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DGP CALLS UPON NIT HAMIRPUR YOUTH TO JOIN CM-LED ANTI-CHITTA JAN ANDOLAN

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DRAW INSPIRATION FROM PM'S COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND MAKE PUBLIC WELFARE THE PURPOSE OF LIFE: RENU BALA GUPTA

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KAJOL PENS EMOTIONAL BIRTHDAY MESSAGE FOR SON YUG ON HIS SWEET SIXTEEN

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NEWS BRIEFS

Two dead, five injured as mini-bus overturns in Reasi

JAMMU: Two people were killed and five others injured after a passenger vehicle overturned in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Monday, officials said. The accident occurred at Battalgala near Bakkal tunnel at around 8:40 am when the vehicle, travelling from Sarangdhar towards Reasi, overturned after the driver lost control, the officials said. According to eyewitnesses, one of the vehicle's tyres burst, causing the driver to lose control, following which the passenger vehicle overturned.

BJP candidate gets 1 vote in Rajasthan local body polls

JAIPUR: BJP candidate Kailashchand must be having a tough day after finding out he got only one vote in Rajasthan's urban local body elections, the results of which were announced on Monday. The party candidate contested from Ward 13 of Parbatsar municipality in Didwana-Kuchaman district. According to the State Election Commission website, Congress candidate Hina Khanam won the ward with 376 votes, while Independent candidate Rashid Khan secured 195 votes.

CEC Gyanesh Kumar to participate in Bhutan's voters' day event today

NEW DELHI: Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar will participate in Bhutan's national voters' day celebrations on Tuesday, the Election Commission of India has said. Kumar, who is on a three-day visit to Bhutan, will call on the king of the Himalayan nation, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, in Thimphu on Monday. The CEC will be the chief guest at the voters' day event. On September 16, Kumar will call on Bhutan Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay in Thimphu.

Punjab govt transfers PSPCL CMD Basant Garg amid power crisis

CHANDIGARH/LUDHIANA: Under fire from the opposition over power cuts, the Punjab government on Monday shifted Punjab State Power Corporation Limited chairman and managing director Basant Garg. Garg, who is a 2005-batch IAS officer and administrative secretary (power), has been replaced by principal secretary Gurkirat Kirpal Singh. Garg has been appointed as administrative secretary, industry and commerce and investment promotion, which were earlier held by Singh, according to an official order.

MP: Four minor brothers drown in well

ASHOKNAGAR: Four minor brothers drowned in a well in an agricultural field in Ashoknagar district on Monday, police said. The incident occurred in Vikrampur village under the Chanderi police station area in the afternoon, when four sons of Banveer Kushwaha of Vikrampur village went to bathe in the well in their agricultural field, said Chanderi tehsildar Dilip Daroga.

Pakistan to play Hockey Asian Champions Trophy in India

Punjab CM releases tournament logo

YUGMARG BUREAU CHANDIGARH, SEPT 14

Pakistan will be among the six countries that would compete in next month's Men's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said on Monday, citing the union government's policy which allows the arch-foes to play on Indian soil during multi-lateral engagements.

Punjab is set to script history by hosting the Hockey Asian Champions Trophy 2026 for the first time, with Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Monday releasing the tournament logo in the presence of Asian Hockey Federation officials. Declaring the prestigious championship as a matter of immense pride for Punjab, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said the tournament will bring international hockey to the state from October 27 to November 5, with league matches in Jalandhar and the semi-finals and final in Mohali.

The tournament will feature six leading hockey nations, including India and Pakistan, with the much-awaited India-Pakistan clash scheduled for November 1, Punjab Day, at 7 PM in Jalandhar. The Chief Minister said the Punjab Government has committed 25.40 crore for the successful organisation of the championship and that the entire government machinery will put its full strength behind making it a grand success. In a major move to bring youngsters and hockey lovers



ers closer to the sport, entry to all matches will be completely free.

Taking to X, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann stated: "It is a matter of immense pride for us that, for the first time, Punjab is going to host an international hockey tournament, the Hockey Asian Champions Trophy 2026. The prestigious tournament

will be held from October 27 to November 5, with the league matches taking place in Jalandhar and the semi-finals and final in Mohali. Six leading countries, including India and Pakistan, will participate in the tournament. On November 1, Punjab

Day, at 7 PM, Jalandhar will witness the historic mega clash between India and Pakistan. To connect our youth with sports and sporting grounds, our government has kept entry to all matches completely free. Come in large numbers and cheer for the players. Inquilab Zindabad."

Winning tournament is what truly matters: BCCI after trophy row

NEW DELHI: BCCI Secretary Devajit Saikia on Monday said the controversy over the Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 trophy presentation did not originate from the Indian side, asserting that winning the tournament mattered more than the trophy ceremony. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led India were not present on the stage during the post-match presentation ceremony after winning the Women's Asia Cup 2026 final, as the team refused to receive the trophy from ACC president and PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi amid tensions over cross-border terrorism and the backdrop of Operation Sindoor, India's military response against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. During the ceremony, Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu received the runners-up cheque from Naqvi, but Indian players were absent from the stage. There were no visuals of Team India lifting the trophy or celebrating with it, as the broadcast shifted back to the studio after Sri Lanka's presentation.

Woman biker crash: Gurugram Police registers FIR, forms three teams to trace accused

UNI GURUGRAM, SEP 14

Gurugram Police has registered an FIR after taking a suo moto cognisance following a video showing a car allegedly hitting a woman biker on Golf Course Road surfaced on social media.

Three police teams were formed to trace and arrest the accused.

Gurugram ACP Abhilaksh Joshi said the police social media monitoring cell noticed the video on September 14 which went viral on social media, showing a car hitting a woman motorcycle rider from behind on Golf Course road.

The police subsequently contacted the woman, identified as Siya, and

registered an FIR at Sector 56 police station.

According to police, the incident involved a woman biker, identified as Siya, who was riding with her friends on Golf Course road on Sunday when a speeding car allegedly followed her before hitting her motorcycle, causing her to fall on the road. The motorcycle was dragged for several metres following the impact, while the car occupants allegedly fled the spot.

The incident was recorded by cameras mounted on the motorcycle and helmet. Siya was wearing safety gear and, according to the information available, did not suffer serious



injuries.

She later posted the footage on Instagram and sought action against those involved.

According to her account, she was riding her Aprilia RS 457 sports

motorcycle with her biking group when a car allegedly started following her. She purported that the occupants of the car came close to her and behaved improperly. When she asked them to maintain distance, they allegedly asked her to stop the motorcycle.

She also provided details of the vehicle, including registration number HR30Y4949, and identified its registered

owner as Manish.

Police are examining the vehicle owner's statement. Manish has told investigators that he was not driving the car at the time and that his friend Kalyan was behind the wheel.

Three killed, two seriously injured in road accident in Panchkula

UNI PANCHKULA, SEP 14

Three people, including a woman, have been killed and two others seriously injured after a Swift car in which they were travelling collided with a truck near Tabar village in the Raipur Rani area late Sunday night, police said.

The accident occurred around midnight when the five occupants were travelling towards Panchkula. The car collided head-on with the truck near Tabar, leaving all five occupants seriously injured.



Panchkula. Doctors declared two men and a woman dead. The two seriously injured persons were given initial treatment at the hospital and later referred to GMCH-32, Chandigarh, for further treatment.

India-UK CETA to open new opportunities for Haryana's textiles, footwear, gems & jewellery industry: CM Saini

YUGMARG BUREAU CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 14

Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, said that the India-UK CETA is an important agreement that will open new global trade opportunities for Haryana. It will provide better access to the UK market for key sectors of the State such as textiles, footwear, gems and jewellery, and engineering. The agreement will also play an important role in creating new growth opportunities by connecting Haryana's youth, farmers, MSMEs and startups with global investors and new technologies.



Sh. Nayab Singh Saini was addressing the 'Haryana-UK CETA Trade Bridge: Unlocking Global Opportunities for Haryana' programme at a university in Gurugram on Monday. The programme was organised in collaboration with the UK High Com-

mission. He welcomed representatives of the British High Commission from the UK, foreign friends, representatives of industry, investors and other partners to Haryana, the land of action.

In his address, the Chief Minister said that India-UK relations are based on a long-standing partnership, democratic values, innovation and strong people-to-people ties. Lakhs of overseas Indians, including thousands of Haryanvi families, have made significant contributions to the development of the UK, while British institutions have also played the role of trusted partners in Hary-

ana's development journey.

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, India has emerged as a trusted destination for global investors and is moving rapidly towards the goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

The year 2047 will mark 100 years of India's Independence and, at the same time, 100 years of India-UK relations. In line with this national resolve, Haryana has set the historic target of contributing one trillion dollars to the country's economy.

Nabin urges people to light 'Aashirwad ka Diya' for PM on his birthday

UNI NEW DELHI, SEP 14

Bharatiya Janata Party president Nitin Nabin on Monday appealed to people to light an 'Aashirwad ka Diya' at their homes on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17 and pray for his long life and good health. "Service to the people is service to the nation" has been the core guiding principle of PM Modi Ji's life, he said, adding that under his leadership the country is moving forward with the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat'.

"His remarkable 25-year journey, dedicated to public service and the commitment to nation-building as the head of government, has been truly unprecedented. His visionary leadership has given the country a new direction and greater strength. Today, as a result of the collective resolve he has inspired, we are moving rapidly towards the goal of a 'Developed India @ 2047'.

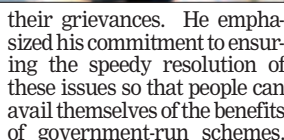
"To express our best



wishes for the country's progressive journey and for the successful leadership of Modi Ji, let us, on the auspicious occasion of the Prime Minister's birthday on September 17, light an 'Aashirwad ka Diya' (lamp of blessings) in our respective homes between 6 and 7 PM. Let us pray for his long life and good health and offer him our blessings and best wishes," he said in a message on X.

The BJP has announced a month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' from September 17 to October 17 to mark Modi's 25 years in public life, with programmes focusing on public participation, welfare outreach and youth engagement.

Former Haryana government minister and senior BJP leader Manish Grover, along with Hansi MLA Vinod Bhayana, addressed a press conference held at the BJP district office in Hansi. Presided over by District Presi-

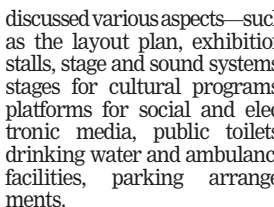


He urged the public to immediately bring any village-level problems to his notice to facilitate a quick resolution. During the hearing, representatives from the Kalsaura and Jansaron Gram Panchayats raised issues regarding village development works, while villagers from Samaura requested benefits under the 'Swamitva Yojana'; other individuals also sought solutions to various personal grievances.

both at the Centre and in the state—to the masses through the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service and Resolve Campaign). Manish Grover stated that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has made unprecedented progress in the realms of security, good governance.

A few days ago, on the Prakash Utsav of Guru Harkrishan Ji at Gurdwara Panjokhara Sahib, a mischievous element from Punjab tried to create a disturbance by reaching the Guru Ghar and tried his best to spoil

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Anand Kumar Sharma visited Maharana Pratap Horticulture University today to review preparations for the Horticulture Fair and Horti-Expo, scheduled for September 19-20. Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will inaugurate the fair on September 19. Deputy Commissioner Dr. Anand Kumar Sharma, accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rahul Raiya, visited the event venue at the university. He



discussed various aspects—such as the layout plan, exhibition stalls, stage and sound system, stages for cultural programs, platforms for social and electronic media, public toilets, drinking water and ambulance facilities, parking arrangements.

The 10th Shri Ganesh Mahotsav will commence on September 20 under the aegis of the Shri Shiv Ganapati Seva Mandal, 11-Mukhi Hanuman Mandir Seva Samiti, and Dharma Jagran Kendra.

A grand 'Samrasta Kalash Vandan Yatra' (Procession of the Sacred Pitcher of Harmony) was organized in Indri to mark the 650th birth anniversary of Sant Shiromani Shri Guru Ravidas Maharaj Ji. The event aimed to dis-

seminate his sacred message of harmony, equality, social amity, and brotherhood among the masses. The procession commenced from the Irrigation Department Rest House in Indri. Ajay Khundia, State President of the BJP Scheduled Caste Morcha, attended as the chief guest, while MLA.

This grand festival will con-

clude on September 24, with the immersion ceremony of Lord Ganesha scheduled for September 25. Committee convener Dharmपाल Saini stated that on September 20, the festival will begin with the hoisting of the Tricolour.

Classified

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Road repair work begins in Doraha after fourth memorandum



AMRISH ANAND DORAHA : Following the publication of the news, repair work on the long-neglected road leading from the water tank near Shiv Mandir Arrichan Road towards Gali No. 8, Doraha, commenced on Monday morning at 10 am. The action came after the Mohalla Sudhar Committee submitted its fourth memorandum to Executive Officer S.Harnarinder Singh Shergill and Municipal Council President Anmol Sharma last week. EO Shergill had assured that the work would begin within 2-3 days, and the promise was fulfilled. The approximately 250-300-metre stretch, plagued by deep potholes, damaged surface and scattered stones, had been causing inconvenience to pedestrians and motorists.

Power surplus claims of Punjab government hollow: Simarjit Bains

SARBJIT SUFI LUDHIANA : Former MLA from Ludhiana's Atam Nagar constituency and senior Congress leader Simarjit Singh Bains has expressed deep concern over the deteriorating power situation in Punjab, saying that the government's tall claims of surplus electricity are confined only to advertisements, while the ground reality is that Punjab is increasingly being pushed into darkness. Bains said that prolonged and frequent power cuts had made life difficult for the common people, shopkeepers, farmers and industrialists. He said the industrial sector of Punjab had been badly affected due to unscheduled power cuts, making it difficult for factories to operate and adversely affecting production.

Panjab University, CDOE holds 12-day workshop on professional and advanced excel course

TLAK RAJ MOHALI: The Placement & Guidance Cell, Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), Panjab University, Chandigarh, commenced a 12-day Capacity Building Workshop on Professional Excel & Advanced Excel Course on Monday. The workshop, being organised from September 14 to 26, 2026, aims to enhance the digital and professional skills of students and prepare them for academic and workplace requirements. The programme is being conducted for students of UG, PG, Advanced Diploma and Certificate courses, with around 300 participants taking part in the workshop. The sessions are being conducted online through Webex from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The workshop focuses on developing practical proficiency in Excel, including professional and advanced tools and techniques that can be applied in academic, administrative and professional settings.

RR Bawa DAV College for Girls, Batala Girls outshined in University Merit List in B.Sc. (Non-Medical) Sem. II

VERMA BATALA: The students of B.Sc. (Non-Medical) Sem. II of RR Bawa DAV College for Girls, Batala got outstanding result and came out in flying colours in University Examinations May 2026. Officiating Principal Dr.Meenakshi Duggal informed with utmost ecstasy that the student of B.Sc. (Non-Medical) Sem. IIKumarRanbir Kaurwith 8.35CGPA secured Eighteenth position in the University and KurnariGurpreet Kaur with 8.33CGPA bagged Twenty First position in the University respectively and glorified the institution. While congratulating the merit holders, on this occasion, Officiating Principal Dr.Meenakshi Duggalstated that their outstanding academic performance is the testimony to their hard work, dedication and unwavering support of the faculty members.

Punjab meets highest-ever 17,423 MW power demand without any power cuts: Tarunpreet Singh Sond



SHASHI PAL JAIN CHANDIGARH, SEPT 14

Punjab has met its highest-ever electricity demand of 17,423 MW without imposing any power cuts due to shortage, while maintaining 24x7 power supply across the residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural sectors. Power Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond said the achievement came amid a sharp rise in electricity demand this year and highlighted the state's preparedness and power generation capacity in meeting the unprecedented requirement. Addressing a press conference at the

Deputy Commissioner's Office in Ludhiana on Monday, Power Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond said, "From 7 AM yesterday, 13 September, until now, no power cuts due to electricity shortage have been imposed in Punjab. Along with this, continuous 24x7 electricity supply has been ensured and is currently running for all four major sectors: residential, commercial, industrial and agriculture." Emphasising the government's priority during the ongoing paddy season, he emphasised, "Our farmers have always been and will remain our top priority because Punjab is an agrarian state. Two private thermal plants had recently developed technical snags during the paddy season. The entire in-house team of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited worked day and night to make those plants operational again." Referring to the measures taken to compensate farmers for the earlier disruption, Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond continued, "CM Bhagwant Singh Mann has issued instructions that to cover up for the 2 to 3-hour power cuts, the Punjab Government is now giving two extra hours of electricity supply to our farmers starting yesterday."

He said the scale of the achievement becomes clearer from the sharp rise in electricity demand this year. "In previous years during the month of September, electricity demand used to hover around 13,100 MW, but this year it touched 16,600 MW. This meant an extra demand of 3,500 MW. Despite this additional demand of 3,500 MW, PSPCL (Punjab State Power Corporation Limited) successfully handled the challenge, which in itself is a massive achievement for the Punjab Government," he stated.

Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond said, "Along with this, I praise the entire team of PSPCL that handled public complaints as well. Over the last two to three days, I personally received calls from industrialists and farmer unions." Reiterating the reasons behind the recent power crisis, he added, "I had already explained three days ago in a press conference that this crisis arose partly due to coal cuts by the Central Government and partly because the Centre did not release Punjab's rightful 1,000 MW power share."

Rayat Bahra University honoured for excellence in education and social responsibility



LK BANSAL MOHALI, SEPT 14

Rayat Bahra University was honoured for its outstanding contribution to education, innovation, research and Education and Social Responsibility (ESR) at the first anniversary celebration of the Senior Journalists Forum. The award was presented by Punjab Governor and UT Chandigarh Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria. Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Kumar received the honour on behalf of University Chancellor and chairman Rayat

Bahra Group Gurvinder Singh Bahra and the entire university fraternity. Addressing the gathering, the Governor stressed the need for educational institutions, civil society and the media to work together to combat drug abuse, promote healthy lifestyles and encourage responsible citizenship among the youth. Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Kumar said the university had made significant progress in research, academic excellence and innovation. He highlighted its efforts to implement the National

Education Policy (NEP), integrate artificial intelligence into education and promote Education and Social Responsibility initiatives. He said the recognition reflected the visionary leadership of Sardar Gurvinder Singh Bahra and his commitment to advancing quality education, research, innovation and social development. The Vice-Chancellor expressed gratitude for the honour and reaffirmed the university's commitment to providing quality education and contributing to the welfare of society.

PGIMER Chandigarh's project SARATHI receives national recognition for transforming patient navigation and safety

CHANDIGARH, SEPT 14

Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh has received national recognition for its flagship patient-navigation initiative, Project SARATHI, at the National Patient Safety Conference (NPSC) 2026, organised by AIIMS Nagpur in collaboration with the National Patient Safety Secretariat, Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Project SARATHI was recognised as an "Outstanding Best Practice" for its exemplary contribution towards patient safety and quality of care. PGIMER was also presented a Special Recognition Award for "Best Practices in Patient Safety 2026" at the conference held on September 11-12, 2026. Expressing his happiness, Prof. Vivek Lal, Director, PGIMER, said, "This national recognition of Project SARATHI is a matter of im-



mense pride for PGIMER. SARATHI represents the power of empathy, volunteerism and responsible citizenship in making healthcare more accessible and humane. In an institution serving millions of patients, sometimes a simple act of guiding, listening and helping can make a profound difference to a patient's experience. We are committed to strengthening and scaling this model so that its benefits reach even more patients and healthcare institutions."

