

THURSDAY

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CHANDIGARH

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Message of unity and brotherhood of Guru Ravidas still relevant: CM



PAGE 6



72 MW solar power to be generated by December 2025: CM Sukhu

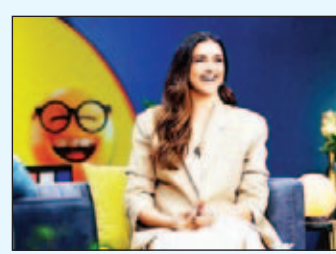
PAGE 5



'Build back better' technique being followed to tackle Mahakumbh crowd, says DGP

PAGE 7

Deepika Padukone shares tips to tackle exam stress



PAGE 12

"Are we not creating class of parasites?" SC criticises election freebies

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, FEB 12

Making strong observations on the practice of political parties announcing freebies ahead of elections, the Supreme Court has said people are "not willing to work" because of them and wondered whether a "class of parasites" was being created in the country.

Hearing a matter on the right to shelter of homeless persons in urban areas, a bench of Justices BR Gavai and AG Masih said people were getting ration and money without working.

"Rather than promoting them to be a part of the mainstream of the society by contributing to the development of the nation, are we not creating a class of parasites?" the bench asked.



Pulling no punches, Justice Gavai referred to the 'Ladki Bahin' scheme in Maharashtra - under which women in the age group of 21-65 with an annual family income of less than Rs 2.5 lakh get Rs 1,500 per month - and similar programmes run by ruling parties in other states and said, "Unfortunately, because of these freebies, which just on the anvil of elections are declared, like 'Ladki Bahin' and other schemes, people are not willing to work... They are getting free ration and money without doing any work."

"We quite appreciate your concern for them but would it not be better to make them a part of the mainstream of society and permit them to contribute to the development of the nation?" the bench asked. When Advocate Prashant Bhushan, ap-

pearing for one of the petitioners, said there was hardly anybody in the country who did not want to work if they got work, he was interrupted by Justice Gavai, who went on to cite an example.

"You must be having only one-sided knowledge. I come from an agricultural family. Because of the freebies in Maharashtra which they announced just prior to elections, agriculturists are not getting labourers," he said. The bench noted that everybody, including Attorney General R Venkataramani, was on the same page that providing shelter to the homeless merited attention but asked, "At the same time, should it not be balanced?" Mr Venkataramani said the Centre was finalising the urban poverty alleviation mission, which would tackle issues like providing shelter to the urban homeless.

India, France plan to jointly develop mini nuclear plants

UNI
MARSEILLES/NEW DELHI, FEB 12

In a major step in civil nuclear energy cooperation, India and France agreed on establishment of partnership in Advanced Modular Reactors and Small Modular Reactors, following bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Emmanuel Macron of France in Marseilles.

The two leaders also jointly inaugurated India's Consulate in Marseille, and paid homage to the Indian soldiers who died during World War I at the Mazargues War Cemetery.

Earlier, the two leaders flew together from Paris to Marseille in the French Presidential Aircraft on Tuesday, in a special gesture reflecting the personal rapport between the two leaders.

They held discussions on the full spectrum of bilateral relations and key global and regional issues.

This was followed by delegation level talks after arrival in Marseille.

The leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to the India-France Strategic Partnership, which has steadily evolved into a multifaceted relationship over the past 25 years, a statement said.

The talks covered all aspects of the India-France strategic partnership. The two leaders reviewed cooperation in the strategic areas of Defence, Civil Nuclear Energy and Space.

They also discussed ways to strengthen collaboration in the fields of Technology and Innovation. This area of partnership assumes greater salience in the backdrop of the just concluded AI Action Summit and the upcoming India-France Year of Innovation in 2026.



PM Modi visits Mazargues war cemetery, pays tribute to fallen Indian soldiers

PARIS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday visited the historic Mazargues Cemetery in Marseille city here along with French President Emmanuel Macron and paid tribute to the Indian soldiers who made sacrifices fighting in the Great War.

At a solemn ceremony held at the site, Modi laid a wreath composed of tricolour-themed flowers and Macron also laid a wreath.

Paying homage to the soldiers who laid down their lives fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with their French counterparts during World War I, Modi paid tribute with folded hands and a gentle bow at the iconic site that also has an 'Indian Memorial'.

A band played on the lawns enhancing the solemnity of the occasion. Later, the two leaders took a walk on the premises of the cemetery and laid roses on memorial tablets installed on a wall inside a stone pavilion at the historic cemetery. A large number of Indian soldiers are commemorated in this war cemetery that is maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). Modi, who is on a three-day visit to France, on Tuesday co-chaired the AI Action Summit along with President Macron and addressed business leaders.

1984 riots: Delhi court convicts Sajjan Kumar in murder case

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, FEB 12

A Delhi court on Wednesday convicted former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in a case related to the murders of two persons in Saraswati Vihar area during the anti-Sikh riots. Special judge Kaveri Baweja passed the conviction order and posted the arguments on sentence on February 18.

Kumar was produced before court from Tihar jail for the pronouncement. The case relates to the killings of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarun Singh on November 1, 1984. Though Punjabi Bagh police station registered the case initially, a special investigation team later took over the investigation. On December 16, 2021, the court framed charges against Kumar, finding a "prima facie" case against him. According to the



prosecution, a huge mob, armed with deadly weapons, resorted to large-scale looting, arson and destruction of properties of Sikhs to avenge the assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The mob attacked the house of the complainant, Jaswant's wife, killing her

husband and son apart from looting articles and setting their house ablaze, alleged the prosecution. Putting Kumar on trial, the court order found sufficient material to form a "prima facie" opinion that he was not only a participant, but had also led the mob.

Farmer leader Baldev Sirsa taken to hospital after facing cardiac issues

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

Senior farmer leader Baldev Singh Sirsa was on Wednesday taken to government hospital in Patiala from the Khanauri protest site after he faced cardiac issues. The octogenarian was at the protest site when he complained of heart problem after which he was rushed in an ambulance to the hospital. Farmer leaders at Khanauri said that for the past many months Sirsa too has been taking part in the protest of farmers.



Haryana: Vij sends reply to show cause notice

AMBALA: Haryana Cabinet Minister Anil Vij on Wednesday said that he has sent a reply to the show cause notice slapped on him by the BJP state unit chief Mohanlal Badoli. Speaking to the media, Vij said he was out of station and returned last night. He then prepared his reply and sent the same. Vij said that in his reply, he has written that if anything more is required, he is ready to clarify. Vij did not disclose the content of his reply and refused to take further questions. However, when asked how the news about Badoli's show cause notice to him was leaked, the minister said if the party wished it could initiate an inquiry. A couple of days back, Badoli sent a notice to Vij seeking his explanation for his recent remarks about Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini. The party has termed it a breach of discipline. Vij had said that the Chief Minister remains in the air on his "Udan Khatola" and does not know the problems of the people on the ground.

SC dismisses Indrani Mukerjea's plea to travel abroad

UNI
NEW DELHI, FEB 12

The Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed former media executive Indrani Mukerjea's plea seeking permission to travel abroad when the trial in the Sheena Bora murder case is ongoing.

A bench comprising Justice M.M. Sundresh and Justice Rajesh Bindal also directed that the trial be expedited and concluded within one year.

Mukerjea's counsel argued that the bail conditions allowed her to travel with the Cen-

tral Bureau of Investigation (CBI) court's permission. However, the Supreme Court refused to interfere with the Bombay High Court's September 27, 2024, order, which denied her request.

The Bombay High Court had overturned a special court's decision that permitted Mukerjea to travel abroad for property tax payments, banking matters, and updating her Will. While Mukerjea cited the need to visit Spain for biometric registration about her Will, the Supreme Court observed that she had a Power of Attorney holder who could handle the matter.

Measures being taken to improve groundwater levels in Haryana : Patil

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

The Union Jal Shakti Minister, Sh. C.R. Patil while addressing a press conference here today said that dedicated measures are being taken to improve groundwater levels in Haryana's dark zone blocks. He said that the central government is committed to implementing effective water conservation and recharge measures in coordination with the Haryana government.

He shared that there are around 150 districts across the country where several blocks have been classified as dark zones due to depleting groundwater levels. Haryana is also included in this list. The Jal Shakti Ministry aims to bring Haryana's blocks out of the dark zone category. To achieve this, efforts must be made to conserve rainwater, and this can only be successful with public participation, informed Sh. C.R. Patil.

Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister, Sh. Shyam Singh Rana, Director General, Information, Public Relations, Languages,



and Culture Department, Sh. K.M. Pandurang and Media Secretary, Sh. Praveen Atrey also remained present on the occasion.

The Union Jal Shakti Minister said that in the Union Budget 2024, Haryana has been allocated approximately Rs. 76,000 crore for development projects. Additionally, around Rs. 78,000 crore has been received as grants, enabling Haryana to progress rapidly. While, under the previous government before 2014, Haryana received only Rs. 19,000 crore in the central budget and Rs. 21,000 crore as grants. The Union Minister shared that under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, 13.8 lakh farmers in Haryana are receiving direct benefits.

HP IAS Officers' Association condemns attack on SDM in Mandi

BUREAU
SHIMLA, FEB 12

The Himachal Pradesh IAS Officers' Association has strongly condemned the assault on IAS officer Om Kant during an inspection against illegal mining in Mandi. The association termed the attack as not just an assault on an individual but a direct challenge to law and order.

Sh. Om Kant, a 2020-batch IAS officer serving as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Mandi (Sadar), was attacked during a surprise inspection on the banks of the Beas River on Monday night. The incident occurred around 7:10 PM in the Bindra-

vani area, where he was accompanied only by his driver. During the altercation, he sustained blunt injuries to his face and was rushed to a local civil hospital before being discharged after preliminary treatment.

The accused, Hira Lal Thakur, a local shopkeeper and horse lender, has been arrested. According to police, he was intoxicated at the time and was not directly involved in illegal mining. He allegedly arrived at the scene to



record a video of the SDM after three suspects involved in illegal mining managed to flee. Mandi Superintendent of Police (SP), Sakshi Verma, confirmed that an FIR has been lodged, and efforts are underway to track down the three suspects. She also mentioned that local police had no prior information about the SDM's inspection.

The IAS Officers' Association has urged authorities to take

swift and exemplary action against the perpetrators and called for stricter security measures, including the provision of personal security officers (PSOs) for SDMs engaged in law enforcement duties. The association reiterated its commitment to safeguarding the dignity and safety of officers, ensuring they can discharge their duties fearlessly in the public interest without intimidation or violence.

Sh. Om Kant, a resident of Samastipur, Bihar, has been serving as SDM Mandi (Sadar) since 2023. Following the incident, he was on leave on Tuesday and was unavailable for comment.

Farewell party given to students at Pathfinder Global School

RAMPURA PHUL, (KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA): CBSE Wishing a bright future for the students of ninth to twelfth standard in Pathfinder Global School Rampura Phul, recognized from Delhi, Principal Eshu Bansal said that a farewell party has been organized for the students of tenth and twelfth standard.

The program was inaugurated by Sumit Bansal, Principal and Managing Director of the school by cutting the ribbon. Later the students presented very beautiful songs and dances and remembered the moments they spent with each other. The students of class 9 and 11 entertained their seniors by conducting various activities and gifts were given to the students who secured positions. Warm memories and feelings were recalled by the students while studying together in school.



APJ Public school organises Sukhmani Sahib Path, farewell ceremony for 12 graduating students

SHASHI PAL JAIN
KHARAR, FEB 12

APJ Public School hosted a special event featuring a Sukhmani Sahib Path and a Farewell ceremony for 12 graduating students. The day began with the peaceful recitation of the Sukhmani Sahib, where students, teachers, and parents gathered to seek divine blessings for the students' future. The serene atmosphere filled everyone with positive energy, setting the tone for the celebrations.

Following the prayer, the farewell ceremony began with a series of speeches, showcasing the achievements of the 12 students. Teachers and the principal expressed their pride and shared heartfelt wishes for the students' bright futures. The students were presented with tokens of appreciation as a reminder of their time at APJ Public School. he event also included a joyous celebration with music and dance, where the students danced to their favorite tunes, enjoying their final moments together. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, joy, and excitement as the students bid farewell to their school days, ready to embark on new adventures with fond memories in their hearts. The principal addressed the students, emphasizing the importance of sincerity and hard work. He encouraged them to always stay dedicated and persistent in their efforts, reminding them that life is a journey of achievements. He urged them to remain focused and committed, as success comes through determination and consistent effort.



Kerala's vibrant folk and classical dances enthrall Chandigarh audience



R N KHERA
CHANDIGARH: Kerala Tourism brought the rich cultural heritage of the state to life in Chandigarh with a mesmerizing showcase of traditional and folk art forms. Held at The Lalit Chandigarh, the event featured electrifying performances of Theyyam, Mohiniyattam, Kathakali, and Kalaripayattu, leaving the 200-plus audience spellbound. The afternoon began with Mohiniyattam, Kerala's graceful classical dance, inspired by Mohini, the female incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Dancers in their signature ivory and gold attire performed intricate movements, captivating the spectators with their elegance. The performance lineup also included the ritualistic dance of Theyyam, known for its elaborate masks and dramatic storytelling, and Kathakali, Kerala's iconic dance-drama, with its striking green-faced makeup and powerful expressions. Adding to the spectacle was Kalaripayattu, India's oldest martial art, showcasing stunning combat techniques.

Religious samagam on birth anniversary of Sri Guru Ravidas Maharaj



SHARANJEET
PATHANKOT: Satsang and Bhandara were held today at Dera Swami Jagat Giri Ji Maharaj Pathankot on the 648th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj Ji. On this occasion Lal Chand Katarachak Cabinet Minister Punjab was present as the chief guest. Like every year this time also the 648th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj was celebrated at Ashram Jagatgiri Maharaj Chakki Pul Pathankot, in which special support was given by Sri Guru Ravidas Sabha, Welfare Youth Organization, Sri Guru Ravidas Sabha Rural and Sri Guru Ravidas Mahila Sangathan.

Singer Surjit Khan's new song "Maye Meriye Boliyan" is trending everywhere



TLIAK RAJ
MOHALI: Popular Punjabi folk singer Surjit Khan's new song "Maye Meriye Boliyan" is released and fully trending on all social media sites. Giving complete information about this song his manager Raju Rana told new song is released under a label of Headliner record company. This song is written by famous writer of Punjabi music industry Shamsheer Sandhu. The music of the song is given by Atul Sharma. He told beautiful video of the song is shoot by Sahib Sekhon. DOP by Jaspreet Singh. Many artist worked in song in which female lead by Neet Mahal, mother actor Kulwinder Kaur (makeover by Shilpi) (Rehmat) and all project has come under the supervision of Seema Khan. He said this is a beat song which telling the feeling of the girl and can be listen on all musical sites and the video of the song can be seen on Headliner Record official channel. He told very soon song will be available on Punjabi channels. About future activities he said that other beat song will be released very soon.

MCM pays tribute to Swami Dayanand on his 201st birth anniversary, Meraki poster unveiled



CHANDIGARH : Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, paid rich tributes to Swami Dayanand Saraswati on his 201st birth anniversary. Officiating Principal Ms. Suman Mahajan and staff members expressed their reverence towards the founder of Arya Samaj, and sought his blessings as they offered flowers on his picture. Artist Varun Tandon's portrait of Swamiji was also displayed on this occasion. The most striking feature of the portrait was that the stamp imprints in the portrait had mantras from vedas, and image of Arya jans performing havan. Making the most of this auspicious occasion, the college unveiled the poster of its annual cultural fest- Meraki. The artist of the Star Night during the fest- Nikhil D'Souza from Bollywood, and the artist for EDM Night- Aerreo, were also revealed through unveiling of their posters. Speaking at this occasion, Ms. Suman Mahajan reminded the students about Swami Dayanand ji's immensely significant contribution

Gulab Chand Kataria pays homage to Shri Guru Ravidas Ji on his 648th Prakash Utsav

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

Governor of Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh Gulab Chand Kataria ji paid homage to Sant Shri Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj on his 648th Prakash Utsav by bowing down at Shri Guru Ravidas Gurdwara Sector 30A, Chandigarh. In his address, Governor Shri Gulab Chand Kataria ji said that the life of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji is a unique example of equality, devotion and social harmony. He fought against casteism and discrimination and showed the path of love, unity and service to the society. The Governor said, "Shri Guru Ravidas Ji was not only a great saint but also a social reformer, poet and spiritual guru. He gave a new direction to the Bhakti movement with his teachings and awakened consciousness against casteism and untouchability



in the society. His message is as relevant today as it was in the 15th century."

He said that Guru Ravidas Ji made people aware through his couplets and teachings and told them that there is no religion greater than devotion to God and service to humanity. "The Hon'ble Governor, while referring to the famous couplet of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji,

He said that Guru Ravidas Ji made people aware through his couplets and teachings and told them that there is no religion greater than devotion to God and service to humanity.

said -"Jaat-Paat Puchhe Nahi Ko, Hari Ko Bhaje So Hari Ka Hoi." He said that this message of Guru Ravidas Ji teaches us that there is no difference of caste and class in the devotion of God. He gave the message of giving priority to devotion and humanity by rising above caste and social divisions, which is equally important in today's society. The Hon'ble

Governor said that "Guru Ravidas Ji taught us that the progress of society is possible only when there is a feeling of equality and brotherhood in it.

His teachings inspire us even today to create a harmonious and egalitarian society, where there is no discrimination." He said that "Various public welfare schemes being implemented in the country are being made available equally to all sections. The mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas' has today become a symbol of connecting 140 crore countrymen. This message inspires us to move forward unitedly and adopt new directions of harmony, equality and development in the society."

On this occasion, Deputy Mayor Mrs. Tarun Mehta, senior BJP leader Mr. Arun Sood, Sabha President Mr. O.P. Chopra were also present.

National seminar on Guru Ravidas Jayanti at PU



CHANDIGARH: Panjab University, Chandigarh - On February 11, 2025, the Guru Ravidas Chair of Sant Sahitya Studies organized its National Seminar on Guru Ravidas Jayanti, titled "Relevance of Guru Ravidas' Ideology in the Contemporary Era," under the esteemed chairmanship of Prof. Parmjit Kaur. This distinguished event served as a profound tribute to the life, teachings, and enduring contributions of the revered saint, philosopher, and poet, Guru Ravidas.

Guru Ravi Das Chair of Sant Sahitya Studies is set up to study and research on various aspects of the life, work and teachings of the mystic poet, thinker and philosopher of 15th century Bhakti Movement, Guru Ravi Das. Often given the honorific title of 'bhagat' or 'saint', Guru Ravi Das is attributed with a large body of hymns, verses and poems that speak of universal brotherhood, tolerance, socialism, secularism, equality and breaking of caste and gender-based hierarchies. Special emphasis is also laid on the study and research of Medieval Indian Sant Sahitya. The Chair encourages subject specific as well as comparative study and research of all Medieval Indian literature.

Sant Baba Kartar Singh Bhaironmajra's anniversary observed with devotion in Kalaran



KHARAR, FEB 12

Residents of village Kalaran gathered with deep reverence to observe the anniversary of Brahm Gyani Sant Baba Kartar Singh Bhaironmajra.

The event featured the culmination of Shri Akhand Path Sahib, followed by soul-stirring kirtan by devotional groups, who enlightened the congregation about Sant Baba

Kartar Singh's life and teachings.

On this occasion, Hill Top Hospital, Kharar, organized a free medical check-up camp. Jagdeep Singh and Bibi Jagtar Kaur shared that BJP district president Ajay Veer Singh Lalpura attended as a special guest and praised the hospital's initiative in providing healthcare services to the community.

Under the leadership of Dr. Avtar Kaur and HOD Maninderjot Singh Ranu, a medical team comprising Dr. Ram Babu and Dr. Abin Thapa examined over 150 patients and distributed free medicines.

Bibi Jagtar Kaur commended the effort, emphasizing the importance of such camps in ensuring accessible healthcare for all.

Grand program at PGI on Shri Guru Ravidas Janmotsav, Additional Solicitor General of India Satya Pal Jain pays obeisance to Guruji as chief guest



CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

A grand program was organized at PGI on the birth anniversary of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji. In this program, Additional Solicitor General of India Satya Pal Jain paid obeisance to Guruji as the chief guest. Jaspal Singh, Satish Garg, social worker cardiologist Neelam Dahiya, Mamta Dogra and hundreds of devotees paid obeisance to Guruji. Jain said that Shri Guru Ravidas Ji is not the guru of any one caste but of the entire

humanity, he has guided for the welfare of the entire humanity. Along with this, Mr. Jain said that Shri Guru Ravidas Sabha is serving the entire humanity, patients of all castes from all over the country coming here for treatment get accommodation and other kinds of assistance. Shri Guru Ravidas Sabha also felicitated Satyapal Jain, Jaspal Singh, social worker Satish Garg, industrialist Kishore Chahal of Phagwara, cardiologist Neelam Dahiya, Mamta Dogra and others.

Jalandhar commissionerate police arrests two with 30 gram heroin



PARAMJIT SINGH
JALANDHAR, FEB 12

Jalandhar Commissionerate Police led by Commissioner of Police Swapan Sharma has arrested two individuals with 30 grams heroin.

Giving details, the Commissioner of Police said that on a tip off the Police conducted a checked at Y point Bhagat Singh colony when they spotted two individuals in a suspicious condition.

He said that after thorough search, the police recovered 30 grams of heroin from the possession of youth identified as Lovepreet Singh alias Love s/o Mukhtiyar Singh r/o village puhla police station Bhikhi Vindh, Tarn Taran and Navtej Singh alias Nav s/o Kulwinder Singh r/o village Amishah Police Station Khaira, Tarn-taran.

Swapan Sharma said that FIR No. 10, Date: 07.02.2025, Sections: 21-61-85 NDPS Act Police Station Division No.1, Jalandhar has been registered against the accused. The Commissioner of Police said that further investigations into the case is going on and details if any will be shared later.

