



YUGMARG

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■ CHANDIGARH ■ PUNJAB ■ HARYANA ■ HIMACHAL ■ DELHI ■ J&K

CHANDIGARH, SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22, 2024

NEWS BRIEFS

52 kg gold, Rs 10 crore cash recovered from abandoned car in Bhopal jungle

BHOPAL: The Income Tax Department has recovered 52 kg of gold and Rs 10 crore cash from an abandoned car in Bhopal following hour-long searches in connection with a disproportionate assets case linked to former RTO Constable Saurabh Sharma, an official said on Friday.

The searches were conducted on the premises associated with Sharma, who ventured into the real estate business after taking voluntary retirement from the Transport Department of the state government.

Sources said the car was found abandoned in the jungle of Mendori village, which is located near a dense forest area and Kaliasot Dam, around 15-20 km from Sharma's residence in Arera Colony, where the raid was conducted on Thursday. The raid was conducted jointly by Madhya Pradesh Lokayukta's Special Police Establishment (SPE) and Income Tax Department at the residence of Sharma and his associate, Chandan Gaur.

In open letter, Jagmeet Singh says NDP will vote to topple Trudeau's gov't in Canada

TORONTO: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Friday looked set to lose power early next year after a key ally said he would move to bring down the minority Liberal government and trigger an election. New Democratic Party leader Jagmeet Singh, who has been helping keep Trudeau in office, said he would present a formal motion of no-confidence after the House of Commons elected chamber returns from a winter break on Jan. 27. If all the opposition parties back the motion, Trudeau will be out of office after more than nine years as prime minister and an election will take place. A string of polls over the last 18 months show the Liberals, suffering from voter fatigue and anger over high prices and a housing crisis, would be badly defeated by the official opposition right-of-center Conservatives.

Kuwait: PM Modi receives grand welcome from Indian diaspora

AGENCY
KUWAIT CITY, DECEMBER 21

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, arrived in Kuwait with a rousing welcome, as members of the Indian diaspora received him with greetings and cultural performances on Saturday.

Prime Minister Modi interacted with members of the Indian diaspora at the hotel in Kuwait City. He also watched a cultural performance by artists. PM Modi is on a two-day visit to the Gulf nation of Kuwait at the invitation of Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait. This is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Kuwait in 43 years.

Following his arrival, PM Modi also met 101-year-old ex-IFS officer Mangal Sain Handa. "This is an experience of a lifetime. PM Modi said he especially came here to meet him (Mangal Sain Handa). We are grateful to Prime Minister Modi," said the son of the ex-IFS officer, Dilip Handa.

His son, Pradeep Handa recalled that PM Modi had sent a letter of congratulations to the ex-IFS officer on his 100th birthday.

"I have been in Kuwait for almost 40 years. I am the General Manager of one of the largest banks in Kuwait- The National Bank of Kuwait... It is very exciting, I got a call from the Ambassador that PM Modi



wants to meet your father. On my father's 100th birthday, the Prime Minister had sent a letter of congratulations to him as well," he said.

"We are overwhelmed to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi here. He is a visionary leader," said a member of the Indian diaspora.

An artist who performed at the arrival of PM Modi at the hotel said that it was a proud moment for her entire team and a "big achievement." "Prime Minister Narendra Modi saw our performance. It is a very proud moment. It is a big achievement for us. On behalf of our entire team, we are thankful to Prime Minister Modi. He asked us our names... We are very happy," said the artist, who was also a member of the Indian diaspora.

J&K police cyber cell recover 30 smartphones

AGENCY KULGAM: As many as 30 smartphones were recovered by the cyber cell of the Jammu and Kashmir police in Kulgam. The operation was carried out after receiving multiple applications and reports about the missing and stolen mobile phones from the general public, said police.

Moreover, Cyber Cell Kulgam solved huge online financial fraud cases in which an amount of Rs 11,09,565 was recovered and has been refunded to the victim's account after completing all legal formalities and the amount of Rs 21,88,715 was put on hold on receipt of various complaints, said police.

Cyber Cell of Kulgam Police has requested the general public to use their mobile phones and other electronic gadgets with precaution to safeguard themselves from cyber-related frauds and crimes. If anyone becomes a victim of Cyber Crime/Fraud, he/she should immediately register a complaint on the Online Portal cybercrime.gov.in and report the matter at Cyber Cell Kulgam immediately, said police.

Moreover, the citizens are requested to adopt precautions to safeguard themselves from cyber-related frauds and crimes. The Cyber cell has further requested to limit personal information on social media and not share Adhaar, Pan Card or any other finance-related OTP with anyone, added the statement.

Violence mars civic body polls; AAP, SAD, BJP workers lock horns in Patiala



PATIALA: Supporters of the AAP and the BJP throwing bricks and stones at each other after a clash during Punjab Municipal Corporation Election in Patiala.

Sporadic incidents of violence marred elections to five municipal corporations and 44 municipal councils and nagar panchayats in Punjab on Saturday.

Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) alleged casting of fake votes at the behest of the Aam Aadmi Party at many places in Patiala, a charge denied by the ruling party.

There were also reports of scuffles and heated exchanges between AAP and BJP supporters in Patiala.

Among political leaders who exercised their franchise were BJP's Tarun Chugh, Congress MP Gurjeet Singh Aujla, Ludhiana MLA Ashok Prashar and Jalandhar Cantt MLA Pargat Singh.

BJP leader Jai Inder Kaur alleged that some outsiders were roaming around in Patiala, demanding police action against them.

BJP candidate from Ward No. 34 in Patiala, Sushil Nayyar, threatened to self-immolate after alleging that fake votes were being cast at a polling booth.

After Patiala Senior Superintendent of Police Nanak Singh reached the spot, Kaur and BJP supporters were seen arguing with the officer, claiming that some people were being allowed to enter polling booths without proper verification and they were casting fake votes.

"Nobody was stopping them. And who is responsible for it," asked a BJP supporter.

Former Haryana CM O P Chautala cremated with state honours



AGENCY
SIRSA, DEC 21

Former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala was cremated on Saturday with full state honours in Teja Khera village in his native Sirsa district. Chautala, who was a five-time chief minister, died in Gurugram on Friday. He was 89.

