



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



**Prithika Chopra**  
Class:- 9th 'A'  
D.O.B:- 27-08-2009  
JKPS Panjtirthi

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



**Shivansh Dutt**  
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**NOTICE**

I, Deepak Gupta S/o Ram Rattan Gupta R/o H.No. 111-A Gandhi Nagar, Jammu have lost Number Plate of my vehicle bearing registration no. JK02DB-1249 Now, I am applying for duplicate of the same. Objection if any be conveyed to concerned authority within seven days.

**FOR BOOKING ADVERTISEMENT CONTACT**

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STATE TIMES

## Notorious chain-snatcher wanted in 55 cases held from Thane district

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
THANE: Crime Branch officials arrested a notorious criminal out on bail from Thane district against whom a staggering 55 cases of chain snatching had been registered in various cities, a senior police officer said on Monday.

Police recovered stolen gold chains collectively valued at Rs 3.13 lakh from the accused, identified as Ghulam Ali alias Nadar Sartaj Jafri (40).

Crime Branch unit V officials from Wagle Estate in Thane city utilised a combination of intelligence and technical inputs to nab Jafri, a resident of Ambivili,

Kalyan, said Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime) Shekar Bagde.

A senior police inspector said 45 cases of chain snatching had been pending investigation against Jafri at different police stations in Nashik, Pune, Ahmednagar, and Thane districts in Maharashtra and at some locations in Gujarat since 2015.

Jafri, who was out on bail when he was arrested, committed ten chain snatchings, he said.

Jafri operated alone. His modus operandi involved targeting victims on his motorbike and swiftly snatching their chains.

## Chhattisgarh: 25 Naxalites, including 5 with total bounty of Rs 28 lakh, surrender in Bijapur

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BIJAPUR : Twenty-five Naxalites, five of them carrying a cumulative bounty of Rs 28 lakh on their heads, surrendered in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh on Monday, a senior police official said.



The 25 ultras, who were active in Gangloor and Bhairamgarh area committees of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist), include two women, the official added.

"The two women, Shambati Madkam (23) and Jyoti Punem (27), and Mahesh Telam were active in company no. 2 of the Maoists and carried rewards of Rs 8 lakh each on their heads. Madkam was active in the movement since 2012 and was allegedly involved in the 2020 Minpa

ambush in Sukma in which 17 personnel lost their lives. She was also involved in the Tekalgudem (Bijapur) attack in which 22 security personnel were killed in 2021," said Bijapur Superintendent of Police Jitendra Kumar Yadav.

"Punem and Telam were allegedly involved in an encounter in Pidia village

in Bijapur in May this year in which 12 Naxalites were gunned down. Vishnu Kartam alias Monu (29), section deputy commander of platoon no. 16 'B', and Jaidev Podiam (18), Mirtur LOS (local organization squad) PLGA member, were carrying rewards of Rs 3 lakh and Rs 1 lakh, respectively," the SP

informed.

Two others who surrendered, Guddu Kakem (20) and Sudru Punem (32), were carrying rewards of Rs 10,000 each on their heads, the official added.

They surrendered citing disappointment with the hollow Maoist ideology and atrocities on tribal by leaders of the outlawed movement, he said, adding those who laid down down arms were provided assistance of Rs 25,000 each and will be further rehabilitated as per the government's policy.

"With this surrender, 170 Naxalites have so far quit violence in the district this year. Besides, 346 Maoists have been arrested in the district during the same period," the SP said.

## Three more accused held in Amritsar NRI shooting case

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
HOSHIARPUR : Two days after an NRI was shot at inside his house in Amritsar, Punjab Police here on Monday apprehended three more accused.

In a joint operation, the district police of Hoshiarpur and Amritsar arrested three men allegedly involved in the shooting incident, they said.

The arrests were made from a 'dharmashala' (inn) in Hoshiarpur, police said.

Two criminals, Sukhwinder alias Sukha and Gurkirat Singh alias Guri, were hired to kill Sukhchain Singh, who had recently returned from the US, Amritsar Police had earlier said.

Hoshiarpur Superintendent of Police (Investigation) Sarbjit Singh Bahia on Monday said the police, acting on a



tip-off, raided a 'dharmashala' located in the busy Gausala Bazar area, leading to the arrest of Gurkirat Singh and Sukhwinder, both residents of the Buttran village in the Jalandhar district.

One more accused was arrested from Subhanpur in the Kapurthala district.

The three were wanted by the Amritsar Police in connection with the incident in

fired three shots at him before fleeing. Two of the bullets hit the victim -- one in the head and the other near the chest, police said, adding that he was stated to be out of danger.

Amritsar Police Commissioner Ranjit Singh Dhillon had said on Saturday the attack was carried out at the behest of the family of his first wife. His first wife had committed suicide in December 2022 and her family had a grudge against him, Dhillon said.

Footage retrieved from the CCTV cameras installed inside the victim's house showed his wife, mother and children pleading with the assailants to let him go.

Special Director General of Police R N Dhoke (Internal Security) met Sukhchain Singh's family in Amritsar on Saturday.