54th annual conference of Punjab Drycleaners Association concludes successfully

RAKESH JINDAL NABHA, SEPT 14

The 54th Annual Conference of Punjab Dry Cleaners Association (PDCA) was successfully organized with great enthusiasm and grandeur at The Grand Palm, Nabha. The conference was hosted by Nabha Dry Cleaners Association, led by its President Mr. Deep Kumar and his dedicated team. The event was sponsored by CLEAN-CARE, a Noida-based company. The conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Mr. Charan Singh, Managing Director, Malkit Agro Private Limited by lighting the lamp. On this occasion, PDCA President Mr. Balwinder Singh Ahluwalia, Chairman Mr. Amlu Chaudhary along with the office bearers and members of the association were present. The Chief Guest was honored by presenting a memento by the association. Before the commencement of the function, the members of the association paid a heartfelt tribute to the former chairman Late Mr. Parmarjit Singh Buttar and other colleagues who passed away during the past year and observed a two-minute silence in their memory. Various leading companies related to the dry cleaning industry exhibited their latest products, technologies and services during the conference. Leading companies including CLEAN-CARE, Dua Brothers, Jogico, UNIWAX, Saggu Brothers, Brij Lal Jain & Sons, Dhobi Kart, Telsot, Shakti Chemicals, Star Lion Chemicals, Shree Ganesh, Gupta Plastics and Go Wash participated. All the participating companies were felicitated with mementos and trophies. Two important industry-related expert sessions were also held on the occasion. In these, experts provided information on important topics like practical demonstration of modern cleaning technologies and how to build a strong customer base in a competitive market.

Hindi fortnight inaugurated at Rose Public School, Sulyali on occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi and Hindi Day



PARDEEP SHARMA SULYALI, SEPT 14

Rose Public School, Sulyali, inaugurated the Hindi Fortnight with great enthusiasm and festive spirit on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi and Hindi Day. The programme was conducted in the gracious presence of the school Principal, Mr. Sanjay Sharma Sauguni, and Vice-Principal, Mrs. Babita Sauguni. On the occasion, the Principal and Vice-Principal extended their warm wishes to the students and shared their views on the significance of Ganesh Chaturthi and Hindi Day. As part of the Ganesh Chaturthi

celebrations, Janvi Thapa, a Class XII student, delivered a special speech highlighting the significance of Lord Ganesh and the festival of Ganesh Chaturthi. Students of Class VI presented a beautiful Ganesh Vandana dance, in which Aaradhya, Sohani, Saanvi, Samridhi and Saniya participated. Students of Class I also gave a captivating presentation on Ganesh Vandana. The participants included Manik, Kashvi, Kinjal, Urvi, Zahid, Pranavi, Mohin, Aadan, Antariksh, Anika, Advik, Aneek, Ritik and Kayva. Dhriti Sharma, a student of Senior KG, also presented a beautiful rendition of sacred mantras.

Sukhbir Badal questions CM Mann on proper power availability to farmers



ANIL VERMA BATHINDA, SEPT 14

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal today asked chief minister Bhagwant Mann to tell where was the ten hour day time power supply which he proclaimed he was giving to the farmers of the State from his public stages. Asserting that the chief minister was telling outright lies from stages, the SAD president said "the truth is that farmers are suffering from eight to ten hours of power cuts on a daily basis. The industry is also suffering from six to eight hours of

power cuts which have disrupted their operations". Mr Sukhbir Badal was here to felicitate Zila Parishad Chairman Swaran Singh Poohli and Vice Chairperson Jaskaran Kaur Balluana, both of whom assumed office today. Mr Badal asserted the chief minister would have to admit his failure to make adequate arrangements for purchasing power in advance instead of going in for knee jerk reactions like changing officers. "There is a shortfall of around 8,000 to 9,000 megawatt presently which the AAP government is unable to fill.

Three arrested in Sector 49 firing case; air pistol, sword recovered



CHANDIGARH: The Chandigarh Police have arrested three persons in connection with a firing incident in Sector 49 and recovered an air pistol, four lead air-gun pellets, a sword and a stick from their possession. The arrests were made as part of a special drive against armed miscreants on the directions of UT SSP Kanwardeep Kaur, IPS, under the supervision of W/SP (City) Vijay Singh and SDPO/South Gurjeet Kaur. A team led by Inspector Sher Singh, SHO, Police Station Sector 49, arrested Ajay alias Aju, son of Rajinder Singh,

and Ritesh alias Haddi, son of Chandeshwar Singh. During further investigation, co-accused Vijay, son of Rajinder Singh, was also arrested. Police said the case pertains to FIR No. 48, dated September 11, registered under Sections 191(2), 191(3), 125, 351(3) and 61(2) of the BNS, 2023, along with relevant sections of the Arms Act. According to the complaint, Raj Kumar, an auto-rickshaw driver, alleged that on September 11, around 1:30 pm, a group of 10-12 persons armed with swords, axes, daggers and sticks reached the area.

From poetry to careers: MCM celebrates power and possibilities of Hindi

CHANDIGARH: The Post-graduate Department of Hindi and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, in collaboration with Akhil Bharatiya Kavi Parishad, organised a special programme to commemorate Hindi Diwas. The programme featured an insightful lecture on the career opportunities available to students of Hindi, followed by a vibrant Kavi Sammelan. Delivering the keynote lecture, Dr. Ashwani Shandilya, noted Hindi scholar, highlighted the expanding professional avenues available to students with proficiency in Hindi. He spoke about opportunities in translation, anchoring, content writing, AI language models



and prompt engineering, besides careers in entertainment and cinema, freelancing, mass media and civil services. He emphasised that Hindi, in the contemporary digital and technological landscape, has emerged as a language offering diverse and promising career possibilities. He encouraged students to develop strong language skills alongside digital competencies to successfully navigate the evolving employment

landscape. The subsequent Kavi Sammelan brought together several noted poets and literary personalities, offering the audience an engaging presentation of Hindi poetry. The programme was graced by Shri Sanjeev Goyal as the Chief Guest. Shri Rajesh Roy, IRS (Retd.), Shri Prem Vij, eminent writer and poet, and Shri K. K. Sharma, President, Khadi Seva Sangh, were the Special Guests.

Accomplish dev works within stipulated time: Cabinet Minister to officials



DALJEET AJNOHA HOSHIARPUR, SEPT 14

Punjab Jails and NRI Affairs Minister Dr. Ravjot Singh on Monday chaired a meeting with officials of various departments to review the progress of ongoing development works in the Sham Churasi Assembly constituency. Holding discussions with the officials concerned at the district administrative complex, the Cabinet Minister directed them to expedite the pace of works besides accomplishing in stipulated time. He

also took stock of works with officials of Public Works department, Irrigation department, Education department, Police, Water Supply and Sanitation department and other concerned departments. He reviewed detailed reports on the progress of ongoing projects and emphasised that no compromise with the quality of development works would be made in larger public interest. Dr. Ravjot Singh directed officials to complete all development works being carried out for the benefit of the people within the set timeline.

DAV school players shine in district-level competitions

KULWINDER KARWAL SARDULGARH, SEP 14

Players of DAV Public School, Sardulgarh, put up an impressive performance in district-level competitions, winning four gold, four silver and one bronze medal in various disciplines. In taekwondo, Diljit Singh secured first position in the Under-14 category, while Abhinur Singh and Jaskaran Singh won gold medals in the Under-17 category. Pragyan Singh Rath (Under-14), Steven Asur (Under-17) and Sachin Kumar (Under-19) secured second positions to win silver medals. In karate, Ashmeet Singh finished second in the Under-14 category and won silver, while Sanaya secured third



position and a bronze medal. In wushu, Krish Godara won gold in the Under-19 category. He also secured first position in kickboxing, while Sachin Kumar finished second. Managing Director Sav-

itri Suthar, Principal Soman K. Chacko and the school staff congratulated the players and their coach, Sandeep Kumar, on the achievement and wished them success in future competitions.

NEWS BRIEF

Raghnath mandir Ramlila ground echoed with chants hailing Mata Ashapurni



SHARANJEET PATHANKOT: Under the leadership of President Vinod Kumar Malhotra, the Sewak Committee of Mata Ashapurni Mandir organized the 56th annual Jagran and fair at the Raghnath Mandir Ramlila Ground with devotion and enthusiasm. The Jagran was inaugurated by Advocate Thakur Ravinder Singh and renowned social worker Suresh Sharma through a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Prior to this, rituals including Jyoti Puja, Ganesh Puja, Devi Puja, and Mahavir Puja were performed. During the Jagran, renowned singers Babbar Khanpuri, Saras Bharti, and Lavish Lav immersed the congregation in a spirit of devotion by performing Mata Ki Bhenas. As the hymns were sung, devotees swayed in devotion, accompanied by enthusiastic chants and applause. The police administration made robust security arrangements.

Plea in SC to extend admission deadline to October 30

KULWINDER KARWAL **SARDULGARH:** Chairman of the Federation of Self-Financing Technical Institutions (FSFTI), Punjab Unaided Colleges Association (PUCA) and Aryans Group of Colleges, has approached the Supreme Court seeking an extension of the last date for admissions to higher education and professional courses till October 30. Dr Anshu Kataria said the extension could provide relief to nearly 8–10 lakh students and around 20,000 private colleges across the country. A petition has already been filed before the Supreme Court seeking extension of the admission deadline for professional courses regulated by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI). A separate writ petition concerning courses under the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) is also being filed shortly. Students Should Not Pay for Delayed Counselling Dr Kataria said students should not lose an entire academic year due to factors beyond their control, including delays in counselling, approvals, status updates and administrative procedures.

Doraha civic body launches traffic drive, earmarks spaces for street vendors



AMRISH ANAND DORAHA: The Doraha municipal council has launched an enforcement drive to ease traffic congestion in the town's markets. Acting on the directions of executive officer S.Harnarinder Singh Shergill, supervident Gagan Uppal and sanitary inspector Mr.Ashwani Sharma carried out the drive near Beant Singh Chowk, where designated spaces were allotted to fruit vendors in the nearby park. Traffic violators were also challaned. Speaking to the media, Ashwani Sharma said the move followed a recent meeting of the All Trade Union and local residents with EO Harnarinder Singh Shergill and municipal council president Anmol Sharma over the traffic problem. Fruit vendors have now been allotted designated spaces through a chain-marking arrangement in the park, while space near the government school is being identified for golgappa, chaat vendors.Officials said the move aims to regulate street vending without affecting livelihoods and ensure smoother traffic flow. Regular inspections will continue, and vendors obstructing roads will be warned initially; repeated violations will invite challans and further action as per rules.

14 PB BN NCC Nabha organises TB awareness programme at SLIET



RAVI GARG LONGOWAL: A one-day awareness programme on Tuberculosis (TB) was successfully organised by 14 Punjab Battalion NCC, Nabha, in collaboration with SLIET on 11th September 2026. The programme was conducted with the active support of SLIET NCC cadets as part of the social outreach activities of Techfest 2026 at Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology (SLIET). The main aim of the programme was to create awareness among NCC cadets and the community about TB, its prevention, early detection and treatment. The programme also focused on the national goal of making India TB-free under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan. The programme was conducted with the guidance of Col Gaurav Thappa, CO, 14 PB BN NCC Nabha, Dr. Rajinder Kumar, District TB Officer, Dr. Jasvir Kaur, State Programme Officer, Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, and Dr. Prabhjeet Kaur, State Consultant. The experts interacted with the participants and explained the importance of early diagnosis, proper treatment and public awareness in preventing TB. The programme was graced by Prof. A. S. Arora, representing Director, SLIET, Prof. Mani Kant Paswan along with other dignitaries.

Tax department’s drive: 170 vehicles detained, goods worth over Rs 5 crore seized: Cheema



GAURAV GOEL CHANDIGARH, SEPT 14

In a sweeping enforcement drive that cast the net wide across Punjab, the Department of Excise and Taxation detained 170 vehicles carrying goods suspected to be in violation of GST provisions. The operation, carried out jointly by all State Investigation and Preventive Units with special focus on Mandi Gobindgarh and Khanna, led to the seizure of iron scrap and finished iron/steel goods valued at more than Rs 5 crore. Punjab Finance, Excise and Taxation Minister Advocate

Harpal Singh Cheema described the drive as “a wake-up call for those who think they can cut corners and get away with it.” He emphasised that the government is determined to plug every loophole and ensure that tax compliance becomes the rule of the day rather than the exception. The Taxation Minister said, “We have drawn a line in the sand, those who attempt to move undocumented goods will find the law catching up with them sooner rather than later.” Revealing the details of the enforcement drive, Cheema said, “A substantial number of vehicles were

Punjab police conducts 642 raids; 327 held

CHANDIGARH: As the decisive ‘Gangstran Te Vaar’ campaign enters its 237th day, Punjab Police today conducted 642 raids at identified and mapped locations linked to associates of gangsters across the state. As per the information, the “Gangstran Te Vaar”—a decisive war to make Punjab a gangster-free state was launched by the Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav on January 20, 2026. Police teams from all the districts in coordination with Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) Punjab have been conducting special operations across the state. On Day 237, Police teams arrested 327 individuals held with one weapon, taking the total arrests to 70,690 since the launch of the campaign.

found without proper invoices and prescribed documents, a clear violation of the GST law. The writing is on the wall, Punjab will not allow tax evasion to eat into the state’s revenue. Every legitimate rupee must reach the public exchequer, for it is the lifeblood of development.” The Minister further informed that the detained consignments are undergoing detailed verification, which is expected to be completed within a week. He said, “Once the dust settles, appropriate action will be taken, including

Farmers protest outside minister Mohinder Bhagat’s residence



JALANDHAR (PARAMJIT SINGH): Farmers staged a protest outside Cabinet Minister Mohinder Bhagat’s residence in Jalandhar. A pakka morcha (indefinite sit-in) has been organized outside the ministers’ residences from the 14th to the 18th to raise various demands, including the issue of theft at the Shambhu and Khanauri borders. Speaking during the protest, a farmer leader stated that the government must immediately return the trolleys, air conditioners, and other belongings that were allegedly stolen by the Punjab Police during the farmers’ protests at the Shambhu and Khanauri borders. Regarding the recent trade agreement with the US, the farmers demanded its cancellation, arguing that it would cause them significant financial loss in the future. Furthermore, the farmers highlighted the burden of debt faced by many in Punjab, urging both the Central and State governments to waive these loans immediately, noting that the debt crisis has already driven some farmers to suicide.

SIC Harpreet Sandhu represents Punjab at national conference on RTI in Hyderabad



CHANDIGARH, SEPT 14 State Information Commissioner Punjab Harpreet Sandhu represented the Punjab State Information Commission at the National Conference of Information Commissions held at Hyderabad on the theme, “RTI: Operational Uniformity in Implementation – Challenges and Solutions”, a subject of vital importance to democratic governance, transparency and accountability in public administration. State Information Commissioner, Punjab Harpreet Sandhu had the distinction of being a Speaker at the National Conference, where he delivered his keynote address on the given subject of Digital Personal Data Protection Act and its evolving interface with the Right to Information Act. SIC Punjab addressing an audience comprising of the Central Chief Information Commissioner of India, R. K. Goyal, IAS (Retd.), and Chief Information Commissioners and Information Commissioners from 25 States of India, highlighted the emerging challenges and the need to maintain an appropriate balance between the citizen’s fundamental right to information, protection of personal

Political boost for AAP in Sanaur as dozens of families join party



TAPINDER SINGH PATIALA, SEPT 14

In a significant political development in the Sanaur Assembly constituency, dozens of families from villages Tauran, Bhambuan and Makboolpur Bhaini have joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), leaving their previous political affiliations behind. The development is being seen by the party as a boost to its organisational strength in the constituency, with the new entrants joining AAP under the leadership of Sanaur in-charge Ranjodh Singh Hadana. The party attributed the growing support to the Punjab government’s welfare-

oriented policies and the development works being undertaken in the constituency. Welcoming the new members, Hadana honoured them with siropas and said people were increasingly moving away from the politics of traditional parties and giving priority to development and public-oriented policies. He assured the new entrants that they would be given due respect within the party and said pending development works in the villages would be taken up on priority. Those who joined AAP included Shinder Singh, Balwinder Singh, Jaswinder Singh, Shavinder Singh, Balvir Singh, Nirmal Singh, Gurmeet Singh etc.

One in three people in India suffer from fatty liver: Dr. Bajwa

BALWINDER AZAD BARNALA, SEPT 14

Nearly one in three people in India is affected by fatty liver disease. The condition is increasingly becoming common due to modern lifestyle, obesity, unhealthy dietary habits and lack of physical activity. This information was shared by Dr. Deeplekh Bajwa, MD (Medicine), Diploma in Diabetes, CCEBDM, Civil Hospital Barnala, who urged people to remain aware of fatty liver disease and take timely preventive measures. Dr. Bajwa explained that fatty liver, also known as fatty liver disease, generally begins with the accumulation of fat in the liver. However, if left unattended, it can lead to inflammation, fibrosis and, in advanced cases, serious complications such as liver cirrhosis. She said that FIB-4 and APRI scores, along with tests such as AST/ALT levels and platelet count, can be helpful in assess-



ing fatty liver and the risk of liver fibrosis. When required, the condition of the liver can also be evaluated through vibration-controlled transient elastography (FibroScan). Dr. Bajwa said that people diagnosed with fatty liver need not panic, but the condition should not be ignored. A balanced diet, regular exercise and maintaining a healthy body weight play an important role in its management. She further stated that tests such as liver function tests, kidney function tests, lipid profile, fasting blood sugar,

OSD Sukhveer Singh reviews development works in Eight Dhuri villages

VIKAS VERMA DHURI, SEPT 14

OSD to Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, Sukhveer Singh, today visited eight villages of the Dhuri constituency to take stock of ongoing and completed development works and hold direct discussions with residents regarding their local needs and future development priorities. During his visit to Ruldu Singh Wala, Mana, Mirheri, Harchandpur, Manawala, Bhaddalwadd, Palasaur and Bhalwan, the OSD interacted with village residents and members of the panchayats and sought their feedback on the development works already undertaken as well as the works required in the future. Sukhveer Singh said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the Punjab Government has undertaken



large-scale development across villages during the last four-and-a-half years. He said that every village has received development grants worth crores of rupees, based on local requirements and the needs of residents. He said that the purpose of visiting villages personally is to understand ground realities and ensure that development planning remains closely aligned with the actual needs of the people. “Plans

prepared at the office level can be made more effective when they are discussed directly with the people at the village level,” he said. The OSD said that the suggestions and priorities of villagers would be given due consideration while planning upcoming development works. He assured residents that genuine demands would be examined on priority and necessary works would be taken forward in a timely manner.

First Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Granth Sahib celebrated in Miri-Piri Khalsa College, Bhadaur



BALWINDER AZAD BHADUR, SEPT 14

Miri-Piri Khalsa College Bhadur, the premier educational institution of the region, functioning under the management of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Shri Amritsar and accredited by Punjabi University Patiala, celebrated the first Prakash Parv of Sahib Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji with great reverence and enthusiasm. Organized under the skillful guidance of the head of the institution, Malvinder Singh, this program was organized by the Sanjhi Awaz

Club in collaboration with the Department of Punjabi, History and Religion. Prof. of Religious Studies Giving information, Sukhpal Singh said that the main objective of the program was to connect the students with the history, ideology and teachings of Shri Guru Granth Sahib. The program started with Dr. Vandana Sukhija presented her thoughts. After this, club member Harjit Singh informed the students about the historical significance of the first Prakash Parv of Shri Guru Granth Sahib.

