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Temperature 31°C

Sunset: 5:49 PM

Thursday, 17.10.2024
Sunrise 6:27 AM (IST)

Next Full Moon

17 Oct 2024

Next New Moon

01 Nov 2024

Nayab Singh Saini stakes claim to form government in Haryana



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : BJP leader Nayab Singh Saini met Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya at the Raj Bhavan here today and staked claim to form the next government in the state. Many leaders including Union Home Minister

Amit Shah, Union Energy, Housing and Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal, Union Minister of State Rao Indrajit Singh and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav were present.

3% Hike in Dearness Allowance For Government Employees Cleared Ahead of Diwali



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The central government is set to raise the dearness allowance (DA) for its over crore employees and pensioners by 3 per cent, taking the total to 45 per cent from 38 per cent. The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting this morning, weeks ahead of Diwali. This comes as a major relief to

central government employees amid the festive season. DA is given to government employees and pensioners to compensate them for increasing prices. Revised periodically twice a year, this allowance is calculated on the basis of the latest consumer price index for industrial workers.

Omar Abdullah sworn in as Chief Minister of Union Territory Jammu and Kashmir

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Srinagar : National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah was sworn in as the Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir today. L-G Manoj Saxena administered the oath of office to Abdullah and his council of ministers at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar. J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to Omar Abdullah along with his council of ministers. National Conference MLA from Mendhar Javed Ahmed Rana, Javid Ahmad Dar from Rafiabab, Sakina Itoo from DH Pora and Surinder Kumar Chowdhary were also administered oath by LG Sinha as ministers in Cabinet. Independent MLA from Chhamb assembly seat Satish Sharma was given a place in Omar Abdullah-led cabinet. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra were also present for the swearing-in ceremony. Many INDIA Bloc leaders were present in the ceremony of the JKNC Vice President including Samajwadi Party Akhilesh Yadav, Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Prakash Karat, NCP-SCP MP Supriya Sule, DMK MP Kanimozhi, AAP leader Sanjay Singh and CPI leader D Raja. PDP leader Mehbooba Mufti was also



present during the ceremony. This came after the Congress-National Conference secured 48 seats, with the NC winning 42 and the Congress only six seats in the Jammu Kashmir assembly elections. This will be the first elected government in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 and the reorganization of the former state into two Union Territories. Omar Abdullah's grandfather, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, was the first Prime Minister of JK after its accession to India and later served as Chief Minister. Omar's father Farooq Abdullah has been the CM of the erstwhile state thrice. Omar, a former Member of Parliament was the Chief Minister of the erstwhile state between 2009-2015. He had also served as Union Minister of State for External Affairs in former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's NDA government from 2001 to 2002.

UP Congress leader arrested in extortion case

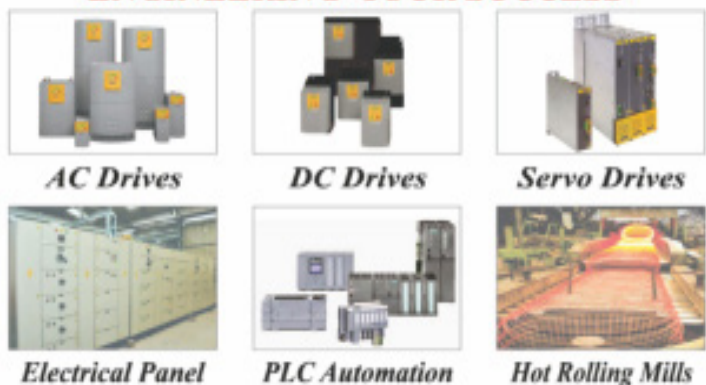


THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Sambhal : Police in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal have arrested the Congress district unit president in connection with an extortion case, officials said today. Vijay Sharma was arrested late Tuesday night following a complaint by one Desh Raj Singh, who accused him and two others of demanding Rs 5 lakh from him, Superintendent

of Police (SP) Krishna Kumar Vishnoi said. According to the police, Singh alleged that Vijay Sharma, Subhash Sharma and Sudhish Sharma also threatened him. "A case has been registered under relevant sections of the BNS. The other two accused will also be arrested soon," the SP added.

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S Jaishankar jabs Pak at SCO Summit: Terrorism won't boost trade, connectivity

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday took a swipe at Pakistan during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, stating that if cross-border activities between two nations are characterised by extremism and separatism, it is hardly likely to help bilateral trade, relations, and other activities.

"It is axiomatic that development and growth requires peace and stability. And as the Charter spelt out, this means being firm and uncompromising in countering the 'three evils'. If activities across borders are characterised by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges in parallel," Jaishankar said at the two-day summit in Islamabad.

The External Affairs Minister stressed that SCO's "primary goal of combatting terrorism, separatism and



extremism is even more crucial in current times". He noted that globalisation and rebalancing are current day realities and SCO countries need to take this forward.

"It requires honest conversation, trust, good neighbourliness and reaffirming commitment to SCO Charter. SCO needs to be firm and uncompromising in countering the 'three evils'," he asserted.

Delivering India's national

statement at the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting, the minister further said, "Cooperation must be based on mutual respect and sovereign equality, recognise territorial integrity and sovereignty and be built on genuine partnerships, not unilateral agendas. SCO cannot progress if we cherry-pick global practices, especially of trade and transit".

Jaishankar also listed India's global initiatives and national endeavours toward sustainability and holistic development, which include the International

Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, Mission LIFE which advocates sustainable lifestyle, the promotion of Yoga, Global Biofuel Alliance, International Big Cat Alliance, and similar efforts.

The Minister noted that the world is going through "difficult times," referencing "two major conflicts," each with global repercussions, as well as the developing world's struggle to recover from COVID-induced devastation, mounting debt, and other challenges. He emphasised that the solution lies in strengthening

mutual trust, friendship, good neighbourliness, and fostering multi-faceted, especially regional, cooperation.

He also congratulated Pakistan for its presidency of the SCO summit this year and said India has extended its full support for a successful presidency.

Jaishankar is leading India's delegation at the SCO summit, a forum of Eurasian countries for political, economic, international security, and defence cooperation. The visit marks the first by a senior Indian official to Pakistan in almost a decade; however, no bilateral talks are scheduled between India and Pakistan.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by:
Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date
17th Oct

Born on 17th 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.













