TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 03, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper

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Dolly Sohi makes a comeback



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Contract for 97 more Tejas fighter jets expected to be signed by year-end: IAF chief Chaudhri

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RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

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Vol.-14 Issue-271 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Father killed, son injured as their newlypurchased tractor turns turtle in Kupwara

SRINAGAR, Oct 3 (Agencies): A man was killed and his son left injured after their newly purchased tractor turned turtle while the duo was on way to their home Dhani Karnah in Kupwara district on Monday evening, official sources said.

They said that a Chassis tractor met with an accident at Zarla area in Karnah resulting in on spot death of a person and injuries to another.

"As the news spread, the locals reached the site and lifted the persons to a nearby health facility, where one Mohammad Ashraf Malik was declared as brought dead on arrival", they said adding the other person identified as Uzair Ashraf is being treated upon at the health facility

"It has come to fore that the persons atop the tractor is actually a father-son duo which was on way to their home in Dhani Karnah after purchasing the tractor from Srinagar", they said.

Confirming the death of one and injuries to another, a police official said that they are ascertaining the details regarding the incident.

10-yearold girl dies after being hit by dumper in **Awantipora**

SRINAGAR, Oct 3 (Agencies): A minor girl died after she was hit by a dumper in Reshipora area of Awantipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Tuesday. An official said that the girl (10) identified as Areeba Arshad was hit by dumper, resulting in injuries to her. He said that soon after the incident she

tal, however, she succumbed to injuries. The official said that a case has been registered, while driver was arrested and vehicle has also been

seized.

was shifted to hospi-

Empowerment, full rights to Nari Shakti a topmost priority of J&K Admin: LG Sinha



SRINAGAR, Oct 3: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha todav flagged off the CRPF Women Bike Expedition 'Yashasvini', from the iconic Lal Chowk,

Srinagar.

The expedition will traverse more than 2134 KMs, crossing 40 districts to reach Ekta Nagar, Gujarat on 31st October, on the birth

anniversary of former Deputy Prime Minister, unifier of modern India, Sardar Vallabhbhai

In his address, the Lt Governor saluted

the unparalleled bravery, determination and courage shown by the Veeranganas of CRPF in many difficult situations while protecting the integrity and sovereignty of the nation.

Yashasvini, women bike expedition by Veeranganas of CRPF is symbol of resilience and strength of Nari Shakti. It also represents the sacrifice of women power, their self-confidence and today they are achieving many milestones in different fields with grit, determination and dedication, the Lt Governor

The Lt Governor shared the efforts of the government to promote women-led development and empowering

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Army Unit scales Mount Harmukh to commemorate Platinum Jubilee



SRINAGAR, Oct 3 (Agencies): A team of mountaineers from Indian Army's elite unit commemorated their platinum Jubilee by scaling Mount Harmukh, one of the highest peaks of Kashmir.

A team of 15 mountaineers of Indian Army achieved the monumental triumph under Operation 'Jawala' from 26 to 30 September 2023,

army spokesperson said.

"With unwavering determination, these brave men embarked on a daring expedition to reach the summit of Mount Harmukh, standing tall at an altitude of 5142 meters (16870 feet) above sea level. The challenging journey which began on 26 September tested the

limits of human endur-

the remarkable resilence of Indian Army," Spokesperson said.

ance and showcased

The Expedition was flagged in by Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, GOC Chinar Corps at Kamakeri on 3 October 2023 who praised the team for completing this challenging feat.

"The triumph on Mount Harmukh symbolizes the

Turn to page 9

All set for LAHDC-K Polls on Wednesday, First since 2019

SRINAGAR, Oct 3 (Agencies): The stage is all set for the polls of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council-Kargil (LAHDC-K) on Wednesday.

The alliance parties Congress and National Conference will have a direct contest with BJP for the 26 Council seats, and it is the first polls in Kargil after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir State into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

However, in some Council seats, NC and Congress had fielded candidates against each other, which they described as a "friendly contest." In the last council, the NC had 10 members and the Congress had 8.

There are 85 candidates contesting the

polls, with 22 representing the Congress, 17 from the NC, 17 from the BJP, four from the Aam Aadmi Party, and 24 Independent candidates.

The NC leaders linked the Hill Council poll result with the abrogation of Article 370, saying that the result would be an indication that voters in the region rejected decisions of August 5, 2019.

On the other hand, the BJP, which had three members in the last Council, during their campaign focused on the development in the region after the abrogation of Article 370.

The poll campaign ended on Monday eve-

According to election officials, there are over 95,000 voters, including 46,762 women, who are eligible to exer-

cise their franchise on Wednesday. They said the voting would be conducted through Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), which are being used for the first time in any council elections.

The officials said 278 polling stations have been set up across the Kargil district.

"EVMs and statutory material distribution for elections were dispatched to respective constituencies," an official said on Tuesday.

Security has been beefed up across the district to ensure peaceful polls. The police, along with the central armed police force, have been conducting patrolling in various constituencies for smooth polls. A senior police official

of the union territory of Ladakh said there were Turn to page 9

2 Army personnel injured in encounter in Rajouri

RAJOURI/JAMMU, Oct 3 (Agencies): Two army personnel were injured in a gunfight with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said on

The encounter broke out between security forces and terrorists on Monday evening following a cordon and search operation in a forest area of the district, they said.

A joint team of the army and Jammu and Kashmir Police had cordoned off the Broh and Soom forest belts in the Kalakote area on Monday following information about suspicious movement, they said.

The terrorists fired at the troops in an attempt **Turn to page 9**

Police teams dispatched to Kashmir, Punjab in Cocaine seizure investigation

SRINAGAR, Oct 3 (Agencies): Teams from the J&K Police made visits to various locations in Punjab and Kashmir on Monday in connection with the narco-terror drug case, wherein 30 kg of cocaine was confiscated in the Ramban district on Saturday evening, Tribune reported.

Reportedly, the cocaine had been illicitly transported from Kashmir to Puniab via two drug peddlers who were apprehended in Banihal, Ramban. The J&K Police extended their investigation to the hometowns of these individuals in Jalandhar and Phagwara, Punjab. During joint raids with

the Punjab Police, law enforcement officials detained a resident

of a Jalandhar village, believed to have connections with the arrested suspects from Ramban.

Mohammad Afzal Wani, SHO of Banihal, while speaking to The Tribune stated, "Multiple police teams have been deployed to various locations to probe the drug network responsible for smuggling narcotics into J&K. Given the high-profile nature of this case, further details will be disclosed in the coming days."

It has been revealed that police teams have also been dispatched to northern Kashmir areas, believed to be the origin of the drugs smuggled from Pakistan across the Line of Control (LoC). Authorities are

Turn to page 9

Two earthquakes hit Nepal, tremors felt in Delhi-NCR

NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Earthquake tremors were felt in the Delhi-NCR region on Tuesday afternoon with some people coming out of their residences and offices for safety

National Centre for Seismology said two earthquakes hit Nepal on Tuesday - the first had 4.6 magnitude on the Richter Scale that hit Nepal at 2:25 pm. The other measured 6.2 on the Richter Scale and occurred at 2:51 pm.

"Earthquake of Magnitude: 4.6, Occurred on 03-10-2023, 14:25:52 IST, Lat: 29.37 & Long: 81.22, Depth: 10 km, Location: Nepal," National Centre for Seismology said in a tweet.

■Turn to page 9

QR code scams up in India, over 20K cases registered since 2017: Report

NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): As Indians have quickly adopted digital payments, a surge in QR code scams has plagued the country, according to a new report released on Tuesday, which revealed that between 2017 and May 31, 2023, about 20,662 cases (or 41 per cent) related to QR codes, malicious links, or debit/ credit card fraud were registered in Bengaluru. According to the Palo Alto Networks, as most QR codes are visually

similar and distinguish-

ing differences is diffi-

cult, attackers can com-

promise a business's

website by replacing the

genuine QR code with



their own.When individuals scan this altered code, it can automatically redirect them to a phishing URL, where cybercriminals can request user credentials and gain access to email or social media accounts, among other things.

Alternatively, it could

lead users to an untrustworthy app store, urging them to download a malicious application, which typically contains viruses, spyware, trojans, or other types of malware, enabling data theft, privacy breaches, ransomware attacks, and in some instances, even crypto-mining,

QR codes now deeply integrated into our daily lives, related scams have surged in promi-

Cybercriminals exploit this by surreptitiously replacing QR codes in establishments such as bars, restaurants, lounges, shops, and clubs. This can result in unauthorised UPI payments and potential financial harm," said Vicky Ray, Principal Researcher -- Unit 42 at Palo Alto Networks.

The United Payment Interface (UPI) surpassed 10 billion monthly transactions in August

■Turn to page 9



CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

GRIEF STRICKEN

Usha Ji Zadoo -Wife

Son & Daughter-in-law

Vishal Zadoo and Sheetu Zadoo

10TH DAY

We inform the sad and untimely demise of our mother Mrs Usha Raina wife of Dr Bal Krishan Raina S/o Late Smt Parmashevar Raina and Shree Dina Nath Raina of Seei Jagir Sopore Kashmir presently at 1827 Gali No 4, Kashmiri Block, Jain Nagar Karala, New Delhi 110081.

10TH DAY will be held on 4th October 2023 Wednesday at Sect 16 Canal Ghat, Rohini, New Delhi

SHOK SANTABT PARIVAR : Dr Bal Krishan Raina - Husband

Son and Daughter-in-law Ishan Raina and Smt Portia Raina

Aditya Raina and Mrs Khushboo Raina - Son and Daughter-in-law Dr K. K. Sharma and Dr Sharika Sharma - Nandoie and Nanad Dr Subash Raina and Dr Sheela Raina - Nandoie and Nanad Dr Kuldeep Pandita and Mrs Khema Pandita - Nandoie and Nanad

Master Ivaan and Angad Raina - Grand Children With Samast Raina and Kachroo Parivar. 9818185157, 9650699995, 9891234067

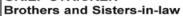
MOURNING FROM MALIYUN SIDE

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Bentathi (Smt Indrani Kaul W/o Late Prithvi Nath Kaul of Karfalli Mohalla Sgr) D/o Late Smt. Dhanwati and Late Sh Madav Lal Nehru of 61- Karan Nagai Sar Kmr.

