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✦CHANDIGARH ✦PUNJAB✦HARYANA ✦HIMACHAL PRADESH✦DELHI✦JAMMU & KASHMIR ✦UTTARAKHAND



NEWS BRIEFS

Over 1.5 crore train passengers travelled in festive season so far: Ashwini Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI: Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday said nearly 1.5 crore train passengers have travelled so far in this festive season, adding that over 2.5 crore passengers are likely to travel by the end of the festival season.

Vaishnaw informed that big holding areas have been set up at 30 railway stations for smoother crowd management.

Speaking to reporters here, the minister further said that during former Railways Minister Lalu Prasad's tenure, 178 special trains were run during the Diwali and Chhath festival, which have now increased to over 13,000 — a massive jump.

Teen commits suicide in Gurugram over family's poor financial situation

GURUGRAM: Distressed over his family's poor financial condition, a 15-year-old boy committed suicide by hanging himself at his residence here, police said on Saturday.

The boy, Vikas, a native of Bihar's Darbhanga, lived in a rented house with his father and mother, who work as an autorickshaw driver and a domestic help, respectively, in Sukhrali village.

Vikas was alone at home on Friday when he hanged himself from a ceiling fan with a bedsheet. His mother discovered his body when she returned home around 6 pm and raised an alarm.

Govt working to shield conventional media amid rapid digitisation: Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI: The government has planned a series of initiatives to shield the conventional media from the disruptions expected due to rapid digitisation in the sector. Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday said the government plans to remove the regulatory overhang in the radio industry and Television Rating Point (TRP) reforms. "The government is working to remove regulatory barriers wherever they exist," the minister said.

Government committed to purchase every grain of farmers' crop: CM Nayab Singh Saini

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 25:



Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said the government is committed to purchasing every grain of farmers' crops. Both the Central and State Governments, under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, are continuously working in the interest of farmers.

At present, procurement of paddy and bajra crops is underway in the state. However, those attempting to defraud the government under the pretext of procurement will not be spared under any circumstances.

High-Level Review Meeting to Ensure Transparency in Procurement

The Chief Minister held a high-level review meeting today at the Civil Secretariat to ensure transparency and smooth operations in paddy and bajra procurement. Officers from all concerned departments attended the meeting, with all Deputy Commissioners and Police Superintendents joining online. The meeting reviewed arrangements related to procurement, the condition of mandis, farmers' complaints, and the e-procurement system. The Chief Minister clearly stated that the State Government will not compromise on the interests of farmers.

FIR to Be Filed Against Officials in Case of Irregularities

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini instructed that in cases where irregularities were found in e-procurement portal entries and H-Register auctions at the New Grain Mandi, Kanina, and Grain Mandi, Kosli, and where employees or officers have already been suspended, FIRs should also be registered against them.

52.18 Lakh Metric Tons of Crop Procured So Far

The Chief Minister emphasized that Haryana Government is determined to protect farmers' earnings and purchase every grain of their produce. Officials reported that paddy procurement started on September 22, and in most mandis, it is proceeding smoothly. So far, procurement from 2.66 lakh farmers has resulted in approximately 52.18 lakh metric tons of paddy being purchased. Around Rs 10,204.98 crore has been transferred to farmers' accounts. Procurement of bajra includes 291.10 metric tons by state agencies and 3.99 lakh metric tons by private traders.

Officials also reported some complaints regarding paddy coming from other states and irregularities in gate pass scanning, to which the government has taken a strict stance. Physical verification is being conducted for rice mills in Ambala, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, and Kaithal where paddy has been allocated for milling.

Strict Instructions for Mandis

The Chief Minister directed that technical staff availability in mandis be ensured so that gate pass scanning and physical verification are not hindered. He clarified that gate passes should only be scanned within the designated mandi area. In mandis where gate pass scanning has been misused, responsible employees and officers must be identified and detailed reports submitted. Along with strict administrative action, FIRs will also be registered in such cases. To prevent illegal entry of paddy from other states, all border districts have been instructed to implement strict police checkpoints.

District Officials to Conduct Inspections

The Chief Minister instructed district administration officers to regularly visit mandis and interact with farmers. Rice mills allocated paddy should be physically verified periodically. Any negligence or corruption at any level will be met with immediate strict action.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Sh. Anurag Rastogi, Chief Principal Secretary to CM Sh. Rajesh Khullar, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Dr. Sumita Misra, Principal Secretary to CM Sh. Arun Kumar Gupta, DGP Sh. O.P. Singh, Additional Principal Secretary to CM Dr. Saket Kumar, Director, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department Sh. Anshaj Singh, and other senior officials.

Pak Defence Minister warns of 'open war' with Afghanistan if ongoing peace dialogue fails

AGENCY
ISTANBUL, OCT 25

Pakistan and Afghanistan on Saturday began the second round of peace talks in Istanbul even as Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif reportedly continued to engage in aggressive rhetoric by warning Kabul of an "open war" if the talks fail.



The first round of Pakistan-Afghanistan talks, mediated jointly by Qatar and Turkey, took place in Doha on October 18-19.

While the Afghan delegation is led by Deputy Interior Minister Rahmatullah Mujib and includes Anas Haqqani, brother of the Afghan Interior Minister Noor Ahmad Noor, Pakistan is represented by a two-member delegation of security officials.

Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, who had led the first round of talks on Saturday reportedly said in Sialkot that the outcome of the fresh round of talks would likely be revealed by Sunday.

"He said that if the dialogue fails, Pakistan may have no choice but to engage in open conflict with Afghanistan. However, he added that both sides appear to be seeking peace," reported Pakistan's Daily Times.

Pakistani media reported on Saturday that Islamabad also wants to establish a "third-party oversight structure", potentially co-chaired by Turkey and Qatar, to verify progress and address non-compliance.

"At the talks today, Pakistan is expected to seek concrete and verifiable commitments from the Afghan side to eliminate the threat of the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) from its territory, which Pakistan says uses Afghan soil to launch attacks across the border," reported the country's leading daily 'Dawn'. Relations between Kabul and Islamabad have been undergoing a turbulent phase as the situation on the Durand Line has witnessed several clashes in the past few weeks. Afghanistan's FM Amir Khan Muttaqi's week-long visit to New Delhi beginning on October 9 was viewed with extreme hostility by the Pakistani establishment, and on the very first day of Muttaqi's visit, Kabul witnessed drone attacks.

Vintage Ro-Ko masterclass guides India home after Harshit Rana's four



Rohit Sharma made an unbeaten 121 and Virat Kohli finished 74 not out to win by nine wickets after Harshit Rana's 4 for 39 bowled Australia out for 236

Pakistani military's obsession with grandeur poses danger to country: Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's military delusion poses danger not merely in external miscalculations but in its internal decay, as Generals' addiction to grandeur blinds them to the realities of an economically desperate and climate-vulnerable society, a report said on Saturday.

"Asim Munir's rise to Field Marshal and his enduring dominance over Pakistan's political and institutional landscape mark not a renaissance of national strength but a deepening of a historic pathology — the military's delusion of grandeur that has repeatedly sabotaged the country's potential for stability and progress," a report in India Narrative detailed.

According to the report, following the footsteps of former Army Chiefs Ayub Khan, Zia-ul-Haq, and Pervez Musharraf, Munir reflects the army's belief that salvation lies not in democracy or development, but in a militarised nationalism that places the soldier above the citizen and paranoia above pragmatism.

"For seventy-five years, Pakistan's generals have fashioned themselves as guardian angels of a fragile state, swooping in to 'rescue' it from civilian incompetence. From Ayub Khan's coup and Zia's Islamisation to Musharraf's 'Enlightened Moderation,' each intervention was justified as a patriotic necessity — and each left the country weaker, poorer, and angrier," it mentioned.

The report stressed that, cloaked in rhetoric about national pride and Islamic fortitude, Munir's ascendance to the rank of Field Marshal in 2025 theatrically asserted that the real seat of power in Islamabad lies behind the khaki curtain of Rawalpindi's General Headquarters. "Munir's self-styled image as the devout general — a Qur'an memoriser and moral guardian — plays well in a society steeped in religio-military nationalism.

PM Modi says Satish Shah 'will be remembered as a true legend of Indian entertainment'

AGENCY
MUMBAI OCT 25



Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that late actor Satish Shah will be remembered as 'the a true legend of Indian entertainment'.

Sharing his grief over the loss of the veteran actor, PM Modi wrote on his official X (Earlier known as X) timeline, "Deeply saddened by the passing of Shri Satish Shah Ji. He will be remembered as a true legend of Indian entertainment (sic)."

Offering his condolences to the family of the deceased, PM added, "His effortless humour and iconic performances brought laughter into countless lives. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti. (sic)"

Many well-known names from Bollywood, such as Kajol, R Madhavan, Karan Johar, Anupam Kher, and others, used social media to pay their tribute to the late actor.

Satish Shah's "Sarabhai vs Sarabhai" co-star Rajesh Kumar revealed that it feels like he has lost his father.

Rajesh posted a statement on his Instagram handle that read, "This is the worst hour for me... I still cannot process that Satish ji is no more... all I can say is that it feels I have lost my father...(sic)"

"A man full of life n humour. Challenging everything.. Made his name left his mark as an actor... this is a big big loss to the industry and us (Sarabhai's family). Let's pray for his departed soul and keep him in your prayers," he added.

Satish Shah's last rites will take place at Pawan Hans Cremation Ground, S.V. Road, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai, at 12 p.m on October 26. PD Hinduja Hospital & Medical Research Centre issued a statement confirming the news of Satish Shah's demise. "We are deeply saddened by the passing of veteran actor Mr. Satish Shah." they wrote. Revealing the cause of his death, they added, "Earlier today, the hospital received an emergency call regarding Mr. Shah's health. An ambulance with a medical team was immediately sent to his residence.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann marks 350th martyrdom day with a heartfelt appeal and statewide programs

BUREAU
CHANDIGARH: On the 350th Martyrdom Day of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur, the State of Punjab was led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann in a solemn tribute to the famous Sikh warrior who gave his life for freedom, justice, and equality. On this day, people all over the state held programs, community events, and tributes to honour the ultimate effort that continues to inspire people today.

It was made clear by CM Mann that Baba Banda Singh Bahadur's bravery and kindness are lessons that all Punjabis and Indians can learn from. His message was for people to keep up the spirit of togetherness, equality, and bravery that the martyr stood for. "Our history is full of heroes who gave their lives fighting for the honour and



justice of our country." "Not only should we talk about their values, but we should also live by them," Mann said.

To honour Baba Banda Singh Bahadur's life and work, special prayers, cultural events, and art shows were held all over Punjab. Seminars were held in schools to teach young people about his achievements, and large groups of people prayed for peace and unity in gurdwaras.

In his speech, CM Mann asked everyone to stand together against social evils and unfairness. He also reminded them that Baba Banda Singh Bahadur's lessons are more than just religious; they stand for human rights, courage, and the fight against tyranny. He said, "Let us build a Punjab that is strong, compassionate, and fair, just like the ideals of our martyrs."

The 350th anniversary of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur's death was more than just a time to remember him. It was also a time to take action. Every person, CM Mann said, has a part to play in honouring the memory of those who gave their lives for the country.

Punjab stood together to honour the past and bring its light into the future. They did this by paying respects and remembering each other.

YUGMARG
Nation
CHANDIGARH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025
PAGE 2

New DC Aditya Uppal takes charge in Gurdaspur, prioritises stubble burning and paddy procurement

VERMA

GURDASPUR: Gurdaspur welcomed its new Deputy Commissioner, Aditya Uppal (IAS 2015 batch), today. Uppal, who previously served as the DC of Pathankot, expressed his honor at the opportunity to serve the district. Immediately after assuming office, the new Deputy Commissioner held a meeting with district officials. The core focus of the meeting



was to review stubble management strategies, streamline the ongoing paddy procurement process, and assess various development projects. In a clear directive, Mr. Uppal emphasized the need for greater awareness among farmers regarding crop residue management. He instructed Nodal and Cluster Officers to actively persuade farmers against burning stubble and assured that the administration would provide full support, including timely provision of essential in-situ and ex-situ machinery.

NEWS BRIEF

Children aware about digital fraud



AVINASH CHAUHAN

AMB: On the second day of the 7-day special NSS camp being run at Government Senior Secondary School Ransari, the guests were welcomed by National Service Scheme Programme Officer Anil Sharma and Suman Devi. On this occasion, Punjab National Bank RCiTi Una Coordinator Akash Bhardwaj was present as the main resource person. He informed the participants about banking schemes as well as digital fraud and self-employment schemes. Principal Ritu Sood was present in this programme. She informed about the NSS activities and Programme Incharge Anil Sharma told why this 7-day NSS programme is being organised and in this, the participants have to be made aware of their duty to do their work themselves and make people aware of the departmental schemes. School staff and volunteers were present on this occasion.

'Where are 12,000 special trains?': Rahul Gandhi slams NDA govt, says 'trains to Bihar are packed to brim'

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, OCT 25



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday criticised the Centre over train arrangements during the festive season, particularly highlighting the hardships faced by migrant workers travelling to Bihar for the Chhath festival.

Pointing out overcrowding in trains, with some operating at 200 per cent capacity, Gandhi questioned the NDA government over its promise of 12,000 special trains to manage the festive rush.

In a post on X, Rahul Gandhi wrote, "It's the month of festivals - Diwali, Bhai Dooj, Chhath. In Bihar, these festivals mean more than just faith; they are a longing to return home--the fragrance of the soil, the love of family, the warmth of the village. But this longing has now become a struggle. Trains to Bihar are packed to the brim, getting tickets is impossible, and the journey has become inhumane. Many trains carry up to 200% of their capacity - people are hanging from doors and even rooftops."

Targeting the NDA government, the Congress leader said that these people are not helpless travellers but are "living proof" of the NDA's deceptive policies and intentions.

"The claims of the double-engine government have proven hollow. Where are the 12,000 special trains? Why do conditions get worse every year? Why are the people of Bihar forced to return home in such humiliating conditions every year? If there were employment and a dignified life in the state, they wouldn't have to wander thousands of kilometres away. These are not just helpless travellers; they are living proof of the NDA's deceptive policies and intentions. A safe and dignified journey is a right, not a favour," the social media post added.

Earlier today, former Bihar Chief Minister and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav sharply criticised the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government over train arrangements for the Chhath festival, highlighting the ongoing migration challenges faced by the state.

Newly elected Rajya Sabha Member Rajinder Gupta calls upon Vice President of India

BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCT 25



Padma Shri Rajinder Gupta, founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Trident Group and newly elected to the Rajya Sabha from Punjab, paid a courtesy visit to Vice President of India Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan in New Delhi. This marked Mr. Gupta's first official visit after being elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Punjab on October 16, 2025. Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan, who is also the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, welcomed Rajinder Gupta as a Rajya Sabha member and congratulated him on his new constitutional responsibility. Gupta called on the Vice President to seek his guidance and blessings as he prepares to assume his responsibilities as a Member of the Rajya Sabha. Sh Gupta was accompanied by his wife, Smt Madhu Gupta. The meeting is being viewed as a courtesy visit underscoring Sh Gupta's commitment to bringing his vast industrial experience to public service and national development. After the meeting, Sh Gupta expressed gratitude for the Vice President's warm reception and encouraging words and said that he was "deeply honoured to receive the Vice President's blessings" he reaffirmed his resolve to work for the welfare of the people of Punjab and contribute to the nation's progress.Padma Shri awardee Rajinder Gupta, is known for his significant contributions to India's textile and paper sectors. Under his leadership, Trident has emerged as a global brand, symbolizing innovation, sustainability, and entrepreneurship rooted in Punjab's industrial growth. His philanthropic initiatives through the Trident Foundation have made significant contributions to education, healthcare, and skill development across Punjab and Madhya Pradesh.With Shri Gupta's entry into the Rajya Sabha, Punjab is expected to benefit on multiple fronts from agriculture to industrial development, while the national textile sector stands to gain renewed momentum.