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 Aries (March 21 - April 19) Oct 17th 2024 : Realize your true potentials as you are not lacking strength but will. You will possess a desire to earn quick money. Evening with friends will be good for pleasure as well as some holiday planning. Love life will blossom really beautifully today.	 Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Oct 17th 2024 : A day of recreation and fun. You do not understand the importance of money in life, but today, you'll realize its significance as you'll be in need of finances but won't have enough to carry out. Your marriage will take a beautiful turn on this day.	 Gemini (May 21 - June 20) Oct 17th 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. Put your extra money in a safe place that will promise you returns in times to come.
 Cancer (June 21 - July 22) Oct 17th 2024 : Be careful not to neglect yourself when it comes to health matters. You may spend a lot today on small things around the house, which can mentally stress you out. A good day to revive old contacts and relations.	 Leo (July 23 - Aug 22) Oct 17th 2024 : Your health and energy conservation habit will benefit you immensely as you plan to go on a long journey. Despite a busy schedule you will be easily able to cope up with the tiredness.	 Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) Oct 17th 2024 : Your charming behaviour will attract attention. Those who had borrowed money from a relative may have to return that amount in any condition today. Assist your wife in domestic chores to lessen her workload.
 Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22) Oct 17th 2024 : Your mind will be disturbed with recent events. Meditation and yoga will prove to be beneficial for spiritual as well as physical gains. Visiting the house of close relatives can add to your financial troubles. In this time, you can play a game or go to the gym.	 Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Oct 17th 2024 : Take special care while sitting to avoid an injury. Further good posture not only enhances one's personality but also plays an important role in improving health and confidence. Investment made today will enhance your prosperity and financial security.	 Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) Oct 17th 2024 : A special day today as good health will enable you to do something extraordinary. If you had invested in any land overseas, then it can be sold today at a good price, which will help you earn profits.
 Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) Oct 17th 2024 : Self medication could cause drug dependency. Take a physician advice before taking any drug-otherwise chances of drug dependency are high. Property deals will materialize and bring fabulous gains. Visit friends who need your assistance.	 Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) Oct 17th 2024 : Father may disinherit you from the property. But don't lose heart. Remember prosperity pampers the mind deprivation strengthens it. Even if you keep tackling money issues throughout the day, you are likely to attain profits in the evening.	 Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Oct 17th 2024 : A day when you will be able to relax. Massage your body with oil to give relief to your muscles. New sources of income will generate through people you know. You will be popular and easily attract members of the opposite sex.

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Peaceful Panchayat Elections in Punjab: A Milestone for Local Governance

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : The general panchayat elections were held in Punjab including S.A.S. constituency witnessed a remarkable turnout, with voting conducted peacefully across 70 out of 73 villages. MLA Kulwant Singh welcomed the newly elected Sarpanches and Panchs at his office, and expressed gratitude for the smooth electoral process and the support of the government.

The elections resulted in an unprecedented number of unanimous selections, with 11 Panchayats and Sarpanches in 4 villages elected without contest. A total of 191 out of 471 Panches were also elected unanimously, marking a significant achievement in local governance.

MLA Kulwant Singh acknowledged the cooperative spirit among villagers



and emphasized that the Sarpanch represents the entire community, irrespective of party affiliation. He encouraged the newly elected leaders to prioritize development and transparency in their respective villages, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility. Despite attempts by opposition leaders to disrupt consensus in some areas, the overall atmosphere remained one of brotherhood, as evidenced by the peaceful voting process. MLA Kulwant Singh assured the elected officials of government support, promising

timely completion of ongoing projects and the preparation of proposals for new initiatives. The event was attended by various local dignitaries, including Municipal Councillor Sarabjit Singh and community leaders, who echoed the call for collaborative development efforts. As the newly elected Panchayat members begin their tenure, the focus will be on enhancing basic facilities and promoting unity within their communities, ensuring that the democratic process continues to thrive at the grassroots level.

Aam Aadmi Party thanks people for their active participation in the Panchayat elections

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) thanked the people of Punjab for their active participation in the Panchayat elections. The party also praised the district administration and the state election commission for successfully and peacefully conducting the elections.

In a statement released from the party office today, AAP Punjab's senior spokesperson Neel Garg said that during the Panchayat elections, the appeal made by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had a significant impact on the people. Out of a total of 13,237 Panchayats in the state, around 3,800 Sarpanches were elected unanimously, while more than



48,000 Panches were elected unopposed. This reflects the popularity of the Aam Aadmi Party and Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann in Punjab. Neel Garg stated that Panchayats are the backbone of Punjab's economy. They have played a crucial role in the state's development. For this reason, the Mann government decided

not to conduct the Panchayat elections on a party basis. The Chief Minister had also mentioned that the Sarpanch should be from the village, not from a party. Garg also noted that, as per the Chief Minister's announcement, Panchayats that elected Sarpanches unanimously will receive a special grant of 5 lakh rupees from the government. This will help accelerate development in the villages. Furthermore, the peaceful and fair conduct of the Panchayat elections has strengthened the democratic system in the state.

Amit Shah in Chandigarh: Police issues traffic advisory

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : In view of the Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Chandigarh to attend the Haryana BJP Legislative meeting today in Panchkula, the Chandigarh Police has issued a traffic advisory.

1. Traffic will be diverted/restricted on Dakshin Marg from Airport Light Point to Tribune Chowk, on Purv Marg from Tribune Chowk to Transport Light Point and on Madhya Marg from Transport Light Point to Dhillon Barrier during the movement of the VVIP. General public is requested to avoid the above stretch/road from 11:30



AM to 12:30 PM and 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM respectively.

2. Further, traffic movement may be restricted/diverted on certain road stretches in view of VVIP visit.

3. In view of the above, general public is requested to adopt alternate routes to avoid any congestion/inconvenience.

4. Further, general public is requested to follow the Social Media Account of Chandigarh Traffic Police for real time updates on traffic.

5. General public is advised not to park/ply their vehicles on cycle track/pedestrian pathway and No Parking Area, otherwise strict action shall be taken as per law and vehicles shall be towed away.

2019-batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer relieved from Chandigarh Administration

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Chandigarh Administration has relieved Rupesh Kumar, 2019-batch IAS officer to enable him to join his new assignment in Jammu and Kashmir.



PIC OF THE DAY

WHO CARES...?

No end to road side Encroachments in Mohali



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : Illegal encroachments on roadsides, outside showrooms and at marketplaces have become a common affair in Mohali. It has been noticed that roadside encroachments are leading to regular traffic congestion. The traffic near Phase 4 Entry and in Phase 1 moves at a snail's pace during the morning and evening rush hours, moreover several vital roads turned from residential areas into a commercial hub over the past few years.

Resident said, "The district administration had constructed footpaths for the safe movement of pedestrians, but roadside vendors have illegally encroached upon the roads as well as the footpaths and cause traffic congestion."

Residents/Commuters while talking to The Aman Sandesh Times said, ever-increasing encroachments in different localities of the city have become a permanent source of nuisance for commuters with roadside bazaars, street hawkers and push up carts, prop up almost along every main or connecting road.

Residents added, "Seeing them doing all this bravely also raises doubt of alleged involvement of some officials who could provide them shelter." The Aman Sandesh Times team found that the numbers of street vendors is multiplying, choking the busy stretches and slowing down traffic. Even National Highway on International Airport Road has not been spared, with the number of carts on its wide pavements going up every week. The encroachers range from food vendors to vegetable sellers, nurseries, and fruit, furniture shops. Road is further eaten up by illegal parking that makes traffic chaotic in many parts of the city, squeezing moving vehicles into one lane and in they are everywhere encroaching busy roads, pavements and footpaths leaving no space for pedestrians. Most of such roadside businesses Mohali areas have been set up without permission from relevant authorities, encroaching space illegally cannot be acceptable.