Warring flags corruption, mismanagement in PSPCL for power crisis

TAPINDER SINGH PATIALA, SEPT 14

Thousands of Congress workers, led by the Punjab Congress president Aamrinder Singh Raja Warring, today staged a massive protest against the Aam Aadmi Party government for the power crisis facing the state. A heavy police contingent prevented the Congress workers from reaching the PSPCL office. The police had created heavy barricades on the route. Speaking on the occasion, Warring said, the power crisis facing the state was man-made and it was because of the massive corruption and complete mismanagement by the AAP government. He pointed out, the outgoing Chairman Basant Garg, was appointed despite not being a technocrat, which is the basic condition. He disclosed



that the AAP government changed the rule to accommodate him, apparently at the behest of the Delhi bosses, for reasons not unknown to anyone. He said Garg had been given multiple positions and the reason was that he attended the office for just 20 out of the 300 days he remained the Chairman. Similarly, the PCC president added, the AAP appointed an ineligible person as the Director Generation in the PSPCL after unceremoniously removing the incumbent Direc-

tor Harjit Singh, who refused the AAP diktats. He said, not only was Singh removed, but was hounded by the Vigilance Bureau. He disclosed that Singh was removed as the then Power Minister Sanjeev Arora wanted to accommodate one of his favourites from Ludhiana, who was not even eligible for the post, as he had helped him in many ways. He said Arora ended up in jail but not before putting the PSPCL into complete mess leading to the current power crisis in the state.

Dasmesh School yoga players win four medals at district level



KULWINDER KARWAL SARDULGARH, SEP 14

Four selected for state-level games Players of Dasmesh Convent Senior Secondary School and Dasmesh International School, Sardulgarh, won two gold and two silver medals in the 70th District-Level Yoga Games held at Budhlada. In the Under-19 boys’ category, Manav and Krish of Dasmesh Convent Senior Secondary School and Ignour Singh and Jasmeet Singh of

Dasmesh International School represented their schools. Manav and Krish won gold medals, while Pal Singh and Puneet Birrra secured silver medals. Four players were selected for the state-level games on the basis of their performance. Principal Bhupinder Singh Sandhu congratulated the players and coaches Raman-deep Singh, Amandeep Singh and Avtar Singh. He encouraged the players to maintain their performance at the state level.

New executive committee of District Bar Association Pathankot assumes charge



VERMA SUJANPUR, SEPT 14

The newly elected office-bearers of the District Bar Association, Pathankot, were formally introduced today, following which the new Executive Committee assumed charge. On the occasion, members of the Election Committee, Varun Puri and Vinod Malhotra, announced the names of the newly elected office-bearers and formally introduced them to the members of the Bar. The outgoing Secretary handed over charge to the new Executive

Committee, followed by the formal introduction of the newly elected President and the entire team. The new Executive Committee comprises Ajay Dadwal as President, Nitin Dogra as Vice-President, Romika Andotra as Vice-President (Women), Samarth Gulati as Secretary, Muskan Mahajan as Joint Secretary, and Anita as Executive Committee Member. Newly elected President Ajay Dadwal expressed his gratitude to all members of the Bar and said that he would work with complete dedication.

DGP calls upon NIT Hamirpur youth to join CM-led Anti-Chitta Jan Andolan

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR, SEP 14

Himachal Pradesh Police on Monday reached out to students of NIT Hamirpur as part of the "Anti-Chitta Jan Andolan" led by state Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, urging the youth to come forward and help spread the message of a clean and safe Himachal Pradesh, while raising awareness about the dangers of 'chitta'. Addressing undergraduate and postgraduate students at the NIT auditorium, DGP Ashok Tewari said the movement, launched under the Chief Minister's leadership last year, is not meant to remain merely a government or police campaign. Rather, it was a call to every young person in Himachal Pradesh to join the fight against



chitta and help turn it into a people-led movement.

Recalling his college days, the DGP told the students, "For the next few minutes, don't look at me only as a cop or the DGP. Think of me as someone who has

travelled a little further on the road on which you are now beginning your journey."

Ashok Tewari encouraged the students to keep learning, growing and exploring new opportunities. He assured them that HP Police is

always there for the youth. A 25-year-old lady constable Nikita, speaking as someone close to the students' own age, gave a simple message: "protect yourself, look after your friends and speak up". She urged students not to stigmatise or gossip about a friend struggling with drugs, but to reach out and help. At the same time, she stressed that those making money by selling chitta and destroying young lives must be reported and dealt with firmly under law. Notably, the Anti-Chitta Jan Andolan (or Chitta-Virodh Abhiyan) is a high-profile public movement and state-wide anti-drug campaign launched in Himachal Pradesh. Initiated on November 15, 2025, by CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, the movement explicitly targets the eradication of "chitta" (a highly

addictive, adulterated form of synthetic heroin) that has increasingly threatened the state's youth. The DGP stated that while police will continue strong enforcement against drug traffickers, the larger battle can be won only when students, parents, teachers and communities join the CM's Anti-Chitta Jan Andolan as equal partners. Remembering the Hamirpur Anti-Chitta Walkathon, during which he had stayed at the NIT campus for three days, the DGP invited NIT Hamirpur students to participate in the Una edition of the campaign on September 16, and suggested that the institute can send one or two buses of students. Students are also encouraged to connect with HP Police through 112, its social-media platforms and WhatsApp channel.

Four pilgrims rescued from Churdhar forest after overnight operation

AGENCY
SHIMLA, SEPT 14

Four pilgrims who lost their way in the dense forests of the Himachal Pradesh's Churdhar region while returning from the pilgrimage were safely rescued by Shimla Police after an overnight search and rescue operation, police said on Monday. According to Shimla Police official, the incident came to light late Sunday night when the Shimla 112 control room received information that some pilgrims returning from Churdhar had lost their way in the forest and were unable to ascertain their location.

Acting swiftly on the information, a team from Chaupal police station launched a search and rescue operation in the difficult and densely forested Churdhar terrain despite darkness and challenging conditions, said the official. The police team continued the search



through the night, navigating the remote forest area and difficult terrain. After sustained efforts, two young men were located and safely rescued from the forest towards Patal Khad around midnight. "While the search operation was underway, police received information about two more pilgrims, a couple, who had also lost their way in the Churdhar area. The rescue team immediately expanded the search and continued the operation without interruption.

Sukhu to inaugurate health camp, lay bridge foundation stone

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu will visit his home constituency Nadaun on September 17 and 18, during which he will inaugurate a newly constructed Primary Health Centre building and lay the foundation stones for various development projects. As per the scheduled programme, Sukhu will reach his ancestral village Sera from Una on the evening of September 16.

On September 17, he will lay the foundation stone of a new building at ITI Rail at 11 am and also undertake plantation there. He will subsequently inaugurate the newly constructed building of the Primary Health Centre, Rail, and launch a public health camp. The Chief Minister will later lay the foundation stone of the building of Government Senior Secondary School, Rail, before returning to Sera for an overnight stay. On September 18, Sukhu will lay the foundation stone of a bridge over the Beas river near Sadhodapatan at around 11.30 am. He will later leave for Shimla from the ITI Rail helipad. Deputy Commissioner Gandharva Rathore has directed all senior district officials to remain personally present during the Chief Minister's visit. She also directed officials of the Health Department, medical college and AYUSH Department to make all necessary arrangements for the health camp. Specialist and super-specialist doctors will provide services at the camp, while various diagnostic tests will also be available on the spot. The Deputy Commissioner urged residents of Rail and adjoining gram panchayats to avail themselves of the health camp.

CM Sukhu to lead anti-drug walkathon in Una on Sept 16



KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu will lead an 'Anti-Chitta Walkathon' here on September 16 as part of the state government's public awareness campaign against drug abuse. Deputy Commissioner Jatin Lal said the event would begin at 8 am at Indira Gandhi Sports Stadium, with a performance by the police band 'Harmony of the Pines'. After a nearly two-hour cultural programme, the walkathon will proceed from the stadium to the Una ISBT and return to the starting point. Sukhu will flag off the walkathon at 10 am and interact with youngsters. Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, MLAs and other dignitaries are also expected to participate. The Chief Minister will administer a pledge against drug abuse and for environmental protection to the participants. Students from Classes 9 to 12, ITIs and colleges, besides members of social and voluntary organisations and the general public, are expected to participate.

Governor calls for youth-led action for a healthier and more compassionate society

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, SEPT 14

Governor Kavinder Gupta has called upon the youth to take the lead in promoting health awareness, combating stigma and discrimination and strengthening the spirit of humanitarian service in society. He was addressing the closing ceremony of 'Swasthya Manthan-2026', a National youth festival and conclave on the theme "Harnessing Youth Leadership for a healthier Tomorrow" organized by Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU), Shimla in collaboration with State & District Red Cross Society, HP and NCC Unit of HPNLU at HPNLU on Sunday. While congratulating the winners of various competitions and all



participants, the Governor said the theme of the event, "Empowering Youth Leadership for a Healthy Tomorrow," was highly relevant in the present times. He said young people were not only the future of the country but also its greatest strength today, and their awareness, sensitivity and active participation were essential for building a healthy society. The

Governor, who is also the President of the State Red Cross, said health was not limited to hospitals and medical treatment but was equally linked with dignity, equality, awareness and social justice. He emphasised the need to eliminate misconceptions and discrimination against people living with health conditions and said society must fight ignorance and stigma along

with disease. Highlighting the role of youth, he urged them to spread authentic health information, challenge myths and misconceptions and encourage people to seek appropriate healthcare and counselling whenever required. He said law was not merely a collection of rules and provisions but an instrument to protect the dignity, equality and rights of individuals. The convergence of public health, law and psychology was therefore important for building a healthy body, a healthy mind and a sensitive society. Calling upon the youth to carry a sense of responsibility beyond the event, the Governor said, "Leadership is not defined by position or authority, true leadership is defined by responsibility and service."

SVN International Public School students shine in district-level poetry recitation competition



ANIL KUMAR
TARKWARI: On the occasion of Hindi Diwas, a District-Level Poetry Recitation Competition was organized at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Dungri, in which students of SVN International Public School, Tarkwari delivered an impressive performance and brought laurels to the school. In the Junior Category, Sumiksha Sharma, a student of Class VII, secured Second Position with her excellent poetry recitation and confident presentation. In the Senior Category, Aanya, a student of Class IX, secured Fourth Position through her impressive performance.

The achievements of both students brought immense pride and happiness to the entire school family. School Coordinator Mr. Vinod Suman congratulated the students and appreciated their dedication and confidence. He said that such competitions play an important role in developing students' interest in the Hindi language while strengthening their confidence, creativity and communication skills.

CM congratulates winners, participants and organisers of Forest Sports Meet

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, SEPT 14

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has congratulated the winners, participants and organisers of the 27th Annual Sports and Duty Competition of Himachal Pradesh Forest department held from 11th to 13th September, 2026 at Rampur in Shimla district. More than 1,000 players participated in the three-day competition from across the state. Congratulating the players who excelled in various sports disciplines, the Chief Minister appreciated their dedication, hard work, discipline and sporting spirit. He said that sports not only promote physical fitness and mental well-being but also inculcate qualities like teamwork, leadership, determination and a healthy



spirit of competition.

The Chief Minister also lauded all the participants for their enthusiastic participation and commendable performance. He said that every participant deserves appreciation for demonstrating commitment and sportsmanship. Such sports/events provide an opportunity to showcase talent while strengthening camaraderie and team spirit

among employees. Sukhu said that the Forest department plays a vital role in protecting and conserving the rich forest wealth of the state and in maintaining the state's ecological balance. The contribution of forest personnel towards forest conservation, biodiversity protection and sustainable management of natural resources is highly significant.

Dreams of Himachal's students in Delhi must be bigger than mountains they come from: Anurag Singh Thakur

ANIL KUMAR
HAMIRPUR, SEPT 14

Former Union Minister and Hamirpur MP Anurag Singh Thakur on Monday interacted with students at the prestigious Ramjas College, University of Delhi, at Raunkin 3.0", organised by the Delhi Himachal Students Association. He called upon Himachali students pursuing education and preparing for competitive examinations in Delhi to remain connected with their roots and contribute actively to the building of a Viksit Bharat and a Viksit Himachal.

Anurag Singh Thakur said that while Himachal may be a small state geographically, its identity and contribution to the nation are immense. The land has given the country soldiers, sportspersons, teachers,



scientists and civil servants, while making its mark across political, social and other spheres of national life.

He said Himachal's presence in Delhi is not new. For decades, young people from the state have been coming to the national capital for higher education, competitive examinations and career opportunities. He urged Himachali youth living in Delhi to look beyond their individual careers and work towards strengthening

Himachal's identity and creating new opportunities for the state wherever they are. Anurag Singh Thakur said the dreams of young people coming from the small hills must be enormous. With talent, hard work and determination, Himachal's youth can establish their identity across the country and the world. He said, patriotism in the heart and the Himachali cap on the head are the defining identity of Devbhoomi Himachal.

Swamp Deer carcass found in Parwanoo forests, poaching concerns rise

AGENCY
SOLAN, SEP 14

Wildlife surveillance in the Shivalik foothills has come under scrutiny after the carcass of a swamp deer was recovered from the peripheral forests of Parwanoo, raising concerns over possible poaching in the area. The carcass was first spotted by local villagers who were collecting cattle fodder. They subsequently alerted panchayat representatives, following which a Forest Department team was dispatched to the site. Officials secured the remains and initiated the prescribed legal procedures.

The exact cause of death has not yet been established. Forest officials have cordoned off the area and are searching for forensic evidence, including possible snares and other indications



of hunting. Investigators are also examining whether the animal may have been shot or died due to natural or predatory causes.

The carcass has been preserved for a post-mortem examination, which is expected to play a crucial role in determining the circumstances surrounding the death.

The incident has also triggered criticism from local residents, who alleged that forest personnel are not conducting regular foot

patrols in the area. Local villagers accused the forest department of dereliction of duty, alleging that field personnel rarely carry out routine foot patrols leaving forest corridor vulnerable to poaching and other illegal activities.

Residents further pointed to a history of illicit logging and unchecked intrusions in the Parwanoo forest corridor, claiming that insufficient monitoring has created conditions conducive to wildlife offences.

Retired spokesperson and advocate of Gram Panchayat Tyudi, Sham Dulari, honoured with state level award in Shimla

AVINASH CHAUHAN
AMB, SEPT 14

Sham Dulari, a resident of Gram Panchayat Tyudi, District Una, a retired spokesperson and advocate, was honored at a state-level event held in Shimla for her outstanding social work and significant contributions to society. She was presented with this honor at the "State Level Nari Shakti Samman-2026" ceremony organized by Amar Ujala. The event honored women who have achieved outstanding work from various districts of Himachal Pradesh. Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri presented the honor to Sham Dulari. Cabinet ministers, Amar Ujala's Pillar-in-Chief, Managing Director, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. Sham Dulari has been actively involved in various



social causes for a long time. She supports the education of poor and needy children and collaborates with various non-governmental organizations (NGOs). She served in the field of education for nearly 30 years. She retired as a spokesperson from the

Government Senior Secondary School, Bharwain. While serving in the field of education, she also played a key role as a teacher and master trainer. Even after retirement, she continued her social work and currently serves as an advocate, providing legal services to the people of Una district. He was honored for his active contributions to various social causes, including public service during the COVID-19 pandemic, tree planting, awareness campaigns against female foeticide, awareness campaigns against single-use plastic, assistance with the education of poor and needy girls, and assistance with the marriages of daughters from poor families. Additionally, she has been providing free legal advice to the public for a long time.

Zero tolerance for terrorism, resounding blow to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism: Sanjay Sharma

SANJAY AGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: Sanjay Sharma, State Spokesperson for the Himachal Pradesh BJP, has hailed the joint declaration of the 18th BRICS Summit 2026 concluded in New Delhi as a major diplomatic and commercial victory for India. He described it as a severe setback for forces propagating cross-border terrorism and for Pakistan, which pursues an anti-India agenda on the global stage. Sharma stated that thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary leadership, the world today not only stands with India's counter-terrorism policy but also acknowledges the strength of its economic and trade models. Crackdown on Cross-Border Terrorism and Safe Havens: The BRICS 'New Delhi Declaration 2026' strongly condemns all forms of terrorism and unanimously resolves to eliminate cross-border terrorism, terror financing, and safe havens for terrorists. This serves as a resounding rebuke from the international community regarding Pakistan's terror-related policies. Securing a strong condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir within the declaration marks a significant diplomatic success for India. Trade in Local Currencies and Reduced Dollar Dependency: On the trade front, at India's initiative, all BRICS nations have agreed to boost mutual trade using local currencies and to interconnect digital payment systems (such as India's UPI). This will lower transaction costs and provide substantial benefits to Indian traders and MSMEs in the international market. Opposition to Protectionism and Strengthening Supply Chains: Under India's leadership, there was strong opposition to unilateral tariffs and trade restrictions.



NEWS BRIEF

Public should take precautions to prevent diseases in rainy season: Rahul Kanwaria

YAGYA DUTT SHASTRI PEHOWA: Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) Rahul Kanwaria said that it is important to take precautions to prevent diseases spreading during rainy season. Negligence can lead to diseases like dengue, chikungunya and malaria. Clean environment is essential. Everyone should collectively pay special attention to cleanliness. Dirt also poses risk of spreading disease.Although administration ensures cleanliness, public cooperation is essential in every area. SDM Rahul Kanwaria appealed to public that everyone should work together to prevent diseases. Public awareness is very effective, and people should take steps to protect their own and their family's health. During rainy season, water accumulates in various places, breeding mosquitoes. These mosquitoes cause diseases like dengue and malaria. Therefore, avoid water accumulation around you.

Indoor Sports Championship concludes at Shoolini University



DINESH AGARWAL SOLAN: Shoolini University concluded its five-day Indoor Sports Championship 2026, with students showcasing their talent and sporting spirit in Badminton and Table Tennis competitions. The championship saw enthusiastic participation from students in singles, doubles and mixed doubles categories. The participants displayed strong competitive spirit, teamwork and determination throughout the tournament. In Badminton, Aryan and Anushka won the Mixed Doubles title, while Akshay and Srijal were the runners-up. Srijal and Divyanshi emerged winners in the Women's Doubles category, with Anshika and Raashi finishing as runners-up. Srijal also won the Women's Singles title, while Divyanshi secured the runners-up position.

Hindi connected to all Indian languages, helped me work at national level: Amit Shah on Hindi Diwas

AGENCY MUMBAI, SEPT 14

On the occasion of Hindi Day 2026, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday described the official language as a unifying link across India's linguistic diversity, highlighting that it offers better opportunities to work. Addressing the Sixth All India Official Language Conference held in Navi Mumbai as part of Hindi Day 2026 celebrations, Shah emphasised the government's commitment to promoting Hindi in education. "The official language Hindi is connected to all the languages across the country. I come from Gujarat, where Gujarati is spoken, but due to Hindi, I have never faced any difficulty in working at the national level. The official language has given me a tremendous opportunity to work across the country," said the Union



Home Minister. Shah highlighted the government's decision to make education in the mother tongue mandatory at the primary level under the new education policy, framing it as essential to preserving cultural identity."The Modi government has made education in the mother tongue mandatory in primary classes under the new education policy," he said. "No one can understand a

mother's affection and the love of siblings except through one's mother tongue. The values of one's land, one's language, one's religion, traditions, and culture can only be imbibed through the medium of the mother tongue," he said, adding, "When a person thinks, analyses, and creates in their mother tongue, the outcome is always better."Highlighting culture of

Maharashtra, he said, "Marathi is certainly respected here, and it should be. It was our PM Modi who granted Marathi the status of a classical language. However, when you come to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's land, it has flourished, been respected, and accepted along with many other languages, including Konkani, Gujarati, Sindhi, Hindi, and Kannada...Maharashtra is the largest multilingual state."Shah recalled the government's 2019 decision to decentralise the All-India Official Language Conference. "In 2019, we decided that this All-India Official Language Conference would not be restricted to Delhi; we would take it to every state, and today is the sixth such conference," he said. He also pointed to PM Modi's practice of addressing global platforms in Indian languages rather than English."

