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Temperature 31°C

Sunset: 5:50 PM

Wednesday, 16.10.2024

Sunrise 6:26 AM (IST)

Next Full Moon

17 Oct 2024

Next New Moon

01 Nov 2024

Punjab Assembly Bypolls schedule announced

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced the Punjab Assembly polls on November 13 and result of November 23.



Voting underway for Punjab gram panchayat elections across state

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Voting for the Punjab gram panchayat elections is currently underway, with polling taking place from 8 am to 4 pm.

Voters are casting their ballots through ballot boxes to elect 'sarpanch' and 'panch' for their respective villages. According to sources, citizens in Mohali and Ludhiana have actively participated by visiting the polling centres. The process has been peaceful so far, and results are expected after voting concludes.

Earlier, the Punjab and Haryana High Court dismissed over 1,000 petitions seeking the cancellation of the upcoming panchayat elections. The court also lifted the ban on 206 panchayats, allowing the elections to proceed as scheduled on October 15 without any legal obstacles.

The High Court clarified that only the Election Commission has the authority to intervene in the electoral process. Additionally, the court mandated that the elections be documented through videography and recording.

However, attorneys representing the petitioners indicated plans to challenge the court's decision in the Supreme Court, signalling ongoing legal



contention surrounding the elections. The elections are set to take place for 13,237 'Sarpanches' and 83,437 'Panches'. Advocate Hakam Singh, said, "Nearly 1,000 writ petitions were filed in the Punjab and Haryana High Court regarding the Panchayat elections. 250 writ petitions were also filed and had been segregated on 11 grounds. All petitions, except the one on the grounds of videography, have been dismissed by the HC. The stay on the 250 writ petitions has also been vacated. We will approach the SC tomorrow." The Punjab High Court had earlier refused to stay the Panchayat elections across the state. However, the court did stay the election process in select villages where complaints had been registered regarding complications faced by candidates in filing their nominations.

Omar Abdullah to take oath as J-K Chief Minister on October 16

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : National Conference leader Omar Abdullah is set to take oath as the new chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir on October 16.

Sharing the letter on X, sent by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Omar Abdullah said, "Was pleased to receive the Principal Secretary to LG Manoj Sinha ji. He handed over a letter from the @OfficeOfLGandK inviting me to form the next government in J-K."

Earlier, the president's rule in Jammu and Kashmir was revoked, clearing the way for the formation of a new government following the recently concluded Assembly polls in the Union Territory. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued a gazette notification in this regard.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019) read with articles 239 and 239A of the Constitution of India, the Order dated the 31st October 2019 in relation to the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall stand revoked immediately before the



appointment of the Chief Minister under section 54 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019," read the official order. This will be the first elected government in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 and the reorganisation of the former state into two Union Territories. The 90 seats in the region were contested in a three-phase election, with the results announced on October 8. NC-Congress alliance secured 48 seats, with the NC leading the alliance to victory, as the Congress won only six seats.

Rajya Sabha polls in 4 J&K seats to be held after nearly 4 years

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Srinagar : Elections in four Rajya Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir will be held after nearly four years following the swearing-in of the National Conference-led government on October 16.

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha had invited National Conference leader Omar Abdullah to take oath as the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister on October 16.

According to sources, the National Conference-Congress is expected to win three Rajya Sabha seats. The alliance won a majority in the just-held Assembly polls in the Union Territory, securing 48 of 90 seats. Other parties, including CPI-M, AAP and five Independents are supporting the alliance, pushing the overall tally to 55.

The BJP, which finished second with a best-haul of 29 seats, could get one Rajya Sabha seat, sources said.

National Conference supremo Farooq Abdullah is likely to be nominated to Rajya Sabha while BJP may send one of its senior leaders to the Upper House, they



added.

Former Deputy Chief Ministers Nirmal Singh and Kavinder Gupta, who were denied tickets for Assembly polls, are the frontrunners for the BJP's Rajya Sabha nomination, sources further said.

The last Rajya Sabha polls in the erstwhile state were held in 2015 and the four seats have remained vacant since 2021 after the elected members completed their six-year tenures.

In the Assembly polls held after a decade in Jammu and Kashmir, the National Conference won 42 seats, Congress 6, BJP 29, PDP 3 and one each by the People's Conference, CPI-M and AAP. Seven independents also emerged victorious.

Heavy rain hits Tamil Nadu. showers expected in Kerala. Andhra Pradesh. Karnataka

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Bengaluru : While Tamil Nadu braces for heavy rainfall, the Indian Meteorological department (IMD) predicted intense showers in neighbouring states of Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.

The IMD has issued an orange alert in these three states, especially in the Rayalseema region and coastal Andhra Pradesh, where extremely heavy showers are likely.

Very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall in several parts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and south interior Karnataka has been forecast by the IMD from October 15-17. Intense rainfall is expected between October 15-16 in Tamil Nadu's Karaikal and Pudukcherry. In Kerala's Mahe, the forecast is for very heavy rains from October 15-17.

Similar weather will be seen in Andhra Pradesh's Rayalaseema region and in interior Karnataka. Lakshadweep is likely to see heavy rainfall from October 17. The northeast monsoon is likely to impact coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam between October 15 and 16.

The IMD also predicts that a low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a depression within 48 hours, bringing widespread rains to Andhra Pradesh.

Andhra Pradesh districts likely to get very heavy rains are Guntur, Kishna, NTR, East Godavari, Eluru, Prakasam,



Palnadu, Bapatla, and Chittoor. Other districts may experience moderate rains. Coastal areas might witness strong winds with speeds of 35-55 km/h.

Meanwhile, the authorities have advised fishermen against venturing into the sea due to rough conditions.

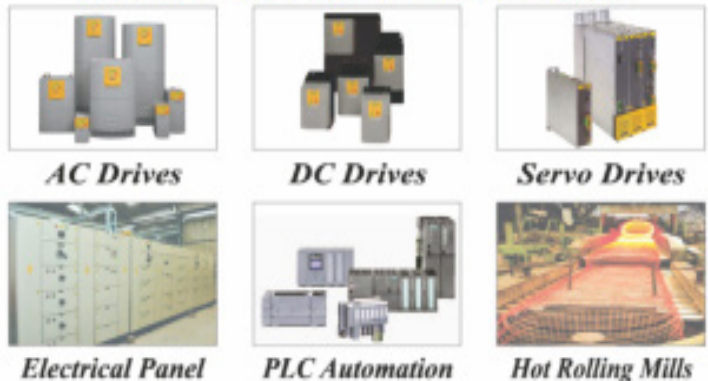
In view of this prediction, several districts in Andhra Pradesh have declared holidays for schools. Schools in Tirupati and Prakasham have been shut down for Tuesday, October 15, while in Sri Sathya Sai district holiday has been declared for school for three days, from October 15-17.

In Chittoor district, schools and anganwadis will remain closed for two days, October 15-16.

District collectors have announced these closures citing heavy rainfall and low pressure in the region.

In view of the heavy rains caused by the depression in the Bay of Bengal, Tirupati District Collectorate has set up a cyclone control room.

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NASA launches Europa Clipper to examine Jupiter's Ocean Moon

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

NASA's Europa Clipper has embarked on its long voyage to Jupiter, where it will investigate Europa, a moon with an enormous subsurface ocean that may have conditions to support life. The spacecraft launched at 12:06 p.m. EDT Monday aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket from Launch Pad 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

The largest spacecraft NASA ever built for a mission headed to another planet, Europa Clipper also is the first NASA mission dedicated to studying an ocean world beyond Earth. The spacecraft will travel 1.8 billion miles (2.9 billion kilometers) on a trajectory that will leverage the power of gravity assists, first to Mars in four months and then back to Earth for another gravity assist flyby in 2026. After it begins orbiting Jupiter in April 2030, the spacecraft will fly past Europa 49 times.

"Congratulations to our Europa Clipper team for beginning the first journey to an ocean world beyond Earth," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson.

"NASA leads the world in exploration and discovery, and the Europa Clipper mission is no different. By exploring the unknown, Europa Clipper will help us better understand whether there is the potential for life not just within our solar system, but among the billions of moons and planets beyond our Sun."

