Anganwadi workers: Dr. Baljit Kaur

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Punjab government has released An amount of ₹22.33 crore to provide honorariums to Anganwadi workers and helpers for community-based events conducted by them.

Providing further details, Social Security, Women and Child Development Minister Dr. Baljit Kaur stated that during the current financial year 2024-25, ₹22.33 crore has been allocated for honoring Anganwadi workers and helpers for community-based events conducted for year 2021-22, 2022-23, and up to 30 September 2024.

The Cabinet Minister mentioned that community-based activities are conducted on the 14th and 28th of every month in Anganwadi centers across the



state. She noted that ceremonies for the Goad Bharai of pregnant mothers and for distributing SNP to mothers of lactating mother are also held. Anganwadi workers receive an honorarium of ₹500 per activity, while

helpers receive ₹250.

Dr. Baljit Kaur emphasized that children up to 6 years old, as well as pregnant and lactating women, are provided with complementary nutrition, vaccination, health education, and referral services through Anganwadi centers. Additionally, non-formal preschool education is offered to children aged 3-6 years.

The Social Security Minister reiterated that the Punjab government, under Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, is paying special attention to the health of children, girls, and women, implementing various initiatives in the Anganwadi centers across the state.

ASI arrested for taking Rs 5,000 bribe

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : During its ongoing anti-corruption drive in the state Punjab VB, has arrested Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Raj Kumar, posted at Helpline No. 112, district Tarn Taran police, for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000.

According to an official spokesperson of the VB, the arrest followed a complaint by Raj Karan, a resident of Muradpur, in Tarn Taran district.

He further informed that the complainant has approached the VB and alleged that the ASI had demanded a bribe of ₹30,000 in lieu of returning a mobile phone and refraining from falsely implicating a close associate of the complainant under the NDPS Act.

He added that after a preliminary inquiry into this complaint, a VB team laid a trap during which the said accused was caught



red-handed accepting Rs 5,000 bribe from the complainant in the presence of two official witnesses.

As per spokesperson, during investigations it has come to light that the accused police official was part of a honey trap network involving other police officials and private individuals, including women.

These accused, in connivance with their accomplice women, used to lure unsuspecting individuals to hotels, after

which the accused police personnel and their associates would arrive at the scene and blackmail the victims into paying large sums of money.

In this regard a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act has been registered at the VB Police Station, Range Amritsar. The accused would be presented in the competent court tomorrow, and further investigations into this case was under progress, he said.

YAD President Sarabjeet Jhinjer slams Pb Govt for "Failed Education Model"

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Youth Akali Dal President Sarabjeet Jhinjer today strongly condemned the Aam Aadmi Party-led Punjab government for its "failed education model," which was exposed by the Supreme Court's recent verdict on the NRI quota in MBBS admissions.

"The Bhagwant Mann government's attempt to scam students in Punjab has been laid bare by today's Supreme Court verdict, which termed the NRI quota system 'fraudulent' and 'exploitative.' This is a clear case of betrayal of trust and a shameful example of how the government prioritizes personal gains over Punjab's youth," Jhinjer said.

"The Supreme Court's observation that the NRI quota was misused to favor certain individuals at the expense of deserving candidates is a scathing indictment of the Punjab government's handling of education. The court's direction to review and reform the admission process acknowledges the government's failure," Jhinjer emphasized.

"The Aam Aadmi Party formed the government in Punjab promising education and health reforms but has failed on both fronts. Their promises of transformative education and healthcare reforms have proven hollow, and Punjab's people pay the price for their



incompetence. This case affects both education and healthcare, as students exploiting this flawed process would have lower marks, producing unfit doctors," Jhinjer added.

"Through this process, deserving candidates with higher marks were denied admission, while those with lower marks benefited solely due to the expanded NRI quota. This is a clear injustice, perpetuating mediocrity at the expense of merit. The Punjab government's notification expanding the NRI definition to include distant relatives was a blatant attempt to circumvent the system," Jhinjer said.

"The Supreme Court's dismissal of the government's appeal is a victory for Punjab's students fighting this unjust system. We demand immediate action to rectify this situation, ensuring merit is the sole criteria for admissions," Jhinjer concluded.

ECI reviews poll preparedness for Hry Assembly Elections



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : To review the action taken on the directions of the Election Commission of India issued to the authorities involved in the election process during its visit to the state of Haryana on August 12-13, 2024, a team of Senior officers from the Election Commission of India held a meeting today with Divisional Commissioners, IG Police range, Deputy Commissioners-cum-DEOs, Police Commissioners and SPs, MC Commissioner, General Observers, Police Observers and Expenditure Observers from 11 districts regarding the preparedness of ongoing General Election to Haryana Vidhan Sabha – 2024.

The team included Deputy Election Commissioner Hridesh Kumar, Secretary KP Singh, Principal Secretary Avinash Kumar and SB Joshi. The meeting was held in the presence of Haryana's Chief Electoral Officer Pankaj Agarwal and State Police Nodal Officer Saurabh Singh. The Commission led by Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner had then taken the review of the administrative, logistics, law and order, and election-related arrangements with the Chief Electoral Officer and State Police Nodal Officer.

The commission had directed to ensure conduct of free and fair elections by maintaining good law and order situation. It had stressed to maintain good health of the electoral roll with the removal of dead and shifted voters.

Further, it directed to provide the minimum assured facility at the polling booths along with conducive environment to encourage voters turnout. DEOs were directed to be equally accessible to all the political parties and to resolve promptly the grievances related to various election related activities.

In today's meeting, Shri Hirdesh Kumar, Deputy Election Commissioner reviewed the marking of electoral rolls, the time plan for preparing ASD (Absentee, shifted, Duplicate or Dead) lists, distribution of voter slips, Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) distribution and addressing any major complaint related to electoral rolls. He stated that the printing of pending EPIC cards should be pursued with the printer and the EPIC cards should be distributed by 30th Sep. The BLOs can be engaged for ensuring compliance of this task.

The marked copy of voters lists should be prepared as per the instructions. Also the copies of the electoral rolls handed over to the candidates should match with the marked electoral rolls.

