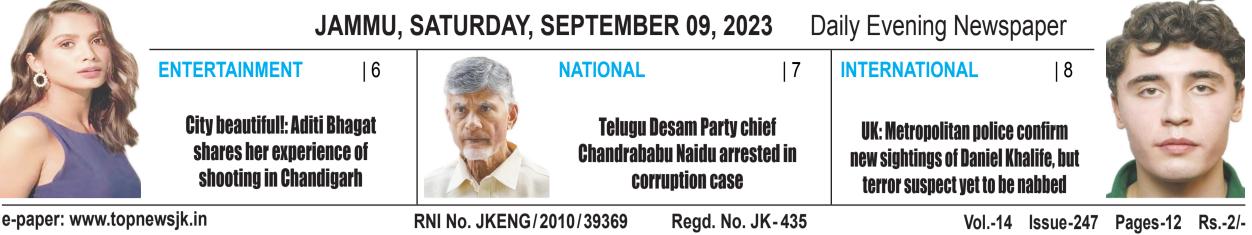
# TOP NEWS OF J&K



## BRIEFLY

#### **BSF** Jawan reported missing near LoC in Poonch

MENDHAR/JAMMU, Sep 9 (Agencies): A BSF jawan was reported missing from his post near the Line of Control in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Saturday. The constable, hail-

ing from Bihar, was on general duty at the Bharani forward post in Balakote sector when he went missing on Friday, they said.

They said BSF troops carried out a search operation for the jawan who could not be traced following which a missing report was lodged with the police station concerned.

#### Lecturers to teach 9th, **10th classes** besides their assigned duty: SED

SRINAGAR, Sept 9: School Education Department directed the lecturers to teach 9th and 10th standard students besides their routine duty of teaching senior secondary students. The department said that the move was aimed to improve the academic standard. Deputy Secretary to government said, "It is impressed upon lecturers of School Education Department to exuberantly involve themselves in teaching at 9th and 10th level besides at the plus-2 level." The officer said that the directives were issued in order to improve the academic standard in School Education Department and chisel the talented students of Jammu and Kashmir by way of tapping the professional talent of the able lecturers available in the department. "This way the students shall be exposed to qualified and experienced staff for competing at the national level in various competitive exams," the officer said. The government said, "The Head of institutions and lecturers shall comply these instructions in letter and spirit and report in this regard shall be submitted by concerned Chief Education Officers on monthly basis.".

## G20 Summit: US, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, EU set to unveil railway, ports connectivity deal

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): A shipping and rail transportation corridor linking countries across the Middle East, South Asia and Europe is likely to be announced on the sidelines of the ongoing G20 Summit in New Delhi, a White House official has said. The United States, India, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the European Union and other G20 partners are set to explore the shipping and rail transportation corridor, which is aimed at aiding in the flow of commerce, energy and data from India across the Middle East up to Europe.



A memorandum of understanding (MoU) is expected to be announced at a meeting focused on global infrastructure on the sidelines of the G20 today according to White House Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer.

The leaders are meeting to discuss the global economy and supply chain challenges, among other issues facing the global community.

This agreement after it is inked could be seen as an alternate supply chain in a completely

evolved post-pandemic world order. Finer added that President Biden and Prime

Minister Modi will meet with other leaders for an event focused on global infrastructure later today. "The deal will benefit low and middle-income countries in the region, and enable a critical role for the Middle East in global commerce. We see this as having a high appeal to the countries involved, and also globally, because it is transparent because it is a high standard because it is not coercive," Finer told mediapersons here.

Delving more on the Turn to page 9

more than 600 people and damages historic buildings in Marrakech

Powerful quake in Morocco kills

RABAT (Morocco), Sep 9 (Agencies): A Ministry said on Saturrare, powerful earthday morning that at least quake struck Morocco 632 people had died, on Friday night, killing mostly in Marrakech over 600 people and and five provinces near damaging buildings the quake's epicentre. from villages in the Atlas Another 329 people Mountains to the historic were injured. Casualty city of Marrakech. figures were expected to rise more as the search continues and as rescuers reach remote areas. Moroccan television showed scenes from the aftermath, as many stayed outside fearing aftershocks.

Anxious families stood in streets or huddled on the pavement, some carrying children, blankets or other belongings. Emergency workers looked for survivors in the rubble of buildings, their reflective yellow vests illuminating the nighttime landscape. The quake ripped a gaping hole in a home, and a car was nearly

Turn to page 9

### Govt will take every measure to provide platform to artists: Secretary Tourism

SRINAGAR, Sep 9 (Agencies) : Secretary Tourism, Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on Saturday said that the government will take every possible step to ensure platforms to the budding artists in Jammu and Kashmir.

After inaugurating two-day art exhibition 'Reflections' here at City Mall, Secretary Tourism



ding artists. "There is a lot of history in Kashmir. Srinagar is the second oldest city in been an important role of art here," he said. Secretary Tourism further stated that such events are providing platform to the artists and are recognizing the bright minds.

"The government will do whatever is required for these budding artists to provide them platform and recognize their talent," he said, adding

## JKEDI invites startups to register under **JK Startup Policy, Check details**

SRINAGAR, Sep 9 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) has invited applications from startups to register under JK Startup Policy.

In this regard, the Director, JKEDI on Friday convened a meeting of senior Faculty members of the Institute to accelerate the

Director, JKEDI, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat emphasised on the crucial role that startups play in strengthening economic growth, creating employment opportunities, and advancing technological innovations. He reiterated the Government's unwavering commitment to create an enabling and sustainable environment for startups to flourish in J&K, thereby making significant con-

During the meeting,

tributions to the Union Territory's socio-eco-

Morocco's Interior

nomic development. "It is imperative that startups and business owners in Jammu and Kashmir take full advantage of the benefits offered under the Government's Startup Policy. These benefits can serve as catalysts for the success of their ventures. We must portal to avail these benefits," he said.

"All faculty members and district officers of the Institute should actively work towards increasing the number of registered startups under this initiative. It is crucial to ensure a broad representation from all corners of the Union Territory, including remote, border, and tribal areas",

said that organizing such events is a wonderful opportunity for bud-

the country after Kashi, our recorded history is somewhere on 4000 years and there has

that ultimately an artist does this for his self recognition in the society.

registration of Startups under the Jammu and Kashmir Startup Policy.

ensure that startups register themselves on 'www.startupjk.com'

he maintained. We must provide Turn to page 9

#### Two 'self-styled' journalists held for extortion in Ganderbal: Police "Further, the duo asked

SRINAGAR, Sep 9 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested two men posing as journalists for extorting money in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, officials said.

The police identified the duo as Sohail Maqbool of Bamiluna Kangan and Kaiser Farooq of Cheerwan Kangan.

Police said a written complaint was received by Police Station Gund on Friday from Gulzar Ahmed Kasana of Surfraw Gund Ganderbal,



stating therein that two unknown persons posing as journalists arrived at his residence and demanded a bribe of Rs 5000 from him. Kasana was construct-

SRINAGAR, Sep 9

(Agencies): High Court

of Jammu Kashmir and

Ladakh has upheld the

power of the Jammu and

Kashmir Board of School

Education (JKBOSE) to

prescribe textbooks for

schools in the Union Ter-

Justice Sanjay Dhar

while dismissing the

petition filed by a J&K

Private Schools United

Front observed that it is

within power of JKBOSE

to make it mandatory for

ritory.

the victim that if he failed to pay the said amount, then they would dismantle his house," the complainant told the police. A team of Ganderbal police later arrested them for blackmailing and extortion, police said. A case under relevant sections of the law was registered at Police Sta-

ing a residential house. tion Gund, and further and the two self-styled investigation was taken fake journalists took Rs up. 500 cash from him and Police said for many asked him to pay the

days there were complaints that some Turn to page 9 

## REMEMBRANCE



#### LATE SH. MANOHAR LAL MAHAJAN 1-4-1938 to 9-9-2006

About 17 years has passed since you left us for heavenly abode, but the fragrance of your love, affection and memories will always remain alive in our hearts and minds.

We miss you very much and do feel your presence around us every moment of our life with your loving memories. We missed you every day and prayed to Almighty to rest

your soul in peace.

#### DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY

SON AND DAUGHTER IN-LAW

Sunil Mahajan and Neena Rajiv Mahajan and Anita GRAND CHILDERN Dr. Sushant Mahajan (JKAS) Vaneeka Gupta (Asst. Prof.) Er. Sukant Mahajan Capt. Ayoosh Guota 

Teacher suspended in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Sep 9 (Agencies): A school teacher accused of having sent lewd text messages to his female students has been suspended in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The Chief Education Officer, Baramulla Balbeer Singh, suspended teacher Owais Nanda, working at Government Higher Secondary

the affiliated schools to use only those books that have been prescribed and published by them.

prescribe textbooks for Schools in UT

remaining amount of Rs

4500 after two days.

High Court upholds power of JKBOSE to

The Court observed that neither the private schools nor other publishers have any right to compel the Board to prescribe text books published by private publishers.

J&K Private Schools United Front had challenged a government notification issued on

August 26, 2022 whereby all the private schools were asked to ensure that in the first phase, the text books published by the JKBOSE are prescribed by all the private schools across UT for classes 6th to 8th from the ensuing academic session.

The petitioner argued that while the Board is vested with power to prescribe textbooks, the provision does not

Turn to page 9

## **OBITUARIES**

#### Top News of J&K Jammu, Saturday, September 09, 2023



With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Sunil Kumar Bakshi (Desh Toth) S/o Late Sh Jawahar Lal Bakshi on 05.09.2023 originally resident of village Wachi Shopian at present H No. 150/2, Vikas Nagar, Sarwal Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education Jammu) on (Thursday) 14.09.2023 at 08.30 A.M.

GRIEF STRICKEN SAMAST BAKSHI PARIVAR

Smt Bimla Bakshi (Bhabhi)

Smt Reeta & Sh Chand Ji Bakshi (Bhabhi & Brother) Smt Princy & Sh Sushil Bakshi (Bhabhi & Brother) M. No. 9796627819, 9070078002

Sh Sunil Kumar Bakshi (Desh Toth)

#### TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt Sheela Trisal W/o Late Mohan Krishan Trisal, original resident of Bhana Mohalla, Srinagar, at present 1/10 Vikas Nagar, Sarwal, Jammu, attained Nirvana on 1st September 2023.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 10th September (Sunday) 2023, at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.30 AM. Grief Stricken :

**Smt Sheela Trisal** 

(Sons and Daughters-in-law) Vinod Trisal & Sunita Trisal - 9419182244 Sanjay Trisal & Reva Trisal - 9419187646 (Brother-in-law & Sister-in-law) B L Munshi & Nirmala Munshi (Brother & Bhabi) Bal Krishen Koul & Shivanti Koul Grand Children : Varnika Koul & Sheshank Koul. Sanchita Wanchoo & Ishan Wanchoo Prateek Fotedar & Dr Mayanka Fotedar, Vaibhav Trisal, G. G Child : Rayan Koul Deeply Missed & Remembered By :-KOULS, MUNSHIS, RAINAS, TICKOOS, WANCHOOS, MATTOOS



W/o Late S Jaswant Singh R/o 2/112 Shant Nagar Janipur Jammu will be performed as follows: Arambh Path at home on 09-09-2023 Bhog at Home on 11-09-2023 at 9.30 AM Antim Ardas 10.30 to 12.00 PM at Gurudwara Kalgidhar Rehari Jammu. **Grief Stricken** Harjeet Kour - Daughter

Hardev Singh & Harjeet Kour- Son & Daughter in Law Gurdeep Kour & Late Swarn Singh - Son & Daughter in Law Gurmeet Kour & Daljeet Singh- Daughter & Son in Law Kulwant Kour & Late Sh. Surinder Singh, Delhi - Daughter & Son in Law CONTACT NO: 78896517171

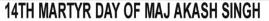
#### **TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Roopawati Sahib W/o Late Sh. Prem Nath Sahib, Prop: SHALIMAR ART PRESS, Srinagar, originally, R/o Shalla Kadal, 2nd Bridge, Srinagar A/P: JK Colony, Paloura Top, Jammu (Near Bua Devi Mandir) who left for heavenly abode on 1st September 2023.



KOUR

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Smt. Roopawati Sahib Ghat on 10th September 2023 Near Director School Education Jammu at 8:30 AM.



On this day of 9th September 2009, you laid your life for the protection of the nation in Mendhar sector & attain Martyrdom. You were the epitome of love & humanity. Martyrs remain always alive.

Deeply Remembering you with the pretext that you shall always remain with us in every moment of our life.

Smt Deepti Samval (Wife)

Khushi & Tejasvi (Daughter & Son) RELATIVES, FRIENDS & ALL COUNTRY LOVING PEOPLE

Let us get together on 09.09.2023 at 9.30 am & Pay Martyr Maj Akash Singh Homage to the Martyrs at Major Akash Singh Memorial Park (Shourya Chakra) Raipura Mangotrian Jammu

Mob : 9622166403, 7889867831 & 8492848618

#### **OBITUARY/10TH DAY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of Sh. Shiban Krishan Pandita S/o Lt. Sh. Radha Krishan Pandita originally from Kralyar Rainawari Sgr. and at present Block 73, Flat No. 16, Lane No. The 10th Day Kriya will be performed on 10th Sept. 2023 at TRT Nagrota near Old Toll Post Smt. Veena Ji - Wife Sh. Shiban Krishan Sh. Pushkar Nath Pandita & Smt. Santosh Sons & Daughters-in-law

Ms. Aneeta Pandita - Daughter

Grand & Great Grand Children - Suparsh, Mannat, Kyin, Viraj & Mivaan Mob.: 9070556591, 9596913119, 8492820166

#### With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our

beloved Sh. Anoop Kumar Bangroo S/o Late Sh. R.K Bangroo, R/o H. No 40, Abhay Public School Lane, Muthi Gaon Jammu left for heavenly abode, on 3rd Sept 2023. Tenth Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 12th Sept at 8.00 AM **Grief Stricken** Smt Archana Bangroo -Wife Smt Asha - Bhabhi Smt & Sh. Chand Narayan Bangroo - Brother & Bhabhi Smt & Sh. Ravi Pandita - Brother & Bhabhi Smt & Sh. Kanwal Pandita - Brother & Bhabhi

Smt Pratima & Sh. Nishant Misri- Daughter & Son in Law

Grand Children: Chiranjeev, Yashvi, Khushi, Era, Kartik, Rohit Rahul, Advita, Naysaa

Koul's Pandita's, Misri's, Kar's, Matoo's MOBILE NO: 8899183348, 9018712629

demise of our beloved mother Smt. Kushla Wati W/o Lt. Kanth Ram R/o Sahipora Kralgund Qaziabad, Kupwara A/p Lane - 20, Block - 115, Flat - 11, 12, Jagti Nagrota, Jammu.

Tenth Day will be performed on 12-09-2023 (Tuesday) at Muthi Ghat



mt Basanti & Sh Shuban Lal Khair do mt Sunita & Sh Vinod Shah Smt Girja & Sh Mohan Krishen Khair (Nephew & Daughter-in-law) Roop & On Hondan Rushen Roman (Reprise & Bugginer-In-Rus) Fand Children : Roop Krishen, Manoj, Suman, Neha, Mohit, Vipan, Sahil, Simran, Sunny, Raghav, Mehak, Anmol & Saa Nob No. 6006562912, 9797413337 **OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA** With profound grief and sorrow we would like to inform the sad and sudden demise of **Smt Rita Kher** W/o Lt Sh Ashok Kumar Kher R/o Malayar, Nai Sarak, Sringgar currently living at Durga Nagar Sector-01, near Park, who left heavenly abode on 5th Sept 2023. **10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Akhnoor Ghat

do



Sh Jagar Nath Raina

Mr Ravinder and Mrs Urmilla Kher Mr Ajay and Mrs Dimpy Kher Mr Ankur Kher- Son Smt Rita Kher Son-in-law & Daughter Mr Sunilji and Mrs Sunita Dhar Mirdula, Rudraksh, Rudransh, Aarav KHERS, RAINAS, DHAR, GANJOO, KOUL, DALAL, DHAR 9419307275, 7006070922, 9664252015

#### **BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS**

**GRIEF STRICKEN** : Sons and Daughters-in-law

With profound grief, we wish to inform the passing away of our beloved son Sardar Gurnam Singh S/o Surjeet Singh on August 21, 2023. Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on Aug 8, 2023 (Friday) at 10.00 AM at our residence. Bhog and Antim Ardas will be performed on Sept 10, 2023 (Sunday) from 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM at Gurudwara Rani Talab



SARDAR GURNAM Digiana, Jammu. SINGH **GRIEF STRICKEN** 24/11/1982 - 21/08/2023 Surjeet Singh (Ex J.E. Mech) - Father Surjeet Kour - Mother Kamalpreet Kour - Wife Jessica Singh - Daughter Yuvraj Singh **- Son** Contact No: 7889902958

#### **OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and ntimely demise of our beloved Sh. Umesh Bhan S/o untimely demise of our beloved Sh. Umesh Bhan 5/. Lt. Sh Kashi Nath Bhan, original resident of Manigam Ganderbal, Kashmir at present Om Vihar H.No 197/2B, Vinayak Nagar Muthi Jammu, during the nigh of 07-09-2023. The Cremation took place on 08-09-2023. Now, Tenth Da will be performed on 16th Sept. 2023 at Muthi Ghat. GRIEF STRICKEN Koshalya Bhan -Mother Brothers and Sister in Iaw Sh. Pyare Lal Bhan & Smt. Geeta ii Bhan h. Pyare Lal Bhan & Smt. Geeta ji Bhan h. Ashok Bhan & Smt. Asha Bhan Sisters & Brother in law



Sh. Umesh Bhan

Sisters & Brother in Iaw Smt Natasha Tickoo w/o Sh M.K Tickoo Smt Renu Moza w/o Lt. Sh. Shadi Lal Moza **Seeply Remembered by :** Sameer Bhan , Radhika Bhan Shiveta Kaul, Ajay Tickoo, Anita Tickoo, Vishal Moza, Ritika Moza Kak

#### **CHOUBARSI**

Time never stops and life goes on but your me remain alive in our thoughts forever. CHOUBARSI of our beloved Tinku (Sunny) S/c Lt. Smt. Seema Devi and Sh. Sham Sunder Basson will be performed on 10th Sept 2023 (Sunday) at Shri Guru Ravidass Mandir Krishna Nagar, Jammu. Satsang: 12:00 Noon Guru Ka Langar: 1:00 pm Deeply missed and remembered by: Sham Sunder Basson (Retd SDE BSNL) -Father Lt. Seema Devi -Mother anjeev Kumar & Jyoti -Brother and Bhabhi Babli and Mohinder -Sister and Brother-in-law MOBILE 9419115511, 9419145600





CONDOLENCE

Sachin Qazi (Grand Son SAMAST QAZI'S

Mob No. 94191-81495

LATE SDR HARNAM

Smt Aparna & Sh. Sanjeev Matoo

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely

(Near Directorate of School Education Jammu) at 9.00 am. GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. & Smt. Ashok Kumar Koul - Daughter & Son-in-law Sh. & Smt. Ashok Kumar Dhar - Son & Daughter-in-law Smt. Pinkey Bhat W/o Lt. Mahraj Krishen Bhat - Daughter & Son-in-Iaw Sh. & Smt. Sanjay Dhar - Son & Daughter-in-law Ph: 9419206424 Mourning from Malun Side will be also held at same venue mentioned above.