Approximately five minutes after liftoff, the rocket's second stage fired up and the payload fairing, or the rocket's nose cone, opened to reveal Europa Clipper. About an hour after launch, the spacecraft separated from the rocket.

Ground controllers received a



signal soon after, and two-way communication was established at 1:13 p.m. with NASA's Deep Space Network facility in Canberra, Australia. Mission teams celebrated as initial telemetry reports showed Europa Clipper is in good health and operating as expected.

"We could not be more excited for the incredible and unprecedented science NASA's Europa Clipper mission will deliver in the generations to come," said Nicky Fox, associate administrator, Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

"Everything in NASA science is interconnected, and Europa Clipper's scientific discoveries will build upon the legacy that our other missions exploring Jupiter — including Juno, Galileo, and Voyager — created in our search for habitable worlds beyond our home planet."

The main goal of the mission is to determine whether Europa has conditions that could support life. Europa is about the size of our own Moon, but its interior is different.

Information from NASA's Galileo

mission in the 1990s showed strong evidence that under Europa's ice lies an enormous, salty ocean with more water than all of Earth's oceans combined. Scientists also have found evidence that Europa may host organic compounds and energy sources under its surface.

If the mission determines Europa is habitable, it may mean there are more habitable worlds in our solar system and beyond than imagined.

"We're ecstatic to send Europa Clipper on its way to explore a potentially habitable ocean world, thanks to our colleagues and partners who've worked so hard to get us to this day," said Laurie Leshin, director, of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California.

"Europa Clipper will undoubtedly deliver mind-blowing science. While always bittersweet to send something we've labored over for years off on its long journey, we know this remarkable team and spacecraft will expand our knowledge of our solar system and inspire future exploration."

In 2031, the spacecraft will begin conducting its science-dedicated flybys of Europa. Coming as close as 16 miles (25 kilometers) to the surface, Europa Clipper is equipped with nine science instruments and a gravity experiment, including an ice-penetrating radar, cameras, and a thermal instrument to

look for areas of warmer ice and any recent eruptions of water.

As the most sophisticated suite of science instruments NASA has ever sent to Jupiter, they will work in concert to learn more about the moon's icy shell, thin atmosphere, and deep interior.

To power those instruments in the faint sunlight that reaches Jupiter, Europa Clipper also carries the largest solar arrays NASA has ever used for an interplanetary mission. With arrays extended, the spacecraft spans 100 feet (30.5 meters) from end to end. With propellant loaded, it weighs about 13,000 pounds (5,900 kilograms).

In all, more than 4,000 people have contributed to the Europa Clipper mission since it was formally approved in 2015.

"As Europa Clipper embarks on its journey, I'll be thinking about the countless hours of dedication, innovation, and teamwork that made this moment possible," said Jordan Evans, project manager, NASA JPL. "This launch isn't just the next chapter in our exploration of the solar system; it's a leap toward uncovering the mysteries of another ocean world, driven by our shared curiosity and continued search to answer the question, 'are we alone?'"

More About Europa Clipper
Europa Clipper's three main science objectives are to determine the

thickness of the moon's icy shell and its interactions with the ocean below, to investigate its composition, and to characterize its geology.

The mission's detailed exploration of Europa will help scientists better understand the astrobiological potential for habitable worlds beyond our planet.

Managed by Caltech in Pasadena, California, NASA JPL leads the development of the Europa Clipper mission in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in Laurel, Maryland, for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

The main spacecraft body was designed by APL in collaboration with NASA JPL and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, and NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. The Planetary Missions Program Office at Marshall executes program management of the Europa Clipper mission.

NASA's Launch Services Program, based at NASA Kennedy, managed the launch service for the Europa Clipper spacecraft.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by:
Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date
16 th Oct

Born on 16 th Oct : 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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84270-06368

 <h3 style="color: red;">Aries</h3> <p>(March 21 - April 19)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : In case you have been feeling frustrated recently- you should remember that right actions and thoughts today will bring much needed relief. Friends and near ones would extend their helping hand upon you. You will tease your romantic partner by prolonging your call.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Taurus</h3> <p>(April 20 - May 20)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Some pressure at work and home will make you short-tempered. The money you had saved up from a long time can come to use today. However, the expenditure can lower your spirit. Invitation in a award function of your child would be the source of happiness.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Gemini</h3> <p>(May 21 - June 20)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Try to avoid long journey as you are too weak to travel. Those who had borrowed money from a relative may have to return that amount in any condition today. Your thirst for knowledge will help you make new friends. Sudden romantic encounter may confuse you.</p>
 <h3 style="color: red;">Cancer</h3> <p>(June 21 - July 22)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Involve yourself in some donation and charity work for mental peace. You will possess a desire to earn quick money. Friends and near ones would extend their helping hand upon you. Don't give up to emotional demands of your lover.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Leo</h3> <p>(July 23 - Aug 22)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Try to put your high confidence to good use today. Despite a hectic day you will still be able to gather back your energy. People of this zodiac sign who carry out business from abroad are likely to benefit financially today. Friends will come to your aid if needed.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Virgo</h3> <p>(Aug 23 - Sep 22)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Your are likely to enjoy the success of other people by praising them. The court will make decisions in your favour today if you were involved in a case regarding money-related matters. It will benefit you financially.</p>
 <h3 style="color: red;">Libra</h3> <p>(Sep 23 - Oct 22)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Make serious efforts to improve your personality. 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. Homes without children are soulless despite being orderly.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Scorpio</h3> <p>(Oct 23 - Nov 21)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Some pressure at work and home will make you short-tempered. Those who have borrowed money from anyone may have to repay the loan under any circumstances. In such a manner, it can weaken your economic situation.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Sagittarius</h3> <p>(Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Keep your diet under control and exercise to stay fit. An old friend can ask you for financial help today. However, your assistance can weaken your financial conditions. Grandchildren would be a source of immense pleasure. Travel will promote romantic connection.</p>
 <h3 style="color: red;">Capricorn</h3> <p>(Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : You will find yourself with less energy than you generally do-Don't overload yourself with additional work-Take some rest and reschedule your appointments for another day.The elders of this zodiac sign can go and meet their old friends today in their free time.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Aquarius</h3> <p>(Jan 20 - Feb 18)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : You will have abundance of energy- but work pressure seems to get you irritated. Any of your movable property can get stolen today. Hence, you need to take good care of them. A day for renewal of bonds and ties with relations.</p>	 <h3 style="color: red;">Pisces</h3> <p>(Feb 19 - Mar 20)</p> <p>Oct 16th 2024 : Health remains perfect. 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. Concentrating on the need of your family members should be your priority today.</p>

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Statue repaired and reinstalled

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : A statue of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur was reinstalled at the bus stand in Mohali after which Deputy Mayor Kuljit Singh Bedi expressed his happiness.

It is pertinent to mention here that the statue had been previously removed for repairs after sustaining damage. Mohali Dy Mayor Bedi had earlier raised concerns about its removal, to which the authorities responded by explaining that the statue was being repaired. Today, the statue has been reinstated, although work at the site is still ongoing.

Deputy Mayor Bedi expressed his joy at the statue's return and mentioned that once the work is completed, it will be officially dedicated to the public.

Bedi had previously voiced concerns about the statue's absence, which led



the authorities to take prompt action to reinstall it. Bedi also shared his hopes that the Baba Banda Singh Bahadur bus stand would soon be fully operational.

He further added that he has filed a case in the Punjab and Haryana High Court to reopen a road near the bus stand that was taken over by a company during construction. This road, which was originally a double lane, has been reduced to a single lane, causing frequent traffic jams.

He is hopeful that the bus stand will soon be fully functional, benefiting the residents of Mohali.

Bedi also thanked the Deputy Commissioner of Mohali for his efforts in ensuring the statue's reinstallation and looked forward to the completion of the ongoing work. Once finished, the statue will be dedicated to the public, marking a moment of celebration for the community.

CM Mann asks officers to complete ongoing work on medical colleges in time

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann today reiterated the firm commitment of the state government to emerge Punjab as hub of medical education.

Chairing a meeting to review the work on the ongoing medical colleges in the state, the Chief Minister asked the officers to ensure that the work on these is completed in a time bound manner.