Kanvadeep Singh elected president of Karnal Bar Association by four-vote margin



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, SEPT 14

Kanvadeep Singh won the election for president of the Karnal Bar Association by a narrow margin of four votes. In the results announced on Monday afternoon, Kanvadeep Singh secured 861 votes, while his rival Jangsheer Singh Rana received 857 votes. The third candidate, Vinod Kumar, polled 303 votes, while 15 votes were declared invalid. A recount was conducted over the results, following which Kanvadeep Singh was declared the winner.After the Returning Officer announced the result, celebrations broke out among Kanvadeep Singh's

supporters. Advocates at the bar premises congratulated the newly elected president. Emphasis was also placed on maintaining transparency and fairness throughout the election process. Bar Council members conducted recountNewly elected president Kanvadeep Singh said three members of the Bar Council had been appointed to ensure an impartial counting process. The votes were recounted peacefully on Tuesday. He expressed his gratitude to the Bar Council members who assisted in the counting process. He said the team of the Returning Officer also conducted the election process in a fair and systematic manner.

Ratanpura takes center stage at North East railway meeting

YUGMARG BUREAU GORAKHPUR, SEPT 14

The 112th meeting of the North East Railway's Zonal Consultative Committee was held in Gorakhpur. Senior railway officials, including the General Manager and Deputy General Manager, attended the meeting alongside members of the railway consultative committee. Ram Bahadur Singh, a member of the Railway Consultative Committee representing specific railway interests, participated in the meeting. He prominently raised various significant railway-related problems and public interest issues concerning his home district, Mau, and the Ratanpura development block. While presenting the issues regarding Ratanpura Railway Station and the surrounding



area, Ram Bahadur Singh demanded the "construction of ramps for differently-abled persons," "stoppage of trains bound for Delhi and Kolkata at Ratanpura Railway Station," and "ensuring the smooth operation of Underpass No. 23" located in Ratanpura. He stated that the smooth functioning of the underpass would facilitate the movement of thousands of people across several villages. Additionally, he strongly advocated for "adequate drinking water arrangements" at the railway station and the

"construction of accessible and clean toilets" for both men and women. He urged railway officials to resolve these issues promptly so that residents of the area could benefit from better railway facilities. During the meeting, the General Manager of North East Railway took the public interest issues raised by Ram Bahadur Singh seriously and assured that necessary action would be taken to address them, promising to "ensure a complete resolution to these problems as soon as possible."

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University organises Intra-Department Moot Court Competition-2026



AJAY MALHOTRA FATEHGARH SAHIB: The University School of Law, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, organised the Intra-Department Moot Court Competition-2026. The competition aimed to enhance students' legal knowledge, research, analytical, advocacy, and courtroom skills. The event commenced with the inauguration by Prof. (Dr.) Amita Kaushal and Dr. Navneet Kaur, who encouraged students to engage in legal research and develop confidence in presenting legal arguments. A total of 14 teams participated. During the Preliminary Round, held on September 9, participants presented arguments on the given legal proposition, supported by statutory provisions, judicial precedents, research, and factual analysis. The round was adjudicated by Ms. Sharanpreet Kaur, Ms. Amandeep Kaur, and Ms. Sabia. A Researcher Test was also conducted to assess participants' legal research skills. Four teams qualified for the Semi-Final Round, adjudicated by Dr. Mohleen Kaur and Ms. Surbhi Verma. Team USOL 2, comprising Parneet Kaur, Manmeet Kaur, and Annoldeep Kaur, emerged as the Winner, while Team USOL 19, comprising Harsimar Kaur, Husanpreet Kaur, and Jaspreet Kaur, was declared Runner-up.

Slogan and poster competition organised on Hindi Diwas



JAIBEER RANA BARARA: A Slogan and Poster Competition was organized by the Hindi Department of Sant Mohan Singh Khalsa Labana Girls College, Barara, on the occasion of Hindi Diwas, under the guidance of Principal Dr. Shashi Khurana. The programme was organized by Head of the Hindi Department Dr. Navneet Kaur and Dr. Suman Devi, while Dr. Ritu Chandna presided over the event.On the occasion, Dr. Navneet Kaur apprised the students of the significance of Hindi Diwas and the importance of the Hindi language. She also guided the students regarding the themes of the slogan and poster competitions. The students participated enthusiastically and showcased their creative talents. In the slogan competition, themes such as "Hindi Hai Hum," "Meri Bhasha Mera Abhiman," "Hindi Hi Bharat Ki Shaan Hai," "Hindi in the Digital Age," "Nari Shakti and Hindi," and "Hindi Bhasha—Ekta Ka Aadhar" were highlighted. Similarly, the poster competition featured themes including "The Glorious History of Hindi," "Let Us Adorn Hindi," "Hindi in My Imagination," "From Bollywood to Literature," and "Social Media Language—Hinglish Hindi."

Problems of common people being resolved on the spot through Samadhan-camps: Pankaj Setia

HANS RAJ KURUKSHETRA, SEPT 14

Additional Deputy Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer of the Zila Parishad, Pankaj Setia, said that under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Vishram Kumar Meena, Samadhan Shivirs were being organised every Monday and Thursday of the week. The problems of the people are being heard in the SamadhanShivirs and the problems which can be solved on the spot are being solved on the spot by the officials of the concerned department and for the problems which cannot be solved on the spot, necessary guidelines are being given to the officials of the concerned department. ADC and Zilla Parishad CEO Pankaj Setia



was giving necessary instructions to the officials after listening to the complaints of the general public during the Samadhan Camp organized in the auditorium of the New Mini Secretariat on Monday. ADC Pankaj Setia said that in the Samadhan Camp, complaints related to CRID, Social Welfare Department, Police Department, Revenue Department, Ration Card, Family Identity Card, Pension were received, most of which were resolved on

the spot and the concerned department was instructed to resolve the other problems as soon as possible after completing the necessary formalities. He said that people's problems were being resolved through Samadhan Camps. Thousands of people have benefited from these camps. The public should use the Samadhan Camp platform to get their problems resolved. As many people as possible should get their problems resolved through these camps.

Saraswati Public School holds week long celebration to mark Hindi Day

RAHUL KOHLI YAMUNANAGAR, SEPT 14

Hindi Week was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Saraswati Public School to mark Hindi Day. Various activities were organized throughout week to instill love, respect and awareness for Hindi language among students and to foster their creative and literary talents. Hindi Week was inaugurated by Principal Taranpreet Kaur. She informed students about importance of Hindi language and emphasized that Hindi is powerful expression of our culture, civilization and emotions. We should respect Hindi language and contribute to its promotion. Event was held under guidance of Head of Hindi Department, Poonam Sharma and all Hindi teachers. Hindi Department organized various literary and creative



activities to meet students' interests and talents. Essay writing, poetry recitation, poster making, thought writing and Hindi speech-based activities were prominent. Through these activities, students displayed their imagination, expression skills and creative talent. Students expressed their love and respect for Hindi language through various creative mediums. Enthusiastic

participation of students in each activity made Hindi week a successful and effective event. Head of Hindi Department said that Hindi is not just a language but an important basis of our cultural identity and national unity. Objective of such events is to develop a sense of pride in Hindi among students and to connect them with rich literature and heritage of Hindi.

LNT College of Education, Machhrauli organises special program on Ganesh Utsav and Hindi Diwas

ARVIND KUMAR SAMALKHA: LNT College of Education, Machhrauli, organized a special program to celebrate Ganesh Utsav and Hindi Diwas. The program began with a grand welcome, with the idol of Ganpati Bappa being brought to the college campus accompanied by drums and trumpets. Students and staff members chanted Ganpati Bappa's name with enthusiasm and devotion. After this, the priest performed the ritual worship with the chanting of mantras. The idol



of Lord Ganesha was duly installed, and wishes for happiness, prosperity, peace and a happy life were offered. College students and staff members participated with devotion in the worship and Aarti. On this occasion, College President Mrs. Meenakshi Gupta said that Lord Ganesha was a symbol of wisdom, discretion and auspiciousness. We should draw inspiration from his life and move forward with wisdom, humility, and positive thinking. Extending her greetings on Hindi Diwas, she said that Hindi was not just a language, but an identity linked to their culture, values and emotions. We should contribute to its respect and promotion. Principal Dr. Lokesh Kumar Sharma, while extending his best wishes for Ganesh Utsav and Hindi Diwas, said that such programs played an important role in connecting students with Indian culture, traditions, and language.

Hindi Diwas celebrated at GVM International School



ARVIND KUMAR SAMALKHA: A special prayer meeting was organized at GVM International School, Bapauli on Hindi Diwas. Students enthusiastically participated in program, presenting Hindi poetry recitations, powerful speeches and street plays.Through their presentations, students beautifully depicted importance of Hindi language, its respect and role in our culture and heritage. It aimed to inculcate a sense of love, respect and pride for Hindi language among students. School's Director Vishal Jangra wished students a Happy Hindi Diwas, saying that Hindi is hallmark of our rich culture, tradition, and sentiments. He encouraged students to respect Hindi language, use pure and effective Hindi and connect with Hindi literature. He praised students' excellent performances and congratulated all participants and teachers. Rakhi, Seema, Mala Lalita and others were present.

Geeta Modern Senior School, Taraori organises special awareness program on Hindi Diwas

KAMAL SHARMA TARAORI, SEPT 14

Geeta Modern Senior Secondary School, Taraori, organized a special awareness program for students on the occasion of Hindi Diwas. The program's objective was to develop a sense of love, respect and pride for the Hindi language among students and to familiarize them with its usefulness and importance.

During the program, teacher Geet explained to the students the importance and utility of the Hindi language. She stated that Hindi is not just a medium of communication, but a powerful link that connects our culture, traditions, emotions and values. She encouraged the students to respect Hindi and use it more



frequently in their daily lives. Ms. Geet emphasized that a connection to one's language strengthens one's identity. In today's modern era, knowledge of other languages is essential, but it is also everyone's responsibility to maintain love and respect for their mother tongue. Students enthusiastically participated in the program and expressed

their interest and respect for the Hindi language. School Principal Ragini Rai encouraged students to understand the importance of Hindi and respect their mother tongue. School Manager Balkrishna Tripathi also highlighted the importance of Hindi and urged students to play their role in preserving and promoting it.

SMS Memorial Public School, Taraori organises literary and creative activities on Hindi Diwas

KAMAL SHARMA TARAORI, SEPT 14

Various literary and creative activities were organized at SMS Memorial Public School, Taraori, on the occasion of Hindi Diwas. The program aimed to inculcate love, respect, and pride for the Hindi language among students and to familiarize them with its importance. During the program, students enthusiastically participated in various activities, including a speech competition, a poetry competition and a discussion on the importance of the Hindi language. Through their speeches and poems, students effectively presented the richness, simplicity and significance of the Hindi



language in Indian culture. On this occasion, students were also informed about the history of the Hindi language, its utility in the present times, and its role in national unity and cultural identity. Through their creative talents, the students beautifully expressed their feelings about the Hindi

language. Addressing the students, Dr. Vibha Kaushik, Principal, said that Hindi was not just their language, but a powerful medium to express their culture, emotions and values. He encouraged students to respect Hindi, use it more often in daily life and take pride in their language.

Draw inspiration from PM’s commitment to service and make public welfare the purpose of life: Renu Bala Gupta

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, SEPT 14

A programme was organised at the BJP office Karn Kamal on Monday under the ‘Seva Sankalp Abhiyan’ being conducted by the Bharatiya Janata Party to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 25 years in public life dedicated to service and commitment. Mayor Renu Bala Gupta participated actively in the programme and described the Prime Minister’s 25-year public journey as an inspiring example of service, dedication and nation-building. Former Cabinet Minister Chaudhary Kanwar Pal Gurjar presided over the programme.

Mayor Renu Bala Gupta said every section of society should draw inspiration for public service from Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 25-year journey in public life. She said the Prime Minister has given the highest priority to national interest and public welfare throughout his public life and has made service a means of serving society through politics. His life conveys a message of continuous hard work, discipline, dedication and public service for par-



ty workers, she added.

The Mayor said strengthening the organisation is meaningful only when its benefits reach the last person in society. BJP workers should ensure that service activities are not confined merely to programmes but reach those in need, while continuously working to make public welfare initiatives more effective. She said every worker should fulfil their re-

sponsibility towards society with the commitment of putting the nation first and serving the public.

Presiding over the programme, former Cabinet Minister Chaudhary Kanwar Pal Gurjar said Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 25 years in public life represent a long journey of service and dedication. He said the strength of an organisation lies in its dedicated workers and BJP workers

have carried forward service as an organisational value. He called upon workers to draw inspiration from the Prime Minister’s commitment to service and remain continuously active in strengthening the organisation and assisting needy sections of society.

BJP district president Praveen Lather thanked all senior leaders, office-bearers and workers who attended the programme. He said such events infuse new energy among workers towards service and the organisation. Drawing inspiration from Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 25 years in public life, every BJP worker would further strengthen their commitment to public service, he said.

Earlier, Mayor Renu Bala Gupta welcomed and felicitated former Cabinet Minister Kanwar Pal Gurjar on his arrival in Karnal.

Also present: Senior BJP leaders Ashok Khurana, Ashok Bhandari and Trilochan Singh, Mandal president Naveen Batra, along with other senior party office-bearers and workers, attended the programme. All participants reiterated their commitment to actively contributing to the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan.

Public participation will give a new momentum to development: Renu Bala



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, SEPT 14

Mayor Renu Bala Gupta on Monday heard the problems and suggestions of citizens from different parts of the city during a public hearing at her office in the Municipal Corporation. Citizens brought forward various issues concerning their respective areas. Several cases were resolved on the spot in coordination with the concerned officials, while necessary directions were issued to ensure the early disposal of the remaining complaints.

Mayor Renu Bala Gupta said the true meaning of public service is to remain connected with people, understand their problems and ensure their resolution. Providing better civic amenities to every citizen of Karnal is a priority of the Municipal Corporation, she said. Direct interaction with citizens through public hearings helps in understanding local issues and taking effective action towards their resolution.

She said continuous efforts are being made to improve cleanliness and sanitation,

roads, drainage, street lighting and other civic amenities across the city. She directed officials to take complaints received from citizens seriously and ensure their resolution at the earliest possible as per the prescribed procedure.

The Mayor said public participation and suggestions are the greatest strengths in Karnal’s development journey. Cooperation and active participation of citizens are essential for taking development works forward effectively. She assured that every legitimate grievance would be taken seriously and continuous efforts would be made for its resolution.

She said the Municipal Corporation administration has a responsibility to resolve public grievances promptly, while the trust of citizens is the real strength of any public representative.

She added that concerted efforts would continue to accelerate the development of a clean, beautiful, well-organised and progressive Karnal through a positive approach and greater public participation.

Workers are our foundation, organisation our strength and struggle our identity: Congress to strengthen organisation from block to booth, says Parag Gaba

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL : “The worker who stood by the Congress flag even during difficult times, remained among the people and struggled for the organisation without any self-interest is the party’s real strength and capital.”

With this sentiment, the monthly meeting of the Urban District Congress Committee, Karnal, was held on Sunday, September 13, 2026, at the residence of District Congress Committee General Secretary Advocate Suresh Chaudhary at House No. 2106, Sector 7, Karnal. The meeting was chaired by District President Parag Gaba.

The main objective of the meeting was to prepare the roadmap for upcoming workers’ conferences at the block level and make the organisation stronger, more active and more effective from the block to the booth level. Detailed discussions were held with all block presidents, following which the programmes for

the upcoming conferences, organisational activities and responsibilities were finalised.

District President Parag Gaba said workers are not merely positions or names for the Congress but the soul of the organisation and its great-



est strength. He said it is the organisation’s primary responsibility to respect the struggle and dedication of every worker who has stood firmly with the party during difficult circumstances.

He said efforts would be made to build an organisation where every

worker feels that their voice matters, their hard work is respected and they are not alone in any organisational struggle. By bringing together the experience of senior leaders, the energy of the youth and the struggle of grassroots workers, the Congress organisation would be given renewed strength, he said.

Parag Gaba said the workers’ conferences at the block level would not be merely formal meetings, but platforms to hear workers’ concerns, understand their problems, strengthen communication and determine the organisation’s future direction. “Our goal is that organisational strength should not exist merely on paper but should be visible in every block, every mandal and every booth,” he said.

Encouraging the workers, Gaba said that no matter how challenging the circumstances, a true Congress worker would never retreat from the struggle.

Light an ‘Aashirwad ka Diya’ at home under Seva Sankalp Abhiyan: Kanwar Pal Gurjar

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: Former Haryana Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gurjar addressed a press conference at the BJP district office Karn Kamal in Karnal regarding the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan, which will be organised from September 17 to October 17, 2026, to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 25 years of public life and public service.

The press conference was held under the chairmanship of BJP district president Praveen Lather. Karnal Municipal Corporation Mayor Renu Bala Gupta, senior BJP leader Ashok Bhandari, district media in-charge Dr Ashok Kumar, office in-charge Madan Gurjar, Yuva Morcha president Shubham Gupta, Mandal president Gaurav Khurana, BJP leader Ashok Khurana and Manmeet Bawa, along with several journalists and party workers, were present. Kanwar Pal Gurjar said Prime Minis-

ter Narendra Modi has dedicated 25 years of his public life to serving the country, nation-building and strengthening India. He said that during the Prime Minister’s journey from Chief Minister of Gujarat to Prime Minister of the country, several decisions and

initiatives have given a new direction and momentum to India’s development.

Giving details of the campaign, he said blood donation camps would be organised across the state on the first day of the campaign. People have also been called upon to light

an ‘Aashirwad ka Diya’ at 7 pm that evening. He appealed to people to light a lamp at their homes on the evening of September 17 and express their sentiments towards the Prime Minister’s 25-year commitment to public service.

He further said that painting and speech competitions would be organised in schools across the state from September 17 to October 7. On October 2, street plays, music and dialogue-based programmes would be used to take the story of the Prime Minister’s 25-year public journey to villages across the state. Stories of beneficiaries of Central government schemes, which generally do not receive public attention, would also be highlighted during the campaign. From September 25 to October 7, ‘Aangan Milan Seva’ programmes will be organised under the campaign.

Writing competition organised to mark Hindi Diwas

R K KASHYAP

CHHACHHRAULI: A grand inter-class writing competition was organised at Sunrise Public School, Pratap Nagar, to mark Hindi Diwas. Students from classes 9 and 10 participated enthusiastically,



showcasing their excellent writing styles. The primary objective of the competition was to foster an interest in the Hindi language among students and to encourage their creative writing skills. All participants penned down their impressive thoughts on various topics. Following a closely contested competition, the results were announced; the selected winners are: Radhika (Class 10-A), Sana (Class 9-C), Disha (Class 9-B), Shama (Class 9-A), and Ridhima (Class 9-A). The school principal, Paramjit Kaur Singh, congratulated the winning students on their outstanding performance and wished them a bright future. In her address, she stated, “Hindi is our mother tongue and the identity of our culture. Such competitions not only enrich the students’ linguistic knowledge but also bring out the talent hidden within them.” The entire school staff and student body were present on this occasion.