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Shiromani Akali Dal leader Sukhbir Singh Badal reached Teja Khera to attend the last rites of the departed leader.

Many Haryana ministers, state Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan, former Union minister Venod Sharma, SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia, BJP's Manpreet Badal and Manjinder Singh Sirsa and several other leaders also reached Teja Khera to pay their last respects.

Political leaders cutting across parties laid floral wreaths to pay their last respects to the departed leader.

Earlier, Chautala's mortal remains were Saturday kept at the family's Teja Khera farmhouse here for people to pay their last respects to the departed Indian National Lok

Dal chief. His body was wrapped in the Indian Tricolour and decked with garlands.

An INLD spokesperson said Chautala was rushed to a hospital after his health worsened on Friday. Om Prakash Chautala's younger son Abhay Singh Chautala, an INLD leader, elder son Ajay Singh Chautala, who heads the JJP party, and other family members, including former deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala, ex-CM Chautala's brother Ranjit Chautala, were present in Teja Khera. The funeral pyre was lit amid chants of Vedic hymns by priests. Congress leaders Randeep Singh Surjewala and Kumari Selja had reached the Chautala farmhouse in the morning to pay their last respects to the five-time chief minister.

Common people also gathered in the village in large numbers to attend the cremation. The Haryana government declared a three-day state mourning on Friday. It has also declared Saturday a public holiday in all its offices as a mark of respect. Shortly after laying a wreath, Dhankhar, who was seated next to Chautala's younger son Abhay Chautala and SAD leader Sukhbir Badal, said, "Yesterday I got the news (of the demise). Five days back, I spoke to Chaudhary sahib and he was inquiring about my health.

Income Tax Department brings

VIVAD SE VISHWAS SCHEME 2024

FOR FASTER AND EFFECTIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Disputed tax

Disputed fee

Disputed penalty

Disputed interest

Disputed TDS or TCS

TRUST

DISPUTES COVERED

All disputes (subject to some exclusion), in relation to the following :

• Tax
• Penalty
• Interest
• Fee
• TDS or TCS

ELIGIBILITY

- Appeal/writ filed on or before 22.07.2024 and such appeal/writ is pending as on 22.07.2024
- Taxpayer who has filed objections before Dispute Resolution Panel (DRP) and DRP has not issued any directions on or before 22.07.2024
- Taxpayer in whose case DRP has issued direction but Assessing Officer has not completed assessment on or before 22.07.2024
- Taxpayer who has filed an application for revision u/s 264 of the Act and such application is pending as on 22.07.2024

KEY DATES

File your declaration under the scheme on or before **31.12.2024** to pay lesser amount for settlement of appeal.

On filing declaration on or after **01.01.2025**, the settlement amount becomes higher.

For more information on the scheme, see the FAQs issued by the department by visiting www.incometax.gov.in

For FAQs

Income Tax Department
Central Board of Direct Taxes

For website

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SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: With the help of Karnal's leading social service organization Sukh Dukh Ke Saathi, Virk Hospital is organizing a free health camp on Sunday, 22 December. IMC will play the role of support in this. Sukh Dukh Sanstha's partner Praveesh Gaba gave this information and said that the camp will run from 10 am to 2 pm. In this camp, tests will be done for knee and hip pain and medicines for diseases related to spine and nerves. On this occasion, patients will be examined by bone and

joint specialist Dr. Balbir Singh Virk, Dr. Daksh Sharma, neuro and spine specialist Dr. Anuj Chhabra. Gaba said that in this camp, those who have complaints of back pain, pain in legs, tingling in hands, stiffness in neck and back, spinal cord, back tumor, TB lump, disc problem, regular pain and swelling in knee joints, weakness of nerves, regular intake of painkillers, can avail the services of doctors in the camp. Patients coming to the camp will be given concession in MRI, X-ray and laboratory charges.

NEWS BRIEFS

Veer Bal Diwas to be celebrated on a grand scale in Haryana on December 26

CHANDIGARH: Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Nayab Singh Saini said that the state will observe Veer Bal Diwas on a grand scale on December 26, in alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to commemorate the sacrifice of the Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The state government has finalized an extensive plan to mark the occasion. Divulging further details, Dr. Prabhleen Singh, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the Chief Minister, said that the main event will be a state-level programme at Gurdwara Chhevin Patshahi in Kurukshetra on December 26, coinciding with Children's Day. The Chief Minister will attend the event and pay tribute to the Sahibzadas. Additionally, seminars focused on the Sahibzadas' sacrifice will be organized in all government universities across the state. Schools, both government and private, will hold essay writing, speech, and painting competitions, aimed at educating the youth and future generations about the historical significance of their sacrifice, added Dr. Prabhleen Singh. In a unique and first-of-its-kind initiative, flex banners will be displayed at petrol stations along Haryana's National Highways, featuring an image of Chief Minister paying tribute to the Sahibzadas. Moreover, the Chief Minister's message, emphasizing the importance of the Sahibzadas' sacrifice, will be broadcast across government buildings, malls, and public spaces. This large-scale observance of Veer Bal Diwas is the first of its kind in the country. Haryana's initiative has been widely appreciated by the global Sikh community, which has thanked Chief Minister Mr. Nayab Singh Saini and called for the nationwide celebration of Veer Bal Diwas.

Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini pays tribute to former Chief Minister Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala State funeral held at Teja Khera Farm, Sirsa



CHANDIGARH: Former Haryana Chief Minister, Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala was cremated with state honours on Saturday at Teja Khera Farm in Sirsa district. Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini also visited Teja Khera Farm to pay his last respects and tribute to the departed soul. During the last rites, several prominent leaders and dignitaries, including Haryana Vidhan Sabha Speaker, Sh. Harvinder Kalyan, Cabinet Ministers, Sh. Krishan Lal Panwar, Sh. Mahipal Dhandra, Dr. Arvind Sharma, Sh. Shyam Singh Rana, Sh. Ranbir Gangwa, BJP State President Sh. Mohan Lal Badoli, MP, Sh. Kartik Sharma, among others, paid their last respects to the departed soul. State funeral of Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala held at Teja Khera Farm, district Sirsa. His mortal remains were wrapped in the tricolor. Before the last rites, the Haryana Police contingent presented a guard of honor. Family members, including Sh. Ranjit Singh Chautala, Sh. Abhay Chautala, Sh. Ajay Chautala, Sh. Dushyant Chautala, Sh. Digvijay Chautala, Sh. Karan Chautala and Sh. Arjun Chautala paid their last respects to the departed soul.