He said that the work is going on in full swing for constructing upcoming medical colleges at SAS Nagar (Mohali), Kapurthala, Sangrur, Hoshiarpur and Malerkotla. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that these medical colleges and hospitals are aimed at making the state a hub of medical education in the country thereby immensely benefitting the people of Punjab.

The Chief Minister batted that the construction work of medical colleges should be completed in a time-bound manner so that better health facilities are made available to the people at affordable rates.

He said that the state has a glorious legacy of producing world-class Doctors across the globe and even today a large number of students



pursue the medical education to become qualified doctors. Bhagwant Singh Mann envisioned that the students aspiring to pursue medical education would be provided quality medical education in these medical colleges.

The Chief Minister also asked the officers to prepare an elaborate plan for facelift of medical colleges in Amritsar, Faridkot and Patiala.

He said that the sole aim is to ensure that people are able to get quality health services in these colleges and hospitals. Bhagwant Singh Mann

asked the officers to make sure that people are benefitted from these medical colleges.

The Chief Minister also asked the officers to explore the feasibility of hiring more super specialist doctors in the government hospitals of the state. He said that this will go a long way in ensuring the well being of the common man by ensuring quality medical facilities in hospitals.

Bhagwant Singh Mann asked the officers to prepare a comprehensive policy for encouraging more super specialists to join government jobs.

PIC OF THE DAY

Who CARES...?

Potholes-riddled parking spaces hassle commuters in Mohali



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : The proper parking spaces across the city has long been in major demand among the Mohali residents. While Mohali still has a long way to go before parking spaces are evenly built across the city, the existing parking spaces are also not fit for parking vehicles, leaving commuters at the receiving end.

Phase 5 residents have raised concerns over a range of civic issues that demand urgent attention. The potholes-riddled parking spaces in Phase 5 continue to pose regular inconvenience for the commuters. "We all pay taxes directly or indirectly but the facilities we are receiving nowhere match what we are getting from the government," said a resident

of Phase 5 who was visiting market for daily needs and added that parking area is full of potholes that get filled with water during monsoon, making it very difficult to commute.

"The civil body should either repair the parking areas or stop imposing penalties if people find no options but to park their vehicles on roads," another resident as the parking area in phase 5 market is in a deplorable state, large potholes are a common scene in area.

Shopkeepers of the area said, residents are frustrated and avoid visiting the market area as there are numerous potholes in parking area and lot damaged their vehicles due to deep potholes.

Indian Army's Airawat division complete cycle expedition

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Ambala : The Airawat Division of the Indian Army has successfully concluded its exhilarating Nako Cycle Expedition, covering a remarkable 620 kilometers across the scenic terrains of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.

Flagged off by Lieutenant General Rajesh Pushkar, General Officer Commanding of the Kharga Corps, the expedition featured 45 cyclists from the CAVALRY unit who braved the challenging journey over 20 days. The cyclists navigated through picturesque landscapes and culturally rich areas, passing through key towns such as Nako, Somling, Batal, Manali, Mandi, Bilaspur, and ultimately reaching Ambala.

This expedition was not only a test of endurance and adventure but also



aimed to foster a sense of nationalism among the youth and strengthen ties with Indian Army veterans in the region.

During their journey, the cyclists actively engaged with local communities, learned about regional cultures, and spread awareness about the Indian Army's role and contributions. They also interacted with army veterans and participated in

environmental conservation activities, reinforcing the Army's commitment to sustainability and community service. The Nako Cycle Expedition exemplifies the Indian Army's dedication to promoting adventure, national pride, and meaningful community engagement, leaving a lasting impact on both participants and the people they encountered along the way.

Students Dive into the Wonders of the Government Art Museum!



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Aiming to spread awareness through excursion and understanding of art, history, and culture Primary Students of Kids R Kids Secondary School enjoyed an enlightening visit to the Government Art Museum in Sector 10, Chandigarh. During the visit, students learned about the evolution of human beings and the fascinating world of dinosaurs. They explored various exhibits showcasing ancient coins, which provided insights into the economic history of India. The museum also featured stunning sculptures of Buddha, allowing students to

appreciate the rich spiritual heritage of the region.

In addition, the beautiful paintings on display depicted the diverse culture and heritage of India, inspiring students to reflect on the country's artistic traditions.

The guided tour facilitated engaging discussions, encouraging students to ask questions and share their thoughts.

The visit was a part of Kids R Kids Secondary School's commitment to holistic education, emphasizing the importance of cultural experiences in student development.

Firing reported in Patiala. 2 injured

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Patiala : Firing incidents were reported as polling for panchayats in Punjab are underway amid tight security arrangements on today. One person opened fire at his rival political faction outside a polling booth in Khudde village. "We are looking into the matter and action will be taken as per law," said DSP Gurdev Singh Dhaliwal. "The injured has been shifted to the hospital and we are yet to record the statement of the injured. Prima facie it appears that two rival factions had a face



off in the polling station, which led to the firing incident just few meters away from the polling

booth. A fire arm injury is suspected and we are yet to ascertain if two or more persons are injured," he said.

Voting for the posts of 'sarpanch' and 'panch' through ballot boxes began at 8 am and would continue till 4 pm.

After the polling, the votes will be counted at the polling stations.

3,798 'Sarpanches' have already been elected unopposed.

Punjab will soon emerge as digital hub of the country: CM Mann



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann today envisioned that due to concerted efforts of state government Punjab will soon emerge as digital hub of the country.

During a meeting with, Daniel Julien, Chairman & CEO of Teleperformance (TP), global leader for outsourced digital business services here at his official residence, the Chief Minister said that state has immense potential in this vast sector.

He appreciated that Teleperformance has over 16000+ employees in Mohali adding he urged Julien to consider Punjab for further thrust and expansion, who readily accepted the offer.

Bhagwant Singh Mann said that it is a matter of great pride and satisfaction that Teleperformance services has leading clients from across industries including BFS, Travel, E-commerce, Technology, Media and Telecom, from its three sites in Mohali.

The Chief Minister said that Mohali is truly emerging as an IT destination of India adding that Teleperformance is the leading global provider of outsourced Digital Business Services with 500,000+ employees worldwide across 100 countries.

Bhagwant Singh Mann assured fulsome support and cooperation to the company for their every future endeavour and expansion plans in the state. He expressed hope that further expansion by Teleperformance group will accelerate the pace of development on one hand and provide job to youth on the other. Meanwhile, Daniel Julien expressed thanks to the Chief Minister for extending full support to their venture in the state.

He said that With 90,000 employees currently, TP India represents the largest multicultural team within the Teleperformance group, and provides world-class CX services to 200+ clients across different industries from across the globe. Julien said that the company's 'High-Tech, High-Touch, High Standard' approach combines the most advanced digital and technology solutions with human empathy to deliver seamless customer experience, back-office and transformation services, to world's leading brands.

He said that Teleperformance has grown in Mohali by leaps and bounds, generating huge employment opportunities to the regional talent pool with a current employee strength of 16000+.

Order to expel Virsa Singh Valtoha from Akali Dal

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Amritsar : Jathedar Akal Takht Sahib Giani Raghbir Singh has ordered the expulsion of Virsa Singh Valtoha from the Akali Dal for 10 years.



ECI announces by-elections for 4 Assembly Seats in Punjab

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced by-elections for four assembly seats in Punjab: 10-Dera Baba Nanak, 44-Chabbewal (SC), 84-Gidderbaha, and 103-Barnala.

Divulging the details, Chief Electoral Officer Sabin C stated that, as per the program issued for these by-elections, the notification will be issued on 18 October. The last date for filing nominations is 25 October and the scrutiny of nomination papers will be conducted on 28 October, while the last date for withdrawal of candidature is 30 October.

Sabin C informed that voting will take place on 13 November, and the counting of votes and announcement of results will be done on 23 November.

He further stated that with the announcement of the by-elections, the election code of conduct has come into effect in the districts where these constituencies are located: Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Sri Muktsar Sahib, and Barnala. The code of conduct will remain in force until the completion of the election process till 25 November. Number of Voters and Polling Stations in Four Assembly Constituencies Chief Electoral Officer Sabin C mentioned that, as of 10th October 2024, the total number of voters in the four constituencies is 6,96,316, with a total



of 831 polling stations. For 10-Dera Baba Nanak, there are 1,93,268 voters and 241 polling stations. In 44-Chabbewal (SC), the number of voters is 1,59,254, with 205 polling stations. He further added that in 84-Gidderbaha, the total number of voters is 1,66,489, and 173 polling stations have been established. Meanwhile, in 103-Barnala, there are 1,77,305 voters and 212 polling stations.