6 students of Aakash Educational Amritsar, achieve 99 percentile and above in JEE Mains 2025



AMRITSAR (CHARNJIT SINGH ARORA): Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services, proudly announces an exceptional achievement in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains 2025 (Session 1). An impressive 6 students from Amritsar have scored above 99 percentile in the first session of the examination. Top achievers include Kavya with 99.93 percentile, Devendra Sahu with 99.92, Safdar with 99.87, Japneet Singh with 99.57, Harnoor Singh with 99.30 percentile.

These results highlight the students' dedication and academic excellence in one of India's most challenging exams. The National Testing Agency announced the results on 11th Feb, marking the beginning of this year's two scheduled JEE sessions.

Congratulating the students, Amit Singh Rathore, Chief Academic and Business Head, Aakash Educational Services Limited, congratulated the students on their impressive results. He said, "We are proud of our students' achievements in JEE Main 2025. Their hard work and determination, combined with the right coaching, have led to these excellent outcomes. At Aakash, we focus on providing quality education that helps students reach their full potential. Congratulations to all our successful students."

Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadaur holds old students meet

BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA DEHATI, FEB 12

The Alumni Meet 2025 was organized at Miri Piri Khalsa College Bhadaur, the leading educational institution of the area. During this teacher-student meet, about 50 old students of the institution participated.

Dr. Vandana Sukhija, Coordinator of the Alumni Association of the institution, welcomed these students and in-charge Prof. Bhinderjit Kaur shared her thoughts with them. During this, the students shared their old memories and recalled the moments spent in the college. M.A. 2 student Jaspreet Kaur refreshed the time spent in the college by reciting her handwritten poem 'College Days'. The current students of the college presented the play 'Jhan De Pani' written by Ajmer Singh Aulakh for the



old students under the direction of Sardar Iqbal Singh, which was enjoyed by all the students. On this occasion, among the old students, Gurvinder Singh journalist Prime Asia, Manpreet Singh (MD) Rivoli Immigration, Manpreet Singh clerk, Simarjit Kaur teacher, Lovely Singh Patwari, Jagtar Singh (Mann Flour Mill) shared the memories of the old days of the college with the students. The principal of the college, Malvinder Singh, thanked

the students who came and expressed the hope that they will remain associated with the college in the future as well. Just as the old students have achieved high positions after getting education from the college, in the same way the coming generation will also achieve their destination by following the right path. During this, Prof. Hardeep Singh played the role of stage management well. The entire staff of the institution was present on this occasion.

Guru Sahib gave us message of universal brotherhood : Cheema



DIRBA (SUMER GARG): Punjab Cabinet Minister, Harpal Singh Cheema today while paying obeisance at various Gurdwaras under the Vidhan Sabha constituency of Dirba on the occasion of the 648th Parkash Purb of Shiromani Bhagat Ravidas Ji also congratulated the devotees. He said that the holy message of Bhagat Ravidas Ji guided humanity about the right path and the Gurus rose above caste and gave the message of universal brotherhood to the entire society. He further said that there is a need to follow the path of truth shown by the Gurus. Cabinet Minister Cheema participated in several religious events organized in villages like Dirba, Kauthrian, Chhajli, Kanakwal, Gobindgarh Jejian & Khokhar Khurd and congratulated the devotees. During this, the Bhog of Shri Akhand Path Sahib was completed at the Gurdwaras and the Raagi Jathas delighted the devotees with the kirtan of divine Bani. On this occasion, the administrative committees of the Gurdwaras specially honored Cabinet Minister, Harpal Singh Cheema with siropas and mementos.

Harjot Bains extends greetings on Prakash Purab of Shri Guru Ravidas

MANJINDER BHATIA
KIRATPUR SAHIB, FEB 12

Punjab Cabinet Minister, Advocate Harjot Singh Bains, extended his heartiest greetings to the people of the state on the 648th Prakash Purab of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji. He emphasized that Guru Ravidas Ji spread the message of love, compassion, tolerance, and brotherhood in society. His teachings continue to inspire equality and social justice.

The Education Minister urged everyone to follow the path shown by Guru Ji and work towards fostering harmony in society. He also stressed the importance of uplifting the poor and underprivileged sections, emphasizing that collective efforts are needed to build an egalitarian society.

They participated in the religious events held in Prithipur, Gazipur, and Kiratpur Sahib, and paid homage at the religious sites. The event was attended by Chair-



man Kamikar Singh Dadi, Master Shiv Singh, Sarpanch Pradeep Kumar, Jujhar Singh Asapur, Gurdev Singh Rana, Sarpanch Balwinder Singh Jhijharri, Jimmi Dadi, Sarpanch Simranjit Singh Badapind, Sarpanch Lakhwinder Singh Gazipur, Rajveer Singh Sarpanch

Prithipur, Sarabjit Singh, Sarpanch Ajayab Singh Miapur Khara, Mani Bawa President Transport Wing Rupnagar, Kulwant Singh Block President, Madam Prakash Kaur, Ghaffoor Muhammad, Jaswinder Singh and a large number of people from the area.

Civil Surgeon inaugurates advanced nephrology and dialysis center at Rajan Hospital

SURINDER DAMDAMI KOTKAPURA: Advanced Nephrology and Dialysis Center inaugurated at Rajan Hospital and Heart Center, Faridkot Road, Kotkapura by Civil Surgeon Faridkot Dr. Chander Shekhar Kakkar. In this center, dialysis and various types of kidney diseases like urinary infections, kidney stones, kidney failure, prostate problems, sugar, and high blood pressure be treated by Dr. Sapna Sisodia (DM Nephrology) with ultra-modern German machines. On this occasion, Civil Surgeon Faridkot said that this will be the first center in Malwa to treat kidney diseases. On this occasion, Managing Director of Rajan Hospital and Heart Center Dr. Rajan Singla said that dialysis and kidney operations up to Rs. 5 lakh will be treated completely free of cost in this hospital under the Ayushman Scheme. This facility will be provided 24 hours every day of the week. Orthopedic specialist Dr. Sukhdevjit Singh Saini (MS Ortho), Dr. Rajni Singla and Senior Pharmacy Officer Sunil Singla were also present on the occasion.

Youths being treated in civil hospital attacked with sharp weapons



SHARANJEET PATHANKOT: The youth who came to Civil Hospital Pathankot for treatment and some youth attacked the policeman with sharp weapons in front of him. Due to which two youths were seriously injured and the entire incident was captured in the CCTV camera. Giving information, Ranjana Kalsi, the mother of the injured youth Malik Kalsi, said that her boy had been attacked earlier in the morning and had come to the hospital for treatment. Where some youths have again attacked with sharp weapons and seriously injured their son and they have tried to attack me too. In which a youth has been injured. They have demanded from the police administration that strict action should be taken against these youths who commit hoodliganism.

Annual function organized at PM Shri Government High School Jhok Tehal Singh



ABHISHEK NANDA FEROZEPUR: Annual function was organized at PM Shri Government High School Jhok Tehal Singh. In which MLA Gurusahasai S. Fauja Singh Sarari's wife Mrs. Charanjit Kaur specially attended. During this, Mrs. Amanpreet Kaur, the head teacher, welcomed the chief guest and highlighted the increase in the infrastructure level and quality education of Government High School Jhok Tehal Singh. On this occasion, students who excelled at various levels were specially honored. During the function, the school students presented glimpses of choreography, folk dance, folk songs etc. guiding the society, which were worthy of praise. On this occasion, the chief guest Mrs. Charanjit Kaur, who came from the school staff and Gram Panchayat Jhok Tehal Singh, was honored with a memento.

Spl function organized on occasion of Ravidas Jayanti at Mount Litera Zee School Rampura



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA RAMPURA PHUL: At Mount Litera Zee School Rampura affiliated to CBSE Delhi, children are given information about every festival to keep them connected with the civilization of the country. Under this series, a special assembly was organized by the seventh class on the auspicious occasion of Sant Ravidas Jayanti in the school. After this Pledge, Zee song and song related to the occasion were performed. To make this day even more special, important events in the life of Sant Ravidas were also presented through the presentation of a play. The main objective of this program was to increase awareness among students about the ideals and teachings of Sant Ravidas Ji. The program concluded with an inspirational speech. Through which light was thrown on the life of Sant Ravidas, his message of harmony and equality. On this occasion, school president Gagan Bansal, general secretary Namita Bansal and principal Geeta Pillay expressed happiness over the event and said that such programs help in inculcating social harmony.

Guava orchard scam: VB arrests absconding accused for fraudulently receiving Rs 12 crore compensation

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

The Punjab Vigilance Bureau (VB) has apprehended Sukhdev Singh, a resident of Chandigarh, one of the key co-accused in the 'Guava Orchard Scam' that took place in village Bakarpur, SAS Nagar district in the year 2016-17. The accused had fraudulently received approximately Ra 12 crore in compensation in his own and his wife's accounts, in collusion with government officials and other individuals. Disclosing the details an official spokesperson of the VB stated that Sukhdev Singh played an active role in the criminal conspiracy, indulging in cheating, forgery, and falsification of records, thereby causing wrongful loss to the state exchequer while obtaining illicit financial gains through bribery. The VB investigation has revealed that with the intent to claim illegal compensation for Guava orchards during the land acquisition process for the Aerotropolis project in SAS Nagar, Sukhdev Singh had purchased 3 Kanal 16



Marla land in village Bakarpur. Subsequently, he conspired with the prime accused, Bhupinder Singh, to falsely establish the presence of fruit bearing Guava orchards on the land. He further ensured the collusion of the concerned Horticulture Development Officer, to fraudulently assess and declare the trees as being over three years old, making them eligible for compensation under the fruit-yielding tree category. Elaborating on the fraudulent scheme, the spokesperson disclosed that Sukhdev Singh and Bhupinder Singh had an agreement wherein Sukhdev Singh would bear all

expenses including bribing of officials while Bhupinder Singh would retain two-thirds of the compensation amount once it was fraudulently secured from the Land Acquisition Collector (LAC), Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA) using bribes and personal influence. He further informed that to facilitate the fraud, the original Khasra Girdawri revenue register (2016-2021) of village Bakarpur was destroyed and a forged Khasra Girdawri register was prepared in 2019. Bhupinder Singh, in connivance with revenue Patwari Bachittar Singh, managed to manipulate the land records to falsely reflect the existence of mature Guava orchards. Subsequently, Sukhdev Singh and his wife, Harbinder Kaur, fraudulently received Rs 2,40,96,442 and Rs 9,57,86,642, respectively, as compensation from LAC, GMADA. The spokesperson further revealed that to transfer Bhupinder Singh's share out of the illegally obtained compensation, Sukhdev Singh had sold approximately 6 Bighas of land in village Chappar

Chiri, in SAS Nagar district at an undervalued rate to Bhupinder Singh in 2022 after receiving the wrongful compensation. Similarly, 32 Kanals of land in village Kailon, SAS Nagar, owned by his wife Harbinder Kaur, was also sold at an undervalued price to Bhupinder Singh. The spokesperson added that despite repeated summons by the VB, Sukhdev Singh had been evading legal proceedings and was uncooperative during the investigation. Unlike other co-accused beneficiaries, he neither voluntarily surrendered the fraudulently obtained compensation amount nor sought anticipatory bail from the court by depositing the required sum in treasury. He added that with the latest recovery of Rs 12 crore the total amount of compensation returned now would be Rs 100 crore as Rs 86 crore had already been deposited by other co-accused beneficiaries. So far the VB had already arrested 7 government officials and 16 private individuals in this scam and further investigation into the case is ongoing.

Govt fish seed farms producing over 14-cr high quality fish seedlings annually: Khudian

SUMER GARG
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

Punjab Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries Minister S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian, on Wednesday, said that the state has witnessed an impressive growth in the Fisheries sector with the implementation of slew of measures to enhance fish production and aquaculture development. The state government's Fish Seed Farms are producing over 14 crore high quality fish seed annually, which is being provided to farmers at subsidized rates. He further informed that 16 Government Fish Seed Farms, 11 fish feed mills and seven laboratories are dedicated to the fish farmers and 14.74 crore fish seedling have been produced upto December 2024, which was 13.90 crore in 2023. The state has 43,973 acres under fish farming and 1,81,188 tonnes of fish production is being obtained from natural waters, private and panchayati ponds. The Fisheries Minister stated that the state's youth



and women have been encouraged to adopt fisheries as an occupation and a financial benefit of 40% to 60% of a unit cost has been extended for adopting various projects. Financial assistance of around Rs. 27 crore has been granted to more than 500 beneficiaries under various projects include bringing new area under fish and shrimp farming, establishment of Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS), biofloc culture system, purchase of vehicles for transport of fish and its products, fish feed mill, fish kiosk etc. Elementary training in fish and shrimp farming is

also being imparted free of cost every month. Technical assistance for pond preparation, seed stocking, fish rearing and harvesting is also being provided, he added. To bring blue revolution in the state, S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian said that the department has adopted modern techniques and ramping up infrastructure to enhance fish production and aquaculture development within the state, aiming to boost the income of farmers. The State infrastructure has been strengthened by the establishment of a new Govt. Fish Seed Farm at Killian Wali village in Fazilka district and a new retail fish market at Ghalauri village in Patiala district. Highlighting the potential and scope of development of the fisheries sector, S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian urged the state farmers to adopt the allied sector to increase their income. He said that 6 fish and shrimp farmers of the State felicitated by the Fisheries Department (GoI) on the eve of 76th Republic Day at New Delhi.

Ramanujan Mathematics Club of Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University organises one-day seminar on applications of mathematics



FATEHGARH SAHIB (AJAY MALHOTRA): The Ramanujan Mathematics Club, Department of Mathematics at Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib organised a One Day Seminar on "Applications of Mathematics" in celebration of National Mathematics Day. The event aimed to enhance students' and faculty members' understanding of Mathematics and its real-world applications. The event commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Sukhwinder Singh Billing, Dean Academic Affairs, who, in his inaugural address, emphasized the profound significance of Mathematics across various disciplines. He highlighted the role of such lectures in fostering academic excellence and intellectual curiosity. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. V.K. Kukreja, Professor of Mathematics at S.L.I.E.T, Longowal. Dr. Kukreja delivered an engaging and thought-provoking lecture, shedding light on the vast applications of Mathematics in different fields. His lecture covered diverse topics, including mathematical modeling in engineering, statistical applications in social sciences, and real-world problem-solving using mathematical techniques.

Arsh Dalla network busted with arrest of two gang members; weapons recovered: SSP Ravjot

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, FEB 12

Under the directives of the Punjab Government and DGP Gaurav Yadav, IPS, a crack-down on gangsters and criminals has been intensified. This information is given by SSP Fatehgarh Sahib, Dr. Ravjot Garewal (IPS) during the press conference at her office today. Dr. Garewal said that, under the supervision of Rakesh Yadav, PPS, SP (Investigation) Fatehgarh Sahib, and Nikhil Garg, PPS, DSP (Investigation) Fatehgarh Sahib, a team led by Inspector Amarbir Singh, in charge of CIA Sirhind, successfully arrested two members of gangster Arsh Dalla's gang from Sirhind and recovered five country-made 32 bore pistols along with five live rounds. One Activa and



02 mobile phones have also been recovered. The SSP disclosed that on February 11, 2025, the CIA team apprehended Sahil and Gurkirat Singh from Sirhind. An FIR No. of the Arms Act, has been registered at Sirhind Police Station. Dr. Garewal said that Gurkirat Singh had recently returned from Malaysia in May 2024 after staying there for a year. Both accused, Gurkirat and Sahil, were working for

gangster Arsh Dalla through Tejbir Singh, alias Sabu, an inmate in Patiala Jail. Tejbir Singh is imprisoned for murder and illegal arms-related cases. Sahil and Tejbir Singh are residents of the Siripura locality in Amritsar and are close associates. Tejbir Singh, alias Sabu, is an associate of gangster Arsh Dalla. He was involved in a murder case and other major criminal activities in Amritsar.

Vacancies should be filled to build education model: Charan Singh



FEROZEPUR (ABHISHEK NANDA): The Education Department Punjab is seeing the vacancies of Principals in the Education Department. The promises made by the Punjab Government of the wonderful progress made in the Education Department are being blown out of proportion. These views were expressed by Charan Singh, District President of the Ferozepur unit of the Headmasters Association, Punjab, during a meeting with the entire District Committee held in Ferozepur. In the meeting, he revealed that about 45 percent of the schools in Punjab are running without a Principal and the future of the students studying in these schools does not seem secure. While on the one hand a large number of Principals' posts are lying vacant, on the other hand, the Headmasters of high schools are not being promoted despite being eligible for promotion. On this occasion, State Committee members Headmaster Beant Singh and Umesh Kumar said that the Headmasters who are already working as DDOs are the most eligible and qualified candidates for the post of Principal, their backlog is also very pending and according to the rules, the Headmaster has to be promoted as Principal after 4 years.

Village Kauli resonates with chants of Satguru Ravidas Maharaj on 648th Parkash Diwas

KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA, FEB 12

A grand Nagar Kirtan was organized to mark the 648th Parkash Diwas of Satguru Ravidas Maharaj Ji, starting from Gurdwara Dhan-Dhan Shri Guru Ravidas in Village Kauli, Patiala district. Devotees gathered in large numbers, praying for universal welfare under the guidance of Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. As the sacred Palki Sahib proceeded, devotees welcomed it with flower showers at various points, while langars serving laddus and fruits were arranged along the route. Five beloved ones (Panj Pyare) were honored with siropas by Rajwinder Singh Bawa, Neetu Rani, Gurmeet Singh, and Gurdeep Singh, who also extended warm



greetings on behalf of the organizing committee. Thousands of devotees participated in the Nagar Kirtan, seeking blessings and paying tribute to the teachings of Satguru Ravidas Ma-

haraj. Among those present were Paramjit Kaur, Tarlok Singh, Gurdev Singh, Joginder Singh, Satnam Singh, Bibi Prakash Kaur, Sumanpreet Singh, Baljinder Singh, and many others.

Rahulinder Singh Sidhu urges Punjab Government to provide jobs to youth returning from abroad

GURMAIL SINGH SANGATPURA
LEHRAGAGA, FEB 12

Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee member Rahulinder Singh Sidhu has criticized Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's claims regarding employment in Punjab. Sidhu questioned Mann's previous statement that "white people" would come to Punjab for jobs, urging the government instead to focus on providing employment to local youth who are returning empty-handed from abroad. He highlighted that many young people, after spending lakhs of rupees, fall prey to fraudulent agents while seeking jobs overseas. Upon their return, they face depression and financial hardship. Sidhu demanded strict action against these rogue agents, suggesting that their properties be confiscated and used to compensate



the victims. Referring to the increasing deportations from countries like the U.S. and U.K., Sidhu pointed out that around 18,000-19,000 Indians in England are facing deportation. He urged the central government to negotiate with foreign governments to regularize hardworking Indians living abroad illegally but contributing to their economies. Sidhu emphasized that youth like Inderjit Singh Gurnia, who left in search of employment but returned after losing their family's hard-earned money, need urgent support.

'Tech startup connect and grow' workshop organised at SLIET

RAVI GARG
LONGOWAL, FEB 12

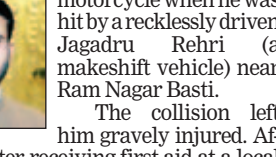
Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal organised "Tech Startup Connect & Grow" workshop under the SHE Startups' Hand-holding & Empowerment Initiative by the Punjab State Council for Science and Technology (PSCST) on 10th February 2025. This initiative is designed to support and nurture technology-driven women-led startups in Punjab. The workshop was inaugurated by District Commissioner of Sangrur, Sh. Sandeep Rishi IAS and in his address he motivated all the young girls to build up their own business empire and promised to support them through funding, mentorship

and protect their IPR. The guest of honour Dr. Dapinder Bakshi, Joint Director PSCST appraised all the girls about SHE Cohort 3.0, under which PSCST and motivated girl students/ female researchers/ emerging women startups to apply under SHE Cohort 3.0 on or before 18th February 2025. The link to apply for the startups under SHE program is available at the website of PSCST. The Director In-charge Prof. Ajat Shatru Arora emphasized the importance of collaboration and mutual support in empowering women entrepreneurs. The workshop included inspirational speakers such as Vipasha Sharma, Ambassador of the SHE Program.

Youth succumbs to injuries after road accident, grief sweeps Lehragaga

LEHRAGAGA, FEB 12

A wave of sorrow has engulfed Lehragaga following the tragic death of 26-year-old Nand Lal Garg, the only son of his parents, who succumbed to injuries sustained in a road accident. The mishap occurred near the residence of former Chief Minister Bibi Rajinder Kaur Bhattal on Sunam Main Road. After being critically injured, Nand Lal was rushed to a private hospital in Patiala, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. Cabinet Minister Barinder Goyal, former CM Bibi Rajinder Kaur Bhattal, former Finance Minister Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Jathedar Pargat Singh Garga, and city residents have expressed deep condolences to the bereaved family. According to a statement given to the police by Suresh Kumar, the deceased's father, Nand Lal worked at the SD Filling Station. He was returning to the city on his motorcycle when he was hit by a recklessly driven Jagadru Rehri (a makeshift vehicle) near Ram Nagar Basti. The collision left him gravely injured. After receiving first aid at a local hospital, he was referred to Patiala, where he was pronounced dead. Based on the father's statement, the police have registered a case against the Rehri driver, identified as Sagar, son of Nares, a resident of Ram Nagar Basti, Ward No. 21, opposite Railway Station Sangrur. The case has been filed under sections 106, 281, and 324 (4) BNS of the IPC.



