

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**'Our system is insensitive towards health challenges of elderly': Director Vishal Nityaanand**

**Hemant Soren's plea against ED summons to be heard on Sep 18**

**Zelenskyy is expected to visit Washington as Congress is debating USD 24 billion in aid for Ukraine**

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## BRIEFLY

**Except possibility of morning showers, hot and dry weather to continue in J&K: MeT**

SRINAGAR, Sep 15(Agencies): The weatherman on Friday forecast "hot and dry" weather to continue in Jammu and Kashmir for a week ahead.

According to a meteorological department official, light to moderate rain and thunderstorm occurred at scattered places of J&K.

"Except brief spell of morning rain, weather is very likely to remain hot and dry in Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours," the official told GNS, adding, "Day temperature was likely to remain 1-2°C lower than yesterday."

Regarding the forecast from September 16-22, he said, the weather was mainly going to be hot and dry but a brief spell of rain at isolated to scattered places of J&K cannot be ruled out.

"Due to absence of any strong Western Disturbance or Monsoon Current over J&K, there's no forecast of major rain for a week, at least."

**IAF to organise Air show in Jammu to celebrate 76th anniversary of J-K's accession**

JAMMU, Sep 15 (Agencies): On the occasion of the 76th year of Jammu and Kashmir's accession into the Indian Union and the Diamond Jubilee of Air Force Station Jammu, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Government of Union Territory Jammu and Kashmir is all set to organise a grand and spectacular Air Show.

According to an official statement from PRO (Defence), the Air Show will feature renowned IAF units, including the world-famous IAF Air Warrior Drill Team (AWDT), the Aakashganga Daredevil Skydiving team, the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT), Mi-17 helicopters and the IAF band. Sukhoi-30 fighter aircraft is also expected to showcase low-level aerobatics and manoeuvring.

Taking place on September 21 and 22, 2023, from 09:30 to 11:00, the event will

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## Last Salute: 6-Year-Old son bids farewell as Col Manpreet Singh is cremated

CHANDIGARH, Sep 15 (Agencies): "Jai Hind Papa." A stoic six-year-old Kabir dressed in Army fatigue saluted his father one last time as Colonel Manpreet Singh, killed in the gunfight with terrorists in Kashmir valley, was cremated at his village in Punjab's Mohali district on Friday.

Since early morning, Colonel Singh's house in Bharaunjan village witnessed a steady stream of mourners who joined his inconsolable wife, mother and other family members in his final journey. An Army officer was seen holding Kabir as the family and others paid their last respects while a relative held on to his two-year-old daughter Banni.

Kabir was later seen clinging to the tricolour-wrapped coffin of his father along with other family members. He bowed before his father's body just before cremation as "Bharat Mata ke Sapoot



Ki Jai" and "Bharat Mata ki Jai" slogans rent the air.

The cremation took place with full military honours, including a wreath laying ceremony and a gun salute.

Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit, former Army chief V P Malik and Punjab Ministers Chetan Singh Jouramajra and Anmol Gagan Maan as well as senior Army and police officers were also present at Bharaunjan and laid wreaths. Lt Gen D P

Vats (retd), a BJP leader, was also present.

Purohit and Anmol Maan were seen consoling the family members of Colonel Singh.

In the morning, Colonel Singh's mother was seen wailing as she waited at the doorsteps for her son's mortal remains. A third-generation soldier, Singh's father who died nine years ago, was an ex-serviceman.

Some of the school teachers

of Colonel Singh also turned up at the funeral.

"He was a gem for us. He was a gem for the nation," said a teary-eyed teacher, adding, "He had said he would come in December".

Asha Chadha, a teacher of Colonel Singh in Class 1, described him as an extraordinary student. "We are very sad today but at the same time proud that we are teachers of a martyr who sacrificed his life for the nation." The Army officer, a Sena medal awardee, leaves behind two children, wife Jagmeet Kaur, a government school teacher in Haryana's Panchkula district, mother Manjeet Kaur and brother Sandeep.

Major Ashish Dhonchak, who died fighting terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, were consigned to the flames on Friday in Haryana's Panipat with full military honours.

Three

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## Anantnag encounter: Injured soldier succumbs, toll 4

SRINAGAR, Sep 15 (Agencies): The number of security personnel martyred in Anantnag encounter has mounted to four after another soldier injured in the fire-fight succumbed, officials said today.

"One more army jawan succumb to his injuries, bringing the total

number of casualties from the security forces to 4," said an official.

He said the search operation within the cordoned-off area has commenced on the third day.

Earlier, two army officers and an officer of J&K police were killed in the gunfight in a forest area in Kokernag.

## J&K High Court issues notice to Administration over house arrest of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq

SRINAGAR, Sep 15 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Friday issued a notice to the union territory administration seeking its response on a petition filed by Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq over his house arrest since August 2019. Farooq's lawyer, Nazir Ahmad Ronga said the court has given four weeks' time to the administration to file its response.

The separatist leader filed a writ petition in the high court "seeking an order, or direction upon the respondents (state authorities) to release the petitioner (Mirwaiz

from 'illegal and unauthorised detention' as the petitioner has been detained/ house arrested at his Nigeen residence without any order or authority in law".

The writ petition also requests the high court that it may issue an appropriate writ or order asking the administration to "lift the siege outside" the separatist leader's house at Nigeen Hazratbal here. "It also submits that he be allowed to deliver his Friday sermons and lead the Friday religious prayers at Jamia Masjid, Nowhatta Srinagar, and removal of any impediments into the day-

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## Administrative council approves creation of separate 'J&K Sports Cadre'

**Top News Report**

SRINAGAR, Sep 15: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here, under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, gave nod for creation of "Jammu and Kashmir Sports cadre"



under the administrative control of Youth Service and Sports Department, along with the creation of 235 posts to be utilized for appointment of outstanding sports persons, which include 10 Gazetted posts.

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## Flash floods wash away culvert on Jammu-Rajouri Highway, Traffic diverted

JAMMU, Sep 15 (Agencies): Flash floods triggered by heavy rains washed away a culvert on the Jammu-Rajouri highway, prompting authorities to divert traffic, officials said on Friday.

A temporary culvert on the highway at Rajal Top area in Nowshera was



washed away due to heavy rains late Thursday night, they said. Due to this, scores of

vehicles were stranded on the highway since this morning, they said.

The work on the construction of a bridge on the highway at Rajal Top in Nowshera was going on for the past one month and a temporary culvert was built to facilitate the movement of

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## Journalist arrested for 'Criminal Conspiracy', 'Extortion' in J&K

SRINAGAR, Sep 15 (Agencies): A journalist was arrested here for alleged criminal conspiracy and extortion, police said on Friday.

Majid Hyderi, resident of Peerbagh area of the city, was arrested after police registered a case against him following orders from a local



court here, they said. "FIR No 88/2023 U/S

120-B, 177,386,500 of IPC registered in Sadder PS on basis of order issued by Hon'ble court of JMJC Srinagar. One Majid Hyderi S/o Jahangir Hyderi R/o Peerbagh arrested for criminal conspiracy, intimidation, extortion, giving false information, defamation

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## Terror module unearthed in Baramulla; 2 LeT terrorist associates arrested



SRINAGAR, Sep 15 (Agencies): A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror module has been unearthed in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district, with the arrest of two terrorist associates and recovery of arms and ammunition from them, police

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**Avoid long queues for students during official visits: DSEK**

SRINAGAR, Sep 15 (Agencies): The School Education Department has emphasised that government-run institutions should not disrupt academic hours or

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## AC approves implementation of second national judicial pay commission

**Top News Report**

SRINAGAR, Sep 15: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here, under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the

implementation of the Second National Judicial Pay Commission in favor of Judicial Officers. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K, and Dr.

Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to e Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The implementation of the Second National Judicial Pay Commission (SNJPC) shall

benefit those Judicial Officers who, on 01.01.2016, were holding permanent or temporary posts in the Jammu & Kashmir State Subordinate Judiciary, Judicial Officers who

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## OBITUARY

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Mohan Lal Bhat** S/o Lt Sh Maheshwar Nath Bhat, originally resident of Gairoo (Noorpora) Tral who left for heavenly abode on 11-09-2023.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 19-09-2023 (Tuesday) at Muthi Ghat, near Director School Education Deptt.

## GRIEF STRICKEN :

Smt Shanta Devi (Wife)  
Smt Sheela Devi (Sister)

Smt Shama Bhat W/o Lt Sh Sham Lal Bhat  
Smt Vijaya Bhat W/o Lt Sh Shiban Lal Bhat

## Sons &amp; Daughters in law

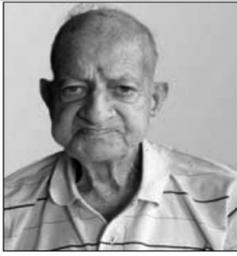
Dalip Bhat & Reeta Koul  
Sunil Bhat & Archana Bhat

## Daughters &amp; Sons in law

Dolly Bhat & Ravinder Bhat  
Rainu Trisal & Manesh Trisal  
Princy Malla & Sunil Malla  
Sunita Bhat & Samir Koul  
Anupurna Pandita & Ankur Verma

## Present Address :

H No. 70, Lane No. 7, Manorama Vihar,  
Bohri, Jammu  
Contact No. 9906215597, 9086008533,  
9419211052, 9906001826



Sh Mohan Lal Bhat

## BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Narinder Pal Singh** R/o (Dashmesh Nagar) Gangyal Jammu. **Aramb Shri Akhand Path Ji** shall take place on 15 Sep 23 (Friday) at 9:00 AM at our residence H No. 819 Sec 5 W No. 56 Gangyal (Dashmesh Nagar) Jammu.

**Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib Ji** shall take place on 17 Sep 23 (Sunday) at home. H No. 819 Sec 5 W No. 56 Gangyal (Dashmesh Ngr) Jammu.

**Kirtan and Ardas** shall take place on 17 Sep 23 Sunday at 10:30 - 12:30 pm at Gurudwara Digiana Camp National Highway Jammu.

## GRIEF STRICKEN :

Sdn Daljeet Kour (Wife)

Sdr. Ominder Pal Singh (Son) -7006535565

Sdn Supinder Pal Kour (Daughter)

Sdr. S P Singh (Brother)

Sdr. King Pal Singh (Brother)- 7006388828

Sdr. Darbari Singh (Brother in law)

Sdr Prithpal Singh (Brother-in-law)

S. Narinder Pal Singh  
(J&KF&ES) Jammu  
(Fire & Emergency Service)  
S/o Lt Khem Singh  
(PDB Manager)  
& Lt Sdn Kashmir Kour

## TENTH DAY /UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that our beloved **Lt Sh. Chuni Lal** S/o L. Sh. Chandu Ram R/o 128 Kanak Mandi Jammu A/p H. No 329 Sec No 07 Channi Himmat Jammu.

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 15th Sept Friday at 11.00 AM sec No 07, H. No 329 Channi Himmat Jammu

**KRIYA** will be performed at home on 18th Sept at 12.00 Noon

The **UTHALA** will be performed at Paanch Mandir Sec No 2 Channi Himmat Jammu on 18th Sept from 4.00 PM to 5 PM

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Lt Smt Parkash Devi -Wife

Sh. Madan Lal & Lt Smt Sudesh Devi -Son & Daughter in Law

Lt Sh. Rattan Lal & Smt Darshna Devi -Son & Daughter in Law

Sh. Rakesh Kumar & Smt Neelam Kumar -Son & Daughter in Law

Sh. Rakesh Kumar & Smt Neelam Kumari -Son & Daughter in Law

And all the members of the family

MOBILE NO: 7889328963, 9149597590

Sh. Chuni Lal Kanak Mandi Wale  
Retd 1 F.O.D. Arms & Amunition

## UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Swarn Kanta Gupta** W/o Sh. Pashori Lal Gupta R/o Ward No. 1, Sunderbani, who left for her heavenly abode on 31/8/2023.

**Rasam Pagri / Uthala** will be held on 16/09/2023 on Saturday from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm at Radha Krishan Mandir Hall (Parking), Sunderbani.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Pashori Lal Gupta - Husband

Smt. Seema Gupta - Daughter-in-law

Sh. Narinder Gupta & Risha Gupta (Son & Daughter-in-law)

Son-in-law & Daughter

Sh. Narinder Vermani & Neelam Gupta

Grand Children : Kavita, Akash, Rishika, Vivek, Nikhil and Nimish

C/o M/S Sushel Kumar & Bros., Sunderbani

Mobile No.: 9419265111

Smt. Swarn Kanta Gupta  
27/03/1945 to 31/8/2023

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Badri Nath** S/o Lt. Sh. Govind Ram of Jumalal Pulwama (Kmr) A/P Lane No. 03, Anant Vihar Lale-Da-Bagh Jammu on 08-09-2023 (Friday). **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 17-09-2023 (Sunday) at 08.30 am at Muthi Ghat near Director Education Depart. Jammu.

## Grief Stricken By:

Smt Chanchal Devi -Wife

Son & Daughter-in-law

Sh Sanjay Kumar & Smt Sunita Pandit

Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt Neetu Dhar & Sh Sandeep Dhar

Anil Kumar -Son

Grand Children: Vansh Pandit, Deepanshi Dhar

Deeply Missed By :- Pandit/Bhat/Dhar families

Cell Nos. 7051903124, 7006257195, 8082283680



Sh Badri Nath

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

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Rattani Devi** W/o Late Sh. Milkhi Ram Gandral (Smalpur Wale) R/o H.No. 34, Sector-4, Pamposh Colony, Janipur, Jammu.

The **10th Day** will be performed at our residence (Pamposh Colony, Janipur) at 10.30 am on 16th Sept., 2023.

The **13th Day Kriya** will be performed at our residence (Pamposh Colony, Janipur) at 12.00 Noon on 19th Sept., 2023.

The **Uthala /Rasam Pagri** will be performed at our residence at 3.00 to 4.00 pm on 20th Sept., 2023.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Vijay Kumar Gandral and Suman Lata Gandral - Son & Daughter-in-law

Smt. Veena Abrol and Sh. Tilak Raj Abrol - Daughter & Son-in-law

Grand Children :

Latil Abrol & Mayanka Abrol

Deepti Abrol

Mareesha Gandral & Sahil Koul

Ajatya Gandral

Contact : 9419102427, 9682160774, 9419272711, 9419649702



Smt. Rattani Devi

## 10TH DAY/13TH DAY/RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Sanjogita Devi** W/o Sh Indar Singh Sambyal, who left for heavenly abode on 05-09-2023.

**10th Day** will be held on 14-9-2023 (Thursday) at 9:30AM. **13th Day** will be held on 17-9-2023 (Sunday) at 10:00AM. **UTHALA/RASAM PAGRI** will be performed on 18-9-2023 (Monday) at 12:00 noon at Mandi Thalora Samba.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Indar Singh Sambyal (Ex Sub AEC) -Husband

Son & Daughter-in-Law

Deepak Singh & Renu Sambyal

Daughters & Son-in-law

Seema & Karan Singh Bagal

Shalini & Vishal Lalotra

GRAND CHILDREN

Aayushmaan, Rudradev, Bhavya, Dakshesh & Shambhavi

ALL RELATIVES & FRIENDS



SMT SANJOGITA DEVI

PH NO. 9596648027,  
9622065909

## 10TH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Rishi Kumar Gupta (Kishtwar wale)** who left for heavenly abode on 06-09-2023.

The **TENTH DAY** will be held on 15-09-2023 at 10.30 AM at occasions palace opposite Shiv Temple Last Matador Stand Janipur colony Jammu.

**Kriya** (12 Noon), **Uthala** (4.00 PM) will be performed at Shiv Temple Last Matador Stand Janipur colony Jammu on 18-09-2023.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Savitri Devi & Lt Sh. Om Parkash Dogra (Mother & Father)

Smt Suman Gupta - Wife

Sh. Lt Ram Saroop & Smt Sushma Gupta -Brother & Bhabhi

Sh. Vinod Gupta & Smt Beena Gupta -Brother & Bhabhi

Sh. Vijay Gupta & Smt Neena Gupta -Brother & Bhabhi

Sh. Subash Chander & Smt Rajni Gupta -Brother & Bhabhi

Sh. Ganesh Gupta & Smt Sonia Gupta - Daughter & Son in Law

Sh. Sanjeev Arora & Smt Isha Arora - Daughter & Son in Law

Sh. Sumar Padotra & Smt Pallvi Gupta - Daughter & Son in Law

Mayank and Param (Grand Son's)

M/S Gupta and Gupta Associates (Prop Anil Gupta Son)

MOBILE NO:7889526047, 9419241648

Sh. Rishi Kumar Gupta  
(Kishtwar wale)

## TENTH DAY/KIRYA/ UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to announce the sad demise of our beloved **SHANKER DASS MANHOTRA** S/o Late Sh P R Manhotra of Poonch at present R/o Manhotra Nivas 87 C Shashtri Nagar Jammu left for heavenly abode on Wednesday 06th of September.

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on Friday 15th September 2023 at our residence 87 C Shastri Nagar Jammu at 10 am.

**KIRYA** will be performed at our residence 87C Shastri Nagar on Saturday 16th September at 12 Noon.

**UTHALA** will be at Durga Mandir (Rampura) Near Last Morh Shastri Nagar on Monday 18th September 2023 at 4 pm to 5 pm.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Sudesh Manhotra- (Wife)

Smt Roshika & Rajesh Manhotra (Daughter in law & Son)

Smt Shyama & Brish Bhan Sharma (Sister & Brother in law)

Smt Nisha & Joginder Ferial (Daughter & Son in law)

Smt Versha & Sh Brijmohan Sharma (Daughter & Son in law)

Smt Mamta & Jatinder Arora (Daughter & Son in law)

Smt Shefali & Deepak Gupta (Daughter & Son in law)

(Daughters)

Roopali & Tanvi (Grand Childrens)

M/S HINDUSTAN GUN HOUSE SATWARI JAMMU CANTT.

MOB: 9419133319, 7780830625, 7051920806, 7780826641.

SHANKER DASS MANHOTRA  
(POONCH WALE)

## OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad, shocking and untimely demise of our beloved **Usha Kumari Raina** W/o Santosh Kumar erstwhile resident of Darai, Sangrama Sopore at present Lane No. 11, Gurha Keran, Barnai, Bantalab on 12th September, 2023 at Ludhiana. Her mortal remains were consigned to flames on 13th September, 2023 at Shanti Ghat Bantalab, Jammu.