Sabin C informed that Uma Shankar Gupta, Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur, has been appointed as the District Election Officer for the Dera Baba Nanak assembly constituency, while Komal Mittal, Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiarpur, will serve as the District Election Officer for Chabbewal (SC). Rajesh Tripathi, Deputy Commissioner of Sri Muktsar Sahib, has been appointed for the Gidderbaha constituency, and Poonamdeep Kaur, Deputy Commissioner of Barnala, will be the District Election Officer for Barnala.

Panchayat Polls: Clash erupts between two parties in Barnala: 2 including candidate seriously injured

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Barnala : A fight broke out between two parties in Karamgarh village of Barnala. Two people, including the Panchayat candidate, have been injured in the incident.

The injured candidate Gurjant Singh said that he is contesting the election from Ward No. 9 from Panchi from Karamgarh. Singh shared that when he was returning in his village late at night, some people harassed him vandalized his car, and beat him badly.

He said that 20-25 goons attacked his car after seeing the defeat of the candidate contesting the Sarpanch



election by the opposing faction. In this attack, he and his friend were seriously injured, both of them suffered head injuries. He demanded the police administration to register a case against the attackers and arrest

them immediately.

On this occasion, investigating police officer Harvinder Pal said that Gurjant Singh son of Karnail Singh, a resident of village Karamgarh, has been admitted to the hospital due to injuries. Appropriate action will be taken against the accused after taking the statement of the injured Gurjant Singh. This incident took place during the fight over panchayat elections. He added that the Panchayat election in the village is being conducted with peace and order.

2005 Cadre Punjab IAS to be new Finance Secretary of Chandigarh

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The name of Deeprava Lakra IAS officer of Punjab has been approved as Finance Secretary of Chandigarh administration. Deeprava Lakra IAS has served as DC in Bathinda during 2017. He belongs to Orissa and he has done MSc. LLB. He has also done B Tech (Electrical engineering) from IIT Kharagpur. Diprava Lakra has served as SDM of Zira and Dhuri, besides ADC Muktsar Sahib and Special Secretary, Home affairs & Justice. He has also served as DC in Jharkhand for three years on inter-cadre deputation in 2010.

During his tenure as DC of Bathinda,



one of his facets of the functioning style was his campaign to motivate the small farmers for diversification from wheat/ rice circle to vegetable growing. Almost, every Saturday, he was out to some village of the district

to meet the villagers, study their problems and suggests to them corrective steps for making farming a feasible livelihood. He counsel farmers to seek advice from agriculture department rather than to act on the recommendation of dealers or agents. He even asked the villagers to click a photo, whenever the agriculture department organise a training camp and send him in WhatsApp. He had been personally monitoring all the agriculture related schemes on fortnightly basis. He earned good name as a DC of Bathinda

Two days International Workshop on e-Waste Management Organized by Climate Change Cell, Department of Environment

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Climate Change Cell, Department of Environment, Chandigarh, in collaboration with leading organisations such as the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) and the Global Youth Federation, successfully organized a two-day online international workshop on e-Waste Management on the occasion of International e-Waste Day. The event was held from 14th to 15th October 2024 and aimed to address the growing global challenge of e-waste management. The workshop commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Rupali Jandrotia, representing the Climate Change Cell, Department of Environment, Chandigarh. Sh. T. C. Nautiyal, IFS, inaugurated the event as the Chief Guest for the opening session. In his keynote address, Sh. Nautiyal stressed the importance of sustainable e-waste management practices to ensure environmental protection and long-term public health benefits. The two-day workshop brought together national and international experts who shared insights and strategies for effective e-waste management. Notable speakers included Dr. Sumit Arora, President



of APSWDP; Ms. Karishma Chhabra, Director of Strategic Innovation at RBH E-Waste Recycle Hub Pvt. Ltd., Delhi; Dr. Richa Rastogi Thakur, Assistant Professor at the CNSNT, Panjab University; Mr. Rafa Jafar, Founder of EwasteRJ, Indonesia; Ekaterina Zhukovskaia, International Department at ANO "Energy for Development," ROSATOM, Russia; Dr. Kuldeep Baudhh, Associate Professor at the IESD, BHU; Dr. Parveen Kumar, Exigo Recycling Pvt. Ltd., Karnal; and Mr. Simardeep, Director of Global Youth Federation, Chhattisgarh. The speakers focused on key themes such as sustainable e-waste management, advancements in recycling technology and processes, international cooperation for ecological solutions and e-waste management, and promoting a circular economy in the handling of e-waste. These discussions highlighted innovative strategies and collaborative efforts necessary to address the

global e-waste crisis effectively. On the final day, Dr. Dea Andrea Wehrli, Consultant and Co-Founder of Volutio Aarau, Switzerland, served as the Chief Guest for the valedictory session. Her closing address, titled "e-Waste: A Global Challenge for a Sustainable Future," highlighted the pressing need for collective global action in managing e-waste through sustainable and circular economy approaches. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Rupali Jandrotia, highlighting the contribution of all participants and emphasizing the need for continued collaboration in the field of e-waste management. This workshop provided a platform for fruitful discussions, knowledge exchange, and deliberations on innovative solutions for the e-waste crisis, marking a significant step toward a more sustainable and responsible approach to e-waste management.

Shri Ram Temple Construction Anniversary Celebrated with Devotion and Festivities

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kharar : On the auspicious occasion marking the one-year anniversary of the beginning of the Shri Ram Temple's construction, the Shri Ram Mandir Aji Sarovar Vikas Samiti celebrated the day with great devotion and festivity. The president of the organization, Shashipal Jain, along with Subhash Aggarwal, expressed their gratitude for the continuous progress of the construction, which has been advancing smoothly with the support of the city's residents and group members of the Samiti.

A series of spiritual events have been planned to honor the day. A mass gathering is being held at Shri Ram Bhawan, starting with the revered Sundar Kand Paath at 5 PM, followed by an evening of devotional songs (Bhajan Sandhya) which will last until 8:30 PM. The celebrations will culminate in a grand Bhandara, a sacred community meal, open to all devotees. Highlighting the significance of the



temple's construction, Shashipal Jain emphasized that contributing to such a divine cause is considered highly sacred according to Hindu scriptures. The event will also allow devotees to participate physically in the temple's construction. Attendees will have the opportunity to pour the concrete mixture onto the pillars of the temple with their own hands, symbolizing their spiritual and physical contribution to

the project.

"We appeal to all devotees to actively participate in this noble cause by pouring concrete yourself or with your family. It's an opportunity to contribute to a sacred cause and achieve spiritual merit," said Shashi Jain.

The organization has also invited contributions of money, building materials like cement, gravel, and sand to ensure the smooth continuation of the project. The community response has been overwhelming, with many coming forward to support the temple's construction in any way they can. The day has turned into a festive occasion, uniting the community in their shared devotion and commitment to the completion of the grand Shri Ram Temple.

Veteran Actor Atul Parchure Dies At 57

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai : Veteran actor Atul Parchure has died at the age of 57. He breathed his last following a battle with cancer.

His death has sent shockwaves through the film fraternity, leading to an outpouring of tributes on social media.

He was a well-known Marathi actor who appeared in numerous Hindi television shows and films, including a memorable stint on Kapil Sharma's comedy show.

In a previous talk show appearance, he disclosed his cancer diagnosis, revealing that doctors had discovered a 5 cm tumour in his liver.

In an interview, he expressed the gravity of the situation, stating: "I was told I have a tumour about 5 centimeters long in my liver and that it is cancerous."

However, Atul Parchure's treatment took a significant toll on his health due to a misdiagnosis. He recounted: "My first procedure after the diagnosis went wrong, affecting my pancreas and leading to various complications.



The incorrect treatment actually aggravated my condition. I was unable to walk and struggled to speak clearly. In that state, the doctor advised me to wait for a month and a half.

"They warned that undergoing surgery could result in long-term jaundice or severe liver complications, potentially jeopardising my survival. Eventually, I sought a second opinion, switched doctors, and received the appropriate medication and chemotherapy."