Punjab govt organizes State-Level event in Jalandhar to mark 648th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Ravidas

JS SODHI
JALANDHAR, FEB 12

Punjab Government today organized a state-level event in Jalandhar to commemorate the 648th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Ravidas Ji. Punjab's Minister for Defence Welfare and Horticulture Mohinder Bhagat joined the event as a special guest and emphasized the need to adopt the teachings of Sri Guru Ravidas Ji for the creation of an ideal society. Addressing the gathering, the Cabinet Minister stated that Sri Guru Ravidas Ji's life and philosophy serve as a guiding light for the entire humanity. He urged people to take inspiration from Guru Ji's teachings and strive tirelessly toward building an egalitarian society. He highlighted that Sri Guru Ravidas Ji's message of compassion, love, and brotherhood provided new direction to society, encouraging everyone to work for the welfare of humanity. While extending greetings on the Prakash Purab, Mr. Bhagat announced on behalf of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, a grant of Rs. 25 lakh for Sri Guru Ravidas Charitable Trust. He also



assured full support from the state government for future projects and encouraged the management to submit proposals for upcoming initiatives. The Minister reiterated that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab Government is committed to the welfare of all sections of society while following the path shown by Sri Guru Ravidas Ji.

27th Nabha poetry festival to be organized on February 16



RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA, FEB 12

Bhai Kahan Singh Nabha Rachna Vichar Manch Reg. Nabha organized a special felicitation ceremony and poet darbar in the state city of Nabha today, in which a large number of poets arrived and presented their works in front of the audience and made them present in the poet darbar and won the applause of the audience. After the conclusion of the poet darbar, the entire journalist community and the members who supported the 27th Nabha Poetry Festival being held on February 16 were spe-

cially honored. During this, Bhai Kahan Singh Nabha Rachna Vichar Manch Reg. President Darshan Singh Buttar, General Secretary Dr. Jaininder Chauhan and Convenor Aswani Bagrian while talking to the journalists said that due to the efforts of Bhai Kahan Singh Nabha Rachna Vichar Manch Reg. and Punjab Kala Parishad Chandigarh, with the support of North Zone Cultural Center Patiala Language Department Punjab, Lok Manch Punjab Reg. and Central Punjab Writers' Sabha Reg. Mahinder Singh Randhawa Surjit Patar and dedicated to the mother tongue.

NEWS BRIEF

64 flights every week from Kangra airport: Murlidhar Mohol

SANAJY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol told Rajya Sabha MP Indu Goswami in Parliament that currently 64 flights are being recorded every week from Kangra airport. He told that Indigo, Alliance Air and Spice Jet Airlines are providing air services to Delhi, Shimla and Chandigarh from Kangra airport. Murlidhar Mohol told Rajya Sabha MP Indu Bala Goswami in Parliament that after the repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation sector has been completely deregulated and airlines are completely free to select markets and routes, induct aircraft and operate and the decision to start a new air service from any airport is taken by the airlines on the basis of commercial viability.

Three teachers of Sarji Academy selected for government job



AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB: Three teachers of Sir Ji Academy Amb have been selected for government jobs. Academy director Amit Sharma said that Manpreet Kaur, Shalu Sarpal and Jyotsna Thakur have been selected for government jobs. He said that Manpreet Kaur is a resident of Gagret. She has got the job by passing HP SET and PGT Biology exams. Apart from this, Shalu is a resident of Amb, she has got a government job by passing the PGT Math exam. Apart from this, Jyotsna Thakur has got a job in the education department by passing the PGT Hindi exam. He said that Shalu Sarpal used to get coaching in the academy since college days. She has also taken coaching for PGT Math from Sir Ji Academy. Manpreet Kaur took coaching in the academy for 6 months, after which she has served as a teacher in the coaching. Even before this, many teachers and students of Sir Ji Academy have got government jobs and are serving in various departments.

72 MW solar power to be generated by December 2025: CM Sukhu

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, FEB 12

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said here today that by December 2025, seven projects in Himachal Pradesh will harness 72 MW of solar power. He stated that Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited has commenced construction of two projects in Una district, one with a 12 MW capacity at Gondpur Bulla and another with an 11 MW capacity at Lamlahri Uparli.

He said that three projects in Solan district are underway, including a 13 MW project at Saned in Nalagarh, an 8 MW project at Bara Barot, and a 13 MW project at Dabhota Majra. The tender for a 9 MW Dabhota One project will soon be awarded, with construction



beginning shortly. Furthermore, the tender process for a 6 MW solar project at Tihra Khas in Una district has also been initiated and is expected to be awarded this month. The Chief Minister emphasized the state government's commitment to expanding solar energy production. Surveys are

currently being conducted for eight additional projects with a combined capacity of 325 MW. Once the detailed project reports (DPRs) are completed, construction on these solar power projects will commence, he added.

Sh. Sukhu stated, "The present government is striving to make Himachal Pradesh the first 'Green Energy' state in the country by the year 2026, ensuring environmental preservation and sustainability. Harnessing green energy will not only aid in environmental protection but also reduce carbon emissions. Renewable energy sources are inexhaustible, ensuring energy availability for future generations. This initiative plays a crucial role in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change."

The Chief Minister said that a 32 MW solar power

project at Pekhubela in Una district was dedicated to the public on 15 April, 2024. This project has generated 48 million units of electricity, yielding revenue of Rs. 14 crore till 31st January 2025. Additionally, a 5 MW solar power project at Bhanjal in Una district commenced operations on 30 November, 2024. Meanwhile, the construction of a 10 MW solar power project at Aghlaur is expected to be completed this month.

He said that the state government is also focusing on green hydrogen energy. Construction of one MW green hydrogen project has been commenced in Nalagarh of Solan district in collaboration with Oil India Limited, with whom a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed.

Higher reaches experience light snowfall in state



AGENCY
SHIMLA, FEB 12

Himachal Pradesh witnessed a predominantly dry weather pattern across most regions, with snowfall confined to the high-altitude areas of Lahaul-Spiti and Kinnaur districts. While the state saw relief from the cold wave in many areas, the higher reaches continued to face challenging winter conditions, particularly in Lahaul-Spiti, where heavy snowfall created hazardous travel conditions. Temperatures across the state varied significantly, with lower regions experiencing normal to above-normal temperatures, while higher altitudes remained in the grip of winter. Minimum temperatures of

Shimla at 6°C, Bhuntar Airport at 3.3°C, Kalpa in Kinnaur at -3°C with 1 cm of snowfall reported, Dharamshala at 5.2°C, Nahan at 7.3°C, Keylong in Lahaul-Spiti at -7.1°C, and Solan at 5°C. Tourist destinations also recorded varying temperatures: Manali at 3°C, Kangra at 7°C, Mandi at 6.6°C, Bilaspur at 6°C, Chamba at 6.3°C, Dalhousie at 3.6°C, and Jubberhatti Airport at 8.8°C. Snowfall was reported in the high-altitude regions of Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti. Kalpa in Kinnaur received 1 cm of snowfall, while the Sissu area in Lahaul-Spiti experienced heavy snowfall, with approximately 3.5 inches (9 cm) of snow accumulation on roadways.

Bilaspur's Gram Panchayat Gatward launches bold campaign against drug abuse

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR, FEB 12

In a determined effort to curb the rising menace of drug abuse, Gram Panchayat Gatward under Sub-Tehsil Bharari has announced a comprehensive awareness campaign to safeguard the youth from the devastating effects of addiction.

Gram Panchayat Pradhan Naval Bajaj and Deputy Pradhan Ajay Sharma emphasized the urgent need to protect the younger generation, stating that despite parents providing quality education and a better lifestyle, many youths are falling prey to drugs instead of progressing towards a bright future.

As part of this resolute initiative, the Panchayat will closely monitor youth behavior, school performance, and social circles, ensuring



that early warning signs of drug involvement are identified and addressed. In a strict move, the Panchayat has decided that any individual involved in drug abuse or trafficking will face social consequences, including potential deprivation of Panchayat facilities, to deter others from engaging in such activities. Following the lead of Auhar, Dakki Chowk, and Badi-Manjhed Panchayats, Gatward has become the fourth Panchayat to pass a

resolution against drug users and those involved in the illegal drug trade. The campaign will see intensified awareness drives, community meetings, and anti-drug camps, involving self-help groups, youth clubs, women's associations, and social organizations, ensuring maximum outreach and impact. The initiative has gained strong community support, with active participation from Panchayat committee member Chaman

BJP is not concerned about the youth, doing politics on drugs: Awasthi

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, FEB 12

MLA Sanjay Awasthi said that BJP leaders are doing politics even on the issue of drugs. He alleged that BJP is not concerned about the youth, because while in power, former Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur neither took any strict action against the drug mafia nor took any steps towards making a strict law. He said that the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (PITNDPS Act) remained pending during the entire five-year tenure of the previous BJP government, while the Congress government issued its notification within just four months after coming to power and started strict action



against the drug mafia. He said that this legal provision allows the detention of those who are repeatedly found involved in drug trafficking, so that the security of the society could be ensured. So far, the sponsoring authority has presented 81 cases under this law. Sanjay Awasthi said that on the directions of Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, in the last six months, the police have

intensified the crackdown on drug mafia, busted their network and seized their illegal properties. In the last three years, illegally acquired property worth Rs. 16 crore has been seized, out of which property worth about Rs. 9 crore was seized last year. The MLA further said that the present state government is also forming a special task force to deal strictly against the drug mafia. This task force will especially focus on crimes related to drug and narcotics trafficking. The Special Task Force will be provided with the necessary resources, authority and autonomy so that it can effectively deal with the growing menace of drug abuse. Apart from this, dedicated police stations

will also be set up under the task force, which will make our action on drug-related crimes more effective.

MLA Sanjay Awasthi said that during the tenure of the previous BJP Government, eight people died due to consumption of poisonous liquor in Sundernagar of Mandi district. Therefore, BJP leaders should look into their own affairs and instead of doing politics on the future of the youth, they should cooperate in the steps being taken by the state government against the drug mafia. Cooperation of all sections of the society is necessary to eradicate this social evil from its roots and the opposition should also support the state government with a positive attitude against drug abuse.

Guru Ravidas Jayanti celebrated at Guru Ravidas Temple Kotla Khurd



KISHORI LAL BAINS

UNA: Guru Ravidas Jayanti was celebrated with great pomp and show at Guru Ravidas Temple Kotla Khurd Una. Nishan Saheb and Flag ceremonies were also performed like every year on Guru Ravidas Jayanti. Glory of Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj praised by singing Bhajan and sankirtan. Parsad was also distributed for the sangat. Huge sangat have taken part in this program. Satsang and Langar Bhandara will be organized on coming March 2 to comamorate Guru Ravidas Jayanti and Installation Day the Statue of Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj in this Guru Ravidas Temple Kotla Khurd. It is also worth mentioning that 52 Samrat Kings and 365 Kings were remained disciples of Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj including Meera Bai, Raja Peepa and Raja Nagar Mal. Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj taught us true Meditation and fearlessly opposed any kind of ritualism and Casteism. Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj showed us path of equality and humanity.

Himachal govt's false guarantees' effect seen in Delhi elections: Pawan Kajal

SANAJY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, FEB 12

Kangra BJP MLA Pawan Kajal attacked the Sukhu government in Kangra on Wednesday and said that the effect of Himachal Pradesh's false guarantees was seen in Delhi elections. He said that the condition of Congress party can be guessed from the fact that Congress could not even open its account in Delhi elections. He said that for the last two years Sukhu government has betrayed the people of the state. Sukhu government, which came to power on the basis of false guarantees, has not been able to fulfill even one of its guarantees. He said that ever since the Congress government has been formed in the state, development has stopped. Sukhu government is



busy in pleasing its friends by saying that the treasury is empty. Pawan Kajal said that Sukhu is misleading people by making false announcements of opening the institutions which were closed during the BJP government. He said that this is the first time in the history of the state that government employees have had to plead for their salaries. Even after taking a loan of crores, Sukhu government is saying that the treasury is

empty. Congress government should tell where the loan taken by the government was spent. He said that the people of the state have already come to know that Sukhu government is expert in lying. This government has come to power for its development, this government has no sympathy for the people. Women of the state are feeling cheated today. The unemployed are wandering for employment. Farmers and gardeners are worried. There is no grain in the depots. Sukhu government is making announcements without budget. Pawan Kajal said that when Sukhu is saying that the treasury is empty then why is he making announcements. Even after getting money from the center, Sukhu government is saying that there was no help from the center.

State government is trying to demoralize officers: Bikram Thakur

SANAJY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, FEB 12

Former Industry Minister and Jaswan Paragrup Assembly constituency BJP MLA Bikram Thakur said that due to the important contribution of administrative officers in the state, not only government schemes are implemented on the ground, but these officers play a big role in controlling the mafia. Despite this, such an environment is being created in the state for some time, through which an attempt is being made to demoralize these officers. This series, which started with Baddi SP Ilma Afroz, has reached the attack on Mandi SDM. The government was watching the spectacle as a mute spectator and now there has been no change in its behavior. In a press statement



issued here, Thakur said that the Chief Minister himself has said that he does not need IAS and IPS officers. It is clear from this that the state government itself is in the mood to ignore this lobby of the administration, but the truth is that these officers are the backbone of the government and without them the chaos arising from drugs and mining in the state cannot be brought on track. Bikram said that all SDMs

and other administrative officers posted in the borders and sensitive areas of the state are working at extreme risk to curb illegal mining, crime and mafia activities. Officers posted in Baddi, Nalagarh, Amb and other sensitive sub-divisions are constantly facing threats and dangers, which is making it difficult for them to work independently and impartially. These officers have also raised this issue before the government. Baddi SDM Vivek Mahajan has demanded a personal security officer several times, but the state government ignored his plea. In an industrial area like Baddi, where illegal mining, drug mafia and activities of outside elements are increasing, administrative officers working without security is putting their lives in danger.

Retired transport employees express anger over pending pensions and dues

SANJEEV MAHAJAN
NURPUR, FEB 12

The Himachal Transport Retired Employees Welfare Forum, Nurpur Zone, held a meeting in Jasur under the chairmanship of state vice-president Kripal Pathania. Around 40 members participated, discussing issues such as the non-payment of pensions until February 12, the pending arrears of the 2016 pay scale revision, and the government's failure to implement court-mandated pension increments for retirees aged 65, 70, and 75. The members expressed strong resentment towards the government and the transport corporation for their negligence. They warned that



if this step-motherly treatment continued, they would not hesitate to stage protests, regardless of the consequences.

The forum urged the government to convert Himachal Road Transport Corporation into a state-run entity and allocate budgetary provisions for resolving pension-related issues. Before

the meeting, members observed a moment of silence for a deceased colleague's wife. Kripal Pathania highlighted that despite February 12 passing, pensioners had not received their January pensions. He also pointed out that the government and the corporation had not paid a single penny of the 2016 arrears to either retired or current employees.

Modern vegetable market to be built soon in Hamirpur: APMC Chairman

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR, FEB 12

The chairman of the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Hamirpur, Ajay Sharma, has announced that a modern vegetable market will soon be constructed in the district. Land is currently being identified, and once finalized, the market will be developed with facilities such as rest houses for farmers, horticulturists, and traders. Marking his first year as APMC chairman, Sharma highlighted several initiatives taken under the leadership of Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu to boost farmers' incomes. These include a significant increase



in milk prices and the introduction of a separate minimum support price (MSP) for wheat and maize grown through natural farming. Discussing the state's horticulture initiatives, Sharma said that under the ambitious HP-Shiva project, orchards of guava, oranges, and sweet lime are being

developed in the district, and APMC will ensure better marketing for these crops. Similar arrangements will be made for crops grown using natural farming techniques. Additionally, a "Gramin Haat" will be set up in collaboration with the district administration to promote products from rural women's self-help groups.

Criticizing the central government's Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, Sharma stated that it does not provide substantial benefits to farmers, as farming costs remain high while the financial aid under the scheme is inadequate. He urged that financial support should be based on the actual produce of farmers to make agriculture more profitable.

Nishu Mongra becomes Himachal Chairman of OBC

SANAJY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: The Congress High Command has appointed Chaudhary Narendra Kumar alias Nishu Mongra as the working chairman of Himachal OBC department, keeping the OBC community in mind. OBC National Chairman Ajay Singh Yadav has issued a formal letter in this regard and appointed him. This has brought a wave of happiness among more than 55 castes of the OBC community in the entire state. Nishu Mongra, who belongs to the OBC Kangra seat, has got this post after 32 years of struggle in politics. Nishu Mongra, a resident of Ichhi village adjacent to Kangra city, is currently the Chairman of APMC Kangra. Born on 16 May 1972 in Ichhi village, Nishu Mongra joined the Youth Congress as an active member in the year 1990. He served the party till the year 2004. After that, from 2004 to 2006, he was the Block President of Youth Congress Kangra constituency. From 2004 to 2007, he was a member of the State Youth Board. After that, he was elected Panchayat Samiti member. Thereafter, he was elected Chairman of BDC Kangra from 2006 to 2011. During this time, he has also received the National Award for his excellent work in BDC. He was the Secretary of District Congress from 2012 to 2015.



NEWS BRIEFS

HC sets aside order to impose Rs 10 lakh costs on SSC

CHANDIGARH: Hearing an LPA filed by the Haryana Staff Selection Commission (HSSC), a Division Bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court has changed the decision of the Single Bench of the High Court, showing a positive attitude towards the Commission. While hearing the petition filed in relation to CWP 22346 of 2021, the Division Bench of the High Court has decided to abolish the cost of Rs 10 lakh imposed by the High Court. A spokesperson on behalf of the Commission said in the year 2021, a petitioner named Rahul of DDESM category had filed CWP 23346, on which the Hon'ble High Court, while giving its decision on September 13, 2024, had decided to impose a cost of Rs 10 lakh on the Commission and to consider the petition of the petitioner.

Message of unity and brotherhood of Guru Ravidas still relevant: CM

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, FEB 12

Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini today paid tribute to Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas on the occasion of his birth anniversary in New Delhi. The Chief Minister offered a floral tribute to the portrait of Guru Ravidas ji at Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi.

While wishing the people of the state on the birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas ji, the Chief Minister said the message of unity, humanity and brotherhood given by Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas ji Maharaj is still relevant today. He said we should always work by following the path shown by saints and great men.

He said the government has started Sant-Mahapurush Samman and Vichar Prachar-Yojana in Haryana, under which an initiative has been taken to celebrate the birth anniversaries and centenaries of saints and great men at government level. In this series, birth anniversaries and



centenaries of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Ji, Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti, Sant Kabirdas Jayanti, Lord

Valmiki Jayanti etc. have been celebrated at the state level.

Citing the verses of Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj, the Chief

Minister said the work of realizing his words was done by former CM Sh. Manohar Lal in the last 9 and a half years. During the tenure of Sh. Manohar Lal, the benefits of government schemes reached the poorest of the poor. A memorial of Guru Ravidas ji is being built in Kurukshetra, he said.

On this occasion, Union Minister Sh. Rao Inderjit Singh, Sh. Krishan Pal Gurjar, Haryana Revenue and Urban Local Bodies Minister Sh. Vipul Goel, Minister of State for Food and Civil Supplies Sh. Rajesh Nagar, Bhiwani MP Sh. Dharambir Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Sh. Ram Chander Jangra, BJP State President Mohan Lal Badoli, former MP Sunita Duggal, former Speaker Sh. Gian Chand Gupta, former Minister JP Dalal, former MLA Satya Prakash Jarawta and other dignitaries paid floral tributes to Guru Ravidas ji.

Guru Ravidass Ji gave message of unity and integrity: MLA Puja

JAIBEER RANA THAMBER
BARARA, FEBRUARY 12

On the occasion of Prakash Utsav of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, MLA Puja reached the programs organized in various villages of Mullana assembly constituency and wished everyone on the holy birth anniversary. MLA Puja, while throwing light on the life of Guru Ravidass Maharaj Ji, said that revered Guru Ji worked for the promotion of humanity and world brotherhood as well as social harmony and gave the message of unity, integrity and brotherhood to the world community. He made a significant contribution in removing the evils and evils prevalent in the society through his creations. His saying 'Man changa to kathauti mein Ganga' is still on the lips of every person, in fact this saying emphasizes the importance of human values and morality. She said that saints have contributed a lot to the upliftment of society with their high thinking. Saint Ravidas ji was also like this,



he was very kind. He liked helping others. If he met saints and sadhus somewhere, he never hesitated to serve them. Guru Ravidass ji had imagined a society in which there is no discrimination, everyone has the right to live with dignity and there is a provision of basic facilities for everyone.

Guru ji had also said that without education, a person is devoid of knowledge and only by acquiring knowledge can one improve his life.

Sant Ravidas united society with his teachings: Vikram Saini

NIRMAL SAINI
RADAUR, FEB 12

The birth anniversary of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas was celebrated with great enthusiasm in the region. Special programs were organized in villages Uncha Chandna and Jamalpur, where Congress Backward District President Vikram Saini and Congress leader Paramjit Dhimani attended as chief guests.

The leaders offered prayers at the temple and partook in the community feast. The organizers honored Vikram Saini with a shawl as a token of respect. Speaking on the occasion, Saini emphasized that the unity among people, regardless of caste or status, was a gift of Guru Ravidas's teachings.



He recalled Guru Ravidas's message of unity, righteousness, and education, stating, "Be one, be noble, and educate your children, for only then can society and the nation progress." Saini urged everyone to follow the path shown by Guru Ravidas for a harmonious and progressive society.

Rhythm Goyal of Genesis scores 99.99 percentile

CHAMANLAL
KARNAL, FEBRUARY 12

Genesis Classes has ensured its top position in North India like every year. 21 students of the institute scored more than 99 percentile. The result of the first stage of JEE Mains exam was declared yesterday evening. In this, about 40 students dominated by scoring more than 98 percentile in JEE Mains. The process of successful students coming started this morning itself. The JEE Mains exam is conducted twice every year. Last year also, most of the students of Karnal achieved success as students of Genesis. Giving information, Genesis Classes Director Jitendra Ahlawat and Navneet Singh said that in the last 14-15 years, Genesis has established records of success along with the children.

