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Jammu Smart City wins 3 national honours at PSU Transformation Awards 2025

P- 7

Ikkis Trailer: Meet Agastya Nanda and Simar Bhatia, the young actors all set to amaze everyone in Dharmendra's last film

P-10



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Cold conditions intensify in J&K

After a brief respite, cold conditions intensified in Jammu & Kashmir as the temperatures dropped and settled below the freezing point at several places.

Jammu city was too under severe cold grip, with clouds remaining overcast for most part of the day. A thick layer of fog engulfed the plains in the morning, affecting visibility.

The famous tourist resort of Patnitop and picturesque Bhaderwah, besides other higher reaches

Cont. on P9 >

Searches launched in Rajouri villages

Security forces launched extensive search operations in different villages of Rajouri district after reports of movement of suspected terrorists.

The operation, which was launched around midnight on Thursday, continued throughout the day today but forces were yet to find any trace of the suspects, officials said.

Searches were launched by joint teams of 49 RR of

Cont. on P9 >

Pak accuses India of attempting to undermine IWT

ISLAMABAD, DEC 19: Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar on Friday accused India of consistently attempting to undermine the Indus Waters Treaty, claiming the current material breaches strike at the heart of the pact.

Dar, who is also the Foreign Minister, was addressing the media a day after Pakistan sought clarification from India regarding variations in the flow of the Chenab river.

"We witnessed in April this year India's unilateral abeyance of the Indus Water Treaty... But what we are witnessing now is material breaches by India that strike at the heart of

Cont. on P9 >

ED attaches assets of Yuvraj Singh, Sonu Sood

NEW DELHI, DEC 19: Assets of former Indian cricketers Yuvraj Singh and Robin Uthappa apart from those of ex-TMC MP Mimi Chakraborty and actor Sonu Sood have been attached by the ED in an "illegal" betting app linked money laundering case estimated to be worth more than Rs 1,000 cr.

The properties of actor Neha Sharma, mother of model Urvashi Rautela and Bengali actor Ankush Hazra have also been attached after the federal probe agency issued a provisional order the Prevention of Money Laun

Cont. on P9 >

LS winter session ends

Key bills passed, debates see politically-charged attacks

NEW DELHI, DEC 19: Lok Sabha was today adjourned sine die, drawing curtains on the 19-day-long Winter Session of Parliament which saw the passage of crucial Bills, including one to repeal the 20-year-old MNREGA and another on opening up the civil nuclear sector for private participation.

As soon as the House met for the day, Speaker Om Birla read out his brief valedictory address, noting that the productivity of Lok Sabha during the session was registered at 111 per cent with members sitting till late hours to discuss crucial legislations.

He then adjourned the House sine die (for indefinite period), drawing curtains on the brief session that commenced on December 1.

When Birla was reading out his valedictory statement, some members were heard raising "Mahatma



Gandhi ki jai" slogans.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was present when the proceedings were adjourned.

During the 15 sittings of the Winter Session, the House took up two politically-charged debates - on 150 years of Vande Matram and election reforms.

A debate listed on air pollution, which was to be initiated by Congress leader

Priyanka Gandhi, could not take place.

The opposition had been insisting on a debate on the Election Commission's ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter list in 12 states and UTs but the government made it clear that poll panel and its functioning cannot be discussed in the House, and agreed to hold a debate on election reforms instead.

The opposition, however, focussed its attack on SIR, the new law on appointment of chief election commissioner and election commissioners, and the alleged 'vote chori' carried out by the poll authority in connivance with the ruling BJP.

The Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) or VB-G RAM G Bill, assuring

Cont. on P9 >

3 IPS officers promoted as IGPs, 8 as DIGs

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, DEC 19

Three IPS officers of AGMUT cadre posted in J&K have been promoted to the rank of IGPs and eight as DIGs. Nine others were promoted to selection grade.

The orders were issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs today.

Those promoted as IGPs included Tejinder Singh, Abdul Jabbar and Udaybhaskar Billa. Jabbar & Udaybhaskar have been granted proforma promotion.

The promotions will take effect from January 1, 2026, or from the date of assumption of charge,

Cont. on P9 >

Winter Session ended with insult of Gandhi: Cong

NEW DELHI, DEC 19: As Parliament's Winter Session drew to a close on Friday, the Congress accused the Union government of beginning the session by "insulting" Rabindranath Tagore and ending it with an "insult to Mahatma Gandhi."

Terming it a 'pradushan kaleen' session, Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said his party was ready for a discussion on air pollution but accused the government of "running away" from such a debate.