Rotary Club reviews preparations for Free Eye Check-up and surgery camp in Chabbewal



DALJEET AJNOHA

HOSHIARPUR: A special meeting of the Rotary Club was held under the chairmanship of Club President, Rotarian Avatar Singh, to discuss detailed preparations for the upcoming free eye check-up and surgery camp scheduled for November 7 in the village of Chabbewal. During the meeting, it was decided that all patients visiting the camp will receive free medicines, meals, and spectacles to ensure that no one faces financial hardship while availing of medical assistance. President Rotarian Avatar Singh said that this service camp symbolizes the Rotary Club's commitment to social welfare and aims to provide relief to people suffering from vision-related problems. He added that Rotary Club Warwick (England), former president Rotarian Bill Jaspal, and Rotarian Gurnandan Singh are the key collaborators in this noble initiative. Club Secretary Inderpal Singh Sachdeva briefed members on various arrangements being made for the camp. He informed that qualified ophthalmologists, modern diagnostic equipment, and adequate medical supplies have been arranged.

Drug peddler held with 2.5 kg poppy husk in Indri



MAINPAL KASHYAP

INDRI: The Karnal unit of the Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau (HSNCB) has achieved another major success in its ongoing crackdown on drug trafficking. Acting swiftly on a tip-off, the bureau team arrested a peddler named Sachu near Ward No. 1 in Indri and recovered 2.505 kilograms of poppy husk from his possession. Under the strict directions of Bureau Chief and Director General of Police O.P. Singh (IPS), a sustained campaign against narcotics is underway across the state. DGP Singh reiterated that eliminating drug networks from Haryana remains the department's top priority and no leniency will be tolerated in this mission. The operation was carried out under the supervision of SP Mohit Handa (IPS) and the direction of DSP Manoj Kumar, led by Inspector Rishipal Singh. During routine patrolling in the Indri police station area, ASI Upkar and his team received information that a person was moving around with contraband.

Increase in sugarcane price historic and visionary decision: Madan Chauhan

RAHUL KOHLI



YAMUNANAGAR: Former mayor and Haryana BJP OBC Morcha president Madan Chauhan has hailed Chief Minister Nayab Saini's decision to raise the sugarcane price from Rs. 400 to Rs. 415 per quintal, calling it a "visionary and historic step" in the interest of farmers. Chauhan said the decision would bring prosperity to thousands of sugarcane growers across Haryana and expressed gratitude to the chief minister for ensuring farmers receive fair compensation for their hard work. He added that the BJP government has always been committed to protecting farmers' interests and strengthening their economic condition. He remarked that the decision reflects Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Kisan Samriddh – Desh Samriddh" (Prosperous Farmers – Prosperous Nation). Over the years, the Haryana government has taken several concrete measures to empower the agricultural sector, including expanding irrigation facilities, simplifying crop insurance schemes, and ensuring transparency in cane payment processes. "By fixing the sugarcane price at Rs. 415 per quintal, the Haryana government has once again demonstrated its full commitment to farmers' welfare," Chauhan said. He described the move as a major step toward increasing farmers' income, honouring their labour, and strengthening the rural economy. He further stated that the decision is a result of the farmer-friendly vision and farsighted policies of Chief Minister Nayab Saini and Agriculture Minister Shyam Singh Rana.

Demand for separate High Court for Haryana gains momentum under 'Haryana Banao Abhiyan'



MAINPAL KASHYAP

INDRI: The demand for a separate High Court for Haryana gathered strength as advocates and supporters of the "Haryana Banao Abhiyan" convened a meeting in Indri on Saturday. Former chairman of the Punjab and Haryana Bar Council, advocate Randhir Singh Badhran, presided over the session, where discussions centred on the need for distinct High Courts and separate Bar Councils for Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh. Badhran emphasized that with over 87 lakh people involved in litigation across Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh, the need for quick justice has made the creation of separate High Courts for both states crucial. He said a delegation of lawyers will soon meet the chief ministers of Haryana and Punjab as well as the Governor and Administrator of Chandigarh to press for this long-pending demand. Advocate Yadvendra Sheoran highlighted that lawyers in Haryana, Punjab, and Chandigarh are deprived of several benefits under the Advocates' Welfare Fund Act due to the existence of a joint High Court and Bar Council.

YS Public School organises visit to 'School of Specially Abled Excellence'



KARANPREET KARAN

BARNALA: YS Public School, recognised among the Top 50 Schools of India, continues to uphold its commitment to holistic education through meaningful experiences beyond the classroom. As part of this vision, students of Class 8 visited the School of Specially Abled Excellence, creating a memorable and heartwarming exchange of learning, love, and laughter. The visit was organised under the school's unique subject 'School Cinema', which focuses on developing moral values and positive behaviour among students. The purpose of this initiative was to help learners understand the values of gratitude, empathy, and inclusion. During the visit, students interacted with their specially-abled peers, discovering that "eyes speak louder than words." They learned the basics of sign language and spent the day bonding through songs, dance, and joyful conversations. The experience encouraged students to look beyond differences and appreciate the power of communication from the heart.

Literacy camps organised in schools across Karnal to raise awareness on stubble burning and legal rights

KISHORI LAL BAINS
KARNAL, OCT 25



Under the guidance of District and Sessions Judge Ajay Kumar Sharda, the District Legal Services Authority organized literacy camps in various schools across the district. Dr. Iram Hasan, Chief Judicial Magistrate and Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, said that as part of the "Harvesting Harmony" campaign, literacy camps were conducted in multiple villages, schools, and public spaces in Karnal during October. Paralegal volunteers appointed on the district panel educated the public about the harmful effects of stubble burning and the government schemes available for proper crop residue management. As part of the campaign, Inspector Rajesh Lata conducted legal literacy camps at Dev Varishth Secondary School, Barsat; New Adarsh Public School, Barsat; Victor International School; and Ashdeep Public School, Barsat. Students were informed about the dangers of stubble burning, government initiatives for residue management, and were encouraged to motivate their families and villagers to avoid burning crop residue. Additionally, information was shared on the POCSO Act, Durga Shakti app, cybercrime, drug prohibition, and the emergency helpline 112. Paralegal volunteers Prachi and Pooja Verma also conducted legal literacy sessions at Government Secondary School, Nawal, Karnal. The Chief Judicial Magistrate highlighted the environmental impact of stubble burning to the staff, villagers, and students, and explained relevant government schemes. Free legal services were also discussed, and booklets on legal and social issues published by Halsa, Panchkula, were distributed. Attendees were urged to share the information with their families and communities to prevent environmental pollution and help farmers benefit from government programs.

'Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0' emerges as social movement in Una

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, OCT 25



The district of Una is witnessing a positive wave of social transformation as the 'Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0' gathers momentum with the powerful message — "Quit tobacco, choose life." What began as a public awareness drive has now evolved into a full-fledged social movement. The campaign, launched by Deputy Commissioner Jatin Lal at the Regional Hospital, Una, on October 9, will continue until December 8.

Organized under the aegis of the Health Department, this is the third phase of a previously successful initiative, with renewed strategies, broader public participation, and stronger inter-departmental coordination. Its objective is to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption, motivate youth to lead addiction-free lives, and make Una a completely "tobacco-free district." It also aligns with the state's vision of achieving a "Tobacco-Free Himachal." The campaign is gaining momentum through community participation rather than remaining a formal administrative exercise. Deputy Commissioner Jatin Lal said the success of this initiative depends on active citizen involvement. "Our goal is not limited to tobacco control alone; we aim to make Una a healthy, safe, and addiction-free district," he added. To turn it into a public movement, the district administration has involved Panchayati Raj institutions, NGOs, volunteer groups, and youth. Awareness is being spread at the grassroots level through street plays, rallies, essay and painting competitions, and community meetings. Simultaneously, digital and social media platforms are being used to expand the campaign's reach.

Students of IG College Kaithal secured first and third position in first district Road Cycling Championship



SANJAY SHARMA

KAITHAL: Students from Indira Gandhi (P.G.) Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Kaithal enthusiastically participated in the First District Road Cycling Championship which was held near RKM Farm, Ambala Road, Kaithal, on October 25, and brought laurels to the institution. In the 20 km time trial, Khushi (B.A. I year) secured the first position and won the Gold Medal, while Tamanna (BCA I year) achieved the third position, winning the Bronze Medal. Adding more information, Dr.Arti Garg informed that both the cyclists have been selected for the 17th Haryana State Road Cycling Championship, marking a proud achievement for the college. On this occasion, President, Governing Body, Shri Ram Bahadur Khurania congratulated the winners and encouraged all students to participate in sports activities for their overall development.

BJP leader Trilochan Singh demands resignation of Haryana Cong chief Rao Narendra Singh

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA



KARNAL: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader S. Trilochan Singh has demanded that Haryana Congress president Rao Narendra Singh resign on moral grounds. He said that since a chargesheet has been filed against Rao in court, the Congress high command should have removed him immediately.In a statement, Trilochan Singh alleged that during the Congress regime in Haryana, Rao Narendra Singh was accused of accepting crores of rupees in the name of CLU permissions. "Instead of distancing itself from tainted leaders, Congress made him the state president," he said.He further remarked that corruption was at its peak during the Congress government, with frequent scams, sale of jobs, and a flourishing transfer–posting racket. Singh added that Congress has always relied on falsehoods and that its real face now stands exposed before the public.He asserted that the people have rejected Congress and that the party's dream of returning to power with discredited and tainted leaders will never be fulfilled.

Congress is true guardian of India's democracy and constitution: Naresh Puri

VERMA



GURDASPUR: Sujanpur MLA Naresh Puri stated that in the current direction in which the country is moving, only the Congress Party stands as the true political force capable of ensuring national development, strengthening democracy, and safeguarding the Constitution. Addressing the public, Puri said that the Congress has always led the nation on the path of unity and equality, while the present government is misleading the people with empty slogans and superficial nationalism. He expressed concern over the rising unemployment, inflation, and social inequality in the country, saying that contrary to the government's claims, the life of the common citizen is becoming increasingly difficult. Puri emphasized that Congress is the only party that has worked for the inclusive development of all sections of society—cutting across caste, religion, and region. He recalled that since India's independence, Congress has played a historic role in taking the nation to new heights. "Through the Green Revolution, we made agriculture self-reliant; we built confidence in the field of nuclear energy, and through information technology, we gave India a new global identity," he said. Naresh Puri also appealed to the youth to stay away from false promises and divisive politics. He urged them to evaluate political parties on the basis of issues like development, education, employment, and equality, rather than rhetoric or propaganda.

6 lakh unemployed in state due to Sukhu govt's anti-youth policies: Sudhir Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL



DHARMSHALA: BJP State Convenor Karna Nanda paid a courtesy call to BJP leader and MLA Sudhir Sharma. State Co-Convenor Vishwa Chakshu was also present. BJP leader and MLA Sudhir Sharma stated that while the current Congress government, its Chief Minister, and Congress allies are depriving the youth of Himachal Pradesh of employment opportunities, the central government is taking the lead in providing them with employment opportunities. He stated that over 10,000 youth have been fired from outsourced jobs, 150,000 sanctioned positions have been abolished through a single notification, and employment opportunities have been curtailed by the lack of retirement. Cases of employment are emerging one after another in the state, leaving young people stranded. It is being reported that the same outsourced youth who are being fired by the government are providing jobs to their friends through backdoor entry. Currently, 1,007 positions for Computer Science lecturers are vacant in the state's government senior secondary schools. He stated that 5,93,457 youth are unemployed in Himachal Pradesh. In 2021-22, the unemployment rate has risen from 4% to 6%.

NEWS BRIEFS

Retired employees receiving pension must submit life certificate at Treasury Office: Rajiv Sharma

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: District Treasury Officer Rajiv Sharma informed that retired employees receiving pensions from the Haryana government through the District Treasury Office, Karnal, and its subordinate sub-treasury offices must submit their life certificates at the respective treasury or sub-treasury offices by November 3, 2025, to ensure the disbursement of November pensions.

He stated that submitting the life certificate is an annual requirement in the month of November. Retired employees can submit their life certificates according to the following schedule: from November 3 to 7 for names starting with A to E, November 10 to 14 for F to J, November 17 to 21 for K to O, and November 24 to 28 for P to Z.

Cong workers express anger by burning an effigy of Manohar Lal over the insult to Ambedkar

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCTOBER 25:



A protest was organized at Ambedkar Chowk in Karnal under the joint aegis of the Karnal District Congress Committee and the Scheduled Castes Department, Karnal. The protest also included burning an effigy of Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

The protest warned the central government that if it acted against Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the Dalit and backward communities would oppose it.

District Congress President Rural Dr. Rajesh Vaidya said that Baba Saheb belonged to an ideology that advocated for the right to equality and freedom for all. He strived to ensure equal rights for all in the Indian Constitution.

Questioning the contributions of Baba Saheb Ambedkar is an insult to the soul of the nation.

Rajesh Vaidya said that the direction in which the country's politics is heading today is not only worrying but also a dangerous sign for democracy.

Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar's statement that "Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar did not write the Constitution" is not only insensitive but also a direct attack on the very soul of the nation. Dr. Rajesh Vaidh Valmiki, President of the Karnal District Congress Committee, strongly condemned this statement, saying, "Those who say that Babasaheb did not write the Constitution are themselves ignorant of the Constitution's fundamental spirit. This is the same Constitution that gave every citizen of India equal rights, respect, and freedom of expression. Today, some people are sitting in the temple of democracy and insulting its creator by using those very rights." Dr. Vaidh said that Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar is not only the creator of the Constitution, but also the soul of India. He gave voice to a society that was suppressed for centuries. Today, if any poor, Dalit, woman, or backward person in India can speak out for their rights, it is due to Babasaheb. He said, "This statement by Manohar Lal Khattar is an insult not only to the Dalit community but to every Indian who believes in the Constitution." "This is not a time for arrogance, but a time for introspection. If politics becomes insensitive, it divides society instead of uniting it. And when the dignity of the Constitution is attacked, it is the duty of every conscious citizen to protest against it."

Police honours families of martyrs in special tribute event



RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR, OCT 25

In a heartfelt tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of police martyrs, the Yamunanagar district police organised a special event to honour the families of fallen police personnel. Superintendent of Police Kamaldeep Goyal personally visited the residence of martyr Inspector Baljit Singh, offered floral tributes, and presented a token of respect to his family.

Police spokesperson Chamkaur Singh informed that the event was held to express gratitude and reverence towards police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty. SP Goyal said that "martyr police officers are the proud legacy of our department and society, and their supreme sacrifices will always be remembered." He emphasised that the families of martyrs are an integral part of the police fraternity and assured them of the department's continued support and solidarity in every situation.

Recalling the valour of Inspector Baljit Singh, SP Goyal shared that on May 31, 1992, Singh and his team were on a mission to apprehend a wanted criminal, Pala Ram, involved in multiple terrorist acts. During the raid, another criminal, Jarnail Singh alias Jassa, opened indiscriminate fire on the police party. In the encounter, Inspector Baljit Singh, Inspector Vijender Singh, ASI Raghunandan, and Constable Narayan Singh were martyred while performing their duty.

SP Goyal said that their martyrdom is not only a matter of pride for the police department but also a source of inspiration for society. He added that the district police maintains a dedicated mechanism to ensure regular assistance and engagement with the families of martyrs, reaffirming that the entire department stands with them.

Inspector Baljit Singh's son, Surender Pal Singh, who followed in his father's footsteps, now serves as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) in Madhuban, Haryana Police.

Concluding the ceremony, SP Goyal said, "Our brave sons will forever live in our hearts. Their sacrifice will never go in vain, and honouring their families is not only our duty but also our moral responsibility." He also instructed all station house officers to stay in touch with the families of martyrs in their respective areas and ensure their well-being, stating that such gestures reflect the department's compassion and humanity.

Ladwa woman ends her life; family alleges harassment and dowry-related abuse

RINKU
LADWA, OCT 25

In a tragic incident on Friday, a married woman from village Bapda ended her life by hanging herself in her room. Her family did not allow the last rites to be performed in Bapda; after conducting the post-mortem, they took the body to their native village for the funeral.



