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#### J&K: 20 civilian vehicles stuck on **Razdan Pass** rescued by BRO

Srinagar, Nov 12 (IANS) Twenty civilian vehicles stuck due to heavy snowfall in Razdan Pass of Jammu & Kashmir's Bandipora district were rescued on Tuesday in a night-long operation by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Officials said 20 civilian vehicles on way to Gurez were stuck due to heavy snowfall and poor visibili-ty at Razdan Pass.

Razdan Pass situated at 11,667 ft above sea level connects Gurez Valley in Bandipora district with Kashmir Valley. The pass remains closed for vehicular movement for over 3-4 months during winter due to heavy snowfall.

Officials said that BRO moved snow-clearing equipment at night and cleared the road at Razdan Pass by 5 a.m. on Tuesday to rescue the civilians. Visibility is still very poor in the area.

#### **ED raids multiple** locations in **Bengal over** hawala case with **Jharkhand links**

Kolkata, Nov 12 (IANS) The officials of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are conducting raids at multiple locations in West Bengal since Tuesday morning. The raids are being

conducted in connection with a case registered in neighbouring Jharkhand in relation to a major hawala scam

Among the places in West Bengal where the

(IANS) India's patents and industrial design filings for Intellectual Property rights doubled between 2018 and 2023, taking the country to the sixth rank, according to the latest World Intellectual Property Or-ganisation's (WIPO) annual report.

For the first time, India was included in the top 10 countries of the world for three main intellectual property (IP) rights: patents, industrial design applications, and trademark applications. The patent

of a double-digit growth rate.

According to the WIPO report, the number of pat-ents filed in India in 2023 was 64,480. The country's growth rate in patent filing was 15.7 per cent com-pared to 2022.

The report states that more than 35 lakh patents were filed worldwide in 2023 and this was the fourth successive year that global patent filing has shown positive growth. In 2023, the maximum

the United States of America (518,364), Japan (414,413), South Korea (287,954), Germany and India (133,053)(64, 480).

Asia remains the top spot for patents, accounting for 68.7 per cent, 66.7 per cent, and 69 per cent of global patent, trademark, and industrial design filing activity, respec-tively, in 2023.

Intellectual Property Rights refer to the creation by human minds, which do

India breaks into world's top 6 ranks as patent filing in India has shown (ANS) India's patents and industrial design filings for a double-digit growth Industrial design filings for a double-digit growth and artistic works, designs, symbols, names, and images used in commerce. Intellectual property Rights are protected by law to prevent their illegal use.

Intellectual property rights include Patents, Copyright, Trademarks, Industrial Designs, Geographical Indications, and Trade Secrets.

Patents refer to the exclusive rights given to an invention by a human being, such as the discov-ery of medicine while copyright refers to creators' rights to their literary and artistic works, such as

A trademark is a legal term that distinguishes one company's goods or services from those of others. It could be a symbol, design or name that the company uses on its prod-

ucts. An industrial design constitutes the ornamental or aesthetic aspect of mass-produced goods. The World Intellectual

Property Organisation (WIPO) was established in

1967 as a United Nations' agency. Based in Geneva in Switzerland, the organ-isation's main function is to promote the protection of Intellectual Property rights worldwide.

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NEW DELHI, PM Narendra Modi meets Russia's first Deputy Prime Minister Denis Man-turov, in New Delhi on Moday. UNI

#### High-stake battle between NDA & INDI-A Bloc as Jharkhand heads into first phase of voting Ranchi, Nov 12 (IANS) of six Ministers and sever- Lohardaga seat, Ramesh- cy.