16, Jagti Colony. at 8 AM GRIEF STRICKEN

Brother & Bhabi

Mr. Ajay Pandita & Mrs. Rinku

Mr. Anil Pandita & Mrs. Renu

Mrs. Twinkle & Mr. Anil Pandita - Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-law

Mrs. Asha & Mr. Ravi Ji Pandita - Daughter & Son-in-law

Pandita

**10TH DAY KRIYA** 

Deeply Remembered by:-

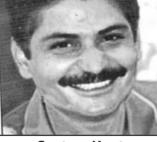
TENTH DAY KRIYA

#### **GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Sh. Rattan Lal Sahib & Renu Sahib (Son & Daughter-in-law) Sh. Avtar Krishan Sahib & Veena Sahib (Son & Daughter-in-law) Sh. Ashok Kumar Sahib & Meenu Sahib (Son & Daughter-in-law) Sh. Ajay Koul & Ranju Koul (Son-in-law & Daughter) Mob: 9419187685, 9419114228, 9796802222, 9818290605

#### VAHARVAR (FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

t is with tearful eyes we all have passed this one year and remen bered you every movement of our life as if you are always with us. Your smiling face and dedication, love and concern for everyone always kept you alive in our hearts which neither can be forgotten nor can fill the vacuum you created in everybody's life. May God who snatched you, place your noble soul in haven for which we all pray for and bid you for your peaceful heavenly journey abode. Masvar - Vaharvar of our beloved Sachan Koul will be performed on 11th September and 12th September, 2023 at their residence, Building No. A-8, Flat No. 104, Kumar Society, Park Infinia, Fursungi Hadfser, Pune -412308. GRIEF STRICKEN FAMILY



Sachan Koul

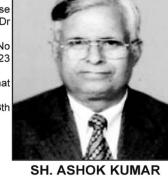
Smt. Asha Ji Koul & Sh. Roshan Lal Koul - Mother & Father Originally from Darbiyar, Habbakadal, Srinagar Presently Residing Pune - Mobile No. 9871182185 Rumpa Koul & Ishaan Koul R/o Bangalore. Mob. No.: 9810975690 -Wife & Son Anupama Koul & Nitan Koul - Bhabhi & Brother Presently at Dubai Mob. No.: 00971508070334 Dubai Ayesha and Sushant Koul R/o Pune. Mob. No.: 9881976786 - Bhabhi & Brother Seema & Susheel Koul R/o Pune Mob.: 9890665456 - Bhabhi & Brother Prerena and Sandeep Koul R/o Pune, Mob.: 8975600017 - Bhabhi & Brother Sahil Koul R/o Pune. Mob.: 9910053356 - Bhabhi & Brother Veena Ji and Heera Lal Koul R/o Pune. Mob.: 850274433 - Aunti & Uncle Sarla Ji & Ashok Koul R/o Pune. Mob.: 8825077369 - Aunti & Uncle And Others Deeply Grieved Families Moza's, Tikoo's, Dhar's Fotedar's & Bhat's

#### 10TH DAY/ 13TH DAY KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Ashok Kumar Gandotra S/o Lt Dr Deewan Chand Gandotra R/o Sailan Talab Udhampur. The 10TH DAY will be performed at our residence H. No 57 W. No 14 Sailan Talab Udhampur on 10th of Sept 2023 at 11.30 AM.

The 13th Day Kriya will be performed at Devika Ghat Udhampur on 13th Sept 2023 at 12.00 Noon. Uthala /Rasam Pagdi will be performed at 5.00 Pm on 13th Sept 2023 at DN Palace, Battal Ballian Road Udhampur. **Grief Stricken** 

- Smt Sudershan Abrol Wife
- Sh. Puneet Gandotra & Smt Nidhi Gandotra Son & Daughter in Law Sh. Manik Gandotra & Smt Sonia Gandotra - Son & Daughter in Law Sh. Brijesh Chopra & Smt Rashmi Chopra - Daughter & Son in Law Sh. Pritam Pal Gandotra - Brother Dr. Subash Gandotra- Brother
- Sh. Vijay Gandotra & Dr. Vinod Gandotra Brother & Sister in Law Dr. B.D. Sharma & Dr. Promila Sharma - Brother in Law & Sister
- Dr. Neelam Gandotra -(Sister)
- Sh. Krishan Lal Abrol Brother in Law



**GANDOTRA** 

MOBILE NO: 8082848583, 9797596757



Sh. & Smt. Satish Kumar Pandita

Ph:- 9796621772

### **10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt Sudershana Manhas W/o K S Manhas who left for heavenly abode on 30 August 2023. 10th Day will be performed at our Paloura residence on Thursday 7 Sep 2023 at 11 AM. Kriva will be performed at our residence on Sunday 10 Sep at 11 AM. Grief Stricken: K S Manhas- Husband Son and Daughter-in-law Neerai Manhas /Meenakshi Jamwal Daughters & Son-in-laws Nisha Chib & Grandson Aarnav Neera/Sameer Dogra Grand Children \_akshya/Micky, Sanjna & Samarth



SH. ANOOP KUMAR

BANGROO

Smt. Kushla Wati

With heavy heart, we all family members are pained by the demise f our Nani Mrs/Smt Sheela Ji Trakroo W/o Late Sh Chuni Lal rakroo erstwhile resident of Zaindar Mohalla. Habakadal rinagar on September 6th. Pray to God for ultimate peace to the NAMAN TO THE NOBLE / BEAUTIFUL SOUL Grief Stricken Mr Kulbushan Kumar Qazi (Son in law) Mrs Babli Qazi (**Daughter)** Mr Shanky & Tiksha/**Grand Son/Daughter** 



Smt Sheela Ji Trakroo

#### HOMAGE

We pay our respectful tribute to Late Smt. Anjali Dhar (SBI) W/o Shri Anil Dhar, who left for heavenly abode on 06 September 2023. She will always be remembered for her warmth, kind heart, fighting spirit and loving nature. May God rest her soul in peace. GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Girja and Shri Ashok Durani Smt. Ambika and Shri Minot Chrangoo Smt. Arti and Shri Chetan Ticku MOB NO:- 9819908383



REMEMBRANCE

Γoday marks four years since you left us, but we will continue to be inspire by your compassion. unwavering persistence, and fierce devotion to God. Everyday, we miss your good humour and kind smile. We will cherish your memory in our nearts forever

Deeply Remembered By S. Manjeet Singh Risam and ALL FAMILY MEMBERS 119/2 NANAK NAGAR JAMMU MOB: 9419137807

Late S. Gajan Singh Garganj

#### SHARDHANJALI

Our dearest Grand Mother. You have been our pilla Our dearest Grand Mother. You have been our pillar of strength against all threats that tried to pull us down. Your presence had made world a better place and you left us with great lessons to uphold. No one ever loved us the way you used to. You shall always remain the strongest influence in our lives. We will carry your memory forever and miss you. May God bestow Moksha to your pious soul. Your, Gread, Children, Sunging & Neerai Garib.

Norsha to your pious sou. Your Grand Children: Sunaina & Neeraj Garib Jyotsna & Deepak Kath, Roma & Sumit Koul, Ruchika & Vaibhav Tikoo; Sagar Mantoo; Manat Mantoo Meenakshi & Aman Kapur; Nisha & Dhiraj Mantoo Mantoo; Kirti & Siddhartha Raina; Abha Ganjoo and Mantoo; Kirti & Siddhartha Raina; Abha Ganjoo and all Great Grand Children Smt. Somrani Mantoo (Naniji)



#### DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."



of Fohar & Ashmugan (Anantnag)

Office) on 14-09-2023 at 9 am.



Smt Sudershana Manhas

**10TH DAY KRIYA** "SHIVHUM, SHIVOHAM"

The 10th Day Kriya of our beloved Bhaisahab (Kakaji) Sham Sunder Lal Bhat son of Keshavo Nath resident of H.No. 164, Sharika Vihar, Roop Nagar Jammu will be performed at Muthi Ghat (Near Director School Education,

Sham Sunder Lal Bhat

Samast Bhat Parivaar

## LOCAL/ ADVT

## JKEEGA organizes massive protest, seeks resolutions of demands from Govt

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: The Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA) organized a mass protest involving hundreds of engineers and employees from the Power Development Department (PDD).

The protest was led by Sachin Tickoo, the president of JKEEGA, and received support from various other major organizations of PDD employees in Jammu, including the Diploma Engineers Association, Provincial Power Employee's Union, Lineman and Workers Union, Technical Employees Federation, JKNGEEA, PEEU & PDL/TDL, and other workers unions.

The primary concern of the protest was the inordinate delay in filling vacant positions across



all cadres in the Power Development Department, Sachin Tickoo said adding that this delay has negatively impacted the morale of officers and affected the department's ability to deliver public services and address grievances. The protesters claimed

that the government had made commitments under a legal agreement dated December 21, 2021 but failed to fulfill them even after nearly two years. These commitments were related to resolving the issues within the department, including promotions and regularizations.

"Due to the large number of vacancies, many officers in the department were burdened with multiple charges. This situation has led to inefficiencies and challenges in providing services to the public. For example, some Chief Engineers were working in the substantive grades of Assistant Engineers and Superintending Engineers," he said. Promotion files for various cadres were languishing for months, causing significant frustration among the affected officers, he added.

The protesters mentioned a specific example of the promotion file of Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) to Executive Engineer, which had been recommended for promotion by the administrative department but had not progressed for six months.

Despite a government decision in 2019, which aimed to complete regular promotions within two months, no regular promotions had been granted to engineers in the department. This has further exacerbated the staffing issues.

The protest involved a complete sit-in dharna (a form of non-violent protest) at the PDD Complex Gladni in Jammu. Additionally, similar demonstrations and protest casual leave were observed in various districts, including Doda,

tricts, including Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch, Rajouri, and the Kashmir Province, at Bemina PDD Complex. The protesting engineers and employees aimed to draw attention to these long-standing issues and seek resolu-

tions from the government to improve the functioning of the Power Development Department and address the challenges faced by its

which challenges face te reg- personnel.

## ARO Jammu organises awareness Lecture on Agniveer Scheme

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 9: The Agnipath Scheme has been designed to enable a youthful profile of the Armed Forces. It provides an excellent opportunity to the Youth who are keen to don the uniform. To make the cadets aware of this

Magnificent scheme, an informative and educative Lecture was organised by the ARO, Jammu in collaboration with 2 J&K Bn NCC Jammu for 500 NCC Cdts at NCC Trg Academy Nagrota on 09 Sep 2023. The NCC Cdts exhibited keen interest and cleared many of

their doubts. In addition to the Agniveer Scheme, NCC Cdts were also made aware of the various types of entries existing to join the Armed Forces as Officers and Jawans and the benefits especially for the NCC Cdts given by the Central Govt.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT PHEJ/MS/74 of 2023-24 Dated 05-09-2023

Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered/ reputed firms

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee(In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Validity of Rates	
1	2	3	4	5	
Repair to 630 KVA Voltage Stabilizer at CPS Boria under Non Plan	PHE Mech. Division South Jammu	Rs. 200.00 (Non-Refundable) In the shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <u>http://www.imcjammu.org/online- payment.html</u>	@ 2% of estimated cost/ tender value In the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu	Bid shall be valid for 180 days	

- ) Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website *http://jktenders.gov.in* from <u>06-09-2023</u> (10:00 AM) and uploaded from <u>08-09-2023</u> (10:00 AM) to <u>14-09-2023</u> (03:00 PM). The complete bidding process will be online <u>http://jktenders.gov.in</u>.
- Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table.
- The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the tenderer shall be debarred from participating in tendering process for a period of 1 year.
- 4) The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu on <u>15-09-2023</u> at 3:00 P.M or any other day convenient to the Ex. Engineer in the Office chambers of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu.
- i) The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall also be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu during office hours and shall be communicated separately.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <a href="http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html">http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html</a>
- 7) The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L<sub>1</sub> bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu within 05 days after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L<sub>1</sub> bidder within 05 days after opening of financial bids will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- ) Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document

No: PHEJ/MS/2107-11 Dated:- 05-09-2023 DIP/J-7969/23

S. No

1



OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (RnB) DIVISION SAMBA

#### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

#### e-NIT No. 62 of 2022-2023 Dated: 04-09-2023

Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Division Samba on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of J&K, invite tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible registered Firm with J&K Union Territory Cost upto 1800 Hz on 15-08-2022 for the following work.

## Amit Kapoor leads protest against installation of smart meters



#### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 9: The ongoing movement against smart meters got huge support as a large number of people including women demonstrated under the leadership of Amit Kapoor, President of Dogra Welfare Organization, here outside Hari Singh Park on Saturday. ers, Amit Kapoor said that the issue of smart meters is a household issue across Jammu and Kashmir and their agitation will continue until the smart meters are removed.

are removed.the Principal SecretaryHe said that till nowand the MD of JKPDCLonly the contract forand both of them areinstalling smart metersoutsiders. Earlier all thehas been given and aspowers were with thesoon as these metersChief Engineer of PDDare installed, huge billsbut now all the powers

have been taken away from him.

Kapoor also attacked BJP leaders for maintaining silence on this issue of public interest. He called upon the people to protest in their respective areas regarding this issue and to teach a tough lesson in the elections to the leaders who are sitting silent on this issue.

He also accused BJP leaders of misleading people on the issue of smart meters.

He strongly criticized the LG administration for deploying police force to forcibly install smart meters. He said that after the installation of smart meters, people are being handed huge electricity bills.

smart meters are correct then why are people's bills getting higher. Kapoor said that he had started the issue of smart meters from Janipur and it is being opposed in the entire state and it has taken the form of a mass

> movement. He said that the people of the state have the first right on the electricity generated in Jammu and Kashmir and they should be provided free electricity. Regarding the toll plaza, he said that if there is no toll plaza in the UT, then there should not be any toll plaza in the state. Sunita Nischal and Pushpa Neelam Anju

> Pushpa, Neelam, Anju Devi, Meenakshi and many people participat

3

Addressing the protest-

Kapoor said that if

ed in this protest

## Various leaders BJP, social activists join Congress

are being given to the

people, then what will

be the condition of the

people when the elec-

tricity becomes private.

He said that at present

all the powers rest with

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

AKHNOOR, Sep 9: Various leaders from ruling BJP and social activists hailing from Akhnoor and Chhamb assembly constituencies joined the Indian National Congress and also posed their full faith in the leadership of Rahul Gandhi.

In the leadership of Former Dy. Chief Minister Tara Chand, numerous political activists from BJP and Aam Admi Party joined Congress before Pradesh Congress President, Vikar Rasool Wani.

They were welcomed in the party by JKPCC President and Senior Congress leaders Lala Bansi Lal Gupta, Rashpaul Singh, Jagattar Singh, AHans Raj Bhagat, Madan Lal Sharma, Santosh Manhas, Master Mohan Lal, Davinder Singh Bittu and others.

Prominent among those who joined Congress include Jagan Nath (Panch Tanda Akhnoor) BJP, Ritesh Gupta (Social Activist), Ankush Dubey (City President Akhnoor), Sanjeev Kumar (Social Activist), Mohd. Gafoor (Tanda Akhnoor), Gafoor Ahmed (Tanda Akhnoor), Sahil Bhagat, (Youth Activist), Rohan



the urges and aspira-

tions of the people, for

the fact, it is the Con-

gress Party alone which

has always taken care

of the urges and aspira-

tions of the people. Con-

gress has been pioneer

in implementing revo-

lutionary programmes

aimed at improving the

conditions of the people,

especially those living in

remote and backward

He described BJP dis-

pensation as anti-poor

and anti development,

saying due to adminis-

trative inertia and lack

of political direction the

sufferings of the people

increased manifold.

The insensitive govern-

ment pushed people to

the wall, as unemploy-

ment has increased,

prices have risen and

developmental activities

have suffered a lot. He

said the BJP has been

instrumental in adding to

the miseries of people.

In an atmosphere of

areas.

(BJP YUVA MORCHA), Anil Kumar (Jourian), Abhishek Kumar (BJP YUVA MORCHA), Parshotam Sharma (Khour), Sumit Sharma (Khour), Uttam Kumar (Khour), Uttam Kumar (Khour), Puneet Gupta (Akhnoor), Balwinder Singh (BJP Yuva Morcha), Rajinder Kumar (Akhnoor), Satpal (BJP Yuva Morcha).

They expressed full faith on the policies and programmes of Congress party and its leadership Rahul Gandhi and AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge.

Wani said that Congress Party is an instrument of service to the people, which has remained dedicated to the cause of serving the people.

He said Congress party believes in strengthening the people and is committed to equitable development of J&K. He said Congress Party is duty bound to address uncertainty and political instability, the people of the J&K in general and Jammu region in particular are passing through most difficult times. Tara Chand said that

the people of Jammu region feel utterly cheated and betrayed for the failure of BJP leaders to represent and agitate their concerns. He said that people who want to contribute to the political discourse and development of the state must become part of the Congress's growth story. The doors are open for the people who want to contribute in the party's efforts to see the state out of the present mess," he said. "Congress is committed for the people's cause and will always uphold their aspirations and sentiments", he said. BJP government in J&K miserably failed to live up to the expectations

of the people. There was a strong resentment among the people against previous government as it has not fulfilled its promises made at the time of Assembly elections. There was anger among people. Tara Chand said that

the BJP played with the sentiments of the people who voted them to power. People were not happy with their policies and the government proved to be a failure. Despite people hitting streets against governance deficit, lack of development and failure of the government to deliver on the promises made to the people of the Jammu and Kashmir, Govt did not move even an inch proving callousness of this anti-people Govt. Cautioning people

against anti people policies pursued by the BJP Government, former Dy Chief Minister said that peace and development had become biggest causality since this govt had taken over. He appealed to the people to strengthen the hands of Congress party by supporting Con-

people to strengthen the hands of Congress party by supporting Congress candidates in the upcoming ULB elections , adding that it will be a vote against the broken promises of BJP.