Event organized to mark the birth anniversary of Samrat Mihir Bhoj

R K KASHYAP

CHHACHHRAULI: Addressing the event organised at the Gurjar Janak Puri Gurukul Institute, Devdhar, to mark the birth anniversary of Samrat Mihir Bhoj, the chief guest, Khadri—Special Officer to the Chief Minister, Bhopal



Singh Khadri—stated that there is no substitute for determination. Success is achieved by those whose dreams possess true vitality. He remarked that great figures are not merely those who leave their names in history, but those who leave behind inspiration for future generations. Suman Chaudhary, a member of the Haryana Women’s Commission, attended the event as a special guest. To mark the occasion, a Yajna was performed in the morning at the Yajnashala. The birth anniversary of the Gurjara-Pratihara Emperor Mihir Bhoj was celebrated with reverence and enthusiasm at the Devdhar Gurukul. Cultural programmes were presented by college students. The chief guest, Khadri—Special Officer to the Chief Minister urged everyone to draw inspiration from the lives of great figures. He remarked that remembering great figures does not merely mean garlanding their statues; rather, the new generation should derive inspiration from their lives. He emphasised that education and unity are essential for the advancement of society. He also announced a donation of one month’s salary to the institute. The institute’s founder, Padma Shri Omprakash Gandhi, noted that Emperor Mihir Bhoj became the ruler of an undivided India after Nagabhata I. He observed that history has accorded very little space to Emperor Mihir Bhoj. Gandhi stated that great figures do not belong to any single caste but to society as a whole. Rampal Nambardar, the head of the institute, extended a vote of thanks to all present. Attendees at the event included Thakur Singh, Omkar Deodhar, Ratan Singh, Rakesh Poswal, Narendra Singh, Biram Singh, Pawan Star, BS Bharatiya, Pramod Kumar, Ravindra Kumar, Sanjeev Chaudhary, Mohkam Singh Damupura, Balveer Chaudhary, Mohan Verma, Mukesh Damupura, Rampal Nambardar, Shakuntala Verma, Dr. Manta Sharma, Poonam Dhande, Jagpal Singh, Sumit Kumar, Praveesh Kumar, Rajesh Kumar, Vijay Chaudhary, and Anuj Kumar, among others.

Teacher Sonika Sharma honoured by Haryana Education Minister Mahipal Dhand

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

NILOKHERI: Sonika Sharma, a teacher at Swami Shraddhanand Senior Secondary School in Nilokheri, was honoured with the Best Teacher Award by Haryana Education Minister Mahipal Dhand at a ceremony held in Rohtak.



Sonika Sharma said she has been teaching students at Swami Shraddhanand Senior Secondary School for the past 18 years and has always focused on understanding students and providing them education accordingly.

She said children today are increasingly drawn towards mobile phones and television and should be encouraged to move away from these distractions and focus on their studies. She also stressed that parents must pay consistent attention to their children’s education. If parents do not remain involved, children can lose focus and become vulnerable to substance abuse and other undesirable habits, she said. Sonika Sharma thanked the entire school staff and students for their support. She said the students considered her teacher and voted for her, which helped her receive the Best Teacher Award.

Politics should not be done in the name of blessings; focus on the rights of the poor: Mukesh Chaudhary

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL : Haryana Youth Congress State Media Vice Chairman Mukesh Chaudhary has criticised the BJP government over the proposed ‘Aashirwad Ka Diya’ programme for poor families across the state on September 17. The programme is being organised under the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, as per a letter issued by the department directing that the event be held for beneficiary families. Mukesh Chaudhary said poor families do not need a symbolic or publicity-oriented ‘blessing’, but permanent employment, relief from inflation, a better ration distribution system and the right to live a dignified life. He questioned the government over the expenditure being incurred on programmes organised for poor families and asked how much actual benefit of this expenditure was reaching the common people.



Ganpati Mahotsav begins in Nilokheri with dhol and nagadas

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
NILOKHERI : The Ganpati Mahotsav began in Nilokheri with religious fervour as the Ganpati Parivar Neelagar installed an idol of Lord Ganesha at Shri Sanatan Dharma Mandir, Neelagar, following traditional prayers and rituals.



Ganpati Parivar members Advocate Naveen Kapoor and Sahil Sardana said this is the ninth Ganesh Utsav being organised at Shri Sanatan Dharma Mandir, Neelagar. Before the installation of the idol, a grand procession was taken out through the town accompanied by dhols and nagadas. Pandit Jagdish performed the formal installation ceremony with Vedic chants and rituals. The Ganeshotsav will be celebrated at the temple till September 25. During the festivities, a bhajan sandhya will be organised every evening from 7 pm to 9 pm. The idol will be immersed on September 25. State president of the SC Morcha Ajay Khundia and Market Committee chairman Shiv Nath Kapoor were among the prominent guests present on the occasion. Professor Virendra Chauhan, Satish Punani, Lokesh Sardana, Naveen Kapoor, Sahil Sardana, Ashish, Munish Sindwani, Balkar Saini, Nikhil Malik, Atam Khurana, Mahesh Kumar, Kapish Kataria, Harvinder Mohan Sharma, Shankar Katyal, Mahendra Munjal, Paras Khurana, Vaibhav Arora and Yogesh Gaba, along with a large number of devotees, also attended the celebrations.

Haryanvi cinema is a powerful medium to take our language, culture and traditions to the new generation: Binder Danoda

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, SEPTEMBER 14

The ongoing MS Jadugar show in Majra Rodan village of the district witnessed a special attraction when Binder Danoda, lead actor of the Haryanvi film Angad and Additional Director, Hisar Zone, of the Haryana Art and Cultural Affairs Department, attended the event. Villagers welcomed him on his arrival.

During the programme, Danoda promoted the Haryanvi film Angad among the villagers and shared his views on Haryanvi cinema, language, culture and traditions.

Binder Danoda said Haryanvi films are nothing short of a major gift for the people of the state. Haryanvi cinema is not merely a source of entertainment but an important medium for taking Haryana’s identity, language, culture, lifestyle, traditions and social environment to audiences across the country and the world, he said.

He said when the language and culture of a region are presented through films, they reach people in a more effective manner. This also helps the younger generation remain connected with its culture and roots.

Danoda said the younger generation is rapidly moving towards modernity in the present era. At such a time, preserving one’s language



and cultural heritage is extremely important. Haryanvi films are not only helping preserve the culture of Haryana but are also providing a wider platform to the state’s folk traditions and social concerns.

He said the film Angad is also an effort in this direction. Along with promoting Haryanvi culture, the film seeks to take an important social issue to audiences across the country and the world. A large number of villagers were present during the film promotion. They listened attentively to Danoda and emphasised the need to promote Haryanvi cinema. The villagers said films based on the Haryanvi language and culture should receive greater encouragement. Such films help children and young people learn about their language, culture, traditions and social values.

JAIBEER RANA
BARARA, SEPT 14

A major mishap was narrowly averted in the Barara area on Monday morning when a private school bus carrying around 30 children got stranded in a heavily waterlogged railway underpass near Maujgarh. The water level had reportedly risen to nearly five feet, leaving the bus stuck in the middle of the underpass. Water also started entering the bus, triggering panic among the children.

A mini school bus (Tata Ace) carrying students also got trapped in the same underpass and began floating in the accumulated water. However, the children travelling in the mini bus were somehow brought out safely.

Passers-by noticed the situation and informed the police through Dial 112. Soon after receiving the information, Barara SHO Ramkaran



reached the spot along with his team and launched a rescue operation.

The first priority of the police and local residents was to evacuate the children from the stranded bus. A local person involved in sand and gravel work brought a tractor-trolley into the underpass and positioned it alongside the school bus.

The children were then shifted one by one from the bus to the tractor-trolley.

Within around 20 minutes, all the children were safely evacuated. They were later sent to school in another bus.

The safe evacuation of the children brought a huge sigh of relief among the parents and local residents. After the children were rescued, a JCB was brought to the spot to pull out the stranded school bus. Following nearly two hours of strenuous efforts, the bus was finally taken out of the water-

Hindi powerful language of our identity, self-respect, and cultural consciousness: Dr. Ashima

CHAMAN LAL
KARNAL, SEPTEMBER 14

A lecture on the topic “The Relevance of Hindi Diwas” was organised at Dyal Singh College to mark Hindi Diwas. College Principal Dr. Ashima Gakkhar attended the event as the chief guest. Organised by the Hindi Sahitya Parishad (Hindi Literature Council), the programme aimed to acquaint students with the rich tradition of the Hindi language, its growing influence in contemporary times, and its future prospects. Addressing the students, Principal Dr. Ashima Gakkhar stated that language is the most powerful medium for uniting all of humanity. Both individuals and society derive their identity from their language and culture. For us, Hindi is not merely a medium of communication but an expression of our culture, values, sensibilities, and life principles. She noted that Hindi Diwas is celebrated in India every year on September 14. Hindi is one of the major languages spoken globally. It holds special significance due to its antiquity, rich literary tradition, natural flow, and simplicity. Hindi has transcended national borders to establish a powerful identity on the global stage. Today, the number of people who



understand, learn, and speak Hindi is steadily increasing in many countries around the world. She emphasized that Hindi is a language of our honor, self-respect, and pride. A key reason for Hindi’s growing acceptance internationally is its ability to naturally express Indian culture and values.

The Principal urged students to recognize that while acquiring knowledge of other languages is essential, maintaining respect for one’s own language and taking pride in using it is equally important. Hindi Diwas is not just an occasion to express respect for Hindi for a single day, but an opportunity to pledge to use the language extensively throughout the year. She encouraged students to give greater prominence to Hindi in their daily interactions.

EDITORIAL

Oil prices above USD 108
raise concerns over rupee

With oil prices surging over 3 per cent, amid continued disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, analysts expect the immediate market reaction to remain “risk-off,” warning that a sustained rise in crude prices could pressure the rupee, inflation, corporate margins and market valuations.Brent crude surged to around USD 108 a barrel on Monday as persistent disruption to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz heightened concerns over global energy supplies, while US stock futures edged lower. Meanwhile, S&P 500 futures fell slightly over 0.5 per cent ahead of the resumption of US stock trading.At the time of reporting, Brent crude was trading at around USD 107.64 per barrel while crude oil was trading at around USD 103.30 per barrel. Investors remain focused on shipping disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz with analysts expecting them to remain cautious. Market analyst Vipin Dixena noted, “With Brent crude moving above USD 108 and Asian equities coming under pressure, I would expect Indian markets to begin Tuesday with a clear risk-off bias.” As per the analyst, the key issue for India is not simply the 3 per cent rise in crude, but whether oil remains above USD 100 for an extended period, as that can put pressure on the rupee, inflation expectations and corporate margins, particularly for oil-importing sectors.“I would therefore expect weakness in rate-sensitive and consumption-oriented pockets, while energy-related stocks could remain relatively resilient,” he said. Likewise, Manoranjan Sharma, Chief Economist, Infomerics Valuation and Rating Limited, noted, the immediate market reaction is “risk-off.”Brent at USD 108 a barrel is certainly negative for India, but its ultimate damage depends on whether the spike is brief or sustained and whether it disrupts physical supply. India imported 88.6% of its crude requirement in April–January FY26, making the economy vulnerable to a burgeoning dollar oil bill,” he noted. As per the economist, higher crude compresses margins for airlines, paints, chemicals, logistics, cement, consumer companies and downstream oil marketers if retail prices remain controlled. “It can also delay earnings recovery, raise bond yields, weaken the rupee and prompt foreign portfolio outflows—reducing valuation multiples,” he noted. He further noted, “India has relatively low inflation, a CAD of 0.8% of GDP in H1 FY26 and substantial foreign-exchange reserves, which offer buffers. Yet if oil remains above USD 100 for several months, or shipping through West Asia is disrupted, the growth-inflation trade-off would significantly worsen.”

BRICS opens a door to Gulf de-escalation, but stops short of mediation

Even as the BRICS summit in New Delhi is winding up, disturbing news that a ship has been hit by a projectile in the Strait of Hormuz on Sunday, preceded by Saudi Arabia announcing that it was shutting down its East-West pipeline after a drone attack from Iraqi soil, heightened fears and hastened diplomatic moves towards restraint in the region.

While the BRICS grouping does not have the power to enforce an end to the ongoing war in the Middle East, with the Iranian president, the UAE crown prince and the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia present in New Delhi, its declaration calling for restraint and reopening of direct high-level contact between the two sides comes as a powerful message for peace from those affected by the conflict.

The breakthrough came on the first day of the summit when the expanded BRICS grouping unanimously adopted the New Delhi Declaration, expressing “deep concern” over the continuing escalation in the Middle East and calling for “maximum restraint” besides avoidance of actions that could further aggravate the conflict.

The BRICS voiced the rest of the world’s concern over the fighting and its consequences and the fact that leaders who had not seen eye to eye before signed on it gives us some confidence,” Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, former Secretary (Economic Relations) in the Ministry of External Affairs, told UNI. The Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian met the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Khaled bin Mohamed Al Nahyan on Saturday on the sidelines of the summit, which marks the two neighbours’ highest-level meeting since the conflict started.

The fact that Chinese President Xi Jinping who has



held talks with Russia, India and Iran on the Gulf situation, will be meeting President Donald Trump towards the end of this month, should bring an impetus to bringing in at least an uneasy truce to this conflict, which has now widened with the Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen seizing the key port of Mokha from the Saudi backed-government forces as well as two islands at the mouth of the Red Sea. If the Strait of Hormuz remains locked due to the conflict and the Red Sea and Suez Canal similarly stop working because of threats from Houthis, global commerce will be in tatters.

About 40 per cent of the

world’s crude oil and a sixth of the globe’s seaborne commerce transits through these two crucial waterways. The significance of the BRICS declaration seeking peace in the region and the fact that three of the involved parties signed up to it, makes this meeting a crucial factor in the events which may unfold later this year. Earlier, BRICS foreign ministers had failed to produce a joint statement when they met in May amid sharp divisions over the Iran conflict. This time, after several days of negotiations, India succeeded in steering the 11-member grouping towards consensus. However, it is important to understand that the BRICS has not become a

formal mediator in the Iran-US or the wider Gulf conflict. There is no BRICS ceasefire mechanism, enforcement arrangement or negotiated settlement, nor did the Iran-UAE meeting result in any publicly announced agreement on shipping or energy security. However, the fact that Tehran and Abu Dhabi could meet at the highest level while simultaneously endorsing the same BRICS language urging restraint sends a signal that regional governments retain an interest in preventing the conflict from widening. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s separate

meeting with the UAE Crown Prince reinforced India’s role as a bridge between countries.

Modi described a strong India-UAE partnership as important for peace, stability and prosperity in an increasingly uncertain West Asian environment. The inclusion of Ethiopia in the grouping adds another dimension to the Red Sea question. While Addis Ababa cannot by itself lift the Houthi blockade or negotiate a settlement in Yemen, its potential importance is logistical and strategic as its geographical position gives it tremendous reach over the Horn of Africa through which a ship must pass to enter the Red Sea.

Indian women's cricket team refuses to accept
Asia Cup trophy from Naqvi

Continuing India’s stand on the Asia Cup trophy presentation, the Indian women’s cricket team did not accept the silverware from Asian Cricket Council (ACC) president and Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief Mohsin Naqvi after beating

representative of the winning board doing so - but neither proposal was accepted.

Explaining the team’s position after the match, India head coach Amol Muzumdar said the decision was taken by the BCCI and that the players fully

over for us. We are happy that we have turned out to be champions. Now, we look forward to the Asian Games,” said Muzumdar at the post-match press conference.

“The fact that we are champions, we are really glad and I am really proud of every single person in this unit. Including the support staff and the players, needless to say,” he added.

Naqvi was among the dignitaries at the Dubai International Stadium and was seated alongside BCCI vice-president Rajeev Shukla and secretary Devajit Saikia during the final.

Following India’s victory, the players celebrated with Muzumdar, Shukla and Saikia. Naqvi later presented the runners-up cheque to Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu before leaving the venue with other ACC officials. India, meanwhile, did not receive the trophy or winners’ medals during the ceremony.

supported it.

“That stand has been taken by the BCCI and we stand by it. For us, this tournament is over. We are the champions. That’s good enough. It was on the big board that India champions of Asia Cup 2026. This tournament is officially



Sri Lanka by 72 runs in the final in Dubai on Sunday. The Indian team had earlier made it clear that it did not want Naqvi to present the trophy. The BCCI offered two alternatives - ACC deputy chair Khalid Al Zarooni handing over the silverware or a

From Chalkboard to Chatbot: The Changing Role of Teacher
Teacher vs AI-Competition or Collaboration?



classrooms.

As a female teacher, sometimes I too think-has AI come to make our work easier or slowly take our place?

The question is a bit unsettling, but it cannot be avoided either, because this same question is visible and heard everywhere.

Today’s child has changed a lot. They do not wait to come to school the next day to know the answer to a question. They picked up the mobile and the answer was in front of them within moments. AI can explain difficult science concepts to them, solve math problems, write essays, and even give ideas for projects.

Then where is the need for a teacher?

Perhaps we find the answer to this right in our classroom.

Many times, a child nods their head upon hearing us, but looking at their face we come to know-“No, they haven’t understood this yet.” We pause, change examples, and explain again.

Sometimes a child sits quietly with marks lower than expected in an exam. At that time, they do not just need to be told the right answer. They need someone who can put a

hand of trust on their shoulder and say “It doesn’t matter, let’s understand where the shortcoming was this time. We will do better next time.”

Perhaps the biggest difference between a teacher and a machine is visible right here.

AI can read the child’s question; a teacher also reads the child’s face.

But by this example, I do not mean at all that AI is a threat to education. I have myself felt that if used wisely, technology can become a very good collaborator of the teacher. Whether it is finding new ways to make a subject interesting, preparing practice questions, or making material slightly simpler or challenging for children with different abilities-AI can save both the teacher’s time and hard work.

But with this facility, a concern is also attached.

If the child starts getting every answer ready-made, AI makes every project, and the solution to every difficult question comes in front of them without effort, then when will they think themselves?

When will they recognize their mental skill? And when will they find

the solution to small and big problems with their own mind?

In my view, in the coming times, one of the biggest responsibilities of the teacher will be this to teach the child not just to use AI, but to use their intellect even in front of AI.

They will have to explain to them that every word written on the screen is not the truth.

Asking questions, checking information, reasoning, expressing disagreement, and ultimately forming one’s own opinion is also a part of education.

Therefore, perhaps the good teacher of the future will not be the one who says “Do not use AI.” Nor the one who leaves every task to AI.

The good teacher will be the one who can explain to their students where technology can help us and where we should stop and think ourselves.

Our journey from chalkboard to smart board and now chatbot has been very long. Ahead, perhaps such technologies will come which we cannot even imagine today. Means will change, teaching methods will change, and perhaps the form of the classroom will also

change.

But one thing perhaps will not change a child needs not just information, but also direction.

And direction is not found only from answers. Sometimes it is found from a teacher’s explanation, sometimes from the worry hidden in their scolding, sometimes from their praise, and sometimes just from their belief that “You can do it.”