The post-mortem revealed that the deceased, Kajal, was five months pregnant with a baby girl. Her death was caused by hanging, and preliminary reports suggest no poisonous substance or external factor contributed, though the final confirmation will come from the viscera report.

Following a complaint by her brother Bablu, Ladwa police have registered a case against Kajal's husband, his mother, younger brother, and his brother's wife, and an investigation is underway. The family has accused her in-laws of assault and severely mistreating her, which they claim contributed to her death. Kajal had married Manish from Bapda about a year ago and was five months pregnant at the time of her death.

In the complaint, Bablu stated that Kajal was the youngest among four siblings. Her marriage to Manish on October 22 last year was celebrated with grandeur. Soon after marriage, disputes over dowry began. Manish had demanded a motorcycle, which the family fulfilled by providing a second-hand one. Over time, his demands increased, causing tension at home. On October 23, Manish, reportedly under the influence of alcohol, physically assaulted Kajal, and his maternal uncle Mahindra Singh verbally abused her. Additionally, Manish's mother Saroj Bala, his younger brother Ram Kumar, and his brother's wife harassed and troubled her.

On Friday, a confrontation and assault occurred again. Kajal called her brother to inform him, and he tried to intervene.

Hry State Narcotics Control Bureau arrests drug trafficker with 2.505 kg of poppy straw in Indri

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCT 25

The Karnal unit of the Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau (HSNCB) has achieved another significant success in its ongoing crackdown on drug trafficking. Acting on a secret tip-off, the bureau team apprehended a trafficker named Sachu, son of Sunil Kumar, near Ward No. 1 in Indri. A total of 2.505 kilograms of poppy straw was recovered from his possession.

Following strict directives from Bureau Chief and Director General of Police (DGP) O.P. Singh, IPS, anti-narcotics operations are being carried out across the state. DGP Singh emphasised that "Eradicating the roots of drug trafficking is our topmost priority."

The operation was conducted under the guidance of SP Mohit Handa, IPS, and supervision of DSP Manoj Kumar, with Inspector Rishipal Singh leading the field team. During a routine patrol in the Indri police station area, ASI Upkar and his team received a tip-off regarding the trafficker. After confirming the information, the police strategically intercepted the suspect, recovering narcotics from his possession.



Legal procedures were completed, and the accused was taken into custody. A total of 2.505 kilograms of poppy straw was seized. Sachu, a resident of Indri, has been booked under relevant sections of the NDPS Act at Indri police station, Karnal, with case number 621/2025 for medium quantity possession.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused sourced the narcotics from Uttar Pradesh and distributed them at various locations in Indri. Police are now interrogating him to trace his entire drug trafficking network and other associates involved.

The police spokesperson urged citizens to actively cooperate in the fight against drugs. Any information regarding drug trade or trafficking can be reported immediately through the toll-free number 1933, the online complaint portal NCBMANAS.GOV.IN, or the helpline 90508-91508. The identity of informants will be kept strictly confidential.

Geeta Kanya School student Tapasya wins silver medal in wrestling



HANS RAJ
KURUKSHETRA: In the Vidya Bharati All India Sports Wrestling Competition, held from October 23 to 26, 2025 in Bhopal, Tapasya, a student of Geeta Kanya Senior Secondary School, secured the second place, bringing pride to her school.

The school management committee, including Chairman Rajendra Singh Kaler, Vice Chairman Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Manager Balbir Prakash, Treasurer Suresh Saini, educationists Dr. Hari Prakash Sharma, Dr. Saurabh Trikha, Dr. Rajesh Agarwal, women's representative Anjali Sharma, provincial representative Sanjay Chaudhary, and Principal Suman Bala, congratulated Tapasya and the entire school family for this achievement.

Step towards gender equality: Capacity building programme on gender sensitivity held at Pratap Public School

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI: A capacity building programme on gender sensitivity was organised at Pratap Public School, Tarawadi. The programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by resource persons Kiran Dalal and Vandana Sharma, followed by the recitation of the Gayatri Mantra and Saraswati Vandana. Addressing the gathering, Kiran Dalal explained that gender sensitivity means viewing both men and women with equality, eliminating discrimination, and creating an environment of safety, respect, and equal opportunity. She emphasised that education plays a vital role in fostering a sense of equality and mutual respect among children from an early age. Vandana Sharma conducted several interactive activities related to the topic, in which all teachers participated enthusiastically. School directors Honey Chaudhary and Pithi Chaudhary said that such training programmes are regularly organised to bring innovation and excellence into teaching. Principal Vikas Uttreja stated that gender sensitivity is not just a social value but an educational necessity. He urged teachers to provide equal opportunities to every student without any bias. The programme concluded with all teachers taking a pledge to foster a gender-sensitive and respectful environment within the school.



Khatu Shyam Ji's divine glory lights up Taraori: Aman Garg

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI: Young social worker Aman Garg of Shri Khatu Shyam Lakhdataar Parivar Charitable Trust said that the glory of Lord Khatu Shyam Ji is boundless. He said that whoever seeks the blessings of Baba with true devotion finds relief from all sorrows and difficulties in life.



"Baba Khatu Shyam is the support of the defeated. Those who surrender to him receive peace, happiness, and divine joy," said Garg. He added that devotion to Baba not only brings mental peace but also instils positivity and confidence in life.

Aman Garg shared that through the trust, he regularly participates in religious, social, and service-oriented activities to spread harmony in society through devotion and service. He said that Baba's devotion is a source of both light and guidance in life.

Other trust members also encouraged devotees to follow the path of devotion and service, saying that Baba Shyam's blessings make life prosperous and fulfilling. Devotees expressed that praying to Lord Khatu Shyam brings them hope in adversity and relief from life's challenges. The faith and following of Baba Shyam in Tarawadi continue to grow, with devotees finding solace and strength in his name.

DC Uttam Singh directs immediate physical verification of paddy stock in all rice mills

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Deputy Commissioner Uttam Singh has instructed all SDMs to ensure immediate physical verification of paddy stock in every rice mill falling under their jurisdiction. He emphasized that the recorded stock levels must be cross-checked with the actual physical quantity on site to ensure complete transparency.



The Deputy Commissioner further directed that the verification process must include a thorough review of the mills' purchase, milling, and dispatch logs along with related records to detect any irregularities.

He asked the concerned SDMs to conduct inspections in coordination with revenue officers, AFSOs, food inspectors, and other relevant staff at the earliest. In case of any discrepancy or irregularity found during verification, the officers have been instructed to submit a detailed report to the Deputy Commissioner's office immediately, supported with photographs, relevant documents, and specific observations.

Weekly dispensary to start in Deha Basti, Chand Sarai

SHIV KUMARR SHARMA
KARNAL: The Health Department of the Senior Citizens' Wing of Swadeshi Jagran Manch will launch a free weekly health check-up dispensary at Dakaut Dharamshala in Deha Basti, Chand Sarai, Karnal. The dispensary will officially open on October 26 at 10:00 AM. Through this dispensary, residents of the area will have access to medical treatment.

Dr. K.K. Chawla, head of the Health Department of the Senior Citizens' Wing, provided this information. During a meeting of the Senior Citizens' Wing, he stated that the dispensary will offer services from specialists including pediatrician Dr. K.K. Chawla, general physicians Dr. Shyam Badhwa and Dr. O.P. Gagia, and gynecologist Dr. Sarita Thakur.

The meeting was chaired by Satjeet Chawla, while district patron G.S. Manchanda attended as the chief guest. He confirmed that the dispensary inauguration will be held on October 26 at 10:00 AM, with industrialist and district head of Laghu Udyog Bharti, Abhishek Gupta, as the main guest. Local councillors and other senior dignitaries will also be present. The meeting was attended by several members of the community, including Shri Puri, Bhajan Sharma, Shruti Kamboj, and others.

Spiritual discourses and devotion enrich Karnal Manav Seva Sangh

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, OCTOBER 25



Karnal Manav Seva Sangh is hosting its annual Sant Samagam from October 24 to 26 this year. The event has attracted hundreds of saints, thinkers, and spiritual practitioners from all corners of the country. The Sangh has made extensive arrangements for the stay, meals, and rest of all participants, along with organizing the spiritual discourses.

The satsang sessions are held daily from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM and again from 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM at the Satsang Hall of Karnal Manav Seva Sangh. In the evening at 8:00 PM, a question-and-answer session is organized to satiate the seekers' thirst for knowledge. Attending saints provide logical and thoughtful answers to the participants' questions, thus fulfilling their spiritual curiosity.

During the event, the founder of Manav Seva Sangh, Swami Sharnanand Ji Maharaj's philosophy, and the core principles of the Sangh are explained. Participants are encouraged to follow the principle of selfless service to humanity without discrimination, and to implement the eleven rules of Manav Seva Sangh in daily life.

The event was coordinated by Dulichand Sharma, while Dr. Bhagtaram Khandwal, Advocate, noted that the annual Sant Samagam held every October promotes the philosophy of Swami Sharnanand Ji and provides society with guidance and direction. Such gatherings inspire service toward the needy and foster unity and brotherhood among participants. With the support of the generous people of Karnal, the Sangh is fully dedicated to serving visiting saints so that they leave with a positive impression of Karnal. On October 26, participants will also have the opportunity to visit the sacred ashrams at Geeta Sthali, Kurukshetra. On this occasion, Swami Prem Murti Ji, Director of Karnal Manav Seva Sangh, urged all saints, thinkers, and practitioners to sincerely follow the Sangh's rules and dedicate themselves to selfless service .

ASUS is strengthening its after-sales network with a new service center in Balasore and expanding on-site support to 7 more locations

LUDHIANA : ASUS India, a leading technology brand today announced the expansion of its after-sales service network with the launch of a new ASUS Authorized Service Centre with new National partnerin Balasore and inaugurating on-site support. This strategic move reinforces the brand's commitment to delivering superior customer experiences in person and ensuring easy accessibility to reliable after-sales support.

Additionally, ASUS is also opening centers in cities such as Gurgaon, Chandigarh, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Jaipur, Chennai and Pune. The newly opened centresare a part of ASUS India's ongoing efforts to bring seamless service closer to its expanding customer base. With this expansion, ASUS aims to further strengthen its pan-India service footprint, offering on-site support, faster turnaround times, improved convenience, and a more seamless ownership experience for users of its wide range of products, including laptops, desktops, and accessories.

Commentingon the launch, Vishal Mhalsekar, National Service Manager – ASUS CSC India said:

"At ASUS, customer satisfaction stands at the core. The expansion of our service network reflects our continuous effort to provide timely, efficient, and high-quality after-sales support. With these new centres, we are adding new authorized service centers to aim to enhance accessibilityto all over India District and ensure our customers enjoy a truly seamless ownership experience, no matter where they are in India."

The new centres are equipped with premium support, on-site repair facilities, DOA handling amongst other key offerings. Customers will also have access to genuine spare parts, transparent service processes, and real-time updates on their repair status, all designed to elevate the overall service experience.

Tasva and Shubman Gill Redefining the Meaning of Togetherness

CHANDIGARH : Tasva, the modern Indian menswear brand by Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Ltd. in collaboration with couturier Tarun Tahiliani, announces its new brand vision with cricket icon Shubman Gill as Ambassador. This marks Shubman Gill's first association with a wedding wear brand, a significant step in Tasva's journey as it signals a bold cultural shift - redefining wedding as a celebration of love, intimacy, and shared agency rather than rigid traditions.



For generations, weddings were defined by societal expectations and family alignments. Today, couples are writing their own stories, where differences are embraced and individuality is celebrated. Tasva embodies this change, creating clothing that is premium, contemporary, and designer-led while staying rooted in India's cultural richness. The brand's philosophy is clear: marriages are about equals, about two people and their worlds, coming together in meaningful ways.

The campaign featuring Shubman Gill brings this spirit to life. It portrays weddings not as performances but as authentic journeys filled with joy, love, care, and intimacy. Representing a generation that is aspirational, confident, and progressive, Gill mirrors the values Tasva stands for - modernity grounded in culture, with an aesthetic that reflects personal choice and partnership.

Sharing his thoughts on the association, Shubman Gill said, "My association with Tasva is special. Just like on the field, every innings is about balance, confidence, and expression, I believe weddings are no different. Tasva's message of celebrating love with individuality and ease, while still respecting tradition, stood out for me. I'm excited to be part of this journey where modern grooms can play one of their most memorable innings in life with grace and confidence." Tarun Tahiliani added, "At Tasva, we believe weddings are among the most intimate of celebrations - where individuality and heritage come together seamlessly. Shubman Gill represents the confident and progressive India we design for. With him, we continue Tasva's vision of celebrating love and equality through impeccable design."

YUGMARG

CHANDIGARH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

Opinion

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Curie

EDITORIAL

80 years on, the UN needs to reform

Whether it is the journey of an individual or an institution, reaching 80 years is a significant milestone, a time for reflection and reform. The United Nations, established on October 24, 1945, as a collective hope of a war-torn world, now faces multiple crises in an increasingly uncertain global landscape. The organisation is facing widespread criticism for its inefficacy in resolving conflicts, as its calls for peace often seem like cries in the wilderness. It has remained a mute spectator to the public suffering in several conflict zones and failed to stop wars and military invasions. More importantly, there is a criticism, justifiably so, that the global body has been insensitive to the problems of the Third World. The need for organisational reforms is more relevant today than ever before as the global body grapples with the complex realities of the 21st century. India has been at the forefront, calling for structural changes in the organisation to retain its relevance in addressing current and future global challenges.

Despite its best efforts to live up to the expectations of the original 50 founding members who solemnly resolved to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war," the United Nations faces an uphill task in this increasingly difficult world, wherein 2 billion people live in conflict zones. Besides, the organisation is facing a financial crisis because of the dwindling contributions from key nations. By September this year, only 136 of the 193 member states had paid their assessments in full.

Several contributors, including the United States, China, Russia, and Mexico, had yet to complete their payments. As a result, the UN has been forced to slash its regular budget for 2026 by 15.1 per cent — from USD 3.715 billion to USD 3.238 billion. Since the UN Charter is the cornerstone of international law, the global body must be robust and well-represented for the maintenance of international peace and security. The structure of the UN must be reformed in such a way that it accommodates the concerns of the Global South. As UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres succinctly put it, we can't create a future fit for our grandchildren with systems built for our grandparents. No institution worth its name can remain relevant if it fails to address the emerging realities.

The time is ripe for undertaking drastic reforms to make the UN more representative, inclusive, less bureaucratic, more transparent, decentralised, and accountable. India has repeatedly made a strong pitch for reforming the UN Security Council by increasing permanent membership and addressing the under-representation of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Structural reforms, coupled with a collective, renewed commitment to the UN Charter, would help strengthen the Council so that it can continue to rise to emerging challenges. The reforms should focus on highlighting the concerns of the developing world and reflect the realities of the 21st century.

From Shrimps to Software -- New trade deal opens big market for India



India has unlocked another gateway to prosperity, signing an innovative trade agreement with a wealthy block of European countries which has a per capita income of over $100,000. This opens a lucrative market for Indian farmers, fishermen and MSMEs, and accelerates PM Modi's Viksit Bharat 2047 mission.

The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with the European Free Trade Association -- Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein – that came into force from Oct 1 during the auspicious navratri period, is historic. EFTA countries have pledged an investment of $100 billion over 15 years – the first such commitment in any trade pact in the world.

With this, governments of EFTA countries will champion investments into India, creating at least a million jobs, and catalyzing PM Modi's 'Make in India' mission.

Trade Strategy for Viksit Bharat: The Modi government has shed the hesitations of the past, embracing free trade agreements (FTAs) that catapult our products and services into premium, developed markets. These pacts don't just open doors, they sharpen our industries, instilling competitiveness and quality that propel us forward. In July 2025, India sealed a landmark deal with the UK, while talks with the European Union have progressed well. Earlier, PM Modi's decisive hand delivered win-win agreements with Australia and the UAE.

Indian industry stands tall today, brimming with confidence to conquer global arenas while thriving amid competition. Stakeholder have cheered every Modi-era FTA, crafted through exhaustive consultations, unlike the UPA regime's hasty deals, struck without input and often with competing economies that got access to our markets but did not open their own doors adequately.