## 'Shiv Sena would have secured double-digit tally in LS polls if nominees not replaced in some seats'

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
MUMBAI: Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday said Shiv Sena led by him would have won seats in double digits in the Lok Sabha elections had the party candidates not been changed in 3 to 4 constituencies.

"If we had not changed our candidates on 3-4 seats, our tally would have been in double digits. We indeed performed well in the Lok Sabha elections," he told a gathering of Shiv Sena workers.

In the maiden Lok Sabha election after the split in undivided Shiv Sena, the party led by Shinde won seven seats out of 15 constituencies it had contested.

The rival Shiv Sena (UBT) won nine constituencies out of 21 it had contested.

Shinde-led Sena replaced candidates in Yavatmal-Washim and Hingoli Lok Sabha seats. Additionally, the announcement of Nashik candidate Hemant Godse was delayed by weeks over the lack of consensus over his name in the constituents of the Shiv Sena-led Mahayuti alliance, comprising BJP and NCP.

However, sources in Shiv Sena claimed though the party was not willing to replace candidates, the party was pressured to do so in the names of some electoral surveys.

The poll outcome was not as per our expectations, they said, adding that Shiv Sena lost from some constituencies due to the extreme delay in finalising candidates.

Shinde claimed 80 ex-corporators in Mumbai have joined Shiv Sena, including 50 from rival Shiv Sena (UBT) so far.

## Doctor death: Many Durga Puja committees reject Bengal govt's honorarium

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KOLKATA : As calls for justice for the RG Kar victim intensify, several Durga Puja committees in West Bengal have rejected the Rs 85,000 honorarium offered by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee saying they cannot accept help from the government when women have taken to the streets demanding justice.

Rina Das, president of Bhadrakali Bouthan Sangha in Hooghly, explained, "We have decided to boycott this grant this year to honour the sentiments of our members who are deeply upset over the brutal attack on the post-graduate trainee doctor at her workplace. We had received this grant for several years in the past."

Prasenjit Bhattacharya from Uttarpara Shakti Sangha echoed similar senti-



ments, saying, "This is a symbolic protest. We will not accept the money until those involved in this heinous crime are apprehended and brought to justice."

Other committees, including Lalgola Krishnapur Sanyasitana in Murshidabad and Bethuadahari Town Club in Nadia, have also notified local authorities of their decision to decline the grant.

The Hiland Park

Durgostav Committee in Jadavpur has similarly rejected the grant to show solidarity with the victim's family. A committee official remarked, "We have unanimously decided to forgo the grant given the current situation of protests and demands for justice."

The Forum for Durgotsab, which represents community Durga Puja committees, urged to keep the festival separate from the tragic

incident. Partha Ghosh, a senior office-bearer, said, "We are grief-stricken and devastated by the tragedy and demand exemplary punishment for all those involved. We want justice be delivered at the earliest but don't know why this is being linked to Bengal's Durga Puja which has got UNESCO distinction."

Santosh Mitra Square Puja Committee's key organiser Sajal Ghosh, also a senior BJP leader, had earlier called on all puja committees to reject the honorarium to send a clear message of disapproval regarding the state's handling of the case.

"While we have not accepted the grant for several years, I urge every committee to reject it to convey our stance unequivocally," Ghosh said.

## Annual allocation of Rs 53.21 crore for Sukh Shiksha Yojana: Himachal CM

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SHIMLA : The Himachal Pradesh government will allocate Rs 53.21 crore annually to the 'Mukhya Mantri Sukh Shiksha Yojana' aimed at providing financial assistance to widows, destitute women, divorced women and disabled parents to support the education and well-being of their children.

The Himachal Pradesh cabinet had on Sunday announced the launch of 'Mukhya Mantri Sukh Shiksha Yojana'.

All eligible women, children and individuals with a family income not exceeding Rs 1 lakh per annum are covered under the scheme, a statement quoting Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday said.

"The state will allocate Rs 53.21 crore annually to fund this initiative," the chief minis-

ter said.

The scheme is aimed to support two specific age groups. For children under the age of 18, eligible women and disabled parents will get a monthly grant of Rs 1,000 to cover their educational, health and nutritional expenses.

Additionally, children who secure admission to undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma or vocational courses will receive financial aid from the government to bear tuition and hostel costs.

The state government's initiative aims to prevent issues such as child abuse, trafficking, teenage marriages and drug abuse by strengthening child protection at the family level and also addresses the needs of children with disabled parents, recognising the strong link between disability, unemploy-

ment and poverty, Sukhu said.

The chief minister said women who are widowed, deserted or abandoned often face arduous challenges in supporting their children, largely due to a lack of educational and financial resources.

"These women are particularly vulnerable, lacking the moral and financial support they need to sustain them and ensure their children's education," he said.

"It is important to foster a supportive environment for vulnerable families, ensuring that children receive the education and care they need to lead dignified lives," he added.

From day one, the current state government has prioritised giving a voice to the underprivileged sections and has launched numerous initiatives to support them, he said.

