

# Workshop to keep tourist areas clean



**SANJAY AGARWAL**  
RANGPO, OCT 10 /--/ The Union Tourism Ministry under whose aegis IITM Noida has been entrusted with the task of organizing stakeholders' workshop at different tourist destination to create an awareness

about basic hygiene and sanitation amongst stakeholders, tourists and school students held on Wednesday a workshop for school students at Junior High school Rangpo Bazar, Chanatar, and a stakeholders' meet at Eco Paradise Resort on the

importance of cleanliness and hygiene under Swachh Bharat Swachh Paryatan. IITM Noida also organized an awareness programme among domestic tourist about importance of keeping our tourist attraction and tourist area clean.

# Goa CM to meet alliance partners at AIIMS tomorrow

PANAJI, OCT 10 /--/ Goa chief minister Manohar Parrikar will meet the alliance partners of his government on October 12 at the AIIMS in Delhi where he is currently undergoing treatment, an official said today. Parrikar, 62, is admitted at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi since September 15 for a pancreatic ailment. "The alliance partners have been called for a meeting by the CM in Delhi on October 12 at AIIMS where he is admitted," a senior official in the chief minister's office (CMO) here told news agency PTI.

Later, two alliance ministers Francis D Souza and Pandurang Maikalkar were dropped from the Goa Cabinet and they were replaced with Milind Naik and Nilesh Cabral. Questions over the stability of the government have been raised by the Opposition Congress because of Parrikar's illness. Goa Deputy Speaker and BJP MLA Michael Lobo said last Friday that the state administration has "totally collapsed" because of the absence of Parrikar and people were praying for his early recovery. The MGR, a key ally in Goa's ruling BJP-led coalition, last Wednesday dismissed questions over the stability of Parrikar government but expressed readiness to face mid-term polls in case the Assembly is dissolved.

"I have been invited for the meeting with the chief minister in Delhi on October 12. I don't know who else is invited," Gawade said, adding that he has not been informed about the meeting's agenda. This would be the

# Workshop on mental health at Singtam



**SANJAY AGARWAL**  
RANGPO, OCT 10 /--/ The SAATHI team of Government Senior Secondary, Singtam, observed on Wednesday the "World Mental Health Day" conducted by SAATHI, Singtam, peer educators under the supervision of the school principal and teacher coordinators.

Peer educator Simran Sharma defined mental health disorder like other physical diseases, a disease of feelings, emotions and the behaviours which needed equal precaution and treatment; the failure to which leads individuals to the problems like anxiety, depression and ultimately substance abuse. Simultaneously supervised checking in class rooms was also conducted by SAATHI members. And it is reported that inflow of tobacco and plastic food packets have declined drastically.

# Ballia college closed shut amid row over Vande Matram 'ban'

BALLIA, OCT 10 /--/ A day after a magisterial probe was ordered to investigate an alleged ban on singing Vande Matram and chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" at a government-aided inter college in Ballia district, authorities have closed it indefinitely. "We have closed the college till further orders. It will be reopened after permission from administration" principal of Gandhi Mohammad Ali Memorial (GMAM) Inter College, Majid Nasir, said today. On the direction of the district administration, the principal

past a notice dated Tuesday at the college that there was freedom to recite or sing "Bharat Mata Ki Jai", Vande Matram, Jana Gana Mana etc. District magistrate Bhawani Singh Khangarut and Superintendent of Police Sriparna Ganguly visited the college Tuesday to examine the allegation that there was a ban on singing Vande Matram and chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" at the college. They later ordered a magisterial probe. An FIR was registered on Monday by Class 12 student Anuj

Kumar Gaur that he and three other school students were attacked at the college gate. Gaur alleged that they were attacked at the best of Nasir and a few teachers. He claimed Nasir and the teachers were angry with him after he told a social organisation and mediapersons on Friday that singing Vande Matram and chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" were not allowed in the college. Gaur stated in the FIR that around 20 to 25 men attacked them with lathis, while raising "Pakistan Zindabad" slogans.