The team emphasized the importance of ensuring that all polling stations are fully equipped with the necessary facilities. He instructed District Commissioners-cum-DEOs and SPs to personally inspect polling stations to verify the availability of essential facilities. The Commission emphasized that the Voter Facilitation Booths should be set up by the BLOs at each polling stations. Proper sitting arrangements have to be made to facilitate the voters standing in queues.

The team cited the need for webcasting from all polling stations. For ensuring better monitoring, cameras of high resolution should be used and they should be positioned in a way that these cover the polling stations properly for effective

surveillance. At the same time the secrecy of voting should not be compromised.

The DEOs briefed the Election Commission regarding the setup of special model polling booths. These include 'pink booths' staffed entirely by women employees, youth employees managed booths, and booths overseen by persons with disabilities (PwD) employees.

After gathering information from all the officials, instructions were given to ensure proper arrangements for the accommodation and meals of the polling parties. Additionally, appropriate provisions for healthcare services should also be made.

The police authorities briefed about the security arrangements for ensuring a good law and order situation. The team expressed its satisfaction over the deployment of the central forces and other security arrangements. However, it stressed immediate action for better surveillance of the border areas in coordination with police of the neighbouring states. He instructed the concerned officials to establish mirror checkpoints in interstate districts along the borders with neighboring states, in accordance with the police manual.

The team noticed that the seizures done so far are not satisfactory. It emphasised to rework the strategy, monitor the working of different Flying Squad Surveillance Teams and Static Surveillance Teams.

Faridabad, Sonapat and Gurugram district were directed to make special efforts regarding this. The police officers assured that effective steps would be taken to increase surveillance and enhance seizures.

The commission at the same time cautioned not to cause unnecessary public inconvenience while performing these duties. For monitoring the cash flow daily bank reports has to be scrutinised at the DEO level by placing some experienced persons on the task.

The Commission also cautioned that while performing these duties, inconvenience to the public should be minimized. The team reviewed the preparations related to counting centers, postal ballots, and the training of polling staff. District election officers provided updates on these issues.

Chief Electoral Officer Mr. Pankaj Agarwal said that for home voting, provisions will be made for PwD voters and voters over the age of 85 under the supervision of the RO, with videography of the process. He added that training for election officials must be ensured, and other requirements such as transportation facilities for PwD voters and voters over 85 years of age should be provided wherever necessary.

The team further reiterated that maximum efforts should be made at both the local and state levels to increase voter turnout.

The meeting also covered information about polling stations, theme polling stations, queue management, and counting arrangements. They reviewed the plans from each district aimed at increasing voter percentage.

At the conclusion of the meeting, they emphasized that all efforts should be made to ensure free and fair elections. The districts included in the meeting were Faridabad, Nuh, Palwal, Gurugram, Mahendragarh, Rewari, Bhiwani, Charkhi Dadri, Jhajjar, Rohtak, and Sonapat.

Congress party is fighting elections unitedly to defeat BJP- Pratap Singh Bajwa

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Senior Congress leader Pratap Singh Bajwa has said that his party is fighting the Haryana assembly elections unitedly to defeat the BJP.

He has claimed that internal conflict is being seen in the saffron party after bringing in Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini as a 'night watchman'. With the date of elections in Haryana approaching, BJP and Congress leaders have



intensified their verbal attacks on each other. Pratap Singh Bajwa, the

senior observer appointed by the Congress for the Haryana Assembly elections, claimed that there is a rift in the ruling party and some BJP leaders are aspiring to become the Chief Minister.

Hry Polls: Rahul Gandhi to campaign in Assandh. Barwala on Sept 26

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Ahead of the Haryana Assembly elections, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will be campaigning in the state on September 26.

He will hold public meetings in Assandh Assembly seat of Karnal district and Barwala in Hisar. Senior Congress leader Kumari Selja to join Rahul Gandhi in the campaigning.



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.

Hry Tourism dept to celebrate World Tourism Day on Sept 27, 28

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : To mark this World Tourism Day on September 27, 2024, Haryana is geared up to celebrate this special day with 2 days of fun-filled, adventurous, and culinary treats for its patrons, visitors, and tourists.

Haryana Tourism is bringing together people from various walks of life, age groups and backgrounds on exciting platforms such as Trekking, food festivals, religious tours and heritage exploration in the region.

Haryana has much to offer to visitors and tourists alike. Since it is a state which has so much to explore in various aspects such as nature, culture, and heritage, there is a vast potential for tourists to come and experience in this dynamic state where rural ethos meet urban sophistication.

Speaking on the occasion Principal Secretary, Heritage and Tourism, Government of Haryana, Kala Ramachandran, stated that "We are taking this opportunity on World Tourism Day to present a bouquet of activities ranging from food festivals, heritage walks, religious tours to trekking expeditions across Haryana for tourists and enthusiasts alike and we hope Haryana will shine on the tourism map with such initiatives.

Keeping in view the theme of this World Tourism Day which is 'Tourism and Peace', we have made earnest efforts to ensure that the essence of this day is recognized through our activities and events."

Haryana Tourism will organize food



festivals across its tourist resorts for food aficionados and explorers of the culinary world. Hotel Rajhans, Faridabad has donned the royal robe and will be showcasing the flavours from the land of Nawabs with cuisines from Awadh and Lucknow.

Apart from the cuisines classical ghazal and sufi artists will add to the enchantment of the royal ambiance on September 27 and 28, 2024.

Aromas from the hills and mountains will pull you towards Red Bishop Tourist Resort, Panchkula where a unique Food Festival called 'Cuisines from the Hills' awaits food enthusiasts. The enigmatic cuisines from Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Ladakh and Tibet are being curated for this World Tourism Day.

The Himalayan range is one the most

beautiful mountainous regions in the world and has a rich and diverse culinary culture and it is this diversity that will be celebrated through the finest dishes being served at this great food festival.

Apart from this, tourists will also be able to taste the sweets of Rajasthan and Gujarat at Karnal Lake Resort in Karnal. Tilyar Tourist Resort, Rohtak is engaging in another gastronomic celebration with cuisines from Haryana and Punjab.

