

Air quality of Delhi-NCR			
Delhi	287	Gurugram	239
Ghaziabad	303	Faridabad	259
Noida	280	Greater Noida	248
Good 0-50 Satisfactory 51-100 Moderate 101-200			
Poor 201-300 Very poor 301-400 Severe >401			
AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M., YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS)   SOURCE: CPCB			

## Road rage case: six held for killing man

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Six persons have been arrested and a minor apprehended for allegedly killing a man in Delhi's Jahangirpuri, the police said on Saturday.

The incident happened on Thursday when the bike, in which the accused were travelling, brushed past the victim. A fight started between them following which the accused men shot him in the face.

The accused – Suraj, Prashant, Arun Bhatia, Harish Bhatia, Abhishek and Govinda – are all residents from Jahangirpuri, they said. Soon after the incident, Jwala Singh was rushed to nearby Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial Hospital where the doctors declared him brought dead, said DCP (North-West) Vijayanta Arya.

The pistol, used in the crime, has been recovered from Suraj.

### DELHI TODAY

**Exhibition:** "Fight and Suffering", a photography exhibition that showcases Poland's experiences during the Second World War, highlighting the tragedy of war and the efforts of the Polish military to regain the country's independence, presented by the Museum of the Second World War, Poland and the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Art Gallery, IIC Annexe, India International Centre, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Exhibition:** "Explore in the Tradition" a solo exhibition of paintings by Megha Sharma at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

# Laser show dazzles Delhiites

We will welcome Lord Ram with lights and lasers, not with pollution and crackers, says Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Amid cheers by amazed spectators, Delhi's famed Connaught Place on Saturday was witness to a mega laser show organised by the Arvind Kejriwal government to encourage people to shun crackers to cut down pollution in the national capital.

At the inaugural session, the Chief Minister said that every year people would burst firecrackers in large numbers days ahead of Diwali, but this time, he has noticed a change.

"I have not heard a single firecracker being burst in the Capital and it is a good start," he said.

"We will welcome Lord Ram with lights and lasers and not with pollution and crackers," he added.

Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia were also present as the four-day event *Dilli ki Diwali* kicked off in Central Park.

Mr. Baijal said "electronic Diwali" is a good experiment



The sound and light event in progress at Connaught Place on Saturday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

to control air pollution.

"Such programmes should be held across Delhi after learning from today's experience," he added.

Amid loud music, the story of Sita, Ram, and Diwali

was told through lasers.

One part of the programme saw Lord Ram engaged in a conversation with a child. The child introduced Ram to the country's 'best government schools in Del-

hi' and also a Delhi government scheme through which senior citizens are taken on pilgrimage for free.

At one point, Lord Ram met with an accident and he was taken to a 'Mohalla Clin-

ic' where he was provided free medical treatment.

The programme was announced by Mr. Kejriwal last month as one of the seven measures to control air pollution. The programme will run till Tuesday night

### 'A good start'

Those who came to the show unanimously agreed that the event was a good start but some wondered whether it would convince people to burst fewer firecrackers this Diwali.

Meanwhile, shopkeepers belonging to the New Delhi Traders' Association protested at C-Block, Connaught Place, and complained that their business had been affected due to the event. Traffic restrictions were put in place during the event.

"When there is traffic restrictions in the inner circle, the outer circle also gets choked. Diwali is peak time for my business, but sales are down by 80%," said Amit Gupta, who owns a shop in M-Block.

## NGT forms panel to assess compensation for violating green norms in Sonipat

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Following a plea seeking remedial action against violation of environmental norms by certain builders in Sonipat, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has constituted a joint panel and directed it to assess compensation to be levied on the project proponents.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said that the committee will comprise representatives from the Central Pollution Control Board, the Ministry of Environment, and the Indian Institute of

Technology (IIT) Delhi.

The Bench also directed the Haryana Chief Secretary to ensure "remedial action for speedy enforcement of environmental norms".

Based on an inspection report, the NGT imposed compensation ranging between ₹2.5 crore and ₹10 crore on six developers who were found to have flouted the norms. The directions came on a plea stating that the developers had not provided adequate sanitation and sewage facilities in the buildings constructed by them.

While observing that "no lenient attitude can be

shown," the Bench stated: "The violations are of serious nature and possibility of collusion of the officers of the State is not ruled out in permitting such violations and in failing to take requisite actions."

"The compensation assessed – being grossly inadequate and disproportionate, and the action the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) being too slow – shows that the SPCB lacks necessary sensitivity for enforcing the rule of law or there is some collusion at some level to cover up the illegality," the Bench added.

## BJP leaders reach out to 'unauthorised' colonies

Solar lamps given to sanitation workers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP leaders visited at multiple 'unauthorised' colonies out across Delhi on Saturday as part of a city-wide Diwali celebration-cum-outreach programme

State party chief Manoj Tiwari visited Sonia Vihar in Karawal Nagar; BJP Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel attended an event in Burari; South Delhi MP Ramesh Bidhuri was part of the celebrations at Pul Prahladpur and West Delhi MP Parvesh Verma attended one in Sagarpur.

New Delhi MP Meenakshi Lekhi was part of similar events in Patel Nagar and Malviya Nagar; East Delhi

MP Gautam Gambhir attended events in Vishwas Nagar and Laxmi Nagar.

In Burari, Mr. Goel accused AAP of taking credit for the Centre's decision to regularise unauthorised colonies; and in Sonia Vihar, Mr. Tiwari said that the Centre's decision would "bring historical change in the standard of living of lakhs of people."

BJP national vice-president and Delhi in-charge Shyam Jaju and Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta distributed solar lamps among sanitation workers at the Bhagwan Valmiki Mandir on Mandir Marg.

## Ensure repair, sanitation work at Chhath ghats: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

BJP State chief Manoj Tiwari has written to the Mayors of all the three civic bodies to ensure repair and sanitation work at Chhath ghats and roads be completed ahead of Chhath Puja celebrations.

He wrote: "Over 40 lakh devotees worship the Sun God in Delhi. For this, besides construction of Chhath ghats in the Yamu-

na, ghats are also constructed in various water bodies and vacant lands of DDA, all of which witness a large number of devotees."

He added, "Lakhs of Purvanchalis wish for the prosperity of their family. At the administrative-level, efforts should be made to help the devotees." He added that after Diwali, he would take stock of the preparations being made at Chhath ghats.