# Rahul asks Rajasthan Youth Cong workers to focus on 'corruption' in BJP govt

JAIPIUR, OCT 10 /--/ Congress president Rahul Gandhi today urged Youth Congress workers to take the issue of corruption in the Rafale aircraft deal to the village level as the party gears up for the Assembly elections in December. The Congress president's focus was on exposing the BJP government, which is involved in corruption, like in the Rafale deal, Rajasthan Youth Congress president Ash Chandra told news agency PTI. Rahul attended a meeting of the national executive of the Youth Congress here before leaving for Bikaner for a Maha Sankalp public meeting. On Tuesday, he addressed public meetings in Dholpur, Bharatpur and Dausa districts. The Prime Minister is favouring top industrialists and not paying heed to farmers and the poor and this is what Rahul Gandhi wants the Youth Congress to tell people across the country, Chandra said after the Jaipur meeting. The Congress president asked the members to follow the party's ideology and work with dedication to strengthen democracy, Chandra said. The national executive meeting was also attended by Youth Congress national president Keshav Chand Yadav, vice-president Srinivas B V and general secretary and state in-charge Devender Kadyan. He interacted with young entrepreneurs at a separate meeting. Rajasthan Congress president Sachin Pilot, All India Congress Committee general secretary and

former chief minister Ashok Gehlot and AICC general secretary and in-charge of party affairs in Rajasthan Avinash Pande were also present at the meetings. (PTI)



# Poor voter turnout in Valley, some enthusiasm in Jammu

JAMMU/SRINAGAR, OCT 10 /--/ People in Jammu division voted with enthusiasm today in municipal elections but there was poor voter turnout in the troubled Kashmir Valley -- in a repeat of a trend also seen in the first round of the four-phase battle. Till noon, Bandipora topped the voter turnout at 22.2 per cent in the Valley while in Srinagar, Baramulla, Kupwara and Anantnag districts the voter participation was a feeble 1.4, 3.7, 3.3 and 0.9 per cent respectively. An overwhelming deployment of security forces ensured that the voting remained peaceful despite militant threats to disrupt the polls being boycotted by the two main parties in the Valley -- National Conference and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Ramban district at 62.9 per cent topped the voting percentage in

the Jammu division. The turnout was 59.4 per cent in Kathua, 50.8 in Udhampur, 60.8 in Reasi, 57.8 in Doda and 55.9 in Kishtwar districts of Jammu division in the first six hours. There was visible reluctance among people to join the democratic process in the Valley. Two lone candidates were declared elected unopposed in Kulgam and Badgam districts. The municipal polls are now effective only in 11 districts of the state in the second phase -- six in Jammu division and five in the Valley where a separatist campaign raged since 1989 has left thousands dead. Jammu and Kashmir is holding municipal polls after 13 years. A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, Azad Singh, died of cardiac arrest in Ramban district after casting his vote, officials said.



Security personnel maintaining vigil outside a polling booth during 2nd phase of local bodies elections in Baderwah in Jammu and Kashmir

# I-T raids at 16 premises linked to Delhi minister Kailash Gahlot, Kejriwal seeks PM's apology

NEW DELHI, OCT 10 /--/ The Income Tax (I-T) department today conducted searches on multiple premises linked to Delhi transport minister Kailash Gahlot in connection with an alleged tax evasion case, officials said. They said at least 16 locations in and around the national capital are being raided by a team of about 30 I-T sleuths. The searches are being conducted as part of a tax evasion probe against two construction firms owned by the minister and others, the officials said. Gahlot is the minister for transport, law and revenue and is an Aam Admi Party (AAP) MLA from the Najafgarh Assembly Constituency. Reacting to the incident, Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal today sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's apology. He said the Prime Minister should apologise to people for "constantly troubling" the Delhi government. "Friendship with Neerav Modi and Mallika and on us? Modi ji you conducted raids on the Satyendrar and Manish what happened to others (raids). Nothing was found. So before you go with

another raid at least apologise to Delhi people for troubling their elected government", Kejriwal tweeted. The Aam Admi Party (AAP) termed the raid as a "media event". AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj asked the central agencies including the CBI, the ED and the ITD to disclose if it found anything related to "corruption" during their raids on AAP leaders and ministers. "Many such raids happened in the past but nothing substantial came out nor any charge sheet was filed," Bhardwaj said.