Also, Haryana tourism in collaboration with ISKCON is organizing a special tour of the Krishna Circuit where six divine destinations will be part of the religious tour. The tour will take the visitors to six places of significance such as Brahma Sarovar, Abhimanyupur, Surya Kund, Sthaneshwara Temple, Bhisma Kund and Jyotisar.

Not only religion but the heritage and history of Haryana is also being explored during the world tourism day. Two heritage walks are being organized in Pinjore.

The heritage walk will be organised on September 27, 2024 by Haryana Tourism in collaboration with the Department of Archeology and Museums, Haryana.

Participants will get a chance to soak in the history of the region heritage walks being organized in Pinjore and Panipat. The tours aim to acquaint people with the rich history and culture of Haryana.

Constables Sahib, Babita bring laurels to Pb. win Gold medals in all India Police Wrestling Cluster



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Amritsar : Amritsar Constables Sahib and Babita brought laurels to Punjab by winning Gold medals in the 73rd All India Police Wrestling Cluster 2024 held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Constable Sahil of Commissionerate Police Amritsar won a gold medal in the 100kg Arm Wrestling category while Head Constable Babita secured a gold medal in the 65kg Bodybuilding category.

NSS. PU celebrated 64th NSS Foundation day at the University

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Chief Patron of NSS and PU Vice Chancellor Prof. Renu Vig presided over the celebration. The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Kuldeep Chand Agnihotri, Vice Chairman, Sanskriti Sahitya Akademi. Govt. of Haryana. The event was organized under the guidance of Dr. Parveen Goyal, Programme Coordinator, NSS.

The event began with the plantation drive in which the Prof. Vig, PU Registrar Prof. Y.P.Verma and various officers planted.

Best Programme Officers and Volunteers of Punjab and Chandigarh colleges were also felicitated with University Level Awards during the programme. There was a Cake Cutting ceremony



and later the PU Vice Chancellor, guests, Programme officers and Volunteers also participated in a Rally with Slogans on Swachhta Hi Sewa, the theme of the event.

Competitions on Poster Making, Slogan Writing, Rangoli, Declamation, Songs, Dance and Natti were organised on the Swachhta Hi Sewa theme.

Alia Bhatt makes Paris Fashion Week debut, greets fans with a flying kiss

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Paris Fashion Week got a Bollywood flair as Alia Bhatt made a stunning debut at Paris Fashion Week on Monday, September 23. Representing L'Oréal Paris, the Highway actor graced the runway in a metallic silver bustier paired with a chic black off-shoulder jumpsuit, exuding glamour.

Alia shared the runway with American actor-model Andie MacDowell, who donned a white gown, as they walked hand-in-hand at the event. Alia showcased a creation for L'Oréal Paris' Walk Your Worth show, part of Paris Fashion Week's Women's Ready-to-Wear Spring-Summer 2025 collection, held at the iconic Palais Garnier opera house in Paris.

She completed her look with bold rectangular hoop earrings and a pink tint on her lips. Her wet-hair style added an extra edge to her striking appearance. Alia waved, smiled, and blew kisses to the



crowd during her Paris runway debut.

Several videos of the actor slaying her ramp walk have gone viral on social media.

One of the videos featured Alia walking the ramp with other stars as they held a red rose and waved to the crowd seated.

Apart from Alia, Aishwarya Rai, a longtime ambassador, dazzled in a loose-fitted satin red gown paired with bold red lipstick and perfectly styled hair. Her dramatic veil, embellished with L'Oréal's iconic tagline "We are worth it,"

became a showstopper, especially in the aerial shots. As Aishwarya stepped onto the runway, the veil gracefully detached, and she greeted the French audience with a warm 'namaste'.

The prestigious Place de l'Opera was transformed into an open-air runway, accessible to all, turning the exclusive Parisian venue inside out. The event highlighted the beauty of women from all walks of life, offering a bold statement about empowerment, inclusion, and confidence.

If I were Vinesh Phogat, I would apologise for Olympic disqualification: Yogeshwar



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Olympic medalist Yogeshwar Dutt criticised Vinesh Phogat, stating that the wrestler did not take responsibility after the Paris Olympics, instead blaming others for her disqualification. Yogeshwar, who won a bronze medal at the London Olympics, said that if he had been disqualified, he would have apologised to the entire nation. He expressed disappointment with how Vinesh handled the highly-publicised ordeal.

Speaking at the Panchayat AajTak Haryana 2024 event, Yogeshwar said he was surprised when Vinesh started spreading conspiracy theories about her Olympic disqualification. He even claimed that Vinesh went as far as blaming Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the incident.

"She was disqualified from the Olympic Games, she should have apologised in front of the entire nation, saying that she made mistakes. But instead, she termed it a conspiracy, even blaming the Prime Minister of the country. Everyone knows that the disqualification was the right call. They disqualify athletes even if the weight is more by a gram," Yogeshwar said.

Yogeshwar's comments came just days after Vinesh made serious allegations against the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and its president, PT Usha. Phogat criticised the IOA for not providing adequate legal support during her appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for a joint silver medal. Despite her efforts, the CAS ruled against her. Vinesh argued that the Government of India and the

IOA should have taken a more proactive role in filing and supporting her case, instead of joining the process only after she had initiated it on her own.

FALSE PERCEPTION WAS CREATED: VINESH

Yogeshwar accused Vinesh Phogat of even manipulating wrestlers during the much-publicised wrestlers' protest against former Wrestling Federation of India officials, including Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

"She created a wrong atmosphere in the country. Even during the protests, people were asked to gather in the wrong way.

"If we speak just about the Olympics, despite costing India a medal, a false perception was created that something wrong happened to her. If I was in Vinesh's place, I would've apologised to the country," he added.

Vinesh was disqualified for being 100 grams overweight during the weigh-in on the day of her final. Vinesh made a sensational run to the final of the women's 50 kg category at the Paris Olympics and was on the cusp of glory before the disqualification.