But Who Cares???

School students learnt surviving skill in case of natural disaster



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : Brookfield International school organized educational excursion to satisfy the natural instinct of curiosity for the students Shivalik range. The exploration was fun, entertainment as well as educational for them. It was indeed a thrilling treat for both students as well as teachers as they were engaged in mind games and adventure activities like Rock Climbing, Bridge and Tunnel Crossing and Jumping Jacks, Obstacle Climbing, Flying fox was also taught to the students which is an effective exercise for the arms, upper back and core. Such exercises are useful at the time of natural disasters. It demands entire

body and sometimes even more so on mind also. In order to boost their energy and morale the students were divided into various groups. Manav Singla President informed at the moment that such trips and excursions are a perfect way to expand one's horizon. Hence, we give our students opportunities to explore and learn about what lies beyond the four walls of the school and gain confidence to take on the world. After refreshing their mind they generally return with a fresh enthusiasm for studies. He further added that such trip provide students opportunities to sharpen important life skills related to communication, teamwork, problem solving, leadership and risk management.

PAU Magazine 2023-24 unveiled, unleashes Kaleidoscopic imagination



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Ludhiana : In an academically charged ambience here today, the Vice-Chancellor of Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Dr Satbir Singh Gosal unveiled the PAU Annual Magazine, a treasure trove of creative, literary, scientific, scholarly and visionary texts penned by the university students, and tempered to perfection by the Magazine Editorial Team.

The event saw the august presence of University Deans, Directors, Officers, and the Editorial Team comprising faculty and students.

Visibly elated over the release of the PAU Magazine, Dr Gosal, also the Chief Patron of the PAU Magazine, congratulated the entire Editorial Team for the innovative compilation of articles voicing diverse perspectives and thought processes.

He commended the student writers who gave wings to their ingenious talent, contributed writings which are literary artefacts in their own right and compel the readers to delve into the intricacies of meaning through their individual perceptive lens.

Dr Gosal also appreciated the students who wrote passionately on manifold subjects such as sports, culture, science and agriculture, triggering the mind to contemplate and comprehend the vibrant cosmos, much of which still remains to be explored and understood.

Dr. Nirmal Jaura, Director Students' Welfare and Patron of the PAU Magazine, under whose mentorship the Magazine unfolded, highlighted its significance and the platform it provided to the budding wordsmiths to share and commune with readers.

He applauded the enthusiastic participation of students in contributing articles penned with panache that penetrate into the sheer fabric of life, and seek answers to intriguing questions.

Exclaiming her delight at the successful release of the PAU Magazine, Dr Deepika Vig, Editor-in-Chief, expressed gratitude to her entire Editorial Team for their painstaking efforts in bringing out the 2023-24 edition well in time. She also shared that the Magazine carried a QR code embedded within, facilitating a downloadable pdf version, providing easy access to a wider reader base.

Dr Rupinder Kaur, Managing Editor of the PAU Magazine, observed that the Magazine, catering to innumerable aspects of education, is an apt reflection of the University that is committed to provide holistic education.

Several student editors shared their pleasant experiences in editing, compiling and designing the PAU Magazine, and expressed gratitude for the trust and responsibility vested in them.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the entire Editorial Team. Dr Sumedha Bhandari, Associate Editor-in-Chief coordinated the event and proposed a vote of thanks.

As the PAU Magazine 2023-24 is launched, it invites avid readers to savour the rich platter of creative oeuvres; and promises to engage them in a meaningful discourse with the written word, finding their own voice, and evolving as a thinking being in the intellectual process therein.

"Punjab Should Declare Itself Helpless": SC on Delhi Air Pollution

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Supreme Court - as Delhi faces (predictably) worsening air pollution levels in the city and the national capital region - slammed the Punjab and Haryana governments today, calling them out for failing to act on June 2021 orders to prosecute violators of anti-pollution laws.

The court seemed to dare the Punjab government to declare itself "helpless" to deal with multiple violations. "Let them declare 'we cannot do anything... we are helpless,'" it said, as it noted that Punjab and Haryana - ruled by the AAP and BJP, respectively - had not prosecuted violators, particularly farmers burning stubble, or agricultural waste, since 2021, and only imposed nominal fines. The Commission for Air Quality Management - the central government panel that had issued orders to prosecute pollution law violators - was also criticised. It was called a "toothless wonder" for failing to enforce its own orders and its members' competence was questioned.

A bench of Justice Abhay S Oka, Justice AG Masih, and Justice A Amanullah - hearing the issue of non-compliance with CAQM directions - set a one-week deadline to prosecute violators.

"Why is there no prosecution for violation of orders? This is not a political issue... it is about implementation of statutory directions by CAQM under Section 12..." Justice Oka said

"We will take penal action against (CAQM) officers... only then there will be action. No political considerations will apply here," he added, as the court called out the Haryana government over nearly 200 recorded cases of farm fires for which "only nominal fine has been recovered".

The court pointed out states were fed detailed information - by the Indian Space Research Organisation - about the location and size of fires caused by burning farm stubble.

"So you cannot say locations were not found... but nobody is going to prosecute, nobody is going to take action (against the violators)," he continued, "They will pay a nominal fine..."

"What is all this going on?" an angry



court asked, also demanding to know if prosecution was being halted or slowed "at the instance of somebody else". "... we will issue summons to them also. What is this hesitation in prosecuting people?" the court asked of the state governments.

Earlier this month too, the CAQM was slammed for "total non-compliance" with the law.

"Have committees been constituted? Please show us a single step taken... show us a single direction issued..." the court said, unimpressed when told the CAQM meets once in three months.

As winter approaches Delhi and the NCR air quality levels usually plummet to sickening lows; they routinely reach 500+ (the highest measurable value) and respiratory illnesses increase.

And the warning signs are already there for this year.

Air quality in Delhi remained 'poor' for a third consecutive day, prompting the government to activate the first phase of its anti-pollution Graded Response Action Plan.

These mandate strict checks on vehicles causing pollution and better traffic management, and stricter emission controls for industries, power plants and brick kilns. It also bans open burning of waste, limits use of diesel generators, and prohibits use of coal or firewood in eateries.

The city's AQI - at 207 - dipped to the 'poor' zone after Dussehra.

Delhi, bracing for the usual toxic blanket that chokes the life out of it during Diwali every year has imposed an immediate ban on the production, storage, sale, and use of firecrackers.

But, as with the CAQM's orders, enforcement is always a problem.

Nayab Singh Saini unanimously elected as BJP's legislature party leader in Haryana

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Nayab Singh Saini was unanimously elected as the leader of the BJP legislature party in Haryana today. Saini would take oath as Chief Minister in Panchkula.

Newly elected Haryana 48 BJP MLAs elected Saini in a meeting, which was also attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav as central observers.