**10th Day Kriya** will be held on 21st September, 2023 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu and Assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat on 21/9/2023 at 9.00 am.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Santosh Kumar - Husband # 9796222648, 9906022264

Miss Sushita - Daughter

Sunita & Satish Kumar - Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law # 9876193188

Sahil - Son

Miss Surbhi - Daughter

Anjali & Shiban Ji Pandita - Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law

Miss Alka - Daughter



Usha Kumari Raina

## TENTH DAY/ KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Tushar Verma** S/o Sh. Satish Verma & Smt. Anuradha Verma R/o Ward No. 5, Masjid Mohalla, Ram Nagar who expired on 06/09/2023.

**Tenth Day** will be performed at our residence at 10:00 am on 15/09/2023 (Friday). **Kriya** will be performed on 18.09.2023 (Monday) at Devika Ghat, Udhampur.

## GRIEF STRICKEN :-

Smt. Anuradha Verma (Mother)

Sh. Satish Verma (Father)

Ritik Verma (Brother)

PH NO. 9622684188



Tushar Verma

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Somawati (Bhabi)** W/o Late Shri Arjan Nath Pandit of Gasran, Kulgam A/P Qtr No. 14 & 15, Block No. 123, Lane No. 21, Jagti Colony, Jammu on 12-09-2023(Tuesday). **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 21-09-2023(Tuesday) at 08:30 am at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education.

## GRIEF STRICKEN BY:-

Daughter & Son-in-Law

Smt Nirmla Khar & Pran Nath Khar

Smt Pinki Koul & Shadi Lal Koul

Smt Rajni Bhan & Ashok Kumar Bhan

Grand Children

Anju Koul W/O Ajay Koul

Pooja Pandita W/O Umang Pandita

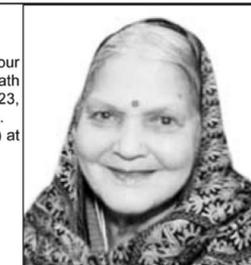
Diksha Bhat W/O Rakesh Bhat

Sanjay Bhan

Shivani Koul & Sakshi Koul

Deeply Missed by: Khar's /Koul's/Bhan's/Bhat's

Cell No. 7006868045, 9622174836

Smt Somawati  
(Bhabi)

## OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Umesh Bhan** S/o Lt. Sh. Kashi Nath Bhan, original resident of Manigam, Ganderbal, Kashmir at present Om Vihar H.No - 1572B, Vinayak Nagar Muthi Jammu, during the night of 07-09-2023.

The **Creation** took place on 08-09-2023. Now, **Tenth Day** will be performed on 18th Sept. 2023 at Muthi Ghat.

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Kashyapa Bhan -Mother

Brothers and Sister in law

Sh. Pyare Lal Bhan & Smt. Geeta ji Bhan

Sh. Ashok Bhan & Smt. Asha Bhan

Sisters & Brother in law

Smt Natasha Tickoo w/o Sh. M.K Tickoo

Smt Renu Moza w/o Lt. Sh. Shadi Lal Moza

Deeply Remembered by :

Sameer Bhan , Radhika Bhan

Shiveta Kaul, Ajay Tickoo, Anita Tickoo, Vishal Moza, Ritika Moza Kulk



Sh. Umesh Bhan

## OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mata Ji Smt. Soomawati (Drupati)** W/o Late Sh. Soom Nath Pandit of Sagam Anantnag (Kmr) (Daughter of Late Smt. Shobhawati and Keshew Nath Koul of Mir Danter Anantnag) presently at H.No.16, Vinayak Vihar behind Power Receiving Station Toph Sherkhania Jammu on 12-09-2023.

The **Tenth Day** will be performed on 21-09-2023 (Thursday) 9:00 AM at Muthi Ghat (Near Director of School Education Office).

## GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters-in-laws & Sons

Girja & Maharaj Krishan - 9419166223

Kundan & Priary Lal - 9419183316

Mohini & Suresh Ji - 7006892569

Asha & Kuldeep Ji - 7006590638

Grand Children: Rachna & Harish, Kirti, Rohit, Ankush & Reshiwar

Grand Son-in-law & Daughter

Rohit Ji & Sandha, Suraj Ji & Priya

Great Grand Child: Vidant

SMT. SOOMAWATI  
(DRUPATI)

## 10TH DAY/ KIRYA/ RASAM PAGRI

# ADG Major General Sachdeva visits NCC Training Academy

TOP NEWS REPORT

NAGROTA, Sep 15: Major General RK Sachdeva, Additional Director General of the NCC Directorate in Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, Pays Inspirational Visit to NCC Training Academy in Nagrota.

His visit was aimed at interacting with and motivating the NCC Cadets who have been diligently undergoing rigorous training for the past three months in preparation for the upcoming All India Thal Sena Camp in Delhi.

During his visit, Major



General RK Sachdeva engaged with the young NCC Cadets, offering words of encouragement and sharing his invaluable insights and

experiences. His inspirational presence provided a significant boost to the cadets morale as they continue their intense training regi-

men in anticipation of the All India Thal Sena Camp. Major General RK Sachdeva, commended the dedication and

commitment of the NCC Cadets and emphasized the importance of discipline, leadership, and teamwork in their training. He urged the cadets to strive for excellence and embody the values of the NCC.

The All India Thal Sena Camp in Delhi is a prestigious event that challenges the physical and mental abilities of NCC Cadets from across the country. Major General RK Sachdeva's visit served as a reminder of the NCC's mission to groom young leaders and install in them the spirit of patriotism and service to the nation.

# Management Development Programme on building leadership skills concludes at JU

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: A two-day management development programme on building leadership skills organised by the P.G. Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, in collaboration with Anutham Hotel and Amantran Farm successfully concluded.

The event took place on September 14th and 15th, 2023 at the Anutham Hotel. The event has been sponsored by "Yokohama India Pvt. Ltd., Gupta Tyre House, Jammu". The MDP, meticulously organised by the Department of Commerce, aimed to

equip participants with the essential skills and knowledge required to excel in leadership roles in their sector.

The Management Development Programme was initiated by the Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, in collaboration with Anutham Hotel and Amantran Farm successfully concluded.

Dr. Rinku Sanjeev, corporate trainer, Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies, Noida, was the resource person for the MDP. The second day started with the ses-

sion on conflict management, wherein Dr. Rinku Sanjeev, corporate trainer and resource person for the programme, demonstrated practically through games like blowing balloons and looping paper chains how conflicts can be resolved.

The session focused on team building, problem solving, etc., which helped the participants grasp the skills essential for conflict management.

In the second session, Dr. Rinku deliberated on time management, wherein she stressed the importance of making time tables and

setting priorities for the actual management of time. The third session focused on effective communication and its components. Dr. Rinku stressed the importance of body language, dressing sense, feelings, eye contact, hand movement, smile, and tone of voice in building communication skills.

The event concluded with the valedictory function, wherein Dr. Jeevan Jyoti, HoD, honoured the resource person, Dr. Rinku Sanjeev, with a certificate of appreciation. The collaborators, Anutham Hotel & Resort and Amantran Farm, and the sponsor of the

event, "Yokohama India Pvt. Ltd., Gupta Tyre House, Jammu," were so honoured with the emblems. The feedback and takeaways from the programme were given by the participants, who were urged to hold similar programmes regularly on various issues their organisation faces. The certificates were distributed to the participants as well.

The formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Harleen Kaur, deputy coordinator of the event. The event was attended by Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Vishal Gupta, and Dr. Deepti Abrol.

# Big jolt to NC, DPAP Party in Inderwal; dozens of ST community people join BJP

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Sep 15: In major setback to NC, DPAP Party in Inderwal of Jammu Province, a senior DPAP leader and ward Member Najar Hussain of Dicher along with Hundreds today joined Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) at Dicher in presence of BJP Leader Prashant Bhandari, Mandal Pradhan Chatroo Santosh Bhandari, Ex Mandal Pradhan Chatroo Shanti Saroop, Minority President Chatroo Shanwaaz, Vice President Ajay Wani, Shanti Saroop and other leader of BJP.

Ward member of Dicher and prominent Leader from Dicher along with hundreds others join BJP. While addressing gathering Prashant Bhandari said BJP is a sign of change.

He said that like people of the country, people of Jammu and Kashmir are also fed up with Congress and



local parties NC, DPAP and PDP.

"People want change, directions of winds has been changed in favour of BJP--- and accessing this change— With the help and blessing of common people, BJP will surely form the next government in Jammu and Kashmir" said Prashant Bhandari.

He said that NC-Congress coalition in BDC and DDC election has failed to come up to the expectation of people,

He said that both the parties has realized that they have lost public faith, people of the country has shown full faith on the leadership of Prime Minister Narindra Modi.

Talking jibe at former PM Manmohan Singh, Mandal Pradhan Chatroo Santosh Bhandari said that former PM fails to initiate any policy on its own and always remain dependent on Gandhi family which is not the case

with Narendra Modi who had steal the show and make impression of India throughout the world. A DPAP leader who joined BJP in his speech slams the Congress and NC leadership for their poor policies and ignoring the senior party leaders. He said that he found lot of respect within the BJP for their own carders, added that he feel suffocated in Congress.

He assured the party leadership that he will

work with zeal and zest for ensuring victory of BJP candidate from Inderwal ST Population of Inderwal played a key role in Saroori Politics in Assembly Election and the ST population in large numbers joining in BJP is a big jolt to him. Among the others who joined the BJP include Ex. Namardar, Gulam Hussain, Gulam Qadir Wani, Manzoor Ahmed, Shaifir Ahmed and others were Joined BJP.

# Junaid Mattu slams Farooq; terms inappropriate behaviour against young female reporter unbecoming

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Sep 15: Mayor of Srinagar and Senior Apni Party Leader, Junaid Azim Mattu while strongly condemning JKNC President and Srinagar MP Dr. Farooq Abdullah's inappropriate behaviour with a young female reporter, has sought a public apology from Dr. Farooq Abdullah to the young reporter and her family.

Termining his behaviour as chauvinistic and highly inappropriate, Junaid Mattu has questioned the silence of his party leaders and asked them to seek the remnants of their conscience within themselves so that they can gather the courage to speak against this harrowing public harassment of a young female reporter.

"Dr. Farooq Abdullah's habitual and offensive

behaviour in public might be a matter of entertainment for his party leaders and workers seem laughing in the background but I ask those leaders and NC workers what their reaction would have been if that young girl was their daughter or sister", Junaid Mattu said while speaking the reporters at the sidelines of the inauguration of a Cricket Championship at HMT this morning.

The Mayor of Srinagar said such behaviour would have generally attracted an FIR as per the laws in vogue had this been done by anyone else and had we as a society not relegated Dr. Farooq's public behaviour to the realm of entertainment and churlishness.

"When it comes to our mothers and sisters, there is no question of political statements or political point scor-

ing. Every conscientious public figure and politician should speak up and say 'Enough is Enough' — our mothers and sisters aren't objects of ridicule to be mocked, inappropriately touched in jest and harassed by a public figure who holds an important position and should behave with utmost responsibility and sensitivity to the sentiments of the people", the Mayor added.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 195 of REW POONCH 2023-24 Dated:- 12-09-2023 1<sup>st</sup> Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/JES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	WHT at W.No.6 Moh. Hari Wala NLO Farooq Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.00	200	2000	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 26-09-2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available / Demanded
2	WHT at W.No.7 Moh. Seikhan NLO Haji Yousaf Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
3	WHT at Moh Meeran W.No. 3 NLO Rafiq Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
4	WHT at Moh Meeran W.No. 3 NLO Javaid Panch Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
5	Spring Renovation at W.No.1 Moh. Saydian Dakki Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
6	WHT at Moh. Reshian W.No.1 NLO Sajad Reshi Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
7	WHT at W.No. 2 Moh. Khana NLO Aslam Khan Pyl. Fatehpur Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
8	WHT at Moh. Thapla W.No. 4 NLO Khurshid Hussain Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
9	WHT at Moh. Khiderwali W.No.4 NLO Mohd Akram Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
10	WHT at Moh. Loharan W.No.5 Near Masjid Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
11	WHT at Moh. Malik W.No. 6 NLO Ajaz Malik Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
12	WHT at Moh. Imranbagh Jabri W.No.7 NLO Manzoor Ahmed Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
13	Spring Renovation at Moh. Saydian W.No. 1 Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
14	Spring Renovation at Moh. Moori Sib W.No. 2 NLO Mohd Sadiq Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
15	Spring Renovation at Moh. Gulkaran W.No.3 Near Masjid Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.00	200	2000	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 26-09-2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available / Demanded
16	WHT at Moh. Doba W.No.5 NLO Sai Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
17	Spring Renovation at Moh. Sheikhan W.No. 6 Near Masjid Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
18	WHT at Moh Sheikhan W.No.6 Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
19	Spring Renovation at Moh. Miran W.No.6 NLO Mohd Sharief Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
20	WHT at Moh Lamberdaran W.No.7 NLO Mohd Taj Pyl. Dhara Block Sathra Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
21	Spring Renovation at W.No.7 Moh Tandian Pyl. Baila Block Mandi Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
22	Spring Renovation at W.No.5 Moh Thelan Najaran Pyl. Baila Block Mandi Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
23	Spring Renovation at Moh Hill Surma Pyl. Baila Block Mandi Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
24	WHT Mohalla Trichal W.No.04 NLO Rashid Khan Pyl. Baila Block Mandi Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
25	Spring at Moh. Kals Rakh W.No.7 Pyl. Baila Block Mandi Under PMKSY 2.0 Year 2023-24		1.00	200	2000	30 days			

NOTE: The Contractors registered with DDC, Poonch in reference to GOVT. Order No: 238-F of 2021,

Dated 07-09-2021 can participate upto an amount of Rs 3.00 Lacs, in local Panchnayat works. The already defaulted contractors are not allowed to participate in any tendering work of REW Division Poonch.

NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12-08-2023.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12-09-2023 to 25-09-2023, 1855 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	12-08-2023 from 1200 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	25-09-2023 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (In case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	26-09-2023 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

**1. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**

2. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website <https://www.jktenders.gov.in/> to acquaint bid submission process. **No: XEN/REW/P/2913-21**

Dated:- 12-09-2023

DIP/J-8221/23

Executive Engineer  
Rural Engineering Wing  
Poonch

## EDITORIAL

## SAVE EARTH

Earth is the only planet known so far in the universe where human life is possible. Human life is possible on Earth because all the elements related to the basic needs of life (water, oxygen, temperature etc.) are present here. We all need to maintain the quality of earth to continue our healthy life on earth.

Our earth is becoming increasingly polluted, due to which there is a danger of the earth's extinction. We all should take important steps to protect the earth, the Government of India is creating awareness among the people to protect the environment through slogans like Save Earth, Save Environment and Save Earth, Save Life etc.

In the present times, pollution has increased so much that our earth has become very unbalanced. Due to the imbalance of the earth, we must take immediate measures to save the earth due to the increasing threats of global warming, coral reefs, ice melting, tsunamis and epidemics.

The condition of the earth has become very bad, hence it is impossible to imagine a healthy life on earth in the future. All the basic elements that keep humans alive on earth are decreasing. All the imbalances happening on earth are happening due to the bad activities of humans. If human life and natural resources are to be maintained on Earth, then we should support the Save Earth campaign and save the Earth.

Save Earth Campaign has been started by the Government of India, under this campaign immense efforts are being made to preserve the Earth. Save Earth Campaign is a campaign through which people are motivated to remove the pollution of the Earth, hence a special day has been prepared for this, on which the Prime Minister of India and the Chief Guests will come forward to save the Earth. Motivational speeches are given to people by.

All the people around the world should use some easy and effective methods to save the earth, like we should stop pollution as much as possible. As we all know, water is life so we should save water on earth, we should use water only as per our need.

We can conserve water on earth for the future by saving water, if we use water in a certain quantity, we all can save thousands of gallons of water in just 1 day.

We should all use public transport more often or use private cars only when we need to, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

If we work in local areas, we should use bicycles and if we have to work somewhere far away or in urban areas, we should use electronic vehicles, so that air pollution will be reduced, we should not leave the heater or air conditioner on unnecessarily, the harmful gases emitted from them damage the ozone layer, which increases the destruction on the earth.

If you also want the continued existence of humans on Earth, then please plant as many trees as possible and reduce unnecessary vehicle use. If the earth remains protected, your future generations will also be able to spend their lives on earth longer and better than otherwise.

## Did eco focus, Xi absence spell Delhi G-20 success?

By: Abhijit Bhattacharyya

The just-concluded G-20 summit in New Delhi is now a part of history, made notable by the absence of the top leaders of two prominent members, both with powerful militaries, who sent others to represent them. While it was somewhat understandable for Russia's Vladimir Putin to stay away, due to his preoccupation with a "special military operation" in Ukraine, what was the logic behind the non-appearance of Beijing's overlord Xi Jinping in the middle of so much global turbulence? Mexico's President also stayed away, but he has been skipping G-20 jamborees for a long time.

Given that the G-20's focus is primarily economic, and it's not a security alliance, it's worthwhile to remember that not too long ago, in 2019, of the three absentees, China had the world's second biggest economy, Russia the 11th and Mexico the 15th.

The G-20's mood over President Xi's absence was succinctly expressed by President Joe Biden: "It would be nice to have Xi Jinping here but the summit is going well". The unstated sub-text was loud and clear: that Mr Xi's absence allowed proceedings to run smoother as the Han spanner — the biggest hazard to the economics/geopolitics of the non-Communist world — was not there.

That this was working became evident when on September 9, the summit's first day, a Beijing think tank said "India was taking advantage as G-20 summit host by promoting its own agenda to harm Chinese interests". Chinese Premier Li Qiang, who was representing Mr Xi, was visibly uncomfortable in New Delhi, missing the

pomp and show that he is used to while attending Beijing-sponsored events like the BRI, CPEC, RCEP and many others. It is little wonder then that Mr Li urged the G-20 to follow a line of "inclusion, and not confrontation". Separately, he also urged EU Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen for "unity and cooperation" between the EU and China against "global uncertainties". He couldn't appreciate the irony: Who is today the prime mover of "global uncertainties"?

Mr Li might wish to ponder why British PM Rishi Sunak would choose the Delhi G-20, of all places, to give a piece of his mind to China's PM on "significant concerns about China's interference in UK's parliamentary democracy" by planting a Han spy in the House of Commons?