Top 21 students Rhythim Goyal, Ayush Arora, Shivam Chahal, Ranbir Malik, Tushar, Bhav-

ishya Dhanker, Hardik, Shabb Jain, Priyam Gupta, Devarshi Nayyar, Arsh Gandhi, Bhavishya Chaudhary, Keshav Gupta, Tanvi, Hardik Gupta, Gunish Garg, Sarthak Arora, Om Sharma, Janvi Gupta, Saumya, Mandeep



Saini, achieved success and brought laurels to Karnal and Genesis. Genesis Classes Director Jitendra Ahlawat said that the reason behind establishing new dimensions of success in Genesis Classes is to keep the confidence of the children high. To clear their doubts in time. To test the ability of the children on different parameters in the form of tests. He never lets the children get disappointed.

For nation building, students will have to bring awareness in society: Rampal

CHAMANLAL
KARNAL, FEBRUARY 12

The seven-day NSS camp of DAV PG College was inaugurated by the college principal Professor Rampal Saini in village Sagga of Karnal. He said that the youth will have to come forward to play their role in nation building in which the spirit of patriotism, national character, service spirit, discipline, and harmony is necessary. He said that emphasis has to be laid on the need to strengthen India. Only then will we be able to create awareness in the society and ensure everyone's participation. In the camp, Principal of Government Engineering College Nilokheri Dr. TR Modgil spoke on character building, Manager Akhilesh Gautam of Ramcharitmanas Senior Secondary School Vasant Vihar Karnal spoke on leadership, Assistant Professor of



Sri Krishna Ayush University Kurukshetra Dr. Chakrapani spoke on fundamental duties and Inspector Ashok Verma of Haryana Police provided legal information to the volunteers.

The coordinator of the programme, NSS Programme Officer Dr. Balram Sharma said that the camp has been organised for seven

days in which different activities will be conducted every day. Important programmes like cleanliness drive, yoga training, character building programme, lectures by enlightened and intellectual people will be organised. On this occasion, college staff members, prominent people of the village and volunteers were present.

Akash Batra reaches congregation in many villages



R K KASHYAP
CHHACHHRAULI: He reached Malimajra, Balachaur, Kharwan, Fatehgarh, Shahzadpur, Kanalsai and many other villages of Yamunanagar and congratulated Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas Ji Maharaj on his 648th Prakash Utsav. Speaking on the occasion, Akash Batra said that Sant Guru Ravidas Ji is known for his teachings of love and compassion and for removing caste discrimination from society. Every year Magh Purnima is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Ravidass Ji. Sant Ravidass knew only one way to attain God and that is 'devotion'. That is why his phrase 'Man changa to kathauti mein Ganga' is quite famous at present. Saint Ravidas Ji dedicated his entire life to social reform work, social welfare and the work of removing caste discrimination from the society. He used to do his work with honesty, hard work and full dedication. Along with this, he also used to teach people to follow the path of religion.

Guru Ravidas Ji's teachings promote values of equality, and compassion: Jagmohan Anand

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, FEBRUARY 12

Karnal, MLA Jagmohan Anand said that Shri Guru Ravidas Ji had promoted equality and social justice, his teachings promote the values of equality, humility and compassion which are essential to create a more inclusive society. MLA Jagmohan Anand was speaking as the chief guest at a programme organised at the temple of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji in village Kachhwa on Wednesday to mark the birth anniversary of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas Ji. He said that Shri Guru Ravidas Ji was a social reformer, his devotional songs and hymns focused on inner purity and devotion to God. He said that he envisioned a world where everyone is respected and every-



one is given equal importance. His life and teachings inspire people to strive for a just and fair society by breaking reli-

gious and social barriers. He said that he promoted brotherhood and peace, he was not only a great saint and preacher

but also a talented poet. His message inspires people, his life encourages people to lead a virtuous and religious life. Guru Ravidas ji had strongly opposed caste discrimination and promoted the idea of a casteless society based on love and humanity. Former Mayor Renubala Gupta, Mandal President Mohan Lodhi, Pradhan Amrit Lal Joshi, Deepak Sharma, Sarpanch representative of Kachhwa village Deepak Kumar, former Sarpanch Bittu, former Sarpanch Bansilal, Joginder Singh, Omprakash, and many other dignitaries were present in various programmes.

JYTA executive meeting concludes regarding preparations for Tennis Tournament

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, FEBRUARY 12

The executive meeting of Jagadhari-Yamunanagar Tennis Association (JYTA) concluded at Gymkhana Club, Yamunanagar, in which the preparations for the 8th Balraj Gupta Memorial Seniors Tennis Tournament were finalized. The tournament will be held on 22-23 February 2025 at Tejali Stadium Tennis Courts, Yamunanagar (Haryana). Like every year, this time also this event will be held under the aegis of Haryana Tennis Association (HTA). All the officials of the association were present in the meeting and various issues were discussed to make the tournament a success. Association President Kapil Gupta said that this tournament is not only a platform for competition, but a confluence of sportsmanship, experience and respect for the players. He said, "Balraj Gupta Memorial Tennis

Tournament has become a prestigious event for the Indian tennis fraternity. Every year around 200 players from across the country participate in it, and it is a great opportunity for them to



showcase their talent. We will try our best to make the event great this time too. Along with ensuring a high level sports experience for the players, the

best arrangements for their stay and food will be made."

Tournament director Gaurav Oberoi, while highlighting the specialties of the tournament, said that this competition has become a much-awaited event for Indian tennis players. He said, "This is a national level tournament, where experienced players from all over the country participate. This time too, a great prize money has been kept for the players in the tournament, which will be 2,00,000. Apart from this, along with trophies, they will get the experience of a great competition. To make the tournament more competitive and professional, high level tennis courts, professional referees and modern technical support have been arranged. Our priority is to create the best environment for the players so that they can perform at their best."

Death anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya observed

DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA, FEB 12

The death anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was observed as Dedication Day by the Intellectual Cell. The chief speaker of this programme was Dr. Rishipal Mathana, who is the state co-convenor of the Intellectual Cell. Dr Mathana said that despite being born in a very ordinary family, Deen Dayal ji always stood first in his student life and he received his education through scholarship, after that he came in contact with the Sangh and became a Sangh pracharak. He worked as a pracharak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh for 10 years and was even the co-state pracharak of Uttar Pradesh. After that, when the Bharatiya Jana Sangh was formed in 1951, he



was given the responsibility of General Secretary (Organisation) in the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and he was engaged in strengthening the Bharatiya Jana Sangh throughout his life and when he died, in 1968, the Congress government was ousted from seven states of the country. He also gave the thought of Integral Human Philosophy and Antyodaya to the organization, on the basis of which the Bhar-

tiya Janata Party is doing its work today.

On this occasion, Dr. Rishipal Mathana said that the central leadership is going to give the candidate for the Nagar Parishad after a lot of deliberation, so whoever will be the candidate, we all will consider the lotus flower as the candidate and work to get him elected. He told the workers that our identity is the lotus flower, our

pride is the lotus flower, and our candidate is also an amazing flower. Member of Backward Classes Commission Shyam Lal Jangra, state executive member Dr. Shakuntala Sharma, General Secretary of Kurukshetra District TAJendra Goldy, District Coordinator of Intellectual Cell Dr. Chand Dutta, Co-coordinator B.L. Arora, District President of Youth Front Sahil Sudha, Dr. Rampal Sagwal, Vishal Mittal, Mohinder Mehta, Samay Singh, Sher Singh Saini, Balwan Singh, Ashok, Ramesh, Premchand Mahala, Dr. Satyendra Gaur, Vijay Lakshmi, Vandana, Shiv Kumar Gupta, Dheeraj Kumar Advocate, Rampal and other workers were present in the programme.

NEWS BRIEF

Plantation drive by Punjab & Sind Bank, Zonal Office, Gurdaspur



BUREAU GURDASPUR: On the occasion of Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, Punjab & Sind Bank has planted small plants along with tree guards at Jahaj Chowk and Police Line Gurdaspur. Rakesh Kumar Yadav, Zonal Manager Gurdaspur, Sunil Kumar Prihar, Chief Manager Gurdaspur, Gyan Singh Meena, Chief Manager Branch Gurdaspur and other staff members were presented during plantation drive by Punjab & Sind Bank.

Annual function celebrated in Om Prakash Garg Sr Sec School



VIJAY KAUSHIK LADWA: Annual function was celebrated with great pomp in Om Prakash Garg Senior Secondary School on Wednesday. Principal Niranjan Das of Navodaya Vidyalaya Nivarsi attended the function as the chief guest. Teachers from various schools also attended the function. The chief guest started the program by lighting the lamp. The function became memorable with attractive presentations of colorful cultural programs. The students enthralled the parents by performing group dance. The students enthralled the audience by performing Ganesh Vandana, Chhote Chhote Sapne, Tollywood, Lazy Dance, Giddha and Bhangra. People were made aware to stay disease free through yoga. The chief guest said that after parents, educational institutions played an important role in making children good citizens. Teachers should give quality education to make children cultured. "I think this school is of the top class.

Birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas Ji celebrated in Shri Guru Ravidas temple, Dhanaura Jatan

VIJAY KAUSHIK LADWA: On Wednesday, the 648th birth anniversary of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji was celebrated with great pomp in Shri Guru Ravidas Temple in village Dhanaura Jatan and an continuous feast was also organized. The flag was hoisted



by Rajbir, son of social worker Ajmer Singh. Tehsildar Navam Dhania of Ladwa attended the

program as the chief guest along with his wife. He was also welcomed by the Sabha. On this occasion, he called upon the youth to take a pledge to get educated so that they can participate in the development of the society. Former Sarpanch Babu Ram also urged the society to unite and work hard

to educate their children and become a partner in the development of the society. Education was the key to the development of any society. All the members of Shri Guru Ravidas Sabha especially the youth and women power worked very hard to make the program a success.

‘Build back better’ technique being followed to tackle Mahakumbh crowd, says DGP

AGENCY LUCKNOW, FEB 12

Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police Prashant Kumar on Wednesday, elaborated on the arrangements made for the fifth snan -- Magh Purnima snan, in Mahakumbh, and said that the lessons were taken from the mishap that took place during Mauni Amavasya.

Further, he stated that the management technique of 'Build back better' was implemented and feedbacks from the community were also taken to ensure better arrangements for the devotees.

Speaking to ANI, the DGP said "This is the 5th snan of Maha Kumbh 2025... The Snan of Maha Shivratri will take place after this... A mishap took place on Mauni Amavasya. We learnt a lesson from it and implemented



new techniques. There is a management technique of 'Build back better'...We took the community's feedback to improve ourselves and implemented new techniques."

Further, he said that 46 to 47 crore people have visited the Mahakumbh until now and more than 1.3 crore devotees took a dip

on the Magh Purnima.

"More than 1.3 crore devotees took a dip till 10 am today. Approximately 46 to 47 crore people have visited the MahaKumbh till now. We are also focused on places like Chitrakoot, Mirzapur Vindhyanchal temple, Vishwanath corridor and Ayodhya because of the huge number of

devotees visiting there," he further stated. The DGP also said that a war room was built in Lucknow to get a live feed of Prayagraj Kshetra and further stated that the live feed of the area was received in ICCC. "We have made a war room in Lucknow where get a live feed of the Prayagraj Kshetra... More than 2500 cameras are active. We receive the live feed in the ICCC in Prayagraj... New crowd management techniques have given positive results and things are running smoothly even amid the huge crowd," he stated.

Speaking about the stampede that took place in Mahakumbh, the DGP stated that it was not an administrative lapse but occurred due to the overwhelming response of the people. "It is not an administrative lapse but an overwhelming response of the people...

Sajjan Kumar should get exemplary punishment in Sikh genocide case: Advocate Dhami

CHARNJIT SINGH ARORA AMRITSAR, FEB 12



The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) President Advocate Harjinder Singh Dhami welcomed the Delhi Rouse Avenue Court's conviction of Congress leader Sajjan Kumar in Delhi Sikh Genocide case related to murder of two Sikhs in Saraswati Vihar and expected the strictest punishment for the him.

Advocate Dhami said that the 1984 Sikh Genocide is marked as the peak of the cruel act against humanity in human history, whose victims are still struggling for justice for nearly four decades, which is shameful for the world's largest democracy. Now that Congress leader Sajjan Kumar has been found guilty in a case of Sikh Genocide, he should be given exemplary punishment. He said that apart from Sajjan Kumar, many other Congress leaders including Jagdish Tytler were involved in the Sikh Genocide

and every culprit should be given severe punishment. The SGPC President said that instead of healing the wounds of the Sikhs, the Congress, the enemy of the Sikhs, has always rewarded the perpetrators of the Sikh Genocide by giving them high positions. He said that this decision of the court will heal some sentiments of the Sikhs. He demanded from the Government of India that the cases related to the 1984 Sikh Genocide ongoing in different parts of the country should be proceeded through fast track courts so that there is no further delay in justice.

Shining India Foundation will hold mega medical camp on Feb 16

SANJAY SHARMA KAITHAL, FEB 12

A meeting of Shining India Foundation for Global Welfare (Regd) was held to organize a mega health camp on Wednesday. Chairman Gaurav Mittal Advocate, Head Devendra Goyal, General Secretary Dr. Vijay Kansal, Director Sushil Bansal, Pankaj Bansal, Vice-President Nishant Khurania, Lavish Mittal, Joint Secretary Dr. Atul Chanana, Treasurer Sunil Chugh and other founder members were present in the meeting. In the meeting, the project director of the camp, Dr. Vijay Kansal and Lavish Mittal informed that on February 16 a mega health camp would be organized and start at 10 am on the premises of RKSD College which will prove to be the first unprecedented and beneficial camp to be organized in the

Following nine AIIMS super specialist doctors will provide their medical services:

Dr. Vijay Kansal, General Secretary of Shining India Foundation, said that Dr. Yash Mittal (Ear, Nose and Throat Super Specialist), Dr. Arnav Agarwal (DM, Gastroenterology), Dr. Damandeep Singh (DM Cardiology), Dr. Navdeep Kaur MD, Dr. Iftikhar Khan (Dermatologist), Dr. Anurima Dutta (MDS), Dr. Akshita Kamboj (Gynecologist), Dr. Kshitij Gupta (Orthopedist) and Dr. Rupal Periwal (MD Medicine) of AIIMS Delhi.

district because super specialist doctors of AIIMS, specialists of about nine different diseases will provide their free services. This type of medical camp will be organized for the first time in the district by any social institution in which doctors up to DM level will be available under one roof and will benefit the general public by conducting medical checkups of patients for various diseases like ear, nose, bones, neuro,

heart, teeth. Dr. Vijay, General Secretary of Shining India, said that his social organization kept doing social work from time to time. On this occasion, the main executive members of Shining India Foundation, Sandeep Chaudhary, Jaideep Chaudhary, Ashwini Shorewala, Ramniwas Mittal, Praveen Gupta, Anil Khurania, Rajan Miglani, Amit Miglani, Praveen Jain, Rajesh Goyal.

Vimukthi Yatra against drugs abuse reaches Yamunanagar



RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR: Vimukthi Yatra program organized by Rotary Yamunanagar Rivera on Wednesday at Guru Govind Singh Pharmacy College, Yamunanagar. The special thing about Vimukthi Yatra was that Rotary Club Mumbai team started this journey by car. It has to cover a journey of about 10000 kilometers. Starting from Mumbai, from Kanyakumari through Kolkata and other states, it reached Yamunanagar by road. After that it will cover Chandigarh, Himachal, Punjab, Rajasthan and this journey will end on February 23. Its main objective is to tell about drug addiction, especially to the young generation, who are falling prey to drugs these days. Street play was organized by Rotaract Club students in the college. A day before also, a street play was performed in OP Jindal Park. The public praised it a lot. In which the artists made people aware through street play to avoid drug addiction. Seeing this, Yamunanagar MLA Ghanshyam Das Arora praised it. Rotary Club Rivera President Sanjeev Sethi said that Vimukthi Yatra started from Mumbai by car.

Brave citizen nabs snatcher, hands over to police



ABHISHEK NANDA FEROZEPUR: In a busy Ichhe Wala Road area of the city, a brave citizen with his courage and alertness caught a snatcher and handed him over to the police. This incident happened on Wednesday, when a woman was talking on her mobile phone, the miscreant snatcher snatched her purse and mobile and ran away quickly. The person who came with the victim showed courage without wasting time and chased the snatcher. After chasing him for a long distance, the snatcher got stuck in the traffic ahead and threw his bike in the middle of the road and ran away on foot. Seeing this, the person who came with the victim also threw his bike on the road and caught the fleeing snatcher. Other people present on the road also helped him, due to which the snatcher did not get a chance to run far. In a short while, the victim and the local people caught him and took back the mobile and purse from him. The motorcycle on which the snatcher came also did not have any number on it, which is a matter of concern in itself. As soon as the information was received, the police of Ferozpur city police station reached the spot and arrested the snatcher and took him to the police station. Now the police is interrogating the accused and gathering information about his other accomplices and gang.

Baba Sidhnath International Public School organises blessing ceremony for Class 12th students



HANS RAJ KURUKSHETRA: Baba Siddhnath International Public School organized blessing ceremony for the students of class XII. In the blessing ceremony held on the school premises blessed good performance of the students. On this occasion, a Havan was organized in the school premises in which all the students and teachers participated by setting up five Havan Kunds. During the havan, the bright future of the students was wished and motivated to excel in the field of education. The school manager Shri Ishwar Singh and Mrs. Rekha Devi said that they hoped that this ceremony would motivate the students to achieve their goals. Addressing the students, the Principal of the school, Mrs. Geeta Sharma, said that the time was a significant turn in their life and they will need hard work and dedication to achieve their goals. After the Ashirwad ceremony, a special program was organized to convey inspiration to students, in which success stories and inspiring examples were shared. At the end of the ceremony, the teachers showered flowers on the students and in honor, the students took blessings from all the teachers and thanked them.

11 Students from AESL, Kurukshetra, achieve 99 percentile and above in JEE Mains 2025 (Session 1)

DALBIR MALIK KURUKSHETRA, FEB 12

Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services, proudly announces an exceptional achievement in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains 2025 (Session 1). An impressive 11 students from Kurukshetra have scored above 99 percentile in the first session of the examination. Top achievers include CHAYAN JUNEJA 99.9 percentile, VRISHTI with 99.78, OM GAUR with 99.74, MANIK with 99.53, ADITYA RAMAN SHARMA with 99.47, SAGAR with 99.44 percentile. Notably Chayan Juneja and Vrishti both secured a perfect 100 in Physics as well. These results highlight the students' dedication and academic excellence in one of India's most challenging exams. The National Testing Agency



announced the results on 11th Feb, marking the beginning of this year's two scheduled JEE sessions. Most of these students enrolled in Aakash's classroom program, aiming to crack the prestigious IIT JEE, recognized globally as one of the toughest entrance exams. Congratulating the students, Mr. Amit Singh Rathore, Chief Academic and Business Head, Aakash Educational Services Limited, congratulated the students on their impressive results. He said, "We are proud of our students' achievements in JEE Main 2025. Their hard work and determination, combined with the shore coaching, have led to

these excellent outcomes. At Aakash, we focus on providing quality education that helps students reach their full potential. Congratulations to all our successful students, and we wish them the best for the next steps in their journey."

JEE (Mains) is structured in two sessions to provide students with multiple opportunities to enhance their scores. While JEE Advanced exclusively facilitates admissions to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), JEE Main serves as the gateway to numerous National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other Centrally-aided engineering colleges across India.

Patiala gears up for Heritage Festival and Saras Mela; DC reviews preparations

RAKESH JINDAL PATIALA, FEB 12

Patiala city is all ready to host the Patiala Heritage Festival starting on February 13 and the Saras Mela at Sheesh Mahal from February 14. Today, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Preeti Yadav conducted an on-site review of the festival preparations at various locations in the city. She was accompanied by PDA Chief Administrator Manisha Rana, SP Sarfaraz Alam, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Rural Development) Anuprita Johal, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Isha Singhal, SDM Nabha Ismat Vijay Singh, Joint Commissioner Deepjot Kaur, SDM Samana Tarsem Chand, and Assistant Commissioner Richa Goel.

Extending an open invitation to Patiala residents, Dr. Preeti Yadav shared that



the Patiala Heritage Festival will kick off on February 13 at 7 AM with a Nature Walk from Environment Park, followed by a Heritage Food and Flower Festival at Baradari Bagh at 9 AM. Later that evening at 6 PM, Padma Shri awardee actress Nirmal Rishi will stage the historical play Sarhind Di Deewar at Harpal Tiwana Kala Kendra, Nabha Road. On February 14, the Heritage Walk will start at 8:30 AM from Shahi Samadhan to Qila Mubarak and at 1 PM, the Saras Mela

will be inaugurated at Sheesh Mahal. In the evening at 6 PM, renowned Sufi singer Lakhwinder Wadali will perform at Polo Ground. Dr. Preeti Yadav further announced that on February 15 at 11 AM, an Aero Show will be organized at the Patiala Aviation Complex, Civil Aerodrome, Sangrur Road. Later that evening at 6 PM, Rang Punjab De, a traditional Punjabi fashion show by fashion designers Eli and Kim, will be presented at Qila Mubarak.

Himachal Women’s handball team strikes gold at National Games

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY BILASPUR, FEB 12

In a historic triumph, Himachal Pradesh's women's handball team clinched the gold medal at the ongoing National Games in Uttarakhand, defeating Haryana 46-39 in a thrilling final. This momentous victory has brought immense pride to the state and its sporting legacy. Himachal Pradesh Olympic Association General Secretary Rajesh Bhandari announced the remarkable achievement, applauding the team for their unwavering determination and extraordinary performance throughout the tournament. From the very first match, the team displayed unmatched skill



and dominance, culminating in this golden victory. Led by Captain Monika Pal, who scored 7 goals, the team showcased exceptional coordination and strategy. Bhavana (8 goals), Gulshan (7 goals), Shalini (4 goals), Mithali (3 goals), Rimpal (5 goals), and Priyanka (4 goals) all played a crucial role in securing this glorious win for Himachal Pradesh. The Himachal Pradesh Olympic

Association, along with President Virendra Kanwar, Joint Secretary DD Tanwar, Coach Snehlata Thakur, Kanta Parashar, and Parveen Dubey, extended heartfelt congratulations to the team for their phenomenal achievement. This victory marks a new era in Himachal Pradesh's sporting journey, proving that its athletes are ready to dominate on the national stage.