Govt. upto 1800 Hrs on 15-08 -2022 for the following work.										
S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimat ed cost of the project (Rs In Lacs)	Adv. cost of Rendering of services including all taxes (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of docume nt (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time and date of opening of tender	Time of Completi on	Class of firm	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	Rendering of services for preparation of complete DPR alongwith BOQ, structural Design and vetting of Structural Drawings from IIT / DIQC / Any Other Recognized Institute including Soil Testing, Hydraulic and Metrological Data for Construction of RCC Check Dam at Papper Morh and Badakhater Nalforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)	PWD (R&B) Division Samba	50.00	1.25	600	2500/-	16-09- 2023 1400 hours	20 Days	CATE GORY -C As per Empanelme nt list issued by C.E PWD Jammu Cicular No. CEJ/TSJ Add the 137-64 dt 137-64 dt	

#### Date of Publishing: 05-09-2022

The Bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <u>http://iktenders.gov.in</u> from 1000 hours on 06-09-2023 to 15-09-2023 (upto 6.00pm).

- a. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <u>http://iktenders.gov.in</u> from 1000 hours on 06-09-2023 to 15-09-2023 (upto 6.00pm)
- b. Pre bid meeting on 09-09-2023 at 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Samba
- b. The bids received will be opened online on 16-08-2023 (2.00pm)
- c. The complete bidding process will be online.
- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <u>http://jktenders.gov.in</u> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.
- 4. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.

Bids must be uploaded alongwith <u>Scanned copy of cost of Tender Document in shape of</u> <u>e-challan / copy of Treasury Receipt indicating NIT No. & Name of work favoring Executive</u> <u>Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Samba by crediting the requisite charges to the MH 0059 -</u> <u>PWD (Revenue) and Earnest Money in shape CDR / FDR / BG as mentioned in NIT</u> <u>duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Samba.</u> The original instruments in respect of cost of document and relevant documents of <u>L1 bidder will be required to be</u> submitted to the <u>Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Samba</u>. <u>No separate intimation about</u> <u>opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority</u>. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L-1 bidder within 07 days after opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the Division for a period of One year.

The Technical Bids shall be opened in the office of **Executive Engineer**, **PWD**(**R&B**) **Division Samba**. The Financial Bids shall be opened on next convenient day by the Tender Opening. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

NO: 6513-29 DT: 04-09-2022 DIP/J-7974/23 Sd/-*Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Samba.* 

## OP-ED

## **EDHORIAL**

#### EXPLORE DOMESTIC INDUSTRIES

Domestic industries can be started from home at very low cost and the production from such industries brings huge profits to our country. Today in this article we are going to share an essay on domestic industry with you. This essay will prove helpful for all classes in the examination.

Home industry is a process in which we produce various types of things sitting at home and then take them to the market and sell them. This type of process involves very little cost. But the country gets much more profit from such use.

For this type of industry, you will not see big factories, but to start it, some people from the house or some boys from the locality come together and start it at a small place and gradually try to make this business bigger. Is. This type of business starts from home, hence it is known as cottage industry or home industry.

Today unemployment has spread on a large scale and due to the advent of the digital world, people are getting attracted towards robots and machines so fast that the risk of people losing their jobs is also increasing. In such a situation, cottage industry can be a very good business, which you can start from your home at a very low cost.

Let us tell you that countries get good profits from domestic industry. For this reason, the government is spreading awareness to promote this type of industry. People should also understand that you cannot rely on the government for long and hope for employment. For this reason, you should do some work which will benefit the country and you and in this situation, domestic industry can be a very good solution. The government is making new schemes for all the poor people and is trying to help everyone in this situation. But we cannot come out of poverty or unemployment till then. Unless we become producers ourselves, as long as we keep thinking about working under someone, we will remain surrounded by poverty and unemployment. The government understands the importance of domestic industry, hence it has announced various types of policies to spread awareness in this sector and to make the lives of people running domestic industries easier. We should also understand the importance of this industry and know this if we want to take our country forward. So, we should make more and more goods in our country in which the domestic industry is actively contributing.

## India vs Bharat: Mahayudh is on, mere pyare Bharatwasis

#### By: Shobhaa De

ranaam! Let's talk about the biggest haathi in the room: Polls 2024. The brouhaha over the supposed "name change" of our great nation has nothing to do with history, geography, mythology; it's rooted in psychology. Mass psychology. It adds up to just one thing: who wins next year. Those who choose "Bharat", or those've already staked a claim to "INDIA". All the noise over the identity and ownership of the country is nothing more than a political stunt to polarise people and force citizens to choose: If you pick Bharat, you are a proud, culturally-rooted person, steeped in history and tradition. If you prefer "India", you belong to the irrelevant, elitist minority still stuck in a colonial time-warp, a slave of former masters.

I prefer "Prem Nagari". Love over hate.

It really isn't about what the Constitution says or doesn't. If it was only about constitutional correctness, why did the learned netas wait decades to introduce the twoname theory? Did they suddenly wake up and discover what was stated unambiguously on September 18, 1949, when B.R. Ambedkar moved to amend Article 1, which states: "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States". The original wording stayed. With all its implications and connotations. So, why this meaningless debate over President Droupadi Murmu's invitation to a G-20 dinner? Table settings be damned... chamchas, chamchis and knives came out in a flash, as heated debates led to Mahabharat-level yudhs across India/Bharat. Memes galore flew across the world, as loyalists went to absurd extremes to justify the change. Declared a BJP MP sanctimoniously: "Republic of Bharat: happy and proud our civilisation is marching ahead boldly towards Amrit Kaal." Sure, buddy. Hope the people of Manipur feel the same way and are rejoicing, as they wait for representatives of "Bharat" to come to their rescue.

Per se, there's nothing objectionable or illegal about using "Bharat". That's understood. You can take Índia out of Indians, but you can't take Indians out of India. You can rename India Gate to Bharat Gate, or Gateway of India to Gateway of Bharat, and nothing will alter the history of these two monuments. It's also a little jejune to talk about Calcutta/Kolkata, Bombay/Mumbai, Madras/Chennai in the same breath. Cities across the world reclaim their historical names. The Bharat / India narrative is significantly different. Historians themselves are struggling to find convincing/clinching/irrefutable evidence that supports the current shift. Constitutional experts rightly interpreted the various articles and said what they have to on the subject. That leaves us. Citizens. Bewildered and powerless. We are neither experts on this complex matter, nor do we have the authority to assert what we feel. Agreed, the chattering classes and their "anglicized" views count for nothing in the present environment. But that doesn't deny them the right to have opinions.

The biggest concern for citizens is about the obvious manipulation of their sentiments. The timing of this controversy is suspect. The motivation, even more so. Patriotism is being reduced to a pantomime. If you have reservations about Bharat, you are less of an Indian! What a contradiction of terms!

I asked a few friends what they will say when asked by foreigners where they're from. In the past, we could respond on autopilot: "We're from India". Today, that's deemed politically incorrect. The right response should be: "We're from Bharat". If the foreigner looks stumped and asks: "Where's that? Which country is Baah-rat?", will we be deeply offended? Yes, we will. Even Shashi Tharoor may struggle to come up with an apt repartee, though he didn't waste a minute jumping into the Bharat/ India dialogue on Twitter (X). Team India versus Team Bharat is going to be a bit of a stretch, going forward. But as we all know, it's about more than just "name-calling".

This move is seen as yet another strategy to mobilise and polarise our people, by insinuating we were and shall always remain a Hindu Rashtra. We were never India. "India" is a borrowed nomenclature, given to us by "outsiders" who couldn't pronounce "H" in Hindus, and dropped it in favour of "Indus". Indus eventually became India. All sorts of hoary sources are being quoted to support this argument. Assuming it is dead accurate, where does this intriguing "going back in time" journey end? Here we are, already on the moon's south pole, and steadily heading towards the sun... Why not look ahead, not backwards?

Forget obvious jibes like Isro calling itself "Bisro", or Indigo becoming "Bhaago". Will Miss India be crowned Miss Bharat in future? Will Times of India and India Today switch to Bharat? Banks like SBI and BoI... trusted brands for decades, will have to do a brand rethink as well. But remember, such lighthearted jibes always camouflage deeper issues and generate a sense of anxiety, insecurity and uncertainty about the future of the nation we all love and are proud of. Names can change. But what about mindsets? Playing games with citizens to garner a majority next year isn't just callous, it comes with in-built hazards too. "Mera Bharat Mahaan" was working fine across the board. As was "Yeh Mera India". Both identities co-existed without a political agenda attached. "Made in India" was another powerful reminder of our potential to compete globally and win. Tricolour or Tiranga -- the pride was in the flag, not its descriptor.

The fear is this: It's Bharat today. A concept that's been introduced in a subliminal, surreptitious way. Without any flourish. Citizens were caught unawares, but unable to express their true reactions without fearing repercussions. A young person asked in all seriousness: "Will I be arrested if I use the word India?" I also asked myself, will I (along with millions of fellow citizens) be ostracised, penalized, marginalised, disenfranchised if I don't switch? Will I be judged as less of a patriotic Indian for daring to ask questions? VHP spokesman Vinod Bansal's post is unambiguous: "Let's forget the word INDIA." Really, Bhaisaab? Why? I don't want to forget India. I feel wonderful introducing myself as an Indian. What's next? Constitutional amendments? Or easier still ... why not construct the world's largest bulldozer, designed to flatten any and every obstacle? To quote Emperor Napoleon: "The world suffers a lot. Not because of the violence of bad people, but because of the silence of good people." Indians are good people. It's time to speak up, good people. Before it's too late.

The "Bharatisation" of India is afoot. Those who don't like this version of their beloved nation are free to leave -- visa on arrival at the destination of their choice. Jai Hind! Jai Bharat!

## Of drag queens, evangelicals on 'racist' protest & 'counter-demos'

#### By: Farrukh Dhondy

here isn't an age beyond which one stops demonstrating on the streets. quality of it -- which is excellent. Why did I join a few hundred people on this demonstration -- which takes place on the last at times a couple of hundred, gather on the opposite pavement outside The Honor Oak with placards and slogans such as "this is an anti-grooming zone" and "protect our children from perverts". They are, kept behind steel-frame barriers by a flood of police who recognise their right to protest but not to resort to any vandalism or violence. The counter-demonstrators gather on the pavements outside the pub. This anti-anti-protest, sometimes up to eight hundred strong, labels itself "antifascists" and bears placards saying "fascist-free zone" and "racists, homophobes OUT!", or words to that effect. They carry loudhailers and shout at the opposing protesters. They too are held back by steel barriers and the uniformed police who park their 15 police vans each protest day along the street to see that the traffic is not obstructed. I join this latter mob -- no, gentle reader, not the police! -- the counter- demonstrators, most of them from a Trotskyist organisation called the Socialist Worker's Party, others from the Labour Party and local supporters. The pub has a lot of support, and the drag queen story-telling sessions go ahead as planned.

their dress and demeanour, church-going Christians who belong to organisations such as the Jehovah's Witnesses. Coincidentally or not, the South London headquarters and meeting place of the JWs is precisely opposite the road from The Honor Oak pub. I can't with any confidence say that the black members of the objecting demo are Witnesses, but my feeling that they are is strengthened by the fact that I think I recognised one of the demonstrators as a part of the couple of Witnesses who, some weeks ago, knocked at my door. I answered, and this young man said: "Sir, do you know about Jesus?"

If I thought that even an overnight demonstration in London would get (Ras) Putin (no, he hasn't got dreadlocks yet!) to stop his bombing of schools, hospitals and restaurants in Ukraine, I would put on my walking shoes and be out there. No such prospect, Raspy couldn't give a flying fu...rrycreature about what his own people think, leave aside what he characterises as Nazi-supporting Westerners.

> So, even if the comrades call a demo for this hopeless cause I shan't be going. Barracking an embassy whose government is in blatant violation of human rights -- getting their death squads to pick on and even kill women who defy their nasty rules or turning a blind eye to, or encouraging assaults on minority populations within the country -- I might consider showing my face, even though the chances of reversing such violations is remote.

> However, a very local cause I have regularly endorsed with my presence has been easy for me -- as it concerns a pub which is fifty yards from the place where I live. No, gentle reader, I wasn't demonstrating outside The Honor Oak pub to protest against the price of beer or indeed complaining about the

Saturday of each month?

Well, it is technically a counter-demonstration. What The Honor Oak has taken to doing over the last six or so months is to host in their tiny, one-room theatre on the first floor above the drinking space and gardens... a show for children. The show is a story-telling session by drag queens. Men dress up as women and tell stories, from tradition and several cultures, to the gathered young, delighted audiences.

This Saturday event came to the attention of what I conclude are hotheads from an Americanorigin evangelical church. I may be mistaken but I'll tell you later why I assume this. These evangelists concluded that men in drag -- wearing picturesque and extravagant women's apparel and wigs, were in some sense "perverting" the children in the audience.

The placards of their demonstration outside the pub even accused the narrative/theatrical performance of "grooming", the paedophile's seduction strategy.

These evangelist head-bangers were the initiators of the melee that takes place on the last Saturday of the month outside our local pub. A gang of these antidrag show-wallas, sometimes not more than 15 of them and

I characterise the anti-drag mob as evangelical headbangers because on several of these demonstrations I have seen young black men and women -- from I said: "Of course! Any man who can turn water into wine -- that's my man!"

They went away.

I think that the anti-fascist rhetoric of our demonstration's slogans goes nowhere. Obviously, if there are blacks on the other side demonstrating against drag queens, the characterisation of the evangelists as "racist" falls on deaf ears.

Maybe what I should do is chalk up placards which say "GET WITH BRITISH CUL-TURE: PANTOMIME HAS HAD MEN DRESSED AS WIDOW TWANKY FOR AS LONG AS IT HAS EXISTED".

Or maybe: "WHEN SHAKE-SPEARE'S PLAYS WERE STAGED WOMEN CHAR-ACTERS WERE PLAYED BY 'DRAG' MEN".

## **LOCAL**

## Neena, Ishant kick start Green Strip **Development Work at Sector 4 in Ward 50**

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: Neena Gupta, Corporator of Ward No. 50 Channi Himmat, and Advocate Ishant Gupta, State IT Head BJP J&K, on Saturday kick started a significant green strip project development work at Sector 4 Park No. 32 in Ward No. 50, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

The project, with an estimated cost of Rs. 8 lakh, aims to enhance the natural beauty and recreational spaces and was inaugurated in presence of Rajesh Sumbria Joint Commissioner Works, AEE and other Officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation. The inauguration cer-

emony, which saw the enthusiastic participation of local residents and party supporters, marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to improve the local environment and create more vibrant public spaces.

Neena Gupta, while addressing the gathering, expressed her commitment to the



development of the ward and the welfare of its residents. She said, "Our goal is to create a greener and more inviting environment for our community, where families can come together, children can play, and everyone can enjoy the

beauty of nature." Neena further stated that the project involves the plantation of a variety of indigenous trees and flowering plants, as well as the installation of benches, entry gates, sprinklers and walking paths etc to encourage outdoor activities and leisure. It is expected to be completed in the

coming months, offering a picturesque and ecofriendly space for the residents of Ward No. 50, Channi Himmat. Advocate Ishant Gupta emphasized the importance of such initiatives

in enhancing the quality of life for citizens. He stated, "This green strip development project is a testament to our dedication to the environment and the wellbeing of our people. We will continue to work towards creating better and more sustainable urban spaces.

Ashok Khajuria, the local resident thanked Neena Gupta and Advo-

cate Ishant Gupta for the initiative been taken by them to develop the park with a vision to provide healthy environment and vibrant public space for the healthy environment and better recreation space where families can come together, children can play, and everyone can enjoy the beauty of nature.

Poonam Gupta State Programme Incharge BJP MM, Trishula Gupta Social Worker, OP Dubey, Ashok Khajuria and Chanchal Sharma etc were the prominent who graced the occasion by their presence.

## Meri Maati Mera Desh: BJP Bakshi Nagar Mandal organizes programme

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: Under Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign, BJP Bakshi Nagar Mandal organized program on the Balidan Diwas of Martyr Major Akash Singh (Shourya Chakra recipient) at Rajpura Jammu.

Chandramohan Gupta (Vice President BJP Jammu Kashmir), Braham Jyot Satti (Incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir) were present in main there. Program was organ-

ised by Atul Bakshi (BJP Mandal President Bakshi Nagar). Surendra Chaudhary

(Councillor), Zorawar Singh (Senior Leader BJP), Kamla Gupta (Senior Leader BJP), Bawa Sharma (Senior Leader BJP), Kushant Prajapati (Mandal General Secretary), Sanjay Verma (Mandal President OBC), Krishna Verma (Booth President), Pawan Sharma (Booth President), Karan Sharma (Media Sector), office bearers



tage.

By connecting with the

land and honoring our

heroes, this program will

instill a sense of national

pride and inspire future

generations to protect

India's cherished heri-

He said Felicitation

ceremonies shall be

held for honouring the

freedom fighters and

the families of deceased

These ceremonies

shall also honour retired

personnel from Defence.

CAPF and State Police

and the families of the

bravehearts of these

forces who have sac-

rificed their lives in the

line of duty. Felicitation

shall be as per local tra-

He said Youth volun-

teers and other people

ditions and customs.

freedom fighters.

of Yuva Rajput Sabha. Apart from this, a large number of prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

In the program, they paid floral tribute to Martyr Major Akash Singh (Shourya Chakra recipient) who hailed from Shiv Nagar Jammu and achieved martyrdom during gun battle with terrorists at Poonch.

Later, he was awarded with Shourya Chakra for his bravery and courage. They also pick soil of land for pot (Kalash). Chander Mohan said 'Meri Maati Mera Desh" envisions a unified celebration of India's soil and valour, commemorating the nation's journey of freedom and progress.

from all corners of the country would collect Mitti from Panchayats/ Villages and bring it to the Block level. Similarly, Mitti shall be collected from smaller urban bodies and brought to larger Municipalities/ urban local bodies. Subsequently, Mitti Kalash having the soil from the Panchayats/Villages/ urban areas, would be carried to the National Capital.

Braham Jyot said that Maj Akash Singh was martyred but made his unit proud with his exceptional courage and supreme sacrifice. Maj Akash Singh was given the gallantry award, "Shaurya Chakra" for his raw courage, leadership, camaraderie and

supreme sacrifice. Zorawar Singh threw light of the life of Maj Akash Singh and said Major Akash Singh hailed from Jammu in J&K and was born on 15 Apr 1975. He was fascinated with the army life and nursed a dream of joining the army since his childhood

should be added in the

voter list of the inhabit-

ants of the Ward 62, a

neglected ward as for

as development is con-

The Members of

Movement for Peace,

cerned.

## NC hails SC Judgment on 'Plough' symbol

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: J&K National Conference (Legal Cell), Jammu Province, Jammu, in an emergent meting hailed the Judgment passed by Supreme Court of India, whereby, the Party was held entitled to the "Plough" symbol, while setting-aside the LADHC Election Notification, and imposed costs of Rs 1 lakh

The Union Territory of Ladakh came under the harsh criticism of the Supreme Court for denying the 'Plough' symbol for the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) Party in the upcoming Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) election for the Kargil Region.