MOURNING is being observed at D-404 SPS Residency, Indrapuram Ghaziabad UP.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 4th October 2023 Wednesday at 9:00 AM at Muradnagar Nehar Ghat U.P.

GRIEF STRICKEN



Smt. Raj Dulari W/o Late Sh. M.L. Nehru Ph: 9419211055 Smt. Girja & Sh Roshan Lal Nehru - Ph 09312883053

Smt. Sheela & Sh Maharaj Krishen Nehru - Ph 09900173978

Smt. Shanta Kaul Sultan W/o Lt. Sh. M.L. Kaul Sultan SAMAST NEHRU, KACHROO, DHAR & SULTAN PARIVAARS

10TH DAY & KRIYA

With great sadness and immense pain, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Chanchal Abrol W/o Sh. Shiv Kumar Abrol, resident of Ward No.7, Main Bazar Kathua who left for heavenly abode on 23rd Sept 2023.

The demise leaves a heartache that no one can heal and left us alone in this materialis-

10TH DAY rituals will be performed on 2nd Oct (Monday) 2023 at 10:00 AM at our residence Ward No. 7, Main Bazar Kathua.

KRIYA will be performed on 5th Oct (Thursday) 2023 at 12:00 Noon at our residence

GRIEF STRICKEN Sh. Shiv Kumar Abrol -Husband

Son & Daughters Mr. Tarun Abrol

Miss Sheetal Sonia Miss Romani Abrol & All Family Members



Smt Indrani Kaul

(Bentathi)

Mrs Usha Raina

70511-96106

Mob Nos: 70511-07087,

With deep sorrow, we regret to inform you that our beloved Smt. Raj Misra Sethi W/o Late Tara Mani Misra R/o 303-A Opp. Head Post Office Gandhi Nagar, Jammu left for heavenly abode on 2nd October 2023.

Uthala will be performed on 4th October 2023 at Durga Palace (Durga Mandir) Rampura Jammu from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

IN GRIEF

Daughters-in-law & Sons

Rashmi Misra W/o Late Ashish Misra Geetika & Arvind Misra (Binny)

Grand Children: Saksham Misra & Naman Misra

Misra Book Centre



Smt. Rai Misra Sethi

Misra & Sethi Family

Mob.No.: 9419188003

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad & untimely demise of Anil Kumar (Neeta) S/o Late Sh Chaman Lal R/o House No 79 Narwal Pain Satwari Jammu Cantt left for heavenly abode on 26th September, 2023.

10TH DAY will be performed on 5th October 2023, 11 am Thursday.

Kriva will be performed on 6th of October 2023 Friday at 12:30 pm at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Brother and Bhabhi

Sh. Sunil Kumar (Saddar Treasury Jammu) & Smt. Rajni

Sh. Naresh Kumar & Smt. Ruhi (DABGOTRA FAMILY)

MOBILE NO. 9149461718, 9796464848, 8082391669



ANIL KUMAR (NEETA)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Darbar Singh S/o Late Sh. Janak Singh erstwhile resident of H. No 1303, Lane No 13 Rajpura Mangotrian Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 30-09-2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed on Sunday 08-10-2023 at Rajpura Mangotrian Residence.

Grief Stricken

Smt Darshna Devi - Wife

Sh. Rajinder Singh and Smt Samrita -Son & Daughter in Law Smt Kanchan Rajput & Rakesh Singh - Daughter & Son in Law Sh. Puran Singh, Bansi Singh - Brothers

Sukhdev, Balbir, Deepak, Ajay - Nephews

AITHEMIA FAMILY Mobile No: 9419195558, 7006118195



SH. DARBAR SINGH

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS
With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed that S. Lachhman Singh S/o
Late Gyani Suchha Singh Jama R/o 606/F, Nanak Nagar, Jammu has left for heavenly abode on 29/9/2023.

PROGRAM Katha/Kirtan - 30/9/2023 to 05/10/2023 from 6.00 to 7.00 pm Aramb Shri Akhand Path - 6/10/2023 (Friday) at 10.00 am (at residence) Bhog Shri Akhand Path - 8/10/2023 (Sunday) at 10.00 am followed by Kirtan upto 11.00 am.

Antim Ardas - 8/10/2023 (Sunday) from 4.00 to 5.30 pm at Gurudwara Nanak Nagar, Jammu GRIEF STRICKEN

Brother & Sister-in-law Retd. Col. G.S. Babbar & Sdn. Harbans Kaur S. Lakhbir Singh Bawa & Sdn. Harvinder Kaur

Daughter & Son-in-law Sdn. Irvinder Kaur, Principal (10+2) & S. Arvindr Singh Jt. Dir. Agriculture

Son & Daughter-in-law S. Inderpreet Singh, Er. Nagbani School & Sdn. Gurpreet Kaur

Grand Children: Dr. Amanpreet Kaur (Registrar (Anesth) GMC) Mr. Gursimran Singh (Er.) Miss Harshleen Kaur & Mr. Divjot Singh



S. Lachhman Singh

Smt. Radha Khajuria

10TH DAY/KRIYA With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad &

untimely demise of Smt. Radha Khajuria W/o Jyoti Parkash Khajuria H. No. 74 Sector-2, JDA Housing Colony Upper Roop Nagar, Jammu left for heavenly abode on 25th September, 2023.

10TH DAY will be performed on 4th October 2023, 10 am Wednesday at our residence 74/2 Roop Nagar

KRIYA will be performed on 5th October 2023 11 am Thursday at our residence 74/2 Roop Naga

GRIEF STRICKEN

Jyoti Parkash Khajuria – **Husband** Sh. D. N. Mehta - Father-in-Law Smt. Tara Devi Khajuria – **Mother-in-Law**

Rashmi Khajuria - Daughter Aditva Khajuria - Son Brothers & Sister-in-Laws

Sh. B. B. Khajuria & Smt. Sunita Khajuria Sh. Ram Pal Sharma & Smt. Bandana Sharma

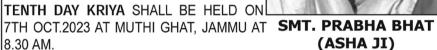
Sh. C. R. Khajuria & Smt. Anjana Khajuria Sh. K. K. Khajuria & Smt. Neena Khajuria - Uncle & Aunty

Sh. Ashok Kumar Khajuria & Smt. Santosh Khajuria – Uncle & Aunty Sh. Ram Paul Khajuria & Smt. Neelam Khajuria – Uncle & Aunty Late. Sh. V. V. Khajuria & Smt. Suman Khajuria – Uncle & Aunty

Tel: 9419195779, 9149512935

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF OUR KARMAYOGI MOTHER SMT. PRABHA BHAT (ASHA JI) W/O LATE RADHA KRISHEN BHAT ORIGINALLY FROM CHANAPORA SRINAGAR KASHMIR LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE.





KISHORE CHANDER BHAT (SON) SANJAY BHAT (SON) TRILOKI NATH KOUL (BROTHER)

ANITA BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW) PRIYA BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW) PERKIN, AYUSH, KRISHNA (GRAND CHILDREN) PH.NO. 8849087637, 9149848355

Tenth Day/Kriya/Rasam Pagri With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform

the sad demise of our beloved father Shri Baldev Raj Manhas S/o Lt. Neel Kanth Manhas R/o 114/16 Patel Nagar Talab Tillo.

The 10TH DAY will be performed at 10.30 am on 02-10-2023 (Monday) and 13TH DAY/KRIYA at 12.30 10-2023 (Wednesday). RASAM PAGRI will be performed on 04-10-2023

(Wednesday) at 5.00 pm at our residence 114/16 Patel Nagar Talab Tillo, Jammu. **Grief Stricken**

Sons & Daughter-in-Laws

Smt. Anuradha and Sh. Ashok Kumar Manhas Smt. Shammu and Sh. Ajeet Manhas Daughters & Son-in-Laws

Smt. Maya Devi & Sh. Hem Raj Thakur

Smt. Rita Manhas and Sh. Bharat Bhushan Bhandari

Smt. Anju Manhas and Sh. Dineshwar Singh Jamwal

Smt. Manisha Manhas and Sh. Rajiv Katoch Smt. Meenakshi Manhas and Sh. Sourabh Singh

Samast Manhas Parivar and Relatives Contact Nos.: 9858214705, 9858027880, 8492990984

FIFTH DAY

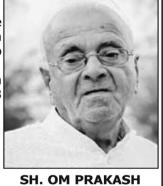
With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Om Prakash Gupta S/o Late Sh Sant Ram Gupta R/o Durung, Billawar on 01-10-2023. FIFTH (5TH) DAY shall be performed on

Wednesday 04-10-2023 at Shiv Mandir Sec-3 Trikuta Nagar Jammu (10 AM to 11 AM). **GRIEF STRICKEN**

Brothers-in-law & Sisters-in-law

Dr. CD Gupta & Dr. Chanchal Gupta

Sh Jag Mohan Gupta Sh. Vijay Gupta & Smt. Veena Gupta Sh. Surinder Gupta & Smt. Vijay Gupta Ph: 7006752483, 7006483613



Shri Baldev Raj Manhas

GUPTA (Durung Wale)

Smt. Isha Mahajan

FIFTH DAY

With profound greif & sorrow, we regret to inform the sudden and sad demise of our beloved sister Smt. Isha Mahajan W/o Sh. Vinay Mahajan R/o Sujanpur (Pathankot) who expired on 30/09/2023.