Atul Parchure was known for his work in both films and television,

particularly recognized for his comic performances.

He gained popularity through various projects, including notable works like "Vasu Chi Sasu", "Priyatama", and Tarun "Turk Mhatre Arka".

His filmography boasts appearances in movies such as "Navra Mazha Navsacha", "Salaam-E-Ishq", "Partner", "All the Best: Fun Begins", "Khatta Meetha" and "Buddha Hoga Terra Baap" among others.

His versatility as an actor made him a beloved figure in the Marathi entertainment industry.

What happened the last time India hosted New Zealand in Bengaluru Test in 2012



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : India is set to host New Zealand for a three-match Test series, starting October 16, Wednesday. India lead the overall head-to-head record with 22 wins in 62 games and 27 draws. Meanwhile, New Zealand won 13 matches in the format against India. As M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru is set to host the 1st Test, let us recall as to what happened the last time India hosted the Blackcaps in the format at this very venue. India clinched a 2-0 series victory over New Zealand by winning the second Test at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru, by 5 wickets in August 2012. The hosts chased down 261 on the fourth day, thanks to a steady knock from skipper MS Dhoni and valuable contributions from skipper MS Dhoni and Cheteshwar Pujara.

After winning the toss and opting to bat first, New Zealand posted 365 in their first innings. Ross Taylor led the way with a brilliant 113, while Kruger van Wyk added 71 to take the visitors to a competitive total. Pragyan Ojha was the pick of the Indian bowlers, taking 4/90. In reply, India managed 353, falling 12 runs short of New

Zealand's total. Virat Kohli stood out with a patient 103, his second Test century. MS Dhoni (62) and Suresh Raina (55) chipped in with crucial runs to keep India in the game. For New Zealand, Tim Southee impressed with figures of 7/64, troubling the Indian batters with swing and seam.

Virat's 2nd Test hundred New Zealand's second innings was wrapped up for 248, despite Ross Taylor's quick 35. R Ashwin once again starred with the ball, finishing with 5/69, taking his match tally to 12 wickets. His consistent bowling proved decisive in restricting the Kiwis.

Chasing 261 for victory, India's top order struggled early, losing three quick wickets. However, Kohli (51) held the innings together, and Dhoni (48*) finished the job with composure. Cheteshwar Pujara's steady 48 also provided crucial stability during the chase.

Ashwin becomes Player of the Series With this 5-wicket win, India sealed the series 2-0. Virat Kohli was named Player of the Match and R Ashwin was named as the Player of the Series for his outstanding bowling performances throughout the two Tests.

Manipur actor alleges discrimination by Jigra team: Deeply unprofessional

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : A few days after Divya Khosla accused the makers of Jigra of 'faking' box office numbers, Manipur actor BijouThaangjam, known for his work in Mary Kom and Rocketry, raised allegations of discrimination against the film's team. Recently, he shared his experience with the makers in a detailed post on X.

Bijou has accused the makers of Alia Bhatt's film of 'unprofessional behaviour' and criticised major production houses for showing bias against actors from the Northeast. "I am not here to jump on the bandwagon with the Jigra controversy over the alleged copying of Divya Khosla's Savi, but I've been keeping my own experience with the Jigra team under wraps for a while, and maybe it's time to speak up (sic)," his post read. He detailed his experience, stating, "Back in 2023, I was approached by their casting team to audition for a role. I sent in my tapes twice over the span of four months, playing along with their timeline. By the end of November, they told me I'd be shooting in December—fantastic,



right? Except they never gave me any firm shoot dates. Still, they booked for the entire month of December, expecting that I'd be ready to shoot for them at any moment (sic)."

He then accused the makers of wasting his time, which caused him to miss several other opportunities that came his way. "I understand how big production houses operate. The director is undeniably talented, but the way they handled this entire situation was deeply unprofessional. For actors like me from the Northeast, it felt particularly dismissive, almost

discriminatory (sic)," he added.

The makers of the film are yet to respond to Bijou's claims. Jigra released in theatres on October 11.

A few days ago, actor-filmmaker Divya Khosla accused Alia Bhatt of inflating box office numbers by posting images of empty theatres. This came after discussions arose about the similarities between Divya's film Savi and Alia's Jigra. Directed by Vasun Bala, Jigra is a story about a sister breaking the jail to rescue her brother.

It's story TIME

When Adversity Knocks

There once was a girl who was frustrated with life and asked her father for advice. He asked her to bring an egg, two tea leaves, and a potato. He then started boiling water in three separate vessels. He put the egg, potato, and tea leaves in one vessel each. After a few minutes, he asked her to peel the egg and potato and strain the leaves. He explained to his daughter that: The soft egg was now hard. The hard potato was now soft. The tea had changed the water itself. When adversity is at our door, we can respond to it in different ways.



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ENROLL NOW

UP government to introduce strict laws after spate of spit, urine in food

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Lucknow : In response to rising incidents of spitting and mixing of urine in eatables, the Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government is set to introduce two new ordinances aimed at cracking down on unsanitary food practices. The proposed Prevention of False and Anti-Harmony Activities and Spitting Prohibition Ordinance 2024 and the UP Prevention of Contamination in Food (Consumer Right to Know) Ordinance 2024 will establish strict penalties for those found tampering with food, including spitting or other unsanitary practices.

Additionally, these laws will ensure consumers have the right to complete transparency regarding the preparation and handling of their food.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will meet with top officials on Tuesday, including the Additional Chief Secretary for Home Affairs, the Law Officer, and the Director



General of Police of Uttar Pradesh, to finalise the ordinances, sources said. The new legislation is expected to strengthen consumer protections and enhance food safety across the state.

These steps follow recent incidents where individuals were arrested for contaminating food with bodily fluids. Last month, a viral video showing a

teenager spitting on rotis in Saharanpur led to the arrest of the eatery's owner.

Similarly, two men were detained in Noida for contaminating juice with urine, and a vendor in Ghaziabad was arrested for allegedly mixing his spit in fruit juice.

Yogi Adityanath expressed his disgust at such practices during a high-level meeting in September, calling them a violation of public trust. He also ordered that the name and address of operators, proprietors and managers be mandatorily displayed at all food establishments, failing which they would be penalised.

The ordinances are expected to be rolled out soon, with severe penalties for those found guilty of food contamination, ensuring safer standards and accountability in the food industry.

Prohibitory orders in parts of Kolkata for puja carnival amid doctors' stir

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kolkata : With the Durga Puja Carnival set to begin today, the Kolkata Police has banned any rally or gatherings of more than five people in Red Road and its adjoining areas for one day amid protest calls by the BJP and junior doctors agitating over the trainee doctor's rape and murder at RG Kar hospital.

According to an order issued by Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Verma, it has been feared that some people and organisations want to hold a protest in the areas around Red Road, where the carnival will be held.

"Due to this, there is a strong possibility of people not being able to attend the Durga Puja Carnival. In view of this, Section 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNS) (Power to issue order in urgent cases of nuisance or apprehended danger) has been implemented for one day in the areas around Red Road," the order said.

About 3,000 policemen have been deployed for the Durga Puja Carnival. Entry of goods vehicles on Red Road has been closed and the roads connected to it will also be shut for today. Watch



towers have been set up at various places in Red Road where the entire area will be monitored.

The West Bengal government has been holding the Durga Puja Carnival since 2016 to mark the culmination of the state's biggest festival. About 100 Durga Puja committees will participate in the carnival and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will be present.

PROTESTS BY BJP, JUNIOR DOCTORS Meanwhile, a rally will be taken out by the BJP from College Square to Esplanade under the leadership of Leader of Opposition in West Bengal Assembly, Suvendu Adhikari, with a call for boycotting the carnival.

"It will be without any party flags, and we request people to join us as it is being organised for the safety and security of women in the state," Adhikari said.

Junior doctors who are holding a hunger strike over the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at RG Kar hospital have announced a peaceful protest by forming human bonds in the areas adjacent to Red Road.

The 'fast-unto-death' by junior doctors in West Bengal to press for their demands in the wake of the RG Kar hospital incident entered its 10th day on Monday, even as the health condition of two more medics deteriorated, one of whom has been hospitalised, officials said.