Making India Attractive - This transformation traces back 11 years, when PM Modi rescued our economy from the "fragile five" tag, and made it a magnet for trade and capital. The Modi government dismantled inherited woes, stagnation, high inflation, corruption and inefficiencies through foundational reforms. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme alone has drawn 1.76 lakh crore in investments by March 2025, spawning over 12 lakh jobs. PM Gati Shakti and the National Logistics Policy have slashed costs and streamlined infrastructure. Our digital backbone—Jan Dhan, UPI, and Trade Connect—has democratized opportunity, powering 65,000 crore transactions worth 12,000 lakh crores in six years, lifting the underserved into the financial mainstream.

Investment, Job Creation - Now, EFTA's US$100 billion infusion promises one million direct jobs and countless more indirectly. The investment pledge is quantum leap from the mere US$11.9 billion FDI from these nations over the past 25 years. With India's total FDI hitting US$81 billion in 2024-25, a 14% surge, the real flow could eclipse commitments, thanks to the opportunity seen in the world's fastest growing large economy, and robust Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) laws which are effectively enforced. TEPA bolsters IPR with enhanced cooperation on enforcement and streamlined safeguards, empowering innovators and luring high-tech capital amid rock-solid regulatory certainty.

Farmers and fishermen – Beyond FDI, labor-intensive exports like textiles and gems & jewellry will boom, generating waves of employment. EFTA's affluent consumers crave our agri-goods, tea, and coffee. India has shielded sensitive sectors like dairy, while unleashing opportunities for rice, guar gum, pulses, grapes, mangoes, vegetables, millets, and cashews. Duty cuts on processed delights like biscuits, confectionery, chocolate, and sauces sweeten the deal. Fishermen rejoice as exports of frozen shrimp, prawns, and squid will surge through seamless standards cooperation.

Aspirational Indians: Services get a turbo boost as TEPA paves the way for Mutual Recognition Agreements in nursing, accountancy, and architecture, easing Indian professionals' entry into EFTA. Doors swing wide open for IT, business, cultural, recreational, education, and audio-visual services, slashing technical hurdles via proactive regulatory talks.

Removing Barriers: TEPA transcends tariffs, weaving fair, transparent rules on food safety, animal and plant health, product quality, safety and consumer protection. Clear information sharing, verifications, import checks and certifications prevent these from becoming trade traps, smoothing Indian goods' path to EFTA while inspiring industry to elevate standards at home. Our farmers and manufacturers will craft safer exports, pest-free produce, globally compliant products, thereby uplifting domestic quality too. Better testing and compliance mean healthier meals and reliable goods for every Indian family.

Better Future: These deals ignite passion among manufacturers, service providers and ordinary citizens, who savor premium global products through deeper economic ties. At its heart, TEPA embeds sustainability, championing trade that drives inclusive growth, combats poverty and safeguards our environment. Reaffirming the Paris Agreement and ILO core principles, it fosters collaboration on climate action, gender equality, and biodiversity conservation, ensuring fair wages, safe jobs, and a greener planet. Through green tech exchanges and cooperation, it uplifts workers, slashes inequality and secures a thriving future for our children. A child born in Modi's India gets as many opportunities at home as in the Alps, the land of fire and ice, or in the land of the midnight sun!

India's destiny is one of active participation, not isolation. As ancient seafarers from our civilizational state navigated uncharted waters with courage, today's 140 crore Indians rise as one—confident, determined and united. The goal is to expand the global footprint, empower through education and digital revolution and build a sustainable future. Together, we restore India's place as a leader in commerce, where trade and technology serve humanity, while innovation and inclusion advance hand in hand.

(The author is the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry)

By Piyush Goyal

Ambassador Kwatra meets CEO Lockheed Martin, discusses India-US industrial cooperation

India's Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, met Jim Taiclet, CEO of Lockheed Martin, and held discussions on the industrial cooperation between New Delhi and Washington DC, with a special focus on Atmanirbhar Bharat goals.

Sharing the details in a post on X, Ambassador Kwatra said, "Met Jim Taiclet, CEO, @LockheedMartin. A very productive conversation on the India-US industrial cooperation, especially under the rubric of our Atmanirbhar Bharat goals where U.S. defense companies have a key role to play."

US aerospace giant Lockheed Martin, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, is a global security and aerospace company that is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services.

The official website of Lockheed Martin noted that with a presence in India for over 30 years, Lockheed Martin opened an India subsidiary in New Delhi in 2008 and has supported and aligned itself with various initiatives of the Government of India, like Make in India, Startup India and Skill India.



Some notable partnerships between India and Lockheed Martin include the C-130J Super Hercules. The official website of Lockheed Martin said that the Indian Air Force operates a fleet of 12 C-130Js. The IAF's C-130J fleet represents the first major military contract between the U.S. and India in more than 40 years. The MH-60 Romeo partnership between the Indian Navy and Lockheed Martin is significant in anti-submarine (ASW) and anti-surface warfare (ASuW) capabilities.

The website also highlighted Sikorsky - a Lockheed Martin company - that relies on a joint venture company called Tata Sikorsky Aerospace Ltd. (TSAL), in Hyderabad, India, as the manufacturing base for its global supply of cabin aerostructures for the S-92 helicopter.

Last year, CEO Jim Taiclet held a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi here and agreed to strengthen the defence and industrial ties between the two nations. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval was also present at the meeting.

Nearly two-thirds of South Sudanese children trapped in worst forms of labour: Report

Nearly two-thirds of children in South Sudan are engaged in the worst forms of child labour, with rates reaching up to 90 per cent in the hardest-hit areas, according to a government study released with the charity Save the Children, Al Jazeera reported.

The National Child Labour Study, published on Friday, surveyed over 418 households across seven states and found that 64 per cent of children aged between five and 17 are involved in forced labour, sexual exploitation, theft, and conflict. The findings highlight a crisis "far more complex than poverty alone", intensified by flooding, disease, and ongoing conflict that have displaced families and left millions on the brink of hunger.



In Kapoeta South, near the border with Uganda, nine out of 10 children work in gold mining, pastoralism, and farming instead of attending school, the report said. The Yambio region in the southwest recorded similarly dire rates, where local conflict and child marriage push children into labour, Al Jazeera added.

Children often begin with simple work before being drawn into more dangerous and exploitative jobs, with about 10 per cent reporting involvement with armed groups, particularly in Akobo, Bentiu, and Kapoeta South counties. The types of exploitation vary by gender, with boys more likely to work in hazardous industries or join armed groups, while girls disproportionately face forced marriage, household servitude, and sexual abuse.

Research revealed that knowledge of the law does not prevent child exploitation. Surveys showed that 70 per cent of children in dangerous or illegal work lived in homes with adults familiar with legal protections, while two-thirds of children were unaware that help existed.

"When nearly two-thirds of a country's children are working - and in some areas, almost every child - it signals a crisis that goes beyond poverty," said Chris Nyamandi, Save the Children's South Sudan country director.

South Sudan's child labour prevalence significantly exceeds regional patterns. While East Africa has the continent's worst record at 30 percent, according to ILO-UNICEF data, South Sudan's 64 percent is more than double that figure. "Education remains the strongest protective factor," Nyamandi said, noting that children attending school are far less likely to be exploited, Al Jazeera reported.

At the report's launch in Juba, the government acknowledged the crisis. Deng Tong, undersecretary at the Ministry of Labour, said officials would use the evidence as a "critical foundation for action". The report comes amid severe flooding affecting nearly one million people across South Sudan, with 335,000 displaced and over 140 health facilities damaged or submerged. The country is also battling a malaria outbreak, with more than 104,000 cases reported in the past week, while 7.7 million people face acute hunger.

Dust-Dipped

Little Song

Both guitars run trebly.
One noodles
Over a groove.
The other slushes chords.
Then they switch.
It's quite an earnest affair.
They close my eyes.
I close their eyes. A horn
Blares its inner air to brass.
A girl shakes
Her ass. Some dude does the same.
The music's
Gone moot.
Who doesn't love it when the bass
Doesn't hide?
When you can feel the trumpet peel
Old oil and spit from deep down the empty
Pit of a note or none or few?
So don't
Give up on it yet:
the scenario.
You know that it's just as tired of you
As you are of it. Still,
there's much more to it
Than that. It does not not
get you quite wrong.

By Rowan Ricardo Phillips

GST reforms and the new dawn of Indian tourism



Tourism in India has always been more than leisure—it is a dialogue between civilizations, a carrier of heritage, and a catalyst for inclusive growth. Yet for decades, despite our extraordinary diversity—from Ladakh's monasteries to Kanyakumari's shores—its full potential remained constrained by fragmented taxation and high costs. The recent reforms in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) have begun to change that story.

For years, India's tourism and hospitality industry bore the weight of a complicated tax regime. A patchwork of levies—service tax, VAT, luxury tax—created confusion and inflated travel costs. The introduction of GST brought simplification, but the recent rationalisation of rates has been decisive in making Indian tourism more competitive.

The reduction of GST on hotel rooms priced under 7,500 from 12% to 5% has been particularly transformative. Travel has become more affordable for middle-class families and budget travellers—the backbone of domestic tourism. Higher occupancy rates, longer stays, and greater local spending are direct outcomes. For small entrepreneurs and homestay owners, lower compliance costs have improved viability and encouraged formalisation. It is a quiet but profound shift towards scale and sustainability.

Tourism thrives on connectivity. The reduction of GST on passenger transport—especially on buses carrying more than ten passengers—from 28% to 18% is a crucial enabler. It has made intercity and group travel more accessible for pilgrims, students, and families. Heritage circuits, eco-tourism parks, and rural destinations are seeing fresh momentum.

This reform goes beyond cheaper tickets—it is about linking regions, democratizing travel, and giving small tour operators a chance to expand. For India, where tourism is a powerful vehicle for regional equity, affordable mobility is economic empowerment.

India's appeal lies not only in its monuments but also in its living traditions. Reducing GST on art and handicraft products from 12% to 5% has boosted a sector that sustains millions of artisans. Every handmade artifact sold in a local market carries the imprint of India's cultural continuity.

Lowering taxes here is not merely an economic gesture—it is a cultural investment. Tourists today seek authenticity, and when they take home a handwoven Kanchipuram saree or a carved sandalwood figurine, they carry a piece of India's creative economy. This reform empowers artisans, strengthens craft clusters, and makes heritage part of the growth narrative.

Perhaps the most enduring benefit of GST is clarity. Small hotels, homestays, and travel agencies now operate within a single, predictable framework instead of a maze of state-specific taxes. This improves compliance, boosts investor confidence, and creates space for innovation.

Formalisation also unlocks access to credit, insurance, and digital payments for thousands of small operators who once functioned informally. For a sector that employs more women and youth than most others, this integration is transformative. Tourism becomes not just a leisure industry but a driver of entrepreneurship and livelihoods.

Globally, price competitiveness determines where tourists travel. For years, India lagged behind Southeast Asian destinations such as Thailand and Vietnam, which offered low hotel taxes and simplified levies. The recent GST recalibration has narrowed that gap. India now offers world-class experiences—from Ayurveda retreats to heritage hotels—at globally competitive rates.

The results are visible. Domestic tourism has surged to record highs, and foreign tourist arrivals are steadily recovering. Niche segments such as cruise, wellness, film, and spiritual tourism are expanding rapidly. The government's integrated push through programmes like Swadesh Darshan 2.0, PRASHAD, and Vibrant Villages is further aligning infrastructure, policy, and community participation.

Tourism currently contributes about 5% to India's GDP and supports over 80 million livelihoods. With sustained reforms and infrastructure investments, this could easily double by 2030. Every percentage point increase in tourism activity generates exponential benefits—jobs, local enterprise, women's empowerment, and cross-cultural understanding.

The GST reforms are not isolated fiscal measures; they represent a philosophy that taxation should enable, not inhibit. They make travel more affordable, enterprise more viable, and destinations more attractive. They bring the economy's pulse closer to the people.

As India looks ahead to its centenary of independence, the vision of Viksit Bharat will be incomplete without a globally competitive and culturally confident tourism ecosystem. The world is rediscovering India—not just as a destination, but as an experience that harmonises tradition with modernity, economics with empathy.

With a rationalised GST, improved connectivity, empowered artisans, and a confident industry, India's tourism story is set to become one of the defining success narratives of this decade—a story where reform meets renaissance, and every journey becomes part of the making of New India.

(The author is the Union Minister of Culture and Tourism)

By:Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

YUGMARG
Himachal
CHANDIGARH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025
PAGE 5

Vikram Banyal brings fresh momentum to Hamirpur BJP's Media Management

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR: A new chapter is being written in the media management of Hamirpur District BJP, thanks to the leadership of District BJP Media In-Charge Vikram Banyal. Under his guidance, the party's communication strategy has not only become more robust but has also started showing visible impact. From social media to print and electronic media, the improved presentation of BJP's programs and activities has become a topic of discussion. According to party sources, Vikram Banyal's innovative and coordinated approach at the district level has significantly strengthened the party's media presence.

NEWS BRIEF

Folk Artists Raise Awareness on disaster management and earthquake-safe construction in Una



KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: As part of the Samarth 2025 Program of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Una, artists from RK Kala Manch Chintpurni, empanelled with the Department of Information and Public Relations, conducted awareness programs in Kuneran and Oil villages on Saturday. The team educated villagers about effective disaster management practices and earthquake-resistant building construction techniques aimed at reducing loss of life and property during natural disasters. They explained various methods of earthquake-safe construction, emphasizing that collective efforts are essential to minimize disaster-related damages. The artists highlighted the importance of constructing strong and safe buildings that can withstand natural calamities and reduce destruction. The team also advised villagers to consult engineers before making any structural changes to their houses and to use appropriate construction technology to ensure safety during earthquakes.

Political buzz in Barsar: CM Sukhu's visit sparks tensions between Congress and BJP

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR, OCT 25



Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's visit to Barsar not only energized Congress workers but also ignited new political equations in the region. Both on and off the stage, the visit offered several signals indicating that Barsar's political landscape is currently caught between internal friction within Congress and sharp opposition attacks from the BJP. Former MLA Manjeet Dogra became the center of attention with his sharp sarcasm about the Chief Minister's visit.

He quipped, "I should also get a chance in Barsar. The Mini Secretariat being inaugurated by the Chief Minister today was something I had opposed first. Now, CM Sukhu should give me some responsibility too." Dogra's remarks were seen by the BJP camp as a direct jibe at the ruling Congress, while Congress workers dismissed them as "political frustration." The statement quickly went viral on social media, becoming a hot topic among local political circles.

Reacting strongly, former Congress candidate Subhash Dhatwalia defended the Chief Minister, saying, "The development works initiated by CM Sukhu in Barsar are unmatched compared to previous terms." He added that the visit reflected Sukhu's commitment to fulfilling people's expectations, and those mocking it are distancing themselves from developmental politics.

Dhatwalia's response was also viewed as an internal message that Congress remains united and that the government is focused on public welfare.

Adding intrigue to the situation was the presence of BJP MLA Inder Dutt Lakhnapal during the Chief Minister's program in Barsar. While some termed it a matter of courtesy, others saw it as a possible sign of emerging political realignments. Observers noted that Barsar's politics appears to be reactivating ahead of upcoming Panchayat and Assembly elections, with multiple leaders working strategically to strengthen their positions.

Analysts believe that CM Sukhu's Barsar visit was significant not only administratively but also politically. On one side, rifts between senior and emerging Congress leaders were visible, while on the other, the BJP seemed to be recalibrating its local strategy. Dogra's sarcasm, Dhatwalia's counter-defense, and Lakhnapal's presence — together — have once again placed Barsar at the center of Himachal Pradesh's political discourse. Overall, the Barsar visit made it clear that the state's political temperature is set to rise in the coming months. While CM Sukhu's address reinvigorated Congress cadres, the BJP appears to be carefully studying public sentiment to capitalize politically.

The coming weeks will reveal how effectively Sukhu's government fulfills its promises — and how the opposition positions itself to respond.