Senior lawyer Harish Salve, who represented Phogat in the CAS hearing, countered some of her allegations by stating that there was a lack of coordination between the different legal teams involved, and that Phogat herself chose not to pursue further legal action after the CAS verdict.

Following her disqualification and the rejection of her appeal, Phogat announced her retirement from wrestling and has since entered politics, joining the Indian National Congress.

Kiran Rao's Laapataa Ladies: 3 scenes that are special to the director

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Filmmaker Kiran Rao is over the moon as her film Laapataa Ladies is selected as India's official entry for the 97th Academy Awards. In a recent interview, she mentioned the three scenes from her film that she likes the most. Laapataa Ladies explores the coming-of-age story of two newlywed brides who get mistakenly exchanged during a train ride to the house of their in-laws.

For Rao, the climax scene of Laapataa Ladies, where the two brides, Phool (Nitanshi Goel) and Jaya (Pratibha Ranta), meet each other for the first time, is the most special scene of the film. "I think the last scene for me is very, very special because it is actually the two girls (Nitanshi Goel and Pratibha Ranta). You don't see them together for most of the film. That is one of my favourite scenes."

Describing her second favourite scene from Laapataa Ladies, Kiran Rao added, "The nighttime



scene of dinner with all the women together. It was a very cold night, and we lit a fire. It was lovely to shoot, and it actually had so much of women's sisterhood."

The third scene that Rao likes the most is where Chhaya Kadam's character, Manju Maai, shows Phool a mirror to society and teaches her new ways of life. "The third I would have to say is Manju Maai (Chhaya Kadam) in her tea stall and all the stuff that goes on between Manju Maai and Phool (Nitanshi Goel)," the filmmaker shared.

As the news of Laapataa Ladies becoming India's official entry to

the Oscars 2025 was announced, Rao expressed her joy and surprise.

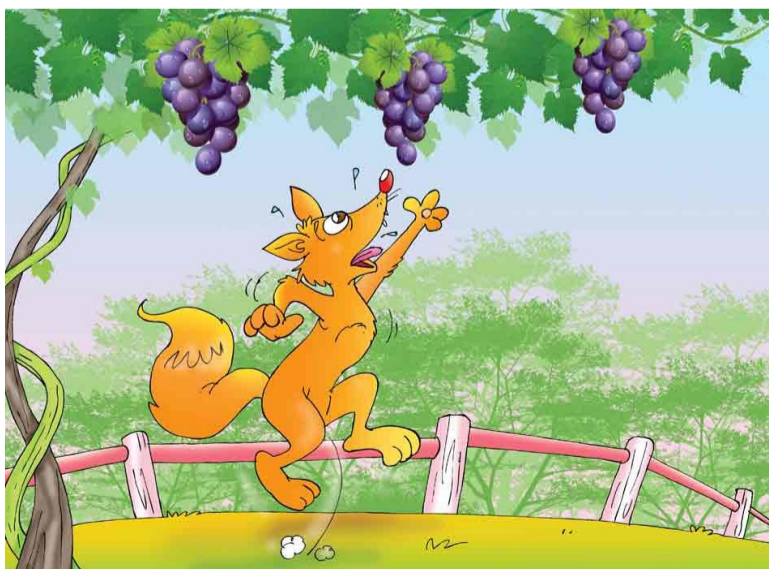
"I am very happy. I was not expecting an Oscar entry as many good films have been made this year. Now we will have a chance to show this film to a much larger audience. I would like to thank the audience for giving so much love to this film. I think there is something for everyone in this film," Rao said.

Laapataa Ladies, also starring Sparsh Srivastava and Ravi Kishan, is streaming on Netflix. The film is co-produced by Aamir Khan.



The Fox and the Grapes

A hungry fox once looked everywhere for food. He couldn't find anything until he stumbled upon a farmer's wall. He saw big, purple, juicy grapes. He jumped as high as possible to reach the grapes. No matter how many times he tried, he failed. Finally, he gave up and went home, thinking to himself that the grapes must have been sour anyway.



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EPFO records highest-ever additional of 20 lakh net members in July

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has recorded the all-time highest addition of around 20 lakh net members in July this year, registering a growth of 2.43 percent in comparison to the same month of the last year.

Labour and Employment Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya said this while releasing EPFO's provisional payroll data of July in New Delhi yesterday. He said that it is the highest recorded increase since payroll data tracking began in April 2018.



The data indicates that around 10.52 lakh new members have enrolled during June this year. The highest growth was observed in the 18-25 age group, with around 9 lakh net additions. The payroll data also highlights

that approximately 14.65 lakh members exited and subsequently rejoined EPFO. This figure depicts year over year growth of 15.25 per cent compared to June last year.

More than three lakh new female members joined EPFO in July this year, reflecting a year-over-year growth of 10.94 per cent. The data also indicated that the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Gujarat accounted for around 60 percent of total net additions.

Maharashtra officials inspect EY's Pune office after employee's death

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Pune : Officials from the Maharashtra labour commissioner's office have inspected the Ernst & Young (EY) office in Pune, following allegations that workplace stress may have led to the death of 26-year-old chartered accountant Anna Sebastian Perayil. The inspection was prompted by a letter from Perayil's mother, who claimed her daughter suffered a fatal heart attack due to excessive work-related pressure.

EY faces scrutiny over the death of a 26-year-old chartered accountant, which has triggered a social media storm and pushed the government to initiate a probe into allegations of a "backbreaking" workload.

Additional Labour Commissioner Shailendra Pol confirmed the inspection, stating, "Our officials visited the premises and made several observations. The company



has been given seven days to respond to those findings."

Pol also noted that a report on events surrounding Perayil's death in July will be prepared and submitted to the state labour commissioner within a week, after which it will be forwarded to the Centre for further review. Despite the growing scrutiny, EY has denied any link between Perayil's death and her workload, maintaining that the company adheres to industry-standard practices regarding employee welfare.

Last week, EY stated that it

placed "the highest importance on the well-being of all employees" and was "taking the family's correspondence with the utmost seriousness and humility."