FIFTH DAY will be performed on 4th Oct. 2023 (Wednesday) at Shiv Mandir, near Govt. Quarters, Janipur from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY Brothers & Bhabhis

Sh. Rohit Gupta & Smt. Geetika Verma Sh. Ritesh Gupta & Smt. Arpan Mahajan

Sh. Ankush Gupta Contact No.: 9419315218, 7006149090, 9796871545





Arvind Zadoo and Monika Zadoo Grand Children: Aayan, Kritika, Aarya 10TH DAY/ KRIYA/ UTHALA Sad demise of our beloved Sh. Kastur Singh Jamwal S/o Lt Maan Singh R/o 421/1, Sector C, Sainik Colony, Opp Army Gate (originally from Raipur) on 22-09-2023. 10TH DAY will be performed at Ram Mandir Sec D Sainik Colony Jammu on 01-10-2023 (Sunday) at 10.00 AM KRIYA will be performed on 04-10-2023 at our residence at 12.00 Noon (Wednesday) UTHALA shall be performed on 04-10-2023 at Ram Mandir Sec D Sainik Colony, Jammu from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM GRIEF STRICKER STRICKER STRICKER STRICKER STRICKER SON IN Law Daughter in Law and Son Daughter in Law and Son Baughter in Law Son in Law Sm Veena Pathania Wo Lt Col H, S Pathania Sm Rita & Ashok Singh Manhas Grand Children Fryshelia Kaditya Partap Singh

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we

regret to inform the sad demise of our

beloved Sh Veer Ji Zadoo S/o Lt. Sh

Ram Ji Zadoo originally resident of

Purshayar Habba Kadal Srinagar at

present H.No. 149 (H) Durga Naga

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed

on Thursday 05th of October at Muthi

Ghat near Directorate of School

Sector-1, near JK Bank ATM.

Education at 8.30 am.

nd Children /ishali & Aditya Partap Singh Anandita & Er. Amit Bandral ajita & Naval Commander Panka



Sh Veer Ji Zadoo

, Shourya, Yash, Janvi, Arya aika, Aaira, Agranya, Rudhr

CHOUBARSI

Sincere remembrance and respectful tributes on the solemn occasion of your 4th Death Anniversary. Choubarsi of our beloved Mother Smt. Pushpa Devi W/o Late Sh. Rattan Chand Sharma (Tehsildar) shall be performed at our residence 'Namisharanya' Magar Nagar, (Near Kailash Ashram) Chinore - 18001 12.00 Noon onwards on Wednesday, 4th Octob 180013

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY : Sons & Daughters-in-law Parshotam Dadhichi & Dr. Vijay Lakshmi Dr. Kulbhushan Sharma & Sunita Sharma Er. Ravinder Sharma & Dr. Neena Sharma Rajinder Sharma & Ria Sharma Daughters & Sons-in-law Nirmal and Er. R.L. Khajuria

Neelam and Dr. M.L. Sharma Dr. Neeraj & Er. Rakesh Baru J.N. Sharma & Vaishno Sharma - Niece & Nephew r. Kuldeep Sharma & Kailash - Niece & Nephew Dr. Ashok Sharma & Savita - Niece & Nephew & Grand, Great Grand Childre

Mobile : 9419101742, 9419147113, 9419223898, 9149549700, 7889300700

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that our beloved **Showki Bhat (Bita)** W/o Bansi Lal Bhat R/o Bangund Verinagh at present H.No. 103, L.No. 03, Dream City left for neavenly abode on 25th September, 2023. **10th Day** will be performed on 04-10-2023 near Muthi Ghat (Director School Education Muthi) at 8.30 am Grief Stricken

Sh. B.L. Bhat- **Husband** Manisha Bhat, Akshira Bhat- **Daughters** Smt. Usha Bhat W/o Lt. P.K Bhat- **Devrani** Vishal Bhat, Kunal Bhat- Sons Bitta Pandita- Sister-in-Law Ashok Pandita- Brother-in-law



Smt. Pushpa Devi

Mob. 9419100900 Daughters & Sons: Pooja Pandita, Manisha Pandita, Rahul Pandita

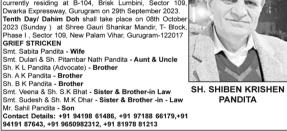
TENTH DAY/KRIYA

Mohalla Paharian, Jammu expired on 24.09.2023 (Sunday)
10TH DAY will be performed on 3rd October 2023 (Clueaday) at SHREE GEETA MANDIR SAMRITI BHAWAN, NEAR KARAN HOTEL, BAKSHI NAGAR, JAMMU AT 10.00 AM TO 11.00 AM.
KRIYA will be performed on 6th October 2023 (Friday) at our residence at H No. 213, Mohalla Paharian, Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN:
SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
Sh Jugal Kishore & Smt Mohini Gupta (Bishan Karyana Store, Malhotra Street, Jammu)
Sh Sanjeev Gupta (Joint Commissioner Food Safety, JK) & Dr Jyoti Gupta Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt Seema Gupta & Sh Sublash Gupta
Smt Seema Gupta & Sh Sunil Gupta
Smt Seema Gupta & Sh Sunil Gupta
Smt Chanchalo Devi Wot Lt Sh Charman Lal (Jethani)
Smt Darshna Devi Wot Sh Bharat Bhushan (Devar & Devrani)
Smt Bachno Devi Wot Lt Sh Kewai Kirshan (Nanad)

sh Krish Mahajan 9419191357, 9796872211, 7051473095

TENTH DAY/ DAHIM DOH With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sac demise of our beloved Sh. Shilben Krishen Pandita S/o Lat Sh. Jagar Nath Pandita Originally from Irkumoo, Kokernaç currently residing at B-104, Brisk Lumbini, Sector 109 Dwarka Expressway, Gurugram on 29th September 2023. Tenth Dayl Dahim Doh shall take place on 08th Octobe 2023 (Sunday) at Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir, T- Block Phase I, Sector 109, New Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017 GRIEF STRICKEN

SMILE S I RICKEN
Smt. Sabita Pandita - Wife
Smt. Dulari & Sh. Pitambar Nath Pandita - Aunt & Uncle
Sh. K L Pandita (Advocate) - Brother
Sh. A K Pandita - Brother Sh. B K Pandita - Brother Smt. Veena & Sh. S.K Bhat - Sister & Brother-in Law Smt. Sudesh & Sh. M.K Dhar - Sister & Brother -in - Law



OBITUARY / 10TH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Smt Jai Kishori Bhat W/o Sh. Dina Nath Bhat originally residen of Tengpura, Pulwama A/p H. No 158, Pren Nagar New Plot, Jammu (Near Vishal Bar

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed or 10-10-2023 at Muthi Ghat Near Director of School Education at 9.00 AM. Grief Stricken
Sh. Dina Nath Bhat - Husband -8899181838
Sh. Janki Nath & Smr Kishni Bhat - Devar & Devrani
Smr Kamla Ji - Bhabhi
Smr Raj Dulari Choudhary - Bhabhi

on 01-10-2023

Smt Shanta Ji - Bhabhi

Smt Dulari Pandita - Bhabhi Simt Cultar Pariolita - Benbani Smt Kanta Raina - Sister Mr Ramesh Kumar & Mrs Sarla Bhat - Son & Daughter in Law Simt Pinki & Mr Ravi Kumar Pandit - Daughter & Son in Law Smt Jolly & Sh. Dileop Kumar Pandit - Daughter & Son in Law Mrs Maneesha & Mr Sumeet Veshen - Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law indu, Indu, Mohit , Deepu, Niha

CONTACT NO: 9796429683, 7006596893, 9149524179. 9906163317 **OBITUARY** With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sac demise of Qazi Manzoor Ahmad son of Late Qazi Ghulam Mohammad resident of House number 144, Vakil Colony, Brien-Nishat, Srinaga on Sunday October 1, 2023.
The RASM-I-CHAHARUM of the deceased will

be observed at the graveyard at Baha-ud-dir Sahib, Nowhatta, Srinagar on Wednesda October 4, 2023 at 10:30 AM. BEREAVED

Qazi Azhar Manzoor (Son) Qazi Zahoor Ahmad (Brother) Qazi Munawar Ahmad (Brother) Showkat Ahmad Mir (Brother in law)

Muzaffar Ahmad Mir (Brother in law)



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MP Khatana conducts Basti Sampark Abhiyan, highlights PM Modi's initiatives



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: As part of the "Basti Sampark Abhiyan" aimed at reaching out to the weaker sections of society and showcasing the accomplishments of Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the past nine years, BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, along with Rekha Mahajan, BJP President Jammu South, and Lucky Puri, Mandal President Trikuta Nagar, visited five locations: Malik Market, Bathandi, Narwal Bala, Nowabad, and Sagarhi Mohalla in Jammu.

The programs were organized by Chairman Putto Choudhary, and a substantial number of individuals also joined the BJP during the event. Among those

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Nation-

al Conference President

Dr Farooq Abdullah and

Vice President Mr Omar

Abdullah expressed

grief over the sudden

passing away of Mrs

Asha Devi Sarpanch

and Contested Candi-

date of DDC Katra and

conveyed condolences

who joined were Mohd. Mushtag, Ch. Sham Din Panch, Ch. Rehmat Ali, Ch. Naveed Ahmed, Ch. Gulzar Ahmed, Ch. Mumtaz Bibi, Ch. Reyaz Ali, Ch. Razaq, Ch. Nissar, Ch. Kafil, and others.

During the event,

BJP MP Er. Gulam Ali Khatana highlighted the various schemes and programs initiated by the Modi Government. He emphasized the government's commitment to uplift disadvantaged communities and mentioned Prime Minister Modi's encouraging words for the ST community during his recent speech. Khatana expressed that PM Modi always prioritizes the welfare of Gujjars and has a special affection for them, as well as the pasmanda among

to the bereaved family.

In their messages, Dr

Farooq Abdullah and Mr

Omar Abdullah prayed

for peace to the depart-

ed soul and expressed

solidarity with other

members of the family.

In the condolence

message, General Sec-

retary Haji Ali Moham-

med Sagar, Dr Sheikh

Mustafa Kamaal, Ajay

the Muslims.

Furthermore, Khatana noted that the political reservation for women and STs in J&K represents groundbreaking initiatives by the Modiled government and will bring about revolutionary changes in India's history.

Rekha Mahajan and Lucky Puri also addressed the gathering, highlighting the beneficiaries of key schemes such as Kisan Samman Nidhi, Jal Jeevan, and PM Aawas Yojna, belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities. They also informed about ST Welfare Schemes, including Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana, Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), and Eklavya Model Residential Schools.