"There was only one proposal moved by Narwana MLA Krishan Bedi and it was seconded by Ambala Cantt MLA Anil Vij in favour of Saini," Amit Shah said declaring Saini as the BJP legislature party leader in Haryana.

Saini, the OBC face of the saffron party, who was declared as the party's chief ministerial candidate in the run-up to the October 5 assembly polls, was elected as the leader in view of the non-Jats, especially the OBCs, consolidating in BJP's



favour in the polls. Saini took over as the state chief minister from Manohar Lal Khattar on March 12, 2024, and the entire assembly poll campaign was centred around him with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah showcasing him as the CM face.

With Amit Shah, BJP's chief poll strategist, who 'micro-managed' the entire assembly polls along with his band of trusted lieutenants, being appointed as central observer, the party wanted a 'smooth transition' of power in Haryana. Amit Shah was first

to declare Saini as the CM face at a rally in Panchkula on June 29 this year.

It won 48 seats against the Congress' 37 in the 90-member assembly in the state.

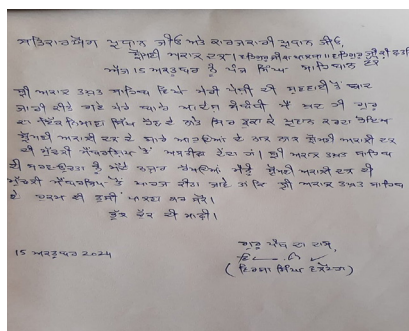
Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will be among those who will attend the oath-taking event. The BJP wants the swearing-in to be a grand affair to gear up the party cadre for crucial Maharashtra and Jharkhand assembly polls in November and Delhi polls early next year.

Akali Dal accepts resignation of Virsa Singh Valtoha

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Akali Dal has accepted resignation of Virsa Singh Valtoha from party.

In a tweet, senior leader Dr. Daljit Singh Cheema said that the SAD working President S Balwinder S



Bhundar has accepted the resignation of S Virsa Singh Valtoha from Primary Membership & all offices of SAD with immediate affect. Copy of the resignation is being enclosed here with.

The nights have become cold in Punjab, the temperature has dropped

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Now in Punjab and Chandigarh, the night is getting colder. Minimum temperature has started to drop. The minimum temperature settled between 16.9 degrees to 19 degrees in all the districts. Faridkot recorded the coldest. The minimum temperature was recorded at 16.8 degrees there. However, it was recorded 1.9 degrees above the normal temperature. Along with this, the maximum temperature has also returned



change. During this time, storm and light rain may occur at some places. Air pollution has started in the state. The air quality of all major cities has started to deteriorate. In this series, Amritsar's AQI is recorded as 115. Jalandhar recorded AQI of 114, Khanna 117, Ludhiana 109, Mandi Gobindgarh 119, Patiala 112 and Rupnagar 112.

Pharmaceutical firm in Haryana gifts 15 cars to employees ahead of Diwali

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Panchkula : A pharmaceutical company in Haryana's Panchkula surprised 15 employees by gifting them cars ahead of Diwali. Mitskind Healthcare, located in the Panchkula industrial area, awarded 13 Tata Punch vehicles and two Maruti Grand Vitara models to its top-performing staff members.

MK Bhatia, the company's owner, personally handed over the keys to the cars. He praised the employees for their dedication and hard work. "They are like celebrities to me," Bhatia said, acknowledging their contributions to the company's success. He stated that the gesture was a way to show appreciation and was not specifically planned to coincide with Diwali.



The employees expressed their gratitude for the unexpected gifts. "Three years ago, when I joined, Sir shared his dream of giving all his employees a car. Today, he's made that dream a reality," said Venus, a senior HR employee at Mitskind Healthcare. Another employee, Rekha, shared her experience, saying,

"I was gifted last year, and the company still covers my fuel expenses." This is not the first time the company has rewarded its employees with cars. Last year, 12 employees received vehicles, bringing the total number to 27. Mitskind Healthcare plans to continue this practice in the future.

The Tata Punch, an entry-level SUV launched in 2021, has a starting price of Rs 6 lakh and is equipped with a 1.2-litre engine. The car is recognised for its safety, having received a 5-star G-NCAP rating.

Kangana Ranaut's Emergency likely to release after Punjab elections: Exclusive

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai : Kangana Ranaut's much-anticipated political drama, Emergency, is likely to hit theatres after the Punjab elections. The film was earlier scheduled to be released on September 6. Now, the makers are targeting a release after the elections. Now, a source close to the production said, "After agreeing to all the terms of CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification), the team will most likely release the film after the Punjab elections. The film is really close to everyone's heart and the audience should get to watch the film. So, after much consideration and not to hurt anyone's sentiments, the whole team decided that once the elections are over, they will decide on a suitable day and release the film. Releasing



the film during a calmer time seems the best decision for now." The CBFC issued a U/A certificate for Emergency and suggested a few cuts. Emergency, directed by and starring Ranaut, chronicles the political events of the 1975 Emergency imposed by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Ever since the trailer dropped, the film

has created a significant buzz and faced backlash from Sikh organisations for alleged misrepresentation. Due to this, the film's release had to be pushed. While the exact release date remains under wraps, it is clear that the makers are keeping a close eye on the political calendar, ensuring that Emergency arrives at a suitable time.

Karan Johar on 26 years of Kuch Kuch Hota Hai: Of dosti that turns into pyaar

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Acclaimed director and producer Karan Johar recently shared a note to celebrate 26 years of his directorial debut, Kuch Kuch Hota. The movie starred superstar Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol and Rani Mukerji in lead roles. The filmmaker went down the memory lane and shared a montage of some behind-the-scenes photos from the set and wrote, "Of cool neck chains, neon shirts, pink head bands, summer camp with only dancing involved, wishing on toota taaras, cheating in basketball, dosti that turns into pyaar and characters that live through time and beyond (sic)." "To my first film as a director. To the best cast and crew on



set. To take that feeling of day one and keeping it alive....26 years later! (sic)," Karan added. Many fans reacted to the post as one person wrote, "This film was such a phenomenon. It may have not aged well for some ppl, but it was definitely more developed than a film like KANK or any of your recent films (sic)."

"Remake this movie with Anjali marrying Aman, who really deserved her (sic)," read another comment. One user stated, "Happy anniversary to the movie who raised an entire generation." Karan Johar's last directorial was the Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt-starrer, Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani.