The labour commissioner's investigation remains ongoing, with further action contingent on the company's formal response and the findings of the inspection report.

Perayil's case gained attention after her mother's letter to EY India's chairman, highlighting the stress her daughter faced due to the company's work culture, started circulating on social media.

Earlier on September 19, Union Labour Minister Shobha Karandlaje stated that a thorough probe into the "allegations of an unsafe and exploitative work environment is underway."

HC dismisses actor Siddique's bail plea in sexual assault case

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kochi : The Kerala High Court dismissed an anticipatory bail plea by Malayalam actor Siddique in a sexual assault case lodged against him by an actress.

An FIR was filed against Siddique in connection with the sexual assault allegations by an actress in August this year. The case was registered by the Trivandrum Museum Police under the non-bailable offence of rape based on the complaint.

She had given her statement to the Special Investigation Team constituted to investigate the incidents of sexual harassment in



the Malayalam film industry. Siddique claimed in the petition that the complainant is making these allegations because he conducted a press conference along with other officer bearers of the Association of Malayalam

Movie Actors (AMMA) after the release of the Justice Hema Committee report.

In his anticipatory bail plea, Siddique further claimed that the actress had repeatedly, for the past five years, made unsubstantiated and false claims of sexual misbehaviour and "verbal sexual offers" by him in a theatre in 2016.

"But now she has raised totally contradictory allegation of more serious crime of rape at a different place in the same year," he had said in his plea.

Sensex crosses 85,000 for 1st time. Nifty hits record high

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Benchmark stock market indices hit fresh highs today despite rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, though volatility remained a key factor throughout the session.

As of 10:05 AM, the S&P BSE Sensex gained 80.74 points to reach 85,009.35, while the NSE Nifty50 rose 29.15 points, settling at 25,968.20. Broader market indices also contributed to the overall gains on Dalal Street, with most trading in positive territory. However, several key sectoral indices, including Nifty Bank, Nifty Financial Services, and Nifty IT, struggled and were in the red.

Top performers on the Nifty50



included Tata Steel, Hindalco, Power Grid, JSW Steel, and M&M, while LTIM, HUL, Bajaj Finance, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and Ultratech Cement emerged as the biggest laggards.

Commenting on the market sentiment, Sameet Chavan, Head of Research, Technical and Derivatives at Angel One,

noted, "Despite rising concerns from global markets, domestic equities continued their gravity-defying rally at the start of the expiry week. Broader market participation added to the bullish sentiment."

Chavan cautioned that with the monthly expiry looming and markets nearing overbought territory, investors should consider booking profits regularly. "While select sectors show promise, a stock-specific approach remains crucial amid the heightened volatility. Staying attuned to global developments will be key to navigating these choppy waters," he added.

Tropical Cyclone Nine could hit Sunita Williams's rescue mission launch

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Nasa and SpaceX are gearing up for the Crew-9 mission to the International Space Station, with a potential launch date set for, September 26.

The mission is being launched with two astronauts and two spare seats for stranded astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Willmore to return in February 025.

However, the mission faces a potential hurdle in the form of Tropical Cyclone Nine, which is approaching the Gulf of Mexico and Florida's west coast.

The Flight Readiness Review for the Crew-9 mission concluded successfully at Nasa's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The review determined that SpaceX's crew transportation system, the space station, and its partners are prepared for the launch.

Nasa astronaut Nick Hague will serve as the mission commander, while Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov will act as the mission specialist. The duo is scheduled to launch aboard a SpaceX Dragon spacecraft atop a Falcon 9 rocket.

Meanwhile, the Falcon 9 rocket is scheduled to roll out to Space Launch Complex-40 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station on Tuesday, September 24. A static fire test will be performed to ensure the rocket's engines are



functioning correctly.

A final dress rehearsal will be conducted to simulate launch day procedures.

Nasa, SpaceX, and the U.S. Space Force's 45th Weather Squadron are closely monitoring Tropical Cyclone Nine. The storm's approach could potentially impact the launch schedule, and officials will continue to assess the weather situation as the launch date approaches.

Once launched, the Crew-9 astronauts will spend approximately five months aboard the International Space Station. During their stay, they will conduct various experiments, research demonstrations, and perform maintenance spacewalks.

As Nasa and SpaceX prepare for this crucial mission, all eyes are on the weather, which will play a significant role in determining whether the launch proceeds as planned on September 26.

3 rail staffers arrested over 'sabotage' plot to get felicitated

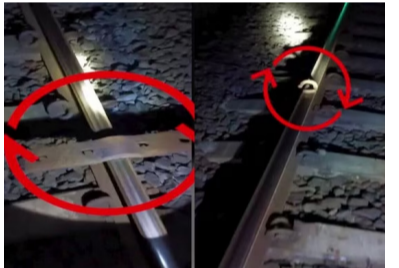
THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Three railway employees were arrested in Gujarat's Surat district for allegedly tampering with tracks and then alerting officials about a "sabotage" in a bid to take credit for averting a possible train accident, police said.

Surat Rural Superintendent of Police (SP) Hotesht Joysar said the three employees -- Subhash Poddar (39), Manish Mistry (28) and Shubham Jaiswal (26) -- are trackmen in the railways' maintenance department. He added that the accused indulged in such an act to get themselves felicitated.

The Surat Police launched a probe after some unidentified people allegedly tampered with a railway track by removing fish plates and loosening several bolts in an attempt to derail trains on September 21.

The SP said Poddar and others, while on inspection between Kosamba and Kim stations, had alerted authorities at 5:30 am on September 21 about "miscreants" removing elastic clips and two fishplates from one set of tracks and placing them on another to derail a train.



According to the SP, the accused, who were on night duty, had sent a video of the compromised track to their seniors while alerting them. He also said the Railway officials had informed the police that a train had passed on the route just before the tampering was discovered.

"The time interval of the tampering being discovered and the passing of the train was too less and it was not possible to remove the clips and plates in such a short time. We checked the mobile phones of the trio and found videos of tampered tracks shot at different intervals starting from 2:56 am to 4:57 am. Mistry had also deleted photos he had taken," SP Joysar said.