The first phase of voting for 43 Assembly seats in Jharkhand is set to take place on Wednesday, No-vember 13, with a fierce contest between the NDA and INDIA Bloc on the cards. In the 2019 elec-tions, the JMM-Congress-RJD alliance secured 25 of these seats, while the BJP managed only 13. The remaining seats were split among Independents (2), NCP (1), and JVM (1). This time, the NDA is looking to improve its tally, while the INDIA bloc aims to consolidate its previous gains and expand its footprint further. The prestige

al prominent leaders is at stake in this phase. Among them is former Chief Minister Champai Soren, who, after joining soren, who, after joining the BJP just a month after being ousted from the Chief Minister's chair, is contesting from his tradi-tional stronghold in Sa-raikela. Soren has won this seat six times since 1991, only facing defeat in 2000. This time, he is locked in a direct battle with Ganesh Mahali of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), who was previously the BJP candidate here. The twist is that both have switched sides. On the

war Oraon, a Congress Minister in the Hemant Soren government, is up against Neeru Shanti Bhagat of the AJSU Party. In 2019, a split in votes be-tween BJP and AJSU candidates benefited Oraon. However, with BJP-AJSU united this time, Oraon faces a tougher challenge. Garhwa constituency sees a triangular contest, with Minister Mithilesh Thakur defending his seat against BJP's Satyendra Nath Tiwari and Samajwadi Party's former Minister Girinath Singh, both of whom have previously been MLAs from this constituen-

On the Jamshedpur West seat, Congress Minister Banna Gupta is in a direct contest with former Minister Saryu Rai of the JDU. Both have won this seat twice. Rai, who famously defeated then Chief Minister Raghubar Das in the 2019 elections from Jamshedpur East, has now returned to his former stronghold. In Chaibasa, JMM Minister Deepak Birua faces BJP's Geeta Balmuchu, a firsttime candidate who has gained significant local traction due to her active social and political engagement.

BRS urges Centre to act on AMRUT scam

IANS) Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K. T. Rama Rao on Tuesday demanded the Centre act on the alleged AMRUT scam in Telangana and said that this is a litmus test for the BJP

ATM for Congress but asked why he was not taking action. "Will you or will you not act on the AMRUT scam in Telangana? This will be a litmus test for BJP

AMRUT tenders were awarded to family members of the Chief Minister and other ministers.

KTR reiterated that there was corruption within AMRUT tender process, valued at over Rs 8,888



K'taka: FIR filed for cutting trees during 'Toxic' film shooting

#### Bengaluru, Nov 12 (IANS) Karnataka Forest Department has filed an "The illegal cutting of hundreds of trees in forest land under the possession of FIR in connection with the incident of cutting of hundreds of trees for the shoot HMT for the filming of the film 'Toxic' has raised seriing of superstar Yash-starrer 'Toxic' film in Bengaluru, sources confirmed on Tuesday.

Sources said that the FIR was filed after obtaining consent from the court. The KVN Productions, Canara bank general manager and general manager of HMT are named as ac-cused in the FIR. Earlier, the 'Toxic' film is going on. "I have personally in-spected the spot. The total Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre stated that action would be initiat-

ed in connection with tree cutting in the land belonging to HMT in Bengaluru for the shooting of the film superstar Yash-starrer 'Toxic'.

ous concerns," said Minister Khandre. He added satellite images clearly show this illegal act. "I visited the site today for an inspection. I have instructed that immediate and strict legal action be taken against those responsible for this crime," Khandre stated. He added that the shooting for

picture of the landscape has changed and aerial survey pictures have confirmed it. I am writing a letter seeking action to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

There is a provision to lodge a case under the provision of the Forest Act 24. We have got all the details,' Khandre maintained. Reacting to the devel-

opment, Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H. D. Kuma-raswamy\_stated that Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has "trespassed" on Public Sector Unit Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) land. "I will provide comprehensive information on

everything shortly. Eshwar Khandre has trespassed onto the HMT premises. A legal dispute is ongoing in the court, and we await the verdict. We will fight this battle through legal means, not for publicity," Kumaraswamy said.

central agency officials are conducting raid and search operations are Madhyamgram, Barrack-pore and Bangaon, all in North 24 Parganas district Sources added that ED raids are being conducted in at least 12 locations in districts adjoining the state-capital of Kolkata.Each ED team is being escorted by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel.

#### 'Will celebrate with jalebis on all Maha seats'

Mumbai, Nov 12 (IANS) Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Tuesday claimed that the BJP-led NDA was headed for a thumping victory in the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections and also promised a mega 'jalebi celebration' on all 288 seats of the state. "Jalebis will be made in all Maharashtra -constituencies," Saini said exuding confidence about big Mahayuti win in Maharashtra.