Currently, seven doctors are on a 'fast-unto-death', including a junior medic from the North Bengal Medical College's ENT department, who joined the strike.

The hunger strike, which began on October 5, followed nearly 50 days of 'cease work' in two phases. Their agitation started after the trainee doctor was raped and murdered inside state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9.

DG Paramesh Sivamani takes over as 26th Director General of Indian Coast Guard

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : DG Paramesh Sivamani took over as the 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). The Flag Officer, during his illustrious career spanning over three and a half decades, has served in various capacities in ashore and afloat appointments.

DG Paramesh Sivamani specializes in Navigation & Direction and his sea commands include all major vessels of ICG which include the Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Samar' & the Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Vishwast'.

The Flag Officer was at the helm of the Coast Guard Region (East), Coast Guard Region (West), and Coast Guard Commander Eastern Seaboard).



He is an alumnus of the National Defence College, New Delhi, and Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.

DG Paramesh Sivamani was elevated to the rank of Additional Director General in September 2022 and was subsequently posted at the Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi.

He was given the additional charge of Director General Coast Guard in

August 2024.

During the period, many significant operations and exercises were accomplished that includes the seizure of drugs/narcotic substances and gold worth crores of rupees, rescue of mariners during severe cyclonic storms, joint exercises with the Foreign Coast Guards, anti-poaching operations, humanitarian assistance during cyclones/natural calamities & Coastal Security exercises.

The Flag Officer was conferred with the Tatrakshak Medal in 2014 and the President Tatrakshak Medal in 2019 for his illustrious service.

He was also awarded the DG Coast Guard Commendation in 2012 and the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (East) Commendation in 2009.

India, US sign Rs 32,000-crore deal for 31 Predator drones

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : India has signed a deal with the US for the procurement of 31 MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance UAV manufactured by General Atomics. The development comes less than a month after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden held talks on the sidelines of the Quad Leaders' Summit held in Delaware.

The two countries signed a deal worth Rs 32,000 crore for the acquisition of 31 predator drones, along with the establishment of a maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) facility in India.

This deal will enhance the surveillance capabilities of the Indian armed forces. According to reports, the total value of the deal could rise to Rs 34,500 crore. The project was cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) last week under which 15 birds will go to the Indian Navy while the rest would be divided equally between the Air Force and the Army.

India has been discussing the deal with the US for many years, but the final hurdles were cleared a few weeks ago



The key characteristic of the MQ-9B Predator is its whisper-quiet operation. The drone stands out from the rest because of its stealth feature. The drone can fly as close to 250 metres from the ground without the target even having an inkling it is there unless spotted.

With a maximum speed of 442 km/h, the drone can soar at an altitude of around 50,000 feet, higher than that

of a commercial airplane.

The drone's capacity to be sent on extended missions in any kind of weather is another noteworthy feature. The drone has the option to be fitted with air-to-ground missiles in addition to air-to-air missiles.

The MQ-9B drone can fly 2,000 miles without refueling and carry up to 1,700 kg of cargo, which includes four missiles and about 450 kg of bombs. The drone's manufacturer, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, claims that it can fly nonstop or hover over targets for up to 35 hours.

SCO Summit today in Pakistan. Islamabad in lockdown. S Jaishankar to attend

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



New Delhi : The 23rd meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) will begin on Tuesday in Pakistan's Islamabad.

The two-day summit has drawn top leaders from member states and is taking place under stringent security measures. Key routes and businesses in both Islamabad and its neighbouring city, Rawalpindi, have been closed due to security concerns. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is set to land in Pakistan today, October 15, to attend the SCO meet. It will be for the first time in nearly nine years that an Indian foreign minister will travel to Pakistan, even as the ties between the two neighbours remain frosty over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan.

SCO SUMMIT: 10 POINTS

In preparation for the summit, Pakistani authorities have taken extensive measures to address ongoing political unrest and militant violence. Troops have been deployed throughout Islamabad, and hundreds of supporters of jailed opposition leader Imran Khan have been arrested. New laws limiting protests have also been enforced, although the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party recently called off a planned demonstration.

To ensure safety, the Pakistani government declared a public holiday in Islamabad for three days, starting Monday, with schools and businesses closed and large contingents of police and paramilitary forces patrolling the city.

According to Pakistan's interior ministry, army troops are in charge of securing the Red Zone, which houses the parliament, the diplomatic enclave, and the main summit venues.

The Summit will kick off with the arrival of delegations on Tuesday, followed by a welcome dinner hosted by the Pakistani Prime Minister. On Wednesday, the official proceedings will include remarks by Pakistan's Prime Minister, document signings, and concluding statements. The leaders are also scheduled to issue media statements and attend an official luncheon.

Pakistan's capital was under strict security lockdown as Chinese Premier Li Qiang landed in Islamabad on Monday to attend the SCO meeting, as well as for a four-day bilateral visit. Li's visit is the first by a Chinese premier to Pakistan in

11 years. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif received Li at the airport.

During the visit, the Chinese Premier is expected to engage in discussions with Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, President Asif Ali Zardari, and other key political and military figures to strengthen bilateral relations. He is also expected to inaugurate the CPEC-funded Gwadar International Airport in Balochistan, a region bordering Afghanistan and Iran.

The leaders from SCO member states attending the summit include Chinese Premier Li Qiang, Belarus Prime Minister Roman Golovchenko, Kazakhstan Prime Minister Olzhas Bektenov, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, Tajik Prime Minister Kohir Rasulzoda, Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov, Kyrgyzstan's Chairman of Ministers Cabinet Zhaparov Akyzbek, and Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref.

Shortly after his arrival in Islamabad, the External Affairs Minister is likely to attend a banquet reception hosted by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Both sides have already ruled out any bilateral talks between Jaishankar and his Pakistan counterpart Ishaq Dar on the sidelines of the SCO heads of government summit.

In August, Pakistan invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the SCO summit. Jaishankar's visit to Pakistan assumes significance as it is seen as a significant decision on India's behalf. In his recent address at an event, Jaishankar said, "Like with any neighbour, India would certainly like to have good relations with Pakistan. But that cannot happen by overlooking cross-border terrorism and indulging in wishful thinking."

Pakistan assumed the rotating chair of the SCO CHG for 2023-24 at the previous meeting, held in Bishkek in October 2023. The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017.

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India expels 6 Canadian diplomats, recalls its envoy as row escalates

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The ongoing diplomatic row between India and Canada escalated last night with New Delhi recalling its top envoy to Ottawa and expelling six Canadian diplomats from the country.

Developments followed Ottawa naming India's High Commissioner to Canada and a few other diplomats as 'persons of interest' in the investigation into Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar's murder.

In response, India initially announced the withdrawal of High Commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma and the other diplomats from Canada. Soon after, India said it was expelling six Canadian diplomats from New Delhi, including the acting High Commissioner. All of them have been asked to leave India by the end of this week.

India expelled six Canadian diplomats, including Acting High Commissioner Stewart Ross Wheeler, Deputy High Commissioner Patrick Hebert, and First Secretaries Marie Catherine Joly, Ian Ross David Trites, Adam James Chuipka, and Paula Orjuela. They have been asked to leave India in five days -- by 11.59 pm, October 19.

Earlier, in a statement announcing the withdrawal of India's High Commissioner to Canada, the Ministry of External Affairs underlined that in an atmosphere of extremism and violence, the Justin Trudeau government's actions endangered the diplomats' safety.

This came after the Canadian Charge d'Affaires in New Delhi, Stewart Wheeler, was summoned by the Ministry



of External Affairs. He was informed that the baseless targeting of the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats and officials in Canada was completely unacceptable.

It was also conveyed that India reserves the right to take further steps in response to the Trudeau government's support for extremism, violence and separatism against India, the MEA statement said.

On Monday morning, India sent out a scathing response to Canada's allegations, calling them "preposterous imputations". The Ministry of External Affairs said the Canadian government did not share a shred of evidence of India's involvement in Nijjar's killing despite repeated requests and accused Trudeau of doing vote bank politics and not doing enough to tackle separatist elements on Canadian soil.

Diplomatic ties between New Delhi and Ottawa have taken a plunge since September last year, when Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau alleged Indian government agents' involvement

in the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar on Canadian soil. New Delhi rejected those charges as "motivated and absurd".