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PM meets Ukraine's Zelenskyy in US, reiterates support for resolution of conflict

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in New York on the sidelines of UNGA and reiterated India's support for the early resolution of the conflict in Ukraine and the restoration of peace and stability in the region.

In a post on X, PM Modi shared photos of him meeting President Zelenskyy and said, "Met President Zelenskyy in New York. We are committed to implementing the outcomes of my visit to Ukraine last month to strengthen bilateral relations. Reiterated India's support for early resolution of the conflict in Ukraine and restoration of peace and stability."

PM Modi is in New York on the second leg of his three-day US visit where he addressed the UN's Summit of the Future held against the backdrop of raging global conflicts.

PM Modi and Zelenskyy sharing a hug and a handshake. Foreign Minister S Jaishankar also present during the meeting. This was PM Modi's third meeting with



Zelenskyy in about three months. In August this year, PM Modi visited war-torn Ukraine and emphasised India's stand for peace in the country's ongoing conflict with Russia.

Speaking about the meeting between the two leaders, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said that discussions included bilateral issues as well as issues surrounding the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "This is the third meeting between the two leaders in the space of probably 3 months... Their discussions on all matters, the bilateral issues as well as issues surrounding the Russia-Ukraine conflict. President Zelenskyy was very appreciative of India's attention

to these issues and said that the Prime Minister's visit had been highly appreciated and he thanked the Prime Minister for the efforts that he was making for peace and a pathway to finding a way out of this conflict. Both sides appreciated that there was positive momentum on a lot of issues in the bilateral relationship and they agreed to remain in close touch either directly or through exchanges of visits at various other levels" Misri said.

PM Modi arrived in New York on Saturday, September 21, after attending the Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, Delaware, where he also had bilateral discussions with US President Joe Biden.

PM Modi addressed thousands of members of the Indian-American community on Sunday, September 22, at the 'Modi&US' mega community event in Long Island.

He also interacted with the top tech leaders and CEOs of the US in a roundtable conference.

PM Modi is 'most pro-American PM in India's history: US envoy

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti spoke about the deepening relationship between the United States and India, attributing much of the progress to the close friendship between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden.

Garcetti described PM Modi as "the most pro-American prime minister we've ever seen in Indian history" and praised Biden as "the most pro-Indian president we've had in US history."

"These are two men who have such a close friendship," Garcetti said. "They are representative of the people in their countries, reflecting the growing closeness between our nations."

This bond, according to Garcetti, is at the heart of the rapidly expanding ties between the two countries, which have seen an increase in strategic, economic,



and cultural cooperation in recent years. The ambassador also highlighted the importance of the Quad — a strategic forum comprising the US, India, Japan, and Australia — calling it a "powerful" platform for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

"The Quad is a place where we set a vision, share principles, and find common solutions," Garcetti noted. "It's about standing up for the rule of law in a region where not every nation

plays by the same rules."

The forum, he added, serves as a counterbalance to nations that oppose the principles upheld by the Quad members. "We're working proactively to build solutions for a free and prosperous Indo-Pacific," he said.

The most recent Quad Summit, hosted by President Joe Biden in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, brought together Prime Minister Modi, Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to discuss shared concerns and strategies in the Indo-Pacific region.

As Garcetti emphasised, the Quad represents a unified vision for the region. "We are standing up for principles that not every country shares, but together, we are building a better future," he said.

Trump claims Ukraine's Zelenskyy wants Democrats to win US presidential election

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Washington : Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy wanted the Democrats to win the 2024 US elections in which the former US president faces Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris.

Trump also said if he wins the election, he will call Russian President Vladimir Putin and Zelenskyy and urge them to reach a deal to end the Russia-Ukraine war.

"I think Zelenskyy is the greatest salesman in history. Every time he comes into the country, he walks away with 60 billion dollars," Trump said in a rally in Pennsylvania. "He wants them to win this election so badly but I would do differently - I will work out peace." Zelenskyy and Harris' campaign had no immediate reaction to Trump's remarks, and Trump gave no details of his peace plan. Polls show a tight race between Trump and Harris.

Zelenskyy arrived in the United States on Sunday to attend sessions at the UN General Assembly and urged his partners to help achieve "a shared



victory for a truly just peace." Washington and its allies have provided a multi-billion dollar assistance program to Ukraine since the Russian invasion began in February 2022, while also imposing several rounds of sanctions against Moscow.

Trump has consistently described US aid to Ukraine as a waste of money and has declined to say he wants Ukraine to win. While Trump and Zelenskyy talked over the phone in July, they have not talked in person since Trump's 2017-2021 term.

Zelenskyy has previously said he cannot

predict what Trump would do if he won in November, but hoped the Republican would maintain US military support for Ukraine.

In a July interview with the BBC, Zelenskyy said working with Trump would be "hard work, but we are hard workers".

The full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine has caused the deaths of tens of thousands of people, uprooted millions more and devastated Ukrainian towns and cities. Putin says peace talks can begin only if Kyiv abandons swathes of eastern and southern Ukraine to Russia and drops its NATO membership ambitions. Zelenskyy has called repeatedly for a withdrawal of all Russian troops, and the restoration of Ukraine's post-Soviet borders.

Ukraine and the West say Russia is waging an imperial-style war. Putin cast the Ukraine invasion as a defensive move against a hostile and aggressive West.

Tsunami hits Japanese islands after 5.9-magnitude earthquake, residents on alert

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Tokyo : A small tsunami hit Japan after an earthquake of magnitude 5.9 hit an unpopulated island in the Pacific Ocean today.

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, a tsunami of 50 cm (1.6 feet) entered Hachijo island, one of the Izu islands, around 40 minutes after the earthquake.

Smaller tsunamis have been detected on three other islands, Kozushima, Miyakejima and Izu Oshima as well, the weather body said.

No casualties have been reported due to the tsunami or the earthquake so far. The weather body has also issued a warning for a tsunami of around 1 m



(3.3 feet) high for Izu and Ogasawara islands.

About 21,500 people live on the islands in the Izu group and about 2,500 on the Ogasawara Islands.

