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NEWS BRIEFS

PM Modi pays homage to Gandhi, Shastri on birth anniversary

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday paid his tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary, and said his government will follow his path for building a developed India. He said on X, "Gandhi Jayanti is about paying homage to the extraordinary life of beloved Bapu, whose ideals transformed the course of human history. He demonstrated how courage and simplicity could become instruments of great change."

Curfew relaxed in Leh, markets open after shutdown

LEH: The residents of Leh City in Ladakh are enjoying the relaxation of the curfew on Thursday. The streets are crowded with vehicles and pedestrians after the shops opened, as part of the relaxation permitted by the administration. The markets will open from 10 am to 5 pm today, providing relief to people who are finally able to step outside of their homes. A local resident stated, "The markets were closed for a week." The protests were a result of people demanding statehood and inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule, which turned into clashes with the police officials in Leh. Earlier, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor (LG) Kavinder Gupta emphasised that the Central government is working to "fulfil all the hopes of Ladakh" and expressed hope that the "matter will be resolved soon". "They (Ladakh leaders who were part of protests) are engaging in talks with the administration, and given current events, we can also have discussions at the table."

Protests sweep PoK as march towards Muzaffarabad intensifies

MUZAFFARABAD: Protests in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) entered their fifth day on Thursday, with demonstrations intensifying across the region. Initially triggered by the government's failure to address 38 long-standing demands, the agitation has escalated into a wider movement against alleged excesses by the military, bringing life to a standstill. Large crowds were seen marching from Rawalakot towards Muzaffarabad. "Chaudhry Muddasar Raza Machhiana, Coordinator to former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, also shared visuals of the demonstrations, praising the resolve of protesters. "Salam to the people of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK)."

Centre clears Sikh Jathas' visit to Pak for Prakash Purab celebrations

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, OCT 2

India has granted permission for Sikh Jathas (groups of pilgrims) to travel to Pakistan to participate in the upcoming celebrations of Prakash Purab, the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, sources said. The pilgrimage will be undertaken under the framework of the 1974 bilateral protocol on visits to religious shrines. Sources, however, clarified that "some selected groups will be permitted as per the recommendation by the state government."

"The state government concerned will recommend to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Acting on MEA's inputs, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will give further clearance for the visit, to jathas," said the sources, requesting anonymity.

The move is significant as the Indian government, earlier this month, had barred Sikh pilgrims (jathas) from visiting Pakistan for Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Prakash Purab celebrations in November 2025 due to prevailing security concerns and recent tensions between the two countries. As per the decision, Sikh devotees from India will cross over to Pakistan through the Attari-Wagah border and visit prominent gurdwaras associated with Guru Nanak Dev, including Nankana Sahib, his birthplace, and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur.



The groups will be facilitated by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) in coordination with the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) of Pakistan. Every year, thousands of Sikh pilgrims travel across the border to mark key religious occasions such as

Prakash Purab, Baisakhi, and Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji. The arrangement is part of the long-standing 1974 India-Pakistan agreement, which allows limited pilgrimages despite tense bilateral relations. In recent years, the Kartarpur Corridor, which opened in 2019 to facilitate visa-free travel of Sikh pilgrims to the Kartarpur Sahib shrine, has become a key channel of religious exchange. However, larger jathas continue to travel under the traditional protocol arrangement. Security and logistical measures for the upcoming pilgrimage are learnt to be closely coordinated by both the India and Pakistan governments to ensure the smooth movement of devotees.

Amit Shah to unveil multiple key projects in Haryana today



BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Sh. Amit Shah will visit Haryana today, with scheduled programmes in Rohtak and Kurukshetra. Divulging more details in this regard, an official spokesperson informed that as part of efforts to promote the cooperative sector, Sh. Amit Shah will inaugurate the newly constructed Sabar Dairy Plant at IMT Rohtak. Built at a cost of Rs. 325 crore, the plant will house state-of-the-art machinery, which will be formally commissioned by the Union Minister. The facility is expected to generate direct and indirect employment for nearly 1,000 people.

The Sabar Dairy plant is India's largest production facility for curd, buttermilk, and yogurt, with a daily capacity of 150 metric tonnes of curd, 3 lakh litres of buttermilk, 10 lakh litres of yogurt, and 10 metric tonnes of sweets. The spokesperson further shared that Sh. Amit Shah will also distribute tool kits to 2,200 artisans during the 'Khadi Karigar Mahotsav' at Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak. Organized by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission under the Ministry of MSME, this event is themed "Swadeshi Se Swaavalamban".

The spokesperson shared that during the programme, he will also distribute modern machinery and tool kits, along with Rs. 301 crore as margin money under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP). In addition, he will inaugurate PMEGP units, a Central Puni plant, and Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans. Sh. Amit Shah will address a public gathering at the venue following these inaugurations, informed the spokesperson. The spokesperson further said that the Union Home Minister will inaugurate a five-day exhibition in Kurukshetra on India's new criminal laws.

Dussehra celebrated



Need to rely on Swadeshi, says RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat

AGENCY
NAGPUR, OCT 2

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat criticised the Tariff policy implemented by the United States during his Vijaydashmi Speech in Nagpur on Thursday. The RSS Chief also gave a clarion call for relying more on Swadeshi. "The new tariff policy implemented by the US was done keeping in mind the interest of their own. But everyone is affected by them... The world functions with dependence on each other; this is how relations between any two nations are maintained. No country can survive in isolation. This dependence must not turn into compulsion... We need to rely on swadeshi and focus on self-reliance..."



Yet strive to maintain diplomatic relations with all our friendly nations, which will be with our wish and without compulsion," he said. "The world is looking towards India to look for solutions to global concerns. The universe wants India to lead by example and show the world a way," he added. Mohan Bhagwat also highlighted the unique diversity of India, saying that efforts are being made to turn diversity into difference. "Whenever some foreign ideologies came to India, we considered them our own. We accept diversity in the world... In our country, efforts are being made to turn this diversity into difference... Everyone should ensure that our words do not insult or demean any faith or belief... When many people with diverse beliefs coexist in a society, there can be some noise and chaos from time to time. Despite that, one should ensure that rules and regulations as well as harmony is not violated. Taking law into own hands,

coming out on the streets and resorting to violence and hooliganism is not right. Trying to incite a particular community and putting up a show of strength are all pre-planned conspiracies," he said. The RSS Chief also remembered Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary. While delivering his annual Vijaydashmi speech, Bhagwat said, "Today is the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. He was not only one of the foremost among those who fought for our freedom but also has a special place among those who envisioned a post-independence Bharat based on Bharat's Swa (selfhood)." Bhagwat also paid tribute to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary, highlighting his devotion, dedication, and service to the nation.

Padma Vibhushan Pt. Chhannulal Mishra passes away in Mirzapur

UNI
VARANASI, OCT 2

Renowned classical singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee Pandit Chhannulal Mishra passed away today in Mirzapur after a prolonged illness. The last rites will be performed at Manikarnika Ghat in Varanasi this evening, according to his daughter, Namrata Mishra. Pandit Mishra had been unwell for several months and was residing with his daughter.



His health deteriorated on September 11, leading to his admission to a hospital in Mirzapur. When his condition failed to improve, he was referred to BHU for treatment from September 13 to 27. He was brought back to Mirzapur after his health showed a temporary improvement. The BHU medical report noted that Pandit Mishra suffered from several ailments, including Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and a lung infection.

Attack on democracy major risk to India : Rahul Gandhi in Colombia



AGENCY
BOGOTA, OCT 2

Congress MP and Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday took a swipe at the Narendra Modi government, asserting that the biggest challenge India is witnessing is the attack on its democracy. Speaking at an event at EIA University of Colombia, Gandhi highlighted the issue of "structural flaws" and suggested that the country's diverse traditions must be allowed to thrive. "India has strong capabilities in areas like engineering and healthcare, so I am very optimistic about the country. But at the same time, there are also flaws in the structure that India has to correct. The biggest challenge is the attack on democracy taking place in India," Gandhi said. The Congress leader argued that the democratic system remains crucial for diversity, allowing different traditions, customs, and ideas, including religious beliefs, to thrive. However, he added, the democratic system in India is under attack, which is a "major risk" or threat. "India has multiple religions, traditions, and languages - in fact, the country is essentially a conversation between all these people and cultures. Different traditions, religions, and ideas require space, and the best method for creating that space is the democratic system," Gandhi said. "Currently, there is a wholesale attack on this democratic system."

Internet cut for 48 hours in Bareilly amid "I Love Muhammad" posters row

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, OCT 2

Internet services were suspended for 48 hours Thursday afternoon - till 3 pm on Saturday - in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly division amid ongoing tension over the 'I Love Muhammad' poster row and in light of Dussehra and Durga Puja festivities this weekend. Police have been asked to be vigilant at grounds hosting RamLila and Ravan Dahan shows, which draw massive crowds. In the order announcing the internet shutdown, the district administration said "there is a possibility of social media platforms like Facebook, YouTube, and WhatsApp... being misused to spread rumours and incite communal tension." The step was taken to maintain peace, it said. In addition, security has been



ramped up in the area. Apart from local police, the PAC, or Provincial Armed Constabulary and Rapid Action Force were also deployed. Security forces also operated drones in various areas to maintain law and order. Alarms bells have also been rung in areas surrounding Bareilly; Divisional Commissioner Bhopendra Chaudhary issued alerts for the Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, and Budaun districts. Last week 2,000 people gathered outside a mosque in the town's Kotwali area clashed with police after Friday prayers. Stone-pelting was also reported. The unrest was due to

cancellation of a protest - over the 'I love Muhammad' poster row - called for by cleric Tauqeer Khan. So far, 81 people had been arrested in connection with the violence and property belonging to the accused has been demolished. Two of those arrests were made Wednesday following an encounter in the city's CB Ganj. Both men sustained bullet injuries and are being treated while in police custody, a senior officer said. Tauqeer Raza Khan, some of his associates and at least one relative are also behind bars. The police have so far registered 10 FIRs against 180 named and 2,500 unnamed persons, arresting Khan, his aides and dozens others. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has also warned of strict action against rioters.

FATEHGARH SAHIB (AJAY MALHOTRA): District Markfed DM Sanjeev Sharma visited the Bassi Pathana grain market to review the arrangements for paddy procurement. During the inspection, he directed officials to ensure that farmers' crops are purchased immediately upon arrival at the market, without any delay. He emphasized the need to expedite both procurement and payments so that farmers face no inconvenience in selling their produce.



Sharma also appealed to farmers to bring clean and properly dried crops to the markets to avoid any difficulties during the selling process. Urging farmers not to burn paddy stubble after harvesting, he advised them to use crop residue as manure to prevent environmental pollution and maintain soil fertility.

NEWS BRIEF

Fatehgarh Korotana fight: 1 dead, 7 injured, 5 arrested



JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA
MOGA: one person died during a fight at village Fatehgarh Sahib in Moga-Jalandhar highway. Giving information about this matter, DSP Dharamkot Ramandeep Singh told reporters that on September 25 at 4:00/4:30 pm, the plaintiff Sandeep Singh and his brother Bajjit Singh had a fight with the accused in the street outside. During the fight, the plaintiff Sandeep Singh and his brother Bajjit Singh suffered serious injuries. Due to which both of them were admitted to the Civil Hospital Moga. Since Bajjit Singh had a serious head injury, the doctor referred him to Moga Medcity. The patient Bajjit Singh was referred to AIIMS Hospital Bathinda by Moga Medcity Hospital. On the statement of the above-mentioned plaintiff Sandeep Singh, case number 254 dated 27.09.2025 u/s 109,118(1),115(2), 115(2),190,191(3), (BNS) was registered at Dharamkot police station against Beant Singh son of Maghar Singh Manchain Singh alias Sandeep Singh son of Manjit Singh alias Kulu Dilchian Singh alias Arsh son of Manjit Singh Sukhchian Singh alias Sukha son of Manjit Singh Surjit Singh alias Ghachha son of Gurdev Singh Gurdjinder Singh alias Garry son of Surjit Singh Manjit Singh son of Gurdev Singh resident of Fatehgarh Korotana.

Gulab Chand Kataria is true follower of Lord Rama : Devesh Moudgil

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Today evening, at the Dussehra festival organized by the New Shri Tirupati Balaji Sansthan in Sector 48, Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator Shri Gulab Chand Kataria was the chief guest, while MP Shri Manish Tiwari, former MP Shri Satya Pal Jain, and Shri Devesh Moudgil were the special guests.



Welcoming the Governor of Punjab, former Mayor Shri Devesh Moudgil said that Chandigarh Administrator Shri Gulab Chand Kataria is a true follower of Lord Ram, and due to his dedication, honesty, and simple nature, he has won the hearts of people of all religions, including devotees of Lord Ram, in Chandigarh. On this occasion, in his message, the Governor

urged everyone to follow the path of righteousness and live a life based on moral values, so that the message of "victory of good over evil" of Dussehra can be meaningful in their lives as well as in the society. MP Shri Manish Tiwari extended Dussehra greetings to all residents of Chandigarh and appealed to people to fight against all

kinds of evils. Shri Jain said that now is the time to spread Indian culture, religious traditions, and values to every corner of the world. Shri Jain addressed the gathering as a special guest at the Vijay Dashami festival organized by the Shri Nav Dussehra Committee in Sectors 43 and 48 this evening. In Sector 43, Shri Jain also lit the effigies of Ra-

vana, Meghnath, and Kumbhakarna. Former Mayor of Chandigarh, Shri Devesh Moudgil, said that today, it is necessary for the people of India to rediscover their inherent strength and, by believing in Indian traditions, make our country so strong that even the remaining Ravana in the country can be destroyed.

Arora lays foundation stone of water supply project near Sitasar temple

SUMER GARG
SUNAM, OCT 2

On the auspicious occasion of Dussehra, symbolizing the victory of good over evil, cabinet minister and Punjab president of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Mr. Aman Arora, extended festival greetings and presented a significant gift to the people of martyr Udhham Singh's hometown, Sunam Udhham Singh Wala, in the form of a new water supply project.

To provide a permanent solution to the city's drinking water problem, the minister laid the foundation stone for a water supply project about worth ₹15.22 Cr near Sitasar temple, Sunam. The project includes the construction of a tube-well, 2 lakh liter storage tank, 33,635-meter-long pipeline and the provision of 1,472 new household connections for families without access to piped water. The project will be completed within



one year. Under this project, water connections will be provided in various areas, including, 250 connections to tibi basti; 50 at Namol road; 100 at Guja Peer; 100 at Sai colony; 100 at Mansa road; 150 at Jagatpura road; 200 at Preet nagar alias Katcha Paha; 150 at Patiala road; 50 at Biharhwal road, 50 behind

ITI, 22 at Chattha road, 50 at Bhag Singh wala road and 50 at Nilowal road. Additionally, around 100 connections will be given in smaller localities, including Trali union road, Peeran wala gate, near the telephone exchange, near the municipal council, office and other scattered parts of the city.

1 accused held in snatching case



CHANDIGARH: In a significant development, under the direction of Senior Officers, Chandigarh Police officials successfully arrested one accused in Snatching case.

Case FIR No. 84 Dt. 01.10.2025 U/S 304(2) BNS added 317(2) BNS, PS Sarangpur. This case was registered on the complaint of Sh. Dharam Singh S/o Ram Chand Village Togan, District Mohali (PB). He submitted a written application, in which he reported that on 01.10.2025 at around 10.45 AM, he was standing at bus stop near the wall of CAP Complex, Dhanas for waiting the bus to Mul-lapur PNB Bank to collect a bundle of Rs.10-10 and Rs. 20-20 notes for marriage. In the meantime one unknown person came there and snatched his brown color bag containing cash of Rs 20,000/-, a copy of PNB Bank account, two cheque books i.e. PNB Bank & SBI Bank and he sped away from the spot after committing the crime. Keeping in view of the sensitivity of the snatching incident, two police teams were constituted to apprehend the accused. One team was deputed to nab the suspect, and the second team was assigned to scrutinize the CCTV footage of nearby cameras in Chandigarh. During the course of investigation, on 02.10.2025, accused Hariom Pandey S/o Uday Mani Panday R/o H No. 2264, Ambedkar Colony, Vill Dhanas Chandigarh Age 19 year was arrested and snatching items i.e. brown color bag with cash of Rs. 18000/-, one passbook of PNB Bank, one cheque book of PNB Bank & one cheque book of SBI Bank were recovered from the possession of accused.

Devotees pay obeisance at Gurudwara on Dussehra



PARAMJIT SINGH PAMMA
CHAMKAUR SAHIB, OCT 2

Devotees celebrated the auspicious festival of Dussehra with great devotion and enthusiasm at the historic land of Chamkaur Sahib. According to Parmjit Singh Lakhewal, a member of the Shromani Gurudwara Committee, as every year, the festival was marked by a Nagar Kirtan under the blessings of the Panj Pyare, the four Sahibzadas,

and Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji.

The procession commenced with Ardas at Gurudwara Shri Katlgarh Sahib, visited various Gurudwaras in the city, and concluded back at Gurudwara Shri Katlgarh Sahib, where a large number of devotees gathered to pay their respects. The local community ensured excellent arrangements for the visiting devotees. Nihang Singh organizations decorated a mo-

halla at the Chamkaur Sahib Sports Stadium, featuring performances of horseback riding, spear throwing, and Gatka martial arts.

The mohalla also attracted attention with elephants and camels accompanying the displays. On the occasion of Dussehra, the local community also organised a medical camp and a free eye camp, providing healthcare services and medicines to the attending devotees.

SBI donates electric carts to BSF at Attari-Wagah border under CSR initiative



CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

As part of its CSR commitment, State Bank of India handed over eco-friendly electric carts to the Border Security Force at the Attari-Wagah border, where the daily Beating Retreat ceremony between India and Pakistan draws thousands of patriotic visitors. These electric carts will assist senior citizens, differently-abled persons and women attendees, helping them move comfortably across the large ceremonial grounds. These carts reflect

the Bank's commitment to public service, national pride and accessibility for all.

The handover function was held in the presence of Shri S.S. Chandel, DIG BSF, Shri Krishan Sharma, CGM SBI Chandigarh Circle, Shri Bam Shankar Mishra, DGM AO Ludhiana and Shri Satwinder Singh, RM Amritsar, along with other senior officials from BSF and SBI.

The initiative was warmly appreciated by BSF and reaffirmed Bank's role as a trusted and caring partner beyond banking.

World Heart Day celebrated at Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Bhaddal



BAHADURJEET SINGH
RUPNAGAR, OCT 2

World Heart Day was celebrated at the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, IET Bhaddal Technical Campus in collaboration with Chandigarh Multispecialty Hospital, Ropar. The program began with a welcome address by Principal Dr. Preet Kawal Kaur, who warmly greeted everyone. She highlighted that the main objective of this event was to spread awareness among students and staff about heart diseases and to motivate them to adopt a

healthy lifestyle. She stated that in today's times, heart diseases are the leading cause of death worldwide. She emphasized that these diseases can be prevented only through regular exercise, a balanced diet and a stress-free lifestyle. Following this, Dr. Neety, Head of Emergency & Trauma, Chandigarh Multispecialty Hospital, explained that problems related to heart attacks, blood pressure and cholesterol are rapidly increasing due to careless lifestyle. She discussed in detail the causes and treatments of heart diseases.

Rama dramatic club honours Sunny Mahajan with special award



PATHANKOT (SHARANJEET): On the last night of the Ramila, which has been going on for the last 9 days on the occasion of Navratri, organized by Rama Dramatic Club Talab Kali Mata Mandir under the chairmanship of President Shammi Chaudhary, Punjab Cabinet Minister Lalchand Kataruchak and Hindu Cooperative Bank Chairman and AAP leader Satish Mahendru were present attended as the chief guest and Sunny Mahajan, Director of Partap World School, attended as the special guest, who was welcomed by all the patrons, office bearers and members of the club by presenting them with bouquets of flowers.

On this occasion, President Shammi Chaudhary, Director Pardeep Mahendru, Patron and Stage Director Master Mohan Lal, Sukhdev Vadhra, General Secretary Romi Vadhra, Co-Director Naresh Sharma, Senior Vice President Shakti Chaudhary, Vinay Joshi, Dr. Puneet Sharma, Ashok Raina and PRO Gagandeep Gagu were present jointly said Sunny Mahajan, director of the city's renowned Partap World School, who has made a name for himself through providing free education to poor children in his school as well as serving various social causes. Our club is very proud to have them here.

Excellent performance of The Sanskaar School Player in District Level School Games - entry for State Level competitions

ISHWER GARG
TALWANDI SABO, OCT 2

In the athletics competitions held during the recently concluded District Level School Games, Avneet Kaur, a talented student of Class VII 'B' of The Sanskaar School, Talwandi Sabo, brought laurels to her school and district by winning the gold medal in the girls' under-14 shot put event. Avneet not only secured the first position but also broke the previous district-level record, which is a testament to her hard work and dedication. With this remarkable performance, Avneet has qualified for the State Level Competition, where she will represent both her school and district. The Sanskaar School's Chairman, Mrs. Nimrat Kaur Sidhu, and Principal, Mrs. Deepika Kapoor, expressed their happiness at Avneet's achievement, congratulated her, and extended



her best wishes for the upcoming state-level event.