Mitchell Marsh 'physically ready' to bowl in Green's absence for AUS vs IND Tests



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

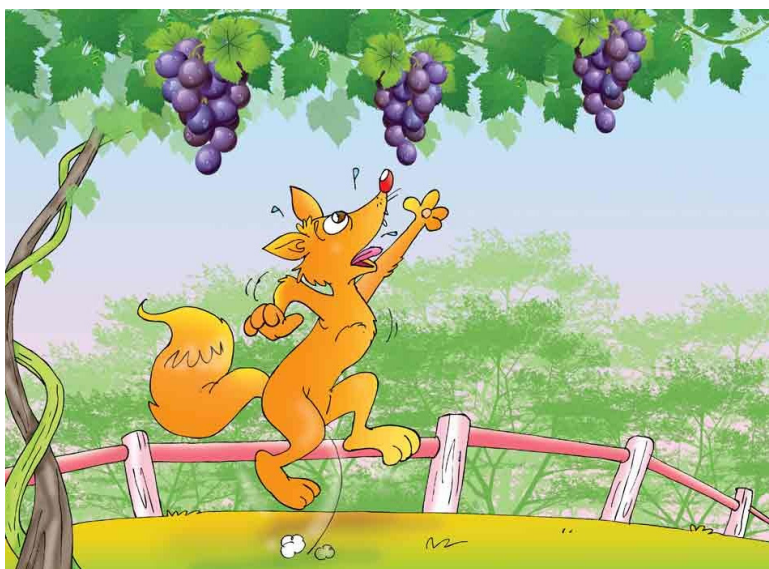
New Delhi : Mitchell Marsh has kept himself open for bowling for the upcoming Border Gavaskar Trophy series between Australia and India. Marsh deemed himself physically fit to bowl and manage the bowling workload in Cameron Green's absence, who was ruled out of the series. Green will miss the summer after deciding to opt for the surgery on his back that troubled him lately. Green will miss the entire five-Test series against India and the Test tour of Sri Lanka for his radical surgery to fix stress fractures in his back. "I love bowling. I see the all-rounder role being really important, especially for when our bowlers need a bit of a break. I think if you look back at the last few seasons, our all-rounders have bowled maybe 10 to 13 overs a game, which is not really a lot, but those 10 to 13 overs can be really important. So for me, it's about preparing to bowl as much as I can, as much as Patty (Cummins) needs me to," Marsh told Cricket.com.au. Cameron Green ruled out Green batted at No. 4 during the Test series against West Indies earlier this year. Hence, now Steve Smith, who opened for Australia as David Warner's replacement, will drop back to his usual batting spot at No. 4. Marsh will shoulder a bigger bowling load this summer. "Physically I'm feeling really good. I've been really well

looked after." Marsh has only bowled more than 10 overs in a Test match once since his return in last year's Ashes. He has also only bowled 21 overs in 40 white-ball matches during that time, while spending time playing as a batter due to fitness concerns. Marsh all set to feature as all-rounder Marsh was enquired about the maximum number of overs he could realistically bowl in a Test match and said that he is prepared to bowl as much as Pat Cummins wants him to. "I mean, you never really like to put numbers on it. Once you're in the field of battle, you bowl as much as the captain needs you to bowl, and I'll be prepared for that. I won't bowl too much for WA, but it's all part of the building process of getting ready for the first Test." Marsh also felt bad for Green to have missed out on the summer for Australia and wished for him to come back stronger. "We're all shattered for Cam. He loves playing cricket for Australia," Marsh said. "Someone like Cam, with his attitude towards the game, how much he loves it, and the thought of missing that much cricket - it's probably a little bit daunting for him. But he's accepted it now. When you go through these things, there's an opportunity to come back better, and I have no doubt that he will."



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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DK Shivakumar confident of Congress win in Karnataka by-polls on Nov 13

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Bengaluru : With the Election Commission's announcement of by-election dates, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) President DK Shivakumar expressed confidence that the Congress party is well-positioned to claim victory in all three constituencies going to polls on November 13.

The by-elections will take place in Sandur, Shiggaon, and Channapatna, three key constituencies where Janata Dal (Secular) chief HD Kumaraswamy, BJP leader Basavaraj Bommai (BJP) and Congress's E Tukaram, respectively, resigned from following their victory in the Lok Sabha elections in May this year.

The political competition is expected to be fierce. Shivakumar welcomed the announcement, asserting that the Congress has been preparing for these elections well in advance.

"I welcome the decision of the Election



Commission regarding the dates for the by-elections," said Shivakumar.

"The Congress party is well-prepared for any kind of election in the state. Our election process started long ago. We have already begun our work, and we are confident that we will win all three seats," the Congress leader said.

The stakes are especially high in Channapatna, a Vokkaliga-dominated taluk where the Congress and the JD(S) are arch-rivals. The Deputy Chief Minister himself hinted at his strong influence in the region, saying, "We are the candidates;

DK Shivakumar is the candidate."

The by-elections will be closely watched, especially in Shiggaon, the constituency of former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. In Shiggaon, the Congress aims to capture the seat from the BJP, which Bommai has held since 2008. Congress is eager to capitalise on its momentum from the Assembly victory and is leaving no stone unturned in its campaign.

As the by-elections date of November 13 is less than a month away, the Congress party is expected to intensify its efforts to win over voters and ensure that its candidates secure all three seats. With DK Shivakumar at the helm, the party appears confident and ready for the electoral battle ahead.

The by-elections will serve as a litmus test for both Congress and the Opposition, with political fortunes hanging in the balance in Karnataka's evolving political landscape.

Plea challenging Uddhav Sena leader's election as Lok Sabha MP rejected

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai : The Bombay High Court has dismissed a plea challenging the election of Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anil Desai from Mumbai South Central Lok Sabha seat in the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls.

Desai defeated the Eknath Shinde faction's Shiv Sena candidate MP Rahul Shewale by 53,384 votes from the Mumbai South Central seat.

The election petition, filed by advocate Mahendra Bhingardive, sought a declaration that the nomination papers of Desai as well as other candidates who had contested the election be declared as invalid, null and void as being defective and incomplete.

The plea also sought a declaration that Bhingardive be declared as the elected candidate from the South-Central Mumbai Lok Sabha seat.

In its plea, Bhingardive mentioned that he raised objections during the scrutiny of the nomination papers of Desai as they were allegedly incomplete.

However, despite the objections, the Returning Officer (RO) accepted



the incomplete nomination papers, Bhingardive claimed in his plea. It was also alleged that although Desai had filed three nomination papers, only one single, while only one affidavit was uploaded on the Election Commission's website by the RO. These allegations were also levelled against 13 other candidates as well.

While responding to the allegations levelled by Bhingardive, Desai sought dismissal of the plea for non-disclosure of cause of action and there were interpolations in the document.

Devdatt Kamat, senior advocate appearing for Desai, submitted that even assuming that the affidavit suffered from defects

unless they are shown to be substantial by positive assertion, there cannot be invalidation of the election and what has to be seen is substantial compliance with the requirement of the Form.

A bench of Justice Sharmila Deshmukh noted, "Upon my reading of the entire petition, there is not even a whisper as to the manner in which the improper acceptance of nomination has materially affected the election."

The bench noted that under the rules, there has been an improper acceptance of nomination papers and non-compliance with the Constitution or the statutory provisions or rules or orders and the same has to result in the election results being materially affected.

The bench said that there thus has to be strict compliance with the requirements of the statutory provisions as outside the statutory provisions there is no right to dispute an election.