## CBI names RG Kar Hospital ex-principal Sandip Ghosh in corruption FIR, slaps non-bailable sections

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KOLKATA : The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has named Sandip Ghosh, former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, in the FIR the agency has filed in connection with its probe into the alleged financial irregularities at the institution during his tenure.

The agency has slapped Section 120B of IPC (criminal conspiracy) read with Section 420 IPC (cheating and dishonesty) and Section 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (amended in 2018) which covers unlawful acceptance of gratification by a public servant.

The cases read together account for cognisable offences and are non-bailable in nature, a senior Calcutta High Court lawyer said.

Besides Ghosh, the CBI has also registered cases against one M/s Ma Tara Traders of Madhya Jorehat, Banipur, Howrah, M/s Eshan Cafe of 4/1, H/1, JK Ghosh Road, Belgachhia, Kolkata and one M/s Khama Louha.

The FIR was lodged on the basis of a written complaint lodged by Debal Kumar Ghosh, special secretary to the state health department.

PTI retains a copy of the FIR.

The FIR was lodged on Saturday after the CBI took over the probe from a state-constituted Special

Investigation Team (SIT) following directions of the Calcutta High Court which the West Bengal government-Ghosh, former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, in the FIR the agency has filed in connection with its probe into the alleged financial irregularities at the institution during his tenure.

The order was issued on a petition by former deputy superintendent of RG Kar Hospital, Akhtar Ali, who requested a probe by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) into alleged financial misconduct at the institution.

Ali had moved the high court after fervent speculations in the public domain on whether the alleged rampant corruption at the institution was in any way connected to the medic's death with possibilities of the victim remaining privy to those and threatening exposure.

Ali had also alleged that his complaints before the state vigilance commission and anti-corruption bureau filed a year ago against Ghosh yielded little results and, instead, led to his own transfer from the institution.

In his plea before the high court, Ali accused Ghosh of illegal sale of unclaimed corpses, trafficking of biomedical waste and passing tenders against the commission paid by medicine and medical equipment suppliers.

Ali also alleged that students were pressured to pay amounts ranging between Rs 5 and 8 lakh to pass exams.

Ghosh served as principal of RG Kar Hospital from February 2021 to September 2023. He was transferred from the medical establishment in October that year but inexplicably returned to that position within a month. He held his position at the hospital till the day the doctor was found murdered.

Ghosh, who was removed from his chair at RG Kar Hospital after the crime came to light and reinstated in the same position at the Calcutta National Medical College and Hospital within hours by the Mamata Banerjee government, has subsequently been asked to go on an indefinite leave in the wake of massive resistance from CNMC students and pending the corruption inquiry.

The CBI on Sunday conducted a day-long search operation at Ghosh's Beliaghata residence in Kolkata in connection with the corruption cases.

Ghosh has also been examined by the agency for 10 days at a stretch and it was conducting a polygraph test on him on Monday in connection with the rape and murder probe.

## J&K sees Insurance revolution as PBPartners' PoSP model brings financial security to remote areas

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The PoSP model under PBPartners, a brand under Policybazaar Insurance Brokers, has significantly driven growth in the insurance sector. Over the past three years, they have onboarded over 1.2 lac certified agents in more than 1,200 cities. By utilizing technology, PBPartners has made insurance more accessible beyond metro areas, ensuring that more people in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities are financially protected against the 3Ds-Death, Disability, and Disease. This tech-driven approach has also facilitated PBPartners' expansion into regions like Jammu & Kashmir, where the insurance landscape has seen significant evolution in recent

years. By serving as knowledgeable guides, PBPartners' PoSPs educate individuals about the various types of insurance coverage available and how these products can provide financial protection against unexpected events. This proactive approach has helped to establish a strong presence in Jammu & Kashmir, leading to a more informed and engaged customer base.

Speaking about the growth and potential of the insurance market in J&K, Dhruv Sarin, Co-Founder, PBPartners, said, "Expanding insurance coverage in Jammu & Kashmir has come with its own set of challenges, particularly in reaching remote areas and over-

coming initial hesitation about insurance products. However, we have successfully on boarded a substantial number of agent partners in the region who are dedicated to educating and assisting the local people. These agent partners provide personalized assistance, helping customers navigate through insurance options and make informed decisions. They reach out to customers in the region personally, obtain quotes, explain the plans, and onboard interested clients."

Dhruv further added, "To ensure that our PoSPs are fully equipped for success, we provide comprehensive training and cutting-edge technology. We regularly organize events like Pathshala and

Gyaanshala for our agent partners, where they receive valuable insights and guidance. These on-ground Pathshala events, offer a unique platform for direct interaction between our top management and agent partners. Additionally, we have established Experience Centers to provide effective support to our agent partners. These centers serve as dynamic spaces where agent partners and PBPartners' business teams come together to strategize and plan for expanding insurance coverage across India's vast consumer market. Through these meetups, we empower our PoSPs, enhancing their ability to effectively address community needs and deliver exceptional customer service."