Noting that the Plough symbol was reserved for JKNC by the Election Commission of India because of its status as a recognized State Party of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Court held that its demand for the symbol was "legitimate and just"

The Supreme Court came down heavily on the Ladakh Administration for notifying such conduct. This recalcitrance to decide in time speaks volumes. Instances like these raise serious questions", the Bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath & Ahsanuddin Amanullah noted. The Ladakh Administration had filed the Special Leave Petition challenging the direction passed by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir & Ladakh to notify the 'Plough' symbol for JKNC.

Elections should be free, fair and transparent In its Judgment, the Supreme Court highlighted the fundamental principles of democracy and the necessity for impartiality and timeliness in election processes. It observed that "Elections to any Office/Body are required to be free, fair and transparent. Elections lie at the core of democracy. The authority entrusted by law to hold/conduct such elections is to be completely independent of any extraneous influence/consideration. It is surprising that the Union Territory of Ladakh not only denied R1 the Plough symbol but even upon timely intervention by the Learned Single Judge, has left no stone unturned not only denied R1 the Plough symbol but even upon timely intervention by the Learned Single Judge, has left no stone unturned not only to resist but also frustrate a cause simply by efflux of time." The Supreme Court took a firm stance against the appellants who had not complied with the orders of the High Court to allot the symbol for JKNC. It opined "Having chosen,

with eyes open, to not comply with successive Orders of the Learned Single Judge and the Learned Division Bench, both of which were passed well in time, such as not to stall/delay the notified Election Schedule, the Appellants cannot be permitted to plead that interference by us at this late juncture should not be forthcoming.

The Supreme Court also highlighted the challenges faced by JKNC due to the unavailability of its recognized symbol while observing that "No candidate/representative affiliated with R1 could have filled up the form as the Plough symbol was neither a reserved symbol nor a free symbol, and thus, could not have been opted for by any candidate when filing the nomination form. The serious consequence was that R1's identity as a political party was eclipsed, right before the election to the LAHDC. where it was the incumbent party in power."

The meeting was held under the President ship of Dinesh Singh Chauhan, Advocate and was attended by Mehrukh Goni, Advocate (Vice-President); Meharban Singh, Advocate Secretary, Upasana Thakur, Advocate (Joint Secretary), Asish Bharti, Advocate (Joint Secretary) and Atul Chanyal, Advocate (Treasurer). The Legal complimented Omar Abdullah in fighting the notoriety of BJP Led Ladakh Administration and restoring the confidence of voters in democracy of the country.

## Inclusion of name of inhabitants from District Doda & Pir Panjal **Region in JMC: MPEJ**

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: The members of Movement for Peace, Equality & Justice (MPEJ), in a press statement issued here have appealed the State Election Commissioner of J&K-UT, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu that a number of people are living in JMC, Jammu in General & Ward 62 in particular and the souls are the state subjects living in the Municipality limits of Jammu Municipal Corporation Jammu. The people have been authenticated by JMC, Jammu.

The majority is under privileged and falls under the citizen category and marginalized. Their names were registered in the previous ULB elections but in the today's lists they have been omitted by the reason known to the JMC authorities. As the election to the Urban Local Bodies are going to be held in the near future. it is must

Equality & Justice, have appealed the Lt. Governor, J&K-UT, State Election Commissioner, J&K-UT, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Province, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu and Municipal Commisto include their names sioner, Jammu, for an in the new voter list to early favorable action grant them the right and issue instructions to the booth level officers for urgent registration of the names of the citizens living in JMC in general and ward 62 in particular, before ULB election 2023.

the LAHDC elections while sitting over the representation made by JKNC seeking the allotment of the reserved symbol.

"The Appellants (Ladakh Admin), while sitting on the representation of JKNC, went ahead and notified the elections on 02/05.08.2023. We are unable to appreciate

migrated to Jammu due to obvious reasons and are living here since last more than 20 years. They are paying regular water & electricity bills and their homes have

to vote, which is the fundamental right of every citizen. They are paying regular electricity and water bills and their homes have been authenticated by JMC, Jammu & their names

asked.

They also said that the

government focuses

more on showcasing

achievements in the

education sector but

there is no development

Although the staff

members are doing their

best to provide quality

education to the enrolled

students, the dearth of

basic facilities has got

them concerned, having

no answers to the

anguish of the students,"

They said. "Compared

to other Government

schools, the school has

a good number of stu-

dents enrolled which

visible on the ground.

## Annual Bhandara organised at **Baba Budhi Dass Mandir Thaman**



#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

DODA, Sep 9: Annual Bhandara was organised with religious fervour and gaiety by Baba Budhi Dass Mandir Committee at Baba Budhi Dass Mandir where people from all walks of life showed their presence in the program. In the early morning Hawan was performed followed by the Poorna Ahuti ceremony.

Ekal Abhiyan, Anchal Thathri also celebrated the Varshik Utsav in the Mandir where a large number of Karyakartas and children of different Ekal Vidyalayas participated in the Varshik Utsav and the glory of the event was made gracious by the presence of Sunil Sharma, Ex Minister.

Mukh Raj from Badanoo, from a Shaheed Parivar was the Chief Guest in the Varshik Utsav.

President, Baba Budhi Dass Mandir Committee Balwan Singh and Subash Sharma welcomed Sunil Sharma by presenting a shawl.

Pujari of the Mandir Baba Balak Dass Maharaj also welcomed Sunil Sharma by showering Baba's blessings.

Others who attended the Program were Acharya Baba Ram Sharn Dass from Kishtwar, Swami Hari Dass Maharai from Mathura Vrindavan, Ashok Kumar, DDC Drabshalla, Hans Raj, DDC Drabshalla A, Daljit Singh, Sarpanch Sharote, Vimal Kumar, Sarpanch Kandhote, Rohit Singh, Sarpanch Jangalwar.

A large no devotees from different areas of Saroor, Bounjwah, Saraz, Drab area and Kishtwar also attended the programme and paid Darshan at Mandir with Religious Fervor and Gaiety.

Sandeep Singh Manhas, DDC Thathri presented vote of thanks and extended heartfelt gratitude to all the devotees who attended the program and bhandara. He expressed his sincere desire for Baba Budhi Dass ji Maharaj to bestow his blessings upon all the devotees.

## GMS Targam Qazigund lacks basic facilities, students suffer, Admin silent

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

QUAZIGUND, Sep 9: Students of Government Middle School (GMS) Taragam Qazigund in South Kashmir's Anantnag District are badly suffering due to Lack of basic Facilities in the School

The pathetic condition of classrooms and school building at Government Middle School Taragam Qazigund is reflected by its broken and defaced walls. It seems that **District Administration** Anantnag and Director School Education has totally neglected the said School.

The classrooms are without any proper Sitting arrangement and there are only three classrooms for 5 Classes which is totally injustice with students.

The school is located on the outskirts of the Qazigund town of District Anantnag with high Road Traffic accident Risk

The students said that



they face lot of inconvenience as the school has only one toilet for the teachers as well as the students. "During classes, whenever we need to go to washroom we have to wait for turn for some time," a student said

Besides classrooms and toilets, the school lacks proper fencing, electricity and clean drinking water. The crumbling room

walls pose a serious threat to our and our teachers' lives. We fear they may fall anytime," the students told.

"No effort was made

to repair these walls so far, Neither New Building Was Constructed although Land and Money Both are available with Govt but don't know why education department looks like spectators and are playing with the Career of our Wards", the parents' added.

The school has only three rooms including an office where teachers have to adjust around 80 students of five classes including KGs how can two or three teachers teach students of three classes in a single room simultaneously, they

makes it imperative for the concerned authorities to take immediate steps in order to provide them quality facilities."

The locals said that all students studying here belong to financially weak families so authorities must take immediate steps to ensure quality education for these poor students.

"We have apprised the higher ups so many times so far, but to no avail," they said.

They urge Lieutenant Governor J&K, Shri Manoj Sinha led district administration to look into the matter at the earliest so that students get a sigh of relief.

Meanwhile when contacted to Zonel Education Officer ZEO Qazigund, Ghulam Rasool Magrey he has recently joined as ZEO and he was not aware of all the issues being faced by the students of Middle School Targam. "I will collect all the information and try to address those issues immediately," he said.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

## Act of faith: Actor Siddanth Karnick, who is basking in the success of Made in Heaven 2, says he tries to bring his own life experiences into the roles he essays on screen

Siddanth Karnick is a name that resonates with versatility, passion, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. From his remarkable performances in Made in Heaven and Adipurush to his upcoming endeavours in the world of acting, writing, and production, Karnick's journey in the entertainment industry is a testament to his unwavering dedication.

6

Karnick's recent series on Amazon Made in Heaven has captivated audiences globally. His portrayal as the main lead alongside Mrunal Thakur in one of the episodes has garnered significant praise. Reflecting on his experience, he says, "I have been a huge fan of the series since season one and always wanted to be a part of it." The camaraderie and comfort between actors play a pivotal role in delivering outstanding performances. He adds, "Mrunal Thakur's presence on the sets was amazing." With directors like Alankrita Shrivastava and production houses like Zoya Akhtar's Tiger Baby, Karnick's experience was noth-



ing short of spectacular. His involvement in Adipurush, the much-talked-about film, added another layer of prestige to his career, as he expressed contentment on being a part of such a monumental project. True calling

The journey into the entertainment industry was a leap into the unknown. At 22, like many young adults, he was unsure about his path. Karnick's candid admission resonates with those who have grappled with finding their true calling. He admitted that he didn't know what he wanted to do. Yet, his journey from uncertainty to achievement is an embodiment of hard work.

Growing up in a family with a strong military background, Karnick initially contemplated joining the Army. He says, "But my parents' encouragement and early inclination towards acting brought me into the world of entertainment."

Karnick's involvement in a wide array of projects, from films to television, underscores his versatile approach to his roles. The actor shares. "When one is new or just starting off, not many jobs or roles are offered. But a proactive approach helps." Whether it's theatre, cinema, voice-over work or hosting shows, Karnick is undaunted. He emphasises, "The art of bringing my own life experiences into characters has resonated with audiences across mediums. Whether on stage or in cinema, I am committed to infusing authenticity into onscreen portrayals."

As Karnick continues his remarkable journey, he has exciting plans on the horizon. His upcoming projects, including the movie "Animal" and an Indo-French collaboration, promise to expand his creative horizons even further. "It's alright to start without a clear vision; what truly matters is the willingness to explore and seize opportunities that come your way," he beams.

## All about rhythm: Government should patronise Indian classical music, says tabla doyen Yogesh Samsi



Panchkula.

Samsi feels there is a

need for cultural patron-

age by the government

at both the central as

well as state level. "And

not just Hindustani clas-

sical music but also

of different Indian art

forms, heritage sites

etc," he points out.

Renowned tabla player Yogesh Samsi gave a solo performance at the Tagore Theatre on Friday to mark the 150th birth anniversary of doyen of classical music Pt Vishnu Digambar Paluskar. The event was organised by Gandharva Maha-Vidyalaya, Shivkumar Sharma, Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pt Bhimsen Joshi, Ustad Vilayat Khan and Ustad Amjad Ali Khan. Having taught over 40 tabla players, Samsi was himself trained intensely under the legendary Ustad Allah Rakha for 23 years. He

Samsi has earlier per-

formed on the tabla with

top classical instrumen-

talists, vocalists and

dancers of India like Pt

Rakha for 23 years. He adds, "Goa has already made it mandatory that Indian classical music be a compulsory part of education in schools and colleges. This successful model needs to be emulated pan-India." Meanwhile, apart from Yogesh Samsi, and Aditya Sharma, Vinay Mishra, Rajneesh Dhiman and Adarsh Saxena too performed at Tagore theatre.

Actor Vijayalakshmi alleges Tamil politician promised to 'marry her'; summoned by police after she complains he 'cheated and ruined her life'

Tamil actor, director and politician Seeman was summoned by police following a complaint by actress Vijayalakshmi on Saturday. Seeman, who is the founder leader of Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) which is an ultra Tamil nationalist political party, was summoned by the Valsaravakkam police at 10.30 am. Vijayalakshmi bas filed

Vijayalakshmi has filed a four-page complaint notice against Seeman at the Chennai City police commissioner's office.

The actress alleged



The actress, who politician in 2011 but

#### Copy that!: As AP Dhillon's song With You comes under scanner for plagiarism, industry experts opine artistes have become lethargic and make songs on 'sample' beats

Ever since its release, AP Dhillon's song With You has become netizens' favourite love anthem for its catchy music and impressive lyrics. But in the times of technology, nothing remains concealed for a long time, and soon listeners were quick to find two other songs with similar music!

One of them, I Won't Follow Through, by singer Ratthew was released in 2022 on YouTube. While people in no time cried plagiarism, it was soon clarified that the two bought the sample music from the same composer. Anyhow, in an era when remixes and remakes of old songs are marked for lack of originality,



artistes' music and often tried to include or recreate that. Called sampling, it means taking a section of audio from other source (existing dialogue, music, lyrics) and reworking it to come up with an entirely new work of art. Meanwhile, With You isn't his first song that has come under scanner. AP Dhillon's songs, Fake and Summer High, also had beats from western hits. In other words, he is just dishing out Punjabi lyrics on western beats! Lazy to the core

On Instagram and X, many called out AP Dhillon, with one user labeling his name as 'Audio Pirate Dhillon'! While some defended AP for buying the audio and exactly the same drum and guitar loop.

Pop duo Parekh & Singh commented on one such post on plagiarism, "Lazy writing and production that finds commercial success is a dangerous and sad precedent because it encourages aspiring creators to focus on the success rather than the craft and the journey. It's too rampant all over the 'creative media industry', which includes TV, films and, of course, music."

In the past, other musicians have also been accused of doing the same. Remember cult classic song Mehbooba Mehbooba from Sholay? It was the copy of Say You Love Me (Demis Roussos, 1974). But not everyone had the luxury to listen to western music during the 70s!

that Seeman had promised to marry her. Vijayalakshmi alleged that Seeman cheated her and ruined her life.

has been paired with Seeman in many movies, said that she had earlier filed a complaint against the actor-

h took it back after he y promised to marry her. e Seeman had married h- Kalyavazhi in 2013 and has a son. listeners are not ready to excuse the Excuses singer for being a lazy artiste! People from the music industry share



their opinion.in the music industry,Sampling or copy?many artistes haveIn hip hop culture andbeen inspired by other

making it better, others accused him for not just picking the audio but copying the entire base track of Ratthew, with

## Rasika Dugal dubs for Little Thomas



Rasika Dugal, who was recently seen in the streaming series Adhura, has now started the dubbing process for her film titled Little Thomas. The film, which wrapped up production a few months back, was shot in both Mumbai and Goa. The film tells a heartwarming story centered around a Goan family. Directed by the National Award-winning filmmaker Kaushal Oza, Little Thomas marks a reunion for Rasika and Kaushal, who had pre-

viously collaborated on the short film The Miniaturist of Junagadh. Rasika's association

with Kaushal dates back to their days at FTII (Film and Television Institute of India), Pune. Reflecting on the experience, Rasika shared, "Mostly, when I dub for a film/series, it is the first time that I am watching an edited version of the film. That always comes with so many surprises -things you were nervous would not turn out well but actually turn out to be the best parts of the film and vice versa. And generally just the feeling of watching it all come together."

She further said, "So, I am always a little overwhelmed and often relieved after dubbing. The narrative of Little Thomas is a simple and heart-warming one and it's been a joy working on it. I can't wait for the film to be complete and reach its audience." Meanwhile, Rasika has an array of projects lined up, including the highly anticipated Mirzapur 3, Spike, Lord Curzon Ki Haveli and Fairy Folk.

#### City beautiful!: Aditi Bhagat shares her experience of shooting in Chandigarh



As Colors' show Udaariyaan takes a pivotal turn with an upcoming wedding sequence, Aditi Bhagat opens up about her experience of shooting for the show in the picturesque city of Chandigarh. Hailing from Mumbai, Aditi says the experience of living in Chandigarh was wonderful.

Says Aditi, "I was absolutely thrilled about shooting for Udaariyaan in Chandigarh. I went to the city for the first time and instantly fell in love with it. Shooting in Chandigarh placed me right inside the show's world. I had experienced the dynamic hustle of Mumbai, and so the peace and pace of Chandigarh were a novelty for me. In both cities, there's a blend of motion and stillness that I cherish. What I love the most about Chandigarh is that its people are rooted in their culture and are very welcoming. The delicious food was also quite amazing."

#### Playing Habiba: Kritika Kamra says her Bambai Meri Jaan character is a woman of 'many shades'

Kritika Kamra, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming streaming series Bambai Meri Jaan, has spilled beans on her character of Habiba, the youngest and the only sister among Dara Kadri's siblings.

The actress's character of Habiba makes for a good contrast in the show as she stands out as a bold and confident woman who breaks away from the stereotypical construct of a woman in such a setting, to make her voice heard with impact.

Sharing the dimensions of her part, Kritika said, "Habiba is a woman of many shades. She is stubborn like her father, courageous like Dara and is fiercely loyal like him. At the same time, being the youngest and the only woman among the siblings. She idolises her brother Dara and shares a special bond with him which influences his decisions and actions as well."

The actress said, "Just like him, she shares the ambition for power. Right from the beginning you see that she is an alpha. As the show progresses, we get a glimpse of how she thinks and what her ambitions are, making it an absolute delight for me as an actor."

The series also stars Kay Kay Menon, Avinash Tiwary, Nivedita Bhattacharya and Amyra Dastur among others. Produced by Excel Media and Enterhwani, Kassim Jagmagia and Farhan Akhtar, Bambai Meri Jaan is created by Rensil D'Silva and Shujaat Saudagar and directed by Saudagar. The 10-part Hindi series will premiere on Prime Video on September 14 across multiple Indian and international languages.

tainment's Ritesh Sid-

g series Jaan, has son her Habiba, and the ong Dara s. s characmakes for ast in the tands out confident breaks e stereoruct of a ch a sether voice part, Kri-

## **NATIONAL**

## Time to walk together for global good, can triumph over trust deficit caused by war: PM Modi at G20

In his opening remarks at the G20 Leaders' Summit, Modi exudes confidence saying if the world can defeat Covid, it can also triumph over the trust deficit caused by the war

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): Amid deep divisions over the Ukraine war, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday urged world leaders to turn the global trust deficit into confidence in each other and find new solutions to age-old challenges.

In his opening remarks at the G20 Leaders' Summit, Modi exuded confidence and said if the world could defeat Covid, it could also triumph over the trust deficit caused by the war.