"The Representation of the People Act has been held to be a complete and self-contained code within which must be found any right claimed in relation to an election or election dispute.

Shouting 'Jai Shri Ram' inside mosque doesn't hurt religious feelings: HC

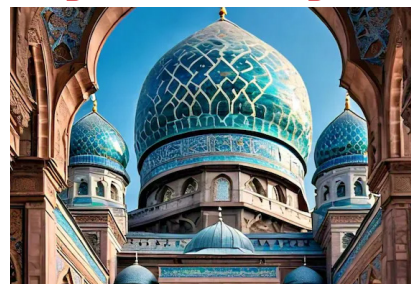
THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Karnataka High Court quashed criminal proceedings against two men charged for raising 'Jai Shri Ram' slogans inside a mosque, saying it did not "outrage the religious feelings of any class".

The order was passed last month and was uploaded on court's site on Tuesday. As per the complaint, the two men, residents of Dakshin Kannada district, entered a local mosque one night in September last year and shouted "Jai Shri Ram".

Following this, they were charged by booked by the local police under several sections of the Indian Penal Code, including Section 295 A (hurting religious beliefs), 447 (criminal trespass), and 506 (criminal intimidation).

The accused men approached the High Court seeking quashing of the charges against them. Their counsel argued that a mosque is a public



place and hence, there was no case of criminal trespass.

The counsel also argued that shouting 'Jai Shri Ram' did not meet the requirement of an offence defined under Section 295A of the IPC.

"Section 295A deals with deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs. It is understandable as to how if someone shouts 'Jai Sriram' it would outrage the religious feeling of any class. When the complainant himself states that Hindu - Muslims

are living in harmony in the area the incident by no stretch of imagination can result in antimony," Bar and Bench quoted the court as saying.

The Karnataka government opposed the petitioners' plea, and demanded their custody, saying further investigation was required in the matter.

The court, however, held that the said offence did not have any adverse effect on public order.

"The Apex Court holds that any and every act will not become an offence under Section 295A of the IPC. The acts that have no effect on bringing out peace or destruction of public order will not lead to an offence under Section 295A of the IPC. Finding no ingredients of any of the offences so alleged, permitting further proceedings against these petitioners would become an abuse of the process of law and result in miscarriage of justice," the court said.

Sensex, Nifty witness volatile trade as FII outflow dents sentiments

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

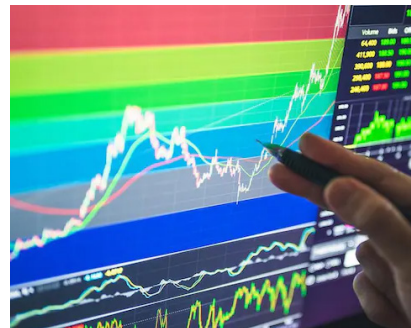
New Delhi : Benchmark stock market indices erased early gains today as continued foreign outflows dented Dalal Street sentiments.

The S&P BSE Sensex was up 50.20 points to 81,870.32 at 9:51 am, while the NSE Nifty50 rose 15.35 points to trade at 25,072.70.

Most of the other broader market indices were trading in the green, but volatility has also capped gains in smallcap and midcap stocks.

Sectoral indices were mixed in early trade as Nifty Bank and Nifty Financial Services gained. However, Nifty IT, Nifty Realty, Nifty FMCG and a few others were trading in negative territory.

The top five gainers on the Nifty50 were HDFC Life, Hindalco, SBI Life, BPCL and Wipro. On the other hand, the top losers were Trent, Nestle India, M&M,



TCS and IndusInd Bank. Sentiments on Dalal Street have been hit as foreign outflows surged to a four-year high, according to NSDL data.

It may be noted that foreign outflows from Indian equities so far in October have totalled \$7.9 billion, highest since March 2020.

According to analysts, this is happening as investors are redirecting flows to China after Beijing announced stimulus measures to stalled economic growth.

Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said, "In India the main driver of the bull run has been the sustained domestic flows into the market which has been absorbing all the selling by FIIs."

"The domestic flows will continue to support the market but elevated valuations will put a cap on the upside. Nifty is likely to consolidate around 25,000 levels. Q2 earnings will be weak except in IT, banking and pockets of autos," he added.

Heavy rain alert in Tamil Nadu, Andhra as depression formed over Bay of Bengal



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The well-marked low-pressure area over the southwest and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal moved west to northwestwards and intensified into a depression on evening, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in a statement.

The weather system is expected to make landfall between Andhra Pradesh's Nellore and north Puducherry, October 17.

This meteorological system is advancing northwestwards at approximately 10 kmph, and the anticipated landfall is likely to bring significant weather changes to the region, the Met said in a press statement.

According to a Met official, heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely in a few places in southern Andhra Pradesh and northeast Tamil Nadu in the next 24 to 36 hours.

Southern Karnataka is also expected to receive a fresh spell of rainfall in the same period, the wether body said.

In view of the rain alert, schools and colleges will remain shut in Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur

and Chengalpet districts of Tamil Nadu on Wednesday, October 16. The government has also urged private officers to allow their employees to work from home due to the rain forecast.

Similarly, schools will also be shut in Bengaluru on October 16 due to the heavy rain alert.

Teams of NDRF and State Disaster Response have also been deployed in Chennai and Bengaluru following the heavy rain forecast.

In Tamil Nadu, 1,000 monsoon medical camps have been set up, which includes 100 such facilities in Chennai. As many as 13,000 volunteers have come forward to assist authorities in rain-related tasks. In total, 65,000 volunteers are on standby in the state.

According to Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister, Udhayanidhi Stalin, disaster response force teams of the state and Centre are on standby in 26 locations in Chennai and districts nearby.

In addition, 219 boats are ready for use for rain-related tasks in Chennai and other parts of the state.

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Canada's charges serious: Five Eyes allies US, New Zealand on its row with India

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : India is not cooperating with Canada on its investigation into the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, last year, the US claimed on Tuesday. The remark by State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller comes amid a deepening diplomatic row between Delhi and Ottawa. India has strongly rejected Canada's assertion that it had shared credible evidence of Indian involvement in the Nijjar case. India has called the allegations "preposterous", accusing Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of pandering to Canada's large Sikh community for political gain. "When it comes to the Canadian matter, we have made clear that the allegations are extremely serious, and they need to be taken seriously. We wanted to see the government of India cooperate with Canada in its investigation. Obviously, they have not chosen that path," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller. "Prime Minister Trudeau's hostility to India has long been in evidence. In 2018, his visit to India, which was aimed at currying favour with a vote bank, rebounded to his discomfort. His Cabinet has included individuals who



have openly associated with an extremist and separatist agenda regarding India. His naked interference in Indian internal politics in December 2020 showed how far he was willing to go in this regard," the Ministry of External Affairs said. New Zealand, too, chimed in on Canada's allegations against India, becoming the second of the 'Five Eyes' countries to comment on the ongoing row over the killing of Nijjar between the two nations. Winston Peters, New Zealand's Minister of Foreign Affairs, said the "alleged criminal conduct outlined publicly by Canadian law enforcement authorities, if proven, would be very concerning". "At the same time, we do not comment on the details of ongoing criminal

investigations, in New Zealand or abroad, other than to note that it is important that the rule of law and judicial processes be respected and followed," he said. Meanwhile, India has accused Canada of harbouring those 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. Hardeep Singh Nijjar was killed in Surrey in June last year and Prime Minister Trudeau has accused India of being complicit in his assassination. Rejecting the allegations, India not only called back its High Commissioner from Canada but also expelled six of its diplomats from New Delhi.