Avneet's parents and coaches also expressed pride in her success, adding that her consistent hard work and passion made this possible. Avneet, in turn, dedicated her victory to her family, teachers, and coach.

Expectations are high from Avneet at the state-level competition, and she is fully prepared to bring further glory to her district.

Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti Celebrated at M.A.M. School

SURJIT SINGH
SAMRALA, OCT 2

Today, Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti were celebrated at Max Arthur Macauliffe Public School. Despite the government holiday, the students celebrated the occasion at home under the supervision of their parents. The activities were organized among the four school houses - Mercury, Mars, Venus, and Jupiter. Students from Nursery to Class II created Ravana masks and depicted the message of Gandhi Ji's three monkeys: "See no evil, speak no evil, hear no evil." Students from Classes III to V made effigies of Ravana and spinning wheels (charkha) from cotton or thread in memory of Gandhi Ji. Students from Classes VI to VIII prepared puppet shows and posters highlighting Gandhi Ji's ideals such as truth.

Career fair odyssey : Partap World School to bring 50+ Prestigious institutions under one roof on 4th October

GURDASPUR (VERMA): Partap World School, Pathankot, proudly announces Career Fair Odyssey 2025, a landmark initiative designed to empower students and parents with insights into higher education and emerging career opportunities. Scheduled for 04th October 2025, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM IST, this open event welcomes students and parents from any school, making it a truly inclusive platform.



The fair will see participation from more than 1000 students from Pathankot, Nurpur and Kathua region and feature over 50 renowned colleges and universities from across India and the globe. Additionally, 6 expert-led sessions have been planned, providing students with practical guidance on career pathways, skill development, and higher education opportunities.

Key highlights of the event include: Exploring New Age Career Options Identifying 21st Century Skills Counseling and Mentorship Sessions Insights into Higher Education Opportunities Exploring Job Prospects and Emerging Fields Mr. Sunny Mahajan, Director, Partap World School, emphasized the vision behind the initiative: "Career Fair Odyssey 2025 is more than an event—it is an opportunity to empower students and parents with clarity, and inspiration.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University wins third position in district-Level drama competition



FATEHGARH SAHIB (AJAY MALHOTRA): The team of the Department of Education at Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib secured the Third Position in the Drama Competition at the District Level Youth Engagement Program - Youth Fest, organized by the Red Ribbon Club, Fatehgarh Sahib. Dr. Harmeet Billing, Head of the Department of Education, shared that the initiative not only nurtured students' artistic expression but also highlighted their commitment to community awareness through theatre. The skit focused on HIV/AIDS Awareness, was performed by seventh-semester students of the BA B.Ed. program, led by Jaseen Khan. The team's impactful performance combined creativity, social responsibility, and stagecraft to spread an important health message. The students prepared under the able mentorship of Dr. Gagandeep Tiwana, whose guidance contributed significantly to the success of the performance. On this proud achievement, Dean Students' Welfare Dr. Sikander Singh extended heartfelt wishes to the students for their teamwork and enthusiasm. Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Sukhwinder Singh Billing appreciated their dedication and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in co-curricular activities.

Documenting voices: Oral history workshop at MCM



CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

The Postgraduate Department of English at Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, in collaboration with the 1947 Partition Archive, Berkeley, California, organised an outreach programme titled 'Documenting Voices: An Oral History Workshop'.

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Malkit Singh Ghumman, accompanied by Mr. Gurmeet Singh, an advanced oral historian. Adding depth and authenticity to the event, two partition witnesses graced the occasion and shared their personal narratives, offering students an invaluable opportunity to en-

gage with lived experiences of history. Attended by over 100 participants, the session introduced students to the methodology and significance of documenting oral histories, with a special focus on the Partition of India—a historical event that continues to influence cultural memory and understanding. Mr. Ghumman emphasised the role of individual voices in constructing collective histories and encouraged participants to become certified Citizen Historians with the Archive. His interactive engagement underscored the importance of preserving personal accounts as a means of safeguarding history's emotional and human dimensions.

Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti celebrated at Nankana Sahib School



ARVIND PATHAK
SULTANPUR LODHI, OCT 2

Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti were celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion at Nankana Sahib Khalsa Senior Secondary School. The celebrations began with prayers. Students delivered speeches on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, his principles of non-violence, and his devotion to truth. Students remembered Gandhiji's teachings through poems and songs. On the occasion of Dussehra, the burning of Ravana, symbolizing the victory of good over evil, was also performed.

Students were also informed about the significance of Dussehra and the need to always follow the path of truth, virtue, and righteousness. Guru Nanak Khalsa College President Engineer Swaran Singh, SGPC member Bibi Gurpreet Kaur, Engineer Harjanyam Kaur, Engineer Nimrata Kaur, and Principal Nidhi Sangotra extended Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti greetings to all students.

KOTKAPURA (SURINDER DAMDAMI): Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan today reached Lala Japal Rai Park and Market Committee Kotkapura in Kotkapura constituency and met the people who had come there. He listened to the problems and demands of the people carefully. He assured the people that the problems and demands faced by them would be resolved soon. After this, Speaker Sandhwan met a large number of people during a public meeting program at his residence in the village of Sandhwa.



He happily interacted with the people of the constituency and listened to their problems.

He said that the purpose of the public meeting is to establish a direct connection between the government and the people. He said that the grassroots problems of the people will be resolved immediately so that people do not have to go through the offices and people can avoid wasting time.

NEWS BRIEF

Journalist Gurmail Sangatpura in shock, cousin passes away

AMANDEEP SINGH LEHRAGAGA: Journalist Gurmail Singh Sangatpura, known as the Baba Bohar of journalism from Lehragaga, and his family got a big shock when his uncle's son Baldev Singh (66), former Sarpanch Sangatpura, completed his worldly journey today at 5 pm on Dussehra day and went to the feet of Guru Ji. Minister Harpal Singh Cheema, Cabinet Minister Barinder Goyal, his OSD Rakesh Gupta, former Punjab Chief Minister Bibi Rajinder Kaur Bhattal, Rahul Inder Singh Sidhu, Sanmik Henry, Durlabh Singh Sidhu, former Punjab Finance Minister Parminder Singh Dhillon, Jathehar Rampal Singh Bahniwal, State Vice President of Aarti Association Jeevan Kumar Rabbar, President of Malah Association Charanjit Sharma, Ashok Bansal, Vice President of Aarti Association Rakesh Kumar, Press Secretary Shambhu Goyal and many religious, social organizations.

Surveer Maharana Pratap Charitable Trust distributed hearing aids and other items to needy



SURINDER DAMDAMI KOTKAPURA: Hearing aids, knee belts, crutches and wheel chairs were distributed to the needy elderly people by Jaspal Singh Panigrahi, Chairman of Surveer Maharana Pratap Charitable Trust, Vice President Punjab Bharatiya Janata Party SC Morcha, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituency Jaito.

Giving information in this regard, Jaspal Singh Panigrahi said that he is always ready to serve the elderly in all the villages of Vidhan Sabha Constituency Jaito. No needy person of any kind has been left behind. He said that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Justice of the Central Government will bring and distribute every disabled and elderly person who needs any item. He said that he has always given priority to social service for the welfare of humanity, rising above politics. He said that we should work for the welfare of humanity. God has given this life for the welfare of society and the service of humanity. He said that he always feels peace and pride in his life for the work he has done for social service and the welfare of humanity.

Kot Fatuhi police intensify vigil ahead of festivals, action against drug peddlers continues

DALJEET AJNOHA HOSHARPUR: Assistant Sub-Inspector Sukhwinder Singh, in-charge of Kot Fatuhi Police Post under Mahipur Police Station, while speaking to senior correspondent Daljit Ajnoha, informed that strict vigil has been deployed in all villages falling under the post, keeping in view the upcoming festive season. He further said that action against anti-social elements and drug addicts is being carried out on a continuous basis. Under the Punjab Government's special campaign "War Against Drugs", the police are making effective efforts in the region. As per government directives, young men who have fallen into the trap of drug addiction but want to quit are being guided and sent to de-addiction centers through police assistance.



Kabaddi tournament marks Dussehra celebrations at Morinda

SANJEEV TEJPAL MORINDA: The festival of Dussehra was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Morinda with a Kabaddi tournament organized by the Sri Ram Leela Committee. The event brought together local teams, sports enthusiasts, and dignitaries, making the celebrations vibrant and memorable. Sharing details, Sri Ram Leela Committee President and Congress constituency in-charge from Kharar, Vijay Sharma Tinku, said that in the village open Kabaddi competition, the Dhauri team secured the first position by defeating the Dhode Majra team. He added that in the 45 kg weight category, Kharke Pando (Haryana) team won the first prize, in the 55 kg category the Rajapur team clinched the top spot, and in the 70 kg category, the Goh team emerged victorious. As part of the cultural celebrations, renowned singer Kamal Sidhu enthralled the audience with a colorful musical program. Prizes to the winning teams were distributed by Vijay Sharma Tinku, Councillor Rakesh Kumar Bagga, Councillor Rajesh Sisodia, and former Chairman Bant Singh Kalara. On this occasion, national Kabaddi player Rupinder Kaur from Morinda was specially honored for her achievements.

The commentary of the Kabaddi matches was carried out by Harjit Lall Kalan, Kulbir Samrauli, and Rohit Morinda, while refereeing duties were performed by Pradeep Raoulumajra, Ram Niwan, Jaggi Rangya. Among those present at the event were former Council President Harjit Singh Dhangrali, Parmanjit Pannni, Dharampal Tharman, Master Jigar Singh, Bhagwant Singh Sodhi, Kanwaljit Singh Handhawa, Ajab Singh, Karnal Singh Maroli, along with several local residents.

State achieves remarkable 22.35% GST growth in 1st half of FY 25-26: Cheema

GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Highlighting the remarkable success of the state's Taxation department, Punjab Finance, Planning, Excise and Taxation Minister, Advocate Harpal Singh Cheema, on Thursday announced that the state registered gross GST collections of Rs 13,971 crore during the first half of the financial year (April-September 2025), a substantial increase compared to Rs 11,418 crore collected in the same period last year, reflecting a significant growth rate of 22.35 percent.

Revealing this in a press communique issued here, the Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema said that over the first six months of this financial year, state has recorded a Gross GST revenue growth of Rs 2,553 crore as compared to the corresponding period last year. He said that state's year-on-year GST growth rate has risen dramatically from just 5 percent in first half of FY 2024-25 to an impressive 22.35 percent in FY



2025-26. He said that this figure far exceeds the national GST growth rate of around 6 percent, unequivocally underscoring the success of Punjab's revenue mobilisation efforts. "In addition to GST, Punjab has also shown encouraging results in other indirect tax categories. Collections under VAT and CST increased by 10 percent, while the Punjab State Development Tax (PSDT) registered a growth of 11 percent during September 2025 compared to the same month last year", said Cheema. Mentioning the impact of recent GST rationalization, the Fi-

nance Minister said that Punjab's performance has proven to be much stronger than the national average. "While most other states recorded negative growth trends in September 2025, Punjab continued to show resilience and reported double-digit growth.

In September 2025 alone, the State collected Es 2,140.82 crore, up from Rs 1,943 crore in September 2024, marking an increase of Rs 197.82 crore and a growth rate of 10 percent, a sharp improvement compared to the modest 5 percent growth seen in the same period last

year", he added. Attributing the success to the Punjab Government's unwavering commitment to curb tax evasion and strengthen the State's financial position, the Excise and Taxation Minister said that the Taxation Department significantly intensified its enforcement actions against tax evasion from April to September 2025. During this period, Rs 246 crore of ineligible Input Tax Credit (ITC) was blocked across 1,162 taxpayers.

Furthermore, four major FIRs were lodged against fraudulent networks, including scams of Rs 500 crore in Ludhiana and Rs 550 crore in Fatehgarh. "Penalty collections from road checking and inspections by the State Intelligence and Preventive Units (SIPUs) surged sharply, rising from Rs 106.36 crore in April-September 2024 to Rs 355.72 crore in April-September 2025", said the Minister while adding, "This increase of Rs 249.36 crore reflects a remarkable 134 percent growth in enforcement-driven collections."

AIMS Mohali observes International Day of older persons 2025

LK BANSAL
MOHALI, OCT 2

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar State Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS) Mohali joined the global observance of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons, themed "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspirations, Our Well-Being and Our Rights."

The institute highlighted its pioneering Home Visiting Program for Elderly with Complex Needs, initiated in December 2024 with the guidance of Dr. Niharika Suchak (USA). Since then, every Saturday, an interdisciplinary team led by Dr. Esha Arora has been visiting elderly patients at home, providing holistic support across medical, nursing, and social domains.

Dr. Amrit Virk, Professor and Head Community Medicine is spearheading the development of an inter-professional module on geriatric care, ensuring capacity-building of healthcare workers. The initiative is aligned with the National Frame-



work for Elderly Care, Government of India, making AIMS Mohali one of the early adopters of structured community-based geriatric services. Dr. Ashish Goel, Professor & Head Medicine and immediate past President of the Geriatric Society of India, reaffirmed the importance of popularizing geriatric medicine, while Dr. Bhavneet Bharti, Director

Principal, emphasized the institute's unique "4M approach" (Mobility, Mentation, Medication, and what Matters most) to ensure dignity and well-being for older persons. The initiative reflects AIMS Mohali's vision of making older persons not just recipients of care, but active partners and agents of change in society, added Dr. Bhavneet Bharti.

Dr. Munish Dhawan honored for exceptional humanitarian services in eye care



FARIDKOT: Dr. Munish Dhawan, Professor & Head, Department of Ophthalmology, Guru Gobind Singh Medical College & Hospital, Faridkot, has been honored with a Special Appreciation Certificate by Shri Kultar Singh Sandhwan, Hon'ble Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha, in recognition of his remarkable humanitarian services in the field of eye care. Presenting the certificate, Shri Kultar Singh Sandhwan stated, "I feel proud to present this special appreciation certificate to Dr. Munish Dhawan for his unparalleled contribution to society by providing free eye treatment to economically weaker sections who cannot afford medical care. His dedicated services have given new light to hopeless eyes.

By regularly organizing eye treatment camps, using modern equipment for examination and treatment, he has brought new brightness to the lives of thousands. This is not just medical service, but true service to humanity." Congratulating Dr. Dhawan on this honor, Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Sood, Vice Chancellor, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot, said, "It is a matter of great pride for our university that Dr. Munish Dhawan has been recognized at the state level for his outstanding services. His relentless efforts in the field of ophthalmology have not only benefited countless patients but also upheld the highest ideals of compassion and humanity. The university wholeheartedly appreciates his dedication and wishes him further success in continuing this noble mission.

Juvenile among five involved in smuggling held with 12 pistols, 1.5kg heroin

AMRIK SINGH
AMRITSAR, OCT 2

In a major breakthrough amidst the ongoing drive to make Punjab a safe and secure state as per directions of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Amritsar Commissionerate Police has dismantled a cross-border arms and narcotics smuggling network with links to Pakistan with the arrest of its five operatives including one juvenile and recovered 12 sophisticated .30 bore pistols and 1.5 Kg Heroin from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Thursday.

Those arrested have been Joban Singh (22), Karandeep Singh alias Pandit (19) and Ajaypal Singh (18), trio residents of village Mari Megha in Tarn Taran; Jashanpreet Singh (18) of village Rania in Amritsar and 16-years-old juvenile. DGP Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the arrested ac-



cused persons, Joban Singh and Jashanpreet Singh, were in direct touch with Pak-based smugglers and communicating via social media to receive and deliver arms and narcotics consignments. The pushed-in weapon consignments were meant to fuel inter-gang rivalries in Punjab, he said.

The DGP said that further investigation is underway to establish forward and backward linkages in this case to expose the full nexus. Sharing operation details, Commissioner of Police (CP)

Now, CRM machines just a click away in Punjab; over 85k machines mapped on "Unnat Kisan" app

CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian today informed that the Punjab Government has mapped over 85,000 in-situ and ex-situ Crop Residue Management (CRM) machines on the "Unnat Kisan" Mobile App, a one-stop platform designed to make these machines more easily accessible to small and marginal farmers for promoting sustainable agriculture practices and reducing air pollution.

Divulging the details about a flagship digital initiative, S. Khudian said that this initiative enables farmers to easily book CRM machines through their mobile phones from comfort of their homes. He said each machine is geo-tagged according to the cultivated land area, facilitating monitoring and documentation of residue management activities. The Agriculture Minister further highlighted the App's robust ecosystem, supported by over



5,000 Village Level Facilitators (VLFs) and Cluster Officers (COs) who provide on-ground assistance to farmers and monitor activities. The platform promotes inclusivity by allowing private owners of CRM machines to register their equipment, expanding the available inventory. For enhanced community support, the VLFs can also book machines on behalf of farmers, ensuring that no farmer is left behind. S. Gurmeet Singh Khudian emphasized the App's sophisticated backend, featuring a real-time dashboard that enables precise monitoring of machine utilisation and field officers activities.

Sri Ram Lila Committee, Bassi Pathana celebrates Dussehra with cultural and festive spirit

FATEHGARH SAHIB (AJAY MALHOTRA): Dussehra, the festival symbolizing the triumph of good over evil, was celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion at Bassi Pathana today by the Sri Ram Lila Committee. The day commemorates Lord Rama's victory over the demon king Ravana, signifying the eternal message that truth and virtue always prevail over falsehood and evil. Colorful Ramlila performances depicting episodes from the Ramayana were staged in Bassi Pathana, attracting large crowds. The effigies of Ravana and Kumbhkarer were set ablaze amid loud cheers, fireworks, and chants of "Jai Shri Ram." The grand celebrations were organized by the Sri Ram Lila Committee at the Dussehra Ground in the evening. Families thronged the festive venue, where children enjoyed swings, stalls, and cultural programs. Under the supervision of DSP Bassi Pathana Mr. Raj Kumar, the police made elaborate security and traffic arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the festivities.



Arora congratulates cadets, wishes them all the best for future

SUMER GARG
CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Bringing laurels to the state, as many as 47 cadets from the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Armed Forces Preparatory Institute (MRSAPPI) in SAS Nagar (Mohali) have achieved a remarkable feat by clearing the national defence academy (NDA) (II) written examination for the NDA-156 Course. The UPSC declared the results on Wednesday late evening. The course is set to begin in June 2026.

Punjab employment generation, skill development and training minister, Mr. Aman Arora said that out of the 57 cadets from the Institute, who appeared for the NDA (II) written examination, a stellar 47 cadets successfully cleared the Exam,



achieving a stupendous success rate of 82.45 percent. This is the highest success rate ever attained by the Institute for either the NDA(I) or NDA(II) examinations. While congratulating the cadets, Mr. Aman Arora said, "These cadets are the pride of Punjab. I wish them all the best for their forthcoming SSB Interview and training ahead."

Electronic weighing machines must protect farmers from exploitation in mandis: BKU Rajewal

SANJEEV TEJPAL
MORINDA, OCT 2

The Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) Rajewal has strongly demanded the installation of electronic weighing machines in Punjab's mandis to prevent exploitation of farmers during the crop procurement season. BKU Rajewal's State General Secretary Parminder Singh Chalaki, District President Randhir Singh Chakkal, Bahadur Singh Dhangrali and other leaders said that despite advancements in technology, weighing of crops in Punjab mandis is still being carried out with outdated manual scales. "This often results in farmers being cheated, while in all other sectors even small items are weighed using electronic machines that ensure transparency.

Akhand Path Sahib bhog conducted at MLA Manuke's Residence



JAGRAON (SUKH NAHAR): AAP MLA from Constituency Jagraon Sarvjit Kaur Manuke accompanied by AAP leader and her husband Professor Sukhwinder Singh conducted 'Akhand Path Sahib' in order to express gratitude to the almighty and to pray for the welfare of all. The conclusion of the holy 'Sri Akhand Path Sahib' of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji was performed today. The Ragi Jatha led by Bhai Manjinder Singh Khalsa Hathurwale recited melodious Kirtan in traditional ragas, immersing the congregation in the divine hymns. After the completion of the Akhand Path, Bhai Ranjit Singh Khalsa offered prayers for the well-being of MLA Bibi Sarvjit Kaur Manuke, her family, and for the welfare of humanity. He also explained the 'Hukamnama' (divine order) and inspired the sangat to remain connected to the Guru's teachings. A large number of people from the area, along with political and non-political leaders, were present. Notably, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's mother, Harpal Kaur, attended the event.

DSP says two people admitted in de-addiction centre

SUMER GARG
SANGRUR, OCT 2

Under the Punjab Government's 'War Against Drugs' campaign, the Sangrur Police have intensified operations to curb the drug menace. Acting under the leadership of District Police Chief, Sartaj Singh Chahal, IPS; the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Rahul Kaushal, PPS, Sub-Division Bhawanigarh, shared details of the latest crackdown. He said during the period 24.09.2025 to 30.09.2025, Police teams from Police Station Bhawanigarh, Police Chowki Gharachon, Kalajhar, and Jauliya registered two cases under the NDPS Act & also arrested two accused, and recovered 130 narcotic tablets from them. Also registered five cases under the excise Act, arrested six accused, and seized 100 bottles of illicit



liquor (Haryana). "Police have also taken strict action against six alleged drug peddlers", DSP added. He said, "In addition, with the cooperation of municipal councils, panchayats, eminent citizens, and social organizations, drug addicts were identified confidentially and linked with government-run OOAD (outpatient opioid assisted treatment) centres. Out of these, ten individuals were examined and given medication, while two were admitted to a de-addiction centre for treatment.