Ancient India was centre of learning. Time has come to reclaim the position of Vishwa Guru: LG Sinha

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Oct 3: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended the Founder's Day celebration of Devki Arya Putri Pathshala Srinagar at Tagore Hall.

In his address, the Lt Governor lauded the school for its immense contribution in providing quality education to girls from poor sections of the society since its establishment in 1910.

"Strength of the nation is determined by knowledge, culture and values. Educational institutions should focus on building human values, knowledge, social consciousness to enable the young minds to shape their future life and destiny of the nation," the Lt Governor

Ancient India was centre of learning.

Under the leadership of

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the time has come to reclaim the position of Vishwa Guru, he said.

"Learning in schools should foster educational excellence, equal access to build knowledge society and prepare students for global competitiveness," he added.

At the Founder's Dav celebration, the Lt Governor commended the role of the Smt Veena Chandhok, Chairperson of Devki Arya Putri Pathshala, Principal and teachers in guiding the growth of the centuryold educational institu-

Society should also

come forward and contribute to such virtuous endeavours and create suitable environment for students to develop

life goals, he said. Smt Veena Chandhok, Chairperson, Devki Arya Putri Pathshala shared the journey and achieve-

ments of the school over

their full potential, tal-

ents, and achieve their

the past 112 years.

Performance by Santoor Maestro Sh Abhay Sopori was one of the key highlights of the event besides the soulful prayers and display of martial arts by the school students.

Yusra Mushtag, Principal DAPP, Teachers, parents, guardians and students were present.

Kavinder bats for early issuance of printed driving licenses in Jammu region

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Administration should take cognizance of the hardship of the public to get their Driving licenses in physical & printed format, said Kavinder Gupta, senior leader BJP & former Dy. CM, who added that many of the persons are suffering for no fault of theirs.

Those who prayed for

peace to the departed

soul, include Sheikh

Bashir Ahmed Provin-

cial Secretary Jammu,

Babu Rampaul former

minister and Central

Zone President, Javed

Ahmed Rana Zone

President Pir Panial.

Abdul Gani Malik Zone

President Udhampur

Kavinder pointed out that in the absence of the printed Driving License, the drivers find it hard to satisfy the traffic officials on the road and the administration must take the necessary steps to ensure that the applicants get their printed driving license as early as pos-

Gupta added that

Kichloo Zone President

Chenab Valley, Babu

Jagjeevan Lal Ex-MLA,

Ajaz Jan P.P Jam-

muYNC, Pardeep Bali

Provincial Secretary,

Vijay Lochan Chairman

SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli

Chairman OBC Cell,

Satwant Kour Dogra

P.P Women Wing, Sher

Singh, Vikramjeet Singh

and Rovin Kumar.



this absence of driving license has caused to the persons who have to visit foreign

nations for studies,

work, travel or other

purposes. Kavinder Gupta stressed that while the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government has ensured many facilitatory steps for the common masses to make their government's departmental offices visits shorter and easier, the onus lies on the head of all those responsible to deliver the services to the nation and its residents. He particularly asked the concerned higher authorities to intervene and take necessary action to sort out

the issue at the earliest. Kavinder Gupta, former Dy. CM accompanied by RS Pathania, former MLA & BJP Spokesperson and Munish Sharma, Prabhari BJYM were attending to the public grievances at BJP headquarters, Trikuta

Nagar, Jammu. Pathania said that many issues of the masses need proper guidance and aid to get them solved. He stressed that generally people, in the lack of awareness and facilities feel incompetent to reach up to the designated government offices, hence BJP has adopted a facilitator's role to provide immediate relief to the public.

Munish Sharma said that a large number of common people visit the party headquarters regularly to present their issues, with a strong belief in the dedisolve their issues.

Numerous individuals and deputations from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leaders.

Listening patiently to the various issues represented by the deputations, Kavinder Gupta telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials for resolving the issues and also issued letters to many of them.

Former MLA Rajeev Sharma, BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra and others were also present on the occasion.

Reasi, Sajjad Ahmed AAP expresses concern over alleged scam in J&K's Sehat Scheme

Farooq, Omar conveyed condolences

Kumar Sadhotra Addi-

tional General Secretar-

ies and Rattan Lal Gupta

Provincial President

Jammu Province have

also expressed grief and

prayed for peace to the

Senior leaders of the

National Conference

have also conveyed

their condolences to

the bereaved family.

departed soul.

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Appu Singh, State Spokesperson of Aam Aadmi Party and a member of State Media Coordination Committee, has raised serious concerns about an alleged scam surrounding the implementation of the SEHAT scheme in Jammu and Kashmir. The allegations stem from a complaint filed on October 10, 2022, which outlines several critical issues related to the SEHAT scheme, a flagship program announced by the Prime Minister of India to provide health insurance coverage to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The timeline of events detailed in the complaint is as follows:

The J&K State Health Agency initiated a bidding process on July 6, 2020, inviting insurance companies to submit their bids for the SEHAT scheme's implementation. Various insurance companies submitted their bids on August 7, 2020, and on September 3, 2020, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited (BAGIC) was awarded



the contract.

The contract, signed on December 25, 2020, was for a period of 3 years with provisions for renewal. Termination of the contract by the insurer was subject to specific conditions outlined in clause 27.3.

On September 13, 2021, BAGIC issued an exit notice to the State Health Agency, stating their intention not to continue the contract beyond one year. This move was viewed as a breach of contract terms.

For nearly two months, the State Health Agency took no legal action against BAGIC and did not seek advice from the government's law department. On November 12, 2021, the decision was made to invite fresh bids. Subsequently, the process was canceled on December 18, 2021, for administrative reasons. An interim agreement was then reached with BAGIC on December 25, 2021.

However, it is crucial to note that the addendum agreement to the main contract had significant loopholes. The administrative fee was approximately 2.5 crores per month, and 20 crores were paid to BAGIC as the first tranche premium. Moreover, there was no issuance of an insurance policy, violating

the Insurance Act and IRDAI rules. The cost ceiling of the premium notified by the National Health Authority was rupees 1052 per year per family, while the premium decided was 849 per year per family. These alleged irregu-

larities have raised concerns about financial losses to the state exchequer and the mismanagement of the SEHAT scheme. The Aam Aadmi Party views this as a case of criminal misconduct that should be thoroughly investigated and prosecuted under the law.

On October 10, 2022, the whistleblower filed a complaint with the CBI. However, it wasn't until April 19, 2023, that the CBI transferred the complaint to the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) in Jammu and Kashmir. On May 24, 2023, the ACB responded with what the Aam Aadmi Party describes as a redundant and baseless reply to the special judge (anti-corruption) in Jammu.

In an urgent press conference, Appu Singh expressed the Aam Aadmi Party's faith in the judicial system and the belief that the truth will prevail. She emphasized the importance of institutions like the CBI and ACB in ensuring the well-being of the people of India and vowed to continue raising the voice against alleged scams within the Jammu and Kash-

Prominent senior leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party in Jammu and Kashmir, including S. Mohinder Pal Singh (General Secretary Communications, Jammu Province) and Anita Choudhary (Joint Secretary, Jammu Province), were present at the press confer-

mir administration.

No terrorism in Srinagar; district peaceful: IG CRPF

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Oct 3: Inspector General of CRPF (Srinagar Sector) Ajay Kumar Yadav Tuesday said that Srinagar is a peaceful district and there is no militancy here.

"Today, we saw LG Manoj Sinha flagging off women bikers to Gujrat from Lal Chowk. Our women cops are taking part with their counterparts in counter insurgency operations,

airport security, road opening parties (RoPs), jail security and other sensitive operations," Yadav told reporters on the sidelines of the flagging off event of women CRPF bikers from Srinagar to Guirat.

Asked whether there was any terrorism in Srinagar, the IG CRPF said that today a mega flagging off event was held in the heart of Srinagar. "Where is terrorism? District is peaceful. There can be no better

peaceful atmosphere anywhere else," he said.

To a query whether Kashmiri women can also join CRPF, the IG CRPF said: "Yes, Kashmiri women can join the force in any category." About the bike rally, he said that the event is a sign of women power and it sends a message that women can achieve anything they wish. "This is a sign of women empowerment," he said.

EDITORIAL

PARTY SYSTEM

s a land of social and cultural pluralism, India has been a natural home for a multi-party system. Presently there are several major active parties working in India at the national level and in various states. Some parties are national level parties while others are regional or local political parties.

Congress, BJP, BSP, CPI, CPM, NCP and BSP are the National level parties. LJP, Janata Dal (U), Janata Dal (S), BJD, SP, AIADMK, DMK, Telugu Desham, SAD, RLD, RJD, PDP, TDP, AGP, ML, and many others are regional or state level political parties. We can legitimately say that there are almost 50 active political parties, national as well as regional in the Indian Political System. In addition to these there are about 400 other registered political parties.

The party structure in India has been continuously and rapidly changing due to splits, defections, and alliances. Almost every political party has been living through splits. The Congress experienced four big splits in 1969, 1977, 1995 and 1999. In 1999 the Nationalist Congress Party emerged out of a split in the Congress. In-fact, several political parties like Trinamool Congress, TMC and several others have come out of the Congress as a result of splits.

In 1964, the Communist Party suffered a split and CPI and CPM emerged on the Indian political scene. In 1977, the party system underwent a big change when Jan Sangh, Bhartiya, Lok Dal, Socialist Party, Congress (O) and Congress rebels combined to form the Janata Party. In 1978, the Congress suffered another split when Congress (U) was formed by rebel Congressmen who were led by Devraj Urs. In 1979, however, the Janata Party suffered a split when Janata (S), i.e., Lok Dal separated itself from this party.

In April 1980, the former Jan Sangh members parted company and formed the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). In 1988, the Janata Party, the Lok Dal and the Jana Morcha combined to form Janata Dal. In 1990, Janata Dal (S) was formed out of the Janata Dal. During 1991- 2001; the Janata Dal suffered atleast four splits or mass defections. The SAD, the DMK, the TDP, the LD and several other regional parties have also suffered splits. These have been a source of big political changes in Indian politics. Infact, India Party System has been a continuously changing party system.