Nabha government hospital targeted by drug addicts

RAKESH JINDAL NABHA, FEB 12

In the state of Punjab, a large number of young people are continuously drowning in the swamp of drugs and are heading towards death. To fulfill their drug addiction, the youth are now also attacking the government hospital in Nabha. The room where around 250 youths come to get de-addiction pills every day was targeted. An attempt was made to steal pills by breaking the locks of the room yesterday. The Godrej cupboard in the room, in which the locks of two doors were found, was not broken after breaking the locks. The thieves ransacked the wooden cupboard and other doors, but were unable to break the iron Godrej cupboard. According to Senior Medical Officer SMO Dr. Vinu Goyal, there was no security arrangement outside this room even during the distribution of around 250 pills daily. The thieves also targeted the Jan Aushadi drug store and broke its glass, but its main gate also did not open despite their



efforts. Dr. Vinu Goyal said that a few days ago, thieves stole iron sheets from the earth wires from a newly constructed building.

It is worth mentioning that even after the employees leave the room after closing it, there is no security arrangement around this room at night in the government hospital. Some time ago, when the doctors in the government hospital staged a protest for their demands, they informed the journalists that during the emergency.

Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh expands Panchkula unit: Kulwant Sharma named Chief Patron, Subhash Kohli appointed Advisor

BUREAU KALKA: Senior journalists of district Panchkula Kulwant Sharma and Subhash Kohli have been declared chief patron and advisor of Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh Haryana's Panchkula unit. Its official announcement was made by Dr. Indu Bansal, founder/state president of Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh Haryana. On this occasion, Dr. Indu Bansal, national spokesperson of Bharti Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh and state president of Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh Haryana, while congratulating the newly appointed chief patron of Panchkula unit Kulwant Sharma and advisor Subhash Kohli on being appointed as the chief patron and advisor of the Panchkula unit of the Sangh, said that Kulwant Sharma and Subhash Kohli are both dedicated and experienced journalists, whose contribution towards journalism in the state has been commendable. Their appointment as the chief patron and advisor of Panchkula unit is an important and positive step for Shramjeevi Patrakar Sangh Haryana. Dr. Bansal said that we have full faith in the experience of Kulwant Sharma and Subhash Kohli that the organization will touch new heights and they will make the best use of their energy and knowledge for the interests of journalists, due to which our organization will establish new dimensions.



Editorial

Wrong sum

Children selling vegetables and other goods in the market are good at calculating the prices. Researchers tested them by buying odd amounts and giving them a Rs 200 note, and they got it right if not the first time then the second time. This exercise was part of a research project which showed that expertise in mathematics does not transfer naturally from academic to practical settings or vice versa. Working children were poor in arithmetic in the classroom. Even though they spent part of the day in school and part of it in the market, they struggled with arithmetic presented in the abstract form. Only 32% of them could divide a three-digit number with a one-digit number, and 54% managed to do two subtraction sums of two digits. Yet in the market, they calculated prices and returns mostly without pencil and paper. Non-working children on the other hand, good in the classroom, could not deal with calculations outside it. Sums in class are not giving them real-life skills. This barrier between the formal and intuitive understanding of mathematics is being seen as a failure of teaching in Indian schools. Working children do badly in abstract mathematics because their mastery of algorithms taught in schools is poor. Conversely, non-working children know only the strategies taught in the classroom and cannot apply them to real-life situations.

This is a remarkable find and may open up research into the life skills of unlettered adults in markets as well. With education becoming universal, however, schools must be able to find ways for easy translation of school lessons into life skills. The problem is that the schools themselves show poor achievement levels. In its report in 2023, Pratham, a non-governmental organisation that publishes the Annual Status of Education Report, found that only half the children from Classes XI and XII could divide a three-digit number by a one-digit number, or calculate how many water purifying tablets a large pot needs after being given the number for a smaller pot. Such failures would suggest flaws in teaching. A mechanical approach to arithmetic in class would leave students unable not only to translate school lessons into life-skill lessons but also to tackle mathematics in higher classes and in higher studies. Both school curricula and teaching methods must undergo a change if these problems are to be solved.

AI Action Summit

The AI Action Summit in Paris underscored the need to reinforce a diverse AI ecosystem, emphasising a human-centric, rights-based, and ethical approach to artificial intelligence.

With a focus on safety, and security, the summit called for urgent action to address inequalities and support capacity-building in developing countries.

A total of 58 countries, in addition to the European Union and African Union, are the signatories of the joint statement released following the Action Summit co-chaired by India and France. It is pertinent to note that two big names who refused to sign the statement are the United States and the United Kingdom.

The statement on 'Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet' released after the Paris AI Summit stated, "This Summit has highlighted the importance of reinforcing the diversity of the AI ecosystem. It has laid an open, multi-stakeholder and inclusive approach that will enable AI to be human rights-based, human-centric, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy while also stressing the need and urgency to narrow the inequalities and assist developing countries in artificial intelligence capacity-building so they can build AI capacities." The summit also acknowledged the significance of current initiatives on AI, such as the UN General Assembly Resolutions, the Global Digital Compact, and the work of organisations like UNESCO, the G7, and G20.



The summit also set some priorities, including – promoting AI accessibility, ensuring ethical development of AI, innovation, and making AI sustainable. "We have affirmed the following main priorities: Promoting AI accessibility to reduce digital divides; Ensuring AI is open, inclusive, transparent, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy, taking into account international frameworks for all; Making innovation in AI thrive by enabling conditions for its development and avoiding market concentration driving industrial recovery and development; Encouraging AI

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deployment that positively shapes the future of work and labour markets and delivers opportunity for sustainable growth; Making AI sustainable for people and the planet; and Reinforcing international cooperation to promote coordination in international governance," the statement added. Prime Minister Modi is currently on a visit to France from February 10-12. He co-chaired the AI Action Summit with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris on Tuesday. Following this, PM Modi will visit the United States on February 12-13 and hold a meeting with US President

Literature & Health

"Faith and Affirmation"

Attending a routine music class, an aspiring girl studying in a primary class innocently, questioned her mentor, "Sir! Can I excel in academics? Can I be a doctor if I intone divine hymns regularly as you often recommend us." Busy in maintaining discipline in the class, the mentor simply nodded by saying, "yes, of course if you study well because God helps those who help themselves." One casual affirmation deepened her faith and channelized her energy by kindling her aspirations to achieve her determined goals.

Persistent efforts and spiritual tint which she received in her music class facilitated her academic journey and enabled her to fulfill her dreams of becoming a doctor. Being a doctor was not any divine magic but her faith in God mingled with her utmost hard work which resulted in her glorious success.

Our brain is the most powerful creation. If our brain has manifested a goal, our constant efforts and inner faith will definitely leave no stone unturned to approach and achieve. This anecdote is inspired by a real life story and the purpose of mentioning is to inculcate moral and spiritual values among the youth of the day. My words are weighty because they advocate the truth as the protagonist in the above mentioned story is a successful gynae

naecologist at a renowned and well established hospital. The so-called heroism and fake boastful exaggeration of traits by our future generations is somewhere depriving them of being religious or morally upright to some extent. It does not mean that success can not be achieved if we are not performing religious and moral duties.

The point is that inculcating moral values among students is essential for their holistic development. Values such as honesty, respect, empathy, and responsibility help shape their character and behaviour.

By incorporating moral education into the curriculum, students learn to differentiate between right and wrong, make informed decisions, and develop a sense of social responsibility. This, in turn, fosters a positive and supportive school environment, enabling students to become compassionate, responsible, and engaged citizens of society. The famous quote: "Either be a doctor or an engineer, first be a good human being" adds a golden feather to one's cap. Divine faith, positive affirmations and determined manifestations facilitate our journey towards success.

Harpreet Kaur
English Mistress
GSSS Karamgarh Barnala

Sovereign wealth funds & pension funds emerge key drivers of capital inflow in India

The Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs) and Pension Funds (PFs) have emerged as critical drivers of capital flow into India says a report named "The Role of Sovereign Wealth and Pension Funds in India's Growth".

The report noted that these funds have been key drivers of capital inflow into the country, significantly contributing to sectors such as infrastructure, real estate, healthcare, and renewable energy.

According to the report, as of November 2024, SWFs had invested approximately USD 626 million directly in India, reflecting their increasing interest in the market.

It also added that global funds such as GIC Private



Limited, the Public Investment Fund (PIF), and Temasek have played a major role in this investment wave. The report noted that in 2023, these funds managed assets ranging from USD 492 billion to over USD 1.5 trillion.

The report said "With their long-term investment horizons, stable returns, and robust risk mitigation strategies, SWFs and PFs

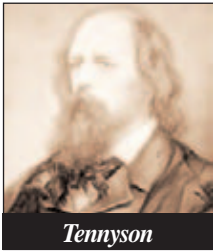
are not only bolstering India's economic trajectory but also enhancing the country's attractiveness to global capital".

Investment in Indian securities by SWFs has also seen a sharp rise. In May 2024, it was reported that total securities holdings by SWFs in India increased by 60 per cent, rising from Rs 3 trillion in 2023 to Rs 4.7 trillion in 2024.

POEM

The Miller's Daughter

It is the miller's daughter,
And she is grown so dear, so dear,
That I would be the jewel
That trembles at her ear:



Tennyson

For hid in ringlets day
and night,
I'd touch her neck so
warm and white.
And I would be the gir-
dle
About her dainty,
dainty waist,
And her heart would beat against me,
In sorrow and in rest:
And I should know if it beat right,
I'd clasp it round so close and tight..

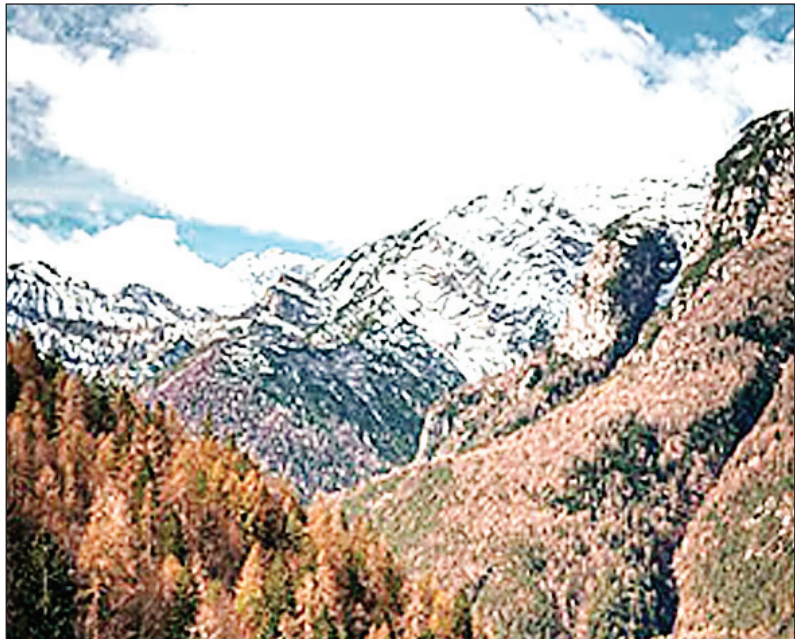
By Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Discovering the genetics of climate adaptation

As climate change accelerates, plants are under increasing pressure to adapt to changing habitats and environmental conditions.

This challenge is especially urgent for crops, as drought and heat-resistant plants are critical to ensuring food security in an unpredictable future. Fortunately, plants can adapt astonishingly well to a variety of settings and temperatures: Arabidopsis thaliana, for example, thrives in climates as disparate as Sweden and Italy.

The study, by the labs of Liam Dolan and Frederic Berger at the Gregor Mendel Institute (GMI) of Molecular Plant Biology, as well as Kelly Swarts, former GMI group leader and now at the Umea Plant Science Centre, and Masaki Shima-



mura at Hiroshima University.

Understanding how plants naturally adapt to different local conditions is key to predicting their response to climate change, and can help produce more resilient crops. A recent study provides new insight into the genetic underpinnings of plant climate adaptation. By combining population genetics and global climate data, the researchers identified genetic variants underlying climate adaptation in Marchantia polymorpha.

Genetic variants underlying certain traits, like enhanced heat resistance or different seed sizes, are often selected in environments where they provide a survival or reproductive edge. However, which genetic variants are responsible for climate adaptation is mostly un-

known. To uncover these variants, the researchers compared the genetics of different regional subpopulations of Marchantia polymorpha collected across Europe, America and Japan, creating a population genomics database. By integrating this database with a worldwide climate dataset, the scientists correlated each subpopulation's genetic profile with its local climate.

"Comparing populations in Europe and Japan, we found genetic variants associated with warmer and colder summer temperatures, as well as with the amount of summer precipitation," explains Liam Dolan.

"These adaptations could be crucial for optimizing reproduction in different conditions." The study also revealed that genetic variability

differs notably between populations of Marchantia polymorpha. Populations collected from different areas in Europe were similar to each other but presented high genetic variability among their individuals.

In contrast, geographically isolated Japanese populations exhibited more uniform genetic profiles, distinct from those in Europe. These patterns suggest that climate adaptation may favor different reproductive strategies in Europe and Japan, as Marchantia and other bryophytes can famously reproduce both sexually and asexually.

The new population genomics database - the first of its kind for Marchantia polymorpha - offers scientists worldwide a powerful platform to study genetic variability.

Protest over new canteen construction at Nalagarh Heritage Park

ANWAR HUSSAIN
NALAGARH: Tension erupted at Nalagarh Heritage Park when locals noticed the construction of a new canteen near the temple. A crowd gathered in protest, questioning the need for another canteen when one already exists

in the park. Upon inquiry, it was revealed that the construction was being carried out on the orders of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Nalagarh. Residents expressed their dissatisfaction, arguing that instead of an unnecessary new

canteen, authorities should focus on improving the park's deteriorating condition. They highlighted broken swings, a neglected pond filled with dirty water, and the park's increasing misuse as a hangout for substance abuse due to the lack

of security measures like CCTV cameras or administrative monitoring. The protesters urged the administration to prioritize park maintenance over redundant constructions, ensuring that it remains a safe and pleasant space for the community.

NEWS BRIEF

High-speed car rans into trollea



KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: Two people were injured in a collision between a Tata trolley and a car near Trident Factory Dhaura. Last night at around 1.30 am, a Tata trollea (number PB 11 DC 8824) and a car (PB 91 P 2645) collided near Trident Factory Dhaura. The trailer driver Nazam Singh, a resident of Dhillwan, Barnala, was going to Trident Factory while the car driver Varinder Singh, a resident of Ludhiana, Mansa, was going to the factory. The car driver and his companion were seriously injured in the accident. A team of Road Safety Force led by ASI Amrik Singh reached the spot and admitted the injured to the Civil Hospital Barnala through an ambulance. The ASI said that due to the speed of the car, it went under the trailer and the trailer dragged the car for about 15 meters.

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA FATEHBADM FEB 12

The General Secretary of the All India Congress Committee, former Union Minister, and MP from Sirsa Kumari Selja said that until the country's census is conducted, the central BJP government will continue to mislead the public by presenting incorrect data regarding various schemes. When caste-based data is released, schemes are developed based on that data. Kumari Selja commented on the Haryana government's manipulation, citing how the number of people below the poverty line (BPL) fluctuates drastically within a single month, even showing an increase in the number of rich people. Kumari Selja was in Fatehabad to attend a



program organized by the Sant Shri Ravidas Bhavan and Hostel Committee to celebrate the birth anniversary of Sant Shri Guru Ravidas. Speaking to the press earlier, she criticized the BJP government for making false announcements to pat itself on the back. She said

that the public now refers to this government as the jumlebaz(false promise-makers) government. Regarding the increase of 23,000 wealthy people in Haryana in just one month, Kumari Selja said that it is a fortunate event for the people of the state, as under the BJP

government, anything is possible. The number of BPL families can increase suddenly, and when questioned, the government deflects the issue by calling for an investigation. She said that the increase in the number of wealthy individuals in just a month is a result of the BJP government's magic. She expressed confusion about where the government is getting these figures and how the benefits of the schemes are being inflated.

Kumari Selja said that since there has been no census since 2011, it is unclear how the government can claim to be reaching out to those in need. She said that either the schemes are being made up or their benefits are only on paper. Until a caste-based census is conducted, it

will be impossible to determine the number of Dalits, backward classes, and economically weaker sections of society, which is necessary for creating accurate schemes and determining budgets. All needy individuals should receive the benefits of these schemes.

When asked about the increase in the number of poor before elections and the rise in the number of rich afterward, Kumari Selja called it the BJP's data manipulation. Regarding the Sirsa-Fatehabad-Agroha railway line, Kumari Selja said that work on the announced projects should begin soon. She would meet the Railway Minister to urge the quick commencement of work, emphasizing that this railway line is crucial for the region.

We all should follow inspirations of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Maharaj: Suman Saini



VIJAY KAUSHIK LADWA, FEB 12

Vice President of Haryana State Women and Child Welfare Council Suman Saini said that we all should follow inspirations of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Maharaj. While giving message of humanity, he had said that a person is not big or small by birth, but by his deeds. We should work for welfare of the society by taking lead following holy teachings of Guru Ravidas. He said that Guru Ravidas had given the message of social welfare, we should move forward by following his inspirations. He said that

Sant Guru Ravidas had given the message that there should be no discrimination of any kind against anyone. He envisioned a society in which there is no pomposity. While teaching the lesson of humanity, he always said that everyone should be respected. Sant Guru Ravidas was a great social reformer and was the messenger of peace, love and brotherhood. The life of Guru Ravidas is a unique example of sacrifice and penance. He considered service to humanity as service to God. He said that educate your children, because development is possible only through education.

Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas teachings promote values of equality, humility and compassion: Jagmohan Anand

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, FEB 12

Karnal MLA Jagmohan Anand said that Shri Guru Ravidas Ji had promoted equality and social justice, his teachings promote values of equality, humility and compassion which is necessary to create a more inclusive society. He was speaking as chief guest at a program organized at temple of Shri Guru Ravidas in village Kachhwa on Wednesday on birth anniversary of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas. He said that Shri Guru Ravidas Ji was a social reformer, his devotional songs and hymns focused on inner purity and devotion to God. He said that he envisioned a world where



everyone is respected and everyone is given equal importance. His life and teachings inspire people to strive for a just and fair society by breaking religious and social barriers. He said that he promoted brotherhood and peace, he was not only a great saint and preacher but also a talented poet. His message inspires people, his life encourages people to lead

a virtuous and religious life. Guru Ravidasi strongly opposed caste discrimination and promoted idea of a casteless society based on love and humanity.

MLA thanked everyone for their full support in assembly elections and said that Karnal is my family and I am ready to get development work done 24 hours a day for my family.

District Red Cross Society organises program on prohibition of intoxication for juveniles

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, FEB 12

Under the guidance of District and Sessions Judge and District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Chairman Chandrashekhar, a program was organized by the District Legal Services Authority on the prohibition of intoxication for juveniles in Place of Safety.

Dr. Iram Hasan, Chief Judicial Magistrate and Secretary, District Legal Services Authority attended as the chief guest. On reaching here, Dr. Iram Hasan was welcomed and thanked by the Superintendent of Place of Safety Ajay Kumar. The program was organized by District Red Cross Society



Secretary Kulbir Malik and Narcotics Control Bureau Ashok Verma. On this occasion, Dr. Iram Hasan gave information about the schemes of NALSA for prohibition of drug and made the staff and children present about the relevant legal services.

In the program, Ashok Verma gave information about the ill effects and rehabilitation caused by drug

addiction. On the occasion, a volleyball match was played between two Juvenile teams, in which all the participants were honored by giving a letter of praise. Kulbir Malik, secretary of the Red Cross Society, presented indoor games for Juveniles and refracted all them. On this occasion, the guests honored the Place of Safety for the services provided for children.

Genesis student Rhythm Goyal scores 99.99 percentile in JEE Mains

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL:

The results of the first session of JEE Mains were announced yesterday, and once again, Genesis Classes has set a benchmark in North India. A total of 21 students from the institute secured above 99 percentile, while around 40 students scored above 98 percentile, reinforcing the institution's dominance in competitive exam success.

Genesis Classes Directors

Jitendra Ahlawat and Navneet Singh expressed their pride in the students' achievements, stating that the institute has consistently produced top results over the past 14-15 years. They attributed this success to continuous student support, doubt resolution, and rigorous testing methods that prepare students for high-pressure exams. Jitendra Ahlawat emphasized that Genesis Classes focuses not just on academics but also on students' mental resilience. Regular Bhagavad Gita readings at the end of lectures help students stay motivated and confident. He credited the combined efforts of students and teachers for the institute's continued success in JEE, NEET, and NDA exams. Ahlawat reaffirmed Genesis Classes' commitment to guiding more students towards achieving their dreams.



Tractor overturns in ditch



SHALU PARMAR

KALAYAT: On the Mataur road of Kalayat, in the afternoon, an Eicher tractor lost balance due to a Nilgai suddenly coming in front of it and overturned. The tractor was going from Kalayat to Mataur. When the tractor overturned, the driver buried under it was pulled out with the help of a JCB by the people present in the nearby fields. It was a matter of luck that the tractor driver narrowly escaped in the accident. People present at the spot at the time of the accident said that on Wednesday evening around 5:00 pm the tractor was going towards Mataur when suddenly a Nilgai came in front and the driver lost balance and overturned in the ditches near the road. People present there called JCB and the tractor driver was taken out safely.