US backs Canada's allegations, urges India to "cooperate"

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The United States has termed Canada's allegations as "extremely serious" and has urged India to "cooperate" with Ottawa's inquiry into the assassination of Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar. India and Canada are currently facing an unprecedented diplomatic crisis following Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's assertion that agents of the Indian government were implicated in Nijjar's death on Canadian soil. India has dismissed these allegations from Canada as "absurd" and "politically motivated." "We have made clear that the Canadian allegations are extremely serious and they need to be taken seriously and we wanted to see the Government of India cooperate with Canada and its investigation. But, India has chosen an alternate path..." US Department of State Spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a press briefing. He emphasized the need for cooperation between the two countries, stating, "I do not have any further comment beyond what the two countries have said publicly. We



have urged them to cooperate and will continue to urge them to do so." Canada expelled six Indian diplomats and consular officials in connection with a probe of the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia in 2023. India has also announced its decision to expel six Canadian diplomats, which include Canada's Acting High Commissioner in India, Steward Ross Wheeler, Deputy High Commissioner in India Patrick Hebert, and First Secretary Marie Catherine Joly. This development follows increasing diplomatic tensions stemming from Canadian accusations against India, which have not yet been supported by concrete evidence.

Maldives President Fires over 225 Political Appointees to Cut Costs

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Maldives : The Maldives president has sacked more than 225 political appointees, including ministers, in a bid to reduce the cash-strapped Indian Ocean nation's expenditure, his office said. Mohamed Muizzu ordered the removal of those he appointed after coming to power last year as the small but strategically located nation struggles to stave off a debt crisis. "This significant reduction in political appointments aligns with the president's broader efforts to streamline government operations and ensure more efficient use of public funds," a statement from Muizzu's office said. Among those sacked were seven state ministers, 43 deputy ministers and 178 political directors. It was not clear what functions they performed in the tiny nation of about half a million people.



The statement did not say how many more political appointees remained in the administration but added that the mass reduction of staff would save the country about \$370,000 a month. The Maldives said in September its financial troubles were "temporary" and that it had no plans to seek an International Monetary Fund bailout despite warnings of a possible sovereign default. Known as a luxury holiday destination

with pristine white sand beaches and secluded resorts, the Maldives has also become a geopolitical hotspot. China and India are the two largest bilateral lenders to the Maldives, made up of 1,192 coral islands scattered across the equator. China has pledged more funding since last year's victory by Muizzu, who thanked Beijing for its "selfless assistance" for development funds. Muizzu was welcomed in New Delhi this month by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who rolled out financial support to bolster Male's struggling economy. Official data showed the Maldives' foreign debt at \$3.37 billion in the first quarter of this year, equating to around 45 percent of gross domestic product. China accounted for about 20 percent of the external debt, while India owned just under 18 percent.

India emerges as top source market for tourism in Sri Lanka with over 300,000 visitors this year

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Over three lakh Indian tourists have traveled to Sri Lanka this year, making India the biggest source market for tourism on the island. As per data released by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, over 15 lakh tourists have visited the island nation this year up to mid-October. The United Kingdom, Russia, and Germany occupied the next three places in the list of top source markets after India, while China figured at a distant fifth place.



Connectivity has been an important facet of bilateral relations between India and Sri Lanka in recent years.

With regular flights on one hand and the resumption of ferry services on the other, travel between the two countries has become easier and more comfortable. Tourism is one of Sri Lanka's top foreign revenue generators. Sri Lankan tourism authorities had said last month that they expect three million foreign tourists in 2025, which could take the tourism industry to pre-Covid levels.

Lufthansa Fined 'Record' \$4 Million For Barring Jewish Passengers

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Washington : US authorities have hit Lufthansa with a record \$4 million penalty after finding the airline discriminated against over 100 Jewish travelers by blocking them from boarding a flight in 2022, officials said. The 128 passengers were denied boarding to a connecting flight after a few did not follow instructions, including anti-Covid mask requirements, on a flight from the United States to Germany, US transport authorities said. The airline did not immediately



reply to an AFP request for comment. The US Department of

Transportation said the penalty over the boarding refusal on May 3, 2022 in Frankfurt was the largest it had issued for a civil rights violation. The travelers -- who wore distinctive garments like black hats and jackets -- told investigators they were treated as if they were one group even though many weren't flying together and didn't know each other.

26 Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes across Gaza

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Gaza : Palestine has said at least 26 of its people were killed in Israeli attacks across the Gaza Strip yesterday. According to the Palestinian medical authorities, 11 Palestinians were killed in Israeli shelling near the al-Faluja area in Jabalia refugee camp, while at least 10 others were killed in an airstrike targeting an inhabited house east of Khan Younis city in southern Gaza. They added that five more were killed in the Israeli bombing of a house in the Nuseirat camp in central Gaza. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said in a statement yesterday that it continues its operations in the Jabalia area, targeting militant infrastructure and operatives embedded inside



civilian areas. The IDF said it acted by the International Law to facilitate humanitarian aid to Gaza residents, particularly the health system, the transfer of patients, accompanying personnel, and hospital staff, as well as fuel delivery for operating hospitals.

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Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana beneficiaries thank PM Modi for fulfilling their dreams



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), many impoverished families have realised their dream of owning a residence in Jharkhand's Koderma district.

Beneficiaries of the scheme have expressed that they never imagined owning a house and extended thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Landless families are being provided permanent homes under PMAY Vertical 3. In Koderma, 120 houses have been constructed, and in Jhumri Telaiya, 80 houses have been built under this vertical.

Some of the scheme's beneficiaries shared their previous struggles, saying that they lived in houses with thatched roofs that would leak during the monsoon.

"We constantly feared that our homes might collapse during storms, but now, under the PMAY scheme, we are living in permanent houses and no longer have these fears," said an aged beneficiary.

Another young beneficiary shared how, before this scheme, they struggled in rented homes where the landlord would come asking

for rent before the month ended. "The PMAY scheme has proven immensely beneficial, and owning a flat was like a dream to me," she added.

Another man expressed his gratitude, saying he never had a home of his own since birth. "Thanks to PM Modi, people like me who had no hope, now own house," he said.

He also shared that the house was originally allotted in his wife's name, but after her passing during COVID, he had it re-registered in his name.