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and other eminent leaders pay tribute to Om Prakash Chautala

CHANDIGARH: Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, along with his wife Dr. Sudesh Dhankhar, visited Teja Khera Farm in Chautala, Sirsa district, on Saturday to attend the last rites of former Haryana Chief Minister, Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala. The couple paid their respects to the late leader's mortal remains. During the ceremony, Vice President Shri Dhankhar fondly reflected on his personal relationship with Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala. "I had spoken to Chaudhary Sahab only five days

ago. He expressed concern about my health, which deeply touched me," he said. He continued, "It was 29 years ago, with the blessings of Tau Devi Lal, that Chaudhary Sahab took me under his wing, helped me get elected to the 9th Lok Sabha, and appointed me as a Minister. I will never forget his support. I always sought his blessings, especially when I became Governor." Recalling a personal memory, Shri Dhankhar shared how Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala, despite his prominent political career, always remained

dedicated to the welfare of farmers and rural development. "Chaudhary Sahab's legacy is not defined by his political titles, but by his unwavering commitment to farmers and villages. He believed that the country's progress and peace are inherently tied to rural development and agriculture," Shri Dhankhar said. The Vice President further reflected on Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala's kindness, remembering how, during a visit after his appointment as Governor, the late leader insisted on providing special laddus to soothe his

throat. "His concern for others was extraordinary," Shri Dhankhar recalled. Praising the late leader's unwavering dedication to rural welfare, Dhankhar highlighted his fearless, strong character and steadfast commitment to his ideals. "Chaudhary Sahab was a man of strong convictions, always focused on rural development. The challenges he faced and the philosophical approach he adopted remain highly relevant even today," said Vice President Shri Dhankhar.

VHCA Hair Clinic launches Multi Peptide hair growth serum

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL: VHCA Director Anuradha Agarwal while launching VHCA Multi Peptide Hair Growth Serum at Corporate Office Gharaunda said that due to increasing stress, pollution, smoking and wrong lifestyle, the problem of hair fall and thinning is increasing day by day. Keeping this in mind, VHCA Hair Clinic has prepared this serum, which is made completely from organic herbs. Bhringraj, Punarnava, Green Tea Leaf, Aloe Vera, Hibiscus, Polycyterin 7, Copper Peptides etc. have been used in it. If VHCA Multi Peptide Hair Growth Serum is used regularly with some herbal medicines keeping in mind the diet and non-diet, then it nourishes the roots of the hair and gives them new life. This serum is available on all online platforms as well as all branches of VHCA Hair Clinic.



Haryana Police, Narcotics Bureau seek 1-Year detention for 9 drug smugglers

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
PANCHKULA/AMBALA, DEC 21
Under the guidance of Haryana Director General of Police Shri Shatrueet Kapoor and under the leadership of Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau Chief Shri O. P. Singh, IPS, Director General of Police, taking action under the special campaign being run against drug smugglers in entire Haryana, a list of 9 habitual drug smugglers from different districts of Haryana State has been prepared and sent to the State Government so that they can be detained for the next 1 year to curb drug abuse. Today, a meeting was organized in Haryana Police Housing Corporation, Panchkula regarding this. Which was chaired by Shri O P Singh, Chief/Director General of Po-



lice, HSNCB himself. Deputy Superintendent of Police Mr. Gajendra Kumar, District Advocate Mr. Mahipal Singh and employees of Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau participated in this meeting. Apart from this, Mr. Hameed Akhtar, Deputy Inspector General of Police (Crime), Superintendent of Police Mrs. Pankhuri Kumar and police officers from the concerned district including Faridabad, Dabwali, Nuh, Panipat and Kaithal

joined Karnal through video conferencing. Let us tell you that from the beginning of the year 2024, the initiative to curb drug abuse and make the society drug-free was taken by the Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau. In these, at the beginning of the year 2024, 5 from District Yamunanagar, 6 from Police District Dabwali, 4 from District Fatehabad, 1 from District Karnal, 4 from District Sirsa, 1

BIC Cello curated gifts for holiday gifting

CHANDIGARH: The year is ending, bringing in a spirit of celebration and gratitude. From corporate gatherings to cozy family get-togethers, there's always an occasion to show appreciation for those around us. BIC Cello's carefully curated gifts are perfect for holiday gifting, end-of-year festivities, and thoughtful gestures for colleagues, friends, family and kids. Make your office gift exchange special with BIC Cello's Metal Pen range. These premium pens, like the Signature & Select collections, combine elegance and functionality, creating a thoughtful and practical gift for coworkers. With their sleek design and exceptional writing performance, BIC Cello Metal Pens are a meaningful choice for a gift, adding a touch of sophistication to everyday work routines. The premium range of pens designed to elevate any occasion, be it a standalone pen or in a stylish gift set, this range brings elegance and purpose to every writing experience. Signature pens start at INR 125, with gift sets ranging from INR 350 to INR 1200, offering options for any budget.



Governor of Uttarakhand honours anti-Corruption Foundation of India

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, DEC 21
The Anti-Corruption Foundation of India was honored by the Governor of Uttarakhand, Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh, at a special awards ceremony held in Dehradun. The foundation was recognized with the Times Power Brand award for its outstanding work in raising awareness about corruption eradication and integrity. During the ceremony, the Governor presented awards and certificates to the National Supreme of the Anti-Corruption Foundation of India, Narendra Arora, International Chairman Pawan Sharma, and National President of the Political Wing Gaurav Gaba. Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh commended the foundation's efforts, stating that raising awareness about the elimination of corruption is crucial to realizing the vision of a developed India. The event, organized by the Times of India Group, also honored notable personalities from various fields across different states of the country. On receiving the special honor, the founda-



tion's officials and members expressed their joy. Narendra Arora dedicated the award to the entire team of the Anti-Corruption Foundation of India. He emphasized that the foundation has been working for seven years to spread awareness about corruption eradication. In addition to awareness campaigns, the foundation also conducts charity projects. Arora stated that the foundation is working nationwide to create awareness against corruption through initiatives such as speeches, slogans, drawing, and essay competitions under the Corruption-Free India campaign in educational institutions.