People influenced by BJP's public welfare policies: Yogendra Rana



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: The politics of manipulation has started in the parties for the post of Municipal Corporation Assandh Chairman. On Tuesday, Rajendra alias Rocky Mattoo, who had contested the election on the Congress party ticket, joined BJP along with hundreds of his workers. MLA Yogendra Rana made him a member by making him wear the party's turban. He said that Rocky Mattoo had contested the last time for the Municipal Corporation President election on the Congress party ticket. But now, influenced by the public welfare policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini, he has joined the BJP. He said that Rocky Mattoo along with hundreds of workers has worked to strengthen the BJP. Rajendra alias Rocky Mattoo has spoken of serving the people without any condition. Rocky Mattoo, who joined BJP, said that the Prime Minister of the country has a very far-sighted thinking.

Six-day Surya Namaskar campaign concludes



NIRMAL SAINI

RADAUR: The six-day Surya Namaskar campaign running at Global Research Institute of Management and Technology Nacharon has concluded. The main objective of the campaign was to increase awareness about physical health among children and to strengthen mental and physical strength through Surya Namaskar. During this, children were told the benefits of Surya Namaskar. Program was conducted under the supervision of Harpreet Kaur. Harpreet Kaur said that the objective of this campaign was to make children aware about physical and mental health and to tell them about health benefits of Surya Namaskar. The institute organizes such events from time to time, so that discipline and confidence can be increased among students.

648th Sant Ravidas Prakashotsav celebrated at Raidas Takht



SHALU PARMAR

KALAYAT: The 648th Sant Ravidas Prakashotsav was celebrated with pomp at Raidas Takht situated on Sajuma Road in Kalayat on Wednesday. In the program organised under the chairmanship of Raidas Takht State President Dr Pritam Singh Mehra, hundreds of devotees from Kalayat and surrounding areas performed havan yagya and worship at Sant Ravidas temple and pledged to follow his teachings and ideals. A huge feast was also organized on the temple premises. Raidas Takht Pradhan Dr. Pritam Mehra honored the students who secured top positions in sports and studies in the temple premises. Dr. Pritam Mehra said that Ravidas was a great social reformer. He has given the message of social harmony, good conduct, importance of Guru, feeling of love, duty, glory of good company as well as following human religion. In the Jayanti Mahotsav program, Mahant Guru Prasad moved everyone by reciting religious hymns and charming tales of Saint Ravidas.

Drishti and Parth crowned Mr. and Miss Shri Nangli at farewell ceremony



VERMA

GURDASPUR: A grand farewell ceremony was organized for the 2024 batch of students at Shri Nangli Academic Public School. The event included a "Good Luck Party" for the Class 10 students and an emotional farewell for the Class 12 students. The ceremony was graced by notable dignitaries, including Mohit Mahajan, Chairman of Golden Group of Institutions, Mrs. Anu Mahajan, Engineer Raghav Mahajan, Mrs. Ayushi Mahajan, Director Vinayak Mahajan, and Principal Shikha Madan. The program began with a welcome speech, followed by vibrant performances by the Class 9 and 11 students, which included dance, singing, and modeling. Dr. Mohit Mahajan honored the Class 10 and 12 students with various titles. The titles of Miss and Mr. Shri Nangli were awarded to Drishti and Parth, respectively, from Class 12. Additionally, several other awards were presented, including Miss Charming to Ananya Mahajan, Beautiful Dress to Komal, Sparkling Eyes to Sunist Smile, Fashion Expert to Harshdeep Kaur, Graceful Walk to Krish, Most Confident to Lakshya Mahajan, Star of the Day to Narayan, and Multitalented to Lavish.

Journey of incremental steps towards Child Welfare is being published by DCWC

VERMA

GURDASPUR: The District Child Welfare Council (DCWC), Gurdaspur, is going to published an insightful and inspiring book titled A Journey of Incremental Steps Towards Child Welfare. Uma Shankar Gupta, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur while going through the book has appreciated initiative undertaken by the council to improve the welfare and future of children, especially those from marginalized and underprivileged backgrounds. This well-curated book documents the array of projects run by DCWC, especially Preliminary Education Study Centers for slum children where underprivileged children who were previously in the profession of begging/rag picking are now getting study; Crèche Centres providing care and support for young children; Computer Training programs for both boys and girls; A Modern Library designed to foster knowledge and creativity among children; Crèche Centres for children of mothers serving sentences at the central jail. The book also highlights the activities and efforts aimed at creating opportunities for the advancement and well-being of children in a systematic and detailed manner. The Deputy Commissioner Gurdaspur also praised the relentless dedication and tireless efforts of the DCWC team, especially Honorary Secretary Romesh Mahajan, a National Awardee, and Coordinator Bakshi Raj. The Deputy Commissioner acknowledged the council's outstanding work in empowering children.



Follow the path shown by Sant Ravidas Ji: Dr. Rajesh Vaidya



KAMAL SHARMA

TARAORI: Former member of Haryana Public Service Commission and State Congress executive member Dr. Rajesh Vaidya said that the life of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Maharaj is inspiring for the entire humanity. He had talked about the right to food for everyone without any discrimination through his couplet "Aisa chahun raj mein, Jahan mile sabko anna, chote bade sab sam basen, Redas rahe prasanna" 600 years ago. He said that the teachings of Sant Ravidas Ji Maharaj are still completely relevant and today, following his teachings, the Social Justice Department has been formed all over the world. Everyone has been given the right to equal opportunities without any discrimination. Dr. Rajesh Vaidya was addressing the gathering present in the programme organized on the birthday of Saint Ravidas Maharaj at Shri Ravidas Temple in Nilokheri on his 648th birth anniversary. He appealed to the youth to follow the path shown by Guruji and asked them to get educated. He also appealed to the youth to stay away from intoxicants and follow the path shown by our great men.

NHAI occupies land, farmers angry

KULDEEP SOOD

BARNALA: Several acres of land have been acquired for the Bharat Mala Project passing through Bhadaur town. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) reached with a heavy police force and took possession of the land. The team of officials destroyed several acres of wheat crop which was on the verge of ripening by plowing it. In protest against this, various farmer unions took action, reached the spot, raised strong slogans against the administration and announced a firm protest by setting up tents on the spot. Kulwant Singh Mann, District President of Bharatiya Kisan Union Dhaner Dakounda, and the aggrieved farmer Balwinder Singh said that they have not received a single penny of their land yet and neither has the administration tried to call or talk to them. On Tuesday morning, they came to know that their land has been sown, harvested and forcibly occupied. On this occasion, District President of Kisan Union Darshan Singh Ugoke, District President of BKU Dakounda Dhaner Kulwant Singh Mann, District President of BKU Collection Chamkaur Singh Nainawal, Comrade Gumail Sharma Bhadaur, Jagsir Singh Shehna, Block President Bhinda Dhillwan, Balwant Singh Cheema Vice President, Gurcharan Singh Dhillwal, BKU Collection President Balwant Singh, Bhola Singh Chhanna and a large number of farmers were present, who raised slogans against the administration. DSP Tapa Gurbinder Singh tried to convince the farmers that instead of protesting, the issue can be resolved through meeting with the officials and talks. Work is underway on the land acquired by the National Highway Authority and police forces have been deployed to maintain law and order.

NEWS BRIEF

Airtel awards contracts to Nokia to expand 5G Fixed Wireless Access devices, powering high-speed internet connectivity nationwide

Bharti Airtel has awarded a contract to Nokia, and Qualcomm focusing on the expansion of 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) and Wi-Fi solutions to facilitate high-speed internet access to millions across India. As part of the arrangement, Nokia will supply Airtel with its 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) outdoor gateway receiver and Wi-Fi 6 Access Point, utilizing Qualcomm® Modem-RF and Wi-Fi 6 chips. This initiative will enable Airtel to provide superior broadband services in areas where fiber penetration and a high demand for digital services. Airtel will leverage Nokia's FastMile 5G outdoor receivers, which are tailored for multi-dwelling units and capable of serving two households concurrently, thus facilitating a reduction in connection expenses. These receivers feature high-gain antennas that enhance broadband access over extended distances while efficiently managing radio resources.

Indiawood 2025 to take place from March 6-9

SHIMLA: Marking a quarter-century of industry advancements & growth, Indiawood 2025, the leading trade fair for woodworking and furniture manufacturing, will take place from March 6-9, 2025, at India Expo Mart & Centre (IEM), Greater Noida, Delhi NCR. As part of NuernbergMesse global woodworking portfolio, this milestone event reflects India's emergence as a manufacturing powerhouse and a key global player in the furniture and woodworking industry. Since its inception, Indiawood has shaped the industry's growth, bringing together manufacturers, suppliers, technology leaders, and professionals on a single platform. Over the past two and a half decades, it has played a pivotal role in fostering technological advancements, sustainable practices, and global collaborations. Today, as India ranks among the top five global furniture producers and is set to grow its furniture exports by 20% annually, INDIAWOOD continues to be a catalyst for industry progress.

LG India expands blood donation initiative across India

SHIMLA: LG Electronics India is set to launch the third edition of its Mega Blood Donation Campaign, reinforcing its commitment to corporate social responsibility with the core message, "Life's Good When Life's Shared." This initiative aims to mobilize communities especially youth and organizing 400 blood donation camps across 70 cities. In the years 2019 and 2023, LG Electronics India successfully organized around 188 camps, resulting in over 17,700 registrations. Building on this success, the 2025 campaign aims to further expand its impact, with a goal of securing 30,000 registrations. Each camp will provide donors with essential medical checkups, refreshments, and certificates of appreciation, ensuring a seamless and encouraging donation experience.

Coca-Cola Reports Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2024 Results

CHANDIGARH: Coca-Cola Company in its Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2024 Results highlighted continued momentum in an industry full of growth opportunities. "Our all-weather strategy is working, and we continue to demonstrate our ability to lead through dynamic external environments," said James Quincey, Chairman and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company. He further added, "Our global scale, coupled with local-market expertise and the unwavering dedication of our people and our system, uniquely position us to capture the vast opportunities ahead."

Sustainable Mobility at India Energy Week 2025

KARNAL/HISAR: Reinforcing its commitment to India's vision for Energy Independence by 2047 and Net Zero by 2070, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today marked its participation at the India Energy Week 2025, being held in Delhi during 11th – 14th Feb 2025. The India Energy Week 2025 (IEW) serves as an important platform to showcase practical and scalable clean energy solutions to realize energy self-reliance and reduce carbon emissions. This event brings together global political leaders, policy makers, thought leaders, experts, and end-users to deliberate on energy scenario, technologies, industry trends and policy outlook. Present at the event, Mr. Vikram Gulati, Country Head & Executive Vice President - Corporate Affairs and Governance, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "India Energy Week plays a vital role in bringing energy.

Samsung Bespoke AI WindFree™ AC Range ideal for all cooling needs of Modern Lifestyles

CHANDIGARH: Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, has unveiled its 2025 range of Bespoke AI WindFree™ air conditioner lineup, crafted to meet the evolving needs of discerning Indian consumers. Featuring cutting-edge AI technology, energy-efficient performance, and seamless integration with modern living spaces, this range is designed to redefine cooling for Indian summers while elevating lifestyles. Equipped with AI Fast & Comfort Cooling, these air conditioners deliver instant relief by rapidly lowering the room temperature and then transitioning to WindFree™ Cooling. This unique feature ensures a draft-free cooling experience that maintains optimal comfort while intelligently adapting to indoor and outdoor conditions. The system continuously learns user preferences and usage patterns to offer personalized cooling solutions, making it ideal for families navigating the unpredictable Indian climate.

Gujarat Insect (Kerala) Limited's Q3 net profit zooms by 4,500% & declares robust Q3 Results

CHANDIGARH, February 12: -Vadodara: BSE-listed Gujarat Insect (Kerala) Limited (BSE: 524238), a leading agricultural company, reported a staggering increase of 4,500% in its net profit for the quarter ended December 2024. The company specializes in the trade of bulk vegetables and fruits, sourcing fresh produce directly from farmers and delivering it to shop owners, ensuring quality, freshness, and a seamless supply chain. Gujarat Insect (Kerala)'s net profit for the December 2024 quarter was Rs. 21.16 lakh, an increase of 45 times over the profit of Rs. 0.46 lakh in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The company's revenue in the December 2024 quarter was Rs. 315.23 lakh, compared to Rs. 21.59 lakh in the same quarter of the previous year, a growth of 1,360%. For the nine months ended December 2024, Gujarat Insect (Kerala)'s revenue was Rs. 1,490.86 lakh as against Rs. 36.96 lakh in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, a growth of 9,06%. The Net profit for the nine-month period was Rs. 94.40 lakh, 2,007% higher than the net profit of Rs. 4.48 lakh in the same period of the previous year.

Business

9 effective home remedies for throat pain



Winter is finally here! Are you already cosying up in warm blankets? The year is finally getting over and we're eagerly waiting for the holidays! The weather outside is already motivating us to binge on Christmas movies in our baggy winter wear. However, as exciting and joyful as this season is, its only downfall is making us sick. The change in weather can cause throat pain, but worry not, as home remedies are here for the rescue. Try them.

1. **Turmeric Milk** : Turmeric is among the oldest remedies used to soothe a sore throat. It works wonders for throat pain and the common cold.

2. **Ginger Tea**: A natural and effective method to ease throat pain is this tea. It is an easy method as the ingredients are readily available.

3. **Tulsi Kadha**: It's a plant that has been proven to have many benefits. It can act as a home remedy to many other health benefits as well such as cough, congestion, etc.

4. **Lemon Water** : Lemon water has many health benefits and it'll cure the pain in your throat effectively. It can provide a surge in energy as well. It helps in boosting immunity and provides a great amount of vitamin C.

5. **Peppermint Water** Usually, we use peppermint in our dishes to enhance flavour,

but it can also be used for curing throat pain and cold. They also help in fighting bacterial infections. This water is the perfect home remedy to feel better.

6. **Honey Water** : Honey is among the oldest ingredients used for throat pains and it does a very effective job. Honey is one of those ingredients that help the body in a variety of

ways.

7. **Apple Cider Vinegar Gargles** : Apple cider vinegar gargles with hot water will work towards healing the throat along with soothing the pain.

8. **Salt Water Gargles** : This is by far the fastest and most effective way of relieving throat pain. It is harmless and does not affect the body in an adverse manner. It will help reduce inflammation as well.

9. **Warm Soups** : Who does not like a comforting bowl of soup on a cold winter night? The best part? It can also relieve throat pain. Having warm soup can be soothing for your throat pain. You can choose the soup of your choice. However, make sure that the soup is not spicy or too salty.

From Andamans to Arunachal: Amazon Pharmacy facilitates medicine access across India

LUDHIANA: Amazon Pharmacy strives to provide a truly seamless experience by connecting customers with licensed sellers through its marketplace, offering the convenience of ordering medicines online from the comfort of home, combined with savings and reliable doorstep delivery across 100% of serviceable pin codes in India. Through our verified sellers, you can explore a vast selection of prescription medications, OTC drugs, medical devices, supplements and health products. Using Amazon's nationwide logistics network, customers can now access a wide range of medicines, with same-day delivery available in 23 cities, including top metros and Tier 2 cities. Harsh Goyal, Director – Pharmacy, Amazon India, says At Amazon, we work with licensed sellers to facilitate healthcare access in India by making it more convenient for our customers to shop online. Through Amazon Pharmacy, our sellers leverage a nationwide logistics network to offer thousands of prescription medications, OTC drugs, and healthcare essentials right to customers' doorsteps across the country—even in the remotest areas. "For customers who are used to ordering things from Amazon, we have kept the experience seamless and simple so they can buy medicines in the same manner they shop for their other essential products from Amazon.in." Amazon Pharmacy delivers medicines across 100% serviceable pincodes across the country, subject to availability and regulatory requirements, ensuring that customers even in the remotest areas—Port Blair and Havelock in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Leh in Ladakh, Kanyakumari, and even going in Arunachal Pradesh—have access to essential medication. With its robust distribution and delivery ecosystem, Amazon facilitates quick and convenient access to a wide range of medications, including same-day delivery in 23 cities. Customers shopping on Amazon Pharmacy can save more through cashback offers. Prime customers using Amazon Pay ICICI Bank credit cards get 5% savings on their purchases. Additional cashback offers are available based on cart value. Prime members enjoy free delivery on orders of ₹149 or above, while non-Prime members get free delivery on orders of ₹299 or above. Orders below these values have a nominal ₹60 delivery charge.

Honda India Foundation (HIF) Launches 'Project Annadata'

KARNAL : Honda India Foundation (HIF) has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the Government of Uttar Pradesh today, marking the commencement of Project Annadata- Sashakt Kisan, Samridh Rashtra', aimed at supporting and strengthening Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the state. This project focuses on enhancing the overall development of FPOs by improving their access to resources, improving market linkages and driving sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.



The MoC signing ceremony took place in New Delhi in the esteemed presence of prominent dignitaries including Shri Surya Pratap Shahi, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh and Honda India Foundation Trustees namely Mr. Vinay Dingra and Mr. Katsuyuki Ozawa. Representatives from Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI), Honda India Power Products (HIPP) and Honda Cars India Ltd. (HCIL) were also present, highlighting Honda's collaborative approach to rural development. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vinay Dingra, Trustee, Honda India Foundation, said, "At Honda India Foundation, we are dedicated to empowering rural communities and enhancing agricultural productivity, aligning seamlessly with the Government of India's vision as also reflected in the 2025 Union Budget. Initiatives such as the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana, the mission for Atmanirbhar in Pulses, and ensuring fair prices for farmers resonate with our objectives. Our efforts to strengthen Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through Project Annadata are in harmony with these priorities as we work towards improving resource access and create a resilient agricultural ecosystem that will benefit farmers at scale. This collaboration will enable us to create a meaningful impact at the grassroots. We will continue to contribute towards the development of a more resilient and prosperous agricultural ecosystem."

Scooter India (HMSI), Honda India Power Products (HIPP) and Honda Cars India Ltd. (HCIL) were also present, highlighting Honda's collaborative approach to rural development.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vinay Dingra, Trustee, Honda India Foundation, said, "At Honda India Foundation, we are dedicated to empowering rural communities and enhancing agricultural productivity, aligning seamlessly with the Government of India's vision as also reflected in the 2025 Union Budget. Initiatives such as the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana, the mission for Atmanirbhar in Pulses, and ensuring fair prices for farmers resonate with our objectives. Our efforts to strengthen Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through Project Annadata are in harmony with these priorities as we work towards improving resource access and create a resilient agricultural ecosystem that will benefit farmers at scale. This collaboration will enable us to create a meaningful impact at the grassroots. We will continue to contribute towards the development of a more resilient and prosperous agricultural ecosystem."

Amogh Bansal of Aakash Educational Services Limited from Gurugram Tops Haryana in JEE Mains 2025 (Session 1) with a 99.99 Percentile

GURUGRAM : Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services, proudly announces an exceptional achievement in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains 2025 (Session 1). Amogh Bansal becomes the Haryana State Topper by achieving 99.99 percentile in the first session of the examination.

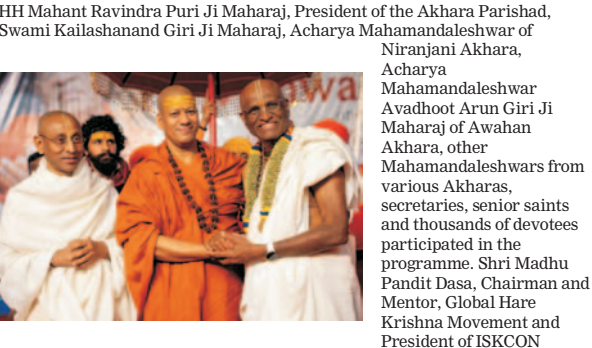


These results highlight the students' dedication and academic excellence in one of India's most challenging exams. The National Testing Agency announced the results today, marking the beginning of this year's two scheduled JEE sessions. Congratulating the students, Dr. Yash Pal, Chief Academic and

Business Head, Aakash Educational Services Limited, congratulated the student on his impressive results. He said, "We are proud of our students' achievements in JEE Main 2025. Their hard work and determination, combined with the right coaching, have led to these excellent outcomes. At Aakash, we focus on providing quality education that helps students reach their full potential. Congratulations to all our successful students, and we wish them the best for the next steps in their journey." JEE (Mains) is structured in two sessions to provide students with multiple opportunities to enhance their scores. While JEE Advanced exclusively facilitates admissions to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), JEE Main serves as the gateway to numerous National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other Centrally-aided engineering colleges across India.

Srila Prabhupada conferred with the title 'Vishwa Guru' during the Maha Kumbh

CHANDIGARH: During the auspicious event of Maha Kumbh Mela, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Founder-Acharya of ISKCON and Worldwide Hare Krishna Movement, was honoured with the title of Vishwa Guru by the Akhila Bharatiya Akhara Parishad. Srila Prabhupada is the first and only personality to receive this title in history.



HH Mahant Ravindra Puri Ji Maharaj, President of the Akhara Parishad, Swami Kailashanand Giri Ji Maharaj, Acharya Mahamandaleswar of Niranjanji Akhara, Acharya Mahamandaleswar Avadhoot Arun Giri Ji Maharaj of Awahan Akhara, other Mahamandaleshwars from various Akharas, secretaries, senior saints and thousands of devotees participated in the programme. Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa, Chairman and Mentor, Global Hare Krishna Movement and President of ISKCON Bangalore and Shri Chanchalpathi Dasa, Vice Chairman and Co-Mentor of Global Hare Krishna Movement and Senior Vice President of ISKCON Bangalore presided over the event. The deity of Srila Prabhupada was offered an elaborate abhisheka, pushpa vrishiti (showering of flowers), a grand arati and auspicious paraphernalia accompanied by sacred chants. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa said, "It brings me and the entire ISKCON community immense joy and happiness to see that Srila Prabhupada.