In one way, China's belated apprehension about its non-presence must be a matter of self-introspection owing to the surprising regrouping of the adversely affected economies which faced Beijing's chronic unethical means to achieve its goals. Two landmark deals were unveiled on the sidelines of the G-20 summit with the signing of the memorandum of understanding on the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor between the EU, the United States, India, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other G-20 partners in a clear bid to counter the Chinese and Mr Xi's Belt and Road Initiative.

An elated President Biden hailed it as "big deal, really big deal" and his entourage referred to it as "far-reaching investments". The EU chief and several others around the world also enthusiastically participated in the announcement. Although no time schedule has been set as yet, it has certainly left no doubt in the minds of ana-

lysts on what it means and which country will see this venture with a sense of concern.

Simply put, the rail, port and corridor connectivity is one of the most optimistic, yet doable, of all conceived plans in recent times, despite the fact that the Middle East traditionally has been a volatile terrain of chronic violence between local rulers, inter- and intra-ethnic groups. It will, therefore, continue to be a big challenge for all stakeholders involved in the project — including the US, Europe and India. Without stability and ability on the part of Middle East itself to mutually accommodate various conflicting issues and interests, well-wishers from outside the region will find it hard to stick to the project time schedule. Despite being an excellent idea, it is imperative to bring the conflicting interests to an implementable, acceptable and enduring understanding to play the game by the rules.

Coming back to the surprising consensus in the G-20's New Delhi Declaration on the Ukraine war, the real question is why the United States and the West agreed to a compromise on less bellicose language, which Russia and China were ready to accept. It appears, prima facie, that economics once again triumphed. Fatigue seems to have set in, particularly in Europe, as the war which began on February 24, 2022, has gone on for 19 months, and there is no end in sight. The brutal war has already taken an enormous toll not only on the two belligerents, but on all countries. True, the West is supplying arms to Ukraine to fight and recover its "lost land" from the Russian "aggressor".

Nevertheless, as more time passes, the more the loss to the West and its allies. As none of the 50-plus West-

ern countries has the stomach to fight a prolonged conventional war, the murmurs and rumbling in the West's façade of unity is both audible and visible. From foodgrains, gas, fertilisers, finance and fuel to firepower, all is heading towards critical points. Hence, the strong voice of a united West heard in Bali in 2022 has turned somewhat feeble and muted in Delhi in 2023.

Therefore, in no G-20 country, except perhaps for some mega arms manufacturers in the US, does anyone want the war to continue. Even Russia feels the future consequence of its colossal battlefield casualties and potential crisis at home. Everyone is gasping for breath. Everyone is craving for economics. China too, despite its frequent sabre-rattling diplomacy, realises the futility of an Armageddon which could shred the fragility of its internal fraternity in areas which it goes on ruthlessly suppressing and throttling.

Amid these contrasting and competitive interests, however, the induction of the African Union was undoubtedly the best thing to happen at the 2023 Delhi summit. The admission of the 50-plus bloc was long overdue. No doubt the resource-rich African bloc's inclusion was welcomed as the economic corridor would be the basis for growth of the continent which so far had remained in the backyard of global economics.

Overall, therefore, the protracted European war appears to have instilled a sense of fear, leading to a desire for moderation. Consequently, has G-20 finally decided to return to economics as its first priority? Unfortunately, except for Ukraine, which's being goaded to face bullets alone, not one G-20 member's complaining today because all are still physically unharmed. In the bigger power play of the big boys, Ukraine is a martyr and Russia is a pariah.

## Autumn Hair Care: Tips for Healthier Hair: SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

Autumn is here and after a hot summer full of work, adventure, and heat it's time we start preparing for the new season!

While the sun's UV rays, warm windy days, pool and seawater, and weeks at the beach may have felt good, they are also likely to have taken their toll on your hair.

The cooler fall weather brings dry, cold air, which can come with all sorts of unwanted hair issues including dry and dull tresses, sensitive scalps, and extra frizz.

The change in season also requires some adjustments to be made to your hair care routine.

Kickstart your post-summer hair-care regime immediately and make sure your locks welcome the cooler seasons looking vibrant, shiny, and restored.

Here are our top hair care tips to keep your hair lush throughout the autumn months.

1---GET REGULAR TRIMS----

, It's always a good idea to trim your hair regularly, but it's even more crucial during the autumn months when your hair is more prone to break and have split ends.

A summer of sun exposure can leave your hair damaged and fried. And, the longer your hair, the more susceptible you are to breakage. Your ends are most likely left feeling ultra-dry and brittle after months of being exposed to harsh sun-

light, UV rays, chlorine, and swimming.

Make the most of the seasonal changes by adapting your autumn hair habits to match your hair's unique needs. Doing so will help transform your hair to look and feel better than ever!

Consider Autumn the perfect time for a trim or even a big chop, as a way to get rid of any of the damage that the summer could have done to your hair. A trim will rid your hair of broken ends and will instantly make it look healthier.

Speak to your stylist about cutting away split ends, or consider a fresh new style altogether.

Why not opt for a trending above-the-shoulder or lob cut? 2---MOISTURIZE YOUR HAIR-----

Give your hair an extra dose of moisture.

You see — the crisp, cold weather has a nasty way of sucking moisture from your strands, causing static and frizz. The solution is to hydrate your hair at every opportunity

Drinking water isn't the only way to make sure your hair stays hydrated and healthy. Why not go directly to the source by deep conditioning your hair a few times each month? After all, there's no better feeling than when your hair is silky and frizz-free! :

Shampoo your hair first to get it clean. Apply the conditioner on your ends and work your way to the roots. Leave

the conditioner in for around 30 minutes. This could change depending on your hair type. Rinse off the conditioner with cold water.

Consider a bi-weekly deep conditioning treatment to combat static and tangles that come with fall hats and scarves. Just a few times a week is all you need to keep your hair healthy.

Oils and serums are a simple way to add moisture to your hair during the fall season. They replace the natural sebum that your hair produces in between washing your hair.

Don't forget to use the proper product for your hair type! If you have fine or thick hair, select a shampoo and conditioner corresponding to your specific hair type.

3--LIMIT HEAT STYLING

Let your hair air dry whenever possible and avoid using heated styling tools such as hair straighteners, curlers, and hair dryers.

It can be uncomfortable to let your hair air-dry during the cold autumn months however when you allow your hair to dry naturally, you help it retain moisture and protect it from damaging hot styling tools. Using heat-activated tools can cause all sorts of damage, making it more prone to breakage especially during the autumn months. If you must use heat, use a heat-protectant (spray, serum, mouse, or cream) product beforehand. The best weapon to fight frizz

is good quality styling products, formulated specifically for the job.

4---DIET

The easiest healthy Autumn hair care tip you can practice that will lead to beautifully hydrated hair is good nutrition.

Vitamins are a great way to nourish your body, but they are also a great way to impact your hair. Vitamin A, vitamin C, biotin, and iron are all vitamins that will help your hair look shinier and healthier

Vitamin D is essential to healthy hair growth.. " Oily fish, red meat, egg yolks, and fortified foods are all rich in vitamin D.

Dark leafy vegetables like kale and spinach, which contain iron and vitamins C and A, will keep your tresses super strong, and of course

What does your hair need?

Everyone has different hair, and because of that, they might need different treatments throughout the drier months of fall. If you feel like your hair is lacking, but you're not sure what to do, Please don't hesitate to get in touch with a hair expert in the nearest salon today

*(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)*

# Amit Kapoor accuses officials of HED for playing with future of children

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Under the New Education Policy, children are being left out due to making admission in colleges of Jammu complicated, Amit Kapoor accused the officials of Higher Education Department of playing with the future of children.

Kashmir University has given children the option to choose the subjects of their choice and the nearest college.

People of Jammu are being forced to go to outside states, portals of local colleges have been closed. Jammu, 14 September.

President of Dogra Welfare Organization, Amit Kapoor, has slammed the Higher Education Department for making admissions in colleges of Jammu complicated under the New Education Policy-2020, accusing its senior officials of playing with the future of children. Amit Kapoor said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu.

He said that for the past several days, the children taking admission in colleges and their parents have been continuously pleading with him that this time the Higher Education



Department has deliberately made the process of their admission so complicated that they have to go to four colleges at the same time.

Despite applying in four colleges, I am not able to get admission. Apart from this, Kapoor said that children are being coerced and forced to take admission in such subjects which they have never even studied.

Amit Kapoor said that science students are being forcefully pushed into arts stream subjects and arts stream children are being forced to take admission in subjects like music, computer, Sanskrit, Dogri, Urdu, Punjabi.

More importantly, children who score up to 90 percent are wandering from door to door. They are sitting here collecting fees from three colleges so that they can get

admission somewhere.

He said that in contrast to all this, Kashmir University, like every year, this year too, bypassing all the paper rules of CUET and non-CUET, has given the children of its areas the option of choosing subjects of their choice and nearby colleges and all Kashmiri children are taking admission easily, while on the other hand Jammu University and Cluster University Jammu have kept the portals of local colleges closed for our children. He said that the Higher Education Department has created a situation for the children of Jammu that they have only one option left to either go out of UT for the studies of their choice and take admission in the colleges of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Bangalore.

Or apply for the col-

leges of Srinagar, Anantnag or Baramulla, because the portals of the colleges there are still open for the children and due to this compulsion, hundreds of boys and girls of Jammu have taken admission in the colleges outside.

Such information has been received that this time all this problem is happening due to the incompetence and stubbornness of the higher education department heads sitting in the secretariat, till no order comes from there, the college will not take any decision at its level.

While they want to speed up the admission of children, due to these complications, the staff of colleges and universities of Jammu are completely helpless and helpless in this matter.

Now, September is also about to end, class-

es should have started by now, but due to these government hurdles, only 50-60 percent of the admissions in all the main colleges of Jammu have been covered so far.

Every week a new round of admission starts and children are moving from college to college. You see the incompetence of the system that CBSE 12th results in Jammu have been declared from 12th May and Jammu and Kashmir Board results from 9th June.

Today, more than three months have passed since the declaration of 12th results, but due to these admission problems, the classes of BA, BSE, BCom, BBA and BCA etc. have not started yet. How useless has this system become?

Today, for two months, children of Kargil, Kathua, Poonch, Reasi, Udhampur and their parents are staying in hotels and houses of relatives wondering whether their names appear in this list or in the next list.

He has warned the government to abandon its policy of harassing the people of Jammu and the children of Jammu, otherwise he will start a strong movement against it.

# UIET celebrates Engineer's Day



## TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Sep 15: University Institute of Engineering & Technology (UIET), Kathua Campus, University of Jammu in collaboration with Students for Holistic Development of Humanity (SHoDH) celebrated National Engineer's Day and paying tribute to Bharat Ratna Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, a prolific civic engineer, educationist, economist, scholar of the 20th century, who made significant contributions in the field of engineering. On this occasion, engineering students of the campus proposed various innovative ideas for the sustainable development. Moreover, a motivational seminar was organized on the theme "Engineers for Vishwaguru Bharat". Dr. Shashank D. Kulkarni from Department of Public Policy and Public Administration, Central University of Jammu was the resource person.

Dr. Kulkarni highlight-

ed the role of Indian engineers for significantly contributing to the vision of making India a "Vishwaguru" or a global leader by leveraging their expertise, innovation, and problem-solving skills across various domains. He also said the engineers play a crucial role in leading a country's development and progress in various ways. Further, he added that the contributions of engineers are instrumental in shaping infrastructure, technology, and innovation, which are all essential for economic growth, social well-being, and national security.

Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu opined that the engineers are leaders in driving a country's development, competitiveness, and sustainability. She added that by aligning efforts with India's vision of being a global leader, engineers can contribute substantially to making

India a "Vishwaguru". She underscored that the vision encompasses not only economic leadership but also cultural, environmental, and societal aspects, and engineers can be instrumental in achieving these objectives through their skills, dedication, and commitment to progress.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/c Coordinator, UIET underscored the engineer's role in addressing global challenges for a sustainable future and highlighted how technology has to play the role of a catalyst for increasing engineering efficiency, in order to meet the demands of tomorrow.

Kuljeet Singh, State Convener, SHoDH, J&K spoke on the life and achievements of Sir M Visvesvaraya.

Er. Arooshi Gupta coordinated the whole programme and Er. Himani Khajuria delivered vote of thanks. The faculty members and students of the Campus were also present during the programme.

# Yuvamanthan Model G20 Summit 2023 organized in CUJ

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) organized the 'Yuvamanthan Model G20'. This remarkable initiative was held under the visionary leadership of Prof Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor and Dr. Ritu Bakhshi, Dean Students Welfare.

The Y20 summit model, aimed at channeling the energy and potential of young minds, saw participation from a large number of enthusiastic students. Dr. Amita Gupta, Assistant Professor at the Centre for Comparative Religion and Civilization (CCRC), coordinated the event. The summit witnessed the participation of over 72 students acting as leaders of G20 nations.

India's assumption of the G20 presidency from December 2022 is a defining moment in its history, aiming to foster pragmatic global solutions and embody the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (One Earth - One Family - One Future), the theme of G20. Acknowledging the crucial role of India's youth in an interconnected world, Yuvamanthan Model G20 (YMG20) provides a platform for their inclusion, amplifying their voices on socio-political issues.

Key outcomes of the discussion included consensus on Peace building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War. The participants also emphasized the importance of knowledge sharing among G20 nations.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor on the occasion emphasized the University's commitment to fostering practical discussions and

nurturing essential skills in youth. Yuvamanthan Model G20 provides a significant learning opportunity for students to develop skills like public speaking, strategy building, team building and multilateral negotiations, among others and contribute to a better world. He congratulated Dr. Ritu Bakhshi and her team for this innovative approach to provide the students a real-world experience of international relations and diplomacy.

Addressing the students, the special guests of honour on the occasion were Prof. B. S. Bhau, Prof Deepak Pathania, Prof Vandana Sharma, Prof Jaya Bhaseen, highlighting the opportunity for innovative ideas to shape a sustainable and inclusive world. He remarked, "In today's age, the youth are not just the leaders of tomorrow but are influencing change today. Through platforms like the 'Yuvamanthan Model G20', innovative ideas can transform into solutions, leading us to a more sustainable and inclusive world. Every thought, every discussion here is a step forward towards that dream."

In the conclusion of the summit, teams and individuals were recognized for their outstanding performance. For the Best Team category, the first prize was bagged by India, represented by the dynamic duo of Sooraj Bhan and Dipeesh Kumar. Brazil followed closely in second place with representatives Rupali Singh and Sachin Kumar. The third prize went to Australia's Sachiv Gupta and Stuti Sharma, while

the consolation prize was awarded to Indonesia, represented by Ankit Mishra and Rajni Sharma.

For the Best Head of State category, the first prize went to Indonesia's representative, Ankit Mishra. The second prize was clinched by Japan with Abhigya Langeh as their representative, while the third prize was awarded to the European Union, represented by Nahila Tabassum. The United States, represented by Harsh Pratap Singh Hada, took home the consolation prize.

In the Best Finance Minister category, India's Dipeesh Kumar took the top prize. The second prize was claimed by Russia's Aditya Singh, and the third prize went to Australia, represented by Stuti Sharma. The consolation prize in this category went to the United States, represented by Vipin Tiwari.

Lastly, the prestigious Best Leader prize was awarded to Sooraj Bhan Sharma for his exceptional leadership qualities.

Dr. Vinay Kumar (ADSW) took the opportunity to extend heartfelt gratitude to all the organising team members. "The success of this summit is a testament to the team's hard work, dedication, and collective effort. I express my deep gratitude to each one of them," he remarked.

This 'Yuvamanthan Model G20' has undoubtedly set a benchmark in blending academics with practical exposure, helping students to understand the intricacies of global politics and decision-making.

# Centre for Women's Studies, JU organises Gender Sensitization Workshop

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: The Centre for Women's Studies, in collaboration with Department of Geology, University of Jammu organized 2nd workshop under ongoing series for the students and scholars of the Geology on Friday, 15th, September 2023. Prof. Sarika Manhas, Faculty, Department of Home Science, University of Jammu was the resource person. The workshop was planned under the able guidance and vision of Prof. Anju Bhasin Head, Department of Geology and Prof. Vishav Raksha Director, Centre for Women's Studies. The workshop began with the welcome address by Prof. S. K. Pandita, Faculty from Department of Geology who in his address emphasized on the importance of such workshops and appreciated the efforts of the Centre to conduct the same for their



students and scholars as well. Further he also acknowledged that such types of workshops are much required especially for the students of Science Departments.

Further Prof. Vishav Raksha, Director, Centre for Women's Studies formally welcomed all the participants and explained the motive behind the conduct of such workshops. She said that we all should acknowledge the differences that exist in the society, and

we have to understand the fact that the opportunity for all can be the same but how it is given to different genders is important. She also explained that through such workshops we are trying to inculcate the gender sensitivity among the students as they are the flag bearers of change in the society.

Prof. Sarika Manhas, the key resource person for the workshop, spoke about the relevance of Gender sensitization

workshops especially for the students and scholars and said that this lecture can be a helpful tool in creating sensitive and inclusive society. She gave insights on the concept of Sex vs. Gender, Masculinity and Femininity and explained how gender is a socially and culturally constructed. Further she elaborated the concept of Gender Roles, Gender Stereotypes, Gender Typing and various causes of Gender Discrimination

and Inequality in the society. While interacting with the participants she also suggested the various ways through which we can overcome the Gender discrimination in the society.

Faculty members, Research Scholars and Students of Department of Geology very actively participated in the workshop and shared their personal experiences and raised many queries on the issues like Gender roles, Stereotyping, Safety concerns of the women, patriarchy in the family and inter-generational gaps and societal expectations as women and men. The workshop was conducted and coordinated by Dr. Saranjit Kaur, and the formal vote of thanks was presented by Ms. Kunzang Angmo both Faculty, Centre for Women's Studies. The office staff of the Geology looked after the digital modalities of the workshop.