Being Human Clothing Brings Flat 50% Off from 25th to 27th December

CHANDIGARH / JALANDHAR: This December, Being Human Clothing invites fans and fashion enthusiasts to join the grandest celebration of the year - 'Bhai Ka Budday: Weightlifting Toh Banta Hai, As Salman Khan, the beloved face of Being Human Clothing, celebrates his birthday, the brand is making it extra special with an exclusive Flat 50% Off offer on all collections from 25th to 27th December. Adding more fragrance to the festivities, Being Human Clothing is proud to introduce 4 brand-new perfume sprays this season. Inspired by Salman Khan's charismatic personality and timeless appeal, these fragrances are designed to cater to every fan's style. Perfect for gifting or adding a touch of freshness to your wardrobe, these perfumes will be available in stores and online during the campaign. Ayaan Agnihotri, Executive Director, Being Human Clothing, said, "This campaign is more than just a sale - it's a way for us to connect with Salman Khan's supporters and thank them for their unwavering support. Making it the perfect day to launch our brand new perfume body sprays, a range of fragrances that truly reflects 'Bhai's' timeless charisma."



Innovating for a Sustainable Future: Appliances Business of Godrej Partners with AICTE for Smart India Hackathon 2024

CHANDIGARH: The Appliances Business of Godrej Enterprises Group, partnered with the AICTE for the 7th edition of the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024. The event was conducted at multiple institutions all over India, where 1,350 finalist teams presented their ideas to tackle 254 problem statements that covered diverse themes like sustainability and environment consciousness in industry practices, blockchain, smart automation and many more. During a virtual ceremony, the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Minister of Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, inau-



gurated the event, and the Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE and Chief Innovation Officer of the Innovation Cell, Ministry of Education, and Mr. Sant Ranjan, AVP and Head of Innovation (R&D) at the Appliances Business of Godrej Enterprises Group participated amongst other dignitaries. With the increasing strain on global resources, finding innovative ways to conserve them has become crucial. Reports suggest that India's demand for elec-

tricity for running household appliances is estimated to expand nine-fold by 2050. Thus, for SIH 2024, Godrej picked the theme - "Innovating for Sustainability: Driving Resource Conservation in Large Appliances" as a challenge for the students. Speaking about the success of the event, Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman, AICTE, said, "SIH 2024 has been a testament to the power of innovation and collaboration in solving real world challenges. Our partnership with Godrej exemplifies how collaboration between private enterprises and government institutions.

Editorial

Indian democracy faces its darkest day in history

It was one of the darkest days in the history of India's Parliament as the elected representatives of the people pushed and shoved, jostled and scuffled on the premises of the temple of democracy. Two camps of MPs, diametrically opposed in their politics, were holding their respective protests in the premises of Parliament on December 19 when a faceoff triggered ugly scenes on the threshold of Parliament where the cramping of MPs led to injuries being sustained, some of the grievous kind.

Of course, the camps blamed each other though, truth to tell, they have together been guilty of progressively sulling the atmosphere of Indian democracy with their acrimony descending in most recent times to a rabid hate for each other. They have also destroyed the ambience of the Houses of Parliament by behaving like ruffians in a crush of MPs.

It would be pointless to seek a cause-and-effect sequencing in such a bizarre happening. The fact remains that far more serious injuries were sustained by two or three members of the ruling party who could only have been victims of the physical strength of their opponents. Ruling party members, including the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, may have been pushed to the ground or manhandled as they claimed.

Such scenes represent an unprecedented event in Parliament though physical violence and the weaponisation of handy objects like microphones and chairs and tables have been known to take place in state Assemblies. Why, even pepper sprays have been carried to cause harm to opponents in India's political dramas of the worst kind as legislators frequently display immaturity in the face of having to coexist when enclosed with their political rivals. The irony is not complete in the fact that MPs were the ones who traded accusations after having been guilty of dragging Indian politics to a low in which those opposed to their chosen points of view are seen as enemies and not fellow lawmakers. The image of the Indian politician is already low enough as they are seen as influence peddlers who are prone to aggrandising power and pelf at the cost of the very people who chose them as MPs. Consider how ironic these events are as they come at a time when the best parliamentary values are supposed to have been imbibed in the 75 years since the writing of the Constitution. Its celebratory diamond jubilee will now be remembered for all the wrong reasons even as one of the most rancorous sessions came to an inglorious close after days of sound and fury and hotly contested divergent points of view, dragging in historical figures, ranging from the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to the main architect of the Constitution Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar.

Air gets too toxic to breathe: Whose problem is it really?

Delhi's Central Pollution Board, the Committee for Air Quality Management (CAQM) for the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas and the Central government's Air Quality Early Warning System in Delhi have got into action as the national capital's Air Quality Index (AQI) moved into the "severe" category when it crossed the 400 mark -- it was 433 on Tuesday -- and invoked Stage 4 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), shuffling from GRAP-3 to GRAP-4, which placed greater restrictions on construction and traffic movement of vehicles, especially those running on old petrol and diesel cars. Schools have been closed except for students in Class 10 and Class 12, and the hybrid mode -- attending classes from home through the Internet -- has been adopted.

Doctors from Delhi's various hospitals have issued advisories to people about taking morning walks -- they have been prohibited -- and what kind of medicines those with hypertension should be taking. The other medical experts have warned about the long-term effects, how even healthy people could become sick, and the rising cases of cancer because of pollution. It is just not about old people, people with co-morbidities, the very young, it is about healthy people of all age groups who are impacted by the air pollution levels.

The days of severe AQI going into dangerous territory is supposed to be lasting from a few days to a fortnight, and the emergency conditions are supposed to recede. That it recurs every winter is recalled only at the time of the next winter.

The Delhi-NCR area's 33 million-plus people are supposed to be going through the thickening fog of pollution like zombies even as various government organisations



take the necessary emergency measures till the summer arrives, and winter is left far behind. But it may be time to take special measures to find out how people are being affected and what can be done. The argument that people are helpless and that they are struggling to earn their livelihoods and can barely survive in this stressful atmosphere is true enough and cannot be dismissed. But there are sections of people, the more informed ones, the relatively better-off ones, to sit up and think of the issue, and what lies behind air pollution, cold waves, heat waves, and floods -- climate change -- and make it the matter of public concern it

is, and how collective action through wider public consultations and people's involvement is, to use the cliché, the need of the hour. Can there be people's initiatives, starting from mohallas or neighbourhoods, where simple things like improving the tree cover could be done, parks are tended and protected, and vehicular traffic through the neighbourhood is regulated? These may seem inadequate and token measures but if groups of people in every neighbourhood were to undertake some of these things, the cumulative impact would be much larger.