"It is time for all of us to walk together for global good," Modi said while addressing the 'One Earth' session of the G20 Leaders Summit attended by US President Joe Biden, Saudi Arabia Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva among others.

"Following the Covid pandem-

THANE, Sep 9 (Agencies): A tanker

carrying sulphuric acid skidded and fell

area, an official said.

creek

he said

and was hospitalised, he said.



ic, the world faced a new challenge of trust deficit and unfortunately, the wars have further deepened this," he said while addressing the gathering at the Bharat Mandapam convention centre here.

"But we must remember that if we can defeat a pandemic like Covid, we can also win over the challenge of this trust deficit. Today, as the president of the G20, India calls upon the entire world to turn this global trust deficit into trust and confidence," Modi said

"This is a time when age-old challenges are calling for new solutions from us. And therefore, with a human-centric approach,

we have to move forward to fulfil our responsibilities," Modi said. The prime minister told the gathering that it had become a people's G20 in India with over 200 events held in more than 60 cities.

"For all challenges, right from the upheaval in the global economy to the North-South divide, from food management to fuel and fertiliser management, from terrorism to cyber security, from health to energy and water security, we have to move towards concrete solutions, together," Modi said.

He said India's G20 presidency has become a symbol of inclusion and togetherness within and outside the country. "It has become the people's

G20 in India. Crores of Indians joined it, over 200 meetings were held in more than 60 cities of the country," Modi said.

## **INDIA bloc 'very strong'**, **BJP in panic after bypoll** results: Kejriwal

This is the reason for

the BJP's panic. This is

the reason that the BJP

wants to change the

The by-election results

for seven assembly

seats in six states were

declared on Friday with

the BJP winning three

seats and one each

going to its rivals Con-

gress, the JMM, the

Trinamool Congress

(TMC) and Samajwadi

The opposition alli-

After addressing a

women's gathering at

Banaganapalli in Kur-

nool district under 'Babu

Surety - Bhavishyathu-

ku Guarantee' outreach

van door to wake him

up in the run-up to his

arrest. Further visuals

showed the TDP chief

discussing with officials

while seated in the mar-

Before arresting him,

in the video shared by

TDP, Naidu was seen

demanding the police

to provide him the FIR

"How could you arrest

me without having my

name in the FIR? With-

out providing the mate-

arrest.

riage hall.

copy.

Party (SP).

name of the country."



NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): A day after the INDIA bloc parties won four seats out of seven in the Assembly bypolls, AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said the BJP is in panic as the opposition alliance is "very strong".

In a post on X, the Delhi chief minister shared a media report of the results of the bypolls and said, "INDIA alliance is very strong.

ance tasted victory in the Ghosi Assembly seat in Uttar Pradesh, where it backed the Samajwadi Party, and in Jharkhand, where the JMM retained the Dumri assembly seat.

The BJP maintained its hold on the Bageshwar Assembly seat in Uttarakhand and Dhanpur in Tripura and wrested the Boxanagar assembly seat from the CPI(M) in the northeastern state, where the INDIA alliance parties had joined hands. The BJP lost the Dhupguri Assembly seat in West Bengal to the TMC.

The AAP is a member of the INDIA bloc that has yet to discuss and finalise a seat-sharing formula in different states to counter the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls next year.

#### **Telugu Desam Party chief Chandrababu Naidu Tanker carrying 8 tonnes of acid falls** into nullah; corrosive substance gets arrested in corruption case mixed with water, driver hospitalised

NANDYALA (AP), Sep which he was sleeping.

The former CM was arrested by the CID around 6 am from a marriage hall (outside which his caravan was parked) at Gnanapuram in Nandyala town, police said.

In a notice served Offences Wing (EOW), M Dhanunjayudu, said, you have been arrest-



ed... at 6 am at R K Function Hall, Gnanapuram, H/o Moolasagaram, Nandyala town and it is a non-bailable offence."

The former Andhra Pradesh chief minister has been arrested under Sections 120B (criminal conspiracy), 420 (cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property) and 465 (forgery) of the IPC, according to the notice. The Andhra Pradesh

CID has also invoked

the Prevention of Corruption Act against him. The notice was served under Section 50 (1) (2) of the CrPC.

At a recent meeting in Rayadurgam, Anantapur district, Naidu hinted that he could be attacked or arrested soon.

Meanwhile, TDP's official X handle, shared dramatic videos of police swooping in on Naidu's bus to arrest him. The video showed TDP leaders arguing with police officials.

rial. You have to give me all the information," demanded Naidu.

Another TDP leader sitting beside Naidu demanded the police to show the prima facie cause for arresting the

official observed that this was a two-year-old case, referring to the alleged Skill Development Scam involving the misappropriation of Rs 371 crore.

TV visuals suggest that there are protests by the TDP cadre at some places in the state.

S Ramakrishna Reddy told media that the police need not give notice before arrest in economic offences.

Even if there is no mention of the accused name in the FIR, he added.

programme, Naidu retired in his caravan at Nandyala to be woken opposition leader. up by police in the small However, the police hours of Saturday for his Police were seen knocking Naidu's cara-

Government Adviser



ficult to go away immediately," he said. After being informed, a disaster management team reached the affected site and carried out a rescue and relief operation that lasted about two hours, the official said.

"As the area where the accident took place is not residential, it does not pose much harm to anyone and so far no health-related complaint has been received from anybody," Tadvi said.

and was admitted to a local hospital," However, he did not suffer any burn injuries due to the acid, Tadvi added.

around 5 am

"The acid got mixed with the nullah water and a strong smell of the corro-

sulphuric acid skidded and fell into a

nullah. The accident occurred as its

driver, Brijesh Sarol (45), lost control

over the vehicle. He received injuries



The accident took place on the Mumbra bypass road 9 (Agencies): Former chief minister and Telugu Desam Party chief Chandrababu Naidu was arrested in connection with an

alleged Rs 371 crore Skill Development scam in an early morning police operation here on Saturday which involved officers knocking on the door of the caravan in

to Naidu, the Deputy Superintendent of Police of the CID's Economic "It is to inform you that

## **Delhi High Court quashes FIR against** former Air India pilot Arvind Kathpalia

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court has quashed an FIR against former Air India pilot Arvind Kathpalia for the alleged offences of violating aircraft rules, including evading a breath analyser test, and forgery, saying the allegations against him are wholly insufficient to make out a case against him.

The high court said the petitioner, now retired, cannot be subjected to "double jeopardy" for the same offence, once after having been given a clean chit on merits in the disciplinary proceedings.

"The continuance of the FIR under the aforesaid circumstances shall, in the opinion of this court, result in the petitioner undergoing the ordeal twice over again for the same offence," Justice Saurabh Banerjee said.

The high court's order came on a petition by Kathpalia seeking the quashing of FIR for alleged offences of destruction of evidence, criminal conspiracy, forgery, and using forged documents as genuine under the Indian Penal Code and under the provisions of the Aircraft Act.

Kathpalia was removed as director of operations of Air India in November 2018 after failing to clear the preflight alcohol test, with the government citing the "serious nature of the transgression and (his) failure to course correct".

Senior advocate Maninder Singh, representing Kathpalia, submitted that the Disciplinary Authority of Air India filed a charge sheet in February 2019 against the petitioner, alleging acts of forgery and misconduct and he also filed a reply to it. He said the chairman

of Air India. in a February 2020 order, found the allegations of forgery as unsubstantiated against the petitioner and therefore closed the disciplinary case against him. Singh said the FIR

cannot continue against Kathpalia and urged the court to quash the same.

The prosecutor opposed the petition saying disregarding the due procedure of law with intent to benefit, a forged entry was made



pendency nor upon the by the petitioner who had ample opportunity outcome of the criminal to undergo a breath analyser test on return co-exist. from Bengaluru, but flouting the express

regulations, he did not follow the procedure. The high court, in its order, said once Air India itself has closed the disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner after going through the relevant records before it and upon finding no merits, not much remains for the FIR to proceed against him involving

similar offences. It said there is no bar on the disciplinary proceedings and the criminal prosecution continuing together at the same time and neither the outcome of the disciplinary proceedings will have any bearing upon the

ing him to unwarranted injustice.

"Although it is trite that the power of quashing an FIR under Section 482 CrPC is to be used sparingly in situations like the present where there is hardly any ground leading to the conviction of the petitioner as the same is based on facts which are no more alive, the court is well within its right to proceed with quashing of the FIR," the court said.

"As such, in view of the peculiar facts and circumstances involved herein, the present FIR is liable to be quashed," it said. According to the police, Kathpalia operated a flight from New Delhi to Bengaluru without undergoing the mandatory pre-flight breath analyser test on January 19, 2017. Further, even at Bengaluru, he refused to undergo a similar test. Later, on his arrival in New Delhi, he allegedly went to the Pre-Flight Medical Examination Room and made a false entry in the Pre-Flight Breath Analyser Examination Register for the

flight he had operated.

#### **Manipur: Toll in Pallel violence** rises to 3 with one more death

IMPHAL, Sep 9 (Agencies): The toll in the violence that broke out at Pallel in Manipur's Tengnoupal district rose to three with a 37-yearold man succumbing to his injuries while undergoing treatment at a hospital, officials said on Saturday.

The man sustained bullet wounds on his head during the crossfire between security forces and armed miscreants, they said. He died overnight

while undergoing treatment at the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in Imphal, they added.

Earlier, two persons were killed and 50 others, including an Army major, were injured when hundreds of people from the majority community attempted to storm tribal villages, officials said.

On Friday morning, a gunfight erupted at Molnoi village near Pallel between security forces and armed persons who attempted to arson and indulge in violence in the village.

As the news of the gunfight spread, large groups of Meitei community members, including Meira Paibis and Arambai Tenggol militiamen dressed in commando uniforms, attempted to break through security check posts and move towards Pallel.

Security forces personnel attempted to stop the mob to ensure peace and stability in Pallel, where the situation had been tense for a few davs.

Being blocked by the forces, some armed persons who were dressed in police uniforms and part of the mob opened fire, resulting in gunshot injuries to an Army major. The officer was evacuated to a military hospital in Leimakhong by helicopter. Three other police personnel were also injured in the incident.

In a calibrated response, the forces used minimum force to disperse the mob, officials said.

More than 45 women were injured after security forces personnel lobbed teargas shells to defuse the situation, officials said. The Friday morning

gunfight led to the death of a person, officials said.

Also, a 48-year-old man was killed in the crossfire, officials said. In the meantime, a contingent of RAF personnel heading to Pallel from Imphal to contain the mob was blocked by

locals, including Meira Paibis, at Thoubal.

This comes two days after thousands of protesters gathered at Phougakchao Ikhai in Bishnupur district on Wednesday and tried to break through army barricades.

Though they were claiming that they wanted to reach their deserted houses in Torbung, sources within the security establishment alleged that the mob wanted to ransack the houses of tribals besides attacking them. A day before the protest, a full curfew had been clamped in all the

five valley districts of Manipur as a preventive measure.

More than 160 people have been killed and several hundred injured since ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3, when a "Tribal Solidarity March" was organised in the hill districts to protest against the majority Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status. Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal valley, while tribals, including Nagas and Kukis, constitute 40 per cent and reside mostly in the hill districts.

prosecution as they can "However, where the case is one wherein exoneration is on merits as the allegation thereof has been conclusively found unsustainable, based whereon inno-

cence has been proven, then in such a situation. in the opinion of this court, there is no reason and/or fruitful purpose for the criminal prosecution on the same set of facts to continue," the

high court said. It said the allegations against the petitioner are wholly insufficient to make out a case against him, much less for keeping the FIR alive and added that subsistence of these criminal proceedings against him is likely to result in subject-

## **INTERNATIONAL**

## Kim Jong Un hosts Chinese, Russian guests at a parade celebrating North Korea's 75th anniversary

While China has sent a delegation led by Vice Premier Liu Guozhong to North Korea's anniversary celebrations, Russia sends a military song and dance group

SEOUL, Sep 9 (Agencies): North Korea invited visiting Chinese delegates and Russian artists to a paramilitary parade featuring rocket launchers pulled by trucks and tractors, state media said on Saturday, in leader Kim Jong Un's latest effort to display his ties with Moscow and Beijing in the face of deepening confrontations with Washington.

8

The event in the capital, Pyongyang, which began on Friday night to celebrate North Korea's 75th founding anniversary that fell on Saturday, came amid expectations that Kim will travel to Russia soon



for a meeting with President Vladimir Putin that could focus on North Korean arm sales to refill reserves drained by the Kremlin's war on Ukraine.

While China has sent a delegation led by Vice Premier Liu Guozhong to North Korea's anniversary celebrations, Russia sent a military song and dance group.

South Korean media speculated that the lack of Russian government officials at the festivities in Pyongyang could be related to preparations for a summit between Kim and Putin, which Washington expects within the month. According to some US reports, it could happen as early as next week.

Putin is expected to attend an international forum that runs from Sunday to Wednesday in the eastern city of Vladivostok, which was also the site of his first summit with Kim in 2019 and is now seen as a possible venue for their next meeting.

nology.

sity of Miami.

INLAND THREATS

Category 5 status - when

sustained winds are at least

157 mph or 253 kph — is quite

rare. Only about 4.5% of named

storms in the Atlantic Ocean

have grown to a Category 5

in the past decade, said Brian

McNoldy, a scientist and hurri-

cane researcher at the Univer-

More intense major hurricanes

are also threatening communi-

ties farther inland, since the

monster storms can grow so

powerful that they remain dan-

gerous hurricanes for longer

"I think that's a story that's

kind of under-told," Shepherd

said. "As these storms are

distances over land.

#### **UK: Metropolitan police confirm new** sightings of Daniel Khalife, but terror suspect yet to be nabbed

LONDON, Sep 9 (Agencies): Police confirm new sightings of Daniel Khalife, 21, though they have failed to track and nab the terror suspect who escaped from Wandsworth Prison in a delivery van on the morning of September 6.

Khalife escaped the prison by strapping himself to the bottom of a delivery lorry after leaving the prison kitchen in a cook's uniform. In an update on their search operation on September 9, the Metropolitan Police said they are focusing their efforts in and around the Chiswick area. This activity comes



after intelligence-led activity and some confirmed sightings in that area overnight, including calls from members of the public," a statement issued by the Metropolitan Police said. From reports received, Khalife is believed to be wearing a black baseball cap, black t-shirt and dark-coloured bottoms, and carrying a small bag or case, the statement said.

The police have offered a reward of up to £20,000 for info leading directly to the arrest

Daniel Abed Khalife was reported to have been working in the kitchen of Wandsworth prison and wearing a chef's uniform of a white T-shirt and red and white chequered trousers

Soon after his escape, the Metropolitan Police said ports and airports had been put on high alert after his disappearance from the south London jail at about 7.50 am.

### **Controversial South African** political figure and Zulu minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi dies at 95

JOHANNESBURG. Sep 9 (Agencies): Controversial South African politician and traditional minister of the Zulu ethnic group Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi has died at the age of 95, South African president Cyril Ramaphosa announced on Saturdav.

Buthelezi founded the Inkatha Freedom Party, the third largest political party in South Africa when the country transitioned from the racist apartheid system to a democratic one in 1994.

He was admitted to hospital in July following a failed medical procedure to ease his back pain, his family said at the time.

"Prince Buthelezi, who served as democratic South Africa's first Minister of Home Affairs, passed away in the early hours of today, Saturday, 9 September 2023, just two weeks after the celebration of his 95th birthday," Ramaphosa said in a statement on Saturday.

According to Ramaphosa, arrangements for his mourning and funeral will be announced after consultations with the Zulu royal family. "Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi has been an outstanding leader in the political and cultural life of our nation, including the ebbs and flows of our liberation strugale, the transition which secured our freedom in 1994 and our democratic dispensation," said Ramaphosa Buthelezi was part of the late Nelson Mandela's first cabinet when the latter became South Africa's first democratically elected president in 1994 Mandela appointed him as a minister of home affairs, a position he continued to hold in the second administration of former president Thabo Mbeki His legacy has remained a contested one due to the role he played during South Africa's apartheid era, including heading the administrative region of Zululand, a part of the "homelands" regions that were the cornerstone of the apartheid government's policy of separate development. His party was also blamed for the preelection violence that engulfed the country and the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal before the country's historic 1994 elections.



by the white-minority

These were meant to keep the apartheid system intact by installing so-called "puppet leaders" leading to Buthelezi being labelled a sell-out by liberation movements like the ruling African National

Congress at the time. on an ideology of Zulu nationalism which he

government meant to group Black South Africans according to their ethnicity in the country's mostly rural areas.

A former member of the ANC Youth League, in 1975 he formed what was later to be known as the Inkatha Freedom Party, an outfit founded

odds with ANC leaders. This included his opposition to international sanctions against apartheid and his sup-

port for free markets at a time when most liberation movements were largely socialist and African nationalists. His leadership of the Zululand administra-

tion was considered a betrayal to Black South Africans as the "homelands" system was an integral part of the apartheid machinery.

With the growth and significance of his IFP party. Buthelezi wanted his party to play a bigger role during the negotiations for a peaceful transition to democracy, but he withdrew from the negotiations and threatened to boycott the historic 1994 elections after his proposals, including the autonomy of the Zululand region, were rejected. However, he agreed to participate in the elections about a week before they were held, winning 10% of the national vote and forming part of Mandela's coalition government which also included the National Party. He remained a lawmaker in South Africa's Parliament from 1994 until his death and the leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party until he was replaced at its national conference in 2019. Throughout his political career, Buthelezi remained deeply involved in the affairs of the Zulu nation, serving as a traditional prime minister and advisor to the late King Goodwill Zwelithini and his successor, his son King Misuzulu KaZwelithini. In 2022, he oversaw the installation of Misuzulu as the new king of the Zulu nation amid fierce, internal disputes within the Zulu royal family about who was the rightful heir to the throne. During his last days, it had become apparent that the two had fallen out, with a sickly Buthelezi questioning the new king.

## Hurricane Lee is charting a new course in weather and could signal more monster storms

ATLANTA, Sep 9 (Agencies): Hurricane Lee is rewriting old rules of meteorology, leaving experts astonished at how rapidly it grew into a goliath Category 5 hurricane.

Lee could also be a dreadful harbinger of what is to come as ocean temperatures climb, spawning fast-growing major hurricanes that could threaten communities farther north and farther inland, experts say.

"Hurricanes are getting stronger at higher latitudes," said Marshall Shepherd, director of the University of Georgia's Atmospheric Sciences Program and a past president of the American Meteorological Society. "If that trend continues, that brings into play places like Washington, D.C., New York and Boston.'

HYPER-INTENSIFICATION As the oceans warm, they act as jet fuel for hurricanes.

"That extra heat comes back to manifest itself at some point, and one of the ways it does is through stronger hurricanes," Shepherd said.