Yet another beneficiary remarked that 80 families would benefit from these flats, with access to electricity, water, and proper roads. He also emphasised, "Now even those without any land would have their own house."

Beneficiaries are given 1BHK flat, constructed on 333 square feet area of land, with a cost of approximately Rs 5.5 lakh. They are given a loan of Rs 3.17 lakh, which they repay in instalments.

The beneficiaries of PMAY have expressed their heartfelt gratitude to PM Modi, stating that this scheme is extremely beneficial for the poor and made them escape the hardship of temporary homes.

Complete defiance: SC blasts Punjab, Haryana over Delhi air pollution

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Supreme Court today reprimanded Punjab and Haryana over the issue of stubble burning, stating that no effective action has been taken by the states to address the problem, which exacerbates air pollution levels in Delhi and its neighbouring regions during the winter season.

Noting that there has been a substantial increase in stubble burning cases in both the states and calling it an "absolute defiance" of direction by the Commission of Air Quality Management, the court summoned Haryana Chief Secretary on October 23.

"We see that the affidavit by Haryana is full of non-compliance. We direct Commission to take penal action against State Officers under Section 14. We direct Chief Secretary Mr Prasad to be physically present on next Wednesday. Commission will make



statement about coercive action taken against State officials. Chief Secretary holds an explanation to court not only for non-compliance but also for not taking stringent action against violators," Justice AS Oka said.

The Supreme Court was hearing a case of non-compliance of orders passed by the Commission for Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region (NCR), particularly regarding stubble burning.

The court also criticised the central

commission for failing to take action on violations. It said, "Who is appearing for Punjab and Haryana? None of the members of the commission are qualified for dealing with matters of air pollution. Absolute non-compliance. Check our last order and June 10 order as well. Not a single prosecution has been done yet. Everything is just on paper".

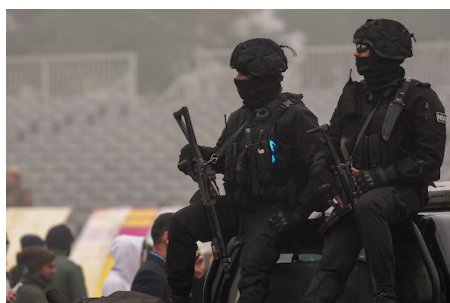
When the Haryana Chief Secretary submitted that 17 FIRs were registered this year, Justice Oka pointed out that the cases were not under the required provisions and warned that the court would issue contempt proceedings if action was not taken within one week. "We are telling you very clearly. We will give you one week and if not complied, we will issue contempt against Chief Secretary. Why are you shy of prosecuting people?," the top court asked.

Centre hands over security of nine 'high-risk' VIPs to CRPF, removes commandos

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Union government has ordered the complete withdrawal of the counter-terrorist commando force NSG from VIP security duties and handing over its nine "high-risk" VIPs to the CRPF by the next month, official sources said today. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has also sanctioned a fresh battalion of specially trained personnel, recently withdrawn from Parliament security duties, to be attached to the CRPF VIP security wing.

Sources said the protection of nine 'Z plus' category VIPs being guarded by the 'black cat' commandos of the National Security Guard (NSG) -- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, his predecessor and BSP supreme Mayawati, Union defence minister Rajnath Singh, veteran BJP leader and former deputy prime minister L K Advani, Union shipping minister Sarbananda Sonowal, BJP leader and ex Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh, former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) president Ghulam Nabi Azad, National Conference (NC)



president Farooq Abdullah and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu-- will now be guarded by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The transfer of duties between the two forces under the MHA is expected to be completed within a month, they said.

The CRPF, which has six VIP security battalions, has been asked to absorb a seventh battalion for this purpose. The fresh battalion is the one that used to guard the Parliament till a few months back. After a security breach that took place last year, the Parliament security was handed over to the CISF from the CRPF, a senior

officer told.

As part of the taking over the new task, a team of Andhra Pradesh Police was in Delhi recently for the change of its chief minister's security from the NSG to the CRPF, the sources said.

Two among these nine VIPs will also have the advanced security liaison (ASL) protocol being undertaken by the CRPF-- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UP Chief Minister Adityanath, as per the sources.

ASL involves an advance reconnaissance of the location to be visited by the VIP. The CRPF undertakes such a protocol for five of its VIPs including Home Minister Amit Shah, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and three Gandhi family Congress leaders.

The plan to relieve NSG from VIP security tasks has been in the making since 2012, when NSG commandos foresaw an event where simultaneous terror attacks could be witnessed at one time on multiple centres in the country and the commandos would have to be rushed in different directions.

Air India flight, diverted to Canada due to bomb threat, leaves for Chicago

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : Air India today announced that a Chicago-bound flight which had to be diverted to Canada after receiving a bomb threat, was finally heading to its destination. On Tuesday, seven Indian flights got bomb threats, with at least two of them making emergency landings.

In a statement, Air India said that passengers of flight AI127 were being ferried on a Canadian



Air Force aircraft which took off from the remote Canadian

city of Iqaluit at 3.54 am (local time) and is expected to land in Chicago at 7.48 am (local US time).

"We thank the Canadian authorities and authorities at Iqaluit airport for their support and assistance extended to the passengers and Air India during this unexpected disruption," it added.

4 Bangladeshi citizens arrested with fake Aadhaar cards while entering India

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : The Border Security Force (BSF) arrested four Bangladeshi and one Indian citizen while attempting to cross over to India from the India-Bangladesh international border in West Bengal.

The BSF also recovered fake Aadhaar cards from the four Bangladeshi nationals. During questioning, they informed the officials that they intended to travel to Chennai to work as daily wage labourers.

The accused were arrested in the early hours of October 15 in the border area of South Bengal Frontier in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, as per a statement by the BSF.

After observing suspicious movement at the Bamanabad border post in Murshidabad, the BSF troops raised an alarm and moved towards the infiltrators, the BSF said.

However, the accused resisted and tried



to force their way into Indian territory, the BSF said, adding that when its personnel responded with a strong counter, the infiltrators scattered and attempted to hide in the tall grass.

Responding swiftly, Quick Response Teams (QRT) were deployed, and all five suspects were arrested.

During checking, four fake Aadhaar cards were recovered from the suspects and on further questioning, the accused informed the BSF officials that they intended to travel to Chennai with the

fake documents to work as daily wage labourers.

The four Bangladeshi nationals said that they procured fake Indian cards through a Bangladeshi man based in the Godagari sub-district in Bangladesh's Rajshahi.

Each of them had paid 1,000 Bangladeshi Taka for the fake identity documents, the arrested Bangladeshi nationals said. After questioning, they were handed over to the local police for further legal action.

Speaking on the operation, DIG BSF, NK Pandey, said "This operation is a testament to the unyielding vigilance and quick response of our troops in safeguarding the nation's borders. Attempts to enter India illegally using fake documents, but the BSF remains committed to thwarting such activities." The BSF's priority is to ensure the safety and security of India's borders, Pandey added.



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