# JKBS remembers Jasdev Yamla

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) members arranged a special meet here on Friday in memory of Jasdev Yamla who hailed from Jawahar Nagar, Ludhiana and belonged to Chanjotra clan of Batwal Community. Speaking during the meet, the JKBS's General Secretary Mr R.L.Kaith said, Jasdev Yamla's entrance to Punjab Music Industry was very different from most people. Most of the famous singers struggled hard to find a position and struggled

equally hard, often unsuccessfully to retain that position. However, Jasdev easily slid into Punjabi Music Industry without any real effort. The reason for this was through the influence of his father Lal Chand Yamla who is said to be the Doyen of Punjabi Music Industry.

Jasdev was trained in vocal singing by his father and worked alongwith many other renowned artists. He with his distinctive voice, has given to the world of Punjabi music the most superhit songs. Besides, he is credited with creating and popularising the 'Chhalla.

# Vikramaditya pays rich tributes to valiant officers for supreme sacrifice

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Vikramaditya Singh, former MLC on Thursday expressed shock and grief over the martyrdom of three Indian brave hearts including a colonel and major of a Rashtriya Rifles unit, and a Deputy Superintendent of Jammu and Kashmir Police during an encounter with terrorists in Anantnag district.

In a statement issued to media persons, the



former MLC said that the outcome of the encounter was tragic as the loss is big and shocking. Paying rich tributes to the brave hearts of the

motherland, Vikramaditya Singh extended profound condolences to the families of the martyrs. He said that though the loss of sons of soil in this manner is a big jolt to the country but this cowardice act of enemies of the nation should not deter India from continuing its efforts to ensure peace and development in the region for which it has taken a strong resolve and working on it since long.

## Jackie Shroff says he's seen Tiger Shroff get upset when his films fail: 'He sits home, all sad'



NEW DELHI: Jackie Shroff said in a new interview that his son Tiger Shroff gets bogged down when his films don't work, but he knows how to bounce back.

Jackie Shroff said that it's in Tiger Shroff's DNA to bounce back after every failure. In an interview on Jio Cinema, Jackie said that when Tiger's films fail at the box office, he gets bogged down. However, Jackie helps his son embrace the moment and get back up after every fall. (Also Read: Jackie Shroff's words of wisdom on India's name change to Bharat: 'Naam badlega, hum thodi badlege')

Jackie said that when Tiger's films fail, "He sits home, all sad, of course he feels a little

heart break. It hurts but he knows how to recover. So then I tell him that he has to rise after every fall. He does a lot of mehnat (hard work) after that it is the game of all the technicians, my child gives his one hundred percent. When he is appreciated for his work and effort I feel good, that is for every parent when their child does well. People have been showering their love for him, else it is up to the almighty, baaki kya bindaas (everything else is fine)."

In the same interview, Jackie claimed that he's never found any of his roles tough to portray. "Apna kya hai, apna saara difficulty director ka hai. Ek bar usne mujhe picture mei le liya, fir mai toh bachche jaise ghul jata hu. Baki

tension uska hai. Director hai, technicians hain, editor hai, camera person hai, music composer hai, fir apan ko kya tension. Apan toh bas close up dene aaya hai" (I don't find any of my roles difficult. I rely on the director. Once he's signed me for a film, then I just get lost like the kid in a candy store. It's upto him how he wants to mould me. There are technicians too, editor, camera person, music composer, then why should I stress out? I'm just there to give my close-up," Jackie said.

Jackie was last seen in a cameo in Rajinikanth's Tamil blockbuster Jailer. He'll next be seen in the action ensemble Baap. Tiger will be next seen in Ahmed Khan's dystopian action film Ganpath.

## Bambai Meri Jaan producer Farhan Akhtar: 'The show is not about Dawood Ibrahim or Haji Mastan'

MUMBAI: Farhan Akhtar and Bambai Meri Jaan creator Rensil D'Silva talk about the new show in an exclusive interview with Hindustan Times.

Farhan Akhtar and Rensil D'Silva, who've together made the new web series Bambai Meri Jaan, have said that the show is not about dreaded gangsters Dawood Ibrahim or Haji Mastan. In an exclusive interview with Hindustan Times, the filmmakers insisted it is a new and fictional story that is set in the familiar world of Mumbai's underworld. Farhan has produced the show under his banner Excel Entertainment while Rensil, alongside director Shujaat Saudagar, is

the show creator. (Also read| Kritika on her Bambai Meri Jaan character: 'An alpha woman, but not tomboyish')

Talking about what makes the audience watch crime dramas, Farhan said, "Intriguing for sure. We find it fascinating to understand what makes a mind behave criminally. That is the reason we feel like we want to watch it because we want to understand a person like that. We want to understand how that kind of mind works."

Asked if the show is about gangsters Dawood Ibrahim or Haji Mastan, show creator Rensil D'silva said, "No it is not. It is not. It (Dawood and Haji's

references) might be something that seeped into the consciousness of the audience because of Hussain Zaidi's involvement in the show. (But) He has created a fictional story and he brought it to Farhan and Ritesh. They liked it and then it came to me. Every fiction is inspired by something real, but I can assure you) this show is totally fictional." Farhan also said that the 'show is not about Dawood or Haji', but is a fictional one.

Hussain Zaidi has been credited for the story of Bambai Meri Jaan. He has reported on the underworld for many years and he has even written several books about it. Many

of his books, including Class of 83 and Mafia Queens of Mumbai, have had cinematic adaptations.

Rebuilding the sets twice

Talking about the obstacles that the producers overcame, while making Bambai Meri Jaan, Farhan recalled, "The big trouble (we overcame) was, of course, the pandemic. (It was a major road-block) for us, as well as everyone else. That put us on hold twice. We had two lockdowns, then even when the lockdowns were eased, there were so many restrictions on shootings. There was a limit on the number of people who could gather at one

place. All of that took a long time. Were also hit by the cyclone (Cyclone Tauktae in 2021) and we had to rebuild the set after it was destroyed by the cyclone. I must credit the entire team for not giving up on the project despite all those obstacles."

Kay Kay Menon and Avinash Tiwary play the lead roles of an honest cop, and son Dara, who wants to be Mumbai's top gangster in Bambai Meri Jaan. The show also features Kritika Kamra as Dara's sister Habiba. Despite all the denials, Dara's character arc resembles Dawood while glimpses of his sister Haseena Parkar are clearly visible in Habiba.

## Twinkle Khanna shares pics with son Aarav on his 21st birthday

NEW DELHI: Twinkle Khanna and Akshay Kumar's son Aarav turned 21 on September 15. To mark the occasion, Twinkle took to Instagram and shared a sweet birthday post.

Proud mom Twinkle Khanna spoke about her son Aarav's 'unfailing kindness' as she wished him on his birthday.

The actor-turned-author took to Instagram on Friday to celebrate Aarav's 21st birthday with a heartfelt post. Along with a recent picture of the mother-son duo, she also posted a throwback image from Aarav's childhood. In the

accompanying caption, Twinkle compared raising a child to 'building a house'. Also read: Twinkle Khanna says son Aarav sent her flowers; wants him to write an apology letter for this reason

She wrote in her caption, "All of 21 and technically a grown man! Raising a child is a bit like building a house and designing each room. You do the best you can, and finally, it's time to hand over the house to its rightful owner who will rearrange the furniture the way they like and pay the bills as well:) Happy birthday my

son, and may your unfailing kindness continue bringing a smile to everyone who knows you."

Last year, Twinkle had said that she had funded her and actor Akshay Kumar's children's education. Apart from son Aarav, they share a daughter, Nitara. On her channel Tweak India, Twinkle had said that she took a Masters course from her own savings.

Twinkle had said, "So I'm using, what would have been my daughters college fund, to fund myself. I've always made sure that I'm the one paying for

their education. I want them to say that my mother paid for my education, and not just fed me aloo parathas."

Twinkle made her acting debut with Barsaat in 1995; after her 2001 film Love Ke Liya Kuch Bhi Karega she quit her acting career. In 2015, Twinkle made her debut as a writer with Mrs Funnybones. She followed it up with an anthology of stories titled The Legend Of Lakshmi Prasad, which was released in 2017, and the fiction novel Pyjamas Are Forgiving, which came out the following year.

## 'Our system is insensitive towards health challenges of elderly': Director Vishaal Nityaanand

MUMBAI: As the world celebrates Alzheimer's month this September, it would be worth watching a short film—Life Flows On—that puts the spotlight on those living with dementia.

Directed by Vishaal Nityaanand, the film was recently screened at the Nehru Centre in Worli in the presence of founder of Alzheimer's & Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI) Mumbai, Dr Vidya Shenoy, Dr Zoya Ali Rizvi, Deputy Commissioner, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Dr Sanjay Bhide, Convenor and Secretary Trans Asian Chamber Commerce & Industry and others.

The story is about three persons living with dementia and is told through multiple narratives—that of father, a mother and a daughter, all of who are living with dementia and are trying to find themselves in a world that simply whizzes by, and fails to understand and empathise with those battling the challenges of dementia and other mental illnesses.

The film, made with an Indian-European cast and crew including Tom Alter, Norwegian actress Astri G, French actor Micheal, German actress Allegra Dun and actors Satyabrata Rawat and Gajendra Verma, released in 2017 for the festival circuit and has gained acclaim across the world at multiple festivals. The aim of the film, says Nityaanand is to create awareness regarding mental illnesses and to sensitise people. "To remember people who can't remember themselves.



This is a film dedicated to the global dementia challenge and to elderly care.

"80 per cent of the film was shot in Uttarakhand, is released in association with Carnival Cinemas. The film had its world premiere on World Elderly Day on October 1 at the seventh Jagran Film Festival in Mumbai. The one hour 45 minute film is set for a theatrical release soon.

Talking about the movie, Nityaanand said: "I got involved with the issue a few years back when I came across some real stories from different parts of India, of senior citizens suffering from Alzheimer's, shunned by their families. It is not that all families do the same, but our system is so insensitive towards such serious health challenges of elderly, especially in rural India. We have not only largest youth population but the most rapidly growing elderly

population... When we will think of concrete policy and infrastructure for healthy aging?" he asks.

World Alzheimer's Day is observed on September 21 each year to raise awareness and challenge the stigma surrounding the disease. According to the WHO, Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia and may contribute to 60-70 per cent of cases. As per medical journals, the estimated dementia prevalence for adults ages 60+ in India is 7.4 per cent.

About 8.8 million Indians older than 60 years live with dementia. Dementia is more prevalent among females than males and in rural than urban areas. "The issue must be highlighted and the infrastructure required to make those living with dementia feel safe and secured, must be provided at the earliest," said Nityaanand.

## Deepika Padukone did not charge a penny for 'Jawan'

NEW DELHI: Actress Deepika Padukone is Bollywood's most successful female celebrity. Two of her most recent works—Pathaan and Jawan, in which she has a cameo—have scripted box office records. While she receives praise from fans for her role in Jawan, she revealed that she does not charge a fee for special appearances in films.

"Any special appearance for Shah Rukh Khan, I am there," she told THE WEEK in an exclusive interview. In the extended cameo in Jawan, Deepika plays the role of the protagonist Azad's (SRK) mother.



Deepika also shared about her bond with Shah Rukh and the deep trust they share. Jawan,

starring Shah Rukh and Nayanthara, registered the biggest-ever opening for a Hindi film and

has raked in over Rs 600 crore at the global box office. The actress further

said that she did not charge for her performance in sports drama 83 as well. Headlined by Ranveer Singh, 83 is based on India's historic World Cup win in 1983. While Ranveer essayed former Indian captain Kapil Dev in the Kabir Khan-directorial, Deepika played the role of Kapil's wife Romi Bhatia.

Deepika, who also co-produced the film, said: "I wanted to be a part of 83 because I wanted it to be an ode to women who stand behind their husbands' glory. I watched my mother do it. This was my homage to wives who make sacrifices to support their husbands' careers."

## Netflix renews 'One Piece' for Season 2

NEW DELHI: Popular adventure series One Piece will be returning for a second season, Netflix announced on Friday.

Eiichiro Oda, executive producer of the show and creator of the original Japanese manga One Piece, announced the new season in a special video message shared by the streaming platform.

"It seems people around the world have been enjoying the show, which makes the hard work from the production team truly worth it. To everyone who's been a fan of One Piece for years, and to those who experienced One Piece for the first time, thank you so much.

"Two weeks after the launch, I just received some great news: Netflix has decided to renew the show! The adventures of Inaki and the live-action Straw Hats will continue onward!



It'll still take a while to get the scripts ready, so please be patient. From here on, it seems to me

the Straw Hats will need a great doctor We will see!" Oda said in the clip.

Since its premiere on August 31, One Piece has been one of the most popular and top

rated shows on Netflix.

"It follows Inaki Godoy's Monkey D. Luffy on a legendary high-seas adventure. After finally deciding to follow his dreams of freedom, he assembles a crew, finds a ship to sail and sets out on a treasure hunt to become King of the Pirates. But along the way, he and his crew must face the harsh sea and dangerous rivals," the official plotline reads.

The series is created by Matt Owens and Steven Maeda. It also stars Mackenyu as Roronoa Zoro, Emily Rudd as Nami, Jacob Romero Gibson as Usopp and Taz Skylar as Sanji.

The One Piece manga book series was first published in 1997 and has sold more than 460 million copies worldwide. It has also been adapted into an anime series, video games and a series of feature films in Japan.

## Emotional scenes as mortal remains of Major Dhonchak consigned to flames at native village

CHANDIGARH, Sep 15 (Agencies): The mortal remains of Major Ashish Dhonchak, who died fighting terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, were consigned to the flames on Friday with full military honours at his native village in Panipat as thousands of mourners joined the grieving family and officers for his final journey.

The body reached his home in the Panipat town this morning and was taken to his native Binjhol village in an Army vehicle where the last rites were conducted after a wreath-laying ceremony and a gun salute.

It took nearly three hours for the funeral procession to cover a distance of about eight km from the martyr's home in the town to reach his Binjhol village as mourners gathered to bid him a tearful adieu.

Senior Army officials, villagers and scores of others joined the martyr's family members at the funeral.

Major Dhonchak's family had been living in a rented accommodation at Panipat and had planned to shift to a new house in Panipat in October. The neighbours now say they never knew he would return in a coffin wrapped in the tricolour.

Scores of people turned up on Friday morning at the resi-



dence of Dhonchak in Panipat when his mortal remains reached. His family members were inconsolable.

Schoolchildren carrying the tricolour were seen on a large stretch of road as the funeral procession moved from his Panipat home to the village.

Patriotic slogans -- "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Jab tak suraj chand rahega, Ashish tera naam rahega" -- rent the air. A large number of women had also turned up along the route and paid their tributes to the soldier.

"We are devastated at the loss but at the same time proud that Major Ashish made the supreme sacrifice for the nation," said an elderly villager.

Dhonchak's family includes his wife, a two-year-old daughter and three sisters.

Meanwhile, mortal

remains of Colonel Manpreet Singh, who was also killed in the gunfight, reached his hometown in Mullanpur in Mohali district where last rites will be conducted shortly.

Col Manpreet Singh's six-year-old son, wearing an military camouflage, offered a salute as the mortal remains of his father reached home in Mullanpur. The Army officer also leaves behind a two-year-old daughter.

An Army officer was seen holding Manpreet's son as the family and others paid their last respects.

Col Manpreet's wife, sister, mother and other family members were inconsolable.

Three Army personnel, including the colonel and the major, and a deputy superintendent of the Jammu and Kashmir Police were killed in the gunfight with ter-

rorists in the higher reaches of the Kokorena area in the valley on Wednesday.

At Colonel Manpreet Singh's house in Mullanpur, there was a steady stream of mourners.

Earlier in the morning, his wailing mother was seen waiting at the doorsteps for his mortal remains. A third-generation soldier, Singh leaves behind his mother, wife, a two-year-old daughter and a six-year-old son.

The martyr's younger brother was also inconsolable.

Singh, the commanding officer of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, Dhonchak and Deputy Superintendent of Police Humayun Bhat were critically injured in the gunfight in the Garol area of Anantnag district in the morning hours of Wednesday.

The officers succumbed to injuries during treatment.

## Nuh violence: Congress MLA Mamman Khan arrested; Section 144 imposed in district

CHANDIGARH, Sep 15 (Agencies): Congress MLA Mamman Khan has been arrested in connection with the communal clashes that broke out on July 31 in Haryana's Nuh. Satish Kumar, Ferozpur Jhirka Deputy Superintendent of Police and the head of the Special Investigation Team investigating the case, confirmed the arrest.

The Ferozpur Jhirka MLA was arrested on Thursday night after being named an accused in an FIR.

Khan will be produced in front of the court on Friday, after which the police will seek his custody for thorough interrogation. Security has been tightened in and around the court complex in Nuh.

His arrest comes after the state government informed the High Court on Tuesday that Khan had been named in the FIR on September 4 after police gathered phone call records and other evidence implicating him in the communal clashes. "In FIR No.149 dated August 1, 2023, registered under Sections 148, 149, 153-A, 379-A, 436, 506 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 at Police Station Nagina, District Nuh, Haryana; there are 52 accused persons out of which 42 persons have been arrested. One Taufiq, who is also an accused in the FIR



was arrested on August 9th, and Taufiq named Mamman Khan as one of the accused in this case."

According to the state government, the investigation revealed that the key accused Taufiq contacted Mamman Khan on July 29th and 30th -- one day before the Nuh clashes. Tower location hinted that Khan was within an area of 1.5 km from the place of occurrence on July 29th and 30th. This proved Khan's argument that he was not in Nuh in the days leading to the incident void.

Two police officials have also confirmed that Khan was within a range of 1.5 km from the place of occurrence on July 29th and 30th. Also, Mamman Khan had posted on Whatsapp and Facebook on July 30th that 'nobody needs to worry as the petitioner had fought for them in the Vidhan Sabha and will fight for

them in Mewat also.'

The state further submitted before the court that another accused Abdulla Khan, who is still at large, had mentioned "Engineer Mamman Khan MLA Mission complete."

Haryana's counsel added that Khan was sent a notice for questioning on August 25. He replied on August 31st, saying he was unwell and sought 10 days to join the investigation. He didn't turn up even after 10 days.

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had addressed the Mamman Khan case at a press conference in Chandigarh on Wednesday. "If during investigations he is found involved then he will not be spared," he said.

Meanwhile, section 144 has been imposed in the state following the arrest. A huge posse of police have been deployed, including a team of Rapid Action

Force.

The communal clashes occurred after a Vishva Hindu Parishad-led procession was attacked by mobs in Nuh. Six people were killed, most of them during the attack. A cleric died in an attack on a mosque in adjoining Gurugram.