# StateNotes

## Fever claims 3 lives in Muzaffarnagar

MUZAFFARNAGAR, OCT 10 /--/ Three people died while many were undergoing treatment due to an "unknown fever" in Uttar Pradesh's Samli district, officials said today. They said a medical team went to affected Usmanpur village and took samples of 45 people and gave medicines to 66 patients. According to Kanti Prashad, the superintendent of government health centre here, the deceased were identified as Rajbhawan (32), Babita (19) and Ankit (26). More than 65 people were undergoing treatment, he said.

## UP govt announces 5 per cent discount on Khadi clothes

LUCKNOW, OCT 10 /--/ The Uttar Pradesh government today announced a "special five per cent discount" on the purchase of Khadi clothes in view of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The decision in this regard was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Yogi Adityanath. "Five per cent discount will be asserted on purchasing Khadi clothes on the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi (on October 2)," cabinet minister Srikanth Sharma told newsmen here.

## 4 die as fire breaks out in Ludhiana factory

LUDHIANA, OCT 10 /--/ Four persons were killed in a fire that broke out in a hosiery factory at Kalyan Nagar here this morning, police said. The deceased were labourers who were working in the factory at the time of incident, police said. The exact cause of the fire was yet to be ascertained, police inspector Surinder Chopra. Around half a dozen fire-fighting vehicles were pressed into service to put out the fire, he said, adding that it took them three hours to douse the flames.



Two persons were injured in an accident involving the bus of a pharma company at 20th Mile near Bagheykhola on Tuesday night on National Highway 10. A police team from Rangpo rescued the two injured persons, driver Yog Prasad Mishra and handyman Siddharth Singh. They were admitted to Singtam district hospital. --- SANJAY AGARWAL

# Amid heavy security cover, Navratri festivities begin in Katra

KATRA, OCT 10 /--/ A mid-multiplicity security cover, the nine-day Navratri festivities began Wednesday with hundreds of pilgrims thronging Katra base camp ahead of their foot-bound journey to the cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi. Led by Divisional Commissioner Jammu Division Sanjeev Verma, the festivities began at 11 am at Asia Chowk here, followed by a 'shobha yatra' and a grand event showcasing the cultural heritage of the state. "The Navratri festival has begun here. It has been held annually for the past 25 years, through which we aim to showcase the cultural heritage and tourism of Jammu", Verma told newsmen here. According to a police officer, security agencies are leaving no stone unturned for the peaceful conduct of the festivities. More than 60 lakh pilgrims have visited the cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district till the end of September this year. Over 80 lakh had paid obeisance at the shrine last year, an official said. Tight security arrangements have been put in place and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) have increased vigilance at Katra and the route leading to the shrine, an officer said. Officials said the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and the Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Board have made extensive arrangements for Navratri. The track leading to the shrine has adequate water, power supply and proper sanitation facility. Further, special food for the ones fasting will be available at the bhajanalayas (eateries) of the shrine board, Verma said. As in the past, the bhawan and the areas surrounding it have been decorated with flowers brought from across the country and abroad. All the routes leading to the shrine have been renovated and the establishments have got a fresh coat of paint, he added. According to Om Parkash Bhagat, director of the state's tourism department, various events have been planned during the festivities, including presentation of 'mata rani ki kahaani', 'ram leela', 'prabhat pheris', devotional song competition, cultural programmes and wrestling competition.