Himachal Kalyan Sabha Amritsar donates Rs. 1.11 lakh to CM Relief Fund



KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA, OCT 25

A delegation of the Himachal Kalyan Sabha, Amritsar, met Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and handed over a cheque of Rs. 1.11 lakh towards the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to aid flood victims in the state. The Sabha's president, Shaktipal Sidhar, and general secretary, Yashpal Sharma, said the organisation has been representing thousands of Himachalis living in Amritsar for the past three decades. The Sabha runs several charitable dispensaries and stitching schools in the city and regularly organizes medical camps, plantation drives, and awareness campaigns against social evils. They added that the Sabha's key objectives include helping poor girls with marriage assistance, providing financial aid to the needy, and awarding scholarships to meritorious students. Extending support to relief funds during natural calamities has been one of its important humanitarian activities. They recalled that in 2023 as well, the Sabha had contributed around Rs. 7.75 lakh to aid flood victims in Himachal during Chief Minister Sukhu's visit to Amritsar. "Our workplace may be Punjab, but our birthplace is Himachal," said the representatives, emphasizing that thousands of Himachalis residing in Amritsar continue to contribute significantly to their home state's progress.

CISF takes charge of Bhakra Dam, new era of national security begins

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR, OCT 25



In a historic milestone for India's critical infrastructure protection, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has officially assumed responsibility for the security of the Bhakra Dam Project — one of the nation's most vital assets. The formal induction ceremony of CISF Unit BDP Nangal marked the official handover of security duties from the state police to the central force, symbolizing a new chapter in dam safety and national resilience. Deputy Commandant Ajay Bali of CISF Kol Dam Unit informed that the ceremony, held on October 22 at the Bhakra Dam site, was attended by distinguished officials including Navjyoti Gogoi, Inspector General, CISF Northern Sector; M.K. Yadav, Deputy Inspector General, CISF Northern Region-II; Manoj Tripathi, Chairman, BBMB; and Pratik Raghuvanshi, Commandant and Unit Commander, CISF Unit BDP Nangal. The Bhakra Dam, located between Himachal Pradesh and Punjab on the Sutlej River, is a marvel of engineering — standing 226 meters tall and 518 meters long. Together with the Nangal Dam, it forms the Gobind Sagar Reservoir, which spans 168 square kilometers and stores 9.34 billion cubic meters of water, making it India's third-largest reservoir after Indira Sagar and Nagarjuna Sagar.

Dhagwar milk plant to be developed as HP's most advanced dairy plant

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, OCT 25



Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Chaudhary Chandra Kumar stated that the Dhagwar Milk Plant in Kangra district will be Himachal Pradesh's most advanced dairy plant, operating in accordance with international standards. The plant will be fully automated, with state-of-the-art machinery and equipment being installed to ensure high quality, hygiene, and production efficiency of milk products. The Agriculture Minister inspected the progress of the modern milk processing plant under construction in Dhagwar with a capacity of 100,000 liters per day and directed officials and the contractor firm responsible for the construction to ensure quality and quality completion within the stipulated timeframe. He also directed the inclusion of a Chief Engineer-level officer in the committee formed to ensure effective monitoring of the plant's quality and progress. He stated that the total cost of the project is Rs. 225 crore, of which approximately 41 percent of the physical work has been completed so far. It will produce a variety of dairy products, including toned milk, double toned milk, standard milk, full cream milk, khoya, yogurt, lassi, paneer, mozzarella cheese, and flavored milk. He stated that this plant will prove to be a milestone in increasing the income of the state's milk producers, providing sustainable employment opportunities to rural youth, and strengthening the local economy.

Seven-day National Service Scheme camp inaugurated at Jawar Vidyalaya



AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB: On Friday, Anoop Dhiman, President of Sahara Help, inaugurated a seven-day National Service Scheme camp at the Government Senior Secondary School, Jawar. The camp was formally inaugurated under the chairmanship of Principal Rajesh Patial and the guidance of National Service Scheme in-charge Kush Bharmouta, Physics Lecturer, and co-in-charge Anita Verma, Political Science Lecturer. Present on the occasion were Sahara Help Organization member Sushil Kumar, Village Panchayat Head Sandeep Rana, Deputy Head Rampal Sharma, and all the school teachers. Anoop Dhiman inaugurated the program with a worship of Goddess Saraswati. He emphasized the need for students to cultivate social service qualities in their lives. He emphasized that we must fulfill our social responsibilities with determination. He imparted a message of discipline and unity to the children and urged them to stay away from drugs and minimize mobile phone use.

Side effects of Tabacco told by Health Department Una in Govt Sr Sec School Bathri



KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: An Awareness Camp on Tabacco consuming side effects was organized by the Health Department Unain Government Senior Secondary School Bathriunder Haroli Constituency on Saturday today. This Camp was organized under the directions of Dr Shingara Singh Block Medical Officer Haroli. MHS Mohan Lal told to students the side effects of Tabacoo and Smoking. He said that such addiction may cause of serious disease Cancer of Mouth, Throat and Lungs. He said that such addictions are Health related and social evils. He told the students that selling of Tabacco to minors is strictly banned under Cotpa Act 2003. Neelam Kumari Principal of Government Senior Secondary School Bathri, Staff and students were present on this occasion.

PMGSY marks 25 glorious years — Rs 452 crore transforms Bilaspur's rural landscape, 624 habitations now connected

AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR, OCT 25



The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), the flagship rural road development programme that has revolutionized connectivity across India, completed 25 years of its remarkable journey this year. To mark the milestone, a press conference was organized at the Bilaspur district headquarters, where Superintending Engineer Jeet Singh Thakur highlighted the transformative impact of the scheme in bridging rural-urban divides and uplifting thousands of lives.

Thakur shared that PMGSY has been the cornerstone of Bilaspur's rural development, ensuring that remote villages are no longer isolated from essential services and opportunities. "The vision of providing all-weather road connectivity has turned into reality for hundreds of villages in Bilaspur. It has empowered communities, improved access to education and healthcare, and strengthened the local economy," he said.

Over the past two and a half decades, a total of 624 rural habitations have been connected through durable and all-weather road infrastructure. The district has witnessed the completion of 157 roads under PMGSY–I and II, while 19 new roads are currently under construction under PMGSY–III. In total, 862.71 kilometers of roadwork has been completed, with another 112.18 kilometers underway.

Thakur detailed that under PMGSY–I, 133 habitations were linked with newly constructed roads; under PMGSY–II, six projects spanning 66.32 kilometers benefited 27 habitations; and in PMGSY–III, 19 roads with a total length of 184.62 kilometers are connecting 464 habitations. Collectively, these efforts represent an investment of Rs 452 crore, transforming the district's connectivity and driving growth to even its remotest corners.

Paras Health organises initiative on 'Seconds Save Lives: Awareness on Primary First Aid' in Shimla

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, OCT 25



Paras Health Panchkula held an engaging press conference on "Seconds Save Lives: Awareness on Primary First Aid" at Shimla. The initiative focused on spreading awareness about the importance of quick and correct first aid response during medical emergencies—when every second truly matters. The event brought together leading doctors and health experts who shared valuable insights on how timely first aid can prevent complications and even save lives. Speaking at the event, Dr Ashish Gupta, Senior Director – Neurosurgery, said, "Emergencies can strike anywhere—at home, on the road, or at work. The first few minutes are often the most critical. Simple actions like controlling bleeding or keeping the airway clear can make all the difference.

Our aim is to empower people with the confidence and skills to respond effectively. By spreading this knowledge, we hope to create a community that reacts swiftly rather than freezes in panic." Dr Chetan Goel, Associate Director – Emergency, emphasised the importance of preparedness, stating, "When a community knows how to act in the first few moments of an emergency, it becomes stronger and more resilient. Anyone can be a lifesaver with the right awareness and training. By turning ordinary citizens into first responders, we can significantly improve survival outcomes and make our surroundings safer for everyone." Dr Sourav Sarkar, Consultant – Plastic Surgery, added, "Many injuries become worse simply because of panic or lack of basic knowledge.

BJP completes formation of six organizational fronts in Himachal: Dr. Rajeev Bindal

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, OCT 25



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state president Dr. Rajeev Bindal announced that the party has completed the formation of its six organizational fronts in Himachal Pradesh, including the Yuva Morcha, Mahila Morcha, Scheduled Caste Morcha, Scheduled Tribe Morcha, Kisan Morcha, and OBC Morcha. Each of these wings, he said, is actively working to strengthen the party's organizational base across the state. Addressing an important meeting of BJP Yuva Morcha office bearers at the party's state headquarters, Dr. Bindal launched a strong attack on the Congress government, calling it "anti-youth and anti-unemployed." He said that among all the state governments so far, it is the present Congress regime that has caused the greatest harm to unemployed youth in Himachal Pradesh. He recalled that before coming to power in 2022, the Congress had made a slew of false promises to woo job-seeking youth. "Their leaders came from the national level and announced, even through videos and speeches, that one lakh government jobs would be given in the first cabinet meeting, that 67,000 vacant posts would be filled and 33,000 new posts created, and that five lakh jobs would be provided in five years," he said. "But after coming to power, the Congress government did the exact opposite."

BJP Mahila Morcha Hamirpur President Archana Chauhan leads service activities on MP Anurag Thakur's birthday

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR, OCT 25



On the occasion of the birthday of former Union Minister and Member of Parliament from Hamirpur, Anurag Thakur, the BJP Mahila Morcha Hamirpur President Archana Chauhan led a series of service and social programs across the district. The Mahila Morcha workers organized a blood donation camp, community feast (bhandara), and bhajan-kirtan program at Gandhi Chowk, Hamirpur, spreading the message of "Seva Hi Sangathan" (Service is Organization). Speaking on the occasion, Archana Chauhan said that "Anurag Thakur is not only a visionary leader for the region's development but also a source of inspiration for the youth. BJP workers celebrated his birthday as Seva Diwas (Day of Service)." She informed that under the leadership of the Mahila Morcha, special programs were organized in Hamirpur city, Barsar, and Tauni Devi areas to mark the occasion.

Archana Chauhan added, "Anurag Thakur has given a new identity to Hamirpur and the entire Himachal Pradesh. Under his leadership, the region has witnessed remarkable progress in education, sports, and infrastructure. It is an honor for us to celebrate his birthday through service activities."

Drunken Chaos in historic Tal Town: Residents troubled all night, demand police action

RAJNEESH SHARMA
HAMIRPUR: A night of disturbance unfolded in the historic town of Tal in Hamirpur district on Friday, when an allegedly intoxicated man created chaos and terrorized residents throughout the night.



According to reports, the incident occurred outside the main gate of local resident Sukhdev Sharma's house, where the drunk individual kept shouting and causing a nuisance till late night, disturbing the peace of the entire neighborhood.

Sukhdev Sharma and his wife Satya Devi stated that the man, identified as Sarin, son of Ramesh Chand, had recently been released from jail after serving a long sentence. They alleged that he was abusing people and misbehaving with them under the influence of alcohol. Despite informing the local police, no action was taken till late night, leaving the elderly couple angry and distressed. The couple also reported the incident to the CM Helpline (1100) and the Emergency Helpline (112), urging immediate action against the accused to prevent further harassment.

YUGMARG
Punjab
CHANDIGARH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025
PAGE 6

Sultanpur Lodhi police custody youth dies under suspicious circumstances

SULTANPUR LODHI (ARVIND PATHAK): A youth from Masita village has reportedly died under suspicious circumstances in police custody. Although the police had brought the youth to Civil Hospital Sultanpur Lodhi for treatment the doctors there declared him dead. On behalf of the family the youth's father Gurmail Singh and mother Binder residents of village Masita said that a youth from the village had died recently. After which the police were continuously raiding our house. But we along with our respected people presented our sons Veerpal and Rahul at the Sultanpur Lodhi police station at 2 pm yesterday. Where both of them were beaten up by the police.



NEWS BRIEF

Counseling begins for E.T.T. admissions, result announced

KULWINDER KARWAL
SARDULGARH: The result of the E.T.T. (Elementary Teacher Training) entrance examination, conducted by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Punjab, was declared on September 28. Following the announcement, the counseling process for new admissions has now begun, with all eligible candidates participating enthusiastically.

Rajesh Garg, CEO of Bharat Group of Colleges, and Mr. Mohit Jain, Director of Admissions, stated that 900 students from Mansa district have successfully cleared the entrance examination. Raghveer Singh, Principal of Bharat Group of Colleges (E.T.T. Department), mentioned that students are actively taking part in the counseling process.

The first round of counseling has been completed successfully, showing great enthusiasm among the students. He also added that the date for the second round of counseling will be announced soon.

Dashmesh School's Mukul Uppal got admission in govt college for MBBS

KULWINDER KARWAL
SARDULGARH: Total Three students from school Got admission in Govt colleges in MBBS. Mukal Uppal, a brilliant student of Dasmesh International School, Sardulgarh, and son of Jagmohan Rai, a resident of Sardulgarh, has made his school, parents, teachers, and district Mansa proud by achieving an excellent rank in the NEET 2025 examination and securing admission to Guru Gobind Singh Medical College, Faridkot, for the MBBS program.



Health dept issues advisory to prevent dengue, chikungunya and malaria



KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: The Health Department, Barnala, under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Barnala Mr. T. Benith IAS, has issued an advisory to prevent diseases caused by mosquito bites. Giving information in this regard, Civil Surgeon Barnala Dr. Baljit Singh said that dengue is a viral disease that is caused by the bite of a mosquito named Aedes aegypti. Its main symptoms are high fever, pain behind the eyes, red rash on the body, pain in joints and muscles, vomiting and nausea etc. If anyone faces this problem, then they should immediately get treatment in a government hospital as per medical advice. If anyone is identified with the above symptoms, then they should immediately get their treatment started in government hospitals under medical supervision. Treatment of dengue chikungunya and malaria is done completely free of cost in all government health institutions.

Khanna recommends centre to declare Balachaur-Hoshiarpur-Dasuya road NH

DALJIT AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR: Former MP Avinash Rai Khanna has recommended to the Central Government that the Balachaur-Hoshiarpur-Dasuya Road be declared a National Highway, following a formal request from the Punjab Government.Jyoti Kumar Jolly from Khanna's office informed that the Punjab Government, through Ravi Bhagat, State Secretary of the Public Works Department (B&R), has submitted a proposal seeking the declaration of the Balachaur-Hoshiarpur-Dasuya Road as a National Highway. Acting on this request, Khanna has forwarded the letter to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, urging the Centre to expedite the process in the interest of public convenience.



Key operative of terror module held with two ieds, one pistol in Amritsar

CHARANJIT SINGH ARORA
AMRITSAR, OCT 25



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, State Special Operation Cell (SSOC) Amritsar has apprehended an operative of a terror network and recovered two Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), weighing around 2.5 kg each, packed with high-grade RDX and equipped with timers for detonation, and one sophisticated .30 bore pistol along with ammunition from his possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Saturday.

The arrested accused has been identified as Manpreet Singh alias Tiddi, a resident of village Kotla Tarkhana in Amritsar. The arrested accused has a criminal history, being previously involved in two criminal cases registered in police stations Sadar Batala and Kalanaur. After spending around one and a half years in Gurdaspur and Amritsar jails, he was released in February 2025 and subsequently resumed his criminal activities. DGP Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the accused was working on the directions of his handlers based in Armenia, United Kingdom (UK) and Germany, who are further receiving instructions from a Pakistan-based mastermind of a banned terrorist organisation. Further investigation is underway to establish forward and backward linkages in this case to dismantle the entire network, he said. Sharing operational details, AIG SSOC Amritsar Sukhminder Singh Mann said that acting swiftly on a specific intelligence input, the team of SSOC Amritsar arrested suspect Manpreet Singh alias Tiddi and recovered a pistol of 30 bore along with ammunition from his possession. Following his disclosure, two IEDs, packed in metal containers with high-grade RDX and equipped with timers for detonation, are also recovered from the area of village Kotla Tarkhana, he said. The AIG said that probe further indicated that around two weeks back, the Pak-based handler facilitated a drone-dropping of the seized consignment in Ajnala Sector, which was retrieved by the arrested person.