DC and SSP urge farmers to stop CR burning for better environment



SUNAM (SUMER GARG): To raise awareness about the harmful effects of burning crop residue (CR), Deputy Commissioner (DC), Sangrur, Rahul Chaba and senior superintendent of Police, Sartaj Singh Chahal held meetings in the villages of Chatha Nanhera, Khadial and Sunam. While engaging directly with villagers, they emphasized that it is our collective responsibility to leave a clean environment and fertile land for future generations. The DC and SSP highlighted, "Last year, these villages recorded a high number of crop residue burning incidents, which is why special attention is being given to them this year. They explained that burning crop residue not only pollutes the environment but also destroys essential soil nutrients, reducing soil fertility and adversely affecting human health." They warned that those, who burn crop residue will face a red entry in their revenue records and environmental fines. Authorities are monitoring the situation through satellite surveillance and field patrols. They stressed, in line with the National Green Tribunal's guidelines, that crop residue must not be burned under any circumstances.

Dussehra celebrated with great enthusiasm at Golden School



VERMA GURDASPUR, OCT 2
Golden Senior Secondary School, Hanuman Chowk, Gurdaspur, celebrated the festival of Dussehra with great enthusiasm and festive spirit. The event was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, Dr. Mohit Mahajan, Chairman of the Golden Group. He was accompanied by Co-Guests Director Vinayak Mahajan, Director Raghav Mahajan, and other dignitaries. The celebration began with a beautiful stage presentation depicting various episodes from

PKF Finance Limited Jt. MD Ashim Saundhi presents cheque of Rs. 1 lakh to DC



PARAMJIT SINGH JALANDHAR, OCT 2
To help the flood victims, PKF Finance Limited Joint Managing Director Ashim Saundhi presented a cheque of Rs. 1 lakh to Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Agarwal for the Chief Minister Rangla Punjab Fund. On this occasion, SS Mehta, Kavita Gupta and Manju Verma were also present.

NEWS BRIEF

BJP looted nation like online fraud by stealing votes: Jagat Ram Sharma

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: Comrade Jagat Ram Sharma, National Secretary of INTUC and State General Secretary, criticised the BJP government, alleging that it has looted the people and national assets of India by "stealing votes online" just like online scams. Addressing the media, Sharma said Prime Minister Narendra Modi imposed nine slabs under GST, calling it a "Gabbbar Tax," through which more than 755 lakh crore has been extracted from citizens over the past eight years. "Now, by slightly reducing these taxes, the government is trying to earn praise and celebrate, which is a shameful act," he added. Continuing his remarks, Sharma accused Modi of misleading people with false promises such as giving 15 lakh to every citizen and providing two crore government jobs annually. He highlighted rising inflation, severe unemployment, and thousands of vacant posts in government and public institutions that remain unfilled.

Panchayat polls: Final voter lists to be published by November 13

AGENCY SHIMLA, OCT 2
The final publication of voter lists for the upcoming Panchayati Raj elections in the state will be completed on or before November 13, 2025. General elections for Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local bodies are scheduled to be held either late this year or early next year. A detailed schedule has been released for inviting claims and objections regarding the updating of the draft voter lists prepared by the Commission. Commission Secretary Surjeet Singh Rathore stated that the draft voter lists would be published on October 6. The period for filing claims and objections before the Revision Authority will be from October 8 to 17. The Revision Authority is tasked with resolving these claims and



objections within 10 days of their submission. Appeals against the Revision Authority's order must be filed within seven days of the order's issuance. The Appellate Authority will then dispose of the appeal within seven days of its filing. The draft electoral rolls were prepared using the Election Commission of India's (ECI) database. The Commission used its ERMS software to map the voters in the ECI database to the respective wards of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local bodies.

New Chief Secretary Sanjay Gupta calls on CM Sukhu

AGENCY SHIMLA: Sanjay Gupta, IAS, who was recently given the additional charge of Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh, today met Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. The meeting took place at the Chief Minister's official residence, Oakover, in Shimla. An official spokesman described the meeting as a "courtesy call." Gupta was appointed to the new post last night following days of deliberation. The appointment is notable as Gupta had previously been a contender for the Chief Secretary position. Before his appointment, junior officers R



D Dhiman and Probodh Saxena were given the top administrative role. The government's process leading up to the appointment involved multiple changes. On the night of September 30, Gupta was removed as Chairman of the Electricity Board and appointed Chairman of the State Pollution Control Board, with his status elevated to that of Chief Secretary.

Guv, CM pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri



DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, OCT 2

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu paid floral tributes to the 'Father of the Nation', Mahatma Gandhi, at the historic Ridge Ground in Shimla today. Interacting with media persons, the Governor said that Mahatma Gandhi, through struggle and the power of Satyagraha, freed the nation from British rule. He dedicated his entire life to society and the nation and will always be remembered for his contributions. Extending greetings on Dussehra, the Governor called upon people to work together to eradicate social evils and take a pledge to build a drug-



both forces walk together, nothing can stop India from becoming a world leader." He highlighted the Sangh's five key transformations—family enlightenment, environmental protection, social harmony, self-realisation, and civic duty—calling them the need of the hour.

free society. While, Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, said that Mahatma Gandhi showed the path of truth and non-violence to the entire world. Though born into an affluent family, he was deeply moved by the poverty and sufferings of the people, which led him to join the freedom struggle. Following his ideals and principles today would be the true tribute to him, the Chief Minister added. Later, the Governor and the Chief Minister visited the CTO to pay homage to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary, recalling his immense contribution to the nation's progress. On this occasion, the Chief Minister also flagged-off two new vehicles for Shimla Police.

Dharamshala-McLeodganj poor road has ruined hotel and other businesses

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA: The Dharamshala-McLeodganj road has been severely damaged by the rains, resulting in a complete collapse of the hotel business. Shopkeepers are also affected by the deteriorating condition of the road. Business owners are deeply angered by the Public Works Department, the district administration, and the state government. They say that the rains have ended, but repairs to the collapsed road have not yet begun, preventing tourists from reaching McLeodganj due to the disruption of vehicular traffic. Ashwani Bamba, president of the Hotel and Restaurant Association, Dharamshala, stated that hardly any tourists are visiting the tourist town. Local markets are deserted, and businesses are suffering significant losses. The bypass road and Khada Danda Road have been closed for the past two months. Khada Danda Road has been damaged for years and had not been permanently repaired. The national highway leading to McLeodganj is frequently prone to landslides. The bypass road from Barakota to Sudher is also blocked due to a landslide near Akhankhola. He stated that heavy vehicles are prohibited on the highway. No tourist buses or Himachal Roadways buses are operating. He stated that the luxury deluxe and Volvo buses running between the national capital and Dharamshala should be allowed and facilitated to access McLeodganj. This is essential to restore tourist flow and convenience. Hotel employees are also unable to commute due to the lack of public transportation. Hoteliers have warned that if the situation does not improve soon, they will be completely ruined.

Painting, speech and slogan writing competitions organized



AVINASH CHAUHAN AMB: Mera Yuva Bharat Una (Nehru Yuva Kendra), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India organized an awareness program on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2 October 2025 on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri in collaboration with Aastha Education Welfare Society Pandoga at Adarsh Public School Pandoga. In the program, painting, speech and slogan writing competitions were organized for the students and mementos and certificates were given to the students who performed well. In this program, District Youth Officer of Mera Yuva Bharat Pradeep Kumar, Director of the Institute Retired Professor Ranjit Thakur, Manager of Punjab National Bank Pandoga Pankaj Saini etc were present.

Education Minister urges Himachalis living in NCR to serve motherland

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, OCT 2

Education Minister Rohit Thakur attended the Sair Mahotsav and 64th Annual Function of Mandi Jan Kalyan Sabha as Chief Guest at New Delhi today. Speaking on the occasion, Education Minister said that the state government was focused towards development and welfare of the people of the state. This has resulted in growth in every sphere, he added. Rohit Thakur said that Himachal Pradesh was rich in traditions which should be kept alive at all costs. He said that we should not forget our culture, traditions and native place which are our roots and the



essence of our identity. He said that young generation should be made aware of our cultural heritage and they should carry forward the traditions that will ensure our identity for generations to come. He said that Sair Mahotsav was an important event for people of Himachal and celebrated to mark the

would be a true service to the motherland. He also urged them to be in touch with their roots and keep the traditions alive. He also highlighted the transformational reforms done by the Himachal government in the education sector in the state. He said that Himachal Pradesh has jumped from 21st to 5th position in the national education rankings. He stated that 100 schools would soon be converted into CBSE-based institutions to provide better education opportunities to children in villages. Due to these reforms in the education sector the people would witness up-gradation in the education system within the next two to three years in the state.

Message given to society to move forward on path of truth and non-violence



SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA: On the birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, the city of Dharamshala was filled with the chants of Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram. In the presence of Deputy Commissioner Hemraj Bairwa at Dharamshala's Kachari Adda, citizens, school children, and employees took out a morning procession to convey the message of peace and harmony. Following this, at Gandhi Vatika, Deputy Commissioner Hemraj Bairwa and other dignitaries offered garlands to the statues of Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. Artists from the Information and Public Relations Department paid tribute to the Father of the Nation through hymns. Representatives from St. John's Church, Jama Masjid, Gurudwara Singh Sabha, and Sanatan Dharma, along with Class 12 student Ridhima and Man Chand from the college, expressed their views on the life journey of the Father of the Nation, and also gave the message to society to move forward on the path of truth and non-violence.

BJP forms 'Zameen Bachao, Makaan Bachao' committee to safeguard people's land and houses: Bindal

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, OCT 2

The Bharatiya Janata Party has constituted a "Zameen Bachao, Makaan Bachao" committee to safeguard the land and houses of Himachali citizens who have been residing for decades across the state. The committee was formed by BJP state president Dr. Rajeev Bindal, with senior party spokesperson and MLA Trilok Jamwal as convener, state vice-president Bihari Lal Sharma as member secretary, MLA Sudhir Sharma as member, chief spokesperson Rakesh Jamwal and state vice-president Balbir Verma as members. MLA Sudhir Sharma said that daily-wage earners and farmers, who have been living for generations on government-allotted land, are today facing the threat of



eviction due to the indecisive approach of the Congress government. He added that the BJP is determined to take this fight to a decisive end so that the landless do not once again become landless, stressing that the party's struggle is solely for the deprived sections. The issue is rooted in Section 163-A of the Himachal Pradesh Land Revenue Act, 1954, which empowers revenue officers to evict encroachers from common land. Section 163-A,

introduced later, gave the state government the power to regularize encroachments on government land. However, on August 5, 2025, the Himachal Pradesh High Court struck down Section 163-A as unconstitutional. In September 2025, the Supreme Court ordered status quo on the High Court's decision, providing temporary relief to farmers facing eviction. Earlier, 1.65 lakh people had applied for regularization under the state's land policy framed in 2002, which allowed encroachers to seek regularization of up to 5 bighas. The BJP government later amended the Act to extend this to 20 bighas under Section 163-A. While the High Court in 2002 allowed the process of applications to continue, it had restrained the government from granting pattas.

Kullu Dussehra symbol of faith, unity and preservation of our rich cultural heritage

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, OCT 2

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla today inaugurated the week-long International Kullu Dussehra celebrations at Rath Maidan, Kullu and also participated in the traditional Rath Yatra of Lord Raghunath Ji. Lady Governor Janaki Shukla was also present on the occasion. While interaction with the media, the Governor said that while people across the world celebrate Dussehra in different ways, in Himachal Pradesh devotees pull the chariot of Lord Raghunath Ji, thereby preserving traditions and strengthening cultural values. "This festival is not only a celebration but also a symbol of faith, unity and the preservation of our rich cultural heritage," he added. "The difference between the Gen-z of Himachal and



those abroad is that in Himachal, the Gen-z pull the chariot of Lord Raghunath Ji, thereby carrying forward our culture. They remain connected to traditions and serve as preservers of heritage", said Shukla. Shri Shukla prayed to all deities for blessings to make Himachal a drug-free state and urged society to come forward collectively to eliminate this menace. "There is no place for drugs in Dev-Bhoomi Himachal. Together we must build a healthy and safe environment for future generations," he stressed. Referring to the recent natural disasters, the Governor said that the state had suffered significant losses this year as well, but the courage and determination of the people had helped restore normal life. He appealed to citizens not to carry out construction activities close to rivers and streams and to contribute actively to environmental conservation.

Free health camp organised by IRG and Glenmark Foundation on Gandhi Jayanti

SHANTI GAUTAM BADDI, OCT 2

On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, IRG, in collaboration with Glenmark Foundation, organised a grand free health check-up camp near Sikk Hotel in the slum area to provide medical facilities to the needy and spread Gandhi's message of health and hygiene. Over 100 people participated in the camp, where Dr. Anjali Goyal (general physician), Dr. Ritu (dental surgeon), and Dr. Anil Kumar (eye specialist) offered free consultations. Nutritionist Ms. Mary also addressed the gathering on the importance of a balanced diet, nutrition, and healthy lifestyle practices. Health workers Shweta Sharma, Pinky Verma, Jyoti Dhiman, Sushma Sharma, and assistant Dinesh Kumar played a key role in managing registrations and assisting participants throughout the programme. Programme officer Baljinder Singh said, "For the past 10 years, IRG, with the support of Glenmark Foundation, has been organising



special health camps on Gandhi Jayanti. These camps not only provide health services but also connect people with Gandhi's ideals of cleanliness, health, and self-reliance." The event also highlighted Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, his thoughts, and his message of a clean India. Fruits and laddoos were distributed to the participants, creating an atmosphere of enthusiasm and harmony. The attendees appreciated the initiative and expressed gratitude to IRG and Glenmark Foundation for the meaningful effort.

Seva Pakhwada celebrated in Gagret

AVINASH CHAUHAN AMB, OCT 2

As part of the Seva Pakhwada program, a special event was organized today at the Gandhi Ashram in Oyal under the leadership of former MLA and BJP leader Chaitanya Sharma to commemorate Gandhi Jayanti and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti. A cleanliness drive was carried out within the ashram premises, raising awareness among residents about the importance of cleanliness. Sharma, the former MLA, stated that Mahatma Gandhi preached cleanliness and self-reliance to the nation. Cleanliness is not limited to cleanliness; it is a way of life that every citizen should adopt. He urged volunteers to promote the cleanliness drive



as a mass movement in their respective areas. He also paid tribute to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary by offering flowers to his portrait. He said that Shastriji set a remarkable example of simplicity, honesty, and patriotism in his life. His slogan, "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan," remains as relevant today. Sharma, while also spreading the message of environmental protection, also planted a tree and

encouraged all volunteers to pledge to plant at least one tree. On this occasion, Daulatpur Mandal President Ajay Thakur, Gagret Mandal President Nitin Thakur, General Secretary Atul Sharma, Vikas Dadwal, Media Incharge Prince Sudhera, along with numerous officials and workers were present. Together, they cleaned the ashram premises and participated in the tree planting campaign.

Tanda Medical College sets blood component achievement target

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA: National Voluntary Blood Donation Day was celebrated at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda Hospital. As part of the Blood Donation Fortnight, the closing ceremony began with a pledge to raise awareness about blood donation in the Tanda Medical College Superspecialty Hospital. Under the theme "Healthy Women, All Family," female donors were honored with certificates and medals, raising awareness about blood donation. Under the chairmanship of Dr. Anjali Chauhan, Head of the Department of Immunohematology and Blood, the entire department organized a donation camp on the college campus. The highlight of the event was a program to encourage blood donation. The Institutional Blood Donation Institute and Individual Blood Donation Register were launched, female donors were honored, and a blood donation lamp was lit with 37 donors. 768 units of blood were collected at this blood donation camp. Dr. Anjali Chauhan, Director of Immunohematology and Blood Transfusion, stated that this year the target was set to achieve 80 percent blood component achievement. This target was achieved in this camp. Present at the closing ceremony of the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day campaign were Dr. Vijay Arora and Dr. Dheeraj Kapoor, Dr. Vivek and Dr. Arvind Rana, the blood bank staff of Tanda Medical College, the Principal's office staff, all the doctors, nurses, and other staff. Principal Dr. Milap Sharma congratulated Dr. Anjali and her entire staff for the successful event.

encouraged all volunteers to pledge to plant at least one tree. On this occasion, Daulatpur Mandal President Ajay Thakur, Gagret Mandal President Nitin Thakur, General Secretary Atul Sharma, Vikas Dadwal, Media Incharge Prince Sudhera, along with numerous officials and workers were present. Together, they cleaned the ashram premises and participated in the tree planting campaign.

JAGRAJ SINGH SANGHA MOGA: Gaurav Yadav DGP Punjab's guidelines and Ajay Gandhi, SSP Moga. Under the able leadership of Moga Police, the campaign launched to prevent drugs and control the bad elements of the society, the police of Police Station Samalsar got a huge success



on date 01.10.2025 SI Kamaljit Singh raided on the information of the informant and arrested Arshdeep Singh alias Arshi son of Hira Singh resident of Patti, District Tam Taran Sahib along with 510 grams of heroin and a motorcycle Splendor color black. Case No. 105 dated

01.10.2025 u/s 21-61-85 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Samalsar. DSP Baghapurana Dalbir Singh said that under the campaign against drugs, in the year 2025, in the sub-division Bagha Purana, about 129 cases were registered under the NDPS Act and 174 accused were arrested.

NEWS BRIEF

Cleanliness drive organised under Swachhta Hi Seva campaign at Govt College Shri Chintpurni



KISHORI LAL BAINS UNA: Under the Swachhta Hi Seva campaign, a cleanliness drive was conducted at Government College Shri Chintpurni, Bharwain campus, jointly organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Una and the NSS unit. A seminar and cleanliness shramdaan were held in the college premises, in which around 60 students, along with faculty members and staff, actively participated. The programme was presided over by Pradeep Kumar, District Youth Officer of Nehru Yuva Kendra and Meri Yuva Bharat Una, while the college principal, Ritu Jaswal, attended as the chief guest. NSS unit in-charge Dr. Vinod was also specially present on the occasion. Addressing the students, District Youth Officer Pradeep Kumar provided detailed information about the Viksit Bharat Young Leader Dialogue Quiz and encouraged more than 50 students to take part in the online quiz.

Third annual literary festival will be held on Oct 5

KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: Sityanya and Samvad Sahitya Sabha (Regd.) Barnala is organizing the third annual literary festival dedicated to the birth anniversary of Shaheed S. Bhagat Singh on Sunday, 5/10/2025 at School of Eminence Barnala from 8 am to 4 pm. The president of the society Anjana Menon said that the chief guest of this event will be the MLA of Bhadaur constituency, Honorable S. Lakh Singh Uggoke, special guest Harinder Singh Dhalwal (Constituency Incharge Aam Aadmi Party) and Dr. Deepak Singla will be there. He said that at present, poetry writing, story writing, beautiful writing, painting, poetry recitation/singing, and prose competitions will be organized for primary, middle and secondary classes of children studying in various government and private schools from class 4 to 12.

Leh violence triggers tourist cancellations, hits Ladakh economy

AGENCY SRINAGAR, OCT 2

Ladakh's tourism industry, the backbone of its economy, has suffered a major blow due to last week's violence in Leh, which resulted in four deaths and over 100 injuries.

Hoteliers in Leh confirmed the unrest has triggered several cancellations, dampening the region's otherwise thriving tourist season.

The disturbances, which included clashes and the detention of climate activist Sonam Wangchuk under the National Security Act (NSA), forced authorities to impose a curfew across Leh. Although the curfew has been relaxed since September 30, police and central armed police forces



continue to patrol the streets. Dorjay Stumpa, President of the All Ladakh Tour Operator Association (ALTOA), confirmed: "We have seen some booking cancellations. Tour operators are getting calls from clients requesting cancellations." Tourism is Ladakh's primary revenue generator, accounting for over 60 percent of the region's earnings and supporting more than half of the population. Leh district alone features over 2,100 hospitality units, including hotels, guesthouses, and homestays.

HUCTA urges CM Saini to pass Service Security Law for 1,400 contractual university teachers

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

The Haryana Universities Contractual Teachers Association (HUCTA) met Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini at Haryana Bhawan, Delhi, and requested him to expedite the pending process regarding the Service Security Law for nearly 1,400 contractual Professors working for several years in the state universities. The delegation urged that this law be passed in the upcoming Winter Assembly Session so that their employment can be secured. Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini assured that the Higher Education Department has already collected all necessary information from the universities about contractual teachers, and very soon employment security and job



guarantee will be provided to them. HUCTA's State President Dr. Vijay Malik and Dr. Karmwati Yadav, in a joint statement, informed that the process to provide job security to university contractual teachers has been ongoing since last year's Winter Assembly Session, when the Hon'ble Chief Minister himself made a commitment in this regard. The matter pertains to file number 18/197-2023 UNP(1) from the office of the Higher Education Department, Panchkula. A report from the high-level committee, approved by the Chief Minister, has already been submitted to the Higher Education Department. Furthermore, the required information sought from all the Registrars of state universities has also been submitted to the department for further action.