TRUDEAU ACCUSES INDIA OF 'COVERT OPS, COERCION'

Meanwhile, Justin Trudeau held a presser in the early hours of today (IST), accusing India of "covert ops, coercion, and threats" against Canadians.

"The RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) have clear and compelling evidence that agents of the Government of India have engaged in and continue to engage in activities that pose a significant threat to public safety. This includes clandestine information-gathering techniques, coercive behaviour targeting South Asian Canadians and involvement in a dozen threatening and violating acts including murder. This is unacceptable," he said.

"While attempts have been made by the RCMP and national security officials to work with the Government of India and Indian law enforcement counterparts on this matter, they have been repeatedly refused. This is why this weekend Canadian officials took an extraordinary step. They met with Indian officials to share RCMP evidence which concluded six agents of the Government of India are persons of interest in criminal activities. Despite repeated requests to the Government of India, it decided not to cooperate," he added.

Canada throws in 'Bishnoi gang' to push old charge against India

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Canada has made fresh allegations against the Indian government, accusing New Delhi of direct involvement in "serious criminal activity" on its soil. Though Ottawa did not, again, share any evidence behind its accusations, it alleged that Indian agents present in Canada are working with the Lawrence Bishnoi gang to target pro-Khalistan elements.

Incidentally, the allegations come at a time when Lawrence Bishnoi is in the news in India for his alleged involvement in the murder of NCP leader Baba Siddique in Mumbai.

In a presser on late Monday night, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) claimed its investigation into the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Khalistani terrorist who was shot dead in Canada last year, and other related cases has revealed links tying agents of the Indian government to "homicides and violent acts" in Canada.

The presser came following Canada's charge that Indian High Commissioner Sanjay Verma and other diplomats are 'persons of interest' linked to the Nijjar murder investigation.

"Evidence also shows that a wide variety of entities in Canada and abroad have been used by agents of the Government of India to collect information. Some of these individuals and businesses were coerced and threatened into working for the Government of India. The information collected for the Government of India is then used to target members of the South Asian community," the RCMP statement read.

During the presser, the RCMP officials were asked if members of the Sikh community, in particular, were being targeted by the Indian agents.

To this, Brigitte Gauvin, Assistant Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said the South Asian community is being targeted by these groups but "they are specifically targeting pro-Khalistani elements in Canada".

"What we have seen is, from an RCMP perspective, they use organised crime elements. It has been publically attributed and claimed by one organised crime group in particular - Bishnoi Group. We believe that the group is connected to agents of the Government of India," Gauvin said.

For long, New Delhi has accused Ottawa of harbouring Khalistani terrorists, who were responsible for the biggest terrorist attack in Canada -- the Air India Flight 182 bombing in which 329 people were killed. The allegations come amid repeated attempts by Khalistanis to blame India for the bombing and clean their image among



Canadians.

India has also raised concerns over Canada being a safe haven for people with links to organised crime. In May this year, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar criticised the Canadian immigration policy after the arrest of three Indian nationals allegedly linked to Nijjar killing.

"A number of people with organised crime links from Punjab have been made welcome in Canada. We have been telling Canada that look, these are wanted criminals from India, you have given them visas. But the Canadian government has not done anything," Jaishankar said.

In June 2022, the Indian High Commission in Ottawa flagged concerns to Ottawa over the involvement of gangsters operating from Canada in violent crime in Punjab after the killing of singer Sidhu Moose Wala.

Notably, the Lawrence Bishnoi gang had taken responsibility for the killing of Moose Wala.

The Bishnoi gang, which operates across northern India, has a presence in Canada mainly through its associates. Lawrence Bishnoi is lodged in Gujarat's Sabarnati jail.

Canada decided to accuse Indian agents of working in collusion with members of the Bishnoi gang just two days after the murder of Baba Siddique, a former Maharashtra minister. The Lawrence Bishnoi gang has taken responsibility for the murder, though the police are verifying the claim.

Ottawa's move to name Bishnoi as part of its investigation could be seen as an attempt to give credibility to its allegations, for which it is yet to produce any evidence.

TRUDEAU REPEATS CHARGE, BUT WHERE'S THE EVIDENCE?

After the RCMP presser, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addressed the media, where he claimed that despite repeated requests and attempts to work with the Indian government over this case, New Delhi "decided not to cooperate".

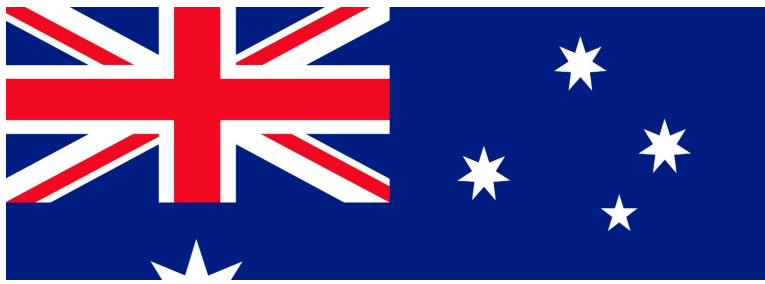
However, the Indian government has been charging Canada for making baseless accusations without providing any evidence.

Australia introduces work and holiday visa for Indian travellers

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Starting this month, Indian nationals aged 18 to 30 years can participate in a visa pre-application (ballot) process for the newly introduced 'First Work and Holiday visa' for Australia. Under this visa, individuals from India participating in the working holiday program are permitted to travel to Australia for a duration of one year, during which they may engage in short-term work or study while enjoying their holiday.

Each program year, Australia has the



capacity to issue the First Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa to a maximum of 1,000 eligible Indian citizens aged between 18 and 30.

Indian Jailed in Singapore For not Returning Money Mistakenly Sent to Him

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Singapore : A 47-year-old Indian national has been sentenced to nine weeks' jail by a Singapore court after he failed to return SGD 25,000 (Rs 16 lakh approximately) mistakenly transferred to his bank account, despite knowing the money did not belong to him.

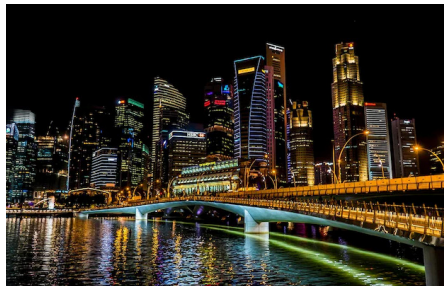
On October 14, Periyasamy Mathiyazhagan pleaded guilty to misappropriating the money and told the court that he had used the money to pay off his debts and remitted some of it to his family in India.

Periyasamy worked for a plumbing and engineering firm from 2021 to 2022.

His legal problems started on April 6, 2023, when an administrator at the firm transferred the SGD 25,000 to his bank account, which she had thought was the company's account.

Court documents referred to her (unnamed) as the complainant in the case. State Prosecuting Officer (SPO) Lim Yeow Leong told the court the woman had taken a personal loan from the company and wanted to pay it off.

"After making the erroneous transfer, the complainant was informed by (a director at the firm) on the same day that the



account did not belong to the company, and the company did not receive the cash," The Straits Times quoted the SPO as saying.

The woman then told Periyasamy's bank about the erroneous transfer and sought its help to recover the money.

On April 10, 2023, the bank sent a letter addressed to him, stating that the woman had made a request for the cash to be returned.

But the letter was sent to the company instead as it was identified as Periyasamy's last known address in the bank's records. On May 9 that year, it informed her by another letter that her request for the cash to be returned was unsuccessful.

She then lodged a police report on May

23. Investigations revealed that Periyasamy discovered earlier that month that the money had been deposited into his bank account.

The SPO said that the offender was not expecting to receive such a large sum of cash and knew that it did not belong to him.

Despite this, he transferred the SGD 25,000 to another bank account over four separate transactions on May 11 and 12.

Some time at the end of the month, administrative staff at the company noticed that the bank's letter addressed to Periyasamy had been sent to the firm instead.

The firm's director called him to the firm, handed him the letter, and asked him to return the SGD 25,000.

Periyasamy replied that he had used up the amount to pay off his debts.

In a police interview in November 2023, he told officers that he had also remitted a portion of the money to his family in India.

He requested for more time to return the cash to the woman and proposed a monthly repayment of SGD 1,500.