Kia India unveils the New EV6 at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 & showcases World of "Inspiring Innovations"

NEW DELHI. : Kia India, a leading mass premium carmaker, unveiled the new EV6 at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025. Kia India also announced that bookings for the new Kia EV6 start today, marking another milestone in the brand's electric journey. The new Kia EV6 continues to set the standard for safety, equipped with our ADAS 2.0 package, which includes 27 advanced safety and driver assistance features. As compared to previous EV6 we have added five additional ADAS 2.0 features – Front Collisions Avoidance assist (FCA) – City/Pedestrian/Cyclist/Junction Turning, Forward Collision Avoidance (FCA) – Junction crossing, Forward Collision Avoidance– Lane Assist Change (FCA) – Oncoming & Side, Forward Collision Avoidance assist (FCA) – Evasive Steering and Lane Follow Assist (LFA). These features are derived from the cutting-edge technology from our flagship model, EV9 and include improvements to collision safety, structural rigidity, and enhanced occupant protection. With the added strength and enhanced ADAS package, you can drive with confidence, knowing that the EV6 is designed to protect. The EV9 stands as Kia's



flagship electric SUV, setting new standards for technology and innovation in the automotive industry, globally. Having crowned as the prestigious WCOTY 2024, the vehicle is powered by a 99.8 kWh battery, the EV9 offers an impressive range of up to 561 km on a single charge, making it suitable for both city commutes and long-distance travel. Its ultra-fast charging capability allows the battery to recharge from 10% to 80% in just 24 minutes with a 350kW DC charger.Kia India is also showcasing its legacy of pushing boundaries by seamlessly harmonizing global technology, luxurious design, and sustainable engineering with its product range including the newly debuted Kia Syros. The immersive display at Bharat Mobility pavilion aligns with Kia India's commitment to driving the future of automotive excellence while supporting India's vision.

FEROZI redefines Desi Hip-Hop with a fearless debut album filled with swagger, grit, and soul



is rewriting the rules of Indian hip-hop with its raw narratives, street-driven ethos, and relentless energy. Hailing from Faridabad, Haryana, these six artists bring their roots and experiences into their music with seven groundbreaking tracks that capture the essence of Desi hip-hop. United by an unbreakable bond and a shared passion for artistic expression, the group is poised to redefine the genre and take it to unparalleled heights. The group has sent shockwaves with the release of two hard-hitting singles, "Farida Drip" and "51 Garh," signaling a sonic revolution in the making. "51 Garh" is a statement of swagger and aggression, where the artists unleash their razor-sharp lyricism, firing warning shots at anyone who dares to challenge them. On the other hand, "Farida Drip" is a masterclass in confidence and style, from its ominous opening chord to the commanding vocal delivery, the track is an electrifying showcase of FEROZI's presence. Backed by ZeroToOne's thunderous production, it leaves an undeniable mark with every beat.

Get ready for the electrifying evolution of Desi hip-hop as FEROZI, a trailblazing six-member collective, is set to take center stage with its explosive debut album. Helmed by the visionary Lambdara MC SQUARE along with Gurjar HB, MNDR, SkyMerJaaz, Mark Bhatia, and producer ZeroToOne, this powerhouse group

AG&P Pratham and Think Gas announce merger of two brands



LUDHIANA: AG&P Pratham and THINK Gas took the India Energy Week 2025, as the stage to announce their merged brand entity. The new look of the merged brand was unveiled by Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, Chairperson, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) during the event, in the presence of Shri Amitava Sengupta, Chairman,

THINK Gas and Shri Abhilesh Gupta, MD & CEO, Think Gas, Shri A. Ramana Kumar, Member – PNGRB and Mr. Takeshi Shinohara San, MD, Osaka Gas India Pvt. Ltd. AG&P Pratham and THINK Gas, group entities with two prominent brands in the City Gas Distribution (CGD) sector shall now operate under a single brand - THINK Gas, to

Romantic escapes in Dubai to celebrate the month of Love

CHANDIGARH: This Valentine's Day season, Dubai, is providing some of the most captivating romantic retreats. These special experiences guarantee treasured memories with your significant other, whether you're organizing a romantic meal by the shore, an opulent spa retreat, or an exciting staycation. Here are the best romantic getaways in Dubai during the month of love. Indulge in unparalleled luxury at Shangri-La Dubai, where Valentine's celebrations reach new heights. Set against the stunning backdrop of the Burj Khalifa and Downtown Dubai skyline, located on Level 42 "Private Dining Above the Clouds" offers couples an extraordinary dining experience. From sunrise breakfasts to intimate dinners, every detail is meticulously curated to craft an unforgettable romantic experience. Nestled in the heart of the vibrant Jadda' Waterfront, the inviting Palazzo Versace Dubai radiates warmth, charm, and timeless romance, making it an enchanting destination for couples. The intimate and elegant Giardino sets the stage for a heartfelt Valentine's dinner with a mesmerizing ambiance, soulful live music, and thoughtful, indulgent surprises. The cozy yet sophisticated Mosaico invites guests to a delightful signature high tea experience, complete with a lovingly crafted cake tray and breathtaking romantic sundowners overlooking the serene, picturesque Dubai Creek. Situated along the pristine white sands of Saadiyat Island, Fikos Premium Saadiyat Island provides an exclusive all-inclusive haven for couples. Luxuriously designed accommodations, secluded private villas with pools, and revitalizing spa treatments at Arjuna Spa create a blissful romantic retreat.

Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles celebrates Resounding Success of Jawa 42 FJ

GURUGRAM : Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles is proud to announce the prodigious success of the Jawa 42 FJ, a motorcycle that has redefined the neo-classic segment in India. Designed to celebrate the spirit of freedom and individuality, the Jawa 42 FJ has struck a chord with riders across the nation, blending cutting-edge technology with timeless design. Named after František Janeček, the visionary founder of Jawa, this motorcycle is designed to offer a bold and modern riding experience for today's enthusiasts. The celebrations in 120+ cities across India continue to ignite rider enthusiasm, with over 150+ events bringing together more than 5,400 passionate riders, further cementing Jawa's legacy of



excellence and redefining motorcycling experiences. Commenting on the success of the motorcycle, Sharad Agarwal, Chief Business Officer of Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles said, "The 42 FJ embodies everything we believe motorcycling should be - bold, distinctive, and thrilling. When we set out to

create this motorcycle, we weren't just aiming to set new benchmarks; we wanted to craft something that would make riders' hearts race before they even twist the throttle. What we've achieved is a machine that doesn't just perform brilliantly - it stirs the soul.

34 Students from Aakash Educational Services Limited, Chandigarh, Achieve 99 Percentile and above in JEE Mains 2025 (Session 1)

CHANDIGARH: Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), the national leader in test preparatory services, proudly announces an exceptional achievement in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains 2025 (Session 1). An impressive 23 students from Chandigarh have scored above 99 percentile in the first session of the examination.

Top achievers include Amav Jindal with 99.99percentile, Keshav Bansal with 99.98, Pushni Mittal with 99.98, Shaurya Sharma with 99.98, Pulkit Malik with 99.93, Kavya with 99.93, Gaurav Singh with 99.90, Parikh Goyal with 99.81,

Nikunj Jindal 99.81, Bhavya Garg with 99.80, Manan Garg with 99.61, Divija Dewan with 99.6, Arnab with 99.35, Anirudh with 99.2, Arzoo with 99.17, Harshit with 99.10percentile.

These results highlight the students' dedication and academic excellence in one of India's most challenging exams. The National Testing Agency announced the results, marking the beginning of this year's two scheduled JEE sessions.

Most of these students enrolled in Aakash's classroom program, aiming to crack the prestigious IIT JEE, recognized globally as one of the toughest entrance

exams. Congratulating the students, Amit Singh Rathore, Chief Academic and Business Head, Aakash Educational Services Limited, congratulated the students on their impressive results. He said, "We are proud of our students' achievements in JEE Main 2025. Their hard work and determination, combined with the right coaching, have led to these excellent outcomes. At Aakash, we focus on providing quality education that helps students reach their full potential. Congratulations to all our successful students, and we wish them the best for the next steps in their journey."

vivo India Partners for the Third Edition of vivo Ignite



CHANDIGARH: vivo, the innovative global smartphone brand, has formed strategic partnerships with the Central Institute of Educational Technology - NCERT (CIET-NCERT), IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation, and UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) for its flagship CSR program, vivo Ignite: Technology and Innovation Initiative (T&I initiative). These collaborations are set to further elevate T&I Initiative, which focuses on empowering India's youth, particularly students from grades 8-12, by providing them with resources, mentorship, and platforms needed to tackle some of the world's most pressing societal challenges through innovative solutions.

Geetaj Channana, Head of Corporate Strategy, vivo India, said, "At vivo, we believe in the transformative power of collaboration. By joining forces with CIET-NCERT, IITM Pravartak Technologies Foundation, and UN Global Compact Network India, we aim to amplify the impact of vivo Ignite, empowering young innovators to design meaningful, tech-driven solutions for societal challenges. This partnership is not just an alliance but a shared commitment to creating a sustainable future by equipping India's youth with the tools and guidance they need to succeed."

Unleashing Brilliance: ARYAN, SRI CHAITANYA, HISAR scores 99.71%ile in JEE MAIN 2025

HISAR: In a remarkable display of academic excellence, Sri Chaitanya Institute, Hisar has proved its mettle in the JEE MAIN examination in the very first year, with ARYAN scoring 99.71%ile in JEE Main 2025 (Session 1). Additionally, from Hisar campus, 4 students have scored 99 %ile above marks. The highly anticipated result of the JEE Main 2025 has laid a strong foundation for JEE Advanced 2025. Aryan: A one-year regular classroom student at Sri Chaitanya Hisar, Aryan has scored an impressive 99.71%ile in JEE Main 2025. Aryan's parents are extremely proud of him. His dedication to his studies has been evident since his first step at Sri Chaitanya, Hisar. Aryan's passion for clearing JEE Advanced has driven him to work tirelessly, spending 10-12 hours a day to achieve this remarkable success. His parents are very happy with his success and hard work. Gaurav Beniwal: Another one-year regular classroom student from Sri Chaitanya Hisar. Gaurav has scored



a notable 99.58%ile in JEE Main 2025. He acknowledges that the unwavering support from Sri Chaitanya's faculty has helped him reach this outstanding level. His parents are extremely happy and proud of his performance. Amandeep: A one-year regular classroom student, Amandeep has scored a commendable 99.31 %ile in JEE Main 2025.

Indiawood 2025 to take place from March 6-9

LUDHIANA/ JALANDHAR: Marking a quarter-century of industry advancements & growth, Indiawood 2025, the leading trade fair for woodworking and furniture manufacturing, will take place from March 6-9, 2025, at India Expo Mart & Centre (IEM), Greater Noida, Delhi NCR. As part of NuernbergMesse global woodworking portfolio, this milestone edition reflects India's emergence as a manufacturing powerhouse and a key global player in the furniture and woodworking industry. Since its inception, Indiawood has shaped the industry's growth, bringing together manufacturers, suppliers, technology leaders, and professionals on a single platform. Over the past two and a half decades, it has played a pivotal role in fostering technological advancements, sustainable practices, and global collaborations. Today, as India ranks among the top five global furniture producers and is set to grow its furniture exports by 20% annually, INDIAWOOD continues to be a catalyst for industry progress. "Valued at USD 25.75 billion in 2025, the Indian furniture market is projected to reach USD 37.18 billion by 2030. With wood accounting for 62% of furniture production, the industry is undergoing a transformation driven by innovation and sustainability - much of which has been fuelled by opportunities.

Sri Chaitanya Institute Students Excel in JEE Main Session 1 2025



CHANDIGARH: Sri Chaitanya Institute students have excelled in the JEE Main Session 1 2025 examination with Ranveer Singh Virdi (4-year regular classroom student) securing an outstanding 99.99 percentile. Arnab Sharma has further distinguished himself by securing a perfect 100 percentile in Mathematics, reinforcing the institute's commitment to nurturing mathematical excellence. Their remarkable achievements stand as a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the exceptional guidance provided by Sri Chaitanya. 10 students have secured more than 99.9 percentile, and an impressive 81 students have scored 99 percentile and above from the Chandigarh campus alone. Ranveer Singh Virdi's father who is a Software Engineer and his mother an Assistant Professor at Dev Samaj College, expressed their heartfelt appreciation for Sri Chaitanya's rigorous curriculum and personalized mentorship. "Sri Chaitanya has played a pivotal role in shaping Ranveer's academic journey. The structured approach, expert faculty, and continuous guidance have been instrumental in his success. We are incredibly grateful to the institute for providing him with the right

NEWS BRIEF

Virat Kohli completes 16,000 runs in Asia, scores return to form fifty

Ahmedabad : Star India batter Virat Kohli became the second Indian batter to score 16,000 international runs in Asia on Wednesday. The 36-year-old accomplished this feat during his side's third ODI against England at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium. During the match, Virat showed glimpses of his vintage batting, using backfoot shots like the cut shot. He also displayed some fine game against spin, scoring plenty of runs off Joe Root. He also used his feet well against spinners and employed sweep shots as well in his knock of 52 in 55 balls, which included seven fours and a six. In 312 international matches in Asia, Virat has scored 16,025 runs at an average of 56.82, with 52 centuries and 79 fifties. His best score is 254*. The top three highest run-getters in Asia are- Sachin Tendulkar (21,266 runs), Kumar Sangakkara (18,423 runs) and Mahela Jayawardene (17,386 runs). Virat has also outdone Sachin Tendulkar (3,990 runs in 69 runs in nine matches) to register the most runs by an Indian against England in all of international cricket. He has 4,036 runs in 87 matches and 109 innings, at an average of 41.18, with eight centuries and 24 fifties. His best score is 235. His record against England at home is great, with 2,176 runs in 44 matches and 52 innings at an average of 50.60, with five tons and 13 fifties in 52 innings and best score of 235. Away from home against England, he has 1,749 runs in 38 matches at an average of 34.98, with three tons and 10 fifties in 52 innings and best score of 149. Virat's half-century will give him plenty of confidence ahead of the ICC Champions' Trophy starting from February 19 onwards as he has spent a whole year battling poor form and technical flaws in his batting, most notably against spin and outside off-stump deliveries. The 2024-25 season of Tests, starting with the home Bangladesh series and ending with the Australia tour, was miserable for Virat, as he scored a shambolic 382 runs in 10 matches and 19 innings at an average of 22.87, with just a century and fifty each. He also disappointed their fans with their Ranji Trophy returns this year. Virat ended the last year with just 655 international runs in 23 matches and 32 innings, averaging 21.83, with a century and two fifties to his name. His best score was 100*. In this England series so far, he has made scores of 5 and 52. During his Ranji return this year, he could score just six runs before being catted by a Himanshu Sangwan's inswinger against Railways at his home ground of Arun Jaitley Stadium.

Kaushik's blazing century propels Talanoa Tigers to 34-run win over Punjab Panthers

Chandigarh, Devang Kaushik's explosive century helped Talanoa Tigers secure a commanding 34-run victory over Punjab Panthers at the Chandrasekhar Azad T20 Tournament at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Pandhula on Wednesday. Opting to bat first, the Tigers posted a formidable 191/4 in 20 overs. The centurion smashed nine boundaries and seven sixes in his knock of 104 off 59 balls. The unbeaten skipper Raj Angad Bawa (29 of 10 balls) and Akshit Rana (25) aptly helped Kaushik. Punjab Panthers, in response, struggled against disciplined bowling and were restricted to 157/9 despite Vikas Kumar's 32-run effort. Hardik Chowdhry and Tanpreet Singh picked up two wickets each. Meanwhile, in another match of the day, struggles continued for Manohar Mavericks as they faced their fourth consecutive defeat, this time by 16 runs against City Challengers. Chasing a modest target of 156, the Mavericks' batting lineup faltered and were restricted to 139/9 in 20 overs. Despite half centuries from unbeaten Gaurav Puri (52) and Bhagmender Lather (50), the team couldn't capitalize.

India hammer Macau 5-0 to begin campaign in style

New Delhi: Last edition's bronze medalists, India, kicked off their Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championships 2025 campaign with a thumping 5-0 victory over Macau in Group D at the Qingdao Sports Centre Conson Gymnasium in China on Wednesday. The dominant victory also confirmed India's passage to the knockout stage. To determine the group winner, India will face two-time runners-up South Korea in the second Group D clash on Thursday, according to a press release from BAI. National Games mixed doubles gold medalists Satish Karunakaran and Aadya Varjathy began India's march with a 21-10, 21-9 win over Leong Lok Chong and NG Weng Chi in the tie's opening mixed doubles match. Lakshya Sen then made it 2-0 with a 21-16, 21-12 victory over Pui Pang Fong in the men's singles, while Malvika Bansod then confirmed India's passage to the knockout stage by beating Chan Hao Wai 21-15, 21-9 in the women's singles.



Clinical India crush England by 142 runs, secure series clean sweep

AGENCY AHMEDABAD : Fine bowling performances by bowlers and top knocks by Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer and Virat Kohli helped India secure a clean sweep series win over England, with a 142-run win in the third ODI at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Wednesday. This concludes India's successful home white-ball series against England, securing 4-1 win in T20Is and 3-0 win in ODIs. This is Gautam Gambhir's first ODI series win as head coach. In the run chase of 357 runs, openers Ben Duckett and Phil Salt gave the Three Lions a fine start. Duckett was an aggressor against Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana, scoring four successive boundaries off Arshdeep in the fifth over.

England reached the 50-run mark in just 5.2 overs. The opening stand of 60 runs was undone by Arshdeep, who removed Duckett for 34 in 22 balls, with eight fours. A fine catch by Rohit Sharma at mid-off put India ahead. India was 60/1 in 6.2 overs. An uppercut attempt by Salt went into the hands of Axar Patel, removing the batter for 23 in 21 balls, with four boundaries. Arshdeep got both openers dismissed, at 80/2 in 8.4 overs. Tom Banton joined forces with Joe Root, making his international return in five years. He welcomed Washington Sundar with a four and six while Root took his time against Indian spinners. England reached the 100-run mark in 13.3 overs. Banton was caught behind by KL Rahul on a Kuldeep Yadav delivery for 38 in 41 balls, with four boundaries and two sixes. England was 126/3 in 18 overs. After that, it was all downwards for England as Root (24 in 29 balls, with two fours) was cleaned up by Axar, followed by Harshit Rana and Hardik Pandya wiping out the middle order and tail, reducing England to 193/9.

Axar cleaned up Gus's stumps, ending his fine cameo of 38 in 19

balls, with six fours and a six. England was all out for 214 runs in 34.2 overs. An incredible century by super-consistent Shubman Gill and well-made fifties from Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer helped India reach a total of 356 runs in their 50 overs during the third ODI against England at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Wednesday. After England won the toss and elected to bowl first, India was off to a poor start, losing skipper Rohit Sharma for just one run in two balls.

A catch behind the stumps by Phil Salt on a Mark Wood delivery extended Rohit's wait for 11,000 ODI runs. India was 6/1 in two overs. From then on, Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli started to consolidate and stabilise the innings. While Gill was the aggressor on the other end, Virat also hit some fine shots against pace while trying to regain his confidence and form. At the end of 10 overs, India was 52/1, with Gill (28*) and Virat (17*) unbeaten. As innings progressed, Virat took on really well against spin, hitting Joe Root for four boundaries. His shot arsenal looked strong as he made use of cuts and sweeps. India reached the 100-run mark in 16.4 overs. Virat reached his 73rd ODI fifty in 50 balls, with seven fours and a six. Gill had also reached his fifty in 50 in 51 balls, with nine fours and six. The 116-run stand was broken by Adil Rashid's spin, trapping Virat for the fifth time in his career for a well-made 52 in 55 balls, with seven fours and a six. India was 122/2 in 19 overs.

This came after the duo had collected 16 runs off Liam Livingstone's previous over, including a six each by Virat and Gill. Shreyas Iyer and Gill carried on the momentum further, helping India reach the 150-run mark in 23.3 overs. India reached the 200-run mark in

30.4 overs, with Iyer and Gill having built a 78-run stand.

With a boundary against Mark Wood, Gill reached his seventh ODI ton in 95 balls, with seven fours and a six. Iyer also reached his half-century in 43 balls, with six fours and six.

Rashid once again became the partnership breaker, removing Gill for 112 in 102 balls, with 14 fours and three sixes to end a 104-run stand between Iyer and Gill. India was 226/3 in 34.3 overs. India reached the 250-run mark in 37.3 overs. Rashid once again ended another partnership, getting Iyer caught behind by Salt for 78 runs in 64 balls, with eight fours and two sixes. India was 259/4 in 38.2 overs. Hardik Pandya was next on the crease and trying to impose his will on Rashid with two successive sixes.

However, the bowler got the last laugh, removing Pandya for 17 in nine balls, with two sixes. India was 289/5 in 41 overs. Axar teamed up with KL Rahul, taking India to the 300-run mark in 42.3 overs. However, Tom Banton, at long-off, took down Axar for 13 in 12 balls on a Root delivery, leaving India to 307/6 in 43.5 overs. India kept losing wickets despite a solid run-rate, with Saqib Mahmood's pace beating KL Rahul, removing him for 40 in 29 balls, with three fours and a six. India was 333/7 in 46.4 overs. Buttler took the catch while Atkinson gets Harshit for 13 in 10 balls. India was 353/8 in 49 overs.

Wickets kept falling as Wood got Washington Sundar for 14 in 14 balls. India was 353/9 in 49.3 overs. Arshdeep was run out by Salt, ending the innings at 356 in 50 overs. Rashid bowled a brilliant spell, taking 4/64 in his ten overs. Wood took 2/45 in his nine overs. Root, Atkinson and Mahmood got one each. Brief Scores: India: 356 (Shubman Gill 112, Shreyas Iyer 78, Adil Rashid 4/64) beat England: 214 (Tom Banton 38, Ben Duckett 34, Axar Patel 2/22).



Shubman continues fine ODI run with ton at Ahmedabad, completes 5,000 international runs

Ahmedabad : Star India batter Shubman Gill completed 5,000 international runs on Wednesday. Gill reached this accomplishment during the third ODI against England at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Wednesday. Having fine century stands with Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer, Gill slammed 112 in 102 balls, with 14 fours and three sixes. His runs came at a strike rate of 109.80. He has seven centuries in ODIs, now. He is also the leading run-getter of the series, with 259 runs in three matches at an average of 86.33, with a century and two fifties. In 103 international matches, Gill has scored 5,058 runs at an average of 43.60, with 13 centuries and 25 fifties in 130 innings and best score of 208.