Suman Saini gives cheques to 8 eligible under CM Farmer and Agricultural Labourer Life Security Scheme

RINKU SAINI LADWA, OCT 2

The Chief Minister's Farmer and Agricultural Labourer Life Security Scheme is proving to be a boon for eligible individuals. Under this scheme, eight eligible individuals have received assistance of Rs 12.25 lakh so far. On Wednesday, the Chief Minister's wife, Suman Saini, distributed cheques totaling Rs 537,500 to two eligible individuals. This information was provided by the newly appointed Market Committee Chairman, Dr. Ganesh Dutt. He explained that the Chief Minister's Farmer and Agricultural Labourer Life Security Scheme was a scheme that provided government assistance to farmers and laborers in the event of an accident while working in agriculture. He added that the state government has amended this scheme, raising the age



limit from 65 to 75, so that more farmers and laborers can benefit from this scheme. Under this scheme, Chief Minister's wife Suman Saini presented a cheque of Rs 5 lakh to Neelam, a resident of village Gudha in Ladwa block who died after hitting her head on a water tank while working in the fields. Similarly, a cheque of Rs 37,500 was presented to Azad Sharma, a resident of village Barot, who lost his finger while working in the fields after being hit by a tractor. She stated that eight eligible beneficiaries had benefited under this scheme so far, including Amro Devi, a resident of village Jogi Majra, Amit Kumar, a resident of village Bapdi, Balbir Singh, a resident of village Muradnagar, Jaipal, a resident of village Sultanpur, Kiran Devi, a resident of village Dabkheda, Kuldeep Kumar, a resident of village Sahabpura, Neelam, a resident of village Gudha, and Azad Sharma, a resident of village Barot.

Battle of Ram-Ravan staged in Ramliila by Shri Ram Hanuman Ramliila Committee

RINKU SAINI LADWA, OCT 2

The battle of Ram-Ravan was staged in the Ramliila organized by Shri Ram Hanuman Ramliila Committee on Wednesday night. Giving information, the music director of the committee Anil Malik said that the staging of the battle of Ram-Ravan was inaugurated by social worker Pawan Garg by performing Aarti of Lord Rama. The guests were honored by the committee by presenting them with a plaque and a memento. Chief guest Pawan Garg said that Maryada Purushottam Ram inspired this world by following all the rules during his life and gave the message of managing one's relationships by following the rules. The enactment of the Ram-Ravana war began with the killing of Kumbhakaran. When Ravana learned of Lakshman's unconsciousness, he awakened Kumbhakaran and sent him to fight. The scene of awakening Kumbhakaran from sleep had all the spectators in splits. Finally, before Ravana went to battle, the song "Yahi Raat Aakhiri Yahi Raat" enthralled the audience. Then, Ravana himself went to battle and Ram's attempt to explain to Ravana the negative consequences of sin, vice and pride, and imparting wisdom, such scenes, have generated interest over the decades.



SBI donates electric carts to BSF at Attari-Wagah Border under CSR initiative



BUREAU AMRITSAR: As part of its CSR commitment, State Bank of India handed over eco-friendly electric carts to the Border Security Force at the Attari-Wagah border, where the daily Beating Retreat ceremony between India and Pakistan draws thousands of patriotic visitors. These electric carts will assist senior citizens, differently-abled persons and women attendees, helping them move comfortably across the large ceremonial grounds. These carts reflect the Bank's commitment to public service, national pride and accessibility for all. The handover function was held in the presence of Shri S.S. Chandel, DIG BSF, Shri Krishan Sharma, CGM SBI Chandigarh Circle, Shri Bam Shankar Mishra, DGM AO Ludhiana and Shri Satwinder Singh, RM Amritsar, along with other senior officials from BSF and SBI. The initiative was warmly appreciated by BSF and reaffirmed Bank's role as a trusted and caring partner beyond banking.

Grand celebration of Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti at St. Lawrence International School, Jagadhri and Vyaspur

RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR, OCT 2

St. Lawrence International School, Jagadhri and Vyaspur, celebrated Dussehra and Gandhi Jayanti with great enthusiasm. The school campus came alive as students showcased Indian culture, traditions and moral values through a variety of activities. The tiny tots of the Pre-Primary wing participated in engaging activities related to Mahatma Gandhi including coloring, shading and making Gandhi's glasses. Students of the Primary and Middle wings created Ravana masks using ice-cream sticks, performed skits based on the Ramayana, crafted tridents and face masks. Senior wing students demonstrated their knowledge and creativity through Ramayana-based quizzes and delivered inspiring speeches and poetry recitations on Gandhi's ideals and the message of Dussehra. The entire celebration filled the school campus with festive spirit and captivated everyone with the enthusiasm of the students. Renowned educationist Dr. M.K. Sehgal addressed the students, highlighting that Dussehra symbolizes the triumph of truth over falsehood and dharma



over adharma, as Lord Shri Ram defeated Ravana, showing that no matter how powerful evil may appear, its end is inevitable. He encouraged students to set clear goals in life, remain honest, and move forward with a positive mindset, as today's students are the leaders of tomorrow. He also reminded everyone of the International Day of Older Persons and National Blood Donation Day, emphasizing that elders are pillars of wisdom and experience, deserving of respect and care, and that blood donation is a humanitarian service capable of saving numerous lives.

Traditional 'Folk Arts' workshop organized at Jhar Sahib College

SURJIT SINGH SAMRALA, OCT 2

A seven-day traditional "Folk Arts" workshop was organized at Guru Gobind Singh Khalsa College for Women, Jhar Sahib, under the leadership of Principal Dr. Rajinder Kaur. The workshop was managed by the Fashion Designing Department and the Cultural Committee, led by Prof. Jasvir Kaur and Prof. Sukhnapreet Kaur. The objective of the workshop was to create awareness among the students about Punjab's folk arts and to provide them with hands-on training. On this occasion, the students participated with great enthusiasm and dedication. In this seven-day workshop, training was given in making Khiddo (toy), Paranda (traditional hair



accessory), weaving, Dasooti embroidery, Phulkari and Bagh embroidery, making Chhikku (traditional basket), and dolls & puppets. During the event, former students who had won prizes in the Youth and Heritage Festival provided special training to the participants. Among them, Khiddo-making was taught by Harmanpreet Kaur, Paranda - by Kamaljit Kaur, Chhikku - by Ramanpreet Kaur, Phulkari - by Jashanpreet Kaur, Bagh embroidery - by Spinder Kaur, and Dolls & Puppets - by Preeti Kaur, who had also secured the first position in the 'Dolls' competition organized by the Punjabi Cultural Association. In addition, Dasooti embroidery was taught by Dr. Ranjit Kaur and weaving by Prof. Harpreet Kaur. The students who imparted training in the workshop and had also won prizes in the Youth Festival were honored by the college Principal, Dr. Rajinder Kaur. Appreciating the workshop, she said that such initiatives prove to be very effective in connecting today's young generation with their culture and folk arts.

Harsimran Kaur Bajwa extends Dussehra greetings, urges youth to follow ideals of Lord Ram

VERMA GURDASPUR, OCT 2

On the pious occasion of Dussehra, Congress leader Harsimran Kaur Bajwa extended heartfelt greetings to the people of the nation, stating that this festival symbolizes the victory of good over evil and teaches us that truth, righteousness, and justice always prevail. In her message, she prayed to Lord Shri Ram for good health, success, and prosperity for all citizens. Bajwa said, "Dussehra is not just a festival, but an inspiration that no matter how powerful evil may seem, in the end, it is goodness that triumphs." She further stated that in today's times, when society is facing several challenges, it is important for all of us to follow the ideals of Lord Ram by walking on the path of patience, tolerance, and truth. Addressing the youth, Harsimran Kaur Bajwa urged them to imbibe the values of the Ramayana in their lives and contribute actively to the development of the nation. The Congress leader also described the festival as a symbol of social unity and brotherhood, expressing hope that Dussehra brings new light, peace, and hope into everyone's life. Her message adds a deeper meaning to the Dussehra celebration, combining spiritual faith with a strong social message.



Objective of Sangh is to build strong and united nation: Paramjit Singh Gill

VERMA GURDASPUR, OCT 2

While speaking to the media, National Executive President of Himalaya Parivar Organization, Paramjit Singh Gill, stated that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), commonly referred to as 'Sangh', is a nationalist organization founded in 1925 in Nagpur, Maharashtra, by Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. He emphasized that the RSS is the world's largest voluntary organization and is deeply rooted in cultural values. The organization's core mission is to promote unity, integrity, and self-reliance in the country and its society through cultural development. Gill further mentioned that the RSS focuses on nation-building and preserving Indian traditions and heritage. He noted that many individuals associated with the Sangh are actively participating in electoral politics. From former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to the current Prime Minister Narendra Modi, several prominent leaders have served the nation through both the RSS and political platforms. He added that the RSS also plays a key role as a guiding force behind the world's largest political party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Highlighting the unwavering dedication of the organization's members, Gill stated, "The sole objective of the Sangh is to build a strong and united nation, and every volunteer is contributing to this goal with complete devotion."



Gurnam Singh Saini appointed as an honorary member of Kurukshetra Development Board

DALBIR MALIK KURUKSHETRA, OCT 2

Gurnam Singh Saini, President of the Saini Samaj Sabha, Kurukshetra, has been appointed an honorary member of the Kurukshetra Development Board. The Saini community was overjoyed with the appointment of President Gurnam Singh Saini to the KDB. On Thursday newly appointed KDB members Gurnam Singh Saini and Harmesh Singh Saini were honored with bouquets and sweets by the Saini community. It should be noted that Gurnam Singh Saini is a hardworking, dedicated and honest person. Under his leadership, the Saini Samaj Sabha has made



significant progress. He is currently the president of the Saini Samaj Sabha, Kurukshetra, for the second time. The members of the Saini community are very impressed with his work ethics. Gurnam Singh Saini stated that he would fulfill the responsibility entrusted to him by the Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini as an honorary member of the Kurukshetra Development Board. On this occasion, the Saini Samaj Sabha expressed its gratitude to the BJP leadership and Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini. Satprakash Saini, Subhash Kasithal, Manak Singh, Baldev Singh Sarpanch, and Narendra Singh were present.

CM Nayab Saini releases grant of Rs 11 lakh to Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home

RINKU SAINI LADWA, OCT 2

Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini released a grant of Rs 11 lakh to the Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home and Annakshetra in Ladwa. Suman Saini, Vice President of the Child Welfare Council, handed over the grant cheque to the officials of the Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home at the Public Works Department Rest House. On this occasion, Suman Saini said that the Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home was making excellent arrangements for the care of the elderly. She added that Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini also has a special affection for the elderly and the old age home. Vikas Singhal, President of the Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home, expressed his gratitude to the



Chief Minister for the grant. He said that a new well-equipped dormitory for the elderly will be built with the funds provided by the Chief Minister. Ashram Secretary Anuj Goyal, while providing information about the old age home, stated that the Baba Bansi Wala Old Age Home has been dedicated to serving the elderly since 1998. He explained that no fees were charged from the elderly residents, but instead, they were provided with food, housing, medical care, and all other essential items so they can live a respectable life. He added that over 45 elderly men and women currently live in the old age home.

Congress committee honours Gandhi followers and freedom fighters on Gandhi Jayanti in Karnal

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCT 2



On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, the District Congress Committee (Urban), Karnal, along with the Panchayati Raj Organisation, organised a special programme in the city. Elderly citizens who followed Gandhian philosophy and principles in their lives and inspired society were honoured at the event.

They were felicitated with garlands and shawls, and shared their reflections on Gandhi's life of truth, non-violence, and simplicity. Their inspiring words offered the gathering an opportunity to connect deeply with Gandhian ideology.

Speakers emphasised that Gandhi's ideals remain relevant even today and urged everyone to walk the path of truth and non-violence to strengthen peace, harmony, and unity in society. They said Gandhi's life conveys that purity of means is the key to achieving any goal, and his philosophy continues to guide humanity towards justice, equality, and compassion.

District Congress Committee (Urban) president Parag Gaba said, "Gandhiji showed us the path of truth, sacrifice, and service through his life. We must follow his footsteps to promote harmony and brotherhood in society." Panchayati Raj Organisation national president Sunil Pawar added,

"In today's times, Gandhi's ideology can provide the right direction to society. We must imbibe his values and spread the message of peace and equality to every section."

As per AICC's directions, the Karnal District Congress Committee also honoured freedom fighters with shawls and garlands. Those honoured included Shri Kundan Lal Sharma, Shri Krishan Lal Sehra, and Shri Roop Chand Sukhija. Freedom fighter Shri Chandra Mohan was remembered by presenting him with a garland spun from thread on the charkha.

The event witnessed the presence of Sunil Pawar, Suresh Gupta, Shamsheer Singh Gogi, Navjot Kashyap, Rajat Lather, Nahar Sandhu, Rajesh Chaud-

hary, Kulwant Kaler, Sanjeev Kamboj, Kiran Pal, Ashok Dabra, Manjeet Singh Mahendru, Om Prakash Saluja, Inderjit Goraya, Lalit Ahuja, Jasbir Panu, Sahil Dabar, Prashant Arora, Jitendra Panchal, Satish Bhardwaj, Suresh Khanna, S.K. Chaudhary, Sharda Sidhu, Sumitra Devi, Naseem Shamim, Chander Mani Narang, Pankaj Pal, Ashok Jain, Madhu, Neena Kalra, Satinder Gandhi, Dr Sanjay, Gurmeet Singh, Sunita Joga, Aghi Kiran Pal, Rajinder Kalyan, Dr Vijender Narwal, Dr Sanjay Tarawadi, Sanjay Chandel, Virender, Bhushan Kumar, Siraj Chaudhary, Rajendra Taprana, Naresh Khedi Manasingh, Anil Taprana, Gullu, Kuldeep Uchana, Rajinder Gohli, and many others in large numbers.

CM plants saplings during the mega plantation drive in Faridabad

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, OCT 2

Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that development and environmental protection are two sides of the same coin—one cannot exist without the other. The mega plantation drive organized on Thursday in Faridabad is another decisive step towards achieving this balanced development, he said. Extending his greetings to people on the occasion of Dussehra, the Chief Minister paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister, Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversaries.

Chief Minister alongwith Revenue & Urban Local Bodies Minister, Sh. Vipul Goel, Minister of State for Food & Supplies, Sh. Rajesh Nagar, and other dignitaries planted saplings at the HUDA Sector-9 Green Belt, giving a strong message of environmental protection. Notably, the state government has identified 75 locations across Haryana to develop "Namo Vans" and is actively carrying out plantation drives to promote environmental conservation.

The Chief Minister highlighted that along with plantation, a Birds of Green Corridor will also be developed in this Green Biodiversity Corridor. He appreciated the enthusiastic participation of citizens, noting that it reflects the collective sense of responsibility among Haryanvis towards the



environment. This mega plantation drive will help create a healthier and more prosperous ecosystem for future generations. Planting a tree is an act of honoring nature and expanding greenery, he said.

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that trees are not just a source of wood but the very foundation of life. Without trees, clean air, adequate rainfall, and the continuity of life on Earth would be impossible. This campaign symbolizes our gratitude towards nature, our responsibilities, and our shared resolve to secure a brighter future for generations to come, he added.

Calling Faridabad the economic backbone of the state, the Chief Minister acknowledged the significant contribution of entrepreneurs, traders, and hardworking

laborers who have propelled the city to new heights of growth. In this race for rapid development, we have taken much from nature. Now is the time to give back with gratitude, he said.

He said that global warming and climate change pose a serious threat to life on Earth, making forest development and tree plantation the need of the hour.

The Chief Minister recalled that on World Environment Day (June 5, 2024), Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi launched the unique "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign at Buddha Jayanti Park in Delhi. In the first phase of this initiative, Haryana set a target of planting 1.6 crore saplings. Impressively, the state exceeded the goal by planting 1.87 crore saplings, reaffirming its environmental commitment.

This year, on World Environment Day, the second phase of the campaign began with a target of planting another 1.6 crore saplings across Haryana. So far, the Forest Department has already planted 1.45 crore saplings, while other departments have added another 50 lakh. Our objective is to turn every corner of Haryana green, said the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister informed that the Green Aravalli Action Plan has been implemented in Southern Haryana. This joint project of the Central and State Governments covers the Aravalli hills across four states, including Haryana. Out of 29 districts identified, five are from Haryana.

Residents of Alpha City burn effigy of the coloniser on Dussehra to highlight their problems

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCTOBER 2

Angered by the lack of basic amenities in Alpha International, a housing society built twenty years ago, local residents burned an effigy of Alpha City colonizer Santosh Agarwal, depicted as Ravana, in the form of Ravana. Prior to this, they also took out a funeral procession of the effigy. The protest was organized by the Alpha Residential Welfare Association. Hundreds of residents participated, including women, men, and children. The protest was led by President Prabhjot Singh Sidhu. The protesters gathered in front of Indri Gate and then marched to Gate No. 1 on the highway, chanting slogans. The protesters carried placards and carried the effigy. The protesters were shouting slogans against the Alpha management and the government. Association



president Prabhjot Singh said that residents of Alpha City are deprived of basic amenities. The roads are in a dilapidated condition, making it difficult for people to walk. Vehicles are unable to ply on the roads.

Furthermore, there are problems with streetlights, drainage, and drinking wa-

ter. He stated that if their problems are not resolved, they will observe a "Black Day" on November 1st. Following this, they will march to Chandigarh. Local MLA Ram Kumar Kashyap has raised the issue in the Assembly, but his concerns have not been heard. Residents have met with Union Minister Manohar Lal, Chief Minister MLA Jagmohan Anand, Speaker Harvinder Kalyan, and Yoginder Rana. On this occasion, women expressed that the management dumps dirty water into the parks, causing a foul smell. The sanitation situation is poor. RWA members Kuldeep Wadhaich, Praveen, Sanjeev, Amrit, Sandeep Sharma, Surendra Rajesh Narula, Naitra Singh, Balraj, Sachin, Arjav Sharma, Kuldeep Kadyan, Mehar Singh, Rajesh Meedha and many others were present on the occasion.

Late PM Lal Bahadur Shastri worked to change direction and condition of country: Praveen

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCTOBER 2

On the birth anniversaries of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, today, under the leadership of BJP District President Praveen Lathar, BJP workers paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi by offering floral tributes to his statue at Mahatma Gandhi Chowk. They also garlanded and offered floral tributes to the portrait of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri at the BJP District Office, Karnal. An exhibition was also organised at the Khadi Village Industries Office in Karnal to promote Khadi products and to promote Modi's vision of Swadeshi in connection with the Seva Pakhwada being celebrated on Mo-

di's birthday and Gandhi Jayanti. On this occasion, BJP District President Praveen Lathar paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, saying that



although former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had only a short time to lead the country, he worked to change its condition and direction during his tenure.

Providing information about the Seva Pakhwada on this occasion, the Dis-

trict President said that today is the closing day of the Seva Pakhwada, which has been going on since September 17th on Modi's birthday. During this fortnight, the BJP celebrated the birth anniversaries of four great men, including Prime Minister Modi's birthday, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's birth anniversary, Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, and Lal Bahadur Shastri's birth anniversary. During the Seva Pakhwada, the BJP organized blood donation camps, cleanliness drives, and health check-up camps, among other service activities. On this occasion, the District President also participated in the Seva Pakhwada.

Country's development possible only by following Gandhi's principles: Rajesh Vaidya



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
NILOKHERI: Mahatma Gandhi is needed in the country today.

Given the atmosphere of hatred being created in the country, only following the path of non-violence will strengthen brotherhood in the country. These views were expressed by Dr. Rajesh Vaidya Valmiki, President of the District Congress Rural, Karnal, at a ceremony to honor the elderly held at the Congress office today. Rajesh Vaidya paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi by offering flowers before his portrait at the Congress District Rural office on the occasion of his birth anniversary. On this occasion, District Congress President Rajesh Vaidya also honored the elderly who contributed to the propagation of Gandhian ideology. About a dozen elderly people were honored with shawls. On this occasion, everyone pledged to follow the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi and contribute to the country's development and strengthen the Congress Party. On this occasion, hundreds of Congress workers including Professor Multan Singh, Anil Loht, Ankit Chauhan, Balraj Valmiki, Gulzar Buhar, Rajpal Chauhan, Karam Singh, Munish Kumar, Balraj, Rajeshwar were present.

This is not the Government of India, but of RSS: Baveja

DALBIR MALIK
KURUKSHETRA: Director General of the District Kisan Congress, Advocate Madhusudan Baveja, said that by issuing the 100 rupee coin, the Modi government has demonstrated that the Constitution given to the country by Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar will no longer be applicable in the country. It will now operate solely under the guidance of the RSS. Congress MP Rahul Gandhi had previously stated that the current government is bent on destroying Baba Saheb's Constitution. Rahul Gandhi is continuing his Constitution Yatra. On the other hand, the Modi government is conspiring to divide the country. Now, on Babu's birth anniversary, instead of placing the tricolor flag on the 100 rupee coin with the image of Bharat Mata, the RSS flag has been placed, and statues of RSS leaders have been erected. Now these people are trying to enslave independent India again and are bent on slowly eliminating Indian currency and Mother India from the map.