Therefore, for me, this battle is not Teacher vs AI.

This journey is Teacher with AI. AI’s speed and teacher’s sensitivity, AI’s information and teacher’s experience-if both meet with the right balance, then perhaps we can make education much more effective and meaningful than before.

And in the end, just this-

AI can give an answer to a child, but the courage to ask a question is given by a teacher. AI can give information. But to convert that information into understanding, sensitivity, and values, a teacher is still needed.

Puja Sharma

T.G.T. Science
GMHS Kajheri, Chandigarh

THE UNFINISHED STORY OF BHAKRA DISPLACEMENT — PART 6

When Old Bilaspur Drowned: Was the New Town Truly Rehabilitation?



Part 5 examined the 1954 parliamentary debate in which Raja Anand Chand warned that Bilaspur’s political future was being settled while the future of those facing displacement remained uncertain. Part 6 turns to what came next: the creation of New Bilaspur, and a difficult question that still deserves an answer—did replacing the old town amount to complete rehabilitation of the people who lost it?

Old Bilaspur was not merely a collection of houses standing in the path of a reservoir. It was a living

capital with markets, temples, neighbourhoods, shops, public institutions and generations of social and economic relationships. When Gobind Sagar rose, that physical and social landscape disappeared beneath the water. New Bilaspur was constructed on higher ground and is today described by the district administration as the country’s first planned hill town. That is an important distinction, but for the families who surrendered the old town, planning could never be judged only by roads, sectors and buildings. Its real test was whether displaced people could rebuild their lives with dignity and security.

The new town emerged during the same early post-Independence planning era that produced Chandigarh. Yet the two cities were born from very different circumstances. Chandigarh represented the creation of a new capital after Partition. New Bilaspur existed because an old capital was being sacrificed for a national development project. Bilaspur’s planners were therefore not beginning

with an empty social canvas. They were expected to provide a workable future for people whose existing homes, businesses and community life were being compulsorily acquired.

Archival research records the involvement of Indian architect and town planner S K Joglekar of the Government of India Public Works Department in Bilaspur-related planning discussions in 1952. His presence confirms that the township was being considered within the Union Government’s planning machinery. But the larger historical question is not who drew particular lines on the plan. It is whether those lines translated into adequate rehabilitation for the people whose town was about to disappear.

The original township rules gave Bilaspur town oustees priority in allotment. But there is an important fact often lost in the telling of rehabilitation: the replacement plots were not simply handed over free of cost to families whose properties had been submerged.

The rules prescribed premiums for different categories of plots. An 800-square-foot residential plot carried

a premium of Rs 70, a 950-square-foot plot Rs 85 and a 1,800-square-foot plot Rs 168.75, with Rs 55 additional for a corner plot of the largest category. Applicants were also required to deposit earnest money, and the remaining premium had to be paid after allotment. The rules further referred expressly to the “full development cost” of plots in specified circumstances.

Viewed only through today’s currency values, those figures may appear modest. Viewed through the finances of a displaced family in the 1950s, however, the picture was very different.

A remarkably revealing contemporary account appeared in the Government of India’s Yojana in November 1958. It reported that economically backward Bhakra oustees whose total compensation did not even reach Rs 3,500 would be unable to construct a house in New Bilaspur to the required standard because Rs 3,500 itself was then considered the minimum necessary for a one-room tenement. The report estimated that nearly 300 families out

of approximately 1,000 were in this position.

This is perhaps one of the most sensitive facts in the rehabilitation story.

For those families, the compensation received for what had been compulsorily taken from them was already insufficient even to meet the minimum cost of constructing a one-room replacement. And construction was not their only expense. The plot itself carried a prescribed premium; rebuilding a household required materials, labour and basic facilities; shopkeepers had to re-establish businesses; and families had to recreate livelihoods in an entirely new urban setting.

In other words, for many poorer oustees the financial requirement of starting again exceeded the compensation with which they were expected to do it.

The township rules placed additional pressure on the allottee. Construction was required to begin within six months and be completed within one year of allotment unless an extension was granted. Failure could

result in the plot reverting to the Administration and the premium being forfeited. For a financially secure household such a deadline might have been manageable. For a displaced family whose compensation could not even finance the minimum dwelling, it was a formidable condition.

This makes the distinction between compensation and rehabilitation crucial. Compensation placed a monetary value on property acquired. Rehabilitation was supposed to restore the displaced family’s ability to live and earn after that acquisition. The two could not automatically be treated as equivalent.

There was another source of resentment. The 1958 Yojana account recorded that oustees objected to receiving land on lease when the property taken from them had been held with freehold rights. The township rules themselves provided for a 999-year lease, with the Administration retaining the right to revise rent at intervals of 40 years.

The contradiction is difficult to ignore. Families surrendered property because a national project required it

They then had to pay prescribed sums for their replacement plots, finance construction—sometimes from compensation insufficient even for a minimum dwelling—and initially accept a different form of property tenure.

A rehabilitation file might therefore record a family as “allotted a plot” while concealing the much harder reality of whether that family could actually afford to build and settle upon it. Nor could an allotment recreate everything that had been submerged. A shopkeeper required customers and location, not merely square footage. A family required neighbourhood and community, not simply four plot boundaries. Markets, temples, streets, relationships and inherited economic networks could not be recreated by an allotment order.

The earliest New Bilaspur master plans should therefore be treated as more than architectural history. They may show which areas were reserved for oustees, which were intended for markets or public institutions, what provision existed for future expansion and how those uses subsequently changed.

New Bilaspur can rightly be remembered as a landmark in hill-town planning. But old Bilaspur did not disappear through ordinary urban change. It was submerged so that Bhakra could serve a much larger national purpose.

For the displaced, therefore, the new town was not a gift.

It was supposed to be restitution.

And when nearly one-third of the families identified in a contemporary account had compensation insufficient even to construct the minimum one-room dwelling—while replacement plots themselves involved payment and conditions—the question becomes unavoidable:

Did rehabilitation truly compensate Bilaspur for its sacrifice, or was too much of the cost of rebuilding ultimately transferred back onto the very people who had already paid the greatest price?

Ajay Kumar Upadhyay
Senior Correspondent

NEWS BRIEF

CIA busts gang, recovers stolen idol in Barnala



KARANPREET KARAN
BARNALA: The CIA staff has busted a five-member gang allegedly involved in stealing an idol and other valuables from a showroom on Handiaya Road here, police said on Monday. CIA Barnala in-charge Inspector Baljit Singh said the police, acting on the directions of District Police Chief Mohammad Sarfaraz Alam and under the supervision of senior police officials, launched an investigation after the theft was reported. The police arrested the alleged main accused within 24 hours of the incident and subsequently arrested four other members of the gang, including a scrap dealer, during further investigation. The accused have been identified as Jaspreet Singh alias Jassu, Hardeep Singh alias Deepa, Gurpreet Singh alias Billa, Praveen Kumar and Raj Kabadia, a scrap dealer. Jaspreet Singh has been identified as the alleged mastermind, police said.

Citizens’ trust in Constitutional Institutions greatest strength of democracy: CM Yogi

YUGMARG BUREAU
LUCKNOW, SEPT 14

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that ordinary citizens’ trust in constitutional institutions is democracy’s greatest strength. He remarked, “Any institution that lives up to the people’s trust cannot be prevented from progressing in a democratic system, nor can its importance be underestimated. Good governance depends on public trust. If public confidence is absent, we cannot achieve the objective of good governance. To achieve it, it is essential that even the person sitting at the last rung of society feels pride and confidence in constitutional institutions.” The Chief Minister was addressing the 50th Foundation Day ceremony of the Lok Ayukta Organisation as the Chief Guest on Monday. On the occasion, he released the Lok Ayukta Administration’s commemorative publication and information booklet. He also viewed an exhibition and a short film based on the organisation’s achievements over the last 50 years.



The Chief Minister observed that merely creating an institution does not solve problems. Living up to public trust is the greatest test of democracy. He said, “The makers of the Constitution adopted a parliamentary democratic system for India. If an elected representative loses public trust, the government goes. Every 5 years, representatives must return to the people. If a representative fails to respect public sentiment, the people

have every right to replace that representative and allow someone else.” He stated, “The framers of the Constitution identified justice, truth, and equality as fundamental requirements of India and emphasized that every individual has the right to receive justice. The foundation of justice is the test of truth.” He stressed that every individual should be treated with equality and without discrimination. Resolution of

complaints should be based on merit, with emphasis on the satisfaction of the complainant.

The Chief Minister noted that public grievances are resolved within stipulated timelines through platforms such as IGRS, CM Helpline and Janata Darshan. However, he pointed out that some individuals also submit unnecessary complaints. Some people come and say they do not have a personal grievance but want to complain against someone. When evidence is sought, they hesitate. Sharing an experience, he said that one individual had lodged a complaint against a school. When the complaint was found to be false during investigation, the complainant demanded that all schools in the district be investigated. He said, such false complaints should be rejected. Such complaints waste the time of the system as well as that of honest individuals genuinely seeking justice. He emphasized that elements misusing grievance redressal systems should be kept at a distance.

Agrawal Sangathan honours women entrepreneurs in Panipat



RAKESH BHAYANA
PANIPAT, SEPT 14

The Agrawal Sangathan (Registered) felicitated women entrepreneurs from the Agrawal community at a function here on Sunday, recognising their contribution to business, society and economic development. Social workers Rajesh Goyal and industrialist Ishwar Goyal said honouring women entrepreneurs was not merely a social formality but an important step towards encouraging their participation in economic and social development. Agrawal Sangathan president Vikas Goyal said economic empowerment was a key factor in encouraging women to enter the business sector. Financially

independent women were better placed to contribute to their families, particularly in healthcare, nutrition and children’s education, he said. He said women entrepreneurs also generated employment, particularly for other women, through small and medium enterprises and start-ups, thereby contributing to economic growth. Goyal noted that women often faced challenges such as balancing business and family responsibilities, accessing finance and building professional networks. He said recognising successful women entrepreneurs would help challenge traditional perceptions about women’s roles and inspire young girls to pursue their ambitions.

Assandh schools hold competitions to promote zero stubble burning



JAGBIR UPLANA
ASSANDH: Block-level school competitions were organized on Monday in the Assandh block under the ‘Crop Residue Management Scheme (Kharif-2026),’ jointly conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare and the Education Department. The primary objective of these competitions was to raise awareness among farmers and the general public—through the students—about the gvv environmental and agricultural damage caused by burning crop residues and to spread the message of ‘zero stubble burning’ to every village. Students from various government and private schools in the Assandh block participated enthusiastically in the competitions. Through painting, poster making, slogan writing, essay writing, and speeches, the students presented impactful messages advocating for crop residue management, environmental conservation, soil health, and the cessation of stubble burning. Addressing the students and teachers, Block Education Officer Narendra Singh stated that school children are among the most effective agents for bringing about positive change in society.

Ensure millers face no issues: Dr. Anand Kumar



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: A meeting regarding the deposit of Custom Milled Rice (CMR)—following the paddy procurement for the Kharif Marketing Season 2025-26—was held today at the District Secretariat under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Anand Kumar Sharma. Representatives from the DFSC, HAFED, FCI, and the Millers Association participated in the meeting. During the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Anand Kumar Sharma instructed the concerned officials to ensure that no issues regarding labor or staff arise during the rice delivery process. Noting that the paddy season is about to commence, he stated that while the delivery of rice would be monitored, any minor issues that might arise would be resolved in a timely manner. He directed the FCI official to ensure the optimal use of available resources and to guarantee that deliveries are made to the nearest warehouses. It is noteworthy that the government has extended the deadline for depositing CMR to September 30; this means millers must transport the pending rice to FCI storage centers within approximately 16 days.

Haryana Roadways Employees joint front places suggestions and demands before Transport Minister

MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR: The Haryana Roadways Employees Joint Front has placed important suggestions and demands before the Transport Minister regarding the online transfer policy proposed by the Haryana Government for the drivers and conductors of Haryana Roadways. The Front said that the online transfer system was a positive step towards increasing transparency and curbing corruption, but considering the difficult and risky duty of the drivers and conductors and their family circumstances, it was very important to give due importance to humanitarian grounds in this policy. The Sanjha Morcha stated that a large number of drivers and conductors have been serving in depots located 200 to 300 kilometers or more from their home districts for five, seven, or even ten years. Such employees should be transferred to their home districts or nearby depots on a priority basis. Furthermore, it would be unfair to send employees already employed in their home districts or nearby depots to distant depots without a valid reason. The Morcha stated that drivers and conductors are not ordinary office workers. Their duties require immense responsibility and concentration. They travel approximately 250 to 700 kilometers daily, providing safe transportation to passengers on long routes connecting multiple districts. Therefore, if an employee has to travel an additional 150 to 200 kilometers to reach their workplace, it is natural that this will have an adverse impact on their health, efficiency, and concentration. The Joint Front demanded that depots where there is a mutual staff requirement or vacant positions should accommodate employees based on need, seniority, and length of service.

Sahitya Akademi to organise national seminar on legacy of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

RAHUL KOHLI
YAMUNANAGAR: Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with Guru Nanak Khalsa Group of Institutions, Haryana, is organising a one-day National Seminar on “Legacy of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji” on Tuesday, 15 September 2026, at the Auditorium of Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana. The seminar is being organised in sacred remembrance of the 350th Martyrdom Day of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. The seminar will bring together eminent scholars, writers and academics to reflect upon the enduring legacy, literary and cultural significance, and universal message of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. The inaugural session, scheduled from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon, will begin with opening remarks by Dr. Varun Gulati, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. Prof. Harmohinder Singh Bedi, Chancellor, Central University Dharamshala, will be the Chief Guest and deliver the keynote address, while Sri Peer GN Suhail, CEO, GNK Group of Institutions, will be the Guest of Honour. Dr. Madhav Kaushik, President, Sahitya Akademi, will deliver the Presidential Address. The session will conclude with a vote of thanks by Sri Arvinder Singh Bhalla, Principal, Guru Nanak Khalsa College. The first session, chaired by Sri Arvinder Singh Bhalla, will have papers by Avtar Singh, Manjinder Singh and Lezlia Lakhvir. The second session, chaired by eminent Punjabi writer Sri Ravinder Singh, will feature papers by Kuldeep Singh, Anurag Singh and Dalwinder Singh Grewal. The valedictory session, scheduled from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m., will be chaired by Prof. Harmohinder Singh Bedi. Dr. Varun Gulati, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, will deliver the closing remarks, while Sri Balkar Singh, eminent Punjabi scholar, will deliver the valedictory address.

Sanjha Asra Welfare Society elects new office-bearers; Rajinder Gogi named Chairman



BALWINDER AZAD
BARNALA: A meeting of the Sanjha Asra Welfare Society was held, during which the existing committee was dissolved and a new team of office-bearers was elected. The members expressed their gratitude to outgoing president Yadwinder Singh Bittu Diwana, acknowledging his contribution towards the progress and development of the society’s laboratory during his tenure. In the fresh elections, Rajinder Gogi was elected Chairman, Hardev Singh (Leela Bajwa) as President, and Bhupinder Singh Jhalloor as Patron. Other members elected to the laboratory committee included Dinesh Kumar, Pawan Kumar, Krishan Kumar Bittu, Neetu Ahuja, Mahinder Grover and Ashok Kala. Kultar Tari and Neetu Ahuja were elected as Secretaries, while Jaspreet Jassa was chosen as Senior Vice-President.

Backward Classes Welfare Mahasabha Haryana organises state-level meeting to discuss various issues

MAHENDER GOYAL
HISAR, SEPT 14

At a state-level meeting organized by the Backward Classes Welfare Mahasabha Haryana at the Vishwakarma Dharamshala in Hisar, various issues related to the backward classes were discussed and deliberated upon. State Congress OBC Department Chairman and MLA Chandraprakash presided over the meeting, and Dr. Sunil Panwar, National President of the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayati Raj Organization (RGPRS) of the All India Congress Committee, was present as the keynote speaker.



Addressing the meeting, State Congress OBC Department Chairman Chandraprakash expressed concern over the misleading nature of the census and said that the BJP must conduct a caste census at all costs. Demanding transparency, he said that an OBC column should be added to the census form. A proper

caste census will accurately assess the population of backward classes and allow for the development of welfare schemes. He added that Leader of the Opposition and crusader for justice, Rahul Gandhi, has advocated for a caste census on various platforms for social justice and equal participation.

Indira Gandhi Women's College holds programme on Hindi Divas

SANJAY SHARMA
KAITHAL, SEPT 14

A program was organized at Indira Gandhi Women’s College on the occasion of Hindi Day. The program’s purpose was to foster love, respect, and pride for the Hindi language among the students and to inspire them to promote Hindi widely. During the program, all the Hindi professors of the college extended their heartfelt greetings to all the students and staff members on Hindi Day. On this occasion, Ram Bahadur Khurania, President of the College Managing Committee, Principal Dr. Aarti Garg, and Mrs. Shweta



Tanwar, the evening principal in charge, were welcomed and congratulated. On the occasion of Hindi Divas, various presentations were made by the students. Preeti, a first-year BA student, presented a speech on Hindi Divas, expressing her views on the importance and usefulness of the Hindi language. Sheetal, a second-

year BA student also presented a poem on the significance of Hindi Divas. Shivani, a second-year M.Sc student, expressed her feelings about the Hindi language through poetry. Muskan and Sheetal also presented an impressive debate on the importance of Hindi language and its utility in the present times.

From fields to prosperity: Natural farming transforms fortunes of Bilaspur family



AJAY KUMAR UPADHYAY
BILASPUR: Natural farming is turning into a profitable livelihood model for farmers in Bilaspur, with a family from Karot village demonstrating how traditional agriculture, diversification and assured prices can strengthen the rural economy. Prem Thakur and his brothers Shyam Lal Thakur, Mastram Thakur and Chhota Ram are cultivating wheat, maize, paddy, pulses, soybean, turmeric and elephant foot yam through natural farming practices. Their produce has earned recognition at both state and national levels. Shyam Lal Thakur was honoured with the “Krishi Doot Samman in 2003” and later received a “National award in 2009” for elephant foot yam cultivation. Prem Thakur said the family produced nearly 20 quintals of natural turmeric this year, generating around Rs 2 lakh. Black turmeric, produced on a smaller scale, fetched prices of up to Rs 300 per kg. The family is now also experimenting with Lakadong turmeric, known for its high curcumin content.

Children showcase their talents in Hindi writing competition



NIRMAL SAINI
RADAUR: On Hindi Day, Maharaja Agrasen Senior Secondary Public School, Gumthala Rao held Hindi writing competition. Children from 5th to 12th grades participated and showcased their talents. Winners were honored with prizes. School administrator Dr Sudesh Bansal said that primary objective of competition was to generate interest in Hindi language among students, promote accurate and effective writing and inspire them to express their feelings and thoughts through Hindi. Students showcased richness and beauty of Hindi language through their writings. They said that Hindi is an important part of our rich culture and heritage. Staff members Visha Kamboj, Sonu Kamboj, Sunita Mehta, Monica Kamboj, Vanshika Kamboj, Sonia, Abhishek, Arun, Neelam and Rahul Saini were present.