The Indian multi-party system initially worked as one party dominant multi-party system. Between 1947-67, the Congress dominanted fully the Indian political scene at the national and state levels. It got 354, 371, 361 seats in 1952, 1957 and 1962 General Elections respectively. In 1967 it got 283 seats in the Lok Sabha. A split then came into its way which forced it to depend upon the CPI and DMK for support. Non-Congress governments came to power in several states.

However, it proved to be a short-lived change. In 1971 elections, the Congress again got 352 seats in the Lok Sabha. Between 1971-74, the Congress retrieved its formidable position both at the Union and State levels. However, the emergency rule imposed by it during June 1975 to March 1977, reduced its popularity and it suffered a big defeat in March 1977 elections.

A united opposition (the Janata Party) was successful in defeating it. However, the internal factionalism in the Janata Party again set the stage for the re-emergence of the Congress as the dominant party in 1980 elections. Initially when Indian Party System was working as a one-party-dominant-multiparty system, lack of an effective opposition was its big weakness. In the first four general elections no party other than the Congress was in a position to secure even 50 seats, the minimum constitutional requirement for getting the status of the 'opposition party'.

33% quota hasn't moved needle on women power

By: Shikha Mukerjee

It is a significant legislation, the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, or what is best understood as a straightforward constitutional amendment giving women 33 per cent reserved seats in Parliament and in state Assemblies. It gives the Narendra Modi government yet another opportunity for virtue signalling.

Its significant majority and the near unanimous support of all political parties in the two Houses of Parliament enabled the Bharatiya Janata Party to break the wall that has withstood repeated attacks on its adoption for 37 years, that is from 1996 when United Front Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda first tabled a bill and set the ball rolling.

Tragically, the needle has not moved even after the first step was successfully navigated. The tragedy is not only in the rather hazy time line that is a part of this significant legislation, it is in the proportion of seats that will be reserved for women legislators. The insult to the injury lies in the fact that since 2010, there is a 50 per cent reservation for women in all panchayati raj institutions and in the nagar palikas, that is, municipalities and city corporations. The year is important because the

proportion of seats reserved for women was bumped up from the original 33 per cent when the 73rd constitutional amendment was passed in 1992.

India therefore has accepted that women as elected representatives at the lowest tier of government must have a 50 per cent stake in local level policy choices, decisions and in implementation of all programmes for rural and urban citizens. The 33 per cent reserva-

tion of seats for women legislators is moving the needle back instead of forward.

There are social and structural problems that reservation for women in panchayats and nagar palikas has revealed. The impact of women on policy making, choices, decisions and implementation has been uneven. In large swathes of the country, power continues to be held and exercised by men, regardless of women's reservation. News reports and academic studies all confirm that a new category of persons have been created after women's reservation in PRI and city corporations and municipalities. This new category even has a name - "Panchayat Pati", the husband of the elected woman panchayat member, regardless of whether she is the pradhan or an office-bearer.

Neither the Constitution nor education nor training has changed much; these "panchayat patis" are routinely sworn in by senior members of the state bureaucracy as the office-bearers of panchayats. Old habits, paternalism and the patriarchal order live on. There is a wilful violation and deliberate encouragement to those who are determined to deny the basic foundational value of respecting the individual as equal, regardless of gender, with rights that are universal for all citizens.

There is a rot that has gnawed away the fundamentals of a rule-based constitutional democracy, where orders ought to be obeyed in letter and spirit and where the mandate of the people reflected in the choice of a representative is respected, without exception.

Two incidents from Madhya Pradesh, where the BJP is in power, reveal the nature of the problem and the crisis of governance when required to deliver social justice and gender equality. These are not trivial lapses.

A 2022 news report revealed that two male zilla parishad CEOs, both experienced civil servants as they were of deputy commissioner rank, scrambled to cover up two reported incidents -- in Sundrel in Dhar and Gaisabad in Damoh. The two CEOs tacitly consented to making women non-persons, by swearing in the patis, or husbands of the women elected from Scheduled Caste reserved constituencies in the local panchayats.

Warped thinking and values have grown instead of being permanently deleted, like the precedence of family customs over rights. Though Amartya Sen is not a favoured intellectual of the Narendra Modi government, it would have benefited from his wisdom that Martha Nussbaum had summarised as "women's current preferences often show distortions that are the result of unjust background conditions". Having been socialised to accept their status as "passive dependents", the perpetuation of their subordinate role as wives, albeit elected panchayat members, reflects "adaptive preferences" as a survival choice.

The laws do not make India an ugly place to live in. It is the failure of the political class and the governments that they run which makes it a cruel, violent, corrupt, immoral, unjust and unequal, intolerant and irrational country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is entirely correct when he claims to have empowered women by reserving 33 per cent of the seats in Parliament and the state Assemblies. He is suspect when he claims to have done this for "mothers, sisters and daughters". Women are not archetypes. They are not to be

classified as roles that emphasise their relationship with someone else. Women are individuals, too.

Reservation for women as MPs and MLAs is flattery for a purpose. If the Modi government was seriously committed to social justice and gender equality it would have spent the past nine and a half years in designing policy with incentives that brought more women into the workforce, made them truly empowered in the fullest sense.

Women's condition has changed in 75 years; it has improved in terms of education and participation in elections. In 10 states, including Bihar and Uttarakhand, and three Union territories -- Puducherry, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep -- 21 lakh more women voted than men in 2019. This is up from the 10 states and UTs where more women voted in 2014.

The significance of this change underlies the promise to reserve 33 per cent seats for women in Parliament and the state Assemblies. Women are now a constituency and matter in 118 Lok Sabha seats.

In misunderstanding the capability of women to act with agency, the Modi government seems to have taken it for granted that a promise that will be fulfilled in the future is sufficient to win the women's vote in the crucial states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Telangana which go the polls soon, and in 2024 when the Prime Minister will be a contestant in the Lok Sabha elections.

The deification of Bharat Mata as the embodiment of renunciation reflects the expectations of the social and political order, that spent more time talking about OBC reservation within women's reservation than about why India needed a constitutional amendment that gave only a 33 per cent guarantee of representation.

Scientists Uncover Brain Signals for Good Memory



By: Vijay GarG

esearchers at the University of Basel found **L** a direct link between activity in certain brain regions like the hippocampus and memory performance, using the world's largest functional imaging study on memory, involving nearly 1,500 participants. The findings, which revealed stronger brain activation in individuals with better memory, could impact future research linking biological characteristics to brain signals.

Individuals exhibit substantial variations in their memory capabilities. A study by the University of Basel has now identified a connection between specific brain signals and these differences in memory per-

formance.

Although it is established that particular areas of the brain are essential for memory functions, it has remained unclear whether these regions demonstrate varying activity levels related to the storage of information in individuals with differing memory performance levels.

Having investigated this matter, a research team led by Professor Dominique de Quervain and Professor Andreas Papassotiropoulos has now published its results in the journal Nature Communications.

In the world's largest functional imaging study on memory, they asked nearly 1,500 participants between the ages of 18 and 35 to look at and memorize a total of 72 images. During this process, the researchers recorded the subjects' brain activity using MRI. The participants were then asked to recall as many of the images as possible and as in the general population, there were considerable differences in memory performance among them. Signals in brain regions

and networks
In certain brain regions

including the hippocampus, the researchers found a direct association between brain activity during the memorization process and subsequent memory performance. Individuals with a better memory showed a stronger activation of these brain areas. No such association was found for other memory-relevant brain areas in the occipital cortex - they were equally active in individuals with all levels of memory performance.

Functional Networks Associated With Individual Differences in Memory Performance

Functional networks associated with individual differences in memory performance.

The researchers were also able to identify functional networks in the brain that were linked to memory performance. These networks comprise different brain regions that communicate with each other to enable complex processes such as the storage of information.

"The findings help us to better understand how differences in memory performance occur between one individual and another," said Dr. Léonie Geissmann, the study's first author, adding that the brain signals of a single individual do not allow for any conclusions to be drawn about their memory performance, however.

According to the researchers, the results are of great importance for future research aimed at linking biological characteristics such as genetic markers to brain signals.

Basel-based research on memory

The current study forms part of a large-scale research project conducted by the Research Cluster Molecular and Cognitive Neurosciences (MCN) at the University of Basel's Department of Biomedicine and the University Psychiatric Clinics (UPK) Basel. The aim of this project is to gain a better understanding of memory processes and to transfer the findings from basic research into clinical applications.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal PES-1 Educational columnist Malout Punjab)

Glorious tributes paid to Mahatma **Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri**



TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 3: Gurmeet Singh, District General Secretary of the Congress party and a Senior Congress Leader, celebrated and organized a tribute event on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri at Rajinder Bazar, Congress Office, Jammu.

Mahatma Gandhi, also known as the Father

of the Nation, played a pivotal role in India's independence movement. His birthday, celebrated on October 2nd, is observed worldwide as the International Day of Non-Violence. Gandhi's commitment to peace, truth, and non-violence made him an iconic figure in India's history. He was assassinated by Nathuram Godse on January 30, 1948.

On the same day, Lal Bahadur Shastri, India's second Prime Minister, is also remembered. Born on October 2nd, 1904, in Mughalsarai, Uttar Pradesh, Shastri was a freedom fighter and a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi. He served in various ministerial positions in the government of Jawaharlal Nehru and

is known for the slogan

"Jai Jawan Jai Kisan"

(Hail the Soldier, Hail the

Gurmeet Singh emphasized the significance of Lal Bahadur Shastri's political journey, marked by dedication to the Indian National Congress party. Shastri's tenure as Prime Minister saw notable achievements, including the signing of the Tashkent Agreement to ease tensions between India and Pakistan.

Similar to Gandhi Jayanti, Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti is an important national holiday in India. People pay their respects by offering garlands and flowers at his Samadhi at "Vijay Ghat," New Delhi. Statues of Lal Bahadur Shastri across India are adorned, and educational institutions and government offices organize various events to honor

Nasir expresses concerns over negligence of Labor Deptt

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Nasir Meer, while addressing the audience, aimed to shed light on critical issues related to the apparent negligence of the Labor Department.