Zero tolerance policy to be adopted against paddy stubble burners : DC, SSP



SUMER GARG
SANGRUR, OCT 25

Emphasizing a strict policy to curb stubble burning incidents, Deputy Commissioner (DC), Sangrur, Mr. Rahul Chaba has made it clear to all cluster officers, nodal officers and Police officials that they must either work effectively to prevent stubble burning or be prepared to face the consequences.

DC was addressing a meeting at the local district administrative complex's meeting hall with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Sartaj Singh Chahal, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Amit Bambi, all SPs, SDMs, DSPs, cluster officers, and other officials. He instructed cluster officers to report any nodal officers under their supervision, who are reluctant to perform their duties. He clarified that employees/officers failing to perform their tasks would face consequences. He noted that this time, stubble burning incidents are being closely monitored by the honorable Supreme Court and central agencies tasked with preventing environmental pollution. The entire activity is being monitored via satellite. Chaba directed administrative and Police officials to adopt a zero-tolerance policy toward paddy stubble burning and conduct joint patrols in sensitive areas. All SDMs, DSPs and SHOs were instructed to step out of their offices and maintain strict vigilance in the field.

It was made clear that if any farmer sets fire to fields, not only will the farmer face fines and punishment, but the concerned officers and SHOs would also face serious consequences. DC, Rahul Chaba stated that special attention is needed in the coming days to prevent stubble burning in the district. He said cluster officers should visit villages with Police personnel and spread the message against burning paddy stubble.

Excelsior Public School hosts safe driving workshop with SML



BATALA (VERMA) : Excelsior Public School (Senior Secondary) recently held a specialized training session on safe driving, organized in collaboration with SML. The workshop, overseen by Headmistress Mrs. Monika Kapoor, was led by trainers Mr. Jatinderpal and Mr. Dinesh Thakur.The session provided valuable information and practical knowledge to the school's bus drivers and transport staff. Key topics covered included interpreting meter indicators and signals, troubleshooting common driving issues, implementing safe driving techniques and precautions, and strategies for maximizing fuel efficiency and proper vehicle maintenance. A major focus was placed on increasing awareness regarding the safety of both students and bus personnel.The primary objective of the training was to equip drivers with the necessary technical and practical skills to ensure a safe and responsible transportation system. Following the session, Headmistress Mrs. Monika Kapoor extended her gratitude to the trainers, noting that these workshops significantly enhance the school's commitment to student safety.

Don't miss out! get recruited by third eye project in Gurdaspur



VERMA
GURDASPUR, OCT 25

Unemployed youth in District Gurdaspur have a fantastic opportunity to secure a job near home with the Third Eye Project.A special employment fair is being organized on Monday, October 28, 2025, at the District Employment Bureau Gurdaspur. Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. Harjinder Singh Bedi urges eligible young men and women to participate.

The Third Eye Project, led by Chairman S. Gurpal Singh, aims to recruit approximately 300 individuals initially. Selected candidates will benefit from completely free training and local job placement (within a 20 km radius) that offers a monthly income of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000.For

Punjab Public School Mana Pindi organized block level sports competitions under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Barnala

BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA DEHATI, OCT 25



Today, at the block level sports event at Punjab Public School Mana Pindi, in collaboration with Mai Bharat Kendra Barnala (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India), Gurdev Academy Dhanaula, girls' shot-put, tug-of-war and badminton competitions were organized.

In which girls from 9th to 12th of the school participated with great enthusiasm. Madam Abha Soni District Youth Officer Mera Yuva Bharat Barnala attended this event as the chief guest. Along with her, Mr. Kirpal Singh, Mr. Sunil Kumar Football Coach Gurdev Academy Dhanaula also attended. In the shot-put competition, Preneet Kaur got first, Gurleen Kaur got second and Samandeep Kaur got third place. In the badminton competition, Harsirat Kaur First, Harmanpreet Kaur got the second and Lisa Sharma got the third place. In the tug of war competition, Bhagat Singh House got the first, Shivaji House got the second and Ashoka House got the third place. Madam Abha Soni, Principal and the rest of the staff honored the winning children by giving them trophies. On this occasion, the Chairman of the institution Mr. Amarjit Singh Cheema, Manager Sukhdeep Singh Cheema praised the school's sports teachers Gurveer Singh DP and Karandeep DP for preparing the children well in these competitions and thanked the guests.

Bollywood Sensation Shehnaaz Gill makes nostalgic return to LPU, inaugurates annual fest 'Magnitude 2025'



JALANDHAR (PARAMJIT SINGH): The wave of excitement and nostalgia swept over Lovely Professional University (LPU) as its distinguished alumna and reigning Bollywood star, Shehnaaz Gill, returned to her alma mater for a memorable visit. Gill inaugurated the university's spectacular annual fest, 'Magnitude 2025', and reconnected with her roots in an emotional homecoming. Shehnaaz was welcomed and felicitated by the university leadership, including Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and Founder Chancellor, and Col. Dr. Rashmi Mittal, Pro-Chancellor of LPU, celebrating her remarkable journey from a dedicated LPU student to a national sensation. Overwhelmed by memories, Shehnaaz shared how stepping into the university brought back a flood of emotions. "The moment I entered LPU, I kept showing my team my hostel, the mall, the hospital, and especially Block 14 where I attended my B.Com classes. It was a wave of nostalgia," she said. Recalling her student life, Shehnaaz fondly remembered participating in LPU's Youth Vibe Festival.

Educational Visit to HF Super Plant by Food Processing Technology Students of Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, OCT 25



The students of B. Tech 1st and 3rd Semester and M.Sc 1st Semester of the Department of Food Processing Technology, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, visited the HF Super plant to gain practical exposure in the bakery and dairy processing sections.

The visit was organized to enhance students' industrial knowledge and provide them with hands-on learning experiences related to real-time processing operations. The students were accompanied by Dr. Diksha Garg and Ms. Prabhjeet Kaur, Assistant Professors, while the visit was coordinated by ECA Incharge Ms. Komalpreet Kaur, Assistant Professor, under the guidance of Dr. Rupinder Pal Singh, Department Incharge. Placement Incharge of the University, Dr. Kamaljeet Kaur facilitated the visit. The initiative was highly appreciated by Dr. S.S. Billing, Dean Academic Affairs, and Dr. Prit Pal Singh, Vice-Chancellor of the University.

The industrial exposure provided students with valuable insights into modern bakery and dairy processing techniques, quality control measures, and packaging methods, thereby bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and industrial practices.

At Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib, Sikh organizations honoured Jathedar Giani Kuldip Singh Gargajj by presenting turbans



AMRITSAR (CHARANJIT SINGH ARORA): During a special event organized by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) at Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib, the Jathedars of the Takhts, Nihang Singh Dals, Sikh organizations, sampradas, and various societies honoured the Jathedar of Takht Sri Kesgarh Sahib, Giani Kuldip Singh Gargajj, by presenting him honour with turbans. On this occasion, Singh Sahib Giani Raghbir Singh, Head Granthi of Sachkhand Sri Harmandar Sahib; SGPC President Advocate Harjinder Singh Dhami; Jathedar Giani Tek Singh of Takht Sri Damdama Sahib; head of Shiromani Panth Akali Budha Dal, Jathedar Balbir Singh 96th Crori; head of Dal Baba Bidhi Chand, Baba Avtar Singh Sursingh; head of Tarna Dal Baba Bakala, Baba Joga Singh; Jathedar Giani Baldev Singh of Takht Sri Harmandar Ji Patna Sahib; Vice Jathedar Giani Jotinder Singh of Takht Sri Abchalnagar Hazur Sahib; Baba Nagar Singh from Baba Nihal Singh Tarna Dal Harian Velan; Giani Ram Singh of Damdami Taksal Sangrawan, Dr. Daljit Singh Cheema from Shiromani Akali Dal; Baba Jagjit Singh Harkhowal.

Halqa incharge Thakur Amit Singh Mantu Inspects dana mandi, interacts with farmers and commission agents



GURDASPUR (VERMA): Halqa Incharge Thakur Amit Singh Mantu visited the Dana Mandi in Sujanpur today, where he met with farmers and commission agents (Arhtiyas) to review the ongoing procurement process. During his visit, he losely examined the arrangements in the mandi and assured the farmers that the administration is fully committed to ensuring a smooth and hassle-free procurement process. Thakur Mantu inspected the availability of gunny bags (bardana) and directed the officials to make sure that no farmer faces any difficulty while selling their produce. He informed that there is adequate stock of bardana, and the supply is being regularly monitored to prevent any shortage.

He also interacted with the commission agents to understand the crop lifting (transportation) process and instructed the concerned officials to ensure timely lifting of procured crops so that unnecessary crowding and stockpiling in the mandi can be avoided. Farmers expressed their gratitude to Thakur Mantu, saying that such visits by the administration boost the morale of farmers.

Shaheed Udham Singh skilled dev and Entrepreneurship University Punjab will set milestone in field of employment, skill dev and technology: Chancellor Dr. Kaura

ARVIND PATHAK
SULTANPUR LODHI, OCT 25



Respecting the unique sacrifice of immortal Shaheed Udham Singh, the symbol of pride and zeal, an international level 'Shaheed Udham Skilled Development and Entrepreneurship University Punjab' is being established in Punjab at a cost of Rs 500 crore.

It is worth mentioning that the main objective of this university being established by 'Kamboj Foundation' is to make the youth skilled entrepreneurs and make them capable of world-class technologies.

These views were expressed by the founder Chancellor of the university, Dr. Sandeep Singh Kaura, while shedding light on the outline of the university, interacted with the community leaders of assembly constitute Sultanpur Lodhi at the local historical Gurdwara Sri Ber Sahib. On this occasion, Dr. Kaura sought cooperation from the local community and said that this university will promote innovation, creativity and self-reliance among the youth. It will provide education to the youth according to the needs of the industries, which will pave the way for economic development in Punjab. He said that the focus of the university will be on cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Robotics, Cyber Security and Advanced Entrepreneurship Programs. This university campus will be based on practical experience equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure, digital classrooms, research centers, innovation centers and incubation facilities.

RBL BANK LTD.
REGISTERED OFFICE: 1st Lane, Shahupuri, Kolhapur-416001
National Operating Centre : 9th Floor, Techniplex-I, Off Veer Savarkar Flyover, Goregaon (West) Mumbai - 400062.

GOLD AUCTION CUM INVITATION NOTICE

The below mentioned borrower has been served with demand notices to pay outstanding amount towards the loan facility against gold ornaments ("Facility") availed by them from RBL Bank Limited. Since the borrower has failed to repay dues under the Facility, we are constrained to conduct an auction of the pledged gold ornaments on **05-Nov-25.**

In the event any surplus amount is realised from this auction, the same will be refunded to the concerned borrower and if there is a deficit post the auction, the balance amount shall be recovered from the borrower through appropriate legal proceedings. RBL Bank has the authority to remove following account from the auction without prior intimation. Further, RBL Bank reserves the right to change the Auction Date without any prior notice.

Sr. No.	Account Number	Borrower's Name	Details of Gold Ornament (in gms)	
1.	809009065719	AMANDEEP SINGH	TOTAL_GROSS_WT	40.22
			TOTAL_IMPURITY	2.02
			TOTAL_STONE_WT	0
			TOTAL_NET_WT	38.2
2.	809009066778	AMANDEEP SINGH	TOTAL_GROSS_WT	45.27
			TOTAL_IMPURITY	1.62
			TOTAL_STONE_WT	0
			TOTAL_NET_WT	43.65

The online auction will be held on https://egold.auctiontiger.net on 05-Nov-25 from 02:00 PM. 04:00 PM IST.
Intending bidders should contact M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Ltd. (AuctionTiger) at 6351896640 / 7984129653.
For detailed Terms and Conditions, please visit the auction portal.

Place : Punjab
Date : 26/10/2025

Authorized Officer
RBL Bank Ltd.

RNI NO. 61323/95 | Postal Code No. C/CHD/0186/2016-2018
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YUGMARG
News
CHANDIGARH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025
PAGE 7

DC directs officials to provide compensation to flood-affected farmers for crop damage within week

JALANDHAR (JS SODHI): Deputy Commissioner Dr. Himanshu Agarwal, during an emergency meeting called by officials today, directed them to provide compensation to farmers for crop damage due to floods within a week. Presiding over the meeting at the District Administrative Complex here, the Deputy Commissioner directed the officials to ensure that compensation is released to farmers for crops damaged due to floods, especially in Shahkot area, within a week, so that farmers can get timely relief. Dr. Agarwal also reviewed the ongoing 'Ground Truthing' work in 115 villages of the district under the 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme.



NEWS BRIEF

Ignoring traditional Congress leaders could cost party heavily in elections: Amritpal Tiwana

AJAY MALHOTRA

FATEHGARH SAHIB : Ignoring traditional Congress leaders could prove costly for the party in the upcoming elections, as the people of Punjab are ready to support the Congress in the 2027 Assembly polls. However, the Congress must work to reconnect with those who have become disillusioned with party leaders and are staying away, and also bring back those who left the party for other political outfits by addressing their grievances.



Lions Club Chandigarh Radiance worked for humanity



TILAK RAJ

MOHALI : Lions club Chandigarh Radiance always ready to serve a humanity.When club members knew about a Child Arpit who lost his father at the age of one year and suffering from retinal detachment in both eyes.He underwent operation of both the eyes in the PGI, Chandigarh.

His poor mother who is a house maid has to spend Rs.,40000/-on operations. The extremely poor financial position of the Child mother was brought to the notice of the Lions Club Chandigarh Radiance .

Lion Dr.Raj Krishan Gupta a renowned Social Worker offered to bear the total expenses of the operations.This noble cause saved the child from being blind life long.

Anmol Salh releases his soulful new track "Sajjna" Under his label Anmol Salh music

TILAK RAJ

MOHALI : India Rising Punjabi artist Anmol Salh has officially released his latest single "Sajjna", a heartfelt composition that beautifully captures the depth of love and longing. Released under his home label Anmol Salh Music (ASM), the song blends emotional lyrics, soulful vocals, and captivating melody — reflecting Anmol's signature style of expressing raw emotions through music."Sajjna" is a moving romantic track that speaks directly to the heart, portraying the pain and beauty of love with poetic finesse.



The song stands out for its expressive lyrics, composed and written by Anmol Salh himself, and its rich, contemporary sound that resonates with both traditional and modern audiences.

Gulab Chand Kataria unveils the book "Prernadayak Sakshatkar – Ek Safar"

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, OCT 25



Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, today at Punjab Raj Bhavan, unveiled the book "Prernadayak Sakshatkar – Ek Safar" (Inspirational Interviews – A Journey), based on the life and thoughts of social worker and senior BJP leader Dr. Avinash Rai Khanna. The book has been authored by Dr. Jyoti.

Among the distinguished guests present were Justice Hari Pal Verma, Lokayukta, Haryana; Justice (Retd.) S.N.Aggarwal; Prof. Kuldeep Agnihotri, former Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh; and Shri Vineet Joshi, State Media Head, BJP Punjab. On this occasion, Governor Shri Kataria said that it was a matter of pride and happiness for him to unveil a book written on such an inspiring personality whose life symbolizes public service, integrity, and dedication.

He added that the life of Dr. Avinash Rai Khanna is a source of inspiration for every section of society — be it politics, education, or humanitarian service. In his address, the Governor mentioned that born in Hoshiarpur, Dr. Khanna imbibed the values of service, hard work, and humility since childhood.

He dedicated his life to public service and made politics a medium for social transformation.

As MLA from Garhshankar, MP from Hoshiarpur, Member of Rajya Sabha, and National Vice President of the BJP, he always prioritized social welfare and the upliftment of humanity.

Governor Kataria further said that Dr. Khanna's life is like an "ocean in a pitcher" — reflecting values of simplicity, truth, self-reliance, and compassion. He is not just a politician but also a sensitive social worker and a true devotee of humanity.