"We were told 14 bills will be taken up with two

Cont. on P9 >

Disruptions unbecoming of MPs: RS Chairman

NEW DELHI, DEC 19: Rajya Sabha Chairman C P Radhakrishnan on Friday strongly disapproved of disruptions by Opposition members during the passage of the rural employment guarantee bill (G RAM G), terming the conduct "unbecoming of Members of Parliament", and urged them to introspect and refrain from such behaviour in future.

He read out a synopsis of the legislative and other business transacted during the 15-day sitting of the winter session before adjourning the proceedings sine die.

The Winter session of Parliament started on December 1.

"Disruption created during yesterday's sitting by the Opposition Members by shouting slogans, displaying placards, disrupting the minister replying to the discussion, tearing up papers and throwing them in the well of the House showed conduct unbecoming of Members of Parliament," Radhakrishnan



said. The Rajya Sabha sat past midnight on Thursday to pass legislation that replaced the 20-year-old rural employment scheme -- the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA) -- by boosting the number of guaranteed workdays to 125, up from the current 100 days per household for unskilled manual labour.

Opposition MPs protested the dropping of the name of Gandhi from the new legislation, Guarantee for Employment and Livelihood Mission - Rural (Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission - Rural).

Other than that, the 269th Session of the Upper House was "highly produc-

tive", registering 121 per cent productivity with sittings spanning about 92 hours, he said.

Delivering his valedictory remarks, Radhakrishnan said the Winter Session was significant as it marked his first stint presiding over the House after assuming office.

He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Leader of the House J P Nadda, and Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge for their felicitations.

"The warmth and affection in your felicitations proved a source of great encouragement for me as I sat down discharging my constitutional responsibility as the Chairman of this august House," he said.

He said that in his first address, he sought the co-operation of members for the smooth functioning of the House. "I am happy that members cooperated with the Chair to complete a significant amount of Business during this Winter

Cont. on P9 >

Red Fort blast case

Dr Bilal's NIA custody extended; Soyab remanded to judicial custody

NEW DELHI, DEC 19: A Delhi court on Friday extended by seven days the NIA custody of Dr Bilal Naseer Malla, an accused in the Red Fort blast case, besides remanding Soyab, a Faridabad resident accused of harbouring suicide bomber Umar Nabi, to five days of judicial custody.

The probe agency produced Bilal and Soyab at the Patiala House Court amid tight security upon the expiry of their previous four-day NIA custody granted on December 15.

Media persons were barred from covering the proceedings.

The accused were pro-

duced before Principal and Sessions Judge Anju Bajaj Chandna who allowed the probe agency to quiz Naseer in its custody for seven more days, while Soyab was remanded to judicial custody till December 24.

An official spokesperson for the NIA had earlier said the agency arrested Soyab, a resident of Dhauj in Haryana's Faridabad, for providing logistical support to "terrorist" Umar Nabi before the Delhi terror bomb blast.

NIA arrested Dr Malla in Delhi on December 9, saying that he was a key accused in the conspiracy be-

hind the November 10 blast that had left 15 dead and several injured.

According to the NIA investigations, Naseer had knowingly harboured Dr Umar Nabi by providing him logistical support. He is also accused of destruction of evidence related to the terrorist attack, the agency stated earlier on December 9.

The NIA has already arrested nine people, including Dr Muzammil Ganaie, Dr Adeel Rather, Dr Shaheen Sayeed and Maulvi Iran.

Two others, Amir Rashid Ali, and Jasir Bilal Wani

Cont. on P9 >

B'desh on edge after unrest over uprising leader's death

DHAKA, DEC 19: Tension gripped Bangladesh on Friday after the death of prominent July Uprising leader Sharif Osman Hadi triggered protests, violence and vandalism in various parts of the country.

While no incidents of violence were reported in the morning, protesters were seen vandalising the already demolished structure of 32 Dhanmandi, the home of Bangladesh's founding father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Various parts of the country were rocked Thursday night by attacks and vandalism, including stone-hurling at the Assis-

tant Indian High Commissioner's residence in Chattogram, after Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus confirmed Inquilab Mancha leader Hadi's death in a televised address to the nation.

The Mancha had made the initial announcement of Hadi's death, whose body will be brought home later in the day.

Hadi, a candidate in the scheduled February 12 general elections, died while undergoing treatment at a Singapore hospital after fighting for his life for six days.

He was shot in the head last week by masked gun-

men as he initiated his election campaign at central Dhaka's Bijoy Nagar area.

Protesters on Thursday took to the streets and attacked offices of leading newspapers, vandalised 32 Dhanmandi with hammers, and also demolished an office of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's disbanded Awami League party in Rajshahi city.

Regarded as the centre point of Bangladesh's pre-independence struggle for autonomy for decades, 32 Dhanmandi was largely demolished with excavators on February 5 this year, while it was set on fire soon

Cont. on P9 >