

NEWS FROM OTHER STATES

DELHI

Haze engulfs Delhi as air quality worsens

A haze engulfed the national capital as the air quality nosedived to "very poor" category with several areas inching towards "severe" pollution levels, authorities said Saturday. The overall Air Quality Index (AQI) of Delhi was recorded at 337, which falls in the 'very poor' category and is the highest of this season, creating hazy conditions, said data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). An AQI between 0 and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe". The deterioration of air quality comes a day after fire crackers were burst on the occasion of Dusshera even after repeated appeals by authorities to go for eco-friendly celebrations.

(P.,20/10)

PUNJAB

Over 60 dead, several injured as train mows down Dussehra revellers near Amritsar

At least 61 people were killed and 72 injured after a speeding train ploughed through Dussehra revellers standing across the tracks in Joda Phatak near Amritsar. Celebrations turned tragic as the train struck the crowd who were standing and watching Ravana's effigy go up in flames. Sub Divisional Magistrate Amritsar I Rajesh Sharma told PTI that 61 people have died, including women and children, and at least 72 injured have been admitted to Amritsar hospital.

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PUDUCHERRY

Puducherry CM writes to home minister seeking probe against LG Kiran Bedi

Chief minister V Narayanasamy Friday said he has written to Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh seeking a probe into "unauthorised" mobilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds by Puducherry Lt Governor Kiran Bedi for desilting lakes. Though it was not wrong to appeal to the private organisations for funds under the CSR, it was "highly objectionable" that the office of Lt Governor was receiving the funds for the projects without knowledge of the PWD minister, he told reporters.

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