Home Secy reviews functioning at GMCH Chandigarh, emphasizes quality patient care



SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, OCT 25

Home Secretary-cum-Secretary Health, Sh. Mandip Singh Brar, today conducted a visit to Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 16, Chandigarh, to take stock of the functioning of various departments and to ensure that citizens are receiving prompt and quality healthcare services. Brar undertook a detailed round of the hospital, beginning from the Emergency and Trauma sections and extending to the Outpatient Department (OPD) and the Advanced Pediatric Centre. He interacted extensively with doctors, medical staff, and patients to gain firsthand insight into the hospital's day-to-day operations. During the visit, Sh. Brar listened to the concerns raised by several patients and their attendants regarding waiting times and service delivery.

He assured them that their grievances would be addressed on priority. Taking note of the heavy patient rush at the Emergency Department, Brar directed hospital authorities to increase the number of registration counters to ensure faster processing and smoother patient management. The Secretary Health also shared several important suggestions for enhancing healthcare delivery, including improved inter-departmental coordination, better emergency response systems, and regular upkeep of medical infrastructure. He emphasized the importance of maintaining high standards of cleanliness and ensuring compassionate behaviour by hospital staff while dealing with patients.

Edu institutions related to Arya Samaj are playing an important role for the future and character of our children: Kang



KHARAR (SHASHI PAL JAIN): Malwinder Singh Kang, Lok Sabha member from Sri Anandpur Sahib, while addressing a function in Kharar today, said that educational institutions related to Arya Samaj are not only securing the future of our children, but are also instilling good character in them. These institutions are working to build the personality of children. He was addressing a gathering on the occasion of the annual function of Arya Samaj at Arya Kanya Vidyalaya in Kharar today. On this occasion, Ajay Dutta Ji, President of Bharat Vikas Parishad Charitable Trust Chandigarh, was the chief guest. Kang said that Punjab does not belong to any one religion but to all and the communal harmony here is the biggest thing. He said that Kharar is a very old and historical city from where people related to Kharar are contributing in every field of society. He said that in Kharar, the Maharaja Ajj Sarovar related to the ancestors of Lord Ram Chandra Ji is located, with which he has been associated for a long time and developing it is his first priority.

MCM students gain insights into banking careers and financial literacy



CHANDIGARH: The Department of Public Administration at Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women conducted a session on 'Career in a Central Bank (RBI)', led by Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, AGM, RBI, Chandigarh. Besides shedding light on the primary activities of RBI, Ms. Kaur spoke about RBI's pivotal role in India's economic growth, monetary stability, and regulation of the banking system.

Highlighting the diverse career opportunities within the central bank, she guided students on examination strategies, essential skill sets, and preparation methods. Students actively participated in the discussion, raising questions on internships, research opportunities, recruitment processes, and global banking careers. Around 100 students attended the session. In another initiative, the Postgraduate Department of Commerce, in collaboration with the National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE), held a session on 'Financial Awareness and Consumer Training'. Mr. Rajneesh Sood, Certified Financial Literacy Trainer, NCFE, explained key concepts of personal finance, including investment options, pension planning.

District Administration intensifies action against illegal mining in Mohali

LKBANSAL
MOHALI, OCT 25



Acting on the directions issued by the Punjab Government under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the District Administration SAS Nagar has intensified its crackdown on illegal mining activities to ensure strict enforcement of mining regulations and protection of the state's natural resources. Last night, the Mining Department conducted a special drive across various locations in Sub-Division Mohali, setting up checkpoints to inspect tipper trucks and verify transportation permits. During these operations, several vehicles were stopped, and their documents were thoroughly checked to ensure compliance with legal norms. Providing details about the operation, SDO Mining Shubham Goel informed that the drive was conducted under the supervision of District Mining Officer Khushwinder Singh and Superintending Engineer Rajinder Ghai, in accordance with the government's zero-tolerance policy against illegal mining.

66th Panjab University Zonal Youth and heritage festival kicks off at GGDSD College, Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH, OCT 25



The 66th Panjab University Zonal Youth and Heritage Festival 2025, themed "Nurture the Nature for a Sustainable Future," was inaugurated with immense enthusiasm at Goswami Ganesh Dutta Sanatan Dharma (GGDSD) College, Chandigarh, today.

The festival, being held in two phases: October 25–26 and November 1–2, 2025 will see the participation of around 3,000 students from 23 colleges affiliated with Panjab University. Students will compete in a wide range of events, including music, dance, theatre, literary, and fine arts competitions.On the first day, around 750 students showcased their talents across 31 events in various categories such as music, heritage quizzes, creative writing, handwriting, fine arts, and traditional heritage performances, organized at multiple venues within the college campus. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Sh. H. Rajesh Prasad, IAS, Chief Secretary, UT Chandigarh Administration; Prof. (Dr.) Renu Vig, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University; and Dr. Sukjinder Singh Rishi, Director, Youth Welfare Department, Panjab University.Prof. (Dr.) Anirudh Joshi, General Secretary, GGDSD College Society, extended a warm welcome to the chief guests and dignitaries.

Blood donation camps in memory of loved ones noble tradition: Dr. Bagga

HOSHIARPUR (DALJEET AJNOHA): Organizing voluntary blood donation camps to commemorate the anniversaries of departed loved ones is a commendable and humanitarian gesture that beautifully honors their memory, remarked Dr. Ajay Bagga, Patron of the Indian Society of Blood Transfusion and Immunohematology (ISBTI), Punjab Chapter.Dr. Bagga observed that across Punjab, this noble tradition is gaining remarkable momentum as families increasingly choose to celebrate the lives and memories of their deceased relatives through acts of service and community welfare.He noted that on October 24, a blood donation camp was organized in memory of Chaudhary Ram Nath Ji by his son, Tarlokhan Chechi, at village Dangori Beat.



Tracter trolleys and truck loaded with scrap seized by police

SARDULGARH (KULWINDER KARWAL): Last night, the Sardulgarh police were patrolling the national highway when they stopped and checked two tractor-trolleys and a truck heading toward Mansa that were found to be overloaded.



Sharing this information with reporters, Sardulgarh Station House Officer (SHO) Ganeshwar Kumar Sharma said that the vehicles — truck number RJ 31GB 2794, and tractor-trolleys HR 24AD 4362 and HR 44N 1064 — were not only overloaded but also lacked proper documentation. Consequently, all vehicles were seized and brought to the police station. It is worth mentioning that since Sardulgarh is located near the Haryana border, trucks loaded with scrap worth lakhs of rupees pass daily through this route without any bills.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY STORES DEPARTMENT

E- AUCTION PROGRAMME
Addition Auction of October-2025

On line auction sale through www.ireps.gov.in for disposal of scrap Ferrous, Non-Ferrous Scrap comprising of Rails on line, other P.Way Scrap, M.S. Sheet, Axles, Machines and condemned wagons/coaches will be held as per schedule programme given below:

Depot/Division	Ajmer Depot	Jodhpur Depot
October-2025	31.10.2025	31.10.2025

Note: The amendments regarding the date of auction can be seen on IREPS site only. No publication will be done in news paper in future.

1. Indian Railway is selling all the scrap through e-auction. Bidders are requested to get registered for E-auction with www.ireps.gov.in at an early date.
2. Bidders should obtained class- III digital certificate with firm's name before registration. For payment, bidders will have to open an account with SBI (saral/vyapar) with net banking Rights for depositing earnest money etc.

For any detail please contact concerned officers of depot Dy.CMM's and HQ office stores department, Jaipur. **1365-PS/25**

Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

FEDBANK

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD.
Unit no.: 1101, 11th Floor, Cignus, Plot No. 71A, Powai, Paspoli, Mumbai – 400 087

DEMAND NOTICE

The below mentioned Borrower and Co – Borrowers (collectively referred as "Borrowers") mortgaged their immovable property (securities) to Fedbank Financial Services Limited (hereinafter referred to as "Fedfina") and avail the Loan. The said Loan is classified as Non – performing Asset because the Borrowers have failed to repay the Loan amount. In this connection Fedfina had issued a Demand Notice respectively as mentioned below under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 to the addressee. The details are published here as an alternative service under Section 13(2) and Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. You are requested to repay the amount mentioned in the Demand Notice and the accompanying interest within 60 days of the publication of this notice. In case of failure to do so, the signatory shall take such appropriate action under Section 13(4) and 14 of the Act on the said property to safe guard the interest of the Fedfina. Details of Loan Number, Borrowers, Demand Notice sent under Section 13(2), amount requested and details of immovable property are given below.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co- Borrowers Property Holders as the case may be	Description of Secured Assets/Mortgage Property	Date of Demand Notice U/s. 13(2) & Total O/s.
1.	LAN : FEDUMBSTL0533483 1. RISHI PAL (Borrower) 2. VIVEK KUMAR (Borrower) 3. KAILASHO DEVI (Co-Borrower)	VILLAGE & TEHSIL BARARA, DISTT. AMBALA, HADBAST NO. 203, KHATA NO. 1924/ 2357, KHASRA NO. 81(11/1(7-0), AMBALA-133201, HARYANA. BOUNDED BY : EAST : BHUJA 55 FEET AND OTHER PLOT. WEST : BHUJA 55 FEET AND OTHER PLOT, NORTH : BHUJA 30 FEET AND ROAD. SOUTH : BHUJA 30 FEET AND OTHER PLOT.	NPA Date : 05.10.2025 Date : 09.10.2025 Rs. 34,91,831/- (Rupees Thirty Four Lac Ninety One Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty One Only) as on 09.10.2025

The borrower(s) are hereby advised to comply with the Demand Notice(s) and to pay the demand amount mentioned therein and interest above within 60 days from the date of this publication together with applicable interest, additional interest, bounce charges, cost and expenses till the date of realization of payment. The borrower(s) may note that Fedfina is a secured creditor and the loan facility availed by the Borrower(s) is a secured debt against the immovable property / properties being the secured asset(s) mortgaged by the borrower(s). In the event borrower(s) are failed to discharge their liabilities in full within the stipulated time, **Fedfina** shall be entitled to exercise all the rights under section 13(4) of the Act to take possession of the secured assets(s) including but not limited to transfer the same by way of sale or by invoking any other remedy available under the Act and the Rules thereunder and realize payment. **Fedfina** is also empowered to ATTACH AND / OR SEAL the secured assets(s) before enforcing the right to sale or transfer. Subsequent to the Sale of the secured assets(s), **Fedfina** also has a right to initiate separate legal proceedings to recover the balance dues, in case the value of the mortgaged properties is insufficient to cover the dues payable to the **Fedfina**. This remedy is in addition and independent of all the other remedies available to **Fedfina** under any other law.

The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(13) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained / prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of **Fedfina** and noncompliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act. The copy of the Demand Notice is available with the undersigned and the borrower(s) may, if they so desire, can collect the same from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Dated: 26.10.2025, Place : Haryana **Sd/- Authorised Officer,** Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.

DIRECTORATE OF PUNJAB STATE LOTTERIES
Draw Time: 06:00 PM ONWARDS DATE:25/10/2025
RESULT OF PUNJAB STATE DEAR 50 JACKAL SATURDAY WEEKLY LOTTERY
MRP Rs 50/- Per Ticket

1st Prize Amount (1) Rs. 25 Lakhs (On 5 digits with series)
A 05987

2nd Prize Amount (50) Rs. 9,000/- (On 5 digits)
02384 09961 11585 49691 57215 68480 75615 83559 88005 94703

3rd Prize Amount (250) Rs. 5,000/- (On Last 4 digits)
0562 0660 3679 6861 7354

4th Prize Amount (500) Rs. 2,000/- (On last 4 digits)
1993 2460 2522 3335 3642 4220 4235 4644 5066 6251

5th Prize Amount (500) Rs. 1000/- (On last 4 digits)
0722 0791 1855 2858 3083 3712 5461 6848 8885 8931

6th Prize Amount (500) Rs. 500/- (On last 4 digits)
0225 0230 0320 0929 0987 0989 3339 7348 7946 9421

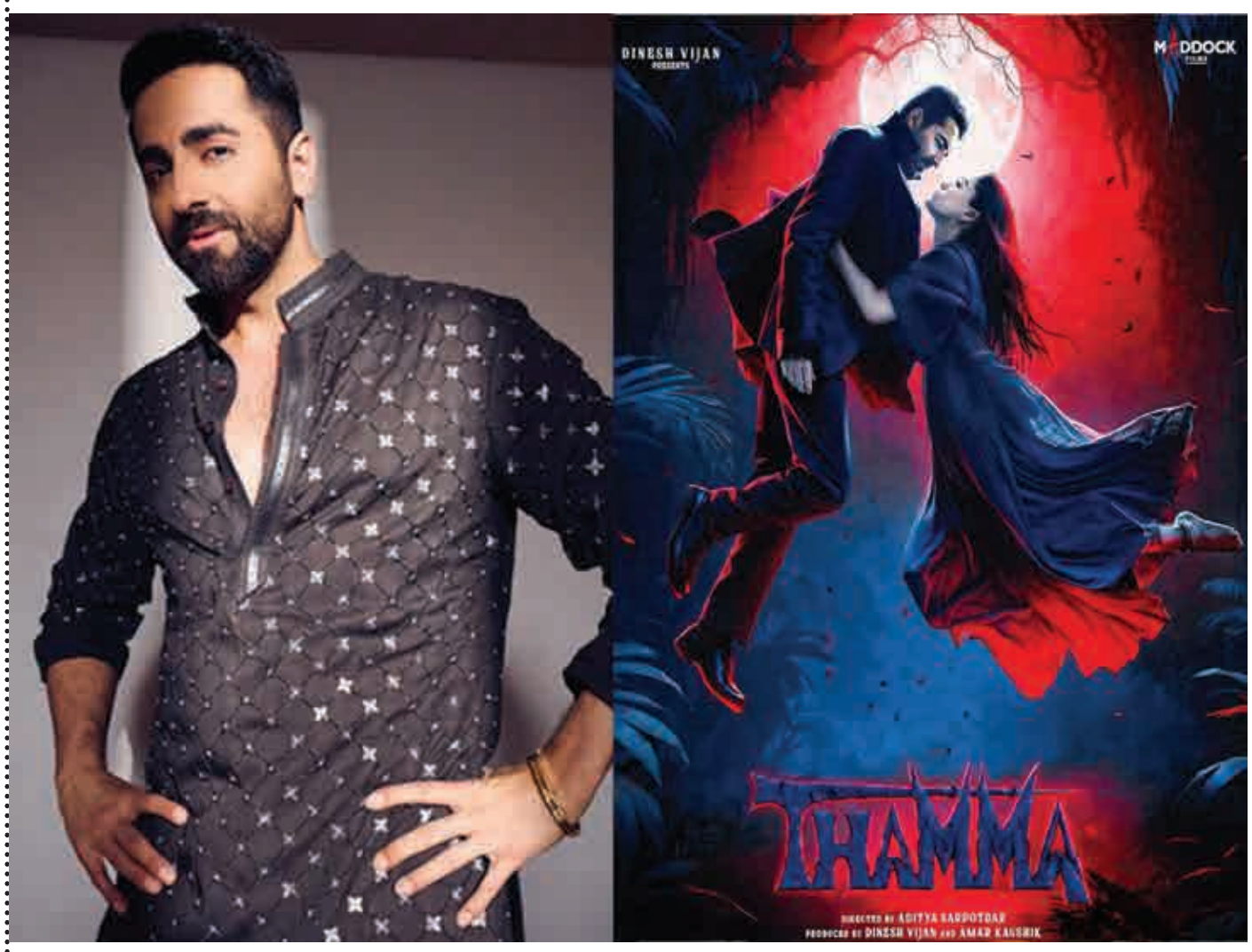
7th Prize Amount (40,000) Rs. 100/- (On last 4 digits)