Organisations like the United Nations agencies and national governments spent

huge amounts of money to spread AIDS awareness through the 1990s and the first decade of this century, and rightly so. Is there not a need for a climate change awareness campaign at various levels? Do we not need a Greta Thunberg, the precocious Swedish schoolgirl with support from her parents, who became a vociferous spokesperson on the dangers of climate change. Climate-change denier and now US President-elect Donald Trump had dismissed her presence with his characteristic rude remarks. But what the world perhaps needs is a Greta Thunberg in every country and in every city.

Literature & Health

POEMS

Flower

Pluck this little flower and take it, delay not! I fear lest it droop and drop into the dust. I may not find a place in thy garland, but honour it with a touch of pain from thy hand and pluck it. I fear lest the day end before I am aware, and the time of offering go by. Though its colour be not deep and its smell be faint, use this flower in thy service and pluck it while there is time.

Rabindranath Tagore

Magician of Numbers: Great Mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan National Mathematics Day

During British rule in India, when Indian society grappled with its superstitious beliefs and modern notion of logic, a mathematical prodigy was born into an orthodox Tamil Brahmin family. As it is said that a child's traits are evident early on, Ramanujan's childhood also reflected his genius. During his schooling at an early age of about eleven, when a mathematics teacher explained that if a number is divided by itself, the answer is one, Ramanujan curiously questioned him whether the same is the case if zero is divided by zero itself.

This confused the teacher and just to avoid Ramanujan's question, he replied that zero has no value and thus cannot be divided by itself. The answer did not satisfy Ramanujan and he argued that zero definitely has a value and if zero is added to one, it becomes ten and if another zero is added, it becomes hundred and therefore it is completely wrong to say that zero has no value. Many such

anecdotes from Ramanujan's school are quite famous. During his schooling, this talented child used to help undergraduate college students in mathematics. Ramanujan was an erudite mathematician with an impeccable knowledge of mathematical concepts.

SrinivasaIyengarRamanujan was born on 22 December 1887 in the city of Erode, Tamil Nadu. Ramanujan's father worked as a clerk in a cloth shop and his mother was a housewife. Ramanujan received his primary education from the local school and his inclination towards mathematics was evident from a very young age. During his school studies, he was a brilliant student but when he reached college, his love for mathematics proved to be detrimental. In an attempt to master mathematics, he could not pass in the other subjects and had to leave the college.

Er. Jasbir Singh
Govt Polytechnic College
Batala

Virus causing gut infections could play role in development of Alzheimer's: Study

A virus that can cause infection in the gut and from there travel to the brain, could be important in the development of Alzheimer's disease, according to a study.

Existing antiviral drugs may then be looked at for treating or preventing this form of Alzheimer's disease, researchers, including those at the Arizona State University, US, said. Most humans are thought to have been exposed to cytomegalovirus (HCMV), one of the nine viruses known to cause herpes (painful blisters on the skin), during the first few decades of their lives. The virus is usually transmitted through bodily fluids and spreads only when it is active. Published in Alzheimer's and Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association, the study found that in some people, the herpes-causing virus may re-



main active in the gut, from where it can travel to the brain via the vagus nerve, which connects the gut and the brain. Once in the brain, the virus can alter the immune system and contribute to changes in cells associated with Alzheimer's disease, the researchers explained.

The researchers noted that the herpes-causing virus is recognized by immune cells in the

brain, called microglia, which activate a specific gene called 'CD83.'

The virus could then contribute to biological changes in the brain, which are known to be involved in the development of Alzheimer's disease -- a neurodegenerative disorder that progressively deteriorates brain function, such as memory and cognitive abilities, as one ages.

Christmas seems to come earlier every year amid the spirit of giving

"Shah Jahan was obsessed with his wife
Is the Taj a monument to her life
Or just to her death?
-- A bitter life's breath
And an icon to the poor worker's strife?
Yes, they come to admire the Taj
For every tourist it is, by and large,
The best monument
The tour guides present
To the history-seeking entourage."
From *Monkey Bath*, by Bachchoo

In Britain in recent years, Christmas comes earlier and earlier. This isn't the consequence of the discovery of a new gospel proving that Jesus was not born on the 25th of December but rather on the 13th of November or thereabouts. No, it's the retail trade cashing in on the sacred Christian observance of the birth of the saviour to sell, sell, sell!

Though one is entitled to sneer at whole populations being induced to



buy Christmas trees at uncompetitive prices, to avail of false "bargains" and to hoard soon-redundant presents, one must appreciate the fact that the consumerist celebration kills off the Scrooge in millions of people and turns

them into generous gifting fairies.

Then also there is the "plus" of people generously moved to donate to charities at Christmas -- and that not only on or around December 25, but for weeks and months before.

Of course, retailers, small and large, have not only expanded Christmas like the folded flexible bellows of an accordion, through the first weeks of December, but have stretched it into November and, in one article I read, written by an Anglican priest, a wedding party celebrating their October nuptials by singing Christmas carols.

Retailers have also invented "Days". Valentine's Day has its origin in Roman and Christian myth or history. But Mother's Day? Or Father's Day? Sister's, Brother's... Uncle's? There is no doubt that dog, cat and budgerigar-food manufacturers and retailers will soon invent Dog's Day (Isn't there one already?)

--Ed? Er... yes sir, it marks the rise of Sirius the "Dog Star", known to us Parsis as "Tir" -- your humble savant, fd) "Cat Day" and "Twitter Day?" (Isn't it called X now? --Ed)

But why blame the opportunist retailers? We colonials in India, millions of non-Christians, celebrate Christmas

with gifts and stockings, chicken if not turkey, and we even sing the carols. I attribute that to our multi-religious nation celebrating each other's festivals -- Christmas, Diwali, Id, Holi, Dussehra... come one, come all. Any excuse!