Meanwhile, Khan has claimed that he was being framed in the case when he wasn't even in Nuh the day the violence broke out. His counsel told the court on Tuesday that Khan has only now come to know that he has been named in the FIR. The court had said Khan can seek appropriate remedy "for protection of liberty in accordance with law", the counsel had said.

In his petition, Khan stated that he was at his Gurugram residence between July 26 to August 1 and did not go to the places where the violence had occurred.

## Chaos in Assam assembly over allegations against Himanta's wife

GUWAHATI, Sept 15 (Agencies): Chaos rocked the Assam assembly on Friday as opposition MLAs demonstrated seeking a discussion over the allegation that a company linked to CM Himanta Biswa Sarma's wife got government subsidy, leading to three adjournments before they walked out of the House for the rest of the day.

Raising the issue during Question Hour, Congress MLA Kamalakhya Dey Purkayastha asked Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Jogen Mohan if the plot of land in the Kaliabor area was allotted to Riniki Bhuyan Sarma's company under the state's 'Basundhara' scheme.

He also asked what documents were submitted to seek the allotment of the land, in connection with which the company allegedly received the central subsidy.

Speaker Biswajit Daimary maintained that the matter was not related to the original question listed by Purkayastha and that the chief minister was not present in the House.

However, Purkayastha persisted with the question, with several ministers getting on their feet and trading barbs with the opposition legislators.

As the chaos continued, the speaker adjourned the House for 30 minutes.

After the House reconvened, leader of opposi-



tion Debabrata Saikia of the Congress drew the attention of the Chair to the notice he gave for the discussion of the matter during Zero Hour.

As Deputy Speaker Numal Momin, who was in the chair, did not allow an immediate discussion, Congress MLAs along with the lone CPI(M) legislator and an Independent MLA trooped to the Well of the House, and began a dharna.

Saikia also demanded an inquiry into the allegations against the chief minister's wife.

The MLAs of the ruling BJP also went to the Well, and the chaos escalated. As both sides refused to budge, the House was adjourned for 5 minutes.

When the House reassembled after the second adjournment, the chaos continued with the opposition MLAs raising slogans against the government from the Well.

Asking them to return to their seats, Momin said, "You will be allowed (to raise the matter), but you have to keep patience."

As BJP MLAs also got into the Well, and the ruckus went on, the House was again adjourned for 15 minutes. When the House gathered again, deputy leader of opposition Rakibul Hussain said that as the Chair did not allow immediate discussion, the Congress MLAs were walking out for the rest of the day.

The lone CPI(M) MLA and the Independent MLA also joined them.

The land and subsidy issue also rocked the assembly on Thursday, following which the opposition staged a walkout.

The chief minister had on Thursday said he was willing to accept any punishment, including retirement from public life, if there was any evidence that his wife or her company, Pride East Entertainment, received or claimed any amount from the Centre.

Congress Deputy Leader in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi on Wednesday alleged that the company got a credit subsidy of Rs 10 crore from the Centre under a scheme.

## 20 pc poorest bear maximum brunt of price rise on daily basis, Cong slams Modi Govt on inflation

NEW DELHI, Sep 15 (Agencies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge slammed the BJP-led Centre on Friday on the issue of inflation, claiming that the 20 per cent poorest people in the country bear the maximum brunt of price rise on a daily basis. Kharge asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi not to divert from real issues and to focus on reducing prices so that the sufferings of people come to an end.

"Don't talk here and there, talk about the real issues. By talking here and there, Modiji wants to divert the public's attention from 'looting by inflation'," the Congress chief said in a post in Hindi on X.



"Due to the 'grand loot' of the Modi government, the poorest 20 per cent people are bearing the brunt of the back-breaking inflation," he added. Kharge said the prices of food items are skyrocketing and the country has now realised that

the only reason for their troubles is the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"In the coming elections, the public will definitely take revenge for this 'loot' by teaching a lesson to the BJP," he claimed.

"On the issue of infla-

tion -- 'Judega Bharat, Jeetega INDIA'," the Congress leader said, citing the tagline of the opposition INDIA bloc.

Kharge also posted official data to claim that the 20 per cent poorest people in the country face a 7.2-per cent inflation in rural areas and a 7.6-per cent inflation in cities. On the other hand, the top 20 per cent on the list of rich people face a 6.7-per cent inflation in rural areas and a 6.5-per cent inflation in cities.

He also shared data to say according to the latest figures, the inflation rate of essential food items is around 10 per cent, with arhar dal having a price rise of 37.1 per cent, spices 28.6 per cent and onions 23.2 percent, while that of milk and rice is 9.4 per cent and 9.1 per cent respectively.

The Congress has been hitting out at the Centre on the issue of inflation and rising prices.

## Hemant Soren's plea against ED summons to be heard on Sep 18

NEW DELHI, Sep 15 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday adjourned to September 18 the hearing on Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren's plea against the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) summons in an alleged money laundering case.

A bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M Trivedi deferred the matter after it was informed that senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi would appear in the matter for Soren.

"I am requesting the matter be heard on



Monday. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi is leading us," a junior counsel said.

The bench agreed to the submission. Soren has moved the

apex court challenging the summons sent to him to depose on August 14 at the federal agency's office in Ranchi and record his statement under the

Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Earlier, Soren had skipped the ED summons in an alleged defence land scam case citing pre-scheduled events. The 48-year-old Jharkhand Mukti Morcha leader was interrogated for over nine hours by the ED on November 17 last year in connection with another money laundering case linked to alleged illegal mining in the state.

The central probe agency is investigating more than a dozen land deals, including one related to defence

land, wherein a group of mafia, middlemen and bureaucrats allegedly connived to forge deeds and documents of as long back as 1932.

The ED has arrested several people so far in the state, including Soren's political aide Pankaj Mishra.

Soren was initially summoned by the ED on November 3, 2022 but he did not appear citing official engagements. He had even dared the central probe agency to arrest him and then sought a three-week deferment of the summons.

## Zelenskyy is expected to visit Washington as Congress is debating USD 24 billion in aid for Ukraine



WASHINGTON, Sep 15 (Agencies): Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is expected at the White House and on Capitol Hill next week as he visits the US during the United Nations General Assembly.

Zelenskyy's trip comes as Congress is debating President Joe Biden's request to provide as much as USD 24 billion in military and humanitarian aid for Ukraine as it fights the Russian invasion.

An administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive visit, said Zelenskyy will meet with Biden at the White House next Thursday. The trip to the Capitol was confirmed by two congressional aides granted anonymity to discuss the plans.

The Ukrainian presi-

dent made a wartime visit to Washington in December 2022 and delivered an impassioned address to a joint meeting of Congress. At the time it was his first known trip outside his country since Russia invaded in February of that year.

In his speech to cheering lawmakers, Zelenskyy thanked Americans for helping to fund the war effort and said that the money is "not charity," but an "investment" in global security and democracy.

Details of Zelenskyy's visit next week were not yet being made public. It was first reported by PUNCHBOWL NEWS.

The White House National Security Council declined to comment on Zelenskyy's plans, including whether he would meet with Biden at the White House. Meanwhile, the Treas-

ury and State departments announced they were imposing new sanctions on more than 150 individuals and entities connected with Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said the US was "continuing our relentless work to target Russia's military supply chains and deprive (Russian President Vladimir) Putin of the equipment, technology, and services he needs to wage his barbaric war on Ukraine".

Congress is increasingly divided over providing additional funding for Ukraine as the war is well into its second year. Biden has sought a package of USD 13.1 billion in additional military aid for Ukraine and USD 8.5 billion for humanitarian support. It also includes USD 2.3 billion for financing and to catalyse donors through the World Bank.

But conservative Republican lawmakers have been pushing for broad federal spending cuts and some of those allied with Donald Trump, the former president, are specifically looking to stop money to Ukraine.

Congress is working to pass its annual appropriations bills before a September 30 deadline to keep the US government running.

## North Korea's Kim gets a close look at Russian fighter jets as his tour narrows its focus to weapons

SEOUL, Sep 15 (Agencies): North Korean leader Kim Jong Un peered into the cockpit of Russia's most advanced fighter jet as he toured an aircraft factory Friday on an extended and rare foreign trip that has raised concerns about banned weapons transfer deals between increasingly isolated countries.

Since entering Russia aboard his armored train on Tuesday, Kim has met President Vladimir Putin and visited weapons and technology sites, underscoring deepening ties between the nations locked in separate confrontations with the West. Foreign governments and experts speculate Kim will likely supply ammunition to Russia for its war efforts in Ukraine in exchange for receiving advanced weapons or technology from Russia.

Earlier Friday, Russia's state news agency RIA Novosti published video showing Kim's train pulling into a station in the far eastern city of Komsomolsk-on-Amur and Kim's convoy sweeping out of the station shortly afterward.

Later, the region's governor posted on social media pictures showing Kim at the aircraft factory, looking at the Su-57, Russia's most sophisticated fighter jet, and shaking hands with a pilot. One photo



showed a demonstration flight of a Su-35, another Russian fighter jet manufactured at the plant.

The governor, Mikhail Degtyarev, said Kim's late father, Kim Jong Il, also visited the plant in 2002. "Our fathers and grandfathers jointly fought against the Japanese militarism, our country supported North Korea in its fight against the U.S. imperial ambitions in the 1950s and now we are jointly resisting Western pressure," he said.

Besides Degtyarev, Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov accompanied Kim to the plant. According to a Russian Cabinet statement, Kim visited a facility producing Sukhoi SJ-100 passenger planes as well.

"We have shown one of our leading aircraft plants to the leader of (North Korea)," Manturov said in the statement. "We are seeing potential for cooperation in the aircraft-making and other industries, which is particularly

acute for solving our countries task of achieving technological sovereignty."

Kim is to travel next to Vladivostok to view Russia's Pacific fleet, a university and other facilities, Putin told Russian media after he met with Kim.

Experts say in return for helping Putin replenish war supplies, Kim would seek Russian help to modernize his air force and navy, which are inferior to those of rival South Korea while Kim has devoted much of his own resources to his nuclear weapons program.

The summit between Kim and Putin on Wednesday took place at the Vostochny Cosmodrome, Russia's most important domestic launch center. North Korea has struggled to put into space an operational spy satellite to monitor U.S. and South Korean military movements.

Asked if Russia and North Korea could coop-

erate in space research, Putin said: "That's why we have come here. (Kim) shows keen interest in rocket technology. They're trying to develop space, too."

Putin, for his part, would want to receive ammunition, artillery shells and even ballistic missiles from North Korea to replenish his exhausted arms inventory in the second year of Russia's war in Ukraine, foreign experts say.

Since last year, the U.S. accused North Korea of providing ammunition, artillery shells and rockets to Russia, likely much of them copies of Soviet-era munitions. South Korean officials said North Korean weapons provided to Russia have already been used in Ukraine.

On Thursday evening, the national security advisers of the U.S., South Korea and Japan talked by phone and expressed "serious concerns" about prospective weapons deals between Russia and North Korea. They warned Russia and North Korea would "pay a clear price" if they go ahead with such deals, according to South Korea's presidential office.

The White House said the three national security advisers noted that any arms export from North Korea to Russia would directly violate multiple U.N. Secu-

lity Council resolutions, including resolutions that Russia, a permanent member of the U.N. council, itself voted to adopt. They reiterated their cooperation toward the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula as well, according to a White House statement.

South Korean Unification Minister Kim Yung-ho warned Thursday that potential arms transfers between the North and Russia would invite stronger responses from South Korea, the U.S. and Japan, which have been stepping up their trilateral security cooperation to cope with regional threats.

Some analysts question how much Russia would be willing to share its closely guarded high-tech weapons technologies with North Korea in return for its conventional arms. But others say Russia would do so because of its urgent need to refill its drained reserves.

Putin told reporters that Russia and North Korea have "lots of interesting projects" in spheres like transportation and agriculture and that Moscow is providing its neighbor with humanitarian aid. But he avoided talking about military cooperation, saying only that Russia is abiding by the sanctions prohibiting procuring weapons from North Korea.

## Dominican Republic to close all borders with Haiti in a dispute over a canal

DAJABON, Sep 15 (Agencies): The Dominican Republic's president announced on Thursday he would close all borders with neighbouring Haiti starting Friday in a dispute over a canal on the Haitian side that would use water from a river along their frontier.

President Luis Abinader said air, sea and land borders would close at 6 am local time on Friday and would remain shuttered "until necessary", signalling that last-minute talks between the countries had failed to head off the closure.

It is a rare move for the Dominican Republic, and could hit economies in both countries, though it will be most acutely felt in Haiti.

The closure is a response to the excavation of a canal by a farming group on the Haitian side that targets waters from the Massacre River, which runs along the border shared by the two countries on the island of Hispaniola.

The International Crisis Group said work on the canal had been suspended since the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moise, and that it resumed based on inaction by the Haitian government, "which has failed to respond to the problems created by the drought in the agricultural area of the Mariboroux plain".

The organisation has seen no evidence "that suggests there are any major politicians or powerful business-people behind it, as the Dominican government

has claimed", according to Latin American and Caribbean consultant Diego Da Rin.

Abinader in recent days suspended issuing visas to Haitians and closed the border near the northern town of Dajabon, paralysing a key economic lifeline for Haitians who buy and sell goods there several times a week. Those who live in Haiti but work in the Dominican Republic also cross the border daily.

"They are suffering a lot here in Dajabon, and in Haiti, too, because there are a lot of goods that are spoiling," said Haitian businessman Pichelo Petjon. "There are millions of dollars in losses."

Abinader accused Haiti of trying to divert water from the Massacre River, and said it would affect Dominican farmers and the environment. The river is named after a bloody clash between French and Spanish colonizers in the 1700s, and it also was the site of a mass killing of Haitians by the Dominican army in 1937.

On Wednesday, Haiti's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it was meeting with Dominican officials in the Dominican Republic to talk about the situation. The Dominican government said on Thursday that the meeting had stretched into its second day but provided no details. The meeting was continuing when Abinader announced he would close all borders starting Friday.

Meanwhile, Jean Brevil Weston, leader

of a farmers' group near the border, was quoted by Haiti radio station Magik9 as saying that he will not stop working on the canal.

"It's the canal or death," he was quoted as saying. "We are ready to be buried by the canal."

Haiti's government issued a statement after Abinader's announcement saying it would always favour dialogue, noting it was underway and "on a good track" when the president took "unilateral action".

The government added that it would do what is needed to ensure the irrigation of the Mariboroux plain.

"The Republic of Haiti can sovereignly decide on the exploitation of its natural resources," it said. "The government ... will take all necessary measures to protect the interests of the Haitian people."

Claude Joseph, Haiti's former prime minister and an aspiring presidential candidate, said the excavation does not violate any agreements or treaties between the two countries, and urged workers to keep working on the project. Joseph previously clashed with Abinader over an unrelated issue, prompting the Dominican president to ban him from his country.

Abinader on Thursday also announced bans for nine other Haitians, the majority former government officials and one person he claimed was responsible for backing the canal project.

A line already was forming Thursday at the

Dominican border town of Dajabon, with hundreds of people seeking to cross into Haiti for various reasons, many with heavy bags balanced on their heads or suitcases in hand. Dominican authorities were opening the gate only three times a day, and only for crossings into Haiti.

Among those waiting to cross was Haitian vendor Dieuveleie Bernard, 27, who sold clothes in the Dominican Republic and said she didn't understand why the border in Dajabon was closed.

"Why is this happening, if everyone comes here to work?" she said.

Bernard stressed that construction of the canal was important: "There's only rice, nothing else." Also in line was a 47-year-old Haitian man who gave his name only as Egnel, who said he had a job at a banana farm in the Dominican Republic.

He said he needed to return to Haiti to take one of his daughters there to the hospital, and that he was willing to take the risk of not being able to return to his job. "My objective is to take care of my daughter," he said. After Abinader became president in August 2020, he has sought to stop the flow of Haitian migrants into the Dominican Republic in recent years and has expelled tens of thousands of Haitians and those of Haitian descent. His administration also has started work on a 118-mile (190-kilometer) wall along the Haitian border.

## After days of heavy rain flooding and tornadoes in New England Hurricane Lee up next

PORTLAND (US), Sep 15 (Agencies): Days of wild weather that produced torrential rain, flooding, sinkholes and tornadoes in New England could be a prelude to something more dangerous lurking offshore — Hurricane Lee.

As the Category 1 system swirled southwest of Bermuda, Maine Gov. Janet Mills on Thursday declared a state of emergency, and the state was under its first hurricane watch in 15 years.

The water-logged region prepared for 20-foot (6-metre) waves offshore and wind gusts up to 70 mph (112 kph), along with more rain. Eastern Maine was under the hurricane watch while the rest of the state and an area extending south through Massachusetts were under a tropical storm warning. Powerful winds were expected to arrive late Friday in southern New England.

Although Lee did not contribute to the recent flooding, it threatened to exacerbate conditions in a region that is already much too wet.

The Coast Guard and emergency management agencies warned New England residents to be prepared, and utility companies brought in reinforcements to deal with power outages. At Boothbay Harbour Marina in Maine, the community came together to remove boats from the water to keep them out of harm's way.

"It's a batten-down-the-hatches kind of day," owner Kim Gillies said on Thursday.

Similar scenes played out elsewhere, including at Kennebunkport Marina, where crews planned to take 100 boats out of the water, said Cathy Norton, marina manager.

Some people used the storm as an opportunity to put their boats into storage on land, bringing an abrupt end to the summer boating season, said John Lusty, owner of York Harbor Marine in York.

Commercial lobster fisherman Steve Train said fishermen have been sinking gear in deeper water to protect against storm damage. Fishing boats were also headed to the safety of harbours.

In Canada, residents of western

Nova Scotia and southern New Brunswick were warned about the risk of power outages and flooding this weekend. A year ago, the remnants of Hurricane Fiona washed houses into the ocean, knocked out power to most of two provinces and swept a 72-year-old woman into the sea.

New Brunswick Minister of Public Safety Kris Austin urged residents to assemble a 72-hour safety kit that included batteries, water, food, medication and a radio.

In her emergency declaration, the Maine governor urged people to take the storm seriously and to make preparations. Mills, a Democrat, also asked President Joe Biden to issue a preemptive presidential disaster declaration to give the state access to federal resources.