During the overnight hours on Thursday, Lee shattered the standard for what meteorologists call rapid intensification ---when a hurricane's sustained winds increase by 35 mph (56 kph) in 24 hours.



area were destroyed and hunof atmospheric science at the Massachusetts Institute of Techdreds of others damaged.

In 2018, Hurricane Michael carved a similar path of inland destruction, tearing up cotton crops and pecan trees and leaving widespread damage across

south Georgia. **RISK FOR NEW ENGLAND** While it's too early to know how close Lee might come to the U.S. East Coast, New Englanders are keeping a wary eye on the storm as some models have projected it tracking perilously close to New England particularly Maine. It has been 69 years since a major hurricane made landfall in New England, McNoldy said.

On Sept. 8, 1869, a Category 3 hurricane known as "the September Gale of 1869" struck Rhode Island, the National Weather Service in Boston noted on Friday. The storm cut all telegraph lines between Boston and New York and capsized a schooner, killing 11 crew members.

and down the eastern seaboard "What we are going to see from Lee -- and we're very confident -- is it's going to be a major wave producer," Mike Brennan, director of the National Hurricane Center, said in a Friday briefing.

"This morning the highest significant wave height we were analyzing in Lee was between 45 and 50 feet, and the highest waves could even be double that," Brennan said. "So we could be looking at 80, 90-foot waves associated with Lee."

Emanuel was tracking the storm this weekend in New Harbor, Maine. Since it has been so long for any type of hurricane warning in New England, some residents might be complacent and think that hurricanes are a Florida or Louisiana problem, he said

"One worries whether they're going to take it seriously when it comes to that," he said.

SOMETHING TO WATCH Forecasters will be watching any possible interaction in the coming days between Lee and newly formed Tropical Storm Margot, which is expected to become a hurricane next week.

It's possible that Margot could alter Lee's path, though it's too soon to know whether that will happen, experts say.

Margot is far to the east of

of Daniel Khalife.

when he absconded.

Now known as Kwa-Zulu-Natal province, the region was one of the 10 "homelands" created

initially aligned with the African National Congress but later got involved in violent clashes with ANC supporters in the 1980s and early 1990s

The violence that erupted between Inkatha and the ANC in the 1980s and early 1990s remains one of the bloodiest in South African history and a dent in Buthelezi's political career. Many were killed in the clashes which took place in the then Zululand and later spread to areas includ-

ing the Transvaal, now the Gauteng province.

These culminated in what got to be known as the Shell House Massacre in 1994.

Nineteen IFP supporters were shot and killed by ANC security guards after nearly 20,000 of them marched to Shell House in Johannesburg, which was then the headquarters of the ANC, banned in 1990. They were opposing

the upcoming elections and accused the ANC of undermining Zulu leaders and chiefs.

In the early 1990s, leaders of the apartheid government admitted to funding the Inkatha Freedom Party as they sought to destabilize the struggle against apartheid and what was increasingly looking like a road to the end of white minority rule. Buthelezi opposed apartheid but his stance on controversial issues regarding the oppres-

sive system put him at

Buthelezi turned 95 last month.

I his one increased by 80 mph (129 kph)," Shepherd said. "I can't emphasize this enough — we used to have this metric of 35 mph, and here's a storm that did twice that amount and we're seeing that happen more frequently," said Shepherd, who describes what happened with Lee as "hyper-intensification." With super-warm ocean temperatures and low wind shear,

"all the stars were aligned for it

to intensify rapidly," said Kerry

Emanuel, professor emeritus

strong coming to landfall, in some cases they're moving fast enough that they're still hurricanes well inland."

Hurricane Idalia was the latest example when it came ashore in the Florida Panhandle last month and remained a hurricane as it entered south Georgia.

It then slammed into the Georgia city of Valdosta more than 70 miles (116 kilometers) away from where it made landfall. At least 80 homes in the Valdosta

"If Lee actually does make landfall in New England, there's no doubt the storm surge would be a huge threat," he said. MONSTER WAVES

As Lee roils the ocean as it creeps closer to the eastern coast of the U.S., it could bring high seas and rip currents all up

Lee, but as Margot strengthens it could affect the weather systems in the region that steer hurricanes

A phenomenon known as the Fujiwhara Effect can occur when two tropical storms rotate around each other, but that doesn't mean they will in this case, Emanuel said. If it does happen, though, the two storms could push each other around in the Atlantic, which could alter their paths.

## **Donald Trump's Billion-Dollar Fraud Trial To Run For 3 Months: US Judge**

It is alleged that former US president Donald Trump and his sons fraudulently overvalued the net worth of company assets by billions of dollars.



NEW YORK, Sep 9 (Agencies): A civil trial over allegations that Donald Trump and his sons fraudulently overvalued the net worth of company assets by billions of dollars is scheduled to last three

the end of September. In

an order made public on Friday, the judge specified that the trial would run until December 22. New York State Attorney General Letitia James on Friday again sent the state Supreme Court hundreds of pages

of documents in the \$250 million civil case against Trump and his two eldest sons, Donald Jr and Eric.

James claimed Trump and some of his associates submitted "grossly inflated" numbers to banks and insurers each year between 2011 and 2021 "to secure and maintain loans and insurance on more favorable terms." The scheme resulted

in "hundreds of millions

of dollars in ill-gotten

savings and profits," the

Trump and his children

also stand accused of

deflating the value of

certain Trump Organiza-

tion assets -- including

golf clubs, luxury hotels

and other properties -- to

reduce taxes.

documents allege.

In a new estimate released by James' office, the overvaluation of Trump's assets was estimated at between \$1.9 billion and \$3.6 billion per year.

Trump has in the past denounced the case as a "witch hunt," calling James, who is a Democrat and Black, "racist." In January, the Trump Organization was fined \$1.6 million by a New York judge in a criminal tax and financial fraud case.

Trump, the frontrunner to be the Republican Party candidate in the 2024 White House race, is also facing four criminal trials for actions allegedly taken before, during and after his presidency.

judge said Judge Arthur Engoron had already determined the non-jury trial would begin October 2 in Manhattan. Preliminary headings were set for

months, a New York

## LOCAL/CONTD....

## SED launches "Shanti Yatra" to promote Gandhi's message of Unity, Harmony, and Swachhata

**Top News Report** 

POONCH, Sep 9: The Department of School Education Jammu embarked on a significant journey today as it flagged off the "Shanti Yatra" from Poonch, aimed at spreading the timeless message of Mahatma Gandhi - unity, harmony, swachhata (cleanliness), and a corruption-free society. The event took place at High School Purani Poonch, where Sandesh Kumar Sharma, the Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, ceremoniously flagged off the yatra. A remarkable display of Gandhian spirit was witnessed as students dressed in Gandhi's attire and held the symbol of peace, reflecting the timeless values of the Father of the Nation.

The "Shanti Yatra," which will traverse all the districts of Jammu Province, is set to culminate at Teachers Bhavan in Jammu on October 2, 2023, coinciding with the auspicious occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

The event commenced with the unveiling of the Symbol of Unity by the ADDC Poonch, followed by the singing of the national anthem and Sarv Dharam prayers led by religious preachers. Bishamber Dass, Chief Education Officer



tinuously strive to propagate the

teachings of Mahatma Gandhi,

emphasizing the importance of

working together to fulfill Gan-

dhi's dreams of transforming

India into a great and developed

Sunita Sharma, the Head-

master of High School Purani

Poonch, extended her gratitude

during the vote of thanks and

emphasized the profound sig-

nificance of the Shanti Yatra.

She echoed the sentiment that

this journey serves as a power-

ful medium to instill Gandhian

Darshan Kumar, a member of

the District Resource Group.

conducted the proceedings and

provided insights into the aims,

objectives, and route of the

yatra. The yatra was attended

by several dignitaries, includ-

ing DEPO Poonch N M Suri,

Anwar Hussain, ZEO Kanuy-

values among the populace.

nation.

Poonch, emphasized the significance of the Shanti Yatra as a means to carry forward Mahatma Gandhi's teachings and expressed his gratitude to the Director of School Education Jammu for providing this remarkable opportunity to Poonch district.

CEO Bishamber Dass urged students and teachers to actively participate in spreading the message of Gandhi throughout every nook and corner of Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the values of unity, harmony, cleanliness, and integrity. In his address, ADDC Poonch highlighted the remarkable diversity in religion and culture that India boasts. He underscored the fact that despite this rich tapestry of diversity, the country has historically lived in

harmony. He urged everyone

to embrace this unity and con-

ian, Vijay Kumar ZEPO Poonch, along with numerous teachers and students who participated enthusiastically in the event. Notably, hundreds of teachers, carrying the tricolor flag on their bikes, added a vibrant and patriotic dimension to the yatra. Today, the yatra was warmly

embraced by DSM Manjeet Singh Memorial HSS Poonch, led by Principal Rupinder Kour, and ZEO Kanuyian at MS Bhainch.

The spirit of unity and peace was further celebrated at PS Hillan Kalai, MS Shiendara, and HSS Lassana, with Abdul Aziz and Sukhpal Singh leading the way. The yatra continued its journey to HS Sanai, and finally, the enthusiastic reception reached its pinnacle at HSS Girls Surankote, where Mukhtar Manhas, the Principal of HSS Girls Surankote, extended a warm welcome.

Today, the yatra made its way to Surankote and is scheduled to reach Bimbar Gali tomorrow. At Bimbar Gali, CEO Rajouri will receive the symbol of peace, further advancing the yatra towards its destination in Reasi District. Yougal Kishore Sharma, District Incharge Cultural Cell Poonch, expressed his gratitude to all the participants for their cooperation.

#### Army conducts Essay Writing, Painting Competition at GMS Ganiah

cation plays in human

life and the nation's

The competition aimed

to empower students

by fostering a deeper

understanding of the

National Education

Policy, which serves as

a cornerstone for edu-

cational reforms in India.

Through engaging activ-

ities like essay writing

and painting, students

were encouraged to

express their thoughts

and ideas about educa-

The essay writing and

painting competitions

provided a platform for

students to creatively

explore and articulate

their views on the sig-

nificance of education.

Participants exhibited

their creativity and talent

while addressing the

theme of literacy and

its role in personal and

be conducted strictly as

per IFSC rules and only

fresh international stan-

dard climbing equip-

Whereas the special-

ized equipment is to be

arranged by Mountain-

eering Association of

J&K, the Indian Moun-

taineering Foundation

North Zone Committee

shall provide adequate

While Mitra Ghosh,

technical support.

ment shall be used.

tion.

development.



#### **Top News Report**

NOWSHERA, Sep 9: In a thoughtful gesture to mark National Literacy Day, the Indian Army organized an Essay Writing and Painting Competition for the students of Government Middle School, Ganiah, Naushera. This event was designed to instill awareness and highlight the significance of education, as well as shed light on the National Education Policy.

With the primary focus on "Education for All," the competition was structured to engage young minds in a constructive manner and enhance their understanding of the National Education Policy. By doing so, the Indian Army aimed to emphasize the pivotal role edusocietal growth. The event served as a means to raise awareness about the importance of literacy and education for all sections of society. It encouraged students to actively participate in discussions related to education policy and to become advocates for quality education in their communities.

Winners and top performers were acknowledged and rewarded for their outstanding efforts. Prizes and certificates were distributed to recognize the achievements of the participants, motivating them to pursue their educational aspirations with zeal and enthusiasm. The Indian Army's ini-

tiative to commenorate National Literacy Day through this competition exemplifies their commitment to education and community development. Such events not only celebrate the spirit of literacy but also inspire young minds to become informed and responsible citizens, contributing positively to the nation's growth and development.

## BJP's proxy Govt in J&K proved damp squib: Rattan Lal

#### **Top News Report**

DODA Sep 9: The proxy government of Jammu and Kashmir run by the Bharatiya Janata Party from the Centre has failed in every sphere plunging the people of this sensitive region into an ocean of miseries. The height of mis-governance can be well gauged from the fact that today the people of J&K are craving even for the basic amenities and facilities essential for their very survival.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC while addressing a day-long convention of party workers at district Doda. Notably, Rattan Lal Gupta along with Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary and senior party leader Pardeep Bali visited Doda town to address the conven-

Rattan Lal Gupta lamented that the present government has dejectedly failed to address political and developmental aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that lack of direction and political will have compounded miseries of people of J&K. He said BJP Government rather than engaging with aggrieved people with an aim to address their issues, had chosen to tread a path of isolation, arrogance and confrontation contradicting the promises made to the people of J&K.

Earlier, Zaffer Ullah Rather, District President, Doda, apprised the senior functionaries of Party about the hardships being faced by the people of Jammu region. He said people residing in remote areas of district Doda are deprived of the basic amenities under the presHe asked the government to prioritize the needs of the people residing in rural and far flung areas of district Doda and allocate necessary resources to improve the living standards and overall quality of life in the region.

Rattan Lal asked party workers to gear up for the upcoming ULB and Panchayat polls and made the public aware of the significant contributions that the National Conference has made to the development of the state.

Khalid Najeev Suhrawardy former minister, Provincial Vice President, NC, Jammu Province, in his address, lamented that the incumbent Govt is making tall claims of transparency and corruption free society but the fact remains that corruption rules the roost.

He claimed that once the NC

## 23rd J&K UT Sport Climbing Championship to start from Sept 23

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Sep 9: The 23rd J&K UT Sport Climbing Championship shall be conducted by Mountaineering Association of J&K at Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, Jammu from 23rd to 24th September, 2023.

About 200 climbers including national medalists from the districts of Anantnag, Badgam, Kishtwar, Kulgam, Pulwama, Reasi, Srinagar, Samba, Shopian, Kathua, Rajouri and Udhampur besides tional sport climber of J&K, may not be able to participate in the UT competition because of her international assignments.

Since the selection of the J&K UT team for the 27th North Zone Sport Climbing Championship due to be held at Indian Mountaineering Foundation and Climbing Central, Delhi from 1st to 3rd October, 2023 shall be made on the basis of performance of climbers in this competition, the competitions shall be held in the age groups which are included in the zonal competition.

lier), Junior Boys/ Girls
(born in 2007, 2008&
2009) and Sub Jr. Boys
/ Girls (born in 2010,
2011, 2012 and 2013).
The competitions shall
IMF North Zone Committee. The national technical officials shall,
however, be assisted by local technical officials and senior climbers.

and senior climbers. The Championship is being organized by Mountaineering Association of J&K under the aegis of Indian Mountaineering Foundation North Zone Committee and sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

For further details and registration interested institutions/climbers should contact the General Secretary of the Mountaineering Association of J&K Shawetica Khajuria on Mob. No: 7006099855. The registration closes on 20th September,2023.

tion. Khalid Najeev Suhrawardy former minister and Provincial Vice President, NC, Jammu Province and Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo Zone President Chenab Valley were also present. ent regime.

The senior NC leader criticized the government for its failure to provide the basic amenities despite making tall claims of good governance. wins the ULB elections it will definitely eradicate corruption and promote transparency in the working of government, the working of which has suffered badly under the present regime. Jammu are likely to compete and a keen tussle is on the cards in all the categories. However, Shivani Charak, an interna-

Accordingly, there will be only six categories of Men, Women (born in 2006, 2005 and earan international Judge in Sport Climbing shall be the President of Jury, the other technical committees shall also be headed by officials from

#### G2O Summit: US, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, EU set to unveil railway, ports connectivity deal

initiative, Finer noted it was not just a railway project but more of a shipping and railway project.

"It is not just the Railway project, it is a shipping and Railway project and it is important for people to understand how expansive, ambitious and ground-breaking this will be" Finer added.

Finer termed this to-be-built project as "affirmative positive" aimed at serving the underserved.

"The way we see the infra project, it is an affirmative positive project. It has appeal for countries underserved by infra. We are not asking countries to make a zero-sum choice. We have seen other efforts that are not as ambitious, we feel good about contrast of what we provide," White House Deputy National Security Advisor said.

The infrastructure deal is expected to connect countries in the Middle East via a network of railways. The network will also connect to India through shipping lanes from ports in the region.

#### Powerful quake in Morocco kills more than 600 people and damages historic buildings in Marrakech

buried by the chunks of a collapsed building. Baskets, buckets and clothing could be seen amid scattered stones in the remains of one building.

Moroccan media reported that the 12th century Koutoubia Mosque in Marrakech, one of the city's most famed landmarks, suffered damage, but the extent was not immediately clear. Its 69-metre (226-foot) minaret is known as the "roof of Marrake-ch".

Moroccans also posted videos showing damage to parts of the famous red walls that surround the old city in Marrakech, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The head of a town near the earthquake's epicentre told Moroccan news site 2M that several homes in nearby towns had partly or totally collapsed, and electricity and roads were cut off in some places.

Abderrahim Ait Daoud, head of the town of Talat N'Yaaqoub, said authorities are working to clear roads in Al Haouz Province to allow passage for ambulances and aid to populations affected, but said large distances between mountain villages mean it will take time to learn the extent of the damage.

#### JKEDI invites startups to register under JK Startup Policy, Check details

comprehensive guidance and support to aspiring entrepreneurs to facilitate a smoother registration journey, he added.

JKEDI is the UT Nodal Agency for the implementation of the J&K Startup Policy. The policy offers a wide array of incentives and benefits to startups, including support in financial linkages, mentorship programs, and access to state-of-the-art infrastructure.

Some of the features of the policy are

#### FROM PAGE 1

providing of Office Space, Monthly Allowance, Assistance for Product Research and Development/Marketing/Publicity, Energy Assistance, Patent Filing Cost Reimbursement, Tax benefits/ Exemptions, Public Procurement Self Certification of compliance under Labour Laws, Exposure visits and workshops for Start-ups Infrastructure Support in addition to others.

These measures are strategically designed to encourage local talent to transform innovative concepts into thriving businesses, ultimately fostering economic self-sufficiency in the region.

Further, the Director encouraged faculty members and DNOs to identify promising startup ideas and facilitate their seamless integration into the vibrant startup ecosystem.

Startups looking to register under J&K Startup Policy can visit the website www. startupjk.com, where they can access registration details and additional information about the policy.

Moreover, startups can directly reach out to In Charge CIIBM, JKEDI, Vishal Ray, on 9419216208 and Imtiyaz Ahad Malla, Associate Project Manager, JKEDI, on 8825014846 or 01933-222267.

#### Two 'self-styled' journalists held for extortion in Ganderbal: Police

boys on scooters with mobile phones and cameras in their hands were blackmailing and extorting the public in the general area of Gund.

Ganderbal Police has requested the general public not to fall prey to blackmailing and report such crimes to police so that culprits shall be nabbed effectively under relevant sections of law in future also.

#### Teacher suspended in Baramulla

School Shutloo Rafiabad, after a complaint.