Chants of ‘Ganpati Bappa Morya’ echo at J.D. International School on Ganesh Chaturthi



JAGBIR UPLANA
ASSANDH: The festival of Ganesh Chaturthi was celebrated with devotion, enthusiasm, and great joy at J.D. International School. Lord Ganesha was ceremoniously installed and worshipped within the school premises. Participating enthusiastically, the students pledged to draw inspiration from the life and ideals of Lord Ganesha. School Chairman S.K. Bhardwaj stated that Lord Ganesha symbolizes intellect, wisdom, knowledge, and auspiciousness. He emphasized that students should adopt these ideals in their lives and value good moral values alongside their education. Director Vijay Bhardwaj remarked that Indian festivals are the hallmark of our culture and traditions. Such events foster a sense of respect for one’s culture and promote social unity among children. He urged the students to celebrate the festival in a clean and safe manner, while also conveying a message about environmental conservation. Principal S.K. Chaudhary said that students should derive inspiration from Lord Ganesha regarding patience, humility, concentration, and dedication to duty.

Aman Gupta thanks Taraori residents for successful Bhagwat Katha

KAMAL SHARMA
TARAORI: Following the successful and grand event of the world-renowned Shrimad Bhagwat Katha by Aniruddha Acharya at the Taraori Grain Market, Aman Gupta, Managing Director of Shiv Shakti Inter Globe Export Private Limited, Taraori, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the city’s social and religious organizations, administrative officials, the Grain Market Association and all the residents of Taraori for their support in making the Katha a historic and successful event. Managing Director Aman Gupta stated that the spirit of service displayed by various social and religious organizations during the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha was commendable and inspiring. The organizations performed numerous services with complete devotion and dedication, including langar service, shoe shop service, prasad distribution, and assistance to devotees. These services ensured the availability of excellent facilities for the devotees attending the Katha. He added that the administration also provided full support during the Katha. Administrative officials and staff worked responsibly with parking, security, traffic and other arrangements, ensuring no major problems occurred despite such a large religious event. Aman Gupta, becoming emotional, said that the support of Taraori’s social and religious organizations, their officials, the Grain Market Association, and every citizen can never be forgotten.



NEWS BRIEF

Maharashtra reach 240/5 after Chandigarh post 399 on Day 2

CHANDIGARH: UT boys remained firmly in control after the second day of their Dr (Capl) K Thimmappa Memorial Tournament match against Maharashtra at Kirti Sports Arena, Bengaluru with Maharashtra reaching 240/5 at stumps, still trailing Chandigarh by 159 runs. Earlier on day one, Chandigarh, won the toss and elected to bat and posted a formidable 399 in their first innings riding on impressive centuries from Mohd Arslan Khan (130) and Shivam Bhambari (126). The duo added 211 runs for the third wicket to put Chandigarh in a commanding position. While resuming the day from 309/4, city boys could add only 90 runs. Bhagmender Lather added 32 while Jagjit Singh Sandhu contributed 22. For Maharashtra, Sumit Markali was the most successful bowler, claiming 3/55 while Siddesh Veer returned with the figures of 3/62.

IndiGo Announces, 'Great Connections Sale' Offering Special Fares on Connecting Flights Across its Network

CHANDIGARH / LUDHIANA: IndiGo, India's preferred airline and one of the fastest growing carriers in the world, has launched its Great Connections Sale, offering special fares and discounted ancillaries on connecting flights. Available across all channels, until 17 September 2026 for travel between 18 September 2026 and 31 March 2027, the offer is applicable only on connecting flights booked at least three days before the date of departure. Travellers can book all inclusive, one-way fares starting INR 3,999 for domestic flights and INR 8,999 for international flights. The sale aims to make multi-city and connecting journeys more affordable, encouraging customers to experience seamless, accessible, and convenient air travel. This also reinforces IndiGo's promise of a well-connected travel network. In addition to special fares, IndiGo has also announced special prices on select add-on services including IndiGo Switch starting at INR 199 and 6E Fare Hold starting at INR 49.

Surinder Verma felicitated by Punjab Governor for contribution to social awareness

CHANDIGARH, Surinder Verma, Chairman of Citizen Awareness Group was felicitated by His Excellency Governor of Punjab, Gulab Chand Kataria during a program to mark the first anniversary of the Senior Journalists Forum at Law Bhawan, Sector 37 on Sunday. The felicitation recognises Verma's over three decades of sustained work towards social awareness, public welfare and citizen advocacy. Citizen Awareness Group, which was registered in 1994 has over the years undertaken initiatives aimed at promoting financial literacy, consumer awareness, health awareness and highlighting issues and problems faced by citizens across the country. The organisation's work has received recognition from several distinguished personalities including a former Vice President of India, Ambassadors and Governors.

Need to Make Hindi a Language of Daily Work and Knowledge Creation: Hindi Diwas Celebrated at IIAS

SHIMLA: The Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla, organised a programme today on the occasion of Hindi Diwas. The programme featured discussions on the cultural and national significance of Hindi, its use in administrative work, and its role in knowledge creation and contemporary intellectual discourse. The programme commenced with a Saraswati Vandana presented by Dr Anuradha Ratni, Fellow. This was followed by the reading of a message sent on the occasion of Hindi Diwas by Hon'ble Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of Education, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and New and Renewable Energy, Government of India. In his message, Shri Joshi described Hindi as a strong expression of India's cultural heritage, national identity and democratic values, and emphasised the use of simple, clear and effective Hindi in daily work. The message also highlighted the important role of Hindi and other Indian languages in realising the vision of Viksit Bharat-2047.

Congress Protest Against Long Power Cuts; Large Group Leaves Sahnewal Under Lucky Sandhu's Leadership

SARBJIT SUFI SAHNEWAL: A large group of Congress workers and youth from the Sahnewal constituency, led by senior Congress leader Lucky Sandhu, left for Patiala to participate in the party's protest against the Punjab government and the Electricity Department over prolonged and unscheduled power cuts across the state. Speaking on the occasion, Lucky Sandhu said that while the Punjab government was making tall claims about the state's power situation, the ground reality was completely different. He said that prolonged power outages were causing serious difficulties for residents, traders and industrialists not only in cities but also in villages and industrial areas. Sandhu said uninterrupted electricity supply was a basic necessity and urged the government to take immediate steps to resolve the problem.

Fliptkart Minutes Marks Two Years with 4X Growth, Reaches 150+ Cities

CHANDIGARH: Fliptkart Minutes, the quick commerce offering from Fliptkart, today marked two years since its launch in August 2024, having grown 4X year-on-year and expanded to nearly 1,200 micro fulfillment centres across 150+ cities. The platform has created more than 4 lakh direct and indirect jobs since inception, while around 60% of customers return to shop on Fliptkart Minutes, reflecting the growing adoption of quick commerce across the country. Tier 2+ markets are emerging as an important driver of this growth, with the customer base growing nearly 25X year-on-year across cities such as Ambala, Barabanki, Bhagalpur, Durgapur, Kanpur, Roorkee, Siliguri, Salem and Tiruppur. Demand in these markets is also extending beyond daily essentials, with strong uptake of products such as Korean noodles, sauces and ready-to-eat meals, alongside premium skincare and personal care categories.

PhonePe and Visa Partner to Power Comprehensive Cardless Payments for Millions of Indians Globally

CHANDIGARH: PhonePe and Visa today jointly announced the launch of three new payment solutions: Tap to Pay, Cross Border Scan to Pay, and Smart Accept. Unveiled on stage by leadership from both organizations at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026, the partnership makes PhonePe the first app in India to introduce Cross Border Scan to Pay for international transactions. Furthermore, PhonePe becomes the first app to enable a complete suite of three core Visa capabilities for consumers: Online Device Tokenization, Tap to Pay, and Cross Border Scan to Pay. Additionally, the platform is empowering micro-merchants with card acceptance through Smart Accept. Building upon the Visa Device Tokenization launched on the platform in February 2025, this initiative establishes a seamless, cardless payment ecosystem.

You Can Run, But You Cannot Escape The Law: CM Bhagwant Singh Mann warns gangsters hiding Abroad



CHANDIGARH; Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Monday sent a strong message to gangsters, drug traffickers and elements attempting to disturb peace in the state, asserting that law and order is fully maintained in Punjab and there is no safe haven for criminals. Felicitating the Punjab Police team led by SP Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF), Bikramjit Singh Brar, for securing the extradition of notorious fugitive criminal Amritpal Singh alias Amrit Dalam from the Republic of Moldova, the Chief Minister said the government is fully committed to the peace and security of Punjab. The Chief Minister highlighted that 1,234 gangster modules have

been busted and 10 fugitives deported from abroad, while 60,582 FIRs have been registered against drug traffickers and properties worth ₹366 crore seized. He said the Punjab Police is equipped with high-tech anti-drone systems and Village Defence Committees comprising 1.5 lakh people have been formed, warning that no person or group attempting to disturb Punjab's peace will be spared. Taking to X, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann stated: "Law and order are fully maintained in Punjab. Our government is completely committed to ensuring peace and security in the state. 1,234 gangster modules have been busted, and 10

fugitives have been deported from abroad. As many as 60,582 FIRs have been registered against drug traffickers, and properties worth ₹366 crore have been seized. The police are equipped with high-tech anti-drone systems, and Village Defence Committees comprising 1.5 lakh people have been formed. No person or group that attempts to disturb the peace of Punjab will be spared. Inquilab Zindabad." Felicitating the police officers for their exemplary achievement, CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "The successful extradition sends an unequivocal message to gangsters, criminals and their handlers operating from foreign soil that Punjab Police will chase them

across borders and bring them back to face the law." The Chief Minister affirmed, "There is no safe haven for gangsters anymore. Whether they are hiding in Punjab, another part of India or thousands of kilometres away in Europe, the Punjab Police will track them down." He added, "They may change their locations, passports and identities, but they cannot escape the law forever." He said that the extradition of Amrit Dalam is a major achievement in Punjab's relentless campaign against organised crime and demonstrates the effectiveness of the state government's 'Gangstan Te Vaar' campaign. "Amrit Dalam was a key operative of the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria Gang and was wanted in several serious criminal cases, including murder, attempt to murder, offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Arms Act and narcotic offence," he added.

CM Bhagwant Singh Mann said, "The state government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards gangsters, extortionists, drug traffickers and organised criminal networks, irrespective of how powerful or well-connected they may claim to be."

Senior BJP leader Sanjay Tandon joins Ganpati Puja in Badheri, prays for well-being of all



CHANDIGARH: Senior BJP leader Sanjay Tandon participated in a Ganpati Puja and idol installation ceremony organised on the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, at village Badheri. The ceremony was held at the residence of former BJP Chandigarh District President and Former Media In-Charge Ravindra Pathania. Apart from Pathania and his family members, the ceremony was attended by BJP District President Rekha Sood and former Mayor Ravikant Sharma among other party leaders & workers. Speaking on the occasion, Tandon said, "Ganesh Chaturthi is a festival of faith, devotion and positivity. Lord Ganesha, the Vighnaharta, inspires us to move forward with wisdom, humility and determination. I pray that His blessings bring happiness, peace, prosperity and good health to every family and that all obstacles in our lives are removed." Tandon sought the blessings of Lord Ganesha and prayed for happiness, peace, prosperity and good health for all. He said the presence of Lord Ganesha brings positivity, harmony and renewed hope into people's lives, while the deity's blessings give strength to overcome obstacles. Tandon appreciated Ravindra Pathania and his family for continuing the Ganpati Puja tradition for the past 10 years. Tandon extended his greetings to the people on Ganesh Chaturthi and called upon everyone to celebrate the festival with devotion, harmony and a spirit of social unity.

Message of Unity and Brotherhood Echoes at "Sanjhi Virasat" Programme



CHANDIGARH: The Chandigarh Congress Minority Department organised the "Sanjhi Virasat" programme at Hotel KC Residency, Sector 35-C, Chandigarh. The event conveyed a strong message of social unity, mutual brotherhood, cultural heritage and communal harmony. Chandigarh MP Manish Tewari, Chandigarh Congress President H.S. Lucky, Punjab Shahi Imam Maulana Mohammad Usman Rehmani Ludhianvi, and AICC Chandigarh Minority Department In-charge Salim Bhatti were specially present on the occasion. Punjab Shahi Imam Maulana Mohammad Usman Rehmani Ludhianvi said that the real strength of India lies in its shared heritage, Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb and spirit of brotherhood. People belonging to different religions, languages and cultures have lived together in harmony in the country for centuries. He said that in the present times, it is extremely important to stay away from divisive thinking and promote love, humanity and brotherhood. He added that only when society remains united can the country become stronger.

Shiromani Akali Dal receives a massive response in the Sujjanpur urban area; 200 families join the party

PATHANKOT: The Shiromani Akali Dal received a significant boost in the urban area of Sujjanpur when 200 families joined the party, thanks to the efforts of District President and Pathankot constituency in-charge Surinder Singh Kanwar Minto. On this occasion, party leaders welcomed the new members and encouraged them to work in alignment with the party's policies and principles. Speaking on the occasion, District Observer Gurbachan Singh Babbehal stated that the joining of 200 families reflects the growing public trust in the Shiromani Akali Dal. He remarked that the party has consistently raised its voice for the rights of Punjab, the Punjabi language, and Punjabiya (the Punjabi spirit). He urged the new members to work unitedly to strengthen the party. Meanwhile, Gurbachan Singh Babbehal appointed Ramam Kumar Dewan as the Sujjanpur City President by bestowing a "Saropa" upon him. While extending best wishes for his new responsibility, the hope was expressed that he would work diligently to further strengthen the party at the urban level. President Surinder Singh Kanwar Minto stated that the joining of 200 families with the Akali Dal is a sign of the party's growing strength in Sujjanpur. He added that, together with party workers, every effort would be made to raise public issues and further strengthen the party in the constituency.

Ambuja Cements Opens a Diagnostic Centre At Darlaghat



SHIMLA: Ambuja Cements, the 9th largest building materials solutions provider globally and part of the diversified Adani Portfolio, through its CSR arm, is bringing essential diagnostic healthcare directly to the doorstep of communities in Darlaghat, Himachal Pradesh. The opening of the Ambuja Diagnostic Centre at Darlaghat marked a concrete commitment to the health and wellbeing of the communities that have long coexisted with the plant. This is a step for which local leaders, plant officials and Foundation representatives came together to mark with purpose. The centre was inaugurated by Ambuja Darlaghat plant officials. The Sarpanches of the local villages of Nihon, Rattanpura and Daburji attended the ceremony reflecting the company and its surrounding villages' mutual interest and investment in each other's progress. The Adani Foundation team also participated and spoke about the Foundation's ongoing commitment to community health and development in the region. The Ambuja Diagnostic Centre will serve the local community and give residents access to diagnostic facilities that usually require them to undertake long travels. For communities in the hills of Himachal Pradesh, where geography already makes healthcare access a challenge, a local diagnostic centre will create a genuine difference in how quickly and affordably people can understand and respond to their own health. For Ambuja Cements in Darlaghat, the centre is the latest expression of a long-standing testament of their responsibility towards their community.

Day 6 of National Education Policy 2020 Awareness Programme concludes

CHAMAN LAL

KARNAL: The sixth day of the eight-day "National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 Orientation and Sensitization Program"—organized jointly by the Central University of Jammu and the IQAC of Guru Nanak Khalsa PG College, Karnal—was successfully conducted. Professor Pavneesh Kumar, a faculty member at the School of Management Studies, IGNOU, New Delhi, delivered a lecture on "Vocational Education, Skill Development, and Employability." He emphasised the importance of vocational education within the NEP 2020 framework, the necessity of skill development to enhance employability, and how higher education institutions can integrate vocational training to meet industry demands. Professor Sunil Kumar Thakur, a faculty member at the School of Life Sciences, Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP), delivered a lecture on "Understanding Research and Publication Ethics for Academic Improvement." He discussed the importance of research ethics, publication integrity, the prevention of plagiarism, and the role of ethical practices in enhancing academic quality and institutional reputation. Principal Dr. Chuhar Singh stated that the National Education Policy 2020 is a historic initiative aimed at bringing about comprehensive reforms in India's education system. He remarked that such orientation programs are essential to equip teachers with an understanding of the policy's vision and provisions, particularly in areas like vocational education and research ethics. Coordinator Lt. Dr. Devi Bhushan (IQAC, Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Karnal) noted that this program is a significant initiative designed to familiarize teachers with the vari

organized with the support of Dr. Preeti Panwar, Co-coordinator, IQAC. In the successful conduct of the programme, the guidance and support of (Dr.) Neelika Arora, Director, and Dr. Akshay Kumar, Deputy Director, UGC-MMTTC, Central University of Jammu, played a significant role. A total of 125 participants from 11 universities and 17 colleges are taking part in the programme.

goly hymns of the Guru, creating an atmosphere filled with devotion. Students also participated in the event with discipline and reverence. During the program, the glory of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji and the teachings of the Guru were highlighted. Director Sardar Jasbir Singh Gulati stated that the Guru's teachings convey messages of humanity, service, love, equality, and brotherhood. Children were encouraged to adopt the Guru's teachings in their lives and to strengthen the spirit of service

and harmony within society. The event concluded with Ardas and the distribution of Prasad. Prayers were offered for the school's prosperity, the students' bright futures, and the well-being of all. School Director Sardar Jasbir Singh Gulati and Deputy Director Supreet Kaur encouraged the students, inspiring them to follow the path shown by the Guru.

First Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji celebrated at Guru Harkrishan Public School

CHAMAN LAL

KARNAL: A special religious programme was organised at Guru Harkrishan Public School, Karnal, to mark the First Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. The event took place in the school's Sahibzada Ajit Singh Hall, with enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, parents, and the Sangat.

The programme commenced with the recitation of Sri Jaapi Sahib Ji, followed by Kirtan. Ragis and the congregation sang the

Electoral Registration Officers for the district's nine assembly constituencies—30-Phillaur, 31-Nakodar, 32-Shahkot, 33-Karnapur, 34-Jalandhar West, 35-Jalandhar Central, 36-Jalandhar North, 37-Jalandhar Cantt, and 38-Adampur—held weekly meetings with political parties. Additionally, lists of claims and objections received between August 13, 2026, and September 12, 2026 (pertaining to Forms 9, 10, 11, 11A, and 11B), were shared with the political parties. The District Election Officer informed that the respective Electoral Registration Officers will

dispose of the received Forms 6, 6A, 7, and 8 (regarding claims and objections) by October 8, 2026, in accordance with the schedule issued by the Election Commission, and the final publication of the voter list will take place on October 12, 2026. It is noteworthy that during the SIR (Special Intensive Revision), claims and objections (Forms 6, 6A, 7, and 8) were received from the general public by Electoral Registration Officers (BLOs) between August 13, 2026, and September 12, 2026.

Electoral Registration Officers Hand Over Lists of Received Claims and Objections to Political Parties

JALANDHAR(PARAMJIT SINGH): Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer Varjeet Walia stated today that, in accordance with the instructions of the Election Commission of India (New Delhi) and the Chief Electoral Officer (Punjab), the lists of forms received up to the deadline of September 12, 2026—pertaining to the second phase (receipt of claims and objections) of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)—2026—have been handed over to political parties by the respective Electoral Registration Officers. Shri Walia stated that the respective

Smart TV buyers rank picture quality as their leading feature preference, reveals Best in Tech Survey on Amazon.in

SHIMLA: Amazon India has released the third set of findings from the inaugural Best in Tech Survey. Across Smart TVs and home appliances, the findings reveal how India chooses within the brands it trusts. Picture quality is the leading feature consideration for Smart TV buyers, while energy star rating is the top priority for air conditioner and refrigerator buyers. Flexible financing is equally decisive, with 47% of large appliance buyers saying No-Cost EMI is the pricing lever that matters most. The findings are drawn from more than 40,000 responses across all major consumer electronics categories and feed into selection on Amazon.in. They will also set the agenda for the Best in Tech Awards, which returns for their second edition on September 18, 2026. "The first two sets of findings told us that Indian buyers are increasingly technology-led in how they choose their personal devices. This third set confirms the pattern holds across home appliances too. Whether it is a Smart TV, an air conditioner or a washing machine, brand trust remains foundational. Customers are doing their own research and holding the entire experience, from the product page to the installation, to the same high standard. What is striking is how quickly AI is entering the home appliance conversation. It is no longer a smartphone or laptop feature alone. The Best in Tech Awards will recognise the brands that understand this shift and are delivering on it." - Zeba Khan, Director, Consumer Electronics, Amazon India.