Vijayadashami is festival of victory of good over evil: MLA Jagmohan Anand

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCTOBER 2

Vijayadashami, also known as Dussehra, was celebrated with great enthusiasm across the country today. MLA Jagmohan Anand attended the Dussehra celebrations as the chief guest at the Dussehra Ground near Namaste Chowk, Sector 4, Karnal. Special guests included Mayor Renu Bala Gupta, Brij Bhushan Gupta, and Chairperson Megha Bhandari. The chief guest burned the effigies of Ravana, Meghraj, and Kumbhakaran by pressing a remote control button. The pandal reverberated with chants of "Jai Shri Ram." Earlier, officials from the Shri Ramlika Sabha presented the chief guest with a turban and a mattress, and honored other guests with turban and mementos. The procession featured tableaux of Lord Ganesha, Goddess Durga, Hanuman, Radha Krishna, Ashok Vatika, and Ravana riding a Bullet motorcycle, all of which were captivating and a center of attraction.



On this occasion, MLA Jagmohan Anand stated that Vijayadashami symbolises the victory of truth, righteousness, and goodness over falsehood, arrogance, oppression, and evil. According to religious beliefs,

on this day, Lord Rama killed Ravana, the symbol of irreligion, oppression, and injustice. He stated that Dussehra symbolises the victory of truth over falsehood, or good over evil. By killing Ravana, Lord Rama sent the message of victory of righteousness over unrighteousness to the entire world. He stated that many evils lurk within us today, which need to be eradicated so that a better society can be built. He stated that on this day, we should all pledge to permanently eradicate any evil, deceit, or fraud within ourselves on this Vijayadashami. On this occasion, Mayor Renu Bala Gupta said that for years, Vijayadashami has been celebrated as the end of evil. Therefore, we should all abandon all evil within ourselves and focus on rebuilding. Present on this occasion were ACM Mr. Sudhir, Councillor Sankalp Bhandari, President of Shri Ramlika Sabha Regd. Kapil Garg, General Secretary Gaurav Garg, Treasurer Manish Diwan, Manager Anuj Jaiswal, members Ankit Garg, Raghav Garg, Umesh Gupta, and other dignitaries.

Religious events are legacy of our culture and traditions: Kabirpanthi

ROHIT LAMSAR
TARAORI: With the support of the Maa Saraswati Yuva Club and the villagers, a grand Jagran dedicated to Mata Rani was organised at Amapur Dera Bajigar Amritsaria. A large number of devotees attended the Jagran and enjoyed the hymns and kirtans dedicated to the Goddess until late at night. A devotional atmosphere prevailed throughout the pandal. Nilokheri MLA Bhagwandas Kabirpanthi and Chaudhary Karam Singh Jamba, Chairman of Baba Hariadas Shri Krishna Gopal Gaushala, former Sarpanch, and senior BJP leader, attended as chief guests. MLA Bhagwandas Kabirpanthi said that religious events are a legacy of our culture and traditions.



Such events provide the new generation with an opportunity to connect with their roots. With the blessings of Mata Rani, our village and region will always be filled with happiness, prosperity, and brotherhood. I congratulate the organizers and the entire village for this grand Jagran. Senior BJP leader Chaudhary Karam Singh Jamba, addressing the devotees, said that devotion to the Mother Goddess unites us and infuses new energy into society. The devotion and dedication with which the villagers of Amapur Dera have organized this event is truly exemplary. It is my prayer that Mother Goddess's blessings remain upon everyone and that all negativity be removed from our society. The organising committee thanked all the devotees, guests, and villagers who attended.

Foundation Stone laying for community center at Gyanpura Temple laid

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan today laid the foundation stone for a community center at Gyanpura Temple to be built at ₹51 lakh. Construction work is targeted to be completed within 6 months. He also inaugurated construction of a street and drain from rear of temple to PWD road, costing ₹18 lakh. Earlier, Kalyan paid obeisance at temple and extended Dussehra greetings to people. He noted that it is coincidence that today is also birth anniversary of two great personalities, Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri. Seva Pakhwada (service fortnight) also concludes today. Vijay Dashami gives message of victory of good over evil. Gandhiji's life shows path of cleanliness and non-violence. Lal Bahadur Shastri's simplicity and honesty are unparalleled. Continuous service activities have been carried out during fortnight. Gyanpura is a land where saints have performed penance. Araipura village is a place where devotees come from far and wide. The stalled construction of NCC Academy in this village has resumed. He appealed to people to work honestly to fulfill resolve of making India a developed nation by 2047 and to contribute together to region's progress. Panchayat Raj Department officials and prominent villagers were present.



On Dussehra, humans should burn their ego, embrace the path of truth: Rajesh Vaidya

PRADEEP MEHTA
NILOKHERI, OCTOBER 2

The Ramayana epic is the world's largest and most unique epic, and Lord Valmiki composed the Ramayana thousands of years ago, introducing Lord Rama to the world. Dr. Rajesh Vaidya, President of the District Karnal Congress Rural and former member of the Haryana Public Service Commission, expressed these views while addressing a large crowd as the chief guest at the Ravana Dahan on the occasion of Vijayadashami. Vaidya said that until humans abandon the path of hatred, arrogance, and unrighteousness within themselves, participating in festivals like effigy burning every year will be of no use. Rajesh Vaidya said that today the entire world is translating the couplets from the Ra-



mayana into English and incorporating its teachings into their lives. The festival of Vijayadashami holds a special place in Indian culture, and on this day, Lord Rama, the King of Ayodhya, slew Ravana, the symbol of evil, and showed the world the path of brotherhood, love, and truth.

Rajesh Vaidya called on everyone to celebrate this festival together, with love, brotherhood. Rajesh Vaidya burned the effigies of Ravana, Kumbhakarana, and Meghnad with an arrow. Prior to this, Shri Ramlika Committee President Pawan Kapoor and his entire

team welcomed Rajesh Vaidya with garlands and presented him with a memento. Present on the occasion were Dussehra Committee President Pawan Kapoor, Chandraprakash Sharma, former Municipal Council Chairman Prem Munjal, Gurpreet Singh, Kapil Bakshi, Amit Sharma, Tarun Sharma, Rajendra Sharma, Shivnath Kapoor, Chairman Representative Satnam Ahuja, Hastinder Mann, Damanjit Singh Marwah, Anil Master, Ankit Chauhan, Thousands of city dwellers and villagers, including Munish Chanalia, participated in the effigy burning festival.

Hockey Astro turf organizes volleyball, handball and hockey games



CHAMAN LAL
KARNAL: As part of the Seva Pakhwara program, Hockey Astro turf organized Volleyball, handball and hockey games on Thursday. The program was inaugurated by Sohan Singh Rana, representative of the Zilla Parishad chairman. Councillor Sudesh Rani and Subhash Koch were present from Ward No 1. Village Badouta and Uncha Samana distributed were Handball Sports goods; village Kailash, Kalvehadi, Pundar, Mangalpur were distributed Gagsina, Kunjipura, Baragaon, Ghoghadipur, Ratanpur, Baragaon, Ghoghadipur, Ratanpur, Bajida were also distributed handball and hockey goods. In this program, District Sports Officer Rajbir Singh Ranga, Nodal Officer Adventure Jogendra Kumar, Surendra Chauhan, boxing instructor, Ashwani Kumar Volleyball Instructor, Wazir Singh, Wrestling Instructor, Satish Kumar, Athletics Instructor, Omkar Singh, Cycling Trainer, Kanwaljit Singh, Swimming Instructor, Bhupendra Singh, Football Instructor, Romoician Mokhal, Romoty Mok, Romoty Kumar, Kani 0 kabaddi instructor, kani wrestling instructor and other instructors were present.

EDITORIAL

Wake-up call for India's pharma exporters

By now, the world has become accustomed to the whimsical ways of United States President Donald Trump. The maverick Republican has come up with another policy shock: imposition of a 100 per cent tariff on branded or patented pharmaceutical products. India, a major pharma exporter, will have to bear the brunt of the consequences. Until now, pharma exports were exempt from the 50 per cent tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on Indian goods. This would change now. The latest tariff move is a wake-up call for global pharma exporters as it signals a shift toward protectionism that could reshape future access. Expectedly, the Nifty Pharma index, designed to reflect the behaviour and performance of the pharmaceutical sector in India, fell by more than 2 per cent as the news trickled in. The move comes in the midst of renewed negotiations between India and the United States to finalise a trade deal. Being the global pharmaceutical hub, Telangana is wary of the new development. Some experts have suggested that since the Trump administration is currently targeting only branded and patented drugs, the pharma industry can treat this as an opportunity to step up trade negotiations with other countries, diversify export markets, and invest more heavily in complex generics and biosimilars. Since local companies primarily focus on manufacturing low-cost generic drugs, they remain largely unaffected by these tariffs. While the current exemption for generics protects their existing business operations, there are fears, in some quarters, that the US may redefine or expand the scope in the future to include complex generics or other pharmaceutical categories. In response to this uncertainty, several companies are actively exploring US-based manufacturing partnerships to ensure business continuity and regulatory compliance. Telangana, particularly Hyderabad, has established itself as a global pharmaceutical hub, exporting vaccines and pharmaceutical products to over 150 countries through 214 USFDA-approved manufacturing facilities. The State contributes approximately one-third to India's total pharmaceutical production and accounts for one-fifth of the country's pharmaceutical exports. Hyderabad serves as the epicentre of this pharmaceutical ecosystem, housing over 800 industrial pharmaceutical units. The city is home to renowned firms, including Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Aurobindo Pharma, Hetero Drugs, Laurus Labs, and MSN Pharmaceuticals. As a whole, India is seen as the 'pharmacy of the world' and exports over \$10 billion worth of pharma products to the US out of \$30 billion worldwide. It mainly supplies low-cost generic drugs to America, which are not covered under the new tariff regime. However, there is no clarity yet on active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs). Moreover, major Indian drug-makers are increasingly focusing on complex generics, which largely fall under the branded or patented category. Generic versions of these products, which include inhalers, injectables, and ophthalmic solutions, are difficult to develop due to their complex formulations.

India rips Pakistan over its hypocrisy on human rights

India slammed Pakistan at the 60th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva, for its "hypocrisy" on human rights and highlighting the persecution of minorities within Pakistan. Representing India, diplomat Mohammed Hussain said it was "deeply ironic" that a country with one of the worst human rights records was attempting to lecture others. "They misuse this forum with fabricated allegations against India, which only expose their hypocrisy," he said, addressing the 34th council meeting. Hussain added that instead of resorting to propaganda, Pakistan should confront its "state-sponsored persecution and systematic discrimination" against its own religious and ethnic minorities. Subsequently at the 35th meeting, using the right to reply Pakistan's envoy Abbas Sarwar accused India of deflecting attention from what he called the "dire human rights situation" in Jammu and Kashmir. "The Indian government has made yet another futile claim to avoid scrutiny of its record in the territory," he said, repeating Islamabad's long-standing line on Kashmir. He further alleged that the situation in Ladakh exposed the "truth of India's illegal measures of August 2019." The exchange came against the backdrop of growing discontent inside Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK). Nasir Aziz Khan, spokesperson of the United Kashmir People's National Party (UKPNP), addressed the UNHRC, urging international intervention against what he described as



Pakistan's intensifying repression in the region. Khan highlighted recent protests in PoJK, including a complete shutdown and wheel-jam strike on September 29, led by the Joint Awami Action Committee. He accused Islamabad of deploying Rangers, suspending internet services, and imposing a communication blackout to stifle dissent.

"More than three million Kashmiris in PoJK are under siege, while two million abroad are cut off from their families," Khan said, calling the situation a deliberate attempt to silence peaceful resistance. Muazzarabad, the capital of PoJK, has seen days of demonstrations over unmet demands ranging from reduced electricity tariffs to subsidised

wheat flour and better healthcare. The unrest, which began as a peaceful strike, has turned violent, leaving at least three people dead and more than 22 injured. Protesters are also demanding the removal of 12 legislative seats reserved for refugees settled in Pakistan, arguing that they distort representation. The Pakistani government has responded with

heavy security measures, including flag marches, deployment of Rangers, and suspension of phone and internet networks in key districts. Earlier, a seminar held during the ongoing session in Geneva also highlighted the deteriorating human rights conditions in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

RBI raises IPO financing limit to Rs 25 lakh and loan against shares to Rs 1 cr

To boost Capital markets participation and increase liquidity, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the lending limit for financing Initial Public Offers (IPOs) from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 25 lakh per individual. The central bank has also raised the limit on loans against shares (LAS) from Rs 20

(InvITs). "Loans against shares and IPO financing existed earlier, but were not revised for many years. It is only natural that these limits be updated," RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said. The last revision of loan against shares limit was done in 1998, RBI said considering inflation this increase is not

ceiling on lending against listed debt securities, giving banks greater flexibility to support investors. External commercial borrowings norms have been relaxed to broaden borrowers and lenders base. Risks base for NBFCs infrastructure lending and housing finance have been lowered for ongoing operational

projects and licencing for new urban cooperative banks will resume after a pause of over two decades. RBI has also announced to consolidate over 250 regulatory instructions into master directions to reduce compliance costs, eased restrictions on transaction accounts and announced giving extended timelines to exporters for repatriation from IFSC accounts. The central bank has also allowed a six-month forex outlay for merchanting trade transactions, which involves shipment of goods from one foreign country to another country involving an Indian intermediary, and special rupee Vostro accounts to invest in corporate bonds and commercial papers.

India to host Conclave of Army Chiefs of UN Troop Contributing Countries



The Conclave of Army Chiefs of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UN TCCs) will be held in Delhi from October 14 to 16, bringing together senior leadership from nearly 30 nations that contribute troops to UN Peacekeeping. Addressing the curtain raiser on October 1, Lt Gen Rakesh Kapoor, AVSM, VSM, DCOAS (IS&T), on behalf of the Chief of Army Staff, extended a warm welcome to the gathering. He said it was a privilege to address the august forum on the eve of the significant multilateral event. The conclave will serve as a unique platform where the collective experience, wisdom, and commitment of militaries and nations will converge to deliberate on the shared responsibilities of the international

community towards peace under the UN Charter. India's contribution to peacekeeping was highlighted as reflective of its cultural values, ethical foreign policy and commitment towards global peace and security. The focus, it was stressed, remains on fostering harmony, cooperation and working towards a stable international order. India has been at the forefront of peacekeeping since the early years, considering it a moral and strategic duty. In the past 75 years, India has contributed over 2,90,000 peacekeepers across 50 missions, with 182 making the supreme sacrifice. Indian peacekeepers have stood shoulder to shoulder with their counterparts worldwide, often in the most challenging environments, upholding

the ideals of peace, security, and human dignity. The address also recalled India's first deployment of an All Women Police Contingent in Liberia in 2007 and the role of Female Engagement Teams (FETs) in mainstreaming women in conflict zones. In February 2025, India conducted a conclave of Women Peacekeepers from the Global South, represented by 35 nations. During its UNSC presidency in 2021, India had facilitated adoption of key outcome documents, namely "Accountability of Crimes against UN Peacekeepers" and "Technology for Peacekeeping." Further, in June 2023, India sponsored a UN resolution establishing a Memorial Wall at UN Headquarters in New York, honouring the sacrifice of peacekeepers.

POEMS

In Praise of Mischief

Boys will be boys, the saying goes, even if that boy will one day age into Messiah. One would never guess looking at this scene: child prone on his mother's lap, raised hand about to strike his exposed buttocks yet again. Is that why he's getting paddled, for mooning the market sellers that morning while his mother picked through a cart of onions? They sneered with contempt, "Nazarenes, surely." Mary blushed, recalling her own mother's plea to be the kind of woman whose name never wagged on busy tongues. After all these years nothing's changed. My mother wore that same red dress to el mercado one Sunday after church when I stayed behind for a Christmas play rehearsal. I, the archangel messenger, to Mary: You will bear a son. Virgin birth, the boys scoffed, daring to toss their angelic undies at the arms of a saint. The nuns screeched at the disrespect and told the mothers, who disciplined their sons on the spot. But not mine, which enraged the boys and displeased the adults looking down at us, sneering with contempt, "Son indios."

BY RIGOBERTO GONZÁLEZ

What happens to your body when you eat too many ultra-processed foods

Ultra-processed foods (UPFs) are industrially altered products - like soda, snacks and processed meats - packed with additives and stripped of nutrients. Hundreds of new ingredients, previously unknown to the human body, now make up nearly 60 per cent of the average adult's diet and almost 70% of children's diets in the United States. These products reduce nutritional value, extend shelf life, and tend to increase how much people consume.

In the U.S., UPFs account for about 60% of daily calorie intake. High consumption of these foods has been linked to greater risks of obesity, cancer, metabolic and cardiovascular diseases, mental health issues, and even premature death. New research from Florida Atlantic University's Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine shows that people who consume the most UPFs have significantly higher levels of high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP), a sensitive marker of inflammation and a strong predictor of cardiovascular

disease. Until now, there have been limited data from nationally representative U.S. populations on the link between UPF intake and hs-CRP levels. Results of the study, published in The American Journal of Medicine, show that participants consumed a median of 35% of their daily calories from UPFs, ranging from just 0% to 19% in the lowest group to 60% to 79% in the highest.

After accounting for factors like age, gender, smoking, physical activity and other health indicators, researchers found that individuals in the highest UPF intake group (60% to 79% of daily calories) had an 11% higher likelihood of elevated hs-CRP levels compared to those in the lowest intake group. Even moderate UPF consumers (40% to 59%) showed a 14% increase in likelihood. Those with 20% to 39% intake had a smaller, nonsignificant 7% increase. The likelihood was especially high



in certain groups. Adults aged 50 to 59 had a 26% higher risk of elevated inflammatory markers compared to those aged 18 to 29. Obesity contributed to an 80% higher risk compared to

people with a healthy weight. Current smokers also had a higher risk (17%) than people who never smoked.

Interestingly, individuals who reported no physical activity did not

have a statistically significant increase in risk compared to those who met activity guidelines. "These findings, based on a large and nationally representative sample of U.S. adults, clearly show that people who consume the highest amounts of ultra-processed foods have significantly higher levels of high-sensitivity C-reactive protein, a key marker of inflammation," said Allison H. Ferris, M.D., FACP senior author, professor and chair of the FAU Department of Medicine. "These results carry important implications not only for clinical practice and public health strategies but also for future research aimed at understanding and reducing the health risks associated with ultra-processed food consumption," added Allison.

Researchers analyzed data from 9,254 U.S. adults in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, including diet, hs-CRP and other health factors. UPF intake was measured

as a percentage of total calories and grouped into four levels. They used statistical methods, including logistic regression, to examine the link between UPF consumption and inflammation. "C-reactive protein is produced by the liver, and the hs-CRP protein test is a simple, affordable and highly sensitive measure of inflammation as well as a reliable predictor of future cardiovascular disease," said Charles H.

Hennekens, M.D., FACP, FACC, co-author, the First Sir Richard Doll Professor of Medicine and Preventive Medicine, and senior academic advisor, Schmidt College of Medicine. "We believe that health care professionals may wish to consider actively engaging with their patients about the risks of UPFs and benefits of increasing whole food consumption," added Charles. The authors also highlight a significant rise in colorectal cancer rates in the U.S., particularly among younger adults. They suggest that increased consumption of UPFs may be a contributing factor, along with its potential role in several other

gastrointestinal diseases. Drawing a parallel to the history of tobacco, the authors note that it took decades for mounting evidence and the efforts of progressive health officials to lead to policies discouraging cigarette use. They believe a similar trajectory is likely for UPFs, with growing awareness eventually driving meaningful public health action. "The multinational companies that produce ultra-processed foods are very influential, much like tobacco companies were in the past, so policy changes to promote whole foods and reduce UPF consumption may take time," said Hennekens.

"However, government efforts to reduce harmful additives, improve food labelling, and promote healthier options in programs and schools are important steps in the right direction. At the same time, health care providers should be aware of the challenges many people face in accessing affordable, healthier choices, which calls for a broader and coordinated public health response," added Hennekens.

ANIL KUMAR

BHORANJ: Former BJP leader from Borhanj and son of late former Education Minister Ishwar Dass Dhiman, Dr. Anil Dhiman, hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to cut GST rates as the biggest and most commendable tax reform since independence. Expressing gratitude to the Prime Minister during a press conference in Borhanj, Dr. Dhiman said the GST reforms would provide direct



relief to the common man and boost the economy to new heights. He explained that the reduction in GST will make essential goods such as educational items, medicines, farmers' equipment, vehicles, electronics and construction materials cheaper. "Students will be the biggest beneficiaries as notebooks, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, maps and globes are now tax-free. Geometry and colour boxes have also been reduced from 12% to 5%," he noted.