Haryana CM's jalebi jibe was targeted at Con-gress MP Rahul Gandhi as the latter attempted to turn it into a poll pitch during Haryana Assembly elections. The jalebi joke is related to a rally in Gohana, Haryana, where Rahul Gandhi praised a local jalebi shop, suggest-ing its jalebis should be sold nationwide and even exported.

After the BJP's unex-pected victory in the Hary-ana Assembly elections, the party distributed jalebis, using Gandhi's com-ments to mock the Congress party's defeat. Be-sides prediction a landslide victory, the Haryana CM slammed the Congress-led MahaVikasAga-dhi alliance for pursuing 'divisive', caste-based and dynastic politics. "The Congress promotes caste-based and dynastic politics posing a threat to society and state.

RANCHI, Election Officials carrying Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) depart for polling station on the eve of first phase of Jharkhand Assembly Elec-tions at Morhabadi Grounds in Ranchi, Jharkhand on Tuesday. UNI

### 8 parties in tough fight on Mumbai's 36 seats ahead of civic body polls Mumbai, Nov 12 (IANS) The poll battle in Mumbai's 36 Assembly Narendra Modi along with Narendra Modi along with Narendra Modi along with

constituencies has become more intense with the entry of eight major parties including the BJP, Shiv Sena (UBT), Congress, Shiv Sena, NCP, NCP(SP), Samajwadi Par-ty and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena. Apart from Marathi Manoos, all these parties are making hectic efforts to lure the non-Marathi voters to muster victory for their respective candidates.

The state Assembly election is a prelude to the long pending elections to India's richest civic body, the BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation as BJP-Shiv Sena combine in particular proposes to gain supremacy defeating the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena which ruled the civic body for 25 years. For Shiv Sena (UBT), especially after the split in June 2022, the Assembly election is an opportunity to revive and strike back, while for the BJP it is a fight to consolidate its strength especially after its success in the 2017 civic body election and later in the 2019 Assembly polls. For the Eknath Shinde-

led Shiv Sena, it is an at-tempt to spread its wings in the metropolis riding on the Hindutva thoughts and charisma of Shiv Sena

the government's slew of infrastructure development projects. However, for the Raj Thackeray-led MNS, which is banking on the division of the votes of Marathi Manoos, it is an acid test to emerge as a acid test to emerge as a strong alternative to the Shiv Sena (UBT) which can safeguard the interest of the Marathi Manoos while not harming the non-Maharashtrians. For the Congress party, it is an opportunity to stay releopportunity to stay relevant and regain its hold in

Mumbai. Both NCP factions with their negligible presence will have to strive to increase their strengths ahead of the civic body election. The Samajwadi Party will have to struggle to reach out to the non-Muslim voters piggy-bag-ging the Maha Vikas Aghadi.

After the clash during the Lok Sabha elections, a similar tussle is visible between the Shiv Sena (UBT) and Shinde faction though they fear that MNS may eat into their votes. The BJP, which is a big brother in the MahaYuti, made efforts to rope in MNS in the alliance but it did not work. However, the MahaYuti insiders claim that the MNS' move to go solo will ultimately help in

dividing the Shiv Sena (UBT) traditional voters and after the elections Raj Thackeray may become a part of the MahaYuti, that will add to its strength ahead of civic body elections. Incidentally, most of the constituencies in Mumbai will witness a triangular contest among the MahaYuti, Maha Vikas Aghadi and MNS. The Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena in the Maha Vi-kas Aghadi is contesting on 22 seats, Congress 11 seats and Sharad Pawar-lad NCP two costs in led NCP two seats in Mumbai. On the other hand, the BJP is contesting on 18 seats in the MahaYuti, Shinde faction 15 seats and Ajit Pawar faction three seats. A friendly fight is taking place be-tween the Eknath Shindeled Shiv Sena and the Ajit Pawar faction in Mankhurd-Shivaji Nagar. The Samajwadi Party's sitting legislator Abu Azmi faces a tough challenge in Mankhurd-Shivaji Nagar from the NCP nominee and former legislator Nawab Malik. After the split in Shiv Sena, Uddhav Thackeray has eight of these MLAs and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has six legislators in his fold. The Congress had won four seats, of which one of them joined the Ajit Pawar faction while NCP has two legislators and Samajwadi party one.