"Pending an inquiry into the matter, Owais Ahmed Nanda, a teacher presently posted at HSS Shutloo, is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect. During the period of suspension, the said official shall remain attached in the office of the principal of BHSS (Boys Higher Secondary School) Sopore," reads the order issued by CEO Baramulla on August 31.

After the incident came to light, the locals staged a protest on Friday and demanded stern action against the accused teacher. A committee led by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Baramulla, has been constituted to probe the matter.

Officials said, as per the complaint, the teacher had exchanged "lewd text messages" with school girls.

#### High Court upholds power of JKBOSE to prescribe textbooks for Schools in UT

make it mandatory for the schools to prescribe the text books by the Board for their students.

The respondent Board in its response submitted that curriculum, syllabi and development of textbooks from Class 1st to 12th is their domain and as per the provisions of the Act of 1975, the Board has the power to advise the Government on the matters of policy relating to the Elementary Education and Senior Secondary Education. The government lawyer said the JKBOSE has a well established Curriculum Development and Research Wing at its divisional offices in Jammu and Srinagar and it has permanent faculty of qualified academic staff to look after this task effectively.

The Board submitted that it functions according to the broader objectives set in the National Education Policy, 2020 and National Curriculum Framework, 2005.

The government lawyer argued that while issuing the impugned notification, mandate of the law was followed and the said notification has the approval of the competent authority.

It was submitted by the government lawyer that the petitioner is interested in commercialization whereas the endeavour of the respondent Board is to benefit the students so as to provide them low-cost textbooks.

After hearing the two sides, HC Judge Dhar observed that it is clear BOSE is vested with statutory power to prescribe text books which include publication of these books.

"It would be well within its power to make it mandatory for the affiliated schools to use only those books that have been prescribed and published by the Board. Neither the private schools nor other publishers have any right to compel the Board to prescribe text books published by these private publishers, " the High Court observed.

The argument of counsel for the petitioner that the notification has been issued without the approval of the competent authority is without any merit, the court observed

"For the foregoing reasons, I do not find any merit in this writ petition. The same is dismissed accordingly. Interim direction, if any, shall stand vacated," the order issued by Justice Dhar read.

## **BUSINESS / HEALTH**

## **Global Biofuels Alliance likely to be launched at G20: Sources**

The Global Biofuels Alliance is aimed at facilitating cooperation and intensifying the use of sustainable biofuels, including in the transportation sector.

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): India's proposal for setting up a Global Biofuels Alliance is likely to get through at the G20 summit with sources indicating that the new grouping may be launched on Saturday to help accelerate energy transition.

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A group photo of the G20 world leaders may take place on the first day of the summit on Saturday after it begins at Bharat Mandapam, the venue for the two-day summit, sources said.

The Global Biofuels Alliance, which the world's third biggest oil consumer wants to push during its G20 presidency, mirrors the International Solar Alliance (ISA) piloted by New Delhi and Paris in 2015 to bring clean and affordable solar energy within the reach of all.

Earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told PTI in an exclusive interview that India's proposal for a global alliance on biofuels among members of the Group of 20 major



economies will help accelerate sustainable biofuels deployment in support of the global energy transition.

"Such alliances are aimed at creating options for developing countries to advance their energy transitions," he had said.

"Biofuels are also important from the perspective of a circular economy. Markets, trade, technology, and policy, all aspects of international cooperation are crucial in creating such opportunities," Modi had said.

Biofuel is a renewable source of energy which is derived from

biomass. India, which imports over 85 per cent of its crude oil needs, is gradually building capacity to produce fuel from items including crop stubble, plant waste and municipal solid waste

While India is on schedule to double the mixing of ethanol extracted from sugarcane and agriculture waste to 20 per cent with petrol by 2025, dozens of compressed biogas (CBG) plants are being set up.

The Global Biofuels Alliance is aimed at facilitating cooperation and intensifying the use of

sustainable biofuels, including in the transportation sector.

Its focus is primarily on strengthening markets, facilitating global biofuel trade, developing concrete policy lessonsharing and providing technical support for national biofuel programmes worldwide. Such an initiative is also aimed at helping India's transition to alternative fuels and cutting its import bill, as it seeks to achieve its net zero carbon emissions goal by 2070.

On the other hand, the ISA aims to mobilise more than USD 1,000 billion of investment needed by 2030 for the massive deployment of solar energy.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that global sustainable biofuel production will need to triple by 2030 to put the world's energy system on track towards net zero emissions by 2050.

Liquid biofuels provided more than 4 per cent of the total transport energy supply in 2022.

## **RBI to withdraw incremental CRR in phases by October 7**



MUMBAI, Sep 9 (Agencies): In a positive development for banks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced to discontinue the incremental cash reserve ratio (I-CRR) in a phased manner beginning Saturday. RBI had imposed I-CRR on banks to absorb surplus liquidity following the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes. On August 10, the RBI mandated banks to maintain an I-CRR of 10% on the increase in their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) between May 19, 2023, and July 28, 2023.

"On a review, it has been decided to discontinue the I-CRR in a phased manner," the RBI said in a statement. "Based on an assessment of current and evolving liquidity conditions, it has been decided that the amounts impounded under the I-CRR would be released in stages so that system liquidity is not subjected to sudden shocks and money markets function in an orderly manner," it added.

The RBI said 25% of the amount of I-CRR maintained by banks will be released on Saturday and another 25% on September 23. The rest will be released on October 7. With the imposition of I-CRR, RBI has managed to drain out excess liquidity from the banking system. As per RBI data, the liquidity was around `2.64 lakh crore on August 10, which went down to `1.21 lakh crore on August 13 and on August 21 the system transitioned into a deficit of `23,644.43 crore.

The liquidity in the banking system has remained below `1 lakh crore. On Thursday, the liquidity surplus was about `76,000 crore while a day before on Wednesday the surplus was `93,935 crore. While announcing the I-CRR, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had indicated that the provision was a temporary measure for managing liquidity overhang.

RBI says 25% I-CRR to be released on Sept 9

RBI said 25% of the amount of I-CRR maintained by banks will be released on Saturday and another 25% on September 23. The rest will be released on October 7. With the imposition of I-CRR, RBI has managed to drain out excess liquidity from the banking system

## India's digital growth transformative: World Bank

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): A World Bank report has termed India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) as having a 'transformative impact' and 'extending' far beyond inclusive finance.

In the report titled 'G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion', the World Bank highlighted measures taken by India in the past decade or so — the term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the role of government policy and regulation in shaping the DPI landscape.

The World Bank report says India achieved in six years what would have taken decades. Jan Dhan Yojana,



Aadhaar and Mobile Number (JAM) linking has propelled financial inclusion rate from 25% in 2008 to over 80% of adults in the past six years.

The report says, "While DPIs' role in leapfrogging is undoubtable, ecosystem and policies

## Apple loses about USD 200 billion in market capitalisation on reports of iPhone restrictions in China

NEW YORK, Sep 9 (Agencies): Apple has lost around USD 200 billion in market capitalisation over several days as tensions between the US and China rise, with several media outlets reporting this week that the iPhone maker is being singled out by Beijing.

Apple shares fell 3 per cent Thursday and are down more than 5 per cent for the week on reports of an iPhone ban for Chinese state employees that is being dictated by Beijing.

The ban was first reported by the Wall Street Journal, which cited unnamed sources saying China is ordering officials at central government agencies not to use iPhones or other foreign branded phones The Financial Times cited six unnamed sources at government institutions and stateowned companies, including a nuclear technology company and a



hospital, saying they've been told to stop using Apple phones. The ban widens earlier restrictions on using iPhones for work, the outlets

said. "Beijing is looking to reduce its dependence on US technology, but this (ban) acts as a significant headwind between the world's two largest economies.

White House officials

said Biden, who departed Thursday evening for New Delhi, will use the annual G20 summit as an opportunity for the US to highlight a proposition for developing and middle-income countries that would increase the lending power of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund by some USD 200 billion. Biden seeks to drive home that the United States and its likeminded allies are better economic and security partners than China. The reported ban on

the iPhone comes at

a bad time for Apple,

revealing no details. Reports are swirling that big changes are in store for the iPhone, including a switch from Apple's Lightning connector to the USB-C plug that rivals are starting to adopt, partly in response to a European Union mandate.

Apple also faces a threat from Chinese tech giant Huawei, which recently launched its latest flagship smartphone, the Mate 60 Pro.

The phone reportedly has enough power and speed to rival the iPhone and has been selling briskly in China. Huawei has been low key about the device, but its capabilities have raised concerns that China has been able to circumvent US curbs on Huawei that stop it from acquiring high tech components like advanced processor chips that had effectively crippled its smartphone business.

New strains of influenza A virus

#### found in pigs raise pandemic risk



SINGAPORE, Sep 9 (Agencies): Scientists have uncovered several previously unknown strains of swine flu viruses that have been circulating unnoticed in Cambodian pig populations over the past 15 years, potentially posing a pandemic risk.

The new strains include viruses that have been passed by humans to pigs, as well as some with genes originating from as far as North America, said researchers from Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore.

Pigs are a key intermediary in the emergence and potential spread of influenza viruses between animals and humans, the researchers noted, as they provide a suitable environment for the shuffling of gene segments between avian, swine and human hosts, ultimately giving rise to new viruses.

With pork production dramatically increasing over the past 50 years, international trade and movement have further amplified the risks.

"While swine influenza viruses typically cause mild symptoms in pigs, they pose a pandemic threat to humans, as the human population may lack immunity or have inadequate protection against new strains of swine influenza viruses. Therefore, systematic surveillance is crucial in early detection and warning of new subtypes or strains," said Prof. Gavin Smith, Director of the Emerging Infectious Diseases Programme at Duke-NUS.

From March 2020 to July 2022, the team conducted swine influenza surveillance in 18 pig slaughterhouses in

Cambodia. They collected 4,089 nasal swabs from pigs in different districts of four provinces. Among these, 72 pigs -or around 2 per cent of the pigs -- tested positive for influenza A virus.

fication."

build on the availability

of DPIs were critical.

These included inter-

ventions to create a

more enabling legal

and regulatory frame-

work, national policies

to expand account own-

ership, and leveraging

Aadhaar for identity veri-

The findings, published in the journal PNAS, showed that the scientists identified nine distinct swine influenza A virus groups, at least seven of which had not been detected for between 2 to 15 years.

Among these are multiple H3 lineages that had been passed by humans to pigs, circulating undetected for about 10 years; as well as the H1N1 subtype, which was predominant and likely derived from human origins dating back to the 2009 pandemic.

Two seasonal viruses were detected in pigs from Kandal, Phnom Penh, and Takeo provinces, and likely originated from Thailand.

The team also isolated a new swine European H1N2 variant (that originally came from birds) with North American genes in Cambodia.

While they were the first to detect this variant, their genomic analysis suggests that it had been circulating in pigs in the region since 2014, highlighting the need for better surveillance.

Delving deeper into the movement of viruses across geographical borders, the scientists found that European swine flu viruses had been sporadically introduced into South Central China and Southeast Asia in the early 2000s.

Genetic evidence indicated South Central China has served as the major source of European-like swine flu virus transmission in the region since around 2010, with the viruses subsequently spreading more widely across China and Southeast Asian countries such as Cambodia.

Further studies are needed to understand the pandemic threat of the new viruses, including how they react with human viruses and how easily they can spread, the team said.

to Apple as China is its largest international market and accounts for about 20 per cent of its revenues," said Victoria Scholar, head of investment at interactive investor, a UK investment platform. Apple didn't respond to a request for comment.

regulations." Tensions between the US and China have been rising and early last month, President Joe Biden signed an executive order to impose blocks and regulations on US high-tech investment in China, reflecting the intensifying competition

When asked about the

ban at a daily briefing in

Beijing, Chinese Foreign

Ministry spokesperson

Mao Ning didn't com-

ment directly, saying

only that "products and

services from any coun-

try are welcome to enter

the Chinese market as

long as they comply

with Chinese laws and

which is gearing up for its latest product launch next Tuesday Sept. 12, when it's expected to unveil its latest smartphone, the iPhone 15. A teaser of the livestream for the event, dubbed "Wonderlust," has been posted on YouTube,

## **PGIMER cardiologist performs complex TAVI** operation, awarded at national forum

Case of 75-year-old suffering from critical aortic valve stenosis, compounded by severe calcium deposits

CHANDIGARH, Sep 9 (Agencies): Prof (Dr) Rajesh Vijayvergiya from the Department of Cardiology was honoured with 'Best Case Award' at IndiaValves conference, which held from September 1 to 3 in Mumbai. The conference, attended by over 900 participants and faculty members, delved into various facets of the percutaneous valve replacement therapy and its latest advancements.

Dr Vijayvergiya's award-winning presentation was centered at a highly complex transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) procedure. The case involved a 75-year-old male suffering from critical aortic valve stenosis, compounded by severe calcium deposits. This challenging condition was successfully addressed through a TAVI operation conducted at Advanced Cardiac Centre of PGIMER here.

The TAVI procedure is a minimally invasive procedure in



which an artificial aortic valve, crimped onto a delivery catheter, is skilfully manoeuvred through the groin artery to the heart for implantation. Subsequent to the valve's successful placement, the delivery catheter

is carefully withdrawn from the groin to conclude the procedure. Speaking about this intricate TAVI case, Prof Vijayvergiya disclosed that the patient encountered an uncommon complication during the operation — an

abrupt total occlusion of the left main coronary artery of the heart. Recognising the gravity of the situation, the medical team swiftly performed an emergency coronary angioplasty and stenting of the obstructed left main coronary artery. Their dedicated efforts bore fruit, leading to the patient's remarkable recovery. He was discharged three days after the operation and underwent a symptom-free six-month follow-up.

Experts at the conference thoroughly examined and discussed this remarkable case, lauding the timely and coordinated teamwork that saved the patient's life. Prof Vijayvergiya humbly attributed this award and recognition to his entire team, including Dr Basant Kumar, Associate Professor of Cardiology, Dr Sunder Negi, Associate Professor of Anaesthesia, resident doctors from the Cardiology and Anaesthesia Departments, and the entire technical and nursing staff.

## **SPORTS**

## India-Pakistan match reserve day in Asia Cup leads to huge controversy; here is the clarification

Bangladesh, Sri Lanka coaches object to reserve day; Boards say decision taken after consultation with all

NEW DELHI, Sep 9 (Agencies): The Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) said that the reserve day for the high-profile Asia Cup clash between India and Pakistan clash was added after consultation with all the teams competing in Super Four stage of the tournament, ie, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

This comes after the head coaches of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka voiced their misgivings over the decision of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) to add a reserve day for the India-Pakistan clash in the Asia Cup Super-4 stage.

"A reserve day for India Pakistan contest in the Asia Cup Super-4 stage has been added that effectively revised the Asia Cup playing condition. To clarify on the position, the decision was taken with the consent of all four participating teams and ACC," tweeted the BCB.

The SLC also tweeted, "The reserve day for the India-Pakistan contest of the Asia Cup



Super-4 stage was taken in consultation with all four member boards of the Super-4 competing teams. Accordingly, the ACC effectively revised the playing conditions of the tournament to effect the agreed-upon change. #AsiaCup2023."

Earlier on Friday, a reserve day was announced for the India-Pakistan clash, which will be played at the R Premadasa stadium in Colombo on Sunday. Not holding back, Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurasingh said the decision is not "ideal" as even they would have pre-



"But I don't have any more comment on this because they have already made a decision. If they had consulted us earlier, we would have given our opinion," the Bangladesh head coach added.

His Lankan counterpart, former England speedster Chris Silverwood, also expressed his frustration over ACC's decision saying that it could affect qualification scenarios in the elimination stages of the tournament.

"Yeah! Look, obviously, I was a little surprised when I heard it first. But we don't organise the competition, so we can't do a whole lot about it, right? I haven't seen this kind of thing in another tournament, this changing rules in the middle of the tournament," Silverwood said. "To be honest, I see it only becoming a problem if it provides points to the teams, and affects us," Silverwood added. As per the ACC, if adverse

weather suspends play during the India and Pakistan game, the match will continue on September 11 from the point it was suspended.

In such an eventuality, ticketholders are advised to hold on to their match tickets which will remain valid and will be utilised for the reserve day.

## **Irish open: Sharma shoots** 65 to take sole lead



KILDARE (IRELAND), Sep 9 (Agencies): Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma shot his best round of 2023 as he fired a flawless 7-under 65 that included an eagle and five birdies to take the sole lead at the Irish Open after the opening day.

Sharma has finished in the top-10 twice this season — a tied-8th finish at the Open in second round to make the cut.

Sharma started from the tenth tee late in the afternoon on the Palmer North Course at The K Club. Though he found only 12 fairways and 12 greens in regulation, his putting was outstanding. He needed just 24 putts for the round and that made the difference.

"It was really solid. Hit the ball pretty good. Made a lot of puts until the back-nine which was my front nine, and the round kind of got even better when I made that third shot off 18,' Sharma said.

"I holed out from 105 yards. That got me to 5-under. and the front nine was solid again. I haven't seen the stats but I'm sure I gained some strokes on the field with my putting. It was one of those days that the hole grew bigger and bigger. Really pleased, yes. I was great off the tee but the putter would be No. 1," he added.

## **Asian championships:** Thakkar falls short vs Long

PYEONGCHANG (S KOREA), Sep 9 (Agencies): India's Manav Thakkar had his moments against Chinese legend Ma Long before going down fighting in a Round-of-16 men's singles contest at the Asian Table Tennis Championships here.

The 23-year-old, who suffered a 0-3 defeat, was expectedly nervous going into the match against arguably the greatest paddler of all time but ended up giving a good account of himself as Long won 11-9 12-10 11-5.

On a day when the seasoned G Sathiyan and Sharath Kamal lost their Round-of-32 matches, another heart-



ranked Ayhika Mukheriee, who stretched Chen Xingtong of China to five games, but the Chinese won 2-11 6-11 11-8 11-9 11-3 in the women's singles Round of 32. In

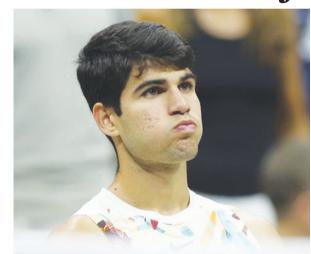
Shah lost to Fan Zhendong and Lin Gaoyuan 5-11 3-11 5-11. The women's doubles duo of Ayhika and Sutirtha Mukherjee also suffered a 5-11 11-13 10-12 loss to Wang Manyu and Chen Meng.

## World No 1 Carlos Alcaraz crashes out of US **Open, Medvedev to face Djokovic in finals**

NEW YORK, Sep 9 (Agencies): Daniil Medvedev beat defending champion Carlos Alcaraz 7-6(3), 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 to advance to his third US Open final, at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre.

"I said I needed to play 11 out of 10. I played 12 out of 10, except the third set," Medvedev was quoted as saying by 'usopen'.