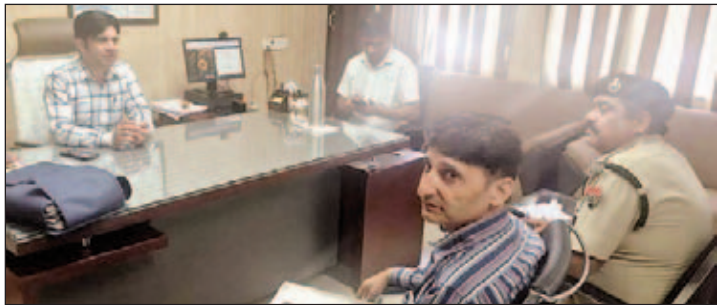
NEWS BRIEF

Two-day training camp held at Dr. Raghubir Prakash SD Sr Sec School



KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA: A two-day training camp was conducted at Dr. Raghubir Prakash S.D. Senior Secondary School, Barnala under the leadership of Principal Kashmir Singh for the principals and teachers of private schools of district Barnala under the Punjab Young Entrepreneur Business Blaster Scheme. On this occasion, District Education Officer (Secondary Education) Barnala Mr. Suninder Singh and Sub-District Education Officer Mr. Banjinder Pal Singh were specially present. Principal Kashmir Singh said that principals and nodal B.B. teachers of 34 private schools participated in the two-day training. He said that in view of the increasing enthusiasm of the students, Punjab School Education Board Mohali has included Entrepreneurship as a compulsory subject in class 11 from this year, which will develop entrepreneurial qualities in the students. Training Nodal Madam Manju said that the Business Blaster program has been running successfully in 119 government senior secondary schools of the district since the year 2023, under which about 6000 students have benefited so far.

SDM reviews stubble burning control with police, agriculture officials



MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI, OCT 2

To control incidents of stubble burning, SDM Ashok Munjal on Wednesday chaired an important review meeting with officials of the police and agriculture departments at the SDM office. He instructed field officers to maintain constant vigilance in villages and remain alert, particularly in areas where stubble burning had been reported in previous years. The SDM directed police officials to conduct regular patrolling in their respective jurisdictions and to combine awareness efforts with strict enforcement. He said that in line with

the directives of the Supreme Court and NGT, the state government has set a target of "zero burning" this year, and so far the administration has achieved positive results. Munjal informed that under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNS), 2023, a complete ban has been imposed on stubble burning in Karnal district. Farmers found violating the rules face penalties of up to Rs. 30,000, FIR registration, and red entries in their records. He added that satellite technology is being used for round-the-clock monitoring, enabling immediate action against violations.

70,090 MTs of paddy procured in district's mandis: DC

RANVIR PARASHAR KAITHAL: DC Preeti stated that

as of yesterday, 70,090 metric tons (MT) of paddy had been procured at the minimum support price by procurement agencies in various mandis across the district. Of this total, 37,592 MT was purchased in Arnauli Mandi, 10,827 metric tonnes in Dhan Mandi, 160 MT in Dhanauri, 16,988 MT in Guhla Cheeka, 1348 MT in old grain market Kaithal, 15,280 MT in new grain market Kaithal, 7,649 MT in additional new grain market, 135 MT in Kalayat Mandi, 647 MT in Kaul, 2,334



MT in Pai Mandi, 11,902 MT in Pundri, 466 MT in Rajound, 500 MT in Ramthali, 1246 MT in Siwan. DC appealed to farmers to dry paddy and bring it to market so that it can be purchased soon. After harvesting rice crop, avoid burning crop residues; instead, manage them properly. Use these residues to make fodder for livestock and add them to soil to increase fertility.

Dumper-Trolley collision Near Sarawan, helper killed, driver injured

PREETI SAINI SADHAURA, OCT 2

In a head-on collision between a dumper and a trolley near village Sarawan on the Sadhaura-Barara road, the dumper helper (cleaner) died on the spot and the driver was seriously injured. The trolley driver, however, managed to escape from the scene. According to the information given to Sadhaura police, dumper driver Raqib, resident of village Jattanwala, said that he and his friend Ramzan, resident of village Jaitpur, who worked as a helper, were returning home on Thursday morning after unloading sand from Shahbad. Raqib said that he was driving the dumper and when they reached near village Sarawan, a speeding trolley loaded with gravel coming from Sadhaura side hit them directly. In this head-on collision, both of them remained stuck in the middle for a long time. Passers-by who reached the spot pulled them out. In the statement given to the police, the dumper driver said that his fellow helper Ramzan, resident of Jaitpur, died on the spot due to injuries and passers-by took him to



the hospital in a serious condition in a private vehicle. According to the dumper driver, one of his legs was broken in this accident and he also suffered a head injury. The victim, the dumper driver, appealed to the Sadhaura police, demanding action against the accused driver by filing a case for speeding, negligence, reckless driving, and causing death. Upon receiving information about the incident, the Sadhaura police arrived at the scene and began investigating the cause of the incident. After this accident, the residents of Sarawan village have once again raised questions on the functioning of the administration. Giving information about the incident, BKU Chaduni Haryana State President Sanjeev Saini said that when he went for a morning walk, he saw this accident.

MC lacklustre attitude forces Welfare Association to clean up park itself



RAHUL KOHLI

YAMUNANAGAR: As part of the cleanliness drive being run by the Municipal Corporation administration, the Mayor, Municipal Commissioner, and HCS officers, who will be specially deployed for cleanliness are going around to raise awareness among the public while they themselves seem to have forgotten to educate the corporation employees. This is why senior citizens of Green Park Colony take it upon themselves to clean the park's overflowing dustbins. This morning, under the banner of the Green Park Colony Welfare Association, the park was cleaned as part of a cleanliness drive. During the campaign, the dustbins in the park were full but despite repeated requests to the municipal employees, they had not emptied these. All the senior citizens emptied the overflowing dustbins. Due to the garbage there for a long time, these were stinking. However, the senior citizens, ignoring the stench, emptied these, giving a message of cleanliness and holding the corporation employees accountable. They also raised slogans against the corporation administration. Association president Davinder Mehta, Naresh Nagpal, Subhash Dutta, Naresh Mehta, and Rajesh Vinayak said that people came to the park for a clean environment, but they were constantly confronted with the stench emanating from the dustbins.

CM Flying Squad raids Jagadhri RTO office, seizes records



RAHUL KOHLI

YAMUNANAGAR: The Chief Minister's Flying Team conducted a raid at the RTO office in Jagadhri, where Nand Kishore was appointed as the duty magistrate by Mr. B.C. Shah. The Chief Minister's Flying Team, consisting of SI Parvinder Singh, ASI Janak Raj, and ASI Sukhwinder Singh, arrived at the spot and conducted the operation in the presence of all officers and staff present in the office. During the raid, the team seized all records from the past two months. While the RTA officer who typically didn't leave her AC room arrived on the road to pass vehicles in the field upon receiving information from the Chief Minister's Flying Team. The records are currently being reviewed and after a thorough study and scrutiny a detailed report will be submitted to the government. The entire staff was present in the office at the time of the seizure and the process was completed. During the inspection, it was discovered that vehicle passing is regularly performed in the office every Wednesday. In this context, a gentleman presented a complaint that he was being charged excessive fees at the CSC (Common Service Center) located outside for his vehicle's renewal fee.

St. Paul's Divine School celebrates Dussehra with pomp



ROHIT LAMSAR

TARAORI: Dussehra was celebrated at St. Paul Divine School, Taraori. The event began with the lighting of lamps. Students, teachers, and staff presented an inspiring program that beautifully blended tradition, creativity and moral education. The program began with the kindergarten students enthusiastically presenting poems related to the festival. The children, dressed as Ram and Sita, recited poems, captivating everyone. Following this, students from grades 1 to 3 created posters on the theme of Dussehra depicting the victory of good over evil through colors and slogans. Students delivered powerful speeches on the theme of the victory of good over evil drawing inspiration from the Ramayana and highlighting the importance of truth, courage and righteousness. The school also prioritized an environmentally friendly celebration, avoiding firecrackers and highlighting the core message of Dussehra through symbolic activities. The program concluded with a symbolic victory ceremony, conveying the message that virtues like courage, truth, and honesty always triumph over negative tendencies.

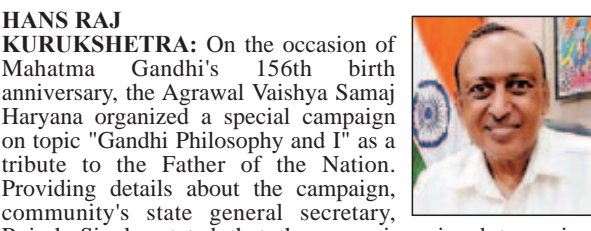
SMS Memorial Public School, Taraori celebrates Dussehra



ROHIT LAMSAR

TARAORI: Dussehra was celebrated at SMS Memorial Public School, Taraori. A symbolic burning of Ravana was performed on this occasion. The program was inaugurated by the school's Principal, Dr. Vibha Kaushik, by lighting a lamp in front of Goddess Saraswati. Students presented tableaux from the Ramayana and conveyed the message of the triumph of good over evil. By burning Ravana, students were inspired to always follow the path of truth and righteousness in life. In the cultural presentation, young children enacted live characters from the Ramayana and the children mesmerized everyone with their beautiful dances to Ram bhajans. School Principal Dr. Vibha Kaushik said that Dussehra taught them that no matter how great the falsehood, truth ultimately triumphs. We should eliminate negative qualities like Ravana from our lives and adopt positive thinking and good conduct, says the principal. On this day, by burning Ravana, we symbolically demonstrate that we must eliminate ego, greed, anger, and other negative qualities from our lives. Students should follow the path of truth, virtue, and discipline and embrace the ideals of Lord Rama.

Agrawal Vaishya Samaj holds special campaign on topic 'Gandhi Philosophy and I'



HANS RAJ

KURUKSHETRA: On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 156th birth anniversary, the Agrawal Vaishya Samaj Haryana organized a special campaign on topic "Gandhi Philosophy and I" as a tribute to the Father of the Nation. Providing details about the campaign, community's state general secretary, Rajesh Singla, stated that the campaign aimed to revive Gandhi's ideology, principles, and a life perspective based on truth, non-violence, and morality among modern society and the new generation. Therefore, under the guidance of the organization's state president, Ashok Buwaniwala, the Agrawal Vaishya Samaj organized this campaign to spread Gandhi's thoughts to the masses, especially to today's young generation. He explained that as part of this campaign, members of the community uploaded videos on various social media platforms on the relevance of the topic "Gandhi Philosophy and I" in the current times. He explained that to make this campaign successful, the community has uploaded videos using a special hashtag called "DilMeGandhi" (Gandhi in the Heart). These videos have also been uploaded to community's official social media platforms to preserve Gandhi's principles. He said that Mahatma Gandhi was not only a great leader of the freedom struggle, but also a symbol of morality, simplicity, and self-confidence. He taught us that violence should be answered not with violence but with truth and non-violence.

Galaxy Basmati Rice sets example of service, thousands of devotees partake offerings



ROHIT LAMSAR

TARAORI: On the auspicious occasion of Dussehra, Galaxy Basmati Rice organized a grand feast at the fair site, Gugga Madi. Delicious offerings of potatoes, chole-puri, curry-rice, and halwa were prepared for over 20,000 devotees. Thousands of devotees partook of the offerings. The feast was inaugurated by company director Krishna Goyal. A team of over 50 confectioners and over 100 volunteers managed arrangements. The massive feast continued until late evening, and devotees enthusiastically partook of the offerings. Krishna Goyal, CMD of Goyal International Pvt. Ltd., Taraori, said that service is greatest religion. Religious events promote brotherhood and harmony in society. Galaxy family will always support religious and social events and prioritize serving the people. Ram Singh Chaudhary, Patron of the Shri Ram Mela Committee, Taraori, President Monu Jain, and Advisor Subhash Gupta expressed their gratitude to Goyal International Pvt. Ltd. They said that this huge feast organized by the Galaxy family further enhanced the splendor of the Dussehra festival. Serving devotees on such a large scale is truly commendable.

Program organised at Sai Mandir Kaithal on Sai Baba's Nirvana Day



SANJAY SHARMA

KAITHAL: In the religious program organized on the Nivaran Diwas of Sai Baba, devotees sat in Sai Baba's court and recited Sai Sachitra and remembered him by singing hymns. Sai Baba's devotees described his miracles as incomparable and said that no one went empty handed from Sai Baba's court. They said that wishes asked from Sai Baba with a true heart were fulfilled. They said that Sai Baba still resided in the hearts of devotees. Discussing Sai Baba's life and teachings, devotees explained that he served humanity and alleviated the suffering of the distressed. Sai Baba's message was that everyone has one master and that compassion should be shown to all humans and animals. Members of the Sai Temple Committee said that with the help of devotees, beautiful and attractive stones were being installed on the Sai Temple of Kaithal to give it a grand look by spending lakhs of rupees.

Students at DAV Police Public School enact Ramayana on Dussehra



RAHUL KOHLI

YAMUNANAGAR: Festival of Vijaydashami symbolizing victory of good over evil, inspires us to follow path of goodness and truth, while also conveying message that no matter how powerful evil may be, its ultimate defeat is inevitable. Instilling this message, students of DAV Police Public School celebrated Dussehra with great enthusiasm. First-grade students sang entire Ramayana. Second-grade students presented Ram Stuti. Under leadership of teacher Rajwinder Kaur, students enacted entire Ramayana. They gave a lively rendition of all characters from Ramayana. Highlight was students' enactment of abduction of Sita and the killing of Ravana. Students brought these two scenes from Ramayana to life through their performances and everyone enjoyed them with rapture. Under leadership of music teacher Vikas, girls performed bhajans. In program, the stage was successfully managed by Unnati, Hema and Akshita of class XII. Principal of school burnt Ravana at end of program. Praising all students for presenting cultural program, Principal said that cultural activities on festivals make students aware of our tradition, culture and religion.

Jagroop Singh Sekhwan inaugurates link road projects under Market Committee Kahnuwan



VERMA

GURDASPUR: Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab government is consistently implementing a series of development projects in the Kadian Assembly constituency. As part of these efforts, senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Advocate Jagroop Singh Sekhwan today laid the foundation stone for the repair of several village link roads under Market Committee Kahnuwan. The roads to be repaired include: Kot Yograj to Pasnawal, Wadaich to Jagowal Bangar, Main Road to Gohat Khurd, Bhathian to Ghukla, Bhathian to Bhathian Dera. A total of Rs. 2.30 crore will be spent by the Punjab government on these road repairs. Addressing the local residents on this occasion, Advocate Jagroop Singh Sekhwan said that the Kadian Assembly constituency includes three market committees Kahnuwan, Kadian, and Dhariwal and the Punjab government has approved Rs. 100 crore for the repair of rural link roads under all three committees.

Bharat Singh Solanki holds meeting with traders in Gurdaspur under party reorganization campaign



VERMA

GURDASPUR: Former Union Minister Bharat Singh Solanki held a meeting with traders of Gurdaspur district under the party's Sangathan Srijan Abhiyan (Organization Creation Campaign). The meeting was also attended by Gurdaspur constituency MLA Barindermeet Singh Pahra. During the interaction, Solanki shared that he is visiting both rural and urban areas to raise awareness among people about the activities and initiatives of the Congress party. He mentioned that people's concerns are being heard and addressed during these visits. Solanki appreciated the efforts made by Congress workers and senior leaders, along with Pahra's team, in helping people during the recent floods. He said that party leaders are working tirelessly, day and night.

Discipline key for improving exam results: Principal



HANS RAJ

KURUKSHETRA: During prayer session at Geeta Kanya Senior Secondary School under joint aegis of Vidya Bharati Haryana and Hindu Shiksha Samiti, Principal Suman Bala said that discipline is essential for improving exam results. One should prepare for each subject by creating a timetable. Students who achieve first place are always remembered, so a competitive spirit should always be maintained. She added that it is also crucial to have a qualification in a specific field (sewing, embroidery, painting, yoga, and cooking) so that one can become self-reliant and create one's own employment. Additionally, one can become an employer of others. Today's prayer session commemorated the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi, who gave slogan of truth and 'Ahimsa Parmo Dharma,' and country's second Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Various activities organised at Navyug Sr Sec School to mark Dussehra



HANS RAJ

KURUKSHETRA: A special prayer meeting was held at school, where Akriti, a Class 11 student, shared her thoughts on Dussehra festival. A puppet show was organized for students in Nursery to Class 2, where they created puppets of Lord Ram and Goddess Sita from colored paper. Students in Classes 3 to 5 were shown a film based on life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, titled "Chalo Jeete Hain." A poster-making competition was held for students in Classes 6 to 12 and all winners were awarded certificates of participation. School's Principal, Dr. Devendra Arora, explained significance of Dussehra, saying that it is not only a religious celebration but also a message of eliminating evil and promoting goodness in society.

Bank of Baroda launches Festive Campaign - BOB Ke Sang Tyohaar Ki Umang
CHANDIGARH/LUDHIANA : As a part of its annual festive campaign "BOB Ke Sang Tyohaar Ki Umang - Shubh Bhi. Labh Bhi." Bank of Baroda (Bank) has rolled out a range of festive offers for its retail and MSME customers. The campaign is designed to make the festive season more rewarding for customers by providing concessional interest rates, special offers and value-added benefits. Bank of Baroda also has a limited period offer on ROI on Gold Loans & Mortgage Loans. Following the success of the bob Masterstroke Savings account, Bank of Baroda has launched a more inclusive and lighter version - the bob Masterstroke Lite Savings Account. bob Masterstroke Lite has a lower Monthly Average Balance requirement and is loaded with offers - including lifestyle benefits on dining, travel, entertainment while providing accidental insurance and other attractive features. Bank of Baroda has introduced attractive discounts on Debit Cards this festive season. The Bank has tied up with leading brands across categories such as travel, food, fashion and grocery. BOB Digi Udyam is a digital, collateral-free lending platform offering Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) quick access to working capital loans above ₹10 lakh to ₹50 lakh. These festive offers are available both online through the Bank's digital platforms and via the Bank's nationwide branch network, ensuring maximum convenience and reach.

NEWS BRIEF

Bharat celebrates #GSTBachatUtsav on Amazon.in
AMRITSAR:—As part of the ongoing Amazon Great Indian Festival, the Great Savings Celebration #GSTBachatUtsav storefront enabled sellers to pass on over ₹100 crore in GST savings across appliances, fashion, everyday essentials and other applicable categories. The shopping festival also demonstrated Amazon.in's reach and delivery speeds, with 40% of customer orders that were placed in the first 24 hours being delivered the same or next day across the country. Saurabh Srivastava, Vice President, Amazon India, said "As part of our commitment to supporting sellers and helping them stay compliant with government reforms, we enabled a smooth transition to the new GST rates starting September 22. Through tools, automatic updation of tax codes, masterclasses on the changes and more, we empowered lakhs of sellers to conveniently implement GST benefits for customers."

Nestlé India signs MOU with ministry of food processing industries at world food india summit
SHIMLA: Nestlé India further strengthened its commitment to India as it signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) to expedite the investments in green field and brown field projects, in Odisha and its existing manufacturing locations. The MoU was signed at the World Food India Summit 2025 in New Delhi. Manish Tiwary, Chairman and Managing Director, Nestlé India, stated, "The signing of this MoU with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries underscores Nestlé India's commitment to investments in the food processing sector in green field and brown field projects, in Odisha and existing manufacturing locations within the time frame of next 2 to 3 years. This is also expected to create both direct and indirect employment opportunities. reinforcing our commitment to India's growth story as we continue on this journey towards AtmanirbharBharat." Mr. Kunwar Himmat Singh, Head, Corporate Affairs, Nestlé India commented, "With over 113 years of presence in India, Nestlé India works with over 100,000 farmers, including those in dairy, coffee, spices, wheat, sugarcane, and rice, combined with a strong supplier partnership."

Darul Uloom Shah Wali Ullah concludes half-yearly exams, education termed as Islam's first obligation
Lndri, Oct 2 (Mainpal Kashyap) - The half-yearly examinations at Darul Uloom Shah Wali Ullah Madrasa, which commenced on September 28, concluded successfully on October 2, 2025. Students from different classes participated and showcased excellent performances in their respective subjects. On this occasion, Principal Maulana Mohammad Rashid Wafa Nadvi underlined the importance of education, describing it as a compulsory duty in Islam. He said that without knowledge, a person lives in darkness. Citing the words of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad, he recalled, "Seek knowledge, even if you have to go as far as China." He further explained that the first revelation in Islam, "Iqra" (Read), highlights the significance of education in leading humanity and society towards progress. The results were announced as follows: In Darja Ibtidai (Class 5): First - Abdus Samad (father: Hasnain), Second - Bilal (father: Idris), Third - Anas (father: Tahir), Darja Nazira (Class 6): First - Hassan (father: Zakir), Joint Second - Anas (father: Haji Tahir Hasan) and Sabir (father: Zakir), Third - Shahrukh (father: Saddam). In Darja Hizi (Class 7): First - Amir Hamza (father: Qari Mohsin Qasmi), Second - Abdur Rahman (father: Akudini), Third - Ijazat (father: Dilshad Pradhan). In Darja Ibtidai (Class 4): First - Muskan (father: Irshad), Second - Alia (father: Mohd. Nafees), First - Insaar (father: Dilshad Pradhan). The examination period and closing ceremony witnessed the presence of several local dignitaries, religious scholars, parents, and community members. Among those present were Maulvi Amiruddin, Qari Inam, Qari Shahid, Musharrarf, Anas, Haji Tahir, Kala Khan, Dilshad Pradhan, Sajid, Iqbal, Ikrar Nandi, Idris, Saddam, Iran, Nafees Bhai, Dilshad Ansaar, Riyazuddin, Mehadi Hasan, and Irshad Bhai.

Tribute Ceremony on the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Bharat Ratna Lal Bahadur Shastri.