# Ladakh: Kargil Police solve 26-yr-old quadruple murder case Srinagar, Nov 12 (IANS) The long arm of law has caught up with perpetrators of a quadru-ple murder committed 26 long years ago in Ladakh's Kargil district. Kargil police has solved this 26-year-old quadruple murder case, bringing justice to the fam-

bringing justice to the families of the victims. Police achieved this breakthrough after the arrest of three persons believed to have been responsible for one of the most gruesome crimes in Ladakh's history. The tragic case began on October 7, 1998, when Bashir Ahmad from Tangole reported his missing brother Mohd Ali, along with three others, Haji Anayat Ali from Kargil, Shero Ali from Kathua, and Nazir Ahmad. The men had set off for Wardwan to purchase livestock, but they never returned. Suspicion fell on three men, Mohd Rafeeq and Mohd Fareed from Hira Nagar, Kathua, and Abdul Nagar, Kathua, and Abdul Aziz from Niyani, Samba. When Haji Anayat's neph-ew, Mohd Yusuf, filed a formal complaint on April 17, 1999, an investigation began under FIR No. 37/ 1999, charging the sus-1999, charging the suspects with abduction under Section 364 of RPC. The initial investigation hit a dead end when the suspects, arrested in Khati

to demonstrate sincerity in rooting out corruption.

He urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to respond to alleged corruption in the tender process for awarding works under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, he agreed with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's allegation that Te-

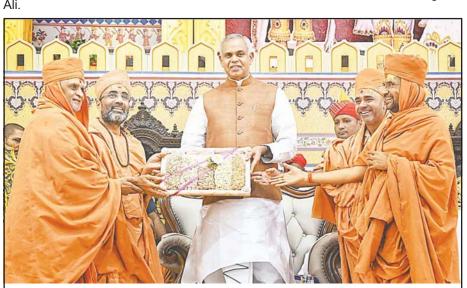
through DNA belonging to

Nazir Ahmad and Shero

leadership in Delhi," he saidRegarding Prime Minister\_Modi's allegation of 'RR Tax', he said it was not enough to make accusations about 'Rahul and Revanth Tax' in Telangana without any action.

Prime Minister Modi must take immediate steps to address the corruption concerns tied to the AMRUT tenders as BRS has submitted sub-stantial proofs about the corruption to the central government, he said. KTR along with BRS MPs met the Union Minister for Ur-ban Development Manoban Development Mano-har Lal Khatter yesterday and submitted a representation for taking an enquiry and the cancellation of AMRUT tenders. "He re-quested time until the upcoming parliament session to gather information and initiate appropriate action. If the central government does not address the corruption in the AM-RUT tenders during the parliamentary session, we will bring this issue to the forefront in Parliament, particularly in the Rajya Sabha" KTR said. The

crore. He claimed that details about the tenders are not being disclosed, even under the Right to Infor-mation (RTI) Act. According to KTR, tenders were awarded to Shoda Constructions, a company tied to the Chief Minister's brother-in-law, Sudini Srujan Reddy, despite the company's lack of neces-sary qualifications. He further alleged that Indian Hume Pipe Company, a qualified firm, was used as a front while the bulk of the work went to Shoda Construction, which has a limited annual profit. He said out of six packages awarded under AMRUT, one package worth Rs. 1,137 crore went to Shodha Construction. He also alleged that one of the tenders was given to Ragha-va Construction, which belongs to son of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy. He argued that the government is using hundreds of crores to advertise the implementation of promises that have not been fulfilled in Telangana.



Governor Sri Acharya Devvratji participated in the celebration of Sri Lakshminarayan Dev Bicentenary Festival at Vadtal, the shrine of Swaminarayan Sampradaya. The Governor wished the 47 novices who renounced the world and adopted the path of austere life. On this occasion, Principal of the Institute Mr. Rakeshprasadji, Chairman of the Temple Committee Mr. Devprakash Swami, Chief Kothari Mr. Santavallabhadasji Swami, Speaker Sant Sarvashree Gnanjivan Swami, Nityaswaroop Swami, President of Satsang Mahasabha Mr. Nautam Swami, saints, mahants and devotees from home and abroad, political and social leaders in large numbers, were present.



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