Why Ukrainian military is raiding weddings, nightclubs

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kyiv : It is true that all is fair in love and war. Both Ukrainian conscription officials and its civilian population know this. Amid the war with Russia, Ukrainian officials are raiding weddings, bars, nightclubs, concerts and markets to check if all eligible men in Ukraine are dodging military service. In love, Ukrainian people are trying to skip military service to get married and stay with their loved ones.

But in this love and war, there is also a constant dread.

Many men in Ukraine are living in a constant state of dread, since Ukraine decreased the eligible age for military recruitment from 27 to 25 and removed any exemptions for military recruitment in April. It has also asked anyone eligible for conscription to get registered online.

This need for conscription comes against the backdrop of an ongoing Russia-



Ukraine war which started in 2022. The ongoing war has led to the loss of life of 10,582 Ukrainian civilians with many more wounded. With a decrease in the number of people, Ukraine is making an all-out effort to recruit men.

While many of the conscription raids conducted were in Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, the wedding celebration was in the Ukrainian town of Lviv.

These raids should be seen in the context of a law passed in April wherein Ukrainian

men aged 25-60 can apply for conscription and men aged 18-60 are not allowed to leave Ukraine, reported The Associated Press.

This is due to the new law where anyone eligible for military service must input their information online.

UKRAINIAN OFFICIALS RAID A WEDDING TO CHECK MILITARY REGISTRATION OF MEN

It was uploaded to Instagram by one of the guests, Kasyanchuk Sergiy, who said conscription officials rushed into the celebration to check the military registration of men.

Faces covered, mostly silent until not. These officials asked people if they had been registered.

They ended up hitting a person, arguing with a woman. Chaos ensued.

**REPORTERS
CAMERAMAN
MALE / FEMALE**

**REPORTING
COMMUNICATION
SKILLS MUST**

CONTACT

PM Modi inaugurates ITU-World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

The WTSA is the governing conference for the standardization work of the International Telecommunication Union, a United Nations agency for digital technologies, organized every four years. This is the first time that the ITU-WTSA is being hosted in India and the Asia-Pacific region.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly is a pivotal global event that will bring together more than three thousand industry leaders, policymakers, and tech experts from over 190 countries, representing telecom, digital, and ICT sectors.

It will provide a platform for countries to discuss and decide the future standards of next-generation critical technologies such as 6G, Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, Big Data,

cybersecurity, and others.

Hosting this event in India will provide the country an opportunity to play a key role in shaping the global telecom agenda and set the course for future technologies.

Indian startups and research institutions are set to gain critical insights into developing Intellectual Property Rights and Standard Essential Patents.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister will also inaugurate the 8th edition of India Mobile Congress 2024 during the program.

The India Mobile Congress is showcasing India's innovation ecosystem, where leading telecom companies and innovators will highlight advancements in quantum technology and the circular economy, along with a spotlight on 6G, and 5G use cases, cloud and edge computing, semiconductors, cybersecurity, green tech, satellite communication, and electronics manufacturing.

It features over 400 exhibitors, about 900 startups, and participation from over 120 countries.

PM Modi pays tribute to former President of India Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has paid tributes to renowned scientist and Former President of India, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary.

The Prime Minister posted on X: "Respectful tributes to renowned scientist and former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam ji on his birth anniversary. His vision and thoughts will be of great help to the country in achieving the resolution of a developed India."

Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, also known as the "Missile Man of India", served as the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007. He also served as an aerospace



scientist and worked with India's two major space research organizations - the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Kalam also headed the projects Devil and Valiant which had the aim of developing ballistic missiles using the technology behind the successful SLV program.

Delhi Police takes action against fake Diljit Dosanjh concert tickets. arrests 1

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Delhi Police arrested a person involved in selling fake tickets for Punjabi singer Diljit Dosanjh's concert in Delhi. The concert, part of Diljit's Dil-Luminati Tour, will be held on October 26 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

The arrest comes a month after Delhi Police issued a warning, urging fans to stay alert to online ticket scams. The tickets for the concert were sold out within minutes, leaving several fans frustrated.

However, the Delhi Police found out that the tickets were being sold at exorbitantly high prices online, and urged the citizens to be careful while dealing with resellers. Police also pointed out that fake tickets to the concert were being sold and advised people to be extra careful while clicking on unknown links.

Delhi Police stated that the accused was selling tickets through social



media, and they were being sold at prices ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 50,000.

Delhi Police warn Diljit Dosanjh fans of ticket scams ahead of concert. In a post on Instagram, Delhi Police used a witty caption using Dosanjh's hit song Oh Paise Puse Baare Billo

Soche Duniya from his GOAT album to warn them about scams ahead of the concert.

"Gana sunne ke chakkar me ticket ke liye galat link par paise puse dekar apna band na bajwa lena (Don't fall for fake ticket links and end up getting scammed; always verify first)," read the caption of the post.

Diljit Dosanjh reposted the creative warning on his Instagram Stories, tagged the Delhi Police handle, and posted a fist emoji to lend a mark of respect to the authorities.

Following Delhi, Diljit will perform in cities like Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Pune, Kolkata and others. It will conclude with a show in Guwahati on December 29.

Delhi records poor Air Quality: Govt imposes GRAP Stage I in NCR

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Commission of Air Quality Management (CAQM) has invoked Stage-I of Graded Response Action Plan GRAP across the entire National Capital Region after the Air Quality Index (AQI) reached 234 which is in the 'Poor' Category.

Given this, a 27-point action plan as per Stage-I of GRAP is being implemented from 8 AM today in the entire NCR.

The decision to this effect was taken by the CAQM Sub-Committee which met yesterday to take stock of the current air quality of Delhi-NCR.

The action plan contains steps to be implemented by various agencies including Pollution Control Boards of NCR States and Delhi Pollution and Control Committee.

The steps include ensuring proper implementation of directions on dust mitigation measures in Construction and Demolition (C&D) activities and regular



lifting of Municipal Solid Waste. The Commission has asked the agencies to intensify the use of anti-smog guns, water sprinkling and dust suppression measures in road construction repair projects and maintenance activities. They will also ensure that diesel generator sets are not used as a regular source of

power supply.

There will also be an extant ban on coal and firewood as fuel in Tandoors in Hotels, Restaurants and open eateries and they will use only electricity, gas-based and clean fuel-based appliances.

Concerned agencies have also been asked to ensure that there are no burning incidents in landfill sites or dumpsites. CAQM has also urged the citizens to follow the Citizen Charter of Stage-I of GRAP which includes planting more trees, keeping pollution under control certificate of vehicles up to date and celebrating festivals in an eco-friendly manner.

The CAQM said that it is closely watching the situation and will review the air quality scenario regularly in the coming days.

Chennai on alert for heavy rain. schools shut, work from home advised

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chennai : The Tamil Nadu government has directed the schools and colleges to stay closed in the state's Chennai, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, and Chengalpattu districts, October 15, given the heavy rain prediction. State Chief Minister MK Stalin also asked the information technology (IT) companies to allow the employees in these districts to work from home till October 18.

The District Magistrates (DM) of the four districts said they were fully geared up to cope with the situation arising due to inundation.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted heavy to very heavy rain across Tamil Nadu over the next three days.

"Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Karaikal between October 12-16, with the most intense downpours likely



on October 14-15. An orange alert has been issued from October 14-16," the IMD said.

The weather department stated that a low-pressure area formed over the southeast Bay of Bengal at 5.30 am. This system is expected to intensify into a well-marked low-pressure area and move northwest towards the northern Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and southern Andhra Pradesh coasts over the next two days.

The Chief Minister convened a

meeting to review monsoon preparedness.

In the meeting, the Chennai Corporation Commissioner stated that 990 pumps and 57 tractors equipped with pump sets are on standby. Additionally, 36 motorboats, 46 metric tonnes of bleach powder, 25 metric tonnes of lime powder, and phenol have been prepared for immediate use.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin conducted a survey of Narayanapuram lake banks and Ambedkar road canals on Monday in the wake of the heavy rain forecast.

Taking to X, he stated, "As heavy rains are falling in various parts of Chennai, as per the directions of Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu MK Stalin, we conducted a survey on the banks of Narayanapuram Lake between Pallikaranai and Kovilambakkam."



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