The only New Year, belonging to my minority Parsi community, popularly if mistakenly known as "Papayti", hasn't spread to the others. In my childhood the only Maratha Hindu individual who pretended to adopt the festival was a neighbourhood beggar who would accost Parsis in their finery going to the fire temple with "aamchi popety, aamchi popety"! A plea for a celebratory handout.

So, in celebration of Christmas, gentle reader, here's a short Christmas story:

PIGEONS' PICNIC I I was two years old; my sister was three In the last year of the colonial Raj I remember our Quetta house as large And rambling -- though it probably Was just an

army cantonment bungalow. They say that early memories distort The size of things. I suppose David thought Goliath was a mighty mountain though He dropped him with a pebble from a sling. That's another story, this one's about A Christmas memory. I have no doubt It has been subject to the distorting Influences that a repeated tale Is subject to -- distortion will prevail.

My mum said for that Christmas she would bake Zareen and me each a gingerbread man.

We promised, and in the kitchen, began To knead the mixture and proceed to make Two identical ginger-biscuit men With black currant eyes and an icing grin They looked enticing on the baking tin. We were told we had to be patient when they went into the oven. In a while Mum pulled the baking tin out from the rack And noticed that one of them had a crack Oh horrors! Now she'd have to reconcile One of us to accept imperfection By persuading one of us the confection.

AGARTALA : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday highlighted the importance of 'Dharma' as duty, saying that it is written in Chanakya Sutra how only the nations which follow dharma (as duty) can live in peace and happiness. Clarifying that the Chanakya Sutra talks about dharma as a duty, he said, "Chanakya sutra says - only those states and nations can live in happiness and peace where people follow Dharma - which here means duty and not religion... He further says that of which nation, people can follow duty - the nations which are prosperous."

"Our thoughts inspires us to move forward in life": Uttarakhand CM Dhama

AGENCY DEHRADUN : Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama on Saturday participated in the Gangadhara-Vicharon Ka Avirah Pravah program organized at Doon University, Dehradun and said that such events nourish our culture and traditions as well as bring positive change in the society.



been considered the basis of education. The Chief Minister said that in this program we will get the guidance of revered Swami Avdheshanand Giri Ji Maharaj on Indian culture. "During this two-day lecture series, topics like migration, education, culture, and environment

towards the preservation and promotion of rich cultural traditions. "The dream of self-reliant India is being realized through Local for Vocal, Make in India, Made in India and Startup India," he said.

The Chief Minister said that the state government is working with full commitment to promote cultural traditions in the state and for overall development. "The state government is going to establish the Centre for Hindu Studies in Doon University. Where in-depth study and research work will be done on Hindu civilization, philosophy, history and principles. The all-round development of the state is being taken forward with the coordination of economy and ecology. Uttarakhand is the only state where an attempt has been made to measure

GEP along with GDP," he added.

CM Dhama said that Uttarakhand ranked first in the country in the list of Sustainable Development Goals released by NITI Aayog. "The state government is strengthening the local economy through many schemes like State Millet Mission, Apple Mission, New Tourism Policy, New Film Policy," he said.

He also reiterated that the state government's Uniform Civil Code will be implemented from January 2025. "The Uttarakhand government was the first in the country to work on the Uniform Civil Code. This will be implemented by January 2025. Many provisions of the Uniform Civil Code are being simplified. An application is also being prepared to understand it," he said.

Punjab police arrests two members of Gangster module, 2 glock pistols recovered

SHARANJEET PATHANKOT: In a major breakthrough amidst the ongoing drive to make Punjab a safe and secure state, Punjab Police's Counter Intelligence (CI) Pathankot has busted a gangster module with the arrest of its two members

Raimal in Batala. Accused Sunil alias Ashu has a criminal history with case under NDPS act registered against him. He was released on bail from Gurdaspur Jail on February 27, 2024.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said that preliminary investigations have revealed that accused persons had received the consignment of weapons from Ajnala area of Amritsar following directions of their handlers and were instructed to deliver it further to an unknown party. Further investigations are underway to uncover the source of the weapons and identification of more suspects involved in the network, he added.



leading to the recovery of two sophisticated 9MM Glock pistols along with four magazines and 14 cartridges from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Saturday.

Those arrested have been identified as Sunil Kumar alias Ashu, a resident of Rauwal in Batala and Dilpreet Singh alias Dil, a resident of

Sharing operation details, AIG CI Pathankot Sukhinder Singh Mann said that a secret information was received that accused Sunil Kumar and Dilpreet Singh are in touch with some unknown gangsters and recently they have received a consignment.

Hon'ble government urged to provide facilities like cities to villages: MLA Rai

FATEHGARH SAHIB, (BIKRAMJEET SAHOTA): The Punjab government is working to provide all kinds of facilities to the people of Punjab in the best way. Under this series, road repair work is also being done so that there is no problem in coming and going. This was revealed by MLA Advocate Lakhbir Singh Rai of Fatehgarh Sahib while starting the repair work of the road from village Reuna Niwan to Mulepur, Jakhwali. He said that all possible efforts are being made by the government to



provide facilities like cities to the villages. Where good playgrounds are being built in the villages, parks are also being built. With playgrounds, the youth can be encouraged to play sports by protecting them from evils like drugs, and with the construction of parks, it will be easier for the elderly to walk. He said that the previous governments did nothing but small things Punjab. Sarpanch Paramjit Singh Ravana, Nirmal Singh Ravana, Hermal Singh, Amrik Singh, Kesar Singh, Jagrup Singh, Gurdeep Singh, Kaldeep Bawa, Avtar Singh, Baljinder Singh, Gurmeet Singh etc. were present on this occasion.

Small Wonders School celebrates Annual Musical 'Musical Munchkins' with Plastic Free Zero Waste



prayers, rhymes and concluding with famous Christmas carols and ushering in the New Year. Principal Herdip K Nama, believing in taking steady and strong steps towards making a positive impact in this world by promoting a healthy lifestyle and nature, organized this event, plastic free and zero waste and emphasized on curbing paper usage, plastic bottles and conserving power.