He has a century across all formats of international cricket at Narendra Modi Stadium, making him the first Indian with a century at a venue in all three formats, alongside Faf Du Plessis of South Africa (Wanderers, Johannesburg), David Warner (Adelaide Oval), Babar Azam (National Stadium, Karachi), Quinton de Kock (Supersport Park, Centurion).

Gill does need some improvements in his Test statistics, as they do not reflect his true talent. In 32 Tests and 59 innings, he has made 1,893 runs at an average of 35.05, with five centuries and seven fifties and best score of 128. In 21 T20Is, he has made 578 runs at an average of 30.42, with a strike rate of 139.27. He has a century and three fifties in the format. His best format remains the ODIs, where he has the most runs after 50 innings currently, outdoing South African great Hashim Amla (2,486 runs). In 50 matches and 50 innings, he has made 2,587 runs at an average of 60.16, with seven centuries and 15 fifties. His best score is 208. He also joined the elite company of Kriess Srikanth, Dilip Vengasarkar, Mohammed Azharuddin, MS Dhoni, Shreyas Iyer, and Ishan Kishan as Indians with 50-plus scores in each match of a three-match ODI series. Coming to the match, England won the toss and opted to bowl first. Gill's 112, along with half-centuries of Virat Kohli (52 in 55 balls, with seven fours and a six) and Shreyas Iyer (78 in 64 balls, with eight fours and two sixes) and a cameo of 40 in 29 balls (three fours and a six) by KL Rahul, pushed India to 356 in their 50 overs. Adil Rashid bowled a brilliant spell, taking 4/64 in his ten overs. Mark Wood took 2/45 in his nine overs. Joe Root, Gus Atkinson and Saqib Mahmood got one each.

"I was in Meerut...": RCB skipper Mandhana recalls her first custom made bat

AGENCY BENGALURU : Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) captain Smriti Mandhana revealed some unheard stories of his early cricketing days, reminiscing how she got her first custom-made bat and what the moment meant for her.

Mandhana was speaking on the RCB's 'Bold & Beyond' Podcast. "I remember I was in Meerut; that was the first place where I toured and my dad came with me because I was too young to go alone. My dad knew a bat company there that sent bats for him. They said, your daughter is using a big bat, let me make a specially curated bat for her

and get it. It was a company, I think, named RS. I do not know if it even exists now, but that uncle was kind enough. I was very excited. I could not sleep," Mandhana told host Mayanti Langer. "After two days, he got a specialised bat according to my size because I was tiny. I held that bat and I was just like, this is it. That was the moment for me," she added. In the inaugural season of the Women's Premier League, Royal Challengers Bengaluru made a bold move by splurging a record sum on Mandhana: Rs 3.4 crore, making her the most expensive purchase in the tournament—a record that stands to this day.

Mandhana showed glimpses of her talent in the first season before truly setting the stage on fire in season two. She became the league's fourth-highest run-scorer (with 300 runs in 10 matches with two fifties)—the second-highest in the team—and captained RCB to their first franchise cricket trophy in India. Looking back on her relationship with RCB, Mandhana revealed how the management's approach allowed her to form an instant connection with the franchise. "They never ever said that, 'Oh, this is a women's team.' They were clear that this is an RCB team, and we

will treat it as an RCB team. We just finished the auction and, in three days, we were playing for the franchise. So you somewhat do not connect because you're just playing in three days. But this side of the management made me feel that I really want to give back to the franchise and the management," Mandhana said. "Of course, the fans' experience and all, I started feeling it the second year. But even from the first year, I started feeling that for the management because they created the whole environment around it. That was really cool," she added, before revealing that supporters have started asking her for cup number two!

NORTHERN RAILWAY e-TENDERING					
OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. NIT- 59/UMB-2024-25 DATED 12.02.2025					
Open tenders through e-tendering are invited on & behalf of president of India by Sr. Divisional Engineer/Coordination, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15:00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.					
S. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Date of closing & opening
1	Measurement/determination of stress-free temperature of LWR non-destructively based upon the Barkhausen Noise Principle without need of traffic block.	1,79,99,111	2,40,000	9 Months	06.03.2025
2	Repair to sewerage/ drainage system (NLDM, UHL, MNPR, KRLI & other railway colonies), bridge waterway cleaning (Br. No. 69, 71, 62, 38, 1, 93, 99, 154, 228, 230, 212, 243 & other Bridges on SIR-DLPC section) in the section of SSE/W/SIR & NLDM under ADEN/SIR.	62,46,275	1,24,900	6 Months	06.03.2025
3	(i). Construction of LHS (single lane) span (1x5.00x4.00 mtr) in lieu of manned Level crossing No. C-15 at Km 60/7-8 in KMNN yard on NMDA-SNL Section under ADEN/SIR. (ii). Construction of LHS (single lane) span (1x5x4 mtr) in lieu of manned Level crossing No. C-16 at Km 62/11-12 between KMNN-SMRL stations on NMDA-SNL Section under ADEN/SIR.	6,82,03,125	4,91,000	8 Months	06.03.2025
1. Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions. 2. The required Bid Security will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/or Payment Gateway payment only. 3. Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of works tenders. 4. For detail, please log on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in . 5. GST will be levied as per GST Act. 2017.					
488/2025					
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE					

Daisy Ridley gives update on 'Star Wars'

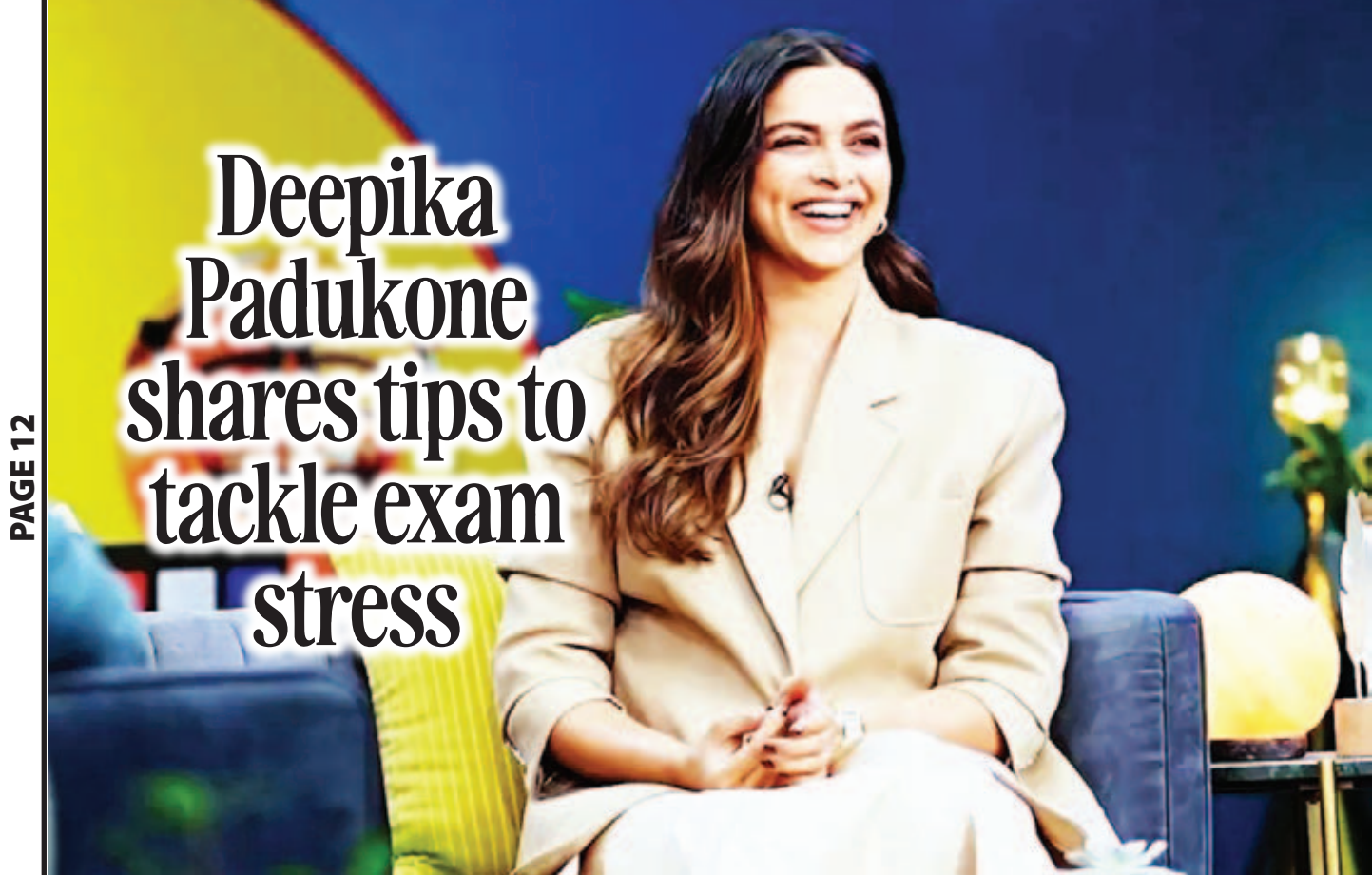
Actor Daisy Ridley has returned to the Star Wars universe to reprise her role of Rey. She shared an update on the script of the sequel film. She said that he "feels really good" that writer George Nolfi is putting together the Star Wars sequel script for the film, which is set to be directed by Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy, reported Deadline. "I have not read the latest script, but I know what's happening, and I know the story, and I think what feels really good is that George is a phenomenal writer," said Ridley, adding, "I think we're making sure that this story is the best way, this script is the best way to tell the story."She continued, "And I think it will be worthwhile for everyone watching it, and I am very excited." Ridley first played the role of Rey in 2015's 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens'. She reprised the role in 2017's 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' and 2019's 'Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker', as per the outlet. Ridley shared that she is not opposed to becoming an Avenger and joining Marvel's MCU in the future. "Look, I'm open to loads of stuff," she said. "I work with this amazing second AD called Matthew Sharp, and he texts me cause he's doing Avengers, and he goes, 'If they call.' So I was like, 'If they call, absolutely.' I then of course love Batman, love The Penguin. I'm a fan of so many sorts of films. Yeah, I'm open to everything," she added, reported Deadline. Last year, Ridley talked about the criticism she faced after joining the Star Wars universe. "It's still upsetting," said Ridley on the Happy Sad Confused podcast. "You don't want people to feel like you've not served the thing they're a fan of. But [The Last Jedi] was so divisive... it felt like the first one everyone was responsive in the same way. The second, super divisive. The last one, super divisive. It didn't change how I felt about it," she added, according to Deadline.

Witness the Legend of Ashwatthama and the Rise of the Kalki Avatar in the World TV of Kalki 2898 AD

CHANDIGARH : When the world is drowning in darkness, the incarnation of Kalki emerges as a ray of hope. An avatar destined to fight evil and restore Dharma. Kalki 2898 AD brings to life this prophecy, intertwining it with the legend of Ashwatthama; the immortal warrior cursed to walk the earth for eternity. With Amitabh Bachchan portraying this role, the film unfolds as a cinematic spectacle, featuring never-seen-before visuals and an awe-inspiring world. Witness this grand experience at the World Television Premiere of Kalki 2898 AD on Sunday, 16th February at 8 PM, only on Zee Cinema.

From the visionary mind of Nag Ashwin, Kalki 2898 AD redefines Indian cinema with revolutionary VFX, breathtaking visuals, and an unparalleled fusion of mythology and futurism. From colossal battles to dystopian cities, every frame is crafted with incredible detail, creating an immersive storytelling experience like never before.

The saga begins at the end of the Mahabharata War, where Shri Krishna curses Ashwatthama for his unforgivable sin, condemning



Deepika Padukone shares tips to tackle exam stress

Deepika Padukone appearing on the eighth edition of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' programme on Wednesday shared with students gearing up to write examinations, her tips to tackle the exam stress and her success mantra in life.

The 'Om Shanti Om' actress has often shared in public her personal journey tackling anxiety and depression. In the year 2015, she founded the LiveLoveLaugh (LLL) foundation, which helps in creating awareness about mental health, reduces the stigma associated with mental illness and provides credible mental health resources for the needy.

During an interaction with students on PM Modi's programme, Deepika shared tips for tackling the pressure of getting good marks in exams.

"Focus on the things you can control like, "Am I prepared or

not", that's in my control. Feeling stressed the night before. Talk to your parents about it. Talk to your teachers. Identifying the cause of stress and expressing it to somebody you trust. That could be one of the ways of dealing with stress. If I'm meditating or doing exercise. That's in my control."

The actor also recalled her early school days and shared her affinity for extracurricular activities and sports events in school.

"I was a very naughty child. I was always interested in extra-curricular activities... I used to get very excited for fashion, dance and sports day... I am fortunate that my parents didn't pressurise me for good marks... I want to tell the parents that they should recognise their child's potential," said Deepika.

The actor also shared her success mantra with students.

"One is clarity on what you want to do in life. Second, to have that conviction, that I am capable

of doing this. I can do it. Will I fail along the way? Will I make mistakes? 100 per cent I will, it's not going to be smooth sailing. And most importantly, have fun," said Deepika.

Advocating mental health through the 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' platform, Deepika shared tips for a stress-free life.

"First of all adequate sleep. Sleep is a superpower which is available free of cost. I think sleep is a part of good mental health. Adequate sunlight, going out to get some fresh air. To get some daylight can help with your mental health. Always reach out for help," said Deepika.

The 'Om Shanti Om' actor called stress a 'natural' part of life while addressing the exam pressure on students. She asked the students to practice patience regarding the exams and results.

Deepika said, "Being stressed is natural and it is a part of life. How we handle it, is the important thing... Having pa-

tience is important regarding the exams and the results... We can only do what is in our control, we can sleep well, hydrate well, exercise and meditate..."

The 'Happy New Year' actor also paid her gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for inviting her to the eighth edition of PPC. The episode was broadcast across platforms including on the Prime Minister and PMO's X profile and the PM's YouTube Channel. Since 2018, PM Modi has been hosting this annual event to interact with students, teachers, and parents, offering guidance on staying stress-free during exams. The event is organized by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. The first three editions of PPC were held in New Delhi in a town hall interactive format. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the fourth edition was held online in the form of a program telecast on Doordarshan and all major TV channels.

Here's how Zee TV actors plan to celebrate Valentine's Day this year!

CHANDIGARH: Valentine's Day celebrated on February 14, is a special occasion dedicated to love, admiration, and heartfelt connections. It's a time when people express their deepest emotions and cherish the bonds they hold dear. As the day approaches, Zee TV actors like Ayushi Khurana from Jaane Anjaane Hum Mile, Rachana Mistry from Jagriti-Ek Nayi Subah, Yogendra Vikram Singh from Bas Ina Sa Khwaab, Akanksha Chamola from Kaisa Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye and Priya Thakur from Vasudha —share their thoughts on love and how they plan to celebrate this day of affection and togetherness.

Yogendra Vikram Singh, who essays the role of Shikhar in Zee TV's Bas Ina Sa Khwaab said, "For me, Valentine's Day has always been about celebrating love in all its forms—whether with family, friends, or someone special. Back in my college days, I often helped my friends pick out the perfect gifts for their partners while I spent the day simply enjoying time with my other single friends. I see this day as a beautiful occasion to honor love, but I also believe that true love should be cherished every day. My message to everyone is simple—love isn't meant to be celebrated just once a year; it deserves to be appreciated and nurtured every day."

Rachana Mistry, who essays the role of Jagriti in Zee TV's Jagriti-Ek Nayi Subah said, "Valentine's Day holds a special place in my heart because it's a day to celebrate the love of my life—my fiancé, Amit. While we mostly plan to tie the knot this year, I still remember our first Valentine's Day—simple yet filled with laughter, stolen glances, and dreams of



future together. He is truly my soulmate and this year, I will plan something intimate with just the two of us—a quiet evening where we can relive old memories and create new ones. With him, every moment is worth treasuring. He's my best friend, my greatest love, and the most beautiful chapter of my life—one I'd choose to write over and over again."

Ayushi Khurana, who essays the role of Reet in Zee TV's Jaane Anjaane Hum Mile said, "Valentine's Day is a special time for me and my husband, as it reminds us of the moments we fell in love. We first met on the set of an episodic show, and what started as light-hearted fun quickly grew into something deeper. This year, we will recreate our first date, spending quality time together, and en-

joying our favorite dishes. I am looking forward to celebrating our special moments as I have realised that no matter what, my husband is always there for me and his unwavering love and support made me feel truly cherished."

Akanksha Chamola, who essays the role of Manvi in Zee TV's Kaisa Mujhe Tum Mil Gaye, said, "For me, Valentine's Day isn't just about grand gestures of love; it's also about embracing the little moments that fill our hearts with joy. For me, love is reflected in everyday moments—sharing laughter with my family, having deep conversations with old friends, and even spending time with myself. Over the years, celebrating this day with Gaurav has been a beautiful reminder of the love



and companionship we share. Whether it's enjoying a quiet dinner together or simply reminiscing about our journey, these moments make Valentine's Day even more special. I've realized that expressing love and gratitude towards those who uplift us is what truly matters. I hope everyone finds a way to make their loved ones feel special today. Wishing you all a very Happy Valentine's Day!"

Ronit Roy to portray King Someshwar in Sony Entertainment Television's upcoming historic drama 'Chakravarti Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan'

CHANDIGARH : Sony Entertainment Television is all set to bring to life an extraordinary tale of courage, leadership, and legacy with its upcoming historical drama, Chakravarti Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan. This magnum opus will focus on the making of a child king – Prithviraj Chauhan – and his journey from a young, innocent prince to a mighty warrior and revered ruler. The show will delve into the formative years of Prithviraj, showcasing the challenges and triumphs that helped shape him into one of the legendary rulers. Acclaimed actor Ronit Roy will be seen essaying the pivotal role of Prithviraj Chauhan's father - Someshwar, whose guidance and mentorship were instrumental in molding his son into one of the greatest rulers. Someshwar is not just a father but also a teacher and protector who recognizes the immense potential in young Prithviraj and nurtures him to take on the mighty responsibilities of kingship. As Prithviraj grows, Someshwar becomes his guiding force—imbuing in him the values of bravery, wisdom, and justice. Expressing his excitement about the role, Ronit Roy shares, "I feel extremely privileged to be part of a show as grand and meaningful as Chakravarti Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan. I have always been drawn to powerful, well-etched characters, and Someshwar is one such role. I truly believe that this character and the show will leave a lasting impact, much like the other roles I have played on television. It is an honor to be part of a story with such immense historical and cultural significance. The show beautifully captures the making of a child king, and I portray Someshwar, Prithviraj Chauhan's father—a man whose wisdom, strength, and guidance played a crucial role in shaping the future of a great ruler." Stay tuned as Chakravarti Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan launches soon on Sony Entertainment Television and Sony Liv!



Zee Punjabi's 'Spotlight With Mandy' Promo Sparks Excitement Among Fans!

CHANDIGARH : Zee Punjabi's upcoming talk show, Spotlight With Mandy, has already captured the audience's attention with its first promo, leaving fans eagerly awaiting more. Hosted by the celebrated Punjabi film star Mandy Takhar, the show promises a fresh take on celebrity conversations, giving viewers an exclusive look into the lives of their favorite stars.

The promo offers a glimpse into the dynamic and engaging format of the show, featuring candid moments, inspiring success stories, and behind-the-scenes revelations from some of the biggest names in Punjabi cinema.

The overwhelming response to the promo highlights the excitement surrounding this show, with fans taking to social media to express their anticipation. Spotlight With Mandy is not just about entertainment—it's about celebrating journeys, struggles, and triumphs straight from the stars themselves.

Premiering on February 16, the show will air every Sunday at 7 PM on Zee Punjabi. With its engaging format and Mandy Takhar's charismatic hosting, the buzz is only growing stronger. Stay tuned as Spotlight With Mandy brings the biggest names in entertainment straight to your screens!



CT Group to Host 9th India International Deaf Film Festival in Jalandhar



J S SODHI JALANDHAR: CT Group of Institutions, in collaboration with the Deaf Leaders Foundation (DLF), will host the 9th India International Deaf Film Festival (IIDFF) from February 14th to 16th, 2025, at the Sardarni Manjit Kaur Auditorium, Shahpur Campus. Supported by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and NFDC Cinema of India, IIDFF has been a significant platform for Deaf filmmakers since 2010. This edition will feature a competitive category for Deaf Films, along with segments like International Cinema, Country Focus, and Retrospective. More than just a film festival, IIDFF promotes disability awareness, inclusivity, and the rights of persons with disabilities. Dr. Manbir Singh, Managing Director of CT Group, said, "This festival is a movement to celebrate inclusivity, amplify unheard voices, and provide a global platform for Deaf artists."

JUGNI at LPU Showcases Cultural Bond Between India and Kazakhstan



J S SODHI JALANDHAR: Lovely Professional University (LPU) hosted JUGNI, a vibrant cultural exchange program in collaboration with the Cultural and Youth Welfare Club, the Tourism & Cultural Affairs Department of Punjab, and Turkistan, Kazakhstan. The event featured spectacular performances from Kazakhstan's Vocal Instrumental Ensemble "Tarlan" and the Bilsultan Dance Ensemble, mesmerizing the audience with dynamic dance routines and melodious songs, including Hindi renditions. Col. Dr. Rashmi Mittal, Pro-Chancellor of LPU, emphasized that such cultural exchanges broaden perspectives and foster global connections. The event was attended by Sh. Sunil Phogat, IAS, Assistant Commissioner of Jalandhar, and Sh. Davinder Singh, Under Secretary of Punjab, who felicitated the participants. JUGNI was not just an event but a celebration of art, music, and shared traditions, strengthening India-Kazakhstan ties through cultural harmony.

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