In his address, Nasir Meer pointed out that the Labor Department seems to be in a state of inaction, with a lack of inspections being carried out to ensure compliance with labor laws and regulations.

He further elaborated that organizations are violating the provisions of the Employment State Insurance Act, and regrettably, no actions are being taken by the relevant department to rectify these

violations.

Additionally, Nasir Meer highlighted instances of noncompliance with the Minimum Wages Act, particularly in private schools where deserving individuals, such as teachers, are often paid minimum salaries. These educators, often referred to as nation builders, deserve fair compensation for their invaluable contributions

Nasir Meer appealed to the authorities, urging them to pay close attention to the wages of private school teachers, recognizing their pivotal role in nation-building.

> Furthermore, Nasir Meer emphasized that workers are not receiving bonus payments or overtime allowances as required. Additionally, organizations are failing to properly administer provident funds to their employees.

Addressing concerns about women's rights, Nasir Meer called for a significant change in maternity leave policies.

He argued that organizations should provide a minimum of 6 months of maternity leave to new mothers without threatening their job security with premature termination after only a month or two of leave.

Nasir Meer concluded his address by expressing his determination to take action if the Labor Department fails to address these issues promptly. He warned of potential legal actions, including filing a Right to Information (RIT) petition, alongside peaceful protests on the streets.

Sikh Noujawan Sabha Bandu Rakh Hockey Club hosts Six-a-Side Open **Knockout Hockey Tournament**



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Sikh Nouiawan Sabha's Bandu Rakh Hockey Club, under the aegis of Hockey J&K, is set to host a Six-a-Side Open Knockout Hockey Tournament (Men) from October 1, 2023, to October 5, 2023, at the Bandurakh Hockey Stadium. The tournament aims to pay homage to Col. Manpreet Singh, Major Ashish Dhanoa, and DSP Humayun Bhat.

A total of 12 teams will be participating in this prestigious tournament. The teams include AKS Club Diagana, Society of Sports Kunjwani, Bandu Rakh Hockey Club, MBS Hockey Club, Hiranagar Hockey Club, Dashmesh Hockey Club, Khalsa Club, Sonipat XI, Pathankot XI, Gurdaspur XI, 157 TA, and Sham Lal Hockey Academy Poonch.

On the second day of the tournament, three matches were played. In the first match, Bandu Rakh Hockey Club faced off against Akali Kour Singh Digiana, with Bandu Rakh Hockey Club emerging victorious with a score of 5-2. The chief guest for the match was Jasbir Singh Jassi, and the guest of honor was S. Tejpal Singh, Vice President of Kashmir Sikh Sangat. The match officials included Harvinder Pal Singh, Gurjeet Singh, and Tejinder Singh, with Tanish Preet Singh, Mankamal Singh, and Gurpreet Singh Nishkami as part of the technical team. Goal scorers for Bandu Rakh Hockey Club were Kirandeep (2), Rohit (2), and Krishna (1), while Onkar Singh and

In the second match. Dashmesh Club Guru

for AKS Digiana.

Raminder Singh scored

Nanak Nagar played against Society for Sports Kunjwani Bandu Rakh, with Dashmesh Club Guru Nanak Nagar winning 3-1. SHO Satwari, Sumeet Sharma, was the chief quest. and Harjinder Pal Singh, Chowki Officer Chatha, was the guest of honor. Devinder Singh and Gurjeet Singh officiated the match, with Harvinder Pal Singh as the physical education teacher in the technical team. Sukhjinder (2) and Jasjot (1) scored for Dashmesh Club, while Sanamjot Singh scored for Society for Sports.

The third match featured Hiranagar Club and MBS Simbal, with MBS Simbal Camp winning 7-1. S. Bhopinder Singh, SHO Miran Sahib, was the chief guest, and S. Harbans Singh, President of Gurdwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Bandu Rakh, was the guest of honor. The match was officiated by Jagjit Singh and Tanish Preet Singh, with Harvinder Pal Singh, Mankamal Singh, and Gurieet Singh (CISF) in the technical team. Goal scorers for MBS Simbal Camp were Jasprit Singh Jimmy (3), Mandeep Singh (1), Sukhpreet Singh (2), and Jaswinder Singh (1), while Rameshwar scored the solitary goal for Hiranagar.

The final match of the tournament is scheduled for October 5, 2023. The successful execution of the program was carried out under the supervision of Ravinder Singh Raju, President of Bandu Rakh Hockey Club, and Tejinder Singh, General Secretary of Bandu Rakh Hockey Club. Technical members included Harvinder Pal Singh, a physical education teacher, and Tarandeep

Kishtwar District Hospital faces doctor, para-medical staff shortage: Ajeet Bhagat

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 3: The District Hospital Kishtwar is currently grappling with a severe shortage of doctors and para-medical staff, causing inconvenience to a substantial number of patients on a daily basis. This concerning issue was brought to light by Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior Leader, Ajeet Bhagat.

Bhagat has earnestly appealed to the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, as well as the Chief Secretary and Divi-



sional Commissioner of Jammu, to promptly address this pressing concern by allocating the necessary medical personnel to District Hospital Kishtwar.

In addition to the healthcare staffing

crisis, Bhagat has also raised several other critical issues. He highlighted problems related to the shortage of drinking water, non-implementation of central sponsored schemes, including those for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), handicapped pension, old age pension, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Pradhan Mantri Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), agriculture, horticul-

ture, self-employment

schemes, as well as the need for enhanced wages for Special Police Officers (SPOs), ReT teachers, daily wage laborers, and addressing the under-

staffing in schools. Ajeet Bhagat has urged the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Secretary, Divisional Commissioner of Jammu, and the Deputy Commissioner of Kishtwar to promptly investigate these issues and take necessary measures to resolve them for the welfare of the people in

DPS Jammu, DPS Katra, DPS Nagbani unite for Swachhta Hi Seva 2023 campaign on Gandhi Jayanti

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA. Oct 3: In response to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for 'Ek Tareekh, Ghanta, Ek Saath' – a national call to action for one hour of citizen-led Shramdaan for Swachhata (cleanliness) on October 1st, 2023, at 10:00 am, the staff and students of DPS Jammu, DPS Katra, and DPS Nagbani under the directive of Dr. Kuwarani Ritu Singh, Founder Member Trustee/Pro-Vice Chairperson of DPS Jammu, Katra, and Nagbani, came together to participate in a remarkable initiative on cleanliness at Bawe Wali Mata, Bahu

Fort, Jammu. The purpose of this campaign was twofold: to instill the values of cleanliness and sanitation in the hearts of our students and to offer a heartfelt Swachhanjali (tribute) to Mahatma Gandhi on the eve of his Jayanti.

The students embarked on a Swachhata rally, carrying impactful slogans that resonated with the importance of cleanliness. They tirelessly cleaned the area using broomsticks, presented a thought-provoking nukkad natak (street play), and engaged with the general public to raise awareness about cleanliness. Dr. Kuwarani Ritu

Singh, extended her guidance and support to all three schools for this noble event. Under her guidance the stu-



anthem as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of his birth anniversary along with a video presentation on the cleanliness campaign carried out on 1st October which was greatly appreciated by Earlier, the schools

cial assembly to mark the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Students and staff members paid floral tributes to the Mahatma. Class II students of DPS Jammu presented a heart-warming group song, including Bapu's favourite bhajan, "Vaishnav Jan ke tene kahiye." The school Environment Club Secretaries-Ekaumjit Singh, and Tehzeeb Kour led the entire campaign, while Ayn Bhola, delivered a compelling speech highlighting the significance of cleanliness and also suggested the need for laws to penalize those who litter, urinate, or throw garbage in public

also organized a spe-

Before going in public, all 3 DPS Schools car-

the swacchata pledge under directions of Dr. Kuwarani Ritu Singh Ji, to minimize carbon footprints, reuse plastics, ban single use plastic, plant more trees, and take actions such as. using khadi certificates and banners for sustainable future. During the Swacchata Campaign, students also discussed the concept of creating art exhibits and installations from the waste they collected, emphasizing the "waste to

wealth" principle. It is noteworthy that nine years ago, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had initiated the Swachh Bharat Mission, and citizens from all walks of life enthusiastically embraced the call for cleanliness, making it a national behaviour. As a prelude to Gandhi Jayanti, the Prime Minister issued a unique call to action during the 105th episode of Mann Ki Baat, appealing all citizens to dedicate one hour of Shramdaan for Swachhata at 10:00 am on

October 1st. The three DPS schools of Jammu, Katra, and Nagbani successfully completed this challenge at the serene Bawe Wali Mata, Bahu Fort, Jammu on Sunday, October 1st, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

The esteemed management of DPS Jammu, including M.K Ajatshatru Singh, President-RCT, Dr. Kuwarani Ritu Singh, distinguished Founder Trustee/PVC, S.S Sodhi Director, extended their heartfelt congratulations to all the participants and the school staff for carrying out the Swacchata Campaign successfully and for nurturing the right values in the young children.

Principal-Ms. Ruchi Chabra appreciated the budding eco-warriors and encouraged them to continue organizing such cleanliness campaigns in future also. She thanked the parents for their support and cooperation in making this event a resounding

Headmistress Meenu Gupta also applauded the efforts and commitment of all involved.

success.

GK Educational Trust celebrates Gandhi Jayanti

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 3: GK Educational Trust, a trusted training partner of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the Ministry of Skill Development, proudly celebrated Gandhi Jayanti in Kathua. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of students, marking a memorable occasion of learning and community service.

On the momentous occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the staff and students of GK ITRP MKK Kathua came together to organize a Swachhata drive as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign, a step towards a 'Garbage Free India.' The students actively engaged in the clean-



significance of cleanliness in our lives.

GK Educational Trust has been unwavering in its commitment to creating opportunities and improving the lives of individuals in the community through

skill development programs. Mr. Ammar, the Director of GK Educational Trust, Ms. Pritpal Kour, Centre Incharge, and other dedicated staff members graced the occasion with their presence, demonstrating their strong support for this noble cause.