Court of The Assistant Collector First Class (Naib Tehsildar), Ghanaur

This is to inform all general and special persons that in the court of the undersigned, Tarsem Singh son of Shamsheer Singh resident of House No. 4, Near Dispensary, Ward No. 8, Village Bhabat, District SAS Nagar (Mohali) Sub Tehsil Ghanaur, an application has been filed in the partition case Tarsem Singh etc. vs. Malook Singh etc. area 45 bighas 15 biswa waka mouza Rasulpur, Sub Tehsil Ghanaur. If any person has any objection to this, then he may appear before the court of the undersigned on 07/01/2025 by counsel or by post. Any objection received after 07/01/2025 will not be entertained.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that our client intends to enter into a transaction in respect of lands admeasuring approx. 6.1438 acres situated at Village: Kheri Dhayia, Hadbast No. 189, Tehsil: Kharkhoda, District: Sonapat, Haryana (hereinafter referred to as the "Said Land"). The description and current ownership of Said Land is detailed in Schedule-A.

Any entity / person having or claiming any right, title, claim, benefit, demand, possession or interest of any nature in and over with respect to the Said Land or having any objection to the intended transaction or if any entity / person has any knowledge of or is party to any sale, agreement, exchange, assignment, charge, gift, license, tenancy, inheritance, lien, mortgage, hypothecation, encumbrance, pending litigation, possession, contract/agreement, development rights, partnership, family arrangement/ settlement, decree or order of any Court, acquisition by Government or any other entity, prohibition or any other impediment with respect to the Said Land, then such entity / person should inform us in writing with documentary proof on the address mentioned below within a period of 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be deemed and presumed that no adverse right, title, interest, share, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever exists in or upon or in respect of the Said Land.

Table with columns: Sl. No., Village, Kheawat bearing No., Khatauni bearing No., Recd. No., Kila No., Area in K, M, Name of Registered Current Owner. Includes details for Kheri Dhayia village and Shri Surendra Singh son of Shri Ram Singh.

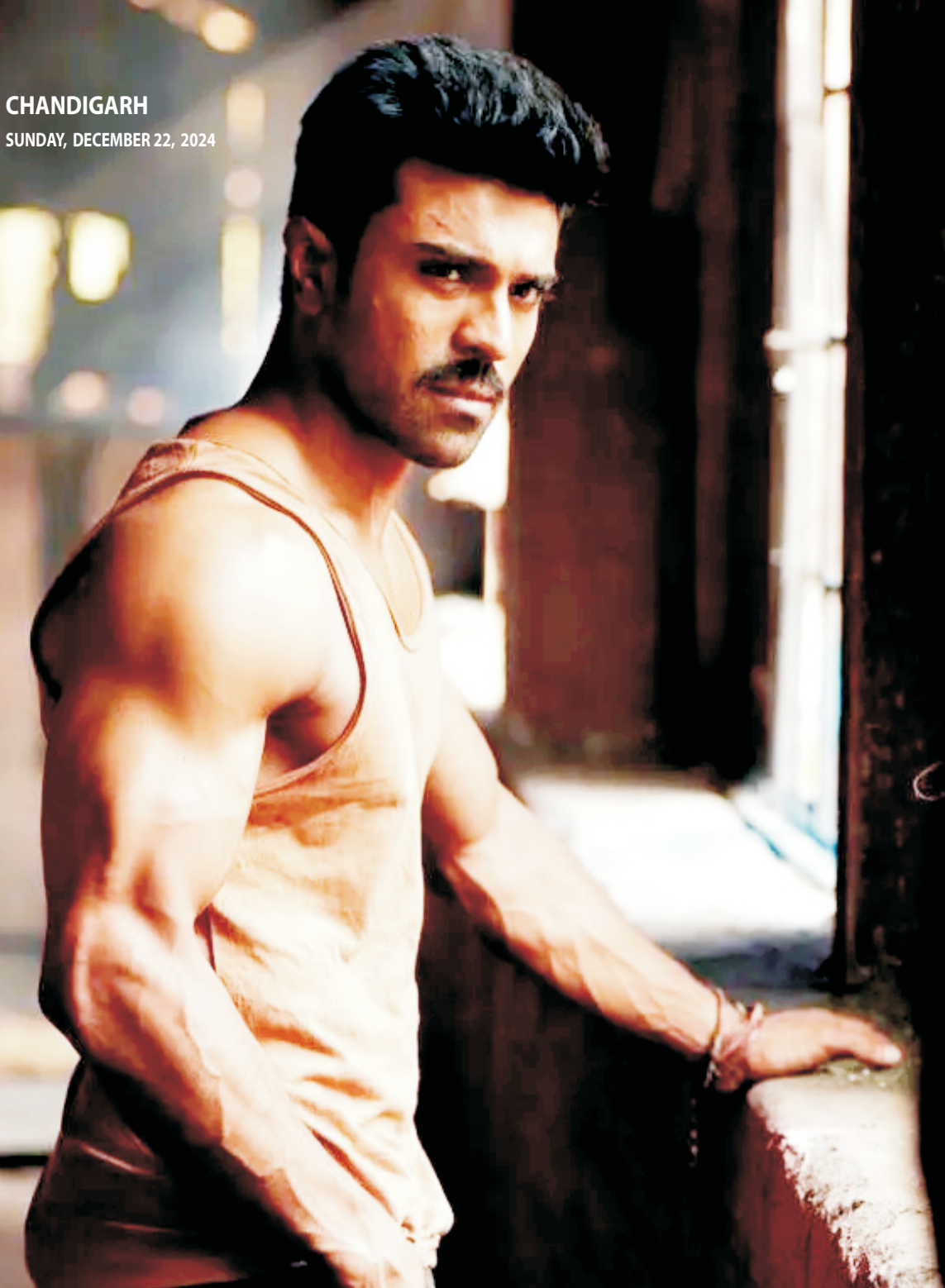
Name: Kartik Madaan Contact No.: +91 9649254253 Address: Samagra Law, 2nd floor, Plot No. 38, Okhla Phase-III, New Delhi- 110 020.

AXIS BANK: Retail Asset Center : 2nd and 3rd Floor, Property No. # T.E. Municipal 3032114216 Mahar Road, Sarabjit Nagar, Ludhiana - 141001. Registered Office: Tirthal, 3rd Floor, Opposite Sarabjit Nagar Temple, Law Garden, Elabridge, Ahmedabad-382005.