Earlier in the week, the region saw 10 inches (25 centimeters) of rain over six hours. Tornado warnings were posted on Wednesday for communities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and more heavy rain opened up sinkholes and brought devastating flooding to several areas.

The National Weather Service in Boston confirmed on Thursday that damage to trees and power lines in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut the day before was caused by four tornadoes.

Dozens of trees snapped or were uprooted by a twister in the town of Glocester, Rhode Island, and a structure used as a bus shelter was completely blown away, the weather service said. In Lincoln, Rhode Island, photos showed a home's roof damaged and the press box at the high school stadium tipped into the bleachers.

The three tornadoes in Connecticut and Rhode Island were categorised as EF-1, while the one in North Attleboro, Massachusetts, was an EF-0. Thursday night, Lee was spinning 185 miles (300 kilometers) west of Bermuda, with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph (140 kph), according to the National Hurricane Centre.

It was travelling north on a path that could lead to landfall in Nova Scotia, possibly as a tropical

storm, forecasters said.

The system threatened to bring a mixed bag of threats. The storm surge and waves could lash the coast, damaging structures and causing erosion; powerful wind gusts could knock down trees weakened by a wet summer; and rain could cause flash flooding in a region where the soil is already saturated, said Louise Fode, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Maine.

The state's eastern coast — known as the Down East region — and the coast of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were expected to bear the brunt of the storm, though the track could shift before the system arrives, Fode said.

One thing working in the region's favour: The storm surge will not be accompanied by an astronomical high tide, helping to lower the risk, she said.

New England has experienced its share of flooding this summer, including a storm that dumped up to two months of rain in two days in Vermont in July, resulting in two deaths. Scientists are finding that storms around the world are forming in a warmer atmosphere, making extreme rainfall more frequent.

Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey issued a state of emergency late Tuesday following "catastrophic flash flooding and property damage" in two counties and other communities. The torrential downpour in a six-hour period was a "200-year event," said Matthew Belk, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Boston.

The state is monitoring the conditions of dams, the governor said, and she urged residents to stay off the roads when ordered.

The rain created several sinkholes in Leominster, Massachusetts, including one at a car dealership where several vehicles were swallowed up.

In Providence, Rhode Island, downpours flooded a parking lot and parts of a shopping mall. Firefighters used inflatable boats to rescue more than two dozen people stranded in cars.

## Manjit condemns NHA for illegal collection of toll tax at Sarore



### TOP NEWS REPORT

**VIJAYPUR, Sep 15:** Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today condemned the NHA's illegal practice of collecting toll tax from the commuters on Jammu-Pathankot National Highway and strongly opposed the installation of smart meters.

Addressing a meeting of Apni Party leaders, and workers in Vijaypur, the Former Minister discussed various developmental issues, Sarore Toll Plaza, smart meters, poor basic amenities.

He encouraged party cadre to prepare for the municipal elections. The meeting was organised by Apni Party District President Samba Legal Cell, Adv Sahil Bharti.

"It is unfortunate to note that the Toll Plaza at Sarore is still functional and collecting Toll Tax from the commuters even after resentment and protests in Jammu, Samba and Kathua for this illegal practice. The condition of Jammu-Pathankot highway is bad to worse in Kathua - Samba up to Kunjwani in Jammu District. However, the NHA has not

considered the public sentiments," he said.

He raised questions on the recent visit of the NHA team from Delhi. "The NHA team had visited the flood hit areas in Kathua and the damaged bridges, whereas, they have yet to take a decision regarding Toll Tax collection at Sarore," he said.

He said that the Apni Party and other people had staged protests opposing collection of Toll Tax when the condition of the highway was not suitable for commuters.

"We have two toll plazas in Sarore in Samba and Bann (Nagrota) in less than 60 km of stretch on the highway that violates set norms and claim made by Union Minister, Nitin Ghadkari that no toll plaza to be established within 60 kms of limits," he added.

Meanwhile, he also raised the issue of smart meters that has invoked strong reaction against its installation in Jammu plains.

"The people are getting inflated electricity bills after the installation of the smart meters. The people have been overburdened with the smart

meters. Hence, the Govt must intervene and stop its smart meter's installation, and electricity bill charges as per the smart meters," he said.

He also referred to the old age pension which has been stopped and the pensioners have been forced to complete harsh formalities at the age when many of them are facing multiple illnesses.

He demanded that the formalities for old age pension should be eased for the pensioners, and the stopped pensions should be completed as early as possible.

He also expressed his concern over the no canal water supply in tail-end villages of Ramgarh and other villages and unscheduled power cuts.

He said that the farmers are getting electricity bills even as they get no proper electricity supply and face problems running hand pumps to water their agricultural fields.

In this meeting district president Samba, Raman Thappa, Block President Bachan Choudhary, Bhagat Shain Dass, Som Dutt, Krishna Devi, Manmohan Singh, and others.

## Bali Bhagat slams Dr. Farooq Abdullah's advocacy for talks with Pakistan

### TOP NEWS REPORT

**JAMMU, Sep 15:** Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Minister, Bali Bhagat, has expressed his strong disapproval of Dr. Farooq Abdullah's recent statement advocating talks with Pakistan.

In a statement issued here today, the former minister underscored that the leaders of the so-called Gupkar gang consistently appear eager to exploit any unfortunate event involving Indian security forces to criticize the Modi government.

"They seem content to wait for the martyrdom of our brave soldiers to further their political agenda. They fail to acknowledge the significant improvements in the situation in Kashmir, such as markets remaining open till late night, ending an era of strikes, Bandhs and stone pelt-

ing culture after 33 years. Such improvements are a testament to the government's commitment to peace and development in the region," he asserted.

"Dr. Farooq Abdullah and his ilk do not appreciate these positive changes," he said, adding that they are, in fact, enemies of peace and appear to have a disturbing fondness for bloodshed. He asserted that Dr. Abdullah and his associates have consistently failed to condemn Pakistan, which bears significant responsibility for the deaths of 42,000 people in Jammu and Kashmir over the last 30 years.

He questioned Dr. Abdullah's apparent lack of sorrow for the killings of innocent Kashmiris and accused him of political opportunism, suggesting that they have exploited the suffering of Kashmiris for their own

gain. Furthermore, he raised concern over Farooq's recent remarks, in which he seemed to exonerate Pakistan from involvement in recent terrorist attacks in Kulgam.

He reminded the NC leader of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's efforts to extend a hand of friendship to Pakistan, including a historic bus journey to promote peace, despite Pakistan's subsequent betrayal in the form of the Kargil conflict.

He also questioned Farooq's track record, asking what he and his family have done to address the complex issues faced by Jammu and Kashmir during their long tenures in power. He emphasized that the solution to terrorism in the region lies not in talking to Pakistan but in addressing the problems of Islamic fundamentalism and

Jihadism.

Bali Bhagat further questioned Farooq Abdullah's track record, asking about his tenure as Chief Minister of the erstwhile state and his son Omar Abdullah's role as External Affairs Minister in the Centre. "Your son Omar Abdullah was made External Affairs Minister in the Centre what he did. You remained the Chief Minister for so many years in the erstwhile state what was your contribution in eradicating the terrorism. Are not you responsible for killing of 42,000 innocent people of J&K," he asked.

The senior BJP leader reiterated his strong disapproval of Dr. Farooq Abdullah's advocacy for talks with Pakistan, emphasizing that the Modi government is fully capable of dealing with the challenges posed by terrorism in the region.

## Nation always indebted to martyrs, time has come to teach Pak a lesson: Dr Parneesh

### TOP NEWS REPORT

**JAMMU, SEP 15:** Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convenor Department of Training Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir, in his response to martyrdom of security personnel in Kokernag area, has said that time has come to teach Pakistan a lesson once for all. He asserted that the nation shall always remain indebted to the martyrs who far away from their families lay down their lives in the line of duty. He said that it is only due to their ultimate sacrifice that people are able to live peacefully across the nation.

He expressed this while paying rich tributes to the security force personnel including a Colonel of the Indian Army's Rashtriya Rifles, an army Major and a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) who achieved martyrdom during a fierce encounter with terrorists in the Kokernag area of the Anantnag district the other day.

In a statement issued to media, Dr Parneesh asserted that the entire nation stands firmly with the families of the martyrs in this hour of grief, adding that such moments are a matter of pain and pride for the nation and its people. He said that the aforesaid

tragic incident is a clear sign of Pakistan's utter frustration as it stands totally rattled by Bharat's popularity after the success of G20 Summit under India's presidency as well as the successful conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. As such these are the last ditching efforts by the rogue neighbour to disturb peace in J&K and create trouble in this most sensitive Union Territory of the nation.

The senior BJP leader said that it is quite shameful for the opposition parties especially the National Conference and PDP leaders advocating for dialogue with the rogue nation Pakistan despite its consistent terror acts of bleeding J&K and the nation. Such leaders deserve utmost condemnation especially when the leaders of these parties are responsible for facilitating terrorism and giving free hand to the terrorists and separatists.

Dr Parneesh said that time has come to settle scores with Pakistan once for all by leading a massive offensive against the terror camps, launch-pads presently existing in Pakistan thus teaching it a lesson so that it never dares to carry terror strikes in J&K or elsewhere in the world's largest democracy.

## GMCHJ organises workshop on Surgical Skills

### TOP NEWS REPORT

**JAMMU, Sept 15:** J&K State Chapter of ASI (JAKASI) in collaboration with Postgraduate Department of Surgery GMC Jammu organized "Hands on Surgical Skills Workshop for Surgery Residents" from North India.

The workshop was inaugurated by Principal GMC Jammu Prof. Ashutosh Gupta in presence of Galaxy of surgeons from Jammu & Kashmir namely Prof. Nasib Chand Digra, Prof. Tariq Azad, Prof. R.K.Chungoo, Prof. S.L. Kachroo, Prof. Ratnakar Sharma, Prof. Ajaz Malik, Prof. Ajaz rather, dr. Zaffer Khanday, Dr. Shamsul Bari, Dr. Raj Rishi Sharam, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, dr. sham Gupta, Dr. Javeed Iqbal, Dr. Rajni Bhardwaj, many other faculty and senior residents.

Prof Ashutosh Gupta while blessing the students said that surgical specialty is ever evolving and there is dire need to upgrade surgical skills by both trainees and trainers and the module presented by JAKASI & PG Dept of Surgery is a direction in this regard.

Prof. Sanjay Kumar Bhasin who is Chairman (President) of the JAKASI who is Chief Organizer of the event told that Regional Refresher Course (RRC) is a prestigious module of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI) which is second largest surgical body in the world and largest in Asia-Pacific. First day module was Hands on Training for Pgs from J&K, HP, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, UP & Uttarakhand, wherein 118 pgs and 30 faculty are participating in addition to representatives of Johnson & Johnson.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Last Salute: 6-Year-Old son bids farewell as Col Manpreet Singh is cremated

Army personnel, including the colonel and the major, and a deputy superintendent of the Jammu and Kashmir Police were killed in the gunfight with terrorists in the higher reaches of the Kokorenag area in the valley on Wednesday.

### Administrative council approves creation of separate 'J&K Sports Cadre'

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, attended the meeting.

With this decision, the process for appointment of outstanding sportspersons will commence, which has been entangled in various legal and procedural issues for the past few years. The new rules have been formulated with the view to motivate the young people for sports activities and also to encourage the outstanding sportspersons. Recognition of sportspersons from J&K at the national and international level across different sports categories is a testament of the efforts of the government to rejuvenate sports activities in the Union Territory.

The government endeavors to make these appointments a yearly affair so as to provide an enabling environment for promotion of sports in J&K. Besides, the appointment of outstanding sportspersons as mentors would give a major fillip to the training & development process of youth and increase their participation in local, national, and worldwide competitions.

### J&K High Court issues notice to Administration over house arrest of

### Mirwaiz Umar Farooq

to-day life of the Mirwaiz, including his free movement as a citizen, and allow him to avail the freedom and liberty guaranteed under the Constitution," the petition said.

The Hurriyat leader is under house arrest since August 2, 2019, a day before the Centre revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir State and reorganised it into two union territories.

### Flash floods wash away culvert on Jammu-Rajouri Highway, Traffic diverted

vehicles, they said. Divisional traffic inspector Ajaz Mirza said movement of vehicles has been diverted with heavy vehicles as well as passenger vehicles diverted from Siot towards Kalakote-Rajouri, while private and light motor vehicles are diverted from Nowshera bridge to Beri Pattan Sunderbani road.

He said efforts to restore the highway are underway.

### Journalist arrested for 'Criminal Conspiracy', 'Extortion' in J&K

etc," the Srinagar Police said on X. Hyderi, a journalist who has worked with a number of publications and news portals, is also a regular on TV news channels as a political analyst. PDP president Mehbooba Mufti slammed the arrest of the journalist.

"Majid Hyderi's arrest late last night has exposed the nexus between comen & certain intelligence agencies. He was dragged from his home like a wanted terrorist without following any legalities. His mother & sister pleaded to see a warrant but this too was denied. This is how journalists who expose scams are accused of intimidation & defamation," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister alleged in a tweet. However, the police said all legal formalities were followed.

"It is clarified that all legal procedures of formal arrest as mandated by law were fully followed. Family was clearly informed

about the order of Hon'ble court regarding this. It is requested to kindly not fall prey to misinformation campaign by vested interests (sic)," the Srinagar Police said in another tweet.

The police was responding to Mehbooba's allegations on X.

### Terror module unearthed in Baramulla; 2 LeT terrorist associates arrested

said on Friday. The two terrorist associates of LeT outfit have been arrested in Uri area of Baramulla, in north Kashmir, a police official said. He said incriminating material, including two pistols and five hand grenades, have been recovered from their possession.

A case under UA (P) & Arms Act has been registered and further investigation is going on, the police official said.

### Avoid long queues for students during official visits: DSEK

jeopardise the mental and emotional well-being of students during the arrival or visits of officials, where students are forced to stand in long queues for receptions.

In a circular issued by Director of School Education Kashmir, Tassaduq Hussain Mir, it has come to notice that whenever an officer visits a school or educational institution, students are made to stand for extended periods in queues on both sides of the pathway, and they are required to wait outside classrooms during any events.

The circular states that the department has also observed the practice of offering visiting officers or guests artificial floral bouquets or garlands made of non-bio-degradable materials, which contribute to environmental burdens during disposal.

"During various school functions, substantial expenses are incurred for hospitality and catering arrangements for guests or officers, which do not align with the school's atmosphere and can lead to feelings of discrimination among students who are not provided with such refreshments during the event," it reads.

a new officer joins an office or school, the process of welcoming the incumbent with artificial garlands consumes significant time.

"Such practices raise several questions due to their adverse effects on students' available learning time, disruptions in learning, productivity losses, and negative impacts on students' self-esteem, mental and emotional health."

The circular emphasises that institutions should aim to foster an environment where both students and guests feel valued and respected. "Implementing efficient, respectful, and innovative guest reception methods can enhance the overall experience for all involved."

Additionally, the circular suggests that if there is a need to offer a token of welcome to guests or officers, it can be done with a simple natural flower. Regarding catering, it recommends a simple and modest offering of tea and snacks.

"DSEK urges all department personnel, especially mid-level managers, school heads, and teachers, to abstain from such practices in the future and to maintain modesty during such events," it added.

### AC approves implementation of second national judicial pay commission

have been appointed against any post in the Subordinate Judiciary from 01.01.2016 up to the date of issuance of Jammu & Kashmir Subordinate Judiciary (Revised) Pay Rules, 2023 (Implementation of Second National Judicial Pay Commission) and also to those who may be appointed against any such post hereafter.

The Implementation of SNJPC in favour of Judicial Officers of the Subordinate Courts is based on the analogy of the 7th Pay Commission and the decision entails a financial implication of an estimated amount of Rs. 75.38 Crore.

### IAF to organise Air show in Jammu to celebrate 76th anniversary of J-K's accession

showcase the scintillating and speculator

display of precision flying and performance by nine aircraft team, flying Hawk Mk-132, Mi-17 medium-lift helicopters showcasing the slithering and Small Team Insertion and Extraction techniques, free fall para jumpers and precision drill movements by AWDT.

The SKAT, also the 52 SQN of IAF, was formed in 1996, the team has completed more than 600 displays across the length and breadth of the country and abroad. It is one of the very few nine aircraft display teams in the world. The 130 helicopter Unit which is a resident unit of Jammu, will be showcasing the helicopter operations and with the Garud Commandos of IAF.

The Air Warrior Drill Team "Subroto" (AWDT) is the ceremonial drill team of the Indian Air Force, being a platoon-sized formation. It was founded in 2004 as the first precision exhibition drill unit of its kind in the Indian Armed Forces. Akash Ganga is the 14-member sky diving team of the Indian Air Force. It was created in August 1987. Akash Ganga can be roughly translated in Hindi as "The Ganga of the sky", an ancient Hindi name for the Milky Way as viewed from the Earth.

The Air Warrior Symphony Orchestra (AWSO) is the concert band unit of the IAF Band. Formed in June 2002, the AWSO consists of hand-picked musicians from the seven IAF Bands across the country. The AWSO has performed at many concerts across the world in countries like France, Italy, Germany, Malaysia, Singapore, and Bangladesh.

The teams and air warriors take pride in showcasing the highest standards and traditions of the IAF. Teamwork, professional excellence, and mutual trust are the distinctive features of the teams.

The display will showcase the operational capability of the Indian Air Force with an aim to motivate youth to join the elite service. This event will also aim to sensitise the general public to the hazards of aviation and how can they assist in aviation safety.

The display will be open to the general public apart from schools, Air Veterans, Civil dignitaries, and personnel of defence forces and Air Force Station Jammu. The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha will grace the occasion as the chief guest.

## SpiceJet completes \$1.5 Million payment to credit Suisse

MUMBAI, Sep 15 (Agencies): SpiceJet informed in a regulatory filing on Friday that it has completed a \$1.5 million payment to Credit Suisse, following a Supreme Court directive in the case.

The company said in a statement, "SpiceJet Ltd. has complied with the directive of the Supreme Court by remitting \$1.5 million to Credit Suisse. The payment was executed on Thursday, September 14th."