Meanwhile, record rains hit central Japan's Noto region, killing at least

one person and over seven people were reported missing.

Hourly rainfall hit record 121 mm (4.8 inches) morning in Wajima, while neighbouring Suzu received 84.5 mm in an hour, also an all-time high.

A massive 7.6 magnitude earthquake hit Suzu, Wajima and surrounding areas in Japan in January this year, killing more than 300 people.

Japan is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire, a line of seismic faults in the Pacific Ocean, and is one of the world's most earthquake and tsunami-prone countries.

Israeli strikes kill 492 in Lebanon. Hezbollah fires 200 rockets in retaliation

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Jerusalem : Israeli strikes on Hezbollah targets killed 492 people in Lebanon, marking the deadliest day in cross-border warfare since 2006, as the Lebanese terrorist group fired nearly 200 rockets into northern Israel in retaliation for the strikes by the Jewish nation.

Rocket sirens went off in Haifa, Afula, Nazareth and other cities in northern Israel as Hezbollah launched a barrage of rockets overnight, with the Iran-backed group saying the attacks targeted several Israeli military bases and airfields.

The ongoing Israel-Hezbollah conflict has triggered fears of an all-out war in the region since the Gaza conflict erupted on October 7 last year as several countries called for restraint.

ISRAEL-HEZBOLLAH TENSIONS ESCALATE:

Tens of thousands of people fled from towns and villages in southern Lebanon towards the capital, Beirut, as the Israeli military struck 1,600 Hezbollah targets in the country in the Jewish nation's most intense barrage in nearly a year of cross-border violence.

According to the Lebanese health ministry, 492 people, including dozens of women and children, died and 1,645 others were injured as Israeli strikes on Hezbollah targets left Lebanon with the highest daily death toll since the end of the 1975-1990 civil war. The toll also marked the deadliest day for the country since the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah conflict. Hezbollah on last evening launched nearly 200 rockets towards northern Israel in a retaliatory attack over the Jewish nation's deadly strikes on Israel. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said most of the rockets were intercepted by its renowned Iron Dome defence system and that no casualties or damages were reported.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his country's military was changing the "security balance" along its northern border. IDF chief of staff, Lt Gen Herzi Halevi, said the military was preparing for the "next phases" in Lebanon, adding he would elaborate on the same later.

The IDF released pictures of a long-range rocket mounted on a hydraulic launcher sitting in the attic of a home in Lebanon.

"The rocket that you see below is a long-range rocket, stored on a hydraulic system directed toward Israeli civilians and ready to be launched at a moment's notice. This is just one of the 1,300



targets including long-range cruise missiles, heavy-weight rockets and UAVs that were struck today in Lebanon and were going to be used to cause major damage in all areas of Israel," it tweeted. US President Joe Biden said he was briefed on the latest developments in Israel and Lebanon. He stressed that his administration was working on ways to de-escalate the situation. Meanwhile, a US State Department spokesperson said Washington was ready to defend its "allies and partners", while the Pentagon said more troops would be sent to the Middle East.

Earlier, the Israeli military had warned people in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon via a phone call to leave their homes and distance themselves from any buildings having Hezbollah weapons. Israel's evacuation order came after hundreds of Hezbollah's pagers and walkie-talkies exploded across Lebanon last week.

France has requested a UN Security Council meeting this week with Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot informing the UN General Assembly on the same. On the other hand, Egypt called on "international powers and the UN Security Council to intervene immediately", while Turkey said Israel's strikes could "drag the entire region into chaos".

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Monday accused Israel of laying "traps" to lead his country into a wider conflict in the Middle East. On the other hand, Israel's Foreign Minister, Israel Katz, blamed Hezbollah for using civilians as human shields for the high death toll.

The tensions between Israel and Hezbollah prompted Egypt's national carrier EgyptAir to cancel its flights to and from Beirut beginning Tuesday due to "current events unfolding in Lebanon". The airline said the cancellations would remain in effect until the situation stabilised. Jordan also suspended all flights to Beirut until further notice.

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CONTACT

2 Karnataka districts mandate Urdu for anganwadi teachers. BJP lashes out

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Bengaluru : The Siddaramaiah-led Karnataka government in a recent notification mandated Urdu as a must-known language for candidates applying for the Anganwadi teachers post in Mudigere and Chikkamagaluru districts. This decision drew sharp criticism from the opposition BJP, which accused the Congress government of "Muslim appeasement."

Former BJP MP Nalinkumar Kateel condemned the move, saying, "The announcement that one must know Urdu to get an Anganwadi teacher job is unacceptable. This is yet another attempt by the Congress to appease the Muslim community and restrict job opportunities. It's a dangerous political strategy."

The controversy stems from an official order from the Department of Women and Child Welfare, which requires applicants in Mudigere, Chikkamagaluru district, to be proficient in Urdu. The BJP took to social media platform X to criticise the government, stating, "The Karnataka government is imposing Urdu in Kannada-speaking regions. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar must explain why Urdu is being prioritised over Kannada, the state's official



language."

In response to the uproar, the Mudigere Education Department has raised concerns over the notification. In a letter to the Deputy Director, the department noted that the local population includes various communities, with Muslims constituting 31.94%. According to the government notification, in areas where minority communities make up over 25 per cent of the population, workers proficient in the minority language, in addition to Kannada, should be hired. However, the emphasis on Urdu has been seen as sidelining Kannada-speaking candidates.

The letter also urged that Kannada proficiency be included as a mandatory qualification and that the job application process be made available in Kannada to prevent backlash from pro-Kannada groups.

Devotee claims tobacco in Tirupati laddu, shares video amid animal fat row

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Hyderabad : A devotee has alleged that she found tobacco wrapped in paper inside a laddu that was given to her as prasadam (religious offering) at the famed Sri Venkateswara temple in Tirupati. The development comes after allegations of animal fat found in the laddus kicked up a major political row in Andhra Pradesh.

Donthu Padmavati, a resident of Khammam district, said she discovered the tobacco after her visit to the Tirupati temple on September 19. Like other devotees, Padmavati brought back the prasadam to share with her family and neighbours.