0002	0015	0025	0029	0036	0047	0117	0132	0134	0170
0176	0186	0188	0199	0216	0219	0237	0249	0271	0287
0288	0305	0330	0376	0388	0392	0394	0406	0407	0415
0421	0424	0459	0466	0482	0551	0565	0568	0579	0590
0597	0630	0638	0639	0657	0662	0671	0677	0686	0694
0698	0700	0731	0735	0737	0747	0781	0786	0792	0812
0815	0831	0850	0861	0864	0871	0910	0923	0936	0947
0985	0993	1035	1044	1045	1049	1052	1059	1067	1083
1085	1108	1110	1123	1132	1168	1183	1236	1259	1272
1277	1285	1301	1307	1311	1330	1332	1335	1352	1353
1382	1384	1422	1428	1454	1462	1463	1465	1486	1513
1525	1530	1549	1563	1565	1583	1593	1632	1633	1690
1693	1700	1706	1713	1715	1720	1730	1739	1745	1771
1772	1776	1785	1787	1793	1806	1819	1830	1834	1885
1929	1947	1955	1996	2007	2032	2036	2045	2054	2055
2058	2059	2078	2113	2176	2194	2220	2227	2236	2275
2286	2287	2292	2299	2300	2308	2312	2334	2341	2352
2361	2373	2383	2388	2389	2413	2428	2438	2441	2425
2492	2495	2521	2529	2526	2596	2575	2583	2587	2598
2608	2609	2616	2621	2623	2629	2630	2638	2645	2685
2712	2715	2743	2750	2758	2774	2783	2794	2804	2805
2876	2888	2905	2914	2917	2921	2923	2945	2959	3010
3016	3017	3031	3046	3051	3078	3084	3098	3109	3112
3129	3134	3143	3150	3176	3182	3188	3203	3217	3229
3251	3256	3265	3267	3288	3295	3298	3306	3307	3332
3351	3357	3379	3377	3382	3385	3396	3418	3426	3432
3433	3442	3456	3467	3469	3474	3475	3488	3498	3511
3515	3531	3564	3566	3618	3631	3651	3656	3659	3667
3676	3678	3687	3694	3725	3734	3743	3746	3775	3843
3869	3870	3882	3894	3908	3913	3917	3918	3920	3927
3977	3982	3997	4010	4029	4035	4065	4070	4081	4095
4110	4131	4139	4126	4225	4250	4253	4254	4257	4262
4283	4309	4312	4315	4344	4342	4361	4367	4376	4384
4386	4398	4407	4409	4462	4481	4491	4565	4582	4587
4604	4609	4625	4674	4679	4693	4696	4697	4735	4783
4786	4789	4793	4817	4837	4850	4857	4860	4862	4870
4885	4890	4904	4906	4915	4947	4951	4962	5000	5003
5008	5009	5012	5041	5042	5043	5049	5055	5059	5071
5073	5080	5087	5108	5114	5122	5142	5143	5152	5162
5183	5186	5187	5199	5200	5223	5229	5246	5249	5270
5279	5281	5294	5304	5310	5316	5327	5334	5335	5339
5346	5348	5354	5355	5357	5380	5422	5434	5454	5457
5479	5484	5486	5487	5503	5506	5510	5513	5518	5519
5522	5528	5546	5552	5554	5618	5638	5665	5624	5676
5677	5694	5699	5701	5702	5713	5721	5728	5737	5753
5780	5779	5784	5785	5787	5885	5893	5941	5943	5960
5966	5980	5985	6002	6010	6018	6046	6048	6051	6078
6098	6117	6121	6135	6146	6158	6164	6168	6200	6206
6208	6218	6226	6260	6279	6284	6294	6302	6305	6324
6335	6346	6349	6354	6355	6372	6373	6376	6390	6394
6430	6432	6455	6460	6464	6478	6484	6488	6492	6504
6508	6522	6527	6530	6540	6541	6554	6555	6586	6589
6606	6624	6632	6651	6667	6686	6692	6702	6707	6718
6729	6730	6739	6758	6758	6782	6793	6803	6802	6814
6826	6831	6833	6835	6836	6858	6862	6864	6896	6923
6927	6946	6926	7024	7041	7053	7083	7086	7090	7108
7111	7122	7124	7127	7157	7179	7225	7229	7253	7271
7289	7311	7318	7341	7343	7347	7351	7393	7396	7437
7450	7934	7549	7571	7583	7586	7655	7666	7689	7698
7208	7216	7233	7244	7242	7249	7261	7270	7292	7821
7822	7853	7859	7887	7905	7906	7913	7928	7932	7938
7941	7942	7949	7952	7986	8014	8016	8019	8023	8024
8028	8036	8048	8060	8068	8078	8082	8094	8098	8114
8115	8130	8133	8137	8145	8176	8194	8201	8222	8224
8253	8256	8303	8317	8319	8325	8327	8330	8340	8343
8353	8362	8372	8375	8378	8379	8396	8397	8405	8414
8443	8448	8453	8467	8470	8473	8475	8477	8502	8517
8548	8553	8557	8566	8582	8587	8589	8600	8605	8610
8619	8630	8635	8681	8688	8724	8738	8776	8794	8810
8819	8820	8837	8856	8858	8864	8872	8874	8878	8883
8905	8916	8922	8929	8955	8960	8994	8996	9002	9020
9038	9055	9056	9070	9084	9092	9112	9122	9124	9136
9139	9150	9160	9166	9175	9172	9217	9220	9227	9238
9254	9297	9319	9328	9357	9364	9366	9393	9399	9400
9408	9414	9412	9418	9429	9432	9438	9443	9458	9485
9491	9512	9563	9566	9570	9575	9576	9578	9584	9586
9590	9605	9617	9635	9642	9660	9672	9685	9692	9706
9702	9709	9211	9724	9760	9765	9780	9784	9785	9790
9813	9820	9827	9829	9843	9849	9851	9865	9887	9889
9891	9894	9895	9899	9939	9940	9950	9968	9971	9998

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Ayushmann Khurrana reacts to success of 'Thamma': I feel that film was tailor-made for me



Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana, who has delivered one of the biggest hits of his career with the recently released film 'Thamma', has said that the film was "tailor-made" for him. The actor spoke with a news agency as he celebrated the success of 'Thamma', which is now his career-best opening after raking in INR 25 crore nett on its opening day.

The film marks a major departure for him in terms of his boy next door image as an actor where he largely essays relatable characters from the heart of India. 'Thamma' tells a larger-than-life mythical story of a vampire.

The actor told a news agency, "I really feel that 'Thamma' was tailor-made for me because I have done these realistic characters, flawed characters and that's why the transition is all the more fun because people have not seen me as somebody who is alpha, who is powerful, good with action".

"So, I think that was a great arc for me as an actor also and also as a character in the film. I have been known for doing unique films and this particular film, the genesis film of the next chapter of Maddock horror-comedy universe is unique in its own way because it explores the stories and the genesis of Betaal and I am glad it's been accepted", he added.

Directed by Aditya Sarpotdar and produced under Maddock Films, 'Thamma' was released on 21 October 2025 during the Diwali weekend. The film stars Ayushmann Khurrana as a timid journalist who becomes entangled with a mysterious vampiric being, played by Rashmika Mandanna, amidst the myth-filled world of Betals. The film is a part of the established horror-comedy universe (MHCU) but leans more into romance and fantasy than straight horror.

The movie opened strongly, Ayushmann's best day one so far. The success of the film also means that Ayushmann has effectively set-up it as a franchise adding up to the strength of the horror-comedy universe which boasts of films like 'Stree', 'Bhediya', 'Munjya', and 'Stree 2'.

Rishab Shetty's Diwali celebration includes 'a lifetime of memories' with loved ones

Aside from being a Sandalwood heartthrob, Rishab Shetty is also a perfect family man. For the 'Kantara' actor, Diwali 2025 was all about creating 'a lifetime of memories' with his loved ones.

Rishab took to social media and dropped a couple of festive photos with his better half, Pragathi Rishab Shetty, son Ranvit Shetty, and daughter Raadya Shetty. All four of them were seen looking Diwali-ready in stunning ethnic attire.

Posting pics from the Diwali celebration on his Instagram, Rishab penned, "A festival of lights, a lifetime of memories.. Grateful for family, love, and laughter this Deepavali..(sic)."

In the meantime, basking in the success of his latest release, "Kantara: Chapter 1", Rishab claimed that the real fun of filmmaking begins by "calling the shots."

He recently took to his IG and shared a couple of behind-the-scenes pictures from the sets of his latest release. The photos featured him taking charge as the director, 'calling the shots'.

"Nothing beats the thrill of calling the shots, that's where the real fun of filmmaking begins! #KantaraChapter1," he wrote as the caption.

Before that, Rishab revealed that he shot 'Kantara: Chapter 1' climax with a swollen leg & exhausted body.

Uploading certain BTS snaps from the climax, he wrote, "This was during the climax shoot , a swollen leg, an exhausted body .. but today, the climax has become something that millions watch and admire. This was only possible through the blessings of the divine energy we believe in. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who have supported us..(sic)."

Apart from Rishab, "Kantara: Chapter 1" also stars Jayaram, Rukmini Vasanth, and Gulshan Devaiah in crucial roles, along with others.

A prequel to the 2022 film "Kantara", the story delves deeper into the origins of the tradition and ancestral conflict introduced in the first film.

Celine Dion calls sons her biggest support as she installs panic buttons in her house

Legendary singer-songwriter Celine Dion has called her 15-year-old sons as her biggest support system since she was diagnosed with Stiff Person Syndrome.

This comes as it has been revealed that panic buttons have now been installed in their home, reports 'Mirror.co.uk'.

Twins Eddy and Nelson have been there for their mum since she was diagnosed back in 2022, six years after their dad Rene Angelil died from throat cancer. They have now shown their support for Celine as her symptoms have got worse.

As per 'Mirror.co.uk', Stiff Person Syndrome is a rare autoimmune neurological disorder that causes muscle stiffness, rigidity and painful spasms. The exact cause is unknown, but research suggests an autoimmune response where the body attacks nerve cells that control muscle movement.



Celine spoke to 'People' magazine about having panic buttons installed in her house in case of an emergency. She said, "We have panic buttons in the house, and they know how to put me on my side. The idea of telling them and showing them, it was not to frighten them. It is for them to know, 'I'm your mom, and it's my responsibility. You're old enough to understand I might need your help".

She explained that her sons will check on her every night to make sure her symptoms haven't got worse than usual. Celine has worked with her boys to help them understand what happens to her body during a "crisis" episode, which is when the star seizes up and becomes incredibly stiff. This comes as it was revealed that Celine was never scheduled to "attend, perform, or present" at this year's Eurovision Song Contest, as per a representative for the singer.

The 57-year-old Canadian, who won Eurovision for Switzerland in 1988 with Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi, was rumoured to be performing at this year's song contest.

KableOne & Saga Studios Present Watch Now – Lakkadbaggey, A KableOne Original Series



After much anticipation, Lakkadbaggey — a KableOne Original in association with Saga Studios — is now streaming exclusively on KableOne. Directed by the young and visionary Param Riar and Hrishab Sharma, Lakkadbaggey exposes the disturbing world of paper leak scams, corruption, and the shattered dreams of countless students. Based on true events, the series dives deep into how one leaked paper can destroy multiple lives — revealing the dark side of the system like never before.

Unlike any other series ever made in Punjab, Lakkadbaggey dares to showcase the entire mechanism — how papers are leaked, bribes are exchanged, and innocent futures are ruined. It's a bold, raw, and thought-provoking take on a real issue that has affected thousands across the country.

The show features a stellar ensemble including Gurpreet Ratol, Reet Kaur, Avar Brar, Jodh Anttal, Ajit Singh, Gurjit Sohi, Pranay, Jeetu Saran, Parm Riar, and Hrishabh Sharma — all delivering powerful performances.

Lakkadbaggey is directed by Parm Riar & Hrishabh Sharma, written by Hrishabh Sharma, and produced by Sumeet Singh & Arman Sidhu.

What makes this release even more special is that Lakkadbaggey is available in six languages — Punjabi, Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam, making it a truly pan-Indian experience.

KableOne continues to lead a new wave in entertainment by focusing on both quality and quantity — delivering meaningful stories while promoting new talent and theatre actors. With Lakkadbaggey, the platform is setting a different benchmark in the Pollywood industry, blending cinematic storytelling with social impact.

Meanwhile, Saga Studios, already celebrated for its legacy in the music industry, joins hands to bring this intense story to life with powerful visuals and a strong emotional core.

Watch the full series now, exclusively on www.kableone.com — because some stories deserve to be told, no matter how uncomfortable they are.

Badaa Karara Pudna Trailer Out Now – A Rollercoaster of Punjabi Humor and Women Power! The film releasing in cinemas on November 7th



The much-awaited trailer of the 'Badaa Karara Pudna' has finally dropped—and it's hitting all the right notes. The trailer promises a rollercoaster ride of entertainment.

Showcasing themes of family bonds, the film brings a genre often missing from Punjabi cinema celebrating family values back to the big screen with full glory.

The trailer beautifully introduces audiences to the characters of the leading womens Upasana Singh, Kulraj Randhawa, Sheeba Akashdeep Sabir, Manat Singh, and Kamaljeet Neeru, highlighting their personal struggles, triumphs, and the humor that underpins their journeys. Amidst laughter and tears, 'Badaa Karara Pudna' promises a rollcoaster ride of entertainment.

Directed by Praveen Kumar, known for hits like Ni Main Saas Kuttni and Darra, the film is shot in UK and the story follows six estranged sisters reunited by fate for an unexpected giddha competition, weaving together emotion, humor, and tradition.

'Badaa Karara Pudna' releases worldwide on November 7, 2025, under the banner of Emveebee Media, marking a significant and exciting new chapter in Punjabi cinema.

'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai' icon Satish Shah passes away, confirms Ashoke Pandit

Veteran actor Satish Shah, who is known for his work in films like 'Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro', 'Sarabhai vs Sarabhai', 'Main Hoon Na', 'Om Shanti Om' and others, passed away on Saturday in Mumbai. The actor was 74 years old.

Filmmaker Ashoke Pandit took to his Instagram, and shared a picture of the late actor. He also shared a video in which he shared the reason behind the actor's demise.

He said in the video, "I would like to share a sad news with you. Our friend, a great actor, Satish Shah has passed away due to kidney failure, a while ago, he suddenly fell ill at home. He was taken to the Hinduja hospital, Shivaji Park. He has passed away. His body will be brought to his residence in Bandra (sic)".

"I will keep you informed about his funeral. It is a huge loss for our industry. I have worked a lot with Satish. Satish is a great man", he added.

He also penned a long note in the caption, as he wrote, "Sad and shocked to inform you that our dear friend and a great actor Satish Shah has expired a few hours ago due to kidney failure . He was rushed to Hinduja hospital where he breathed his last . A great loss to our industry . Om Shanti".

The Cine and TV Artistes Association (CINTAA) also epxressed grief at the demise of the actor, who was a member of the organisation since 1985. They took to their Instagram, and wrote, "CINTAA expresses its condolences on the demise of Satish Shah ji (member since 1985)".

The actor is survived by his designer wife Madhu Shah. His last post was on X, formerly called Twitter, where he shared a picture with Govinda and Shammi Kapoor. The post read, "Happy B'day dearest Shammi ji. You are always around me".

On the film front, he was last seen in the 2014 film 'Humshakals' directed by Sajid Khan. The film starred Saif Ali Khan, Riteish Deshmukh, Ram Kapoor, Tamannaah Bhatia, Esha Gupta and Bipasha Basu.

This is the 4th prominent demise in the industry this month. Earlier, actor Pankaj Dheer passed away last week, advertising legend Piyush Pandey passed away on Friday, and veteran actor Asrani passed away on Monday.

Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment returns on COLORS after two record-smashing season



CHANDIGARH: India's most loved dinnertainment show, Laughter Chefs - Unlimited Entertainment, is back and this time it's bigger, crazier, and spicier than ever! After two record-breaking, laughter-filled seasons that turned the kitchen into fan's favourite comedy battleground, the cult hit is all set to return with Season 3!

A first-of-its-kind culinary comedy that became a fan phenomenon redefined entertainment with its mad mix of celebrities, chaos, and charm. Now, the show returns with a brand-new lineup of stars, more fun, more food, and even more fireworks!

From Bharti Singh's good news to Krushna Abhishek and Kashmera Shah's crazy chemistry and Aly Goni bringing his trademark mischief, this season promises non-stop laughter and surprises. And guess what? The OG Jannat Zubair is back too!

Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment is coming soon only on COLORS.

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