CHANDIGARH : A commemorative ceremony was held today at Punjab Raj Bhavan to mark the birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and Bharat Ratna Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. On this occasion, Governor Shri Gulab Chand Kataria offered floral tributes to both the great leaders. In a simple ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, Shri Kataria along with the officers and staff of Raj Bhavan paid homage to the two eminent personalities. The Governor said that Mahatma Gandhi was not just a saint, social reformer, politician, and visionary, but truly a world-transforming figure. His thoughts and actions influenced not only India but the entire world. The anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, Sri Lanka's freedom struggle, Martin Luther King Jr.'s civil rights movement in America, Nelson Mandela's leadership, and even global icons like the Dalai Lama, Albert Einstein, and Barack Obama—all drew inspiration from Gandhi. Quoting an inspiring thought from Gandhi's life, the Governor said Gandhi always emphasized the importance of deeds, habits, and character in shaping destiny. He believed: "Sow a deed, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny." The Governor added that for Gandhi, freedom was not

merely about the departure of the British, but about awakening the consciousness that people must become the makers of their own destiny. It was from this vision that he advocated Gram Swaraj (village self-rule) and self-reliance. For him, khadi was not just a fabric but a symbol of self-sufficiency and self-respect. Highlighting the relevance of Gandhi's philosophy, Shri Kataria said that at a time when the world is witnessing rising violence and intolerance, adopting Gandhi's principles of truth and non-violence has become all the more essential. That is why the United Nations decided to observe Gandhi's birth anniversary as the International Day of Non-Violence. Remembering Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Governor said that he was a true Gandhian who dedicated his entire life to simplicity and service. Though his tenure as Prime Minister lasted only about 18 months, it was truly remarkable. His contribution to the freedom movement was unforgettable, and his slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" continues to hold as much relevance today as it did then.

On the sixth day of the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha and Vrindavan Praktya Utsav, Lord Krishna was offered 56 Bhog

CHANDIGARH: Under the aegis of Shri Krishna Priya Ju Sarkinran Mandal, the Vrindavan Praktya Utsav and Shrimad Bhagwat Katha are being organized at the Mela Ground in Sector 34, which will continue until October 3. Renowned speaker Sandeep Chugh gracefully conducted the stage. Pandit Rasraj Ji Maharaj and Shyam Singh Chauhan Ji Maharaj, Nij Mandir Khatu Shyam, also attended the Katha. At the beginning of the Katha, narrator Shri Indresh Upadhyay Maharaj extended Dussehra greetings to the entire Chandigarh community. Today, the Katha included Girraj Pujan, and Shri Giridhar Lal Ji was offered 56 bhog by the devotees. The sixth day of the Katha began with great pomp and show with Aarti and Hari hymns. Afterward, world-renowned Katha narrator, Param Puja Shri Indresh Maharaj, narrated the story of the 56 bhog offerings to Lord Krishna. He emphasized that we should devote time to God in our busy schedules and worship Him. He explained that Lord Krishna lifted Mount Govardhan to save the people of Braj from the wrath of Lord Indra. After this, he had to remain hungry for seven days, after which he was fed 56 dishes for eight hours a day. This tradition of '56 bhog offerings' began since then. Maharaj Ji said that Ravana is not a person, Ravana is a nature, just like Ravana used to stand on two boats, on one side he worshipped Shiva and on the other side he had a deceitful nature, and Ravana's end was also not good, till today Ravana is being burnt, hence keep only one as your target and never bring duplicity in your behavior and thoughts, stay on one side for a good end. Shri Ram gave Ravana many hints, but Ravana failed to understand them. Similarly, in Kaliyuga, humans receive many hints, and only a devotee of the true saints and a devotee of devotion can understand them and renounce their negative tendencies. Describing the character of the blind devotee, Maharaj Ji explained that people do not come to listen to the Katha on their own accord. The blessings of the Katha are bestowed only on those who are pleased with Kishori Ji, and the hymns of their previous lives also draw them to their next lives. Those who came to listen to the entire Katha to the hymns of Radha Rani could not stop themselves from dancing. The entire pandal was transformed into Vrindavan and Barsana Dham. The Dandiya festival was also celebrated with joy on the sixth day of the Katha. Munish Bajaj, the coordinator, said that a free langar has been arranged for all the devotees who came to listen to the story by Gori Shankar Seva Dal, Sachin Goyal from Gupta Plywood, Chandigarh and the President of Mata Mansa Devi Seva Trust and with the help of some devotees, tea and sweet water stalls are also being set up.

Hindware Unveils 'Designed For Sukoon', Its New Brand Positioning

CHANDIGARH : Hindware, India's leading bathroom, tiles, and consumer appliances brand, introduced its new brand positioning, 'Designed for Sukoon'. Under this positioning, the company has launched an integrated brand campaign that reimagines homes as sanctuaries going beyond functionality to offer true wellbeing and comfort. Conceptualised and created by MullenLowe Lintas Group, the campaign reflects Hindware's brand promise of creating a warm and inviting world for consumers, filled with Calm, Care, Comfort, Love & Playfulness, ensuring that Hindware is not just a brand in their home, but an integral part of their busy lives. Rooted in the brand's philosophy of creating deep emotional connect with consumers, the campaign strikes an emotional chord with consumers across India and across age brackets. Hindware's 'Designed for Sukoon' thought comes alive through innovations like a Multifunction Shower with Thermostat that mimics monsoon rain, Smart WC with warm seat as comforting as a winter blanket, splash-free faucets, washbasins in vibrant colours, IoT Chimney with Maxx Silence Technology as a quiet partner in moments of love, and premium tiles that unite beauty with durability, together making a house, your home. Mr. Shashvat Somany, Head of Strategy, Somany Impresa Group and Non-Executive Non-Independent Director, Hindware Limited added, "For over six decades, Hindware has been synonymous with innovation, quality, and trust."



District President Jyoti Saini honours children at BJP District Office

SANJAY SHARMA KAITHAL: As part of the Seva Pakhwada (Service Fortnight) organised by the Bharatiya Janata Party, Haryana, a grand painting competition was held at Arya Kanya School under the leadership of co-ordinators Akshara Gupta and Kamaljeet Kaur. The children showcased their talent and imagination on the theme of "Self-Reliant India", presenting a glimpse of India's bright future through colour. Sanya won first place, Ravi and Madhu second, and Bunty, Manoj, and Anshik jointly third, bringing honor to the school and its parents. The children's creativity and enthusiasm brought a festive atmosphere to the school. Following this, at the BJP District Office, Kapil Kamal, Kaithal, BJP District President Jyoti Saini honoured the winning children and wished them a bright future. She said, "Seva Pakhwada is a symbol of dedication to society and the nation. Such events provide children with an opportunity to showcase their talents, which instills confidence, discipline, and patriotism in them." She praised the organisers and said that giving children the right direction is the true service to building their future. On this occasion, BJP District General Secretary Suresh Sandhu also encouraged the children, saying, "Children have immense potential. If they receive the right guidance and platform, they can excel in any field." Finally, Akshara Gupta congratulated all the participants and said that such activities are inspiring for both education and society.



Dussehra celebrated with great enthusiasm in Indira Colony

MEGHRAJ LUTHRA KARNAL: Like last year, Dussehra was celebrated with great enthusiasm on Ram Navami in Indira Colony near Shakha Ground. Social worker and Mahila Shakti Manch member Deepika Sharma said that women celebrate Dussehra, symbolizing the victory of good over evil, together. We burn Ravana every year, and similarly, we should also burn the hidden evils of our hearts. Ravana was burnt in the presence of members of Shri Ramdoot Hanuman Sabha, making this Dussehra memorable. Social worker Love Kishore Giotra performed the burning of Ravana. Present on the occasion were Mahila Shakti Manch President Shalu Arora, Ravita Luthra, Geetika, Satish Gaba, Sunita Kamra, Annu, Seema, Bharti, and all the women of the colony.



Devotees pay tribute and distribute prasad on Shri Sai Baba Samadhi Day (Vijayadashami)

RANVIR PARASHAR: KAITHAL - On the auspicious occasion of Vijayadashami, Shri Sai Baba Samadhi Day was observed with deep devotion by Sai devotees in Kaithal. Devotees offered floral tributes at the feet of Baba's idol and portraits, receiving blessings with folded hands and teary eyes. The event was organized by the Shri Sai Rasoi Seva Samiti, Kaithal. Prominent industrialist Shri Kailash Bhagat and heads of various social organizations, including Krishna Narang, Naveen Malhotra, Subhash Kathuria, Dharmveer Bhola, and Anil Tiwari, participated and expressed their profound reverence for Baba. They highlighted that Sai Baba's teachings continue to guide society on the paths of love, service, and compassion. The highlight of the program was the distribution of kadi-chawal prasad. A large number of devotees received the prasad in an orderly manner, with volunteers managing the arrangements with dedication and discipline. Devotees regarded the day not merely as a memorial but as a reminder to embrace Baba's principles of compassion, dedication, and the philosophy of "Sabka Malik Ek" (One God for all). The atmosphere was filled with devotion and sentiment, with many devotees reflecting emotionally on his teachings.



Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India Drives Momentum with 5.68 lakh unit sales in September 2025

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) reported total sales of 5,68,164 units in September 2025. This includes 5,05,693 units in domestic sales and 62,471 units in exports. HMSI also registered a 6% month-on-month (MOM) growth in total sales compared to August 2025. For the Year-to-Date (YTD) period of FY26 (April-September 2025), HMSI recorded total sales of 29,91,024 units, comprising 26,79,507 units sold domestically and 3,11,517 units exported. HMSI's Key Highlights of September 2025: Road Safety: HMSI continued its commitment towards road safety by organizing awareness campaigns across 13 cities nationwide including Ahmedabad, Chittoorgarh, Rewa, Balasore, Sitamarti, Agra, Mumbai, Tirupati, Trivandrum, Baramati, Vijayapura, Rohtak and Ambala. These campaigns focused on strengthening the culture of responsible road behaviour through interactive learning. HMSI also marked the 5th anniversary of its Safety Driving Education Centre (SDEC) in Vizag, and the 6th anniversaries in Kozhikode and Vijayawada, to enhance awareness of safer riding practices. Corporate Social Responsibility: Taking a step forward towards Honda's global vision of a collision-free society by 2050.



Rally organised against social evils by Labour Department on Gandhi Jayanti

CHAMAN LAL KARNAL: On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, the Haryana Labour Department organised a rally from Mahatma Gandhi Chowk to the District Secretariat on Thursday as part of the ongoing Shramik Samman and Awareness Programme. The rally, held with the support of school children, aimed to raise awareness against social evils such as child marriage, child labour and drug abuse. Mayor Renu Bala attended the programme as the chief guest. She paid floral tributes at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and led the rally organised by the department. Assistant Labour Commissioner Karveer Yadav, AWO Rajni Pasricha, Labour Inspectors Suresh Kumar, Gajraj Narwal, Devvrat, Bhavna Balyan, along with other officials of the Labour Department, were also present.



Raj Singh Godara congratulates Sanjay Bathla on becoming chairman of Kurukshetra Development Board

INDRI(MAINPAL KASHYAP) - A wave of joy spread in the region after BJP leader Sanjay Bathla was appointed chairman of the Kurukshetra Development Board. On this occasion, senior BJP leader Raj Singh Godara visited his residence, presented a bouquet, and extended congratulations and respect. Offering his best wishes, Raj Singh Godara said that Bathla's appointment to this significant post is a well-deserved and commendable decision. He described Sanjay Bathla as a capable organizer and experienced politician under whose guidance the Kurukshetra Development Board will function more effectively. He further expressed hope that under Bathla's leadership, development works in Kurukshetra district will gain new direction, while preserving the region's cultural, religious, and historical heritage and promoting tourism.



Flood Rehabilitation and Desilting Work Launched by MP Vikram Sahney in District Gurdaspur

DERA BABA NANAK (GURDASPUR): On the auspicious occasion of Dussehra, Padma Shri Dr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), extended his generosity by initiating large-scale flood relief and rehabilitation operations in the flood-affected villages of Dera Baba Nanak block, District Gurdaspur. The initiative was kicked off with offering the Ardas in the presence of local MLA Gurdeep Singh Randhawa and DC Gurdaspur Dalwinderjit Singh (IAS). Dr. Sahney stated that as part of the operations, 5 JCB Machines and 18 Tractors were deployed for desilting work in village Dharamkot Pattan, at the shore of River Ravi where hundreds of hectares of standing crops have been destroyed due to waterlogging as deep as 4-6 feet, leaving small and marginal farmers devastated. Dr. Sahney assured that the machinery, along with trained personnel and labour will remain deployed until the affected farmers are fully satisfied and their land is ready for the Rabi crop cycle. Later in the day, Dr. Sahney visited the village wherein he personally distributed essential household materials to flood-hit families, including beds, mattresses, fogging machines, furniture, Kitchen Sets, other household materials and food grains etc. Commenting on the occasion, Dr. Sahney said, "Our farmers are the backbone of Punjab, and it is our collective duty to stand by them in this hour of crisis. The flood devastation has brought immense hardship, but together, we will rebuild stronger. My priority is to ensure that every affected family feels secure and that no farmer is left helpless."



Grand Dussehra festival concludes with burning of Ravana, Kumbhakarna, and Meghnath

ROHIT LAMSAR TARAOORI: The Shri Ram Mela Committee celebrated Dussehra at Rani Talab with great pomp and religious fervor. A large crowd of city residents gathered for the occasion and enjoyed the fair until late at night. The fair was crowded with people shopping and entertainment from early morning. The grand procession from the Panchayati Temple to Goga Madi was a highlight, with the decorated tableaux captivating the audience. The procession, which began at the Panchayati Temple, passed through the Main Bazaar, Anjanthal Road, and Goga Madi before reaching the festival venue. It was welcomed at various locations. Renowned bhajan singer Ishwar Sharma enthralled the devotees with a devotional performance that lasted until late in the evening on the cultural stage. The main attraction of the festival was the burning of huge effigies of Ravana, Kumbhakarna, and Meghnath, which thousands of people gathered to witness. Amid fireworks and cheers, people celebrated the victory of good over evil. MLA Bhagwandas Kabirpanthi, Galaxy Basmati Rice CMD Krishna Goyal, Municipal Chairman Virendra Bansal, Market Committee Chairman Randeep Chaudhary, Punjab Sabha President Rajiv Narang, social worker Nareesh Arora, Municipal Secretary Ajit Kumar, Grain Market Municipal Secretary Gopal, industrialist Amit Jain, Rinku Khurana, and many other dignitaries attended the event.



Gaudium IVF and women health limited re-files DRHP with SEBI

GURUGRAM : Gaudium IVF and Women Health Limited, one of India's leading fertility and IVF service providers, has re-filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus ("DRHP") with the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"). The company operates through a hub-and-spoke model comprising 7 hubs and 28 spokes across multiple states, making it one of the largest IVF networks in the country. Founded by Dr. Manika Khanna, Gaudium IVF has emerged as a pioneer in assisted reproductive technologies in India. The offer comprises a fresh issue of up to 1,13,92,500 equity shares and an offer for sale of up to 94,93,700 equity shares by promoter Dr. Manika Khanna, aggregating to a total of 2,08,86,200 equity shares of face value ₹5 each. In its previous filing, the company had proposed a larger fresh issue of 1,83,54,400 equity shares and a smaller offer for sale of 25,31,700 equity shares, together amounting to 2,08,86,100 equity shares. Compared to the earlier structure, while the overall offer size remains broadly the same, the composition has shifted significantly with the OFS portion increasing from 25.32 lakh shares to 94.94 lakh shares—an addition of nearly 69.62 lakh shares, indicating a higher promoter dilution in the current filing. The net proceeds from the fresh issue are proposed to be utilized towards funding capital expenditure for establishing 19 new IVF centres across India (Rs 50 crore), repayment/pre-payment of certain outstanding borrowings (Rs 20 crore) and for general corporate purposes. Gaudium IVF plans expansion to reach underserved regions with affordable IVF services, supported by strong brand recall driven by its founder's expertise. The Indian IVF market is projected to grow at a CAGR of 13.1% from USD 1.32 billion in 2024 to USD 4.54 billion in 2034, presenting significant growth opportunities. For the financial year ended March 31, 2025, Gaudium IVF reported revenue from operations of ₹70.72 crore, EBITDA of ₹28.63 crore and a Profit After Tax (PAT) of ₹10.13 crore. In Fiscal 2024, the company posted revenue from operations of ₹47.89 crore, EBITDA of ₹19.27 crore and PAT of ₹10.31 crore, while in Fiscal 2023, revenue stood at ₹44.23 crore with EBITDA of ₹20.06 crore and PAT of ₹13.52 crore.

NEWS BRIEF

PWR Indian League and Tour to launch National Pickleball League

New Delhi: PWR Indian League and Tour Private Limited (PWR) has been sanctioned by the Indian Pickleball Association (IPA), the official governing body for pickleball in India, recognized by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, to launch and operate a national-level, franchise-based pickleball league in India.

PWR will introduce the Indian Pickleball League, a new franchise-based league designed to expand the sport's reach, support athlete development, and create structured opportunities for players, franchises, and partners. The league will be conducted in accordance with the terms outlined in the RFP and the proposal submitted by PWR. The full schedule, participating franchises, and format details will be shared in due course. Over the past year, PWR has played a key role in organising pickleball tournaments in cities such as Delhi, Dubai, Bhubaneswar, and Noida, among others.

These events have featured players from diverse age groups and skill levels, contributing to the growth of a competitive ecosystem and strengthening the national ranking framework under the Pickleball World Ranking (PWR) system.

Apollo Tyres unveils logo on Indian men's cricket team jersey

Ahmedabad: Following the recent announcement of a prestigious three-year strategic partnership with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Apollo Tyres unveiled its logo on the Indian men's cricket team jersey for the first time in Ahmedabad, before the opening test match against the West Indies on Thursday, as per a release from Apollo Tyres. This marks a significant milestone in the partnership, coming two days after the Apollo Tyres logo first appeared prominently on the sleeves of women's team jerseys during their match against Sri Lanka in Guwahati.

The presence of the Apollo Tyres logo on the jerseys of both the men's and women's teams symbolises a deep commitment to supporting the sport and celebrating the nation's passion. Neeraj Karwar, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Apollo Tyres Ltd. said, "Our logo appearing on the Indian cricket teams' jersey is a moment of great honour for us. Cricket unites the nation like no other sport, and through this association, we aim to go the distance with the teams and their supporters, embodying the spirit of determination, resilience and excellence." Coming to the match, a calm and composed half-century from KL Rahul powered India to 121/2, trailing by 41 runs at the end of Day 1 against the West Indies on Thursday.

JJ Smit's stellar show confirms Namibia's qualification for T20 World Cup 2026 without much fuss

Harare: Namibia has confirmed its ticket for a trip to the sub-continent for next year's T20 World Cup after trouncing Tanzania in their African Qualifiers semi-final contest without much fuss in Harare on Thursday. Namibia outfoxed Tanzania with an imposing 63-run victory and became the first team from the African Qualifiers to qualify for the marquee event. The guaranteed spot will mark Namibia's fourth appearance at the T20 World Cup, following its previous attendance in 2021 (Super 12s), 2022 (group stage), and 2024 (group stage).

In the semi-final fixture, Namibia was put to bat by Tanzania captain Kassim Nassoro. JJ Smit and a familiar face, Gerhard Erasmus, carried Namibia's batting attack, lifting them to a daunting 174/6. Smit top-scored with an unbeaten 61 off 43 deliveries, while skipper Erasmus played the second fiddle with a sturdy 55(41).

Filles from Smit and Erasmus helped Namibia's cause, especially after losing the top four cheaply. Namibia was resting at 41/4 in 4.4 overs with Jan Fryrick (0), Milan Kruger (28), Lauren Steenkamp (1) and Jan Nicol Loffie-Eaton (10) returning to the pavilion. At 41/4, Smit and Erasmus injected the much-needed impetus to propel Namibia to a daunting total.

In reply, Tanzania got off to a slow start with openers Anam Yadav and Abhik Patra adding 29 runs halfway through the sixth over.

Following his game-changing exploits with the bat, Smit returned to haunt Tanzania with his left-arm quick deliveries. He broke the opening stand on 29 in the sixth over by scalping Anam's wicket, and a ball later removed Dhruvit Mehta to leave Tanzania jolted.