"That's the only way (to beat Alcaraz). He's so young, already two Grand Slams, world No. 1 for many weeks, it's honestly just pretty unbelievable and I think nobody has done it before him, so to beat him you need to be



In a matchup of two superstars, each with their own unique set of preternatural tennis talents, the 2021 New York champion. Medvedev got his calculations just right to neutralise tling through a series of tough holds and saving the only two break points of the first set as Alcaraz flew out of the blocks. But the tide began to turn when Medvedev won 12 straight points on serve late in the set, including a pair of love holds. The third seed shook

July and a T-7th at the

first event of 2023 in

The 27-year-old is

ranked 65th in the Race

to Dubai rankings and

needs to be inside the

top-50 to make the sea-

son-ending DP World

Tour Championships in

Another Indian Manu

Gandas shot a 1-over 73

and was lying T-104th.

He needs a very low

November in Dubai.

Abu Dhabi.

off a double fault that made it 3-3 in the tiebreak by hitting two forehand winners in a four-point blitz to close the set. Medvedev drove home

that advantage with an instant break in set two, and he did not lose a point on serve in the set until he harmlessly conceded two in serving out the frame.

was too tough to overcome. It was the third seed's turn to endure a titanic service game in the final game of the match, but he fought off three break points and sealed the deal with a hugely satisfying overhead that bounded high into the stands.

Medvedev's latest stretch of dominance sets him up for a rematch of that 2021 final against Novak Djokovic-a match he won in straight sets to deny the Serbian a calendar-year Grand Slam.

In order to stop Djokovic from claiming a record-tying 24th major singles title. Medvedev knows he will need another otherworldly showing

ening performance came from the 170th-

the men's doubles last-8, Thakkar and Manush

better than yourself and I managed to do it."

the uber-athletic game of Alcaraz with his own

Medvedev was hanging on at the start, bat-

love holds.

brand of metronomic

baseline brilliance. The

third seed also leaned

on a stellar serving per-

formance that peaked in

the second set, when he

rattled off three straight

In the end, the puzzle presented by Medvedev

#### "Don't Think Babar Azam Should've...": **Shoaib Akhtar Questions Pakistan** Skipper's Plan vs India

COLOMBO, Sep 9 (Agencies): Legendary pacer Shoaib Akhtar has questioned Pakistan skipper Babar Azam over his captaincy tactics in the washedout encounter against India in the group stage of the Asia Cup 2023. Akhtar feels Babar gave too many overs to the spinners after the pacers had rattled India's top-order. The spin trio of Mohammad Nawaz, Shadab Khan, and Salman Ali Agha conceded 131 runs in 21 overs without taking a wicket. According to Akhtar, Babar should've kept a pacer from end to put pressure on India's middle-order.

"I don't think Babar should have given that many overs to spinners. He could have kept the pace battery intact from one end and a spinner from the other. That is where I disagree with Babar, he used spin too much and gave up on the attack," Akhtar said during an interaction organised by Star

Sports.

India were reeling at 66/4 at one stage before Ishan Kishan and Hardik Pandya did the repair job in the middle overs.

Both Kishan and Pandya missed out on their centuries, dismissed on 82 and 87 respectively as India went on to post a respectable total of 266. Akhtar, on the other hand, was all praise for

heen and Rauf.

Pakistan pacers Sha-

"These youngsters are very, very talented. It gives me so much happiness to think that Pakistan is being able to produce such fast bowlers over and over again. I would say Shaheen Shah Afridi is bowling is at the top of his career right now, and Haris Rauf has the same mindset, that he just has to keep picking wickets," he added. India and Pakistan will square off once again

on Sunday in the Super 4 stage.

#### "Absolute Shamelessness": **Venkatesh Prasad's Scathing Attack** On Jay Shah-led ACC Over India vs **Pakistan Match Reserve Day**



COLOMBO, Sep 9 (Agencies): Former Indian cricketer Venkatesh Prasad criticised Asian Cricket Council (ACC) for having a reserve day only for the match between India and Pakistan in the Super four stage of the Asia Cup 2023. ACC on Friday announced a reserve day for the match between India and Pakistan which is scheduled to take place on September 10 at R. Premadasa International Cricket Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka. If adverse weather suspends play during the India and Pakistan game, the match will continue on September 11 from the point it was suspended. The former Indian bowler slammed

ACC's decision and said it is unethical to have different rules for two teams.

"If true this is absolute shamelessness this. The organisers have made a mockery and it is unethical to have

#### a tournament with rules being different for the other two teams. In the name of justice, will only be fair if it is abandoned the first day, may it rain harder on the second day and these malicious plans not succeed," Ventakesh wrote on his X (formerly Twitter) handle on Friday. Earlier Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha said on Friday that

having a reserve day for only the India-Pakistan game was not ideal and that his team would have also liked have the advantage of a reserve day as rain was forecast for Colombo.

In the original tournament schedule only the Asia Cup final had a reserve day provision, but the India and Pakistan match has been given an exception by the Asian Cricket Council.

After match against Pakistan, India's next scheduled match in the Super Four stage is versus Sri Lanka on September 12.

The group stage match between India and Pakistan was called off due to rain, with both teams sharing one point each. India were bundled out at 266 in 48.5 overs with Hardik Pandya's 87 and Ishan Kishan's 82 helping the team post a decent target. However, rain played spoilsport and the match was called off without Pakistan facing a single ball.

With rains also forecast in Colombo for the next week, the PCB, the official hosts of the tournament, were on board with plans to move the Colombo matches to Hambantota, but eventually, the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) sent a mail to the stakeholders stating that the matches would be played in Colombo as originally scheduled, according to ESPNcricinfo.

## Asia Cup 2023: Virat Kohli shares wisdom with budding cricketers in Sri Lanka ahead of Pakistan clash

ended in a no-result in

Pallekele earlier this

month with rain playing

spoilsport and forcing

the match to be aban-

doned without a single

ball being bowled in the

Following the washed-

out Pakistan match,

India defeated Nepal by

second innings.



COLOMBO, Sep 9 (Agencies): India superstar batter Virat Kohli met with budding cricketers in Sri Lanka and shared his experience with them. India is set to face Pakistan in the Super-4 stage of the ongoing Asia Cup 2023 on September 10.

In a video released by the Indian Cricket Team on Instagram, Kohli can be seen talking to young cricketers in Sri Lanka and imparting his cricketing knowledge to them.

Kohli could be heard

10 wickets via DLS to reserve their spot in the Super-4 stage.

Ahead of India's match against Pakistan, the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) announced a reserve day on September 11 with thunderstorms predicted in Colombo on Sunday. If adverse weather suspends play during the game, the match will continue on September 11, from the point it was suspended. Ticket holders have been advised to retain their tickets, which will remain valid and will be utilized for the reserve day.

Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan are the four teams that have gualified for the Super-4 stage. Each team will face each other in a round-robin format with the top-two teams facing off in the final at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on September 17.

India will be hoping to win the Asia Cup for the record eighth time, while Sri Lanka will be chasing their seventh title and Pakistan their third.

sized the importance of working on minute details to rise above the rest of the competition. India will be looking to get their Super-4 campaign off to a flying start when they take on arch-rivals Pakistan in Colombo. India's group-stage match against Pakistan

talking about the importance of preparation and fitness. He also empha-

#### Top News of J&K Jammu, Saturday, September 09, 2023

## LOCAL

## **People of J&K won't forget betrayal and dishonesty** of BJP Govt: Dr Manohar

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

BILLAWAR, Sep 93 Former Minister Dr Manohar Lal Sharma on Saturday organized monthly meeting at Dhan Panchayat, Danjasdhar in Tehsil Ramkot to listen to public grievances especially property tax, price rise, unemployment and other problems faced by people.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Th Bhudhi Singh, Raj Kumar, Amar Singh, Ch Mahmood, Vijay Kumar Sharma, Rattan Chand, Gian Singh, Dinesh, Shiv Ram, Mast Ram, Om Parkash, Tirth Ram, Kaka Ram, Bachiter Singh, Thoru Ram, Hans Raj, Sham Lal, Raj Kumar, Mahant Ram, Madan Lal, Shori Lal, Omkar Chand, Shanker Dass, Bodh Raj and Mir Chand

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Manohar said that BJP regime has destroyed Jammu and Kashmir in various spheres, as it lost its identity, status, right over jobs. lands. opportunities of trade and transport and business besides whatsoever selections and recruitment were done in the UT, witnessed corruption and scams.



He said that people have been exploited in the name of a bright future, control prices, and two crore jobs annually. But all their promises have fallen flat, except politics of hate and division, he said.

The ruling Government at the Centre has attained expertise in making big claims but on ground its performance is dismal with people suffering on all counts as civic edifice, healthcare, education, employment, tourism, businesses are all passing through an abysmal phase. Dr Manohar said that

the people of the country have made a big mistake by voting to power the BJP and the need of the time is to root it out as soon as possible and install pro-people Government to ensure

good governance in the country. He said that BJP cannot offer anything except big hollow promises like bringing back black money, eradicat-

> ing corruption, teaching a lesson to China and Pakistan, etc. Dr Manohar said that the people of J&K are fed-up of series of lies and false promises made by the BJP leadership in the Union Territory.

He asserted that the people of the country are struggling with rising inflation and the youth are finding it difficult to get jobs.

Former Minister said the present government has miserably failed to ensure delivery of basic amenities like availability of ration, frequent supply of power and water & unemployment besides

affected people and the farmers.

Referring to the issues confronting people of J&K, Dr Manohar said in absence of elected Govt, LG Administration has failed badly to pursue all those connected with development for giving push to the schemes and projects aimed at overall development and welfare of various areas and different segments of society. "We will keep pursuing and highlighting every

issue, major or minor, to see J&K progress and prosper, notwithstanding the odds", he assured the people of Billawar constituency and said that their support, cooperation and, above all, feedback and counseling about their needs will be crucially useful for him to get their grievances addressed timely and properly.

Dr Manohar described BJP as 'storyteller' which failed to give direction to the country and guide it on the right path. Party has completely failed and that's why they tell stories. He said whipping up passions for short-term political goals will not do any good to the nation. The policies of BJP have flopped. "I can tell you with guarantee that they can do no good to this country," he added. Dr Manohar said that there is no visibility of the government on ground, as a result of which the wheels of development

have come to grinding halt. But for the propaganda, the present dispensation has nothing to showcase as its achievements, he said, adding that utility services have been worst affected. "The BJP has ditched the people and failed in deliverance", he said, adding that even its strong supporters were suffering from acute disenchantment as far as functioning of the government is concerned adding the BJP cannot behave like ostrich and shut eyes and years over the growing resentment against the government.



**Senior AAP leader Jagdeep** 

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: Former Chief Spokesperson AAP Jagdeep Singh, along with several Sarpanchs and Panches were joined into the Congress party by the JKPCC Chief Shri Vikar Rasool Wani along with working president Raman Bhalla, Kapil Singh (Spokesperson, Dwarka Choudhary, Taranjeet Singh Tony,) Rajveer Singh, Namarata Sharma, Jatin Raina and Ricky Dalotra.

Others who joined include Sansar Chand, Sukhdev Ji, Gurdeep Singh, Raj Kumari, Gurdev Singh, Ramesh Chander Sharma, Raj Kumar, Gurcharan Singh . They expressed full faith on the policies and programmes of Congress party and its leadership Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and Shri Rahul Gandhi. Vikar Rasool Wani

sively dealt with emerging political scenario in the JKUT, where Congress party is fast emerging as the only choice of people because of its progressive policies, democratic and secular values being strengthened by the party. He said that secularism is the strength of Indian Nation and only Congress can lead the state and the entire Nation to the path of peace, progress and prosperity by strengthening secular fabric of this country. Wani said that both Modi led Central Govt.

and LG Administration in the state have failed to fulfill even a single commitment with the people and brought miseries for the common man due to their wrong policies. The achievement of Govt. is that the divisive forces have succeeded in vitiating the atmo-

sphere of peace and harmony in the Country. There is hue and cry everywhere and nobody feels secure in the pres-

Command Udhampur/

Reasi), Sahil Bandral

(Assistant Director

Command Ramban),

Amit Shivgotra (Assis-

tant Director Command

Doda/Kishtwar), Himan-

shu Gandotra (Assis-

tant Director Com-

mand Rajouri/Poonch),

Mandeep Singh (Fore-

man Range Workshop

Jammu), Kanwal Peshin

(I/C Divisional Fire Offi-

cer Sub-Command

City), Ramesh Kumar

(Station Officer I/C Hgrs.

Union Territory.

ent regime. He said that for their anti-national policies and assured new comers in the party that a state of fair deal and justice will prevail only under Congress Regime.

Addressing the gathering former Minister and Vice President PCC Raman Bhalla lashed out at the BJP Govt. for crushing the poor and the common man under huge taxes leading to record price rise, property tax, large scale unemployment and arbitrary downgrading of the historical state.

All sections of the society are resenting against the dictatorial policies of the Modi Govt., be they common man, unemployed youth, students, traders, transporters, adhoc, contractual, daily wagers, need based, pensioners, and others but the centre Govt. and the UT administration are insensitive and indifferent to the genuine demands of the different sections. He said Congress party shall aggressively continue to raise the issues of different sections of people and seek early restoration of statehood. Speaking on the occasion Jagdeep Singh said that he was impressed with the working and secular approach of Congress party which is progressing very fast under the dynamic leadership of Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi. He further said that the sincere efforts put in by PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani, he

## World First Aid Day observed at Fire & Emergency Services Headquarters

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Sep 9: "World First Aid Day" was observed at the Fire & **Emergency Services** Headquarters in Gandhi Nagar, here on Saturday. The event included a training program on First Aid, organized in collaboration with the Health Department.

R.K. Raina, Deputy Director of Fire & Emergency Services, Command Jammu, presided over the event. Dr. Manju, a Medical Officer from the Fire & **Emergency Services** Medical Unit in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, gave a welcome address.

The training program focused on First Aid and was conducted for firefighters from various Fire & Emergency Stations across the province.

Five teams from the Health Department led by Dr. Manoj Bhagat, Principal of RIHFW/ JSSC Nagrota, conducted the First Aid training. The training covered various aspects



tiative to provide First Aid training to firefighters. He emphasized that the training would benefit both the safety of lives and property.

President JKPCC while

welcoming him to the

Congress party, exten-

This training program aimed to equip firefighters with the necessary skills to provide First Aid in various emergency situations, ensuring the safety and well-being of both individuals and property.

The training program was attended by various

of First Aid, including CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), burn injuries, wound care, fractures, dealing

with unconsciousness drowning, snake bites, electric shocks, and more. R.K. Raina, Deputy

efforts extended to the

broader community, as

the campaign aimed to

foster a sense of collec-

tive responsibility in the

fight against drug abuse.

By involving families and

community members,

the campaign sought

to create a supportive

environment for those

struggling with addiction

and encourage them to

Recognizing that over-

coming addiction is a

challenging journey,

the campaign empha-

sized the importance of

rehabilitation and the

availability of resources

for those seeking recov-

seek help.

Director of Fire & Emergency Services, Jammu, was the chief guest, who expressed gratitude to Alok Kumar,

ADGP. Director Fire & Emergency Services, J&K Jammu/Srinagar, and the Health Department for taking the ini-

officers of the Department including Sanjay Nagri (Accounts Officer), Sarvesh Langer (Assistant Director

was highly impressed Gandhi Nagar Jammu), by the party functionand two personnel from ing which motivated him each Fire & Emergento join Congress party cy Station across the under the leadership of Shri Wani.

## **Army organises Drug Awareness Campaign in Sunderbani**

#### **TOP NEWS REPORT**

SUNDERBANI, Sep 9: In a dedicated effort to combat the escalating issue of drug abuse, the Indian Army orchestrated a compelling Drug Awareness Campaign in Kangri village of Sunderbani. The campaign, aimed to educate and sensitize local youth about the perils of drug use and overdose, while emphasizing prevention and rehabilitation measures to promote a healthy body and mind, thereby contributing to the noble cause of Nation Building.

Recognizing the pivotal role of the youth in shaping the nation's future, the Indian Army orchestrated this campaign with the intention of empowering young minds with knowledge and awareness. By arming them with information about



the adverse consequences of drug abuse, the campaign sought to steer them away from this detrimental path.

The campaign featured informative sessions conducted by experts in the field of substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation. These sessions provided insights into the harmful physical, psychological, and social effects of drug abuse, illustrating the stark contrast between a life dominated by addiction and one marked by good health and positiv-The Indian Army's

ery. Information about rehabilitation centers and support networks was provided to ensure that individuals battling addiction have access to the assistance they need.

Nation Building initiative is aligned with the Indian Army's broader mission of contributing to Nation Building. By fostering a drug-free and healthy youth population, the campaign supports the development of a strong and prosperous nation.

The Indian Army's Drug Awareness Campaign in Sunderbani underscores their commitment to the well-being and future of the nation. Through education and awareness, they seek to eradicate the scourge of drug abuse and create a society where every individual can lead a fulfilling and productive life.

## JKAACL organizes Nukkad shows Uproot Corruption in ongoing Bhrashtachar Mukt J&K week

#### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 9: Jammu and kashmir Academy of Art Culture and Languages, Sub Office Kathua today organized two Nukkad Shows here at Govt.BoysHigher Secondary School ,and Govt women degree college Kathua respectively in connection with Bhrashtachar Mukt J &K being organised by District administration kathua.

Sh. Tara Chand principal of the Higher Secondary school was the Chief guest on this occasion who appreciated the performance of the play based on uprooting the corruption from the society and the system as well, so that all have equal opportunities to excel their respective regardless of fields caste ,creed ,color and aender. Dr. Savi behal



Katha while welcoming

Principal government women degree college kathua who also grace this occasion as Chief guest congratulated the artists for their scintillating performance and efforts of JKAACI by organizing these awareness programmes to make the society aware about the stigma of corruption that needs to be uprooted for ever . The play namely

people aware that to

get rid from corruption we can use the following rights: the Right to Information Act.Right to Public Services laws. Anti-corruption laws in India.Anti-corruption police and courts. Civic.anti-corruption organizations,Electoral reforms.In the end the play gave the message that both giving and taking bribes in any shape come in the "Bhrashtachar Khatam corruption categories karo " presented by .Earlier,Sh.Sanjeev samooh Theatre, made Gupta Cultural officer

the guests and the general audience disclosed the activities of JKAACL being organized under the able guidance of Sh.Bharat Singh (JKAS) Secretary JKAACL. The programmes were witnessed by the students Staff and the teaching facility of both school and college.

The artists who performed were Vijay Jeetu, Savita Sharma, Rekha Sharma, Kamla Devi, Rajinder Kumar, Sanjana Sodi, Shaib and Shaleen.

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