The development comes days after the Supreme Court made strong remarks in the case. The apex court had warned airline's



Chairman Ajay Singh that if he doesn't pay the amount in the stipulated time, he would be sent to Tihar jail. The case between Credit Suisse and SpiceJet pertains

to a 2015 dispute over the former's claim of \$24 million unpaid dues. Madras High Court had ordered the winding up of airline following the proceedings in the

case and asked its official liquidator to take over the assets of the company.

However, the apex court set aside the order and asked the two par-

ties to reach a settlement following which both of them signed an agreement. While the two had settled the dispute in August 2022, Credit Suisse knocked on the doors of Supreme Court again to file a contempt case against Singh. The bank argued that the airline failed to complete the payment of the dues.

As part of the Supreme Court's order in the case, Singh was asked to pay \$500,000 as an instalment along with the default amount of \$1 million. The court had given the airline time till September 15. The next hearing in the case was set on September 22.

## India needs efficient multi-modal transport system: President Murmu



NEW DELHI, SEP 15 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said the country needs an efficient multi-modal transport system for which rail, road, air and water transportation should be dealt with in a holistic approach rather than in isolation.

Addressing a group of 213 probationers (2019, 2020 and 2021 batches) from different services of the Indian Railways at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre here, she said unlike any commercial organisation the railways is a social lifeline of the country.

Besides, it carries the dreams of ordinary people and at the same time, its nationwide connectivity showcases nation's diversity, the president said.

"The country needs an efficient multi-modal transport system for which rail, road, air and water transportation should be dealt with a

holistic approach and not in isolation.

"I urge you all to work in coordination with the officers of other departments also for achieving the goal of an atmanirbhar and developed nation," Murmu told the probationers.

Asserting that the technological changes are taking place at an unprecedented speed and scale, she asked the officers to work collectively and make the railways a future-ready organisation.

Murmu said trains and their journeys have always been an important part of people's lives. "From local trains to long-distance trains, every train journey creates and witnesses countless stories. Being a very important part of such an establishment which has a strong impact on public life, you must understand that the nation and the people have huge

expectations from you," she told the officers.

The president said the railways is getting more fuel-efficient day by day and adopting innovative and environment friendly solutions too.

"The railway infrastructure development gives a big boost to the country's socio-economic growth and development," Murmu said.

She said the redevelopment of railway station under the 'Amrit Bharat Station scheme' using green technology and adding worldclass amenities is a great people-centric initiative that will provide strong push to tourism activities and economic progress.

"I am confident that all the bright young officers present here today will play a productive role in the making of a modernised green Indian Railways and the building of a developed nation," the president added.

## TotalEnergies plans to invest in Adani Green's Projects, says sources: Report

MUMBAI, Sep 15 (Agencies): TotalEnergies SE plans to invest in renewable energy projects developed by Adani Green Energy Ltd. This will be the first public deal between the French oil giant and Gautam Adani since a short-seller leveled fraud allegations against the Indian billionaire's business empire.

Total is looking to buy stakes in some of Adani Green's projects as part of its drive to expand its portfolio of clean energy projects, the French group may likely invest \$700 million in total into the projects, people requesting anonymity told Bloomberg.

Deliberations are ongoing and there's no certainty for a trans-

action, the people said.

While giving Adani Green more means to develop new renewable energy projects, the deal would increase Total's presence in the fast-growing Indian energy market. It will also see Total deepen its ties with Adani Green, which is already the second largest shareholder with a 19.75% stake, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. Total has frequently partnered with Adani, in an effort to mollify shareholders demanding greater efforts to fight climate change. The aspiration is in tandem with India's ambitions to become a net-zero carbon nation by 2070 and curb its reliance on oil and coal.

In 2019, Total spent \$600

million to buy a 37.4% stake in Adani Gas Ltd., now called Adani Total Gas. In 2021, it bought a 20% stake in Adani Green as well as a 50% interest in some of Adani Green's solar farms in operation in a \$2.5 billion deal that was among the largest foreign investments in India. The bet on Adani Green worked well for Total as its value soared to \$10 billion in 2022 when Chief Executive Officer Patrick Pouyanné described the stake as "a source of potential cash." The duo were looking to partner up and fund billions of dollars worth of green hydrogen development in India.

However, when Hindenburg Research accused the Adani Group of "brazen" market

manipulation and accounting fraud earlier this year, Total put a plan to develop about \$5 billion of green hydrogen projects with Adani Enterprises Ltd. on hold. The Adani Group strongly denied the allegations by the short-seller.

Adani's stocks and bonds have recouped some losses since the short-seller report, particularly after the group received investment from QGQ Partners, and an interim report from an Indian Supreme Court-appointed panel in May said it found no evidence of stock-price manipulation. Adani Enterprises, which incubates the tycoon's businesses, in the quarter through March reported that its profit doubled to 7.22 billion rupees (\$87 million).

## 57-year-old taken off oxygen support after successful lung transplant

MUMBAI, Sep 15 (Agencies): Vijay Soman (57) can now breathe and move around, without oxygen support equipment attached to his body. After a successful lung transplant at Global Hospitals, Mumbai, Soman who was suffering from interstitial lung disease, took his first steps without oxygen support.

A multidisciplinary team led by Dr Samir Garde, successfully performed the transplant on Soman and he is now able to walk 600 metres without oxygen support with ease.

Interstitial lung disease is a debilitating disease that leads to scarring of lung tissue causing the lungs to fibrose and become stiff. He was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis and was advised home based oxygen therapy to relieve his symptoms.

Idiopathic Pulmonary fibrosis is a rare subset of interstitial lung disease and the only definitive treatment is lung transplant.

As per doctors, Soman needed oxygen support. Due to lung fibrosis, he developed pulmonary hypertension causing the blood pressure of the lungs to go up. In such a condition, when the right side of the heart gets affected and it can even cause failure. Soman would get breathless with the slightest amount of exertion, leading to desaturation as the oxygen level dropped.

The incidence of lung fibrosis has gone up by 15% in the last five



years and the cause for it could be attributed to pollution. Soman registered with the hospital for a transplant in the month of May and was lucky to receive a donor in time for the transplant. He recovered well and could even complete a stretch of 600 metres without stopping and oxygen support post-surgery before being discharged.

In addition to all other measures that transplant recipients take, he will have to be extra cautious as lungs are directly exposed to the atmosphere, say doctors.

Dr Chandrashekhar Kulkarni, Senior Consultant CVTS and lead Heart & Lung Transplant Surgeon at Global Hospitals, Mumbai said, "Pulmonary diseases like interstitial lung disease can affect the heart if present for a longer term. We initiated a VA ECMO during the surgery to reduce the load on the heart and it helped in a faster recovery. At the time of discharge, Soman could walk unaided and without oxygen support which is significant improvement and he will recover soon."

Since 2021, says Soman, his breathing troubles and inability to walk greatly impacted his work concentration. "Despite fear, I remained resolute in pursuing a transplant for an improved quality of life. Given the cutting-edge advancements in the medical field, one should confidently opt for a transplant without hesitation as timely treatment options are now accessible."

As per a report on the burden of chronic respiratory disease in India in the Lancet Global Health, it can be said that India has a disproportionately higher burden (32% of the global chronic respiratory disease burden), while contributing to only 17.8% of global population.

Doctors whom THE WEEK spoke to agree that lung transplantation has come of age in India. From 1999, when it first began in India to now, in a period of 22 years, we, as a nation have come a long way. Even as Covid posed a challenge for organ donation, post Covid, 25 lung transplants have been carried out in India for Covid affected lungs

as per the Indian journal of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery. This includes patients whose previously normal lungs were ravaged by Covid and patients with end-stage lung disease which worsened with Covid infection.

As per research conducted by Sandeep Attawar, from the Institute of Heart and Lung Transplant, Krishna Institute of medical sciences, Hyderabad, lung transplantation is gaining widespread acceptance as the preferred therapeutic option for selected cases of end-stage lung disease in India. The indications of lung transplantation are increasing with better post-operative survival, including the Covid affected lung.

The national acceptance of expanded criteria in lung donation, streamlining of the process of lung transplantation by governmental, and non-governmental organizations and significant increase in the number of organ donations in India have strengthened the lung transplantation program within the country. As per doctors, lung transplantation is still the only option that can be offered to the majority of selected end-stage lung disease patients. "However, it is a lengthy process with most of the recommendations based on International Society for Heart and Lung Transplant. Further streamlining of recipient selection will ensure better outcomes," says Attawar in his report.

## Scrub typhus: A deadly bacterial disease on the rise in India

NEW DELHI, SEP 15 (Agencies): In a recent outbreak in India, scrub typhus has surged, claiming at least five lives and infecting over 700 people. This infectious disease, transmitted through chigger mite bites, has affected various regions in the Bargarh district of Odisha. While patients diagnosed outside the district are recovering, public health officials emphasise the heightened risk for those frequently visiting farmlands or forests. Scrub typhus cases have also been identified in Keonjhar, Nabarangpur, and Sundergarh districts, warranting vigilance and preventive measures.

Recognising its symptoms, seeking timely diagnosis and treatment, and adopting preventive measures are essential steps in combatting this public health threat. By staying informed and taking appropriate precautions, individuals can reduce the risk of scrub typhus and contribute to their own well-being and that of their communities.

Symptoms

Scrub typhus presents a range of symptoms, with severity varying from mild to life-threatening. Common signs to watch for include:

**Fever and chills:** Patients often experience a high fever accompanied by chills, which can persist for several days.

**Headache:** Severe headaches are a hallmark symptom of scrub typhus, causing significant discomfort. Body aches and muscle pain: Patients may complain of body aches and muscle pain, further contributing to their discomfort.

**Eschar formation:** A distinctive feature of scrub typhus is the development of a dark, scab-like wound at the site of the chigger bite, known as an eschar.

**Mental changes:** In severe cases, individuals may exhibit mental changes, ranging from confusion to coma.

**Enlarged lymph nodes:** Swelling of lymph nodes can occur, adding to the list of concerning symptoms.

**Rash:** Patients might develop red

spots or rashes on their bodies, often accompanied by red eyes and gastrointestinal issues.

It's essential to note that these symptoms typically manifest approximately ten days after infection. If left untreated, scrub typhus can lead to multiple organ failure or other life-threatening complications.

**Diagnosis and treatment:**

Diagnosing scrub typhus can be challenging due to its similarity to other illnesses. To confirm the infection, healthcare providers may conduct an ELISA test, particularly if the patient experiences persistent fever. Fortunately, this test is readily available at district public health laboratories in the state.

The most effective treatment for scrub typhus is the antibiotic doxycycline, suitable for patients of all ages. Administering antibiotics early in the course of the disease can lead to a swift recovery. Prompt diagnosis and treatment are crucial for a positive outcome.

## Dementia risk soars after 10 hours of sitting, study warns

MUMBAI, Sep 15 (Agencies): Spending too much time sitting and being inactive could increase the risk of dementia in older adults, warns a recent study conducted by researchers from USC and the University of Arizona. The study, published in JAMA, found that adults aged 60 and above who engage in sedentary behaviors, such as sitting for extended periods while watching TV or driving, face a higher risk of developing dementia.

What's especially concerning is that the risk of dementia significantly rises for

those who spend over 10 hours a day being sedentary. This finding is noteworthy because the average American is sedentary for about 9.5 hours each day.

The study also revealed that it's not just about how sedentary time accumulates during the day; the total amount of sedentary time matters most. Whether you sit for long stretches or take short breaks throughout the day, the risk of dementia is similar. So, simply breaking up long periods of sitting with short walks may not be enough to mitigate this risk.

This study high-

lights the importance of reducing sedentary time for better brain health as we age. So, it's a good idea for adults, especially those in their senior years, to find ways to stay active and avoid excessive sitting to protect against the risk of dementia.

The researchers analysed data from the UK Biobank, which involved over 100,000 adults wearing movement-measuring devices for a week. They focused on approximately 50,000 adults over 60 without dementia at the study's outset.

After around six

years of follow-up, the researchers discovered a clear link between high levels of sedentary behavior and dementia risk. Surprisingly, they also found that there's a threshold—spending more than 10 hours sedentary each day—that significantly elevates the risk.

The good news is that lower levels of sedentary behavior, up to around 10 hours, were not associated with increased dementia risk. This suggests that if you have a job that requires a lot of sitting, you can still reduce your risk by limiting your total daily sedentary time.

## India rise to Second in ICC ODI Rankings, Pakistan lose No. 1 spot

NEW DELHI, Sep 15 (Agencies): Having stormed into the Asia Cup final, India have climbed to second place, ahead of Pakistan who have lost the No. 1 ODI rankings following their elimination from the tournament.

The Babar Azam-led side, who lost to Sri Lanka in a last-ball thriller for their second successive defeat in the 'Super Four', slipped two places to No. 3 with 115 points in ICC's mid-week update.

Two points ahead of India (116), Australia are now the No. 1 ODI side as the race for the top spot has intensified ahead of next month's World Cup.



Both the teams are also set to clash in a three-match ODI series in India beginning on September 22 ahead of their World Cup opener in Chennai on October 8.

Australia have

climbed to No. 1 on the back of their back-to-back defeats in South Africa but their loss in the third ODI at Potchefstroom by 111 runs may have given an opening to India.

The fourth and penul-

timate ODI of the South Africa-Australia rubber is slated on Friday, while the series finale is on Sunday.

India will play the Asia Cup final against co-hosts Sri Lanka on Sunday.

## Saga of sacrifices inspires Indian women hockey team for Asiad Olympics

NEW DELHI, Sep 15 (Agencies): If one saw her mother working tirelessly for earning Rs 800 a month, the other endured the agony of being unemployed for almost a decade, while another learnt the game by playing with bamboo sticks.

To Savita Punia, Neha Goyal and Nikki Pradhan hockey brought solace, and these Indian women's team players did not let personal turmoil affect their game. Also plenty of sacrifices were made during their journey to the top, making them hungrier for success.

They had their 'Chak de' moment in the Tokyo Olympics where they missed a podium finish by a whisker, and now they are on a mission to realise an unfulfilled dream.

The first step would be to secure direct qualification to the Paris Olympics through the upcoming Hangzhou Asian Games.

They are not leaving any stone unturned, including giving up on their favourite food, in order to improve their willpower and fitness and win gold in Hangzhou.

"We know that there are immense expectations from us post Tokyo Olympics and this team is capable of winning medals. We are focusing on Asiad gold for Olympic qualification.

"In order to improve our willpower and fitness we have decided to stay away from at least one favourite thing of ours," captain and goalkeeper Savita Punia told PTI Bhasha in an exclusive interview.

"I will not eat pizza or golgappe till Asian Games," she added.

One of the best goal-



keepers in the world, the 33-year-old Savita never forgets her days of prolonged struggle, as she could not secure a job for nine years.

"I made a debut with the senior team in 2008 and won Asia Cup silver next year. Everyone thought that I would get a job. My mother sent me to play despite her illness. I was unemployed from 2009 to 2018 but my family did not let my game to get affected because of that," she added.

"When I got the Arjuna award in 2018, the first thing my mother asked was beta ab to naukri mil jaegi na (dear now you will get a job right). It left me heartbroken.

"Despite winning many medals including Asian Games and Asia cup, I was jobless, but finally, I got a job in 2018 when Olympians were recruited by SAI," said the player from Sirsa, Haryana.

"I can never forget that time but it inspires me to give my best. However, the conditions are much better and our performance will open the doors for future generations of players too," said the captain.

From working alongside her mother and sisters at a cycle factory, straightening spikes for about Rs 800 a month, to becoming an ace midfielder, the journey of Sonepat-born Neha Goyal is no less

inspiring.

"I started playing hockey in school for new shoes and clothes. We all used to straighten bicycle spikes and would get three rupees per hundred. Monthly income was around Rs 800 and I felt ashamed of asking 20 rupees for auto fare to go for hockey training," she recalled.

"When I won the first player of the match tournament in Bhopal, I decided to get my family out of this hell through hockey. I got a job in railway in 2015, and since then, I have been taking care of my family," said the 26-year-old.

"Hockey has given me a life of dignity and hope. My only dream is to win an Olympic medal for the country. Asian Games are the first step and I have decided not to eat junk food, even my favourite pizza till then," she said.

Coming from the Naxal-affected tribal district of Khunti in Jharkhand, defender Nikki Pradhan is the first woman hockey player from her state to appear in the Olympics.

Jharkhand is known for giving the country the legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni but she hopes that girls from the state will bring hockey's glory days back.

"There was not a single ground in my village when I started playing. My father was a police

constable and could not afford to buy hockey stick. I used to play on the road or in farmland with bamboo sticks," she recollected.

"I have played in the Rio Olympics and know what an Olympic medal means. Now the target is Paris and we will aim at Asiad gold to begin our quest. I hope people will again start noticing Jharkhand for its hockey legacy."

Nikki used to drink dozens of cups of tea but not anymore, thanks to the upcoming assignments.

"I have decided to stop having tea till the Asian Games. All of us are doing our bit and I don't want to stay behind," she said.

Veteran defender Deep Grace Ekka, who belongs to the nursery of Indian hockey -- Sundargarh district in Odisha -- will not eat sweets till the Games are over.

"I have a sweet tooth but have decided not to eat sweets till the Games are over. We want to complete the mission which we missed in Tokyo.

"I feel very proud to be associated with Sundargarh and want to be a part of its Hockey legacy with an Olympic medal," she said.

Women's hockey competition has been held since the 1982 Asian Games in New Delhi and India won the inaugural gold.

Since then the team has clinched two silver (1998, 2018) and three bronze (1986, 2006, 2014) but the gold has eluded them for the past 41 years. Interestingly, the men's team won an Olympic medal after 41 years in Tokyo.

## MCA to auction seats where MS Dhoni's winning six ball landed in 2011 World Cup

MUMBAI, Sep 15 (Agencies): Indian cricket has seen many historic moments in its time and one such momentous moment was none other than MS Dhoni's 2011 World Cup final match winning six that he hit against Sri Lanka at the Wankhede stadium.

Now, the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) has decided to auction the two seats where Dhoni's ball landed in 2011.

"Dhoni finishes off in style... To eternalize the glory of this moment, the two seats where the ball landed at the Wankhede Stadium after MS Dhoni struck the ICC World Cup 2011 winning six will be auc-



tioned by the MCA," the MCA tweeted on Thursday.

Earlier this year, MS Dhoni spoke about the match-winning six, saying "it was a sense of satisfaction to get the job done."