Amazon announces biggest-ever operations network expansion ahead of the festive season

SHIMLA: Amazon today announced its biggest-ever expansion of its operations network ahead of the festive season, with the launch of 20 new fulfillment centres (FCs), 6 new sort centres (SCs), and 150 new last-mile delivery stations. The expansion grows Amazon's total storage capacity by 50% to 64 million cubic feet – equivalent to more than 720 Olympic-sized swimming pools. These facilities will be operated and managed by strategic partners who are leaders in the logistics industry. In a major push beyond metros, all new sort centres and seven new fulfillment centres are launching in non-metro cities, including first-ever Amazon FCs in Raipur, Ranchi and Varanasi, strengthening Amazon's operations network in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across the country. The new sort centres in Chikkaballapur, Hassan, Meerut, Ramanagar, Raipur and Varanasi will expand total sortation area by 25% from 2.4 million to 3 million square feet.

Samsung Launches Galaxy S26 FE in India, Bringing Flagship Camera, Galaxy AI and Powerful Performance

CHANDIGARH, INDIA –: Samsung India today announced the launch of the Galaxy S26 FE – the newest addition to the Galaxy S26 family that is engineered around the features that matter most to users. The smartphone combines an enhanced camera experience, context-aware Galaxy AI, powerful everyday performance, and One UI 9. The Galaxy S26 FE brings together a 6.7-inch Dynamic AMOLED 2X display with up to a 120Hz refresh rate, an Exynos 2500 processor, a 4900mAh battery, and a versatile triple rear camera system, all packed into a slim and refined design. "Galaxy S26 FE is designed to bring the best of the Galaxy experience to more consumers in India, with innovations that are meaningful to how they live, work, and create. With flagship camera capabilities, context-aware Galaxy AI, and powerful performance, we are bringing together the experiences consumers value most in a thoughtfully designed smartphone," said Aditya Babbar, Vice President, MX Business, Samsung India. A Camera Built for Every Moment: The Galaxy S26 FE's enhanced triple rear camera system comprises a 50MP wide camera, a 12MP ultra-wide camera, and an 8MP telephoto camera with 3x optical zoom, alongside an enhanced 12MP front camera. The smartphone brings My FanCam to the Galaxy FE series that allows users to select a person and automatically keep them centred in the frame as they move. The feature intelligently reframes video, making it easier to create social-ready content without extensive manual editing. For users capturing moments on the move, Super Steady with Horizontal Lock delivers smoother, more level footage, whether recording travel experiences, fast-moving activities, or everyday moments. Samsung's signature Nightography capabilities help users capture brighter and clearer images in low-light conditions, while Photo Assist makes it easier to refine images using natural language prompts.

Bank of Baroda Launches bob World 2.0 Powered by AI

CHANDIGARH/LUDHIANA: Bank of Baroda, one of India's leading public sector banks, announced the launch of bob World 2.0, its next-generation mobile banking application. The app was demonstrated to Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Govt of India along with Dr. Debaddatta Chand, Managing Director & CEO, Bank of Baroda and Executive Directors of the Bank at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026 in Mumbai on 11th September 2026. Representing the next phase of the Bank's

digital transformation journey, bob World 2.0 - Powered by AI, delivers a future-ready banking experience and lays the foundation for a unified omni channel digital banking ecosystem that will progressively extend across mobile and internet banking channels. Built on a modern microservices-based digital architecture and designed as an intelligent financial

ecosystem, bob World 2.0 delivers a smarter, more personalised, conversational and secure banking experience. Speaking on the launch, Dr. Debaddatta Chand, Managing Director & CEO, Bank of Baroda said, "As banking becomes increasingly digital, customers expect experiences that are intuitive, intelligent, secure and highly personalised. With bob World 2.0, we have reimaged mobile banking around our customers' needs, combining financial wellness tools, voice-enabled AI-driven engagement and personalised customer experiences on a single platform. As a forward-looking, customer-centric institution, we remain committed to continuously innovating and building a future-ready digital banking ecosystem that will continue to evolve with the changing needs and expectations.

‘Barsaat’ gets its own story: Banjaare unveil official music video after a Landmark Run

CHANDIGARH: After a landmark run that saw their music travel from Haryana to global audiences, Banjaare, the brother duo - Sumit and Anuj, now unveil the official music video for ‘Barsaat’, bringing their deeply emotional story of love, longing and letting go to life on screen. The release comes at a defining point in the duo’s journey, following the success of ‘Bairan’ and ‘Barsaat’, their association with Spider-Man: Brand New Day’s India campaign and their record of becoming the first Haryanvi artists to deliver back-to-back No. 1 songs on Spotify India Charts.

A continuation of the emotional world introduced with ‘Bairan’, ‘Barsaat’ looks at what remains after the relationship falls apart, this time through the woman’s eyes. Played by Punjabi actor Akai-sha Vats, the official video follows ‘HER’ journey. The story unfolds through intimate memories and flashbacks captured in a grainy, retro-visual style.

The video is directed by Teji Sandhu, known for his work on music-led visual narratives including Mitta Ror’s viral track Sheesha. His visual treatment brings a certain nostalgia to Barsaat, allowing the emotion to sit at the centre of the story rather than overpowering it. In his recent post, he shared, “No monitor, no instant playback honestly, I had no idea how it would come out. That uncertainty is the beauty of film.”

Speaking about the journey of ‘Barsaat’ Banjaare shared, “We have always wanted to make music that reaches the heart, and seeing people make our songs a part of their own lives means everything to us. With ‘Barsaat’, we got to tell the story in a completely new way. Our dream is to take Haryanvi music to a place where people everywhere feel proud of their roots and their mother tongue. We hope ‘Barsaat’ makes people feel something long after the song ends.”

The release marks another chapter in Banjaare’s growing journey of taking Haryanvi music beyond its traditional boundaries. ‘Bairan’ established the emotional connection; ‘Barsaat’ has taken that connection further, finding its place on the charts, within the Spider-Man universe and now on screen through a story that speaks to the universal experience of loving, losing and learning to let go. For Banjaare, the journey has never been about leaving their roots behind to reach a wider audience. It has been about taking those roots with them. With ‘Barsaat’, they continue to show that a song can be deeply rooted in its language and culture while still finding a place in hearts far beyond it.

‘Fauda’ season 5 draws global attention with gripping October 7-focused episodes



The fifth season of ‘Fauda’, the hit action thriller series following Israeli undercover operatives, has sparked intense international reactions after dedicating several episodes to the October 7 massacre, with episodes 7 and 8 focusing specifically on the Hamas-led attack, The Jerusalem Post reported. The two episodes have drawn strong responses from viewers and social media users, with both receiving a 9.3 rating on IMDb. Within a day of its release on Netflix, the series had also entered the platform’s 10 most-watched shows in 43 countries, ranking seventh globally, according to the report. The episodes have prompted discussions among viewers in countries including Germany, the Netherlands, Brazil, Italy, India, the UK and the US, with many describing the portrayal as disturbing. Others said it offered a deeper understanding of the events of October 7. Israeli social media influencer Lee Malach wrote, “My entire feed is filled with tweets from Dutch and German people; I have no idea why, about the October 7 episodes of ‘Fauda’. They are in total shock over what happened here, and the posts are difficult to read and very supportive of Israel. It is crazy to me how little these people know about what happened here and how much they talk about the subject,” as per the outlet. Brazilian cartoonist Luciano Pires wrote, “I watched the 5th season of Fauda, the Israeli series on Netflix. It’s always been an uncomfortable show. Created by Lior Raz and Avi Issa-charoff, both former members of Israeli units, it follows undercover agents in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, almost always avoiding the easy divide between good guys and bad guys. But the fifth season is a gut punch. Episodes 7 and 8 recreate the October 7, 2023 massacre, and that makes it hard to watch as just fiction. I think everyone saw dozens of real images from the attacks, many filmed by the terrorists themselves, which were already shocking enough. But this time, the fiction puts us right inside the horror.” Pires also reflected on what filming the scenes may have meant for the show’s Israeli cast and crew. He continued: “I was genuinely shaken, not just from watching the massacre through the victims’ eyes, but imagining the Israeli actors, many of them Jewish. The photo illustrating this post is of actor Yaakov Zada-Daniel, who plays agent Eli, in the moment he enters his home in a kibbutz attacked by Hamas terrorists. It’s breathtaking. He wasn’t acting out a distant tragedy. He was rebuilding something in front of the cameras that struck his country, his families, his friends, and the show’s own crew. Idan Amedi, an actor from Fauda, was seriously injured while fighting in Gaza. Matan Meir, a production member, died in the war.” Pires concluded: “Maybe that’s why these episodes have a different texture. They don’t feel like an attempt to imagine the horror. They carry us right into it.” <https://x.com/lucianopires/status/2098751256189657217?s=20> The episodes also prompted strong reactions from viewers in Italy. One man wrote: “I could barely keep my eyes open.”

Mohit Suri, Ram Gopal Varma announce next film together



Filmmakers Mohit Suri and Ram Gopal Varma are all set to come together for a film; they teased the news on social media. Ram Gopal Varma, in an X post, shared a picture with the ‘Saiyaara’ director from their recent meeting. “Me and #Saiyaara’s @mohit11481 for his NEXT film, are COOKING together A LOVE DISH full of GANGSTER CURRY.. Details to be SERVED VERY VERY SOON,” he wrote.

Suri also reshared the photo on his Instagram handle, expressing his fondness for RGV. “From watching his films and dreaming of becoming a filmmaker... to be making one together — with the OG gangster himself, Ram Gopal Varma. Some journeys truly come full circle. This one comes straight from the heart... Armed with a loaded gun!” he wrote.

Teasing fans with a little update, the filmmakers shared that further details will be unveiled soon. The post left the comment section buzzing, with many sharing high anticipation. Actor Shamita Shetty wrote, “Whoaaaah!”, while Zakir Khan added, “Bhai bhai bhai.” Suri’s wife, Uditaa Goswami, also reacted to the post and commented, “Yeahy! Finally!” On the work front, Mohit Suri is set to reunite with Ahaan and Aneet for an upcoming project.



CHANDIGARH

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Lifestyle

Kajol pens emotional birthday message for son Yug on his sweet sixteen



Bollywood actors Kajol and Ajay Devgn marked their son Yug Devgn’s 16th birthday with emotional social media posts, sharing affectionate messages reflecting on how quickly their son has grown up. Kajol shared a warm photograph with Yug on Instagram and wrote about the surreal experience of seeing her son grow from a little boy into a young man. “Can’t believe we’re already there.. it’s a moment of disbelief almost. Because whenever I see u I still see a little boy almost superimposed on you,” she wrote. The actress said that while she knows Yug is “taller and stronger now,” she will always see both the younger and older versions of him. She also expressed her hopes for him to grow into a good man who faces life with courage, grace and kindness. “I wish u so many things today.. I have some fears as well but mostly hopes that u will grow to be a good man. The kind who faces all of what life throws at him with courage, grace and most importantly kindness. To yourself and the world at large.. fly high and live large my darling. Love u more than u will ever know,” Kajol wrote. The birthday post received warm wishes from several Bollywood celebrities, including Riteish Deshmukh, Siddharth Malhotra and Saba Pataudi. Ajay Devgn also celebrated the milestone with a candid father-son photograph.

Ramayana makers unveil Siya Ram poster on Ganesh Chaturthi

The makers of Ranbir Kapoor’s ‘Ramayana’ have shared a new poster of Siya Ram on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi on Monday. It will be followed by the first song from the film, sung by Shreya Ghoshal and Arijit Singh. The music label T-Series shared the Siya Ram poster featuring Ranbir Kapoor and Sai Pallavi as Lord Ram and Sita, respectively. The first single of the movie will be composed by AR Rahman and written by Dr Kumar Vishwas, with Shreya Ghoshal and Arijit Singh lending their voices to the song. While sharing the poster, the makers wrote, “Celebrating the timeless bond of Siya Ram,” on their Instagram handle.

Meanwhile, the trailer of ‘Ramayana’ was recently released and opened with the introduction of Yash as Ravana. He is seen emerging from the shadows before entering his grand palace and declaring his rule over the three



worlds. As darkness spreads, Lord Vishnu is reborn on Earth as Prince Rama. Ranbir Kapoor appears as Lord Rama, while Arun Govil plays King Dasharatha, introducing Rama to the people of Ayodhya. The trailer also gives a glimpse of Rama and Sita’s wedding, with Sai Pallavi playing Sita. The emotional moments continue as Rama accepts Kaikeyi’s wish and begins his 14-year exile

along with his brother Lakshmana, played by Ravie Dubey. Apart from Ranbir Kapoor, Sai Pallavi, Yash and Ravie Dubey, the film also stars Sunny Deol as Hanuman. The music has been composed by Hans Zimmer and AR Rahman. ‘Ramayana: Part 1’ is scheduled to release in theatres during Diwali 2026, while ‘Ramayana: Part 2’ is expected to arrive during Diwali 2027.

-‘Mirzapur: The Movie’ continues strong box office run in week 2

‘MIRZAPUR: The Movie’ continued its strong run at the box office in its second weekend, earning Rs 35.90 crore and taking its total closer to the Rs 200 crore mark. According to trade analyst Taran Adarsh, the film maintained its momentum in its second week, recording double-digit collections on both Saturday and Sunday. It earned RS 9.50 crore on Friday, followed by Rs 13.30 crore on Saturday and Rs 13.10 crore on Sunday. With the latest weekend figures, the film has now moved significantly closer to the Rs 200 crore milestone. He wrote on X, “#MirzapurTheMovie delivers a SUPER-SOLID total in Weekend 2... The film scored double digits on both Saturday and Sunday, taking its total closer to the 200 cr mark.” The film’s strong performance has continued despite the arrival of the new release ‘Haiwaan’. Its box-office run has remained largely unaffected, with audiences continuing to show strong interest in the film. At the same time, ‘Hanuman Ansh’ has continued to attract moviegoers and remains a major choice among audiences. The simultaneous strong perfor-

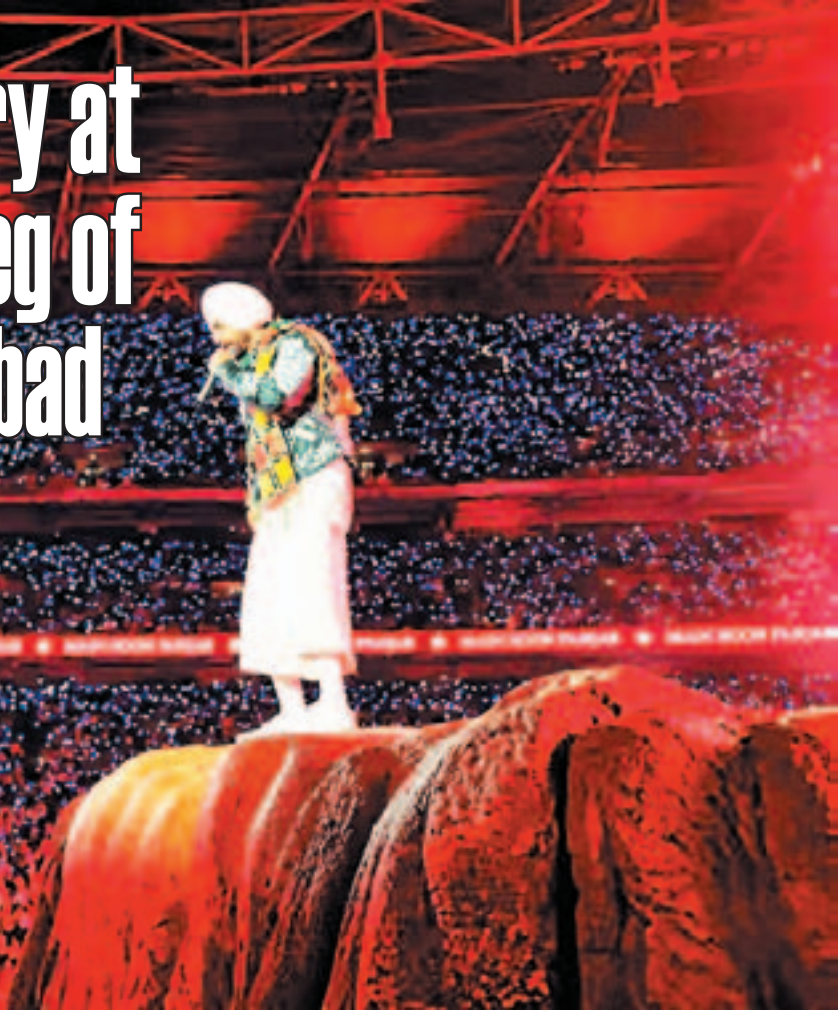


mance of ‘Hanuman Ansh’ and ‘Mirzapur The Movie’, despite the two films belonging to different genres, underlines the audience appetite for varied content at the box office. “The new release, #Haiwaan, has made no difference whatsoever to the victorious run of #MirzapurTheMovie, while #HanumanAnsh continues to remain the first choice of moviegoers. The best part? Both #HanumanAnsh and #MirzapurTheMovie are scoring BIG NUMBERS simultaneously, despite belonging to completely different genres – a clear indication that good content can co-exist and thrive at the boxoffice,” he added.

Diljit Dosanjh makes history at Wembley, confirms next leg of his Aura Tour at Ahmedabad

Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh has announced his return to India with a massive concert at Ahmedabad’s Narendra Modi Stadium on November 21, 2026, just hours after making history as the first Punjabi artist to headline London’s iconic Wembley Stadium. The announcement came during his sold-out AURA World Tour performance at Wembley on September 12 (local time). Both Diljit and his team have shared snippets from the historic show on Instagram. The Wembley milestone marked a significant moment in Diljit’s international career. According to his team, he performed his hit songs in front of approximately 90,000 people. The show featured his trademark bhangra routines in traditional attire, seamlessly blended with hip-hop, as he performed to a packed stadium. The official Instagram of Wembley Stadium also shared snippets from the show and wrote, “The first Punjabi artist to head-

line Wembley Stadium - and this is why.” According to viral social media videos shared by several fans at the concert, Diljit also announced the next leg of his AURA World Tour in India, with a performance scheduled at Ahmedabad’s Narendra Modi Stadium. Addressing the crowd in Punjabi, Diljit said, “The world’s biggest stadium is in India... how can a Punjabi not go there?” He added, “Kem Cho, majaa maa? We’re doing Live at Narendra Modi Stadium on 21st November.” The Ahmedabad announcement also signals a major expansion in scale for his India return. During his Dil-Luminati India Tour in late 2024, Diljit performed to packed venues across the country, including Ahmedabad. For now, the Ahmedabad concert on November 21 is the confirmed date and venue for the upcoming India leg. Full tour details, including ticket sale dates and pricing, have not yet been announced.



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