Gandhi Jayanti, celebrated on October

2nd every year, is a day to honor the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a visionary leader who championed the principles of non-violence, truth, and social equality. It serves as a poignant reminder of our duty to follow his path and work towards a better, cleaner, and more skillful India.

Bollywood films like 'Thank You for Coming' and Dhak Dhak explore themes of camaraderie, sexuality and liberation through women's eyes

Come Friday, a reverse Cinderella is in search of her hero, the morning after her engagement party, for a very peculiar reason! Karan Boolani's directorial Thank You for Coming has Bhumi Pednekar, Shehnaaz Gill, Dolly Singh, Kusha Kapila and Shibani Bedi enacting positive roles in this modern-day comedy!

Girl squad films in Bollywood are few and far between. The few that have ventured in the 'daring' category, exploring themes of camaraderie, sexuality and liberation, still struggle to gain acceptance. No Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants or Sex and The City, yet the list of female buddy dramas in the Hindi film industry is by and by getting more outings. Here's a look at a few among them and how they fared.

Relationship issues Veere Di Wedding

Shashanka Ghosh-directorial Veere Di Wedding (2018) explores female friendship. The plot follows four friends — Kareena Kapoor Khan, Sonam Kapoor, Swara Bhaskar and Shikha Talsania. The film explores issues with relationships, including sexual. The film that wasn't screened in Pakistan and Kuwait for its explicit language and sexuality, didn't meet critics' approval. It reportedly did decently well commercially though, reportedly earning Rs 139 crore, given it was made on a budget of Rs 28 crore.

Buddy comedy



Jahaan Chaar Yaar
Writer-director Kamal Pandey's Jahaan Chaar Yaar
(2022) stars Swara Bhasker,
Shikha Talsania, Pooja Chopra
and Meher Vij. It is about four
friends finally making their Goa
trip a reality. This female buddy
comedy didn't impress the critics on account of weak writing
and it failed at the box-office too.

Bold take Lipstick Under My Burkha

Lipstick Under My Burkha
Alankrita Shrivastava's bold
outing Lipstick Under My Burkha
(2017) won the approval of
critics and did decently at the
box-office. The film charts the
journey of four women — Ratna
Pathak, Konkona Sen Sharma,
Aahana Kumra and Plabita
Borthakur — and their search for
freedom. The film won approval
on account of realistic portrayals
of the female lead characters
and effectively batted for normalising women's sexuality on
the silver screen.

Humour and hope

Angry Indian Goddesses Oscar nominated Pan Nalin's Angry Indian Goddesses (2015), touted as India's first female buddy film, moved beyond the fun and frolic, weaving in themes of discrimination and bringing to screen women of substance. Sandhya Mridul, Tannishtha Chatterjee, Sarah-Jane Dias, Anushka Manchanda. Amrit Maghera. Raishri Deshpande and Pavleen Gujral are part of the ensemble cast. The film might not have done magic numbers at box-office, but touched the viewers with humour and hope!

Connecting link

The 2001 film Lajja, directed by Rajkumar Santoshi, focuses on the fight of four women, Vaidehi (Manisha Koirala), Maithili (Mahima Chaudhary), Janki (Madhuri Dixit) and Ramdulaari (Rekha), all names of goddess Sita, to expose societal ills. Vaidehi becomes the connecting link between the women. The film didn't do well commercially in India, but fared better overseas. It was lauded for fabulous performances by the leading ladies. Female camaraderie

Parched
Written and directed by Leena
Yadav, Parched (2015), tells
the story of four women in a
desert village, which is riddled
with social evils, including child
marriage, dowry and marital
rapes. Tannishtha Chatterjee,
Radhika Apte, Surveen Chawla
and Lehar Khan lead this story
of women pushing for change.
Female desire and camaraderie

Coming Up

are central to this film.

Taapsee Pannu joins hands with Viacom18 Studios for a girls' road trip story titled Dhak Dhak. Tarun Dudeja directs this story of four women, who set out on a road trip to the highest motorable pass in the world on their bikes. This journey of self-discovery has Ratna Pathak Shah, Dia Mirza, Fatima Sana Shaikh and Sanjana Sanghi. The film will be released in October. In what seems like forever in works, Jee Le Zaraa is on the lines of Dil Chahta Hai and Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara. Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt are supposed to drive this Farhan Akhtar's travel buddy drama, but there is no confirmation when it will go on the floors.

Salman Khan completes 35 years in Hindi cinema, says 'I love being the larger-than-life action star'



Bollywood superstar Salman Khan, who has completed 35 years in Hindi cinema, says he loves being the largerthan-life action star.

As he is all set to celebrate his 35 years with 'Tiger 3', Salman said: "People who have loved me since my debut, made me

realise on social media that I have completed 35 years in cinema! It is a very special moment for me, filled with nostalgia, love, so much joy and also the pain when things didn't go as per plan. But I have loved every minute of my journey in the Hindi film

industry."

He added, "I'm glad to celebrate this personal milestone with the release of Tiger 3! I know that my fans love to see me doing action and I hope Tiger 3 is the perfect gift that they have been waiting for!"

Salman is elated with the response that the first video asset, Tiger Ka Message from 'Tiger 3', garnered.

Yash Raj Films released Tiger Ka Message last week, a video that is a precursor to the trailer of the film.

Salman Khan is back to reprise his role as super agent Tiger aka Avinash Singh Rathore in Yash Raj Films' 'Tiger

He says playing such larger than life characters are fun.

Salman said: "I love the action genre, I love being the larger-than-life action star. It's fun! I love doing big action spectacles and Tiger 3 is as big as it can get. The story of the film is something that I loved a lot and I'm certain that we will catch everyone by surprise with it."

'Tiger 3', directed by YRF's homegrown film-maker Maneesh Sharma, is set to release on Diwali.

Dolly Sohi makes a comeback

Actress Dolly Sohi is set for a comeback with the show Parineetii. The actress said, "I made a comeback with Parineetii, as the track demands my presence and the story revolves around me. I play the role of Gurpreet Kakkar, female protagonist Parineet's (Anchal Sahu) mother. The current show will air more twist and turns after my characters gets kidnapped and is hospi-

Dolly is known for playing prominent roles in shows like Bhabhi, Kumkum Bhagya and was last seen in Piya Abhimani. The actress said, "I previously completed my shoots for the show Jhanak in Kolkata and Kashmir. And after I returned back to Mumbai, I was informed about my character making a comeback on



Parineetii. I could easily manage because we

are yet to start shooting for Jhanak in Mumbai."

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's Paris Fashion Week appearance garners mixed reactions

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan made headlines at the Paris Fashion Week with her dazzling runway appearance, where she drew a mix of reactions from the audience. Known for her recent role in Mani Ratnam's Tamil epic drama 'Ponniyin Selvan,' the former Miss World and Bollywood icon walked the runway alongside international model and media sensation Kendall Jenner, Chinese actor Gong Jun. and acclaimed British actress Helen Mirren during the L'Oreal Paris show. The runway was set against the backdrop of the iconic Eiffel Tower.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's choice of attire, a golden shimmering gown, caught the eye of



many. Her blonde highlights added an extra touch of glamour to her radiant appearance. The gown featured a captivating see-through cape elegantly fastened at the shoulders, and she complemented her look with exquisite diamond rings, earrings, and golden high heels.

However, her appearance generated mixed reactions online, with some social media users making critical comments about her look. Some wondered about changes in her appearance, while others felt the dress choice didn't suit her body type.

On a positive note, many supporters came forward to applaud her memorable performance at the show. Her delightful interaction

with Kendall Jenner, captured in a viral video, was celebrated across the internet.

The video depicted Aishwarya Rai and Kendall Jenner sharing smiles and even sharing a dance on stage.

In addition to Aishwarya's appearance, Paris Fashion Week also saw the debut of Navya Naveli Nanda, the daughter of Shweta Bachchan. Navya gracefully walked the runway in a stylish red mini dress, marking her entry into the world of high fashion.

Interestingly, there have been rumors circulating about her dating 'Gully Boy' actor Siddhant Chaturvedi, adding another layer of intrigue to her public profile.

Oprah Winfrey was mistreated due to her weight



Television personality Oprah Winfrey has opened up about her weight loss journey, recalling an unpleasant experience when she was at a higher weight. While hosting an Oprah Daily panel on the obesity and weight crisis, she said it happened when she was shopping. "It's that thing where people are like, 'Let me show you the gloves. Would you like to look at the handbags? Because we know that there's nothing in here for you'," Oprah said of her past shopping experiences to the panel's attendees. "There is a condescension. There is stigma."

Oprah also revealed that she dieted a lot because her, 'body always seems to want to go back to a certain weight'. "You all know I've been on this journey for most of my life.

My highest weight was 237 lbs. I don't know if there is another public person whose weight struggle has been exploited as much as mine over the years," she shared.

Oprah added that she was 'shamed in the tabloids every week (for) about 25 years' for 'not having the willpower' amid her weight journey.

"This is a world that has shamed people for being overweight forever," she said.

Beyonce's concert film to be distributed globally by AMC



A film based on US popstar Beyonce's hit 'Renaissance World Tour' is set to be distributed globally by a unit of AMC Entertainment, as cinema chains look to fill content gaps stemming from Hollywood strikes. Beyonce's film is a theatrical production of the singersongwriter's global tour this summer, spanning 57 concerts across 40 cities in North America and 14 across Europe.

The film follows a similar release by popstar Taylor Swift, whose Eras Tour concert film will be distributed in cinemas in North America, starting October 13.

Khatron Ke Khiladi 10 fame Smriti Kalra talks about her role in Darran Chhoo

Smriti Kalra, who is known for her work in shows like Suvreen Guggal, Karol Bagh and Dil Sambhal Jaa Zara, is all set to be seen alongside actor Karan Patel in Darran Chhoo. Talking about the title of the film, she says, "You might wonder what this title Darran Chhoo means. Let me divide my film's name into three parts — Darr-Run -Choo, Toh dar se kaho bhage, aur choo mantar hojaye. And this is what the film is about - facing your fears and once you do, your fear just vanishes.