He said, "To me, it was not the winning moment, it was 15-20 minutes ago when emotionally I was very high.

And at the same time, I wanted to get done with it. We knew that we would win this from here, and it was very difficult for us to lose. So yes, you know it was more of a sense of satisfaction, job done, let's move on from here."

The 2011 triumph was India's first World Cup in 28 years since the 1983 World Cup that they

won under Kapil Dev.

"The best feeling was 15-20 minutes (before the winning moment). We didn't need a lot of runs, the partnership was well-placed, there was a lot of dew. And the stadium started to sing Vande Mataram. That atmosphere I feel is very difficult to recreate -- maybe in this [upcoming 2023] World Cup, there is a similar scenario, once the stadium, the fans start contributing. You know, it's a very difficult (atmosphere) one to replicate. But it can only be replicated if the occasion is similar to that (in 2011) and there are like 40, 50 or 60,000 people who are singing," Dhoni had said earlier this year.

## Justin Thomas scuffles for 69 Lucas Herbert shoots 63 for 1st-round lead at Silverado

NAPA (California), Sep 15 (Agencies): Justin Thomas scuffled through an uneven afternoon with a 3-under 69 in his return to the PGA Tour following a lengthy layoff, leaving him six shots off the lead Thursday in the first round of the Fortinet Championship.

Thomas, the former No. 1 player in the world who was a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup, had hoped to clean up his game in a final tune-up, but wasn't nearly as sharp at Silverado Resort as he hoped.

Playing for the first time since finishing 12th at the Wyndham Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina, on Aug. 6, Thomas made four birdies and worked around a bogey on the par-4 ninth. He was tied for 20th, chasing Lucas Herbert, the leader after a 6-under 63.

"Sometimes after some time off it's hard for me to get back into it but I didn't feel very competitively rusty," said Thomas, who hit three of 14 fairways. "I was very engaged and focused on what I was doing. I just wasn't exactly doing it how I wanted to.

"I was managing my game. It's exactly what I did at the Wyndham. Today wasn't a day with how I hit it I was going to shoot 6- or 7-under. Three under with how I feel I hit it was a great



thing." Herbert, who took a seven-week mental break from playing, came back looking much stronger and crisper than Thomas. Herbert had 10 birdies — seven over his final nine holes — to overcome an early bogey.

S.H. Kim was second at 65. He holed out for eagle on 106 yards on the par-4 14th. Kelly Kraft was at 66 with Jason Dufner, Harry Hall, Sung Kang, Zac Blair and Mark Hubbard.

Max Homa, the two-time defending Fortinet champion and U.S. Ryder Cup team member, endured a rough morning with a double bogey and bogey on his way to joining Thomas at 69. Ryder Cup captain Zach Johnson also shot 69. Co-captain Stewart Cink, a winner here in 2020, had a 71.

Herbert, a 27-year-old Australian ranked No. 59 in the world, needed a big spark after entering the FedEx Fall 152nd in points. The top 125 players after the seven fall tournaments retain their

full PGA Tour cards for 2024.

"Found a little groove there," Herbert said. "It felt like anything I did poorly seemed to work out nicely for me and the good shots got rewarded as well. Felt like I played OK and just got a lot of good breaks, and capitalized on chances as well."

Herbert needed just 22 putts to finish the round in the heart of the Northern California's wine valley. His lone mistake was a bogey on the par-4 16th when he missed a 16-foot putt for par.

In the past that might have lingered in his mind the rest of the afternoon, but after taking nearly two months off to "reset" himself, Herbert kept his cool and got on a roll on the back nine.

"Me two months ago, I probably wouldn't have shaken that off as much," Herbert said. "I would have been a little harder on myself."

After a birdie on No. 10, Herbert parred No. 11 then rolled off six consecutive birdies

before ending his round with par on the par-5 18th. The 63 was two shots shy of the tournament course record of 61 shared by seven players, most recently Ricky Barnes in 2018. Barnes shot a 71 on Thursday.

It was a nice way for Herbert to return in his first tournament since missing the cut at British Open on July 23. That was when Herbert decided he needed to take a sabbatical and clear his mind.

During the time off Herbert stayed in America rather than heading home to Australia. He traveled to Maine to spend time with his girlfriend's family and kept away from golf.

"Just needed to get away from the game and refresh everything," Herbert said.

The only player from the top 10 in the world playing in the Fortinet Championship, the seventh-ranked Homa ran into trouble with a double bogey on No. 4, a 367-yard par 4 after his drive out of bounds and hitting a recovery shot that landed in a greenside bunker.

That pushed Homa further back into the field as he attempts to become the first player to win a tournament three straight years since Steve Stricker at the John Deere Classic from 2009 to 2011.

## US beaten in Davis Cup Finals as Tiafoe loses again; Titleholder Canada defeats Sweden

SPLIT (Croatia), Sep 15 (Agencies): Frances Tiafoe was beaten for the second straight time in the Davis Cup Finals, with his latest defeat on Thursday coming after a code violation on match point for smashing his racket into the ground following a disagreement with the chair umpire.

Tiafoe's 6-3, 6-7 (7), 7-6 (2) loss to Tallon Griekspoor helped give the Netherlands a 2-1 victory over the United States in Group D in Split.

Tiafoe was upset because he wanted to replay a point following a challenge. He unsuccessfully argued with the umpire and the match referee, then returned to the court and smashed his racket four times, leading to his second code violation and the loss of a point. It resulted in the end of the match, as he was losing 6-2 in the tiebreaker.

"The end of the match is super unfortunate. A lot transpired there at the end with the call there at 5-2," Tiafoe said. "Obviously I could have responded in a better way but emotions are flying, I'm competing for my country, I really want to win. Broke a racquet there and I forgot I had a code violation earlier in the match, match is over. I gave it my all. It's been a tough stretch for me over here in Croatia." Botic Van de Zan-



dschulp had beaten Tommy Paul 7-6 (2), 6-2 in the opening singles match. The U.S. later won the doubles with Austin Krajicek and Rajeev Ram defeating Wesley Koolhof and Matwe Middelkoop 7-6 (5), 6-7 (3), 6-3.

Tiafoe, who reached the quarterfinals at the U.S. Open earlier this month, had lost to Croatian Borna Gojo on Wednesday in a tie the Americans won 2-1.

The Netherlands had opened with a win against Finland and now lead the group.

Defending champion Canada earlier defeated Sweden 3-0 to take the lead in Group A.

Gabriel Diallo secured the Canadians the point with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Elias Ymer. Vasek Pospisil had given Canada a 1-0 lead by defeating Leo Borg 7-6 (5), 5-7, 6-2. Borg is the son of 11-time Grand Slam champion Bjorn Borg. Canada won the doubles

match in straight sets. "This was a huge match for Canada, for this tie today," Pospisil said. "We're getting close to getting through our group stage but there is still a lot more work to be done so it's a big one for us."

The titleholders had opened their title defense with another 3-0 win over host Italy on Wednesday in Bologna, while Sweden was swept by Chile on Tuesday.

Canada, on a 10-match winning streak, is trying to secure its spot in the quarterfinals for the third time in its last four appearances, while Sweden was looking to make it to the last eight for the second time in three years.

Sweden had won the two times that the nations faced each other, including in the group stage in Madrid in 2021, though Canada was without its top stars at the time — Felix Auger-Aliassime

and Denis Shapovalov.

Australia rallied to defeat France 2-1 after Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell defeated Nicolas Mahut and Edouard Roger-Vasselin 7-5, 6-3 in the decisive doubles match in Group B in Manchester. In the singles, Adrian Panatta had defeated Purcell, while Alex de Minaur beat Ugo Humbert.

"For us to regroup and get the win against a quality team in France today was really important," Australia captain Lleyton Hewitt said. "It was backs against the wall, we dug deep and we're still hanging in there."

The Czech Republic defeated South Korea 3-0 in Group C in Valencia.

The top two teams in each of the four groups will advance to the Final 8 that will be played in November in the southern Spanish city of Malaga.

## Charak pays Glowing Tributes to Martyrs; Demands retrieval of POJK from Pak

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Paying glowing tributes to Colonel Manpreet Singh, Major Aashish Dhonchak, Deputy Superintendent of Police Himanyun Muzamil Bhat who were martyred in gunfight with terrorists in Anantnag district and Rifleman Ravi Kumar of the Indian Army who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty during an encounter with terrorists in Rajouri district, Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak, President, Dogra Sadar Sabha, Jammu and Kashmir and former cabinet minister has once again asked the Government of India to take strong, effective and also diplomatic measures to completely wipe out Pakistan sponsored terrorism from Kashmir.

Charak lamented that unfortunately, the terrorism was once again trying to spread its tentacles in the peaceful Jammu region also.

Speaking at a press conference organised by Dogra Sadar Sabha at Dogra Hall, Jammu, Charak said that mere condemnation of the acts of terrorism will not solve this problem. He reminded that the DSS has been repeatedly insisting on strengthening of intelligence network at the grassroots level by mobilization of the PRLs, chowkidars, numberdars and the common citizens also and taking them into confidence through



appropriate means. He asked the government of India and the Union Territory to pay serious attention to this suggestion of the DSS in national interest and for safety and security of citizens of this country.

Charak profusely hailed the security forces and the police for their bravery, sacrifices and selfless service to the nation and asked the Hon'ble Prime Minister to back up his words and resolutions of the Parliament with action to destroy the terror epicenters in Pakistan at the earliest and also take steps to retrieve Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir from the illegal occupation of Pakistan, for the country.

DSS held a meeting of its core group to consider the appeals received from its POJK chapter under the DSS President and former J&K minister Th. Gulchain Singh Charak. The communication received from Sajjad Raja was

deliberated upon and Shri Charak revealed, "The letter with the following text is very clear and self-explanatory". Quoting from the text of the letter by Sajjad Raja, he read as under:

"As you know, people of POJK (who are 99% Dogras ethnically) are on the roads these days, they are demanding to provide them Atta, electricity and other basic necessities of life at affordable prices and to abolish undue taxes which Government of Pakistan and Government of so-called AJK have imposed on them. People of POJK are living a miserable life under Pakistani clutches and this situation has forced every citizen of the POJK to come on the road to protest for the provision of basic necessities of life."

Charak said, "Finding themselves helpless, Sajjad Raja, on behalf of the people of POJK has appealed to raise our voice in favour of

the people of POJK and to take up this issue with the Lt Governor of J&K and with the Government of India and ask them to rescue the people of POJK who have been suffering under the Pakistani occupation for 76 years.

The DSS also took note of the agitations by the Dogras living in POJK who are deprived of basic necessities of life and have been deprived the freedom of speech also and do not have any political power or position in administration.

DSS urged the Lt Governor J&K Manoj Sinha and the Government of India to show some concern towards the deprived population who are citizens of erstwhile J&K State. We still hold vacant seats for them in our J&K Legislative Assembly.

They are being subjected to inhuman treatment, their woman are dishonoured and do not enjoy basic fundamental

rights as available to us in India.

All the benefits of Indian Constitution and various welfare schemes have not reached them. The POJK Dogras are keen to join the rest of J&K like us. DSS, therefore, supports the deprived POJK population and seeks help on humanitarian grounds as per the resolution, unanimously passed in the parliament during 1994 and take effective steps to retrieve our land and free our population from unlawful Pakistani control and captivity.

Their miseries must be highlighted in all world forums to muster world support for this humanitarian cause. DSS also exhorts all Dogras organizations to rise above political, communal and religious lines to help their brethren and take up their cause with all their might and sincerity.

"As a nation we are morally bound to rescue and help our own citizens from unlawful Pakistani captivity and retrieve our land from illegal Pakistani occupation" said the former Minister of J&K and President of DSS.

Prominent among others present in the press conference were Prem Sagar Gupta, Amanat Ali Shah, Chander Mohan Sharma, Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Janak Khajuria, Balwinder Singh, Ravi Singh Slathia, Adv H.C Jalmaria, Jagdeep Singh and Chhankar Singh.

## GDC Kathua celebrates 'Hindi Diwas'



### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Sep 15: Department of Hindi, Govt Degree College (GDC) Kathua celebrated the "Hindi Diwas". The principal, GDC Kathua, Prof. Seema Mir was the Chief Guest of the event. The Principal, addressed the gathering with her kind and valuable thoughts on the importance of Hindi language and the need to preserve it. The event commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the chief guest and

senior faculty members. The Head of Department, Dr. Seema Devi, welcomed the dignitaries and threw light on the role of Hindi in our day to day lives.

Students wholeheartedly participated in the celebration of the "Hindi Diwas". The highlights of the event were Essay writing competition on the topic, "Hindi Ka Mahatva" and Nukkad Natak was also performed by the students.

The certificate of participation was given to

the participants. The winner of the Essay writing competition were Amanjot got 1st prize, Vishakha Saini got 2nd prize and Palak got 3rd prize

The judges for the event were, Prof. Shubh Kumar HOD Sanskrit, Prof. Shamsheer Singh HOD Urdu and Dr Poonam Kumari, HOD Dogri.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Esha Verma, Assistant Professor in Hindi.

## Ganesh Chaturathi Mahotsav; Kalash Yatra will be taken out on Sept 19



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Shree Ganesh Chaturathi Parav, a religious function is celebrated through the country every year in honour of Bhagwan Ganesha and particularly in Maharashtra with great pomp and show.

To make the necessary arrangements for the forthcoming ten days Shri Ganesh Chaturathi Mahotsav, a special meeting of Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust was held today under the Chairmanship of Th. Gulchain Singh Charak (Former Minister) and President of the Trust which was attended by the Trustees and Special Invitees.

It was decided to hold the celebrations in a big way and the Sub-Committee consisting of Deepak Gupta, Prithvi Raj Vaid, Ved Verma, Ashok Khajuria, Kulbir Singh Chib, Kiran Rajput, Sumesh Damral, Krishan P Gupta, Sandeep Singh, Parshant Sharma headed by K.B Magotra, KAS (Retd) attended the meeting.

During the course of meeting, following decisions were taken to make the

Parav colourful and impressive.

A beautiful Idol of Ganesha will be installed in Mandir by Head Pujari joined by other devotees on 19th Sept 2023 at 2.00 P M, After beautifully decorating whole complex, Before installation of Idol, a colourful Kalash Yatra will be taken out on 19th September instant at 12.30 PM.

Maha Arti of Idol Ganesha will be conducted daily at 8.00AM in the morning and 7.15.PM in the evening till 27th Sept, 2023. On the last day on 28th Sept 2023, after performing proper Puja Archana with chanting Religious Mantras, the Idol of Lord Ganesha will be taken to river Chenab at Jia Pota Ghat at Akhnoor in a colourful procession joined by large number of devotees for immersion with the Prayers to lord Ganesha to give Darshan next year too.

Prominent among those who participated in Trust Meeting include Sarv Shri S C Rekhi, (Genl Secy), Prithvi Raj Vaid, Ramesh Thakur, V. K. Abrol, Parshant Sharma, Kapil Slathia, Sumesh Damral, Ved Verma, Kiran Rajput, Krishan P Gupta, Sandeep Singh, Ashok Khajuria and Tarun Gupta.

## Martyrdom can't be tolerated, demand for 12 beheadings instead of one: Shiv Sena

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit expresses anguished over the martyrdom of 5 soldiers including Army Colonel, Major and DSP of Jammu and Kashmir Police and one SPO in Anantnag and Rajouri district of Jammu division in the last 48 hours in Kashmir.

Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena J&K demanded a strong military response from the Modi government against Pakistan, the breeding ground of terrorism, and the elimination of 12 terrorists for every Indian soldier lost. After paying heartfelt tribute to the martyred soldiers at the party state office, Sahni



addressed the journalists and said, "How long will we endure the martyrdom of our soldiers? Active terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, acting on the signals of Pakistan, continue to attack our soldiers and innocent civilians."

"Despite the abro-

gation of Article 370, peace has not been established in Jammu and Kashmir. Terrorism has again gained momentum in both Kashmir and Jammu regions. Since 2014, there has been a 93% increase in the number of Indian soldiers mar-

tyred in terrorist attacks in Jammu & Kashmir. Additionally, there has been a 176% increase in the number of terrorist incidents in Jammu & Kashmir in the past five years," he added.

"In the past two years, within a short span of time, 23 soldiers of the

Indian Army have been martyred in terrorist attacks in the border districts of Poonch and Rajouri," he stated.

Highlighting the atrocities conducted by Pakistan, Sahni said, "On one hand, Pakistan is attacking our soldiers and innocent citizens, inflicting death upon them, and on the other hand, we are presenting the Pakistani citizen, Haider, who illegally crossed the Indian border, in a rollover fashion rather than pushing him behind bars."

Sahni demanded a strong military response from the Indian government against Pakistan and stated that it is high time to put an end to the constant martyrdom of Indian soldiers.

## SMVDU students, faculty attend North Tech Symposium 2023

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Sep 15: The students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) accompanied by faculty members Dr. Balbir Singh, Dr. Mir Irfan UI Haq, Sudesh Kumar and Shashi Bushan Kotwal attended the North Tech Symposium 2023 at Indian Institute of Technology Jammu.

The North Tech Sym-



posium was held from the 11th to the 13th of September, promoting collaboration between the Indian Army, academia, and the industry. The Symposium featured exhibitions of the start-ups promoting "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

These start-ups showcased indigenously designed and manufactured defence equipment and provided a platform for the students

and faculty of SMVDU to interact with them, and gain knowledge of the challenges and possible solutions of the present and future technology.

The symposium also facilitated networking opportunities for students and faculty members from different institutions, fostering connections that could lead to collaborative research endeavours and career opportunities.

## Free Speed Ball Coaching Camp at DPS Rajouri

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Sep 15: J&K Sports Speedball Association in collaboration with DPS Rajouri organized one day Free Speedball Coaching Camp. The venue for the camp was DPS Rajouri.

The Number of students participated in the camp were about

100 from different classes. While the opening ceremony of the speedball coaching camp, the Chief Guest was Dr. Ramma Mattoo, Principal DPS Rajouri, and the school faculty was also present.

The camp was start under the guidance of Sunny Nanda General Secretary J&K Speed-

ball Association. The camp inaugurated with the motivational golden words by Dr. Ramma Mattoo.

In her respectful speech, she said that he enjoyed the game and would encourage the school to promote the game as fast possible to make out the best of players this camp.