"As I was about to distribute the laddu, I was horrified to find pieces of tobacco wrapped in a small paper," Padmavati shared, expressing her anguish. "The prasadam is supposed to be sacred, and to find such contamination is heartbreaking," she further said.



The revelation has sent shockwaves among the lakhs of Tirupati devotees, coming on the heels of allegations that animal fat was found in the ghee used in the preparation of the laddus. The Tirupati laddu, a much-revered offering, has long been a symbol of purity and devotion for millions of pilgrims. However, these recent claims have led to growing doubts about the quality control measures in place at the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), the trust responsible for managing the temple.

WHAT IS THE CONTROVERSY?

The controversy came under the spotlight after Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu claimed last week that substandard ingredients, including animal fat, were discovered in the laddus served as prasadam at Tirupati temple during the previous Jagan

Mohan Reddy's government. Referring to a private lab report from Gujarat, Naidu alleged the presence of "beef tallow," "lard" (relating to pig fat) and fish oil in the ghee. However, former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy denied the claims, stating that no violation occurred under his regime. Reddy also blamed Naidu for doing "politics in the name of God," and called the Chief Minister "a pathological and habitual liar."

Bangladesh lodges protest against Amit Shah's remarks on 'infiltrators'

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Bangladesh government lodged a protest against Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent remarks in Jharkhand concerning Bangladeshi nationals, calling the comments "highly deplorable".

Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs handed over the protest note to India's Deputy High Commissioner in Dhaka, expressing its "serious reservations, deep hurt, and extreme displeasure".

During his visit to Jharkhand last week, Amit Shah said the BJP "will hang every Bangladeshi infiltrator upside down to give them a lesson", if people elect the party to power in



Jharkhand.

The Bangladesh government urged New Delhi to caution its political leaders against making such "objectionable and unacceptable" statements.

"The Ministry conveyed its serious

reservation, deep sense of hurt and extreme displeasure and called upon the Government of India to advise the political leaders to refrain from making such objectionable and unacceptable remarks," the protest note said.

"The ministry also emphasised that such remarks, coming from responsible positions against the nationals of a neighbouring country, undermine the spirit of mutual respect and understanding between two friendly countries," it added.

Thane fruit seller caught on camera urinating in plastic bag, arrested

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai : A 20-year-old man was arrested in Thane's Dombivali district after a video of him allegedly urinating into a plastic bag and continuing to sell fruits without washing his hands went viral on social media.

According to Manpada Police, the incident took place in a market in Nilje area in Dombivali and the man was identified as Ali Khan.

After the video went viral, locals entered the market and vandalised it. People reached the spot and the situation is under control in the region. Khan has been arrested under Sections 271 (negligent act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life) 272 (malignant act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life) and 296 (obscenity) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and further investigation is on.



Manoj Bajpayee. The Family Man team honoured by Nagaland minister

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Actor Manoj Bajpayee who was busy shooting for The Family Man 3 in Nagaland, was honoured by the government on September 23.

Nagaland's Minister Temjen Imna shared a picture with Manoj on X from their meeting. The actor later thanked everyone for their hospitality and the love they have shown to the popular series.

Temjen shared a post and wrote, "Look who I met today! Srikant ji, has Chellam Sir given any tips? (sic)." Manoj expressed his gratitude in another post on X that read, "Sir, it's been such a fantastic stay in Kohima! The entire TFM team is getting so much love from all of you; it is something we will cherish forever! (sic)."

Later, Minister Along tweeted a video



with the message, "With the Team of 'The Family Man' - With Love, The Single Man (sic)."

Not just Manoj, other members of the team including Sharib Hashmi, and Gul Panag were also present for a special meeting with Nagaland's Tourism and Higher Education Minister, Temjen Imna.

Expressing his deep appreciation for Nagaland, Manoj Bajpayee, "This is

the part of the country that I ever got an opportunity to visit. We have been shooting here for so many days now. The food, the culture--each day has been enriching."

In the Raj and DK series, the 55-year-old actor portrays Srikant Tiwari, a middle-class man who secretly works as an intelligence officer for the Threat Analysis and Surveillance Cell (TASC), a fictional branch of the National Investigation Agency.

The shoot for Prime Video's superhit series, The Family Man 3, is currently in progress in Nagaland. Starring Manoj Bajpayee in the lead, the series also stars Sharib Hashmi, Dalip Tahir, Shreya Dhanwanthary, and others in key roles.

Principal Kills Girl, 6, For Resisting Rape. Dumps body in School Compound

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Ahmedabad : The investigation into the death of a six-year-old girl in Gujarat's Dahod district has led to a chilling revelation -- the Class I student was choked to death, allegedly by her school's principal after she resisted his attempts to sexually assault her. He then dumped her body in the school's compound and her bag and shoes near the classroom. Police have arrested the accused, 55-year-old Govind Natt.

Senior police officer Rajdeep Singh Jhala said the six-year-old girl's body was found on the premises of her school on Thursday evening, sparking panic in the area. The post-mortem revealed that she suffocated to death. Police registered a case and formed 10 teams to probe the matter. The girl's mother told the police that she went to school with the principal, Govind Natt, every day. When the cops spoke to him,



the principal said he had dropped off the girl at the school and left for some work.

The cops were not convinced. When they examined Govind Natt's phone location details on the day of the incident, it was found that he reached school late that day. When he was grilled, the principal confessed to the heinous crime.

"He picked up the girl from her home at around 10.20 am. Her mother helped her

get into the principal's car and saw her off. But she never reached the school. The school's students and teachers confirmed this. On the way to school, the principal tried to sexually assault her, and she started shouting," the senior officer said, adding that the principal choked the girl to stop her from shouting.

On reaching the school, the principal left the girl's body in his car and locked the vehicle. "Around 5 pm, he dumps the body behind the school building and plants her school bag and shoes outside her classroom. He denied this initially, but we suspected him after the technical analysis," Mr Jhala said.

Govind Natt, police have said, faces stringent charges under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the stringent Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.



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