The actress, who made her Bollywood debut with Cash, adds, "This philosophy is what I follow in my life and hence I agreed to be a part of this project, so that I can reach



out to one and all with this message in a relatable, light, non-preachy way. Darran Chhoo is a family entertainer with

a message that we all need to hear. We shot extensively in Bhopal, so you will get to see a lot of Bhopal in this film.

PM Modi Launches Development Projects Worth 27,000 Crore In Chhattisgarh

Ahead of the programme, PM Modi offered prayers at the Danteshwari Temple in Bastar region of the state.

JAGTALPUR (CHHATTIS-GARH), Oct 3 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth about 27,000 crore in Chhattisgarh, including the NMDC Steel Ltd's steel plant at Nagarnar.

Ahead of the programme, PM Modi offered prayers at the Danteshwari Temple in Bastar region of the state.

PM Modi inaugurated the steel plant at Nagarnar built at a cost of more than 23,800 crore. The steel plant is a greenfield project that will produce high-

He said the vision of a developed India will be fulfilled when every corner of the country is developed.

"Today multiple development projects worth more than 27,000 crore have been dedicated to



the nation and foundation stone laid," he said.

NMDC Steel Ltd's Steel Plant at Nagarnar is expected to provide employment opportunities to thousands of people in the plant as well as in ancillary and downstream industries. It will put Bastar on the steel map of the world and provide a boost to the socioeconomic development of the region.

PM Modi also dedicated a new rail line between Antagarh and Taroki and a rail line doubling project between Jagdalpur and Dantewara.

He laid the foundation stone of the Boridand -Surajpur rail line doubling project and redevelopment of Jagdalpur Station under the Amrit Bharat Station

Scheme.

Prime Minister flagged off the Taroki - Raipur DEMU Train

Officials said these rail projects will improve connectivity in the tribal regions of Chhattisgarh. The improved rail infrastructure and the new train service will benefit the local people and help in the economic development of the region.

They said the Prime Minister also dedicated a road upgrading project from 'Kunkuri to Chhattisgarh - Jharkhand Border section' of National Highway-43. The new road will improve road connectivity, benefiting the people of the region.

Chhattisgarh is among five states that will go to the polls by the end of the year. BJP is seeking to oust the Congress government in the state which came to power in 2018.

Amid strained relations, India tells Canada to withdraw 41 diplomats by October 10 NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): The

Indian government has told Canada to withdraw dozens of diplomats from the country, agency reported on Tuesday.

"India has told Canada that it must repatriate 41 diplomats by October 10,"

Ties between India and Canada strained over Canadian allegations that Indian government agents had a role in the June murder in Canada of a Sikh separatist leader and Canadian citizen, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who India had labelled a "terrorist".

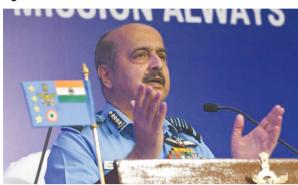
India has dismissed the allegation as absurd.

Agency, citing people familiar with the Indian demand, said India had threatened to revoke the diplomatic immunity of those diplomats told to leave who remained after October 10.

Canada has 62 diplomats in India and India had said that the total should be reduced by 41.

The Indian and Canadian foreign ministries did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Contract for 97 more Tejas fighter jets expected to be signed by year-end: IAF chief Chaudhri



NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Indian Air Force chief Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhri on Tuesday said the contract for 97 additional Tejas Mark 1A was expected to be signed this year.

It will cost about Rs 1.15 lakh crore, the IAF chief said.

The IAF chief was addressing the annual press conference ahead of the Air Force Day on October 8.

The IAF is going to procure 97 more Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mark-1A fighter jets. "We will sign with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). They may further allocate work to private sector," the IAF chief said.

The number of 97 is not to reduce the existing projection of the

ordered by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in February 2021 under a

the 83, the IAF chief said they would cater to

'Mark-1A' version is already flying. A series of validations are being done and deliveries are scheduled to commence from February next year, the HAL has announced.

Indo-Pacific region is

lenge and added that the IAF would be critical in meeting this challenge.

On being asked if the requirement of 42 fighter jet squadrons was needed in the changing war fighting scenario, the IAF chief said. "We will need the numbers.'

He said the Soviet origin MiG 21 fighter jets are being phased out by early 2025.

The IAF will be carrying out a fly past over the Sangam -- the confluence of the Ganges and the Yamuna rivers. Among the other planes and copters, the C295 transport plane sourced from European aerospace major Airbus will make its debut.

S400 air defence mis-

remaining two squadrons of S400 air defence missiles being imported from Russia would be here in a year.

Ukraine war.

7 more patients died in Nanded hospital between October 1 and 2; 31 deaths in 2 days: Officials

AURANGABAD, Oct 3 (Agencies): A day after it came to light that 24 patients died in 24 hours at a government-run hospital in Maharashtra's Nanded, the authorities on Tuesday confirmed that seven more deaths occurred at the same facility between October 1 and 2.

The District Information Office (DIO) of Nanded, located around 280 km from here, confirmed this on a social media platform, which took the total count of the deceased patients in the hospital in 48 hours to 31. Earlier, 24 deaths were reported at the Dr Shankarrao Chavan Government Medical College and Hospital in Nanded in 24 hours between September 30 and October 1. Twelve of the 24 deceased were infants, a top Maharashtra health department

official said on Monday. In a social media post, the Nanded DIO said, "The facts related to the death of patients at Dr Shankarrao Chavan Government Medical College and Hospital is as follows: 24 deaths between September 30 and October 1; seven deaths between October 1 and 2."

"Please do not panic. A team of doctors is ready," it added.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra Medical Education Minister Hasan Mushrif will visit the GMCH in Nanded on Tuesday. He will also address a press conference following his visit to the hospital, a district official said.

In its official statement released on Monday, the Nanded district collectorate said that between September 30 and October 1, a

total of 24 deaths were reported at the hospital.

"Among the 12 adults who lost their lives, five were male and seven female. Four adults had heart-related ailments, one was suffering from an unknown poisoning, one had a liver issue, two were kidney patients, and one case was of complications during pregnancy. There were three accident cases," it said.

Among the deceased infants, four were brought to the hospital at the last stage, the collectorate statement said.

Delhi Police raid office, premises connected to news portal NewsClick, its journalists

Some journalists, including Urmilesh and Abhishar Sharma, are taken to the Lodhi Road Special Cell office for questioning

NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Delhi Police's Special Cell on Tuesday searched 30 locations connected with online news portal NewsClick and its journalists in a case filed under the anti-terror law UAPA following allegations that it received money for pro-China propaganda.

Some journalists, including Urmilesh and Abhishar Sharma, were taken to the Lodhi Road Special Cell office for questioning. Sources said that they had posed a list of 25 questions to them.

"Questions pertained to details of their foreign travels, Shaheen Bagh protest, farmers' protest and others," a source said.

Police said no one had been arrested so far in the searches concentrated in the Delhi-NCR region. Founder and editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha was taken to the NewsClick south Delhi office. A forensic team is also at News-Click's south Delhi

Addressing a gathering in Bhubaneswar, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said probe agencies in the country are independent and work in accordance with law.

"If someone has done something wrong, probe agencies work on it. Nowhere is it written that if you have got money through illegal manner or done something objectionable, then probe agencies cannot investigate that," Thakur said.

The Congress, the Aam Aadmi Party and the Samajwadi Party as well as the Press Club of India reacted to the searches and criticised the government for the action.

The Enforcement Directorate had earlier conducted raids on the firm's premises to probe its sources of funding. The Special Cell is now continuing the searches on the basis of inputs provided by the central agency, officials said.

The Special Cell has registered a new case under the anti-terror law, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. and started an investigation, they said.

Officials in the know said police seized laptops and mobile phones related to some News-Click journalists.

A Special Cell team took journalist Abhisar Sharma with it after questioning him at his home in Noida Extension. The team seized gadgets like mobile phones and the laptop of the journalist landing at his home in the morning.

Delhi Police sources said the raids, which started early on Tuesday morning, are based on a case registered in August under UAPA and other sections of the IPC, including Section 153A (promoting enmity between two groups) and 120B (criminal conspiracy).

Before he was detained, Abhisar Sharma wrote on X, "Delhi police landed at my home. Taking away



my laptop and phone." Another journalist, Bhasha Singh, wrote on X, "Finally last tweet from this phone. Delhi police seizure (sic) my phone."

Among those raided were historian Sohail Hashmi.

His sister, Shabnam Hashmi, posted on X, "Today, early morning at 6 am, Delhi Police's special cell raided Sohail Hashmi's residence. 6 people barged into the house and the bedroom.'

She alleged that the team questioned him for two hours and seized his computer, phone, hard disc and flash drives.

Waiting outside the Special Cell office, Gaurav Yadav, an advocate of NewsClicks journalist Urmilesh, who is also being questioned, said, "We have been here since 10 am and have been trying to meet our clients. However, we have not been able to meet them, neither have we been provided with any documents, nor did we get the copy of

the FIR." Congress media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said

the early morning raids on contributing journalists at NewsClick come as a "fresh distraction from the explosive findings of caste census in Bihar and the growing demand for caste census across the country". "When he faces questions from out of syllabus, he resorts to the only counter he has in his predictable syllabus - DISTRACTION,"

Khera said on X. Samajwadi party president Akhilesh Yadav slammed the raids, terming them as a sign of a "losing BJP".

"The raids are a sign of the losing BJP. This is not a new thing, BJP rulers have always raided honest journalists. But how many crores of rupees are being given to 'Mitra channels' every month in the name of government 'prachar-prasar' (advertisements), anyone should also print this," Yadav said in a post on X.

The AAP slammed the BJP-led Centre over raids, saying it is "scared" of journalists. AAP chief national

spokesperson Priyanka

Kakkar alleged that the

Modi government is pre-

tending to fight China by arresting journalists because it didn't have the courage to engage with it directly.

The Press Club of India on X said it is deeply concerned about raids on the houses of journalists and writers associated with NewsClick

"We are monitoring the developments and will be releasing a detailed statement. The PCI stands in