VASTU HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD Unit 203 & 204, 2nd Floor, "A" Wing, Navbharat Estate, Zakaria Bunder Road, Sewri (West), Mumbai 400015, Maharashtra. CIN No.: U65922MH2005PLC272501. POSSESSION NOTICE: Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred to him under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE Chief Electrical Engineer/Project, Ambala Cantt for & on behalf of the President of India invites OPEN E-TENDER on website www.ireps.gov.in for the following works. Tenderer may submit their original/revised offer up to prescribed closing time & date. No tender will be accepted manually. Tender No.: NR-Proj-UMB-25003. Name of work: "Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of feeder work for Upgradation of existing 1x25 KV Electric Traction System into 2x25 KV Electric Traction System in between Jalandhar Cantt - Jammu Tawi Section of Firozpur Division of Northern Railway (213 RKM/426 TKM)".

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) 1. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Arki Distt. Solan H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system in 2 cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department. Sr. No. Name of work Estimated Cost EMD Cost of tender Eligible class of contractor Time



Mega pre-release event of Ram Charan starrer Game Changer to held in Dallas

Global star Ram Charan's 'Game Changer' will be having its grand pre-release event at Curtis Culwell Center, Dallas, USA, on Saturday. The overseas bookings for the film have already started.

After a wait of three years, Ram Charan's highly anticipated return to silver screens in a lead role will be concluded with the release of the film 'Game Changer.'

The film is slated to release in the theatres on January 10, 2025. It is directed by S Shankar and stars Kiara Advani, SJ Suryah, Nassar, Sunil Prakash Raj and Jayaram in prominent roles.

The makers and Ram Charan have started the promotion of the film through song and poster releases and pre-release events.

Taking to his social media, Ram Charan announced the date and venue of the Pre-release event in Dallas, USA. Solidifying his status as a Global Star, Ram Charan is set to become the first Indian actor who has hosted a pre-release event in the United States.

In the video, Ram Charan donned a white shirt and jacket and paired it with black pants and sunglasses. He announced that the event will be held at Curtis Culwell Center in Dallas on December 21.

In the United States, the buzz around Game Changer is just as intense, with fans eagerly anticipating Ram Charan's arrival. With his larger-than-life presence and a good track record in films like the Oscar-winning RRR, Game Changer is expected to create a massive uproar at the global

Box Office.

The teaser of the film was launched in Lucknow at a grand event attended by the team of the 'Game Changer' including Kiara and director S Shankar.

Notably, Ram Charan attended the teaser launch event of 'Game Changer' barefoot in Lucknow. He was spotted wearing an all-black ethnic outfit - kurta, pyjama and stole. The over-one-minute-long 'Game Changer' teaser shows Ram Charan going from academia to action. In the clip, he can be seen fighting goons and even romancing Kiara Advani. Reportedly, the film is set in the world of politics and centres around the story of an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer who takes on corrupt politicians and fights for fair elections.

"The film stays with you for...": RajKummar Rao lauds Richa Chadha, Ali Fazal's 'Girls Will Be Girls'

The coming-of-age drama 'Girls Will Be Girls', backed by actors Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal, which recently premiered on Prime Video after screening at several international film festivals, continues to receive love from fans and celebs alike. After accolades from Priyanka Chopra, Hrithik Roshan, and Dia Mirza, actor RajKummar Rao has now praised the film, calling it "beautiful." Taking to Instagram, the 'Stree 2' actor shared a poster of the film on his stories and wrote, "This is such a beautiful, coming-of-age film produced by our very own Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal. More power to you both, doston. The film stays with you for a long time. Congratulations #SuchiTalati on Girls Will Be Girls and Kani Kusruti, Preeti Panigrahi, and Kesav Binoy Kiran--such fine performances by you all." 'Girls Will Be Girls' premiered at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival, earning two awards and widespread acclaim. The film also swept multiple awards at the MAMI Mumbai Film Festival this year.

It is an Indo-French collaboration, that stars newcomers Preeti Panigrahi and Kesav Binoy Kiran alongside Kani Kusruti. It is produced by Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal's Pushing Buttons Studios, in collaboration with French production houses Dolce Vita Films and Crawling Angel Films. Directed by Shuchi Talati, the film is a compelling story set in a boarding school in a small Himalayan hill town in northern India. It follows the journey of Mira, a 16-year-old girl whose rebellious awakening is intertwined with her mother's unfulfilled coming-of-age experiences.

'Anaconda' starring Jack Black, Paul Rudd set for Christmas 2025

Comedy superstars Jack Black and Paul Rudd are teaming up for a Christmas treat with their upcoming film Anaconda, a blend of horror and comedy, set to hit theatres during the festive season of 2025. The duo took to Instagram to announce the release date, accompanied by a humorous video featuring Black and Rudd exchanging hugs and cracking jokes.

"Hey, what's up, people? We're making a movie! Paul Rudd and Jack Black star in The Anaconda. There's gonna be a big fu**ing snake, and it's gonna rip!" Jack said in the video. Paul Rudd added with his trademark humour, "You wanna get scared. You wanna laugh. You wanna celebrate with your friends. Or maybe you're alone, feeling sad, but just want to forget about that. The Anaconda is coming out on Christmas 2025."

Check out the fun video: The film will be directed by Tom Gormican, best known for The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent. Gormican is also co-writing the script with Kevin Etten. While plot details remain under wraps, early reports suggest the story will follow a group of friends facing mid-life crises as they attempt to remake their favourite childhood movie. However, their jungle adventure takes an unexpected and terrifying turn, according to Variety. Though it shares the title Anaconda, the movie is unrelated to the 1997 cult thriller starring Jennifer Lopez, Ice Cube, and Jon Voight. Instead, it promises a fresh, meta take, combining comedy and horror in a style reminiscent of Gormican's previous work.



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Before Due Date



*Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9

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- » TDS Deductor


- » Casual Taxable Person
- » TCS Collector
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#Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9C







A self-certified reconciliation statement in FORM GSTR-9C needs to be filed along with Annual Return in FORM GSTR-9 by the taxpayers whose Aggregate Annual Turnover is above ₹ 5 Crore (during F.Y. 2023-2024)

Late Filing of FORM GSTR-9 and FORM GSTR-9C will attract late fee

Please Scan for details on GST Annual Returns



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