Abhishek has often credited his mentor and white-ball legend, Yuvraj Singh, for the success he has savoured since bursting onto the international scene last year against Zimbabwe. The 25-year-old trained with Yuvraj during the pandemic and took the steps towards success. While slowly overcoming his unreliable form, Abhishek truly realised the goal Yuvraj had set for him: Preparing him

Day 1: KL Rahul's resilience helps India to post 121/2 against WI

Visitors bowled out for 162



AGENCY

Ahmedabad: A calm and composed half-century from KL Rahul powered India to 121/2, trailing by 41 runs at the end of Day 1 against the West Indies on Thursday. India lost just two wickets in the third session on Day 1 of the first Test at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, with Yashasvi Jaiswal and Sai Sudharsan falling to the West Indies bowlers. Jaiswal and Rahul opened the innings for India. Hosts reached 23/0 after 12.4

overs, with both the openers at the crease, when the rain interrupted the game. Before rain interrupted the game, West Indies bowlers tested Indian openers with their tight line and length. After taking some time to settle in, Jaiswal switched gears and started dealing in boundaries after the restart. India reached 59/0 after 17 overs. Jaiswal, trying to be aggressive, lost his wicket in the 19th over. A short length delivery, close to the body, Jaiswal tried to cut and edged it behind to

the wicketkeeper. Jayden Seales scalped the first wicket, sending Jaiswal back to the pavilion for 36, and Sai Sudharsan joined Rahul at the crease. At drinks, India reached 83/1 after 22 overs, trailing behind by 79 runs with KL Rahul (39)* and Sai Sudharsan (5)* unbeaten on the crease. West Indies captain Roston Chase picked up a wicket in his first over. It was Sai Sudharsan who had to depart on 7(19). He tried to pull the ball away but got trapped lbw in front of the stumps. India reached

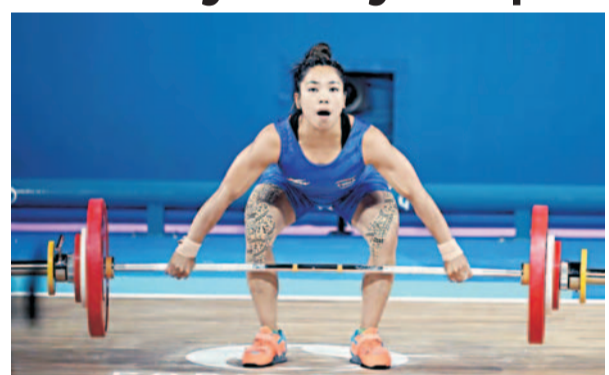
103/2 after 30 overs, with Rahul and Indian skipper Shubman Gill at the crease. India were trailing the West Indies' small first innings total of 162 by 59 runs. Rahul completed his 20th Test half-century in 101 deliveries, but also seemed to be struggling with his hamstrings. Earlier in the day, a combined bowling effort from the India bowlers bundled out the West Indies side at a mere total of 162 runs at the end of the second session. For the Shubman Gill-led side, the wicket

takers were Mohammed Siraj (4/40 in 14 overs), Jasprit Bumrah (3/42 in 14 overs), Kuldeep Yadav (2/25 in 6.1 overs) and Washington Sundar (1/9 in 3 overs). At the stroke of tea on Day 1, the West Indies side was bowled out for 162 runs, with left-hand batter Jayden Seales (6*) remaining unbeaten at the end. The Caribbean side resumed the second session of the day from 90/5 in 23.2 overs with Roston Chase (22*) unbeaten on the crease.

Right-hand batter Justin Greeves joined the captain in the middle in the post-lunch session. On the second ball of the 27th over, the Roston Chase-led side crossed the 100-run mark as Mohammed Siraj gave away five wides. On the fifth ball of the same over, the West Indies Cricket Team lost their sixth wicket as Chase (24 runs off 43 balls) was sent back through a caught-behind delivery. After

the skipper's departure, left-hand batter Khary Pierre came in the middle to bat. At the score of 144 in the 38th over, Pierre (11 runs from 34 balls) was dismissed by spinner Washington Sundar. In the 39th over, the West Indies side touched the 150-run mark. In the same over, the team lost their eighth wicket as Jasprit Bumrah dismissed Greeves (32 runs in 48 balls) through a perfectly bowled yorker.

Mirabai Chanu leads Indian charge at World Weightlifting Championships 2025



AGENCY

FORDE: Olympic medalist Mirabai Chanu is set to lead the 14-member Indian contingent at the upcoming competition, which will take place in Forde, Norway, from October 2 to 11. Mirabai Chanu, who returned to action after Paris 2024 by winning the 48kg gold at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in August, will carry India's hopes in Norway. The 31-year-old ace Indian weightlifter won a gold medal in the

48kg category at the 2017 edition of the World Weightlifting Championships in Anaheim. She also won silver in the 49kg category at the 2022 edition of the competition in Bogota, according to the Olympics.com website. World Weightlifting Championships 2025: Indian squad: Women: Mirabai Chanu (48kg), Koyel Bar (53kg), Bindyarani Devi Sorokhaibam (58kg), Nirupama Devi Seram (63kg), Harjinder Kaur (69kg),

Vanshita Verma (86kg), Mehak Sharma (86kg+). Men: Rishikanta Singh Chanambam (60kg), Muthupandi Raja (65kg), Ajith Narayana (71kg), Ajaya Babu Valluri (79kg), Abhishek Nipane (88kg), Dilbag Singh (94kg), Lovepreet Singh (110kg+). Bindyarani Devi, Nirupama Devi and Mehak Sharma all won silver medals, while Harjinder Kaur and Vanshita Verma bagged bronze at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in August. Bindyarani Devi and Harjinder Kaur also won the silver and bronze medals at the Commonwealth Games 2022, respectively.

Meanwhile, India's men's contingent at the World Weightlifting Championships will be led by Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Lovepreet Singh. Lovepreet Singh also won the bronze medal at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships earlier this year where Ajith Narayana and Ajaya Babu Valluri struck gold.

AGENCY

BRISBANE: Blistering centuries from Vedant Trivedi and Vaibhav Suryavanshi, topped up by an eight-wicket match haul from D Deepesh, powered India Under-19 to an emphatic victory by an innings and 58 runs against Australia Under-19, taking a 1-0 lead in the two-game Youth Test series. With a mountain to climb, Australia resumed their innings on 8/1 but succumbed under the pressure and packed their bags on 127. With a memorable outing, India registered the biggest win by any U19 team that has been recorded in Australia in the history of Youth Test.

India also holds the overall record, with the Piyush Chawla-led side notching a win by an innings and 240 runs in Peshawar. The Indian side included decorated stars,

Suryavanshi, Trivedi, Deepesh steer India U-19 to historic win over Australia



including Virat Kohli, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ravindra Jadeja and Ishant Sharma.

Coming to the contest, right-arm quick Deepesh, son of former Tamil Nadu cricketer Vasudevan Devendran, spearheaded India's pace

attack, returning with figures of 5/45 in the first innings to force the hosts to bundle out on 243. Left-arm seamer Kishan Kumar gracefully played the supporting act and chipped in with a three-wicket haul. As the Indian duo ran

rampant in Brisbane, the hosts rued their decision to bat after winning the toss. Steven Hogan, who came out to bat at number three, was the lone fighter, engineering a counter-attacking 92 in 246 deliveries.

Told me I am preparing you to win matches for India: Abhishek outlines impact of mentor "detail-oriented" Yuvraj

AGENCY NEW DELHI: India's flamboyant opener Abhishek Sharma highlighted the influence of former World Cup-winning all-rounder Yuvraj Singh on his rise from an inconsistent prospect to the number one T20I batter in the world. While Yuvraj remains a fundamental figure in the young southpaw's journey, Abhishek's father, Raj Kumar Sharma, is the one who got him obsessed with cricket.

Abhishek has often credited his mentor and white-ball legend, Yuvraj Singh, for the success he has savoured since bursting onto the international scene last year against Zimbabwe. The 25-year-old trained with Yuvraj during the pandemic and took the steps towards success. While slowly overcoming his unreliable form, Abhishek truly realised the goal Yuvraj had set for him: Preparing him



to be a match-winner for India in the next two to three years.

"Shubman (Gill) was already playing for India.

Shubman and I were having lunch with him. He (Yuvraj) told me, 'I am not preparing you for the domestics, or the IPL, or an India cap.' I am

preparing you to win matches for India. I am sure of it, keep it in writing. It would take two to three years at max," Abhishek

said on the Breakfast with Champions show.

"When these things came from a person whom I idolised all my life, when I saw his belief and trust, I thought that this was something. After the camp, I realised my goal was bigger than the one Yuvraj was preparing me for, and I would get it no matter what," he added.

Abhishek disclosed that Yuvraj, who is "detail-oriented", would take notes, closely inspect their performances and draw comparisons with their past outings to understand their progress.

Last year was a game-changing season for me. We would sit at his home, 6-7 of us, and talk. We would get assessment papers, listing our strengths and all. He would watch our videos, write notes, take screenshots of those videos and compare with how things were earlier for us.

No one knows it, but he is very detail-oriented. He would be there for 4-5 hours when we would practice in nets. There was a cook, and food was prepared as per our diet plan," Abhishek said.

Before Abhishek became Yuvraj's prodigy, his father and first coach, Raj Kumar, had a massive impact on him during his early days. Watching his father's achievements and going to the academy with him became a part of his life. But the moment he decided to become a professional cricketer was when he saw Yuvraj wallop six sixes off Stuart Broad in the T20 World Cup 2007.

"I feel that when you have talent as a youngster, you need someone till U19s to push yourself. For me, it was my dad. He was my first coach. So he was a different coach, really, next level strict. I needed that till 19, the way I was.

Maharashtra's Akanksha Nitture continues winning run in 30th Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship

MUMBAI: Akanksha Nitture of Maharashtra continued her winning run to reach the third round of the ongoing 30th Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship in the women's singles category at the DLTA Complex in New Delhi. In the second round match, the second seed defeated Sohini Sanjay Mohanty of Odisha 6-1, 7-6 (2) in straight sets to move ahead in the tournament, according to a press release from Fenesta Open. Supported by DCM Shirram Ltd., and held under the aegis of the All India Tennis Association (AITA) and the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA), the Fenesta Open is India's largest domestic tennis championship, drawing top contenders from across the country. Meanwhile, Manish Sureshkumar of Tamil Nadu and Soha Sadiq of Karnataka also won their respective matches to reach the third round of the tournament. The former champion showcased tremendous power and speed to get the better of Debasis Sahoo of Odisha 6-2, 6-1 in the men's singles category. On the other hand, Soha had to work hard for her victory in the second round of the women's singles category against Aakruti N Sonkusare of Maharashtra.

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Hrithik Roshan drops adorable post for gf Saba on 4 years of togetherness



Love is in the air for Bollywood's Hrithik Roshan and Saba Azad, who have completed four years of togetherness. The couple, often spotted hand-in-hand at events and holidays, marked this special occasion with a sweet post that Hrithik shared on his Instagram. The pictures showed the two looking adorable and very much in love, leaving fans gushing over their chemistry. The actor didn't just share pictures of the two but also added a very sweet note. Calling Saba his "partner," Hrithik wrote, "I like walking through life

with you... Happy 4th, partner. #curioussouls #loveislearning #togetherisbetter."

Hrithik confirmed his relationship with Saba at Karan Johar's 50th birthday celebration, entering the party hand-in-hand with her. Earlier, the actor was married to Sussanne Khan, and they have two sons, Hrehaan and Hridhaan. They divorced in 2014. The actor never fails to shower love on his girlfriend, Saba. Just recently, he took to his Instagram to pen an appreciation note for Saba Azad over her captivating performance in the lat-

est film 'Songs of Paradise.' "The genuine praise I'm hearing all around for the makers, technicians, and artists associated with Songs of Paradise is truly heartening. I watched this movie in its rough form many months ago, and I remember being touched by my core. Tears that filled me up with such deep love, especially for the character of Zeba. The humongous applause this movie is getting today has restored my infallible faith in the universe. You get what you deserve," he wrote.

Kailash Kher lends his soulful voice to the heartfelt title track of Zee TV's Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan



CHANDIGARH: Zee TV's latest fiction offering Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan, already winning hearts across the country, traces the emotional journey of Ganga Mai, portrayed by Shubhangi Latkar, a woman left by her husband for not bearing a son, who chooses to raise her three daughters—Sahana (Srishti Jain), Sneha (Amandeep Sidhu), and Soni (Vaishnavi Prajapati)—with strength, dignity, and compassion, set against the soulful backdrop of Varanasi. The show celebrates the resilience of women and the unbreakable bond between a mother and her daughters. Amplifying the heart of the show is its evocative title track, sung by the renowned Kailash Kher. Known for his soul-stirring voice and emotional intensity, Kailash has poured his heart into this song, giving life to the love and devotion that runs through the show. Composed by Rachita Arora and written by Garima Obra, the track resonates with the tenderness and depth of a mother-daughter relationship, perfectly capturing the essence of the show Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan.

Sharing his experience, Kailash Kher said, "I felt incredibly deep and emotional connection to this song, as it beautifully captures the timeless bond between a mother and her daughters. Singing it for Zee TV's Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan, was a profoundly special experience for me. The song resonates with so much love and devotion, and I hope that emotion comes through to the viewers. I'm truly honoured to be part of this beautiful narrative. The song is brought to life and written by the talented Garima Obra and composed by Rachita Arora, and I'm grateful to have had the chance to lend my voice to this title track." With Kailash Kher's evocative rendition and the show's poignant storytelling, Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan promises to strike an emotional chord with viewers across the country. The title track not only sets the mood but also becomes a celebration of love, family, and the enduring spirit of daughters who shine under the guidance of their mother's wisdom.

Tune in to Ganga Mai Ki Betiyan every day at 9 PM, only on Zee TV!

Popular actors Manasi Joshi Roy and Rajendra Chawla come together for Lakshmi Niwas



CHANDIGARH: For every middle-class joint family in India, two dreams remain constant, building a home of their own and marrying off their daughters. Bringing alive one such emotional journey, Zee TV is all set to launch its upcoming show Lakshmi Niwas, a heartwarming tale that celebrates love, togetherness, and the essence of family. The channel continues to tell stories that resonate deeply with Indian households. Lakshmi Niwas delves into the everyday struggles and sacrifices of a middle-class family, exploring the balance between age-old traditional values and the evolving aspirations of the younger generation. The show revolves around Lakshmi and Srinivas, a middle-aged couple who have spent 35 years in a rented home, nurturing the dream of building their own home while ensuring a secure future for their daughters.

Popular actress Manasi Joshi Roy joins as the lead actress playing the role of Lakshmi while veteran actor Rajendra Chawla steps into the shoes of Srinivas. He is a devoted husband and father whose one unfulfilled dream is to build a house for his family. As they finally begin their journey towards fulfilling this dream, life throws challenges their way when the younger generation's ambitions clash with their parents' heartfelt desires. Talking about her role, Manasi Joshi Roy shared, "Lakshmi is every Indian mother who wants to see her children happy. What drew me to this role was how deeply it mirrors the emotions of millions of women, their strength, their dreams, and their ability to hold the family together through every storm. Lakshmi Niwas is not just a story about building a house, but about building a life filled with love, trust, and togetherness." Echoing his sentiments, Rajendra Chawla said, "Srinivas reminded me of so many fathers I've known."

Amazon Pay unveils "Payments ka A to Z": All payment modes in 1 place

CHANDIGARH: Amazon Pay today unveiled a transformed payment interface that unifies all payment modes in one place - UPI, credit/debit cards, Amazon Pay Balance, and Amazon Pay Later - becoming the ultimate destination for all payment needs. New features include personalized rewards that maximize value on every transaction, and a unified dashboard to manage all bills and subscriptions together with reminders and auto-pay options. This comprehensive upgrade simplifies daily financial tasks for millions of Indians through an intuitive interface, marking a significant leap in how customers manage their finances - from shopping and bill payments to rewards and savings. The new Amazon Pay experience is accessible on Amazon.in via a prominently placed 'wallet' icon in the bottom navigation bar, or through the one-click Amazon Pay ingress on top of the home page. It eliminates the need to switch between apps or payment modes to complete transactions. A standout feature is the intelligent recommendations engine that automatically suggests optimal payment method, to maximise deals and discounts without users having to search through multiple offer pages. The system personalizes rewards based on individual spending patterns and preferences, ensuring users always get the most relevant offers. "With 'Payments ka A to Z', Amazon Pay is the only payment app you need, transforming into your ideal everyday companion," said Vikas Bansal, CEO, Amazon Pay. "We've unified shopping, bill payments, scan and pay, travel bookings, and personalized rewards all in one powerful interface. Our intelligent platform tailors every experience, from offering instant credit when needed to maximizing rewards on every transaction. It's India's most complete payment solution, meeting all your financial needs with just one tap - simple, secure, and always rewarding."



Alia Bhatt shares a warm hug with Rani at Durga Puja

Alia Bhatt made heads turn when she arrived at the 79th North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Puja on Wednesday. Donning an exquisite lehenga, Alia undoubtedly captivated the attention of the other devotees at the pandal. What made her appearance even more memorable was her rushing to greet actress Rani Mukerji. The two shared a heartfelt hug and posed happily for pictures, joined by Ayan Mukerji and Tanisha Mukerji for a cheerful photo session.

On Monday, Alia's husband and actor Ranbir Kapoor visited the North Bombay Durga Puja and offered prayers there. In the visuals captured by the paps, Ranbir was spotted standing in devotion before the idol of Goddess Durga. He also met his friend, filmmaker Ayan, at the pandal, and before leaving, he interacted with other devotees, taking pictures with them. The Hindu festival of Durga Puja, also known as Durgotsava or Sharodotsava, is a yearly celebration that honours the Hindu goddess Durga and commemorates her victory over Mahishasur. Hindu mythology holds that the goddess comes to her earthly abode at this time to bless her devotees. Durga Puja culminates on Vijayadashami (Dussehra), which falls on the tenth day of the festival and celebrates the victory of Goddess Durga over the demon Mahishasura.



Executive Producer Panthjeet Singh shares his journey from childhood passion to punjabi music industry success



Executive Producer Panthjeet Singh revealed in an interview that his inclination towards music is from his childhood, which is why he used to participate in colorful programs in school. Born on 07 July 1993 in a small city Ghuman Kalan in Punjab, Panthjeet Singh decided to try his luck in the music industry. He started working with a producer from Punjab and gained knowledge of making Punjabi music videos. Panthjeet Singh has produced Punjabi

songs of very popular singer Karma Topper and Ritu Jass song name Jattan da Brand, Pyar ni Hoya, Singer Jass Grewal & Jasmeen Akhtar Sher Putt singer Jatinder Dhiman etc and many more. He told that his new project is coming soon with producer Mandeep Singh, DOP Gurpreet Singh, Director Tajinder Singh, assistant Director Jashanpreet Singh, singer Karma Topper, Jind Kaur. He said that nowadays Panthjeet Singh is also playing the role of producer and writer in films!

Jim Carrey to be honoured with Cesar Award in Paris

Hollywood star Jim Carrey will be honoured with an Honorary Cesar at the 51st Cesar Awards ceremony in Paris in February 2026, according to Deadline. The Cesar, often called the French Oscars, is given by France's Academie des Arts et Techniques du Cinema with support from Canal+. In recent years, the award has gone to big names like Julia Roberts, Christopher Nolan, David Fincher, Cate Blanchett, Robert Redford, and George Clooney. Carrey, born in Canada, began his career as a stand-up comedian before he gained popularity on the TV show In Living Color. In 1994, he became a worldwide star with three back-to-back hits: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective, The Mask, and Dumb and Dumber. He was later praised for his roles in The Truman Show, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, and Man on the Moon, winning two Golden Globe Awards. According to the publication, in 2010, Carrey was made a Knight in France's National Order of Arts and Letters for his contribution to art and cinema. He has also been awarded the Charlie Chaplin Award at the BAFTA Britannia Awards for his work in comedies like Liar Liar, Bruce Almighty, and How the Grinch Stole Christmas. His recent work includes playing Dr. Robotnik in the Sonic the Hedgehog films and starring in the Showtime series Kidding. He was also the subject of the Emmy-nominated documentary Jim & Andy: The Great Beyond and has written a novel, Memoirs and Misinformation. According to Deadline, the Cesar Academy, in a statement, said, "His work, on screen and off, reminds audiences that cinema can do more than entertain: it can challenge, move, and even enlighten; that creativity and artistry need not be contained to just one medium. His journey embodies an unrelenting boldness, constantly pushing the boundaries of performance and art." The ceremony is set to take place on February 27, 2026, at the Olympia Theatre in Paris.

Hungama OTT launches Yeh Hai Sanak, a twisted crime thriller where a forbidden spark threatens to change a family's fate forever

CHANDIGARH: Hungama OTT, one of India's leading digital entertainment platforms, launched its latest original series, Yeh Hai Sanak, on 01st October 2025. A twisted and suspenseful crime thriller that explores how desire, betrayal, and buried secrets can shatter even the closest of families. Featuring Sharad Malhotra, Shivangi Verma, Ankit Raj, and Simran Sachdeva in key roles, the six-episode series promises a binge-worthy ride where a forbidden spark threatens to rip an entire family apart and expose the lies holding it together.

At the heart of the story is Zia (Shivangi Verma), a bold and sharp-witted model happily engaged to Rohan (Ankit Raj). But their fairytale romance soon begins to crack when Zia develops a fatal attraction to Rohan's elder brother, Inspector Pradeep (Sharad Malhotra). As Pradeep's wife Sonali (Simran Sachdeva) senses her marriage slipping away, the family finds itself caught in a dangerous spiral of desire and deceit. And when a shocking connection from the past surfaces, the stakes turn deadly, leaving no one untouched. Speaking about the launch, Siddhartha



the unpredictability of the story and the strong performances that bring it to life." Reflecting on what drew him to his character, Sharad Malhotra expresses, "Pradeep is a man who looks powerful on the outside, but inside he's battling his own weaknesses. What drew me to him is the conflict between his duty as a cop and his desires as a man. It's a role that demanded both strength and vulnerability, and that duality made it one of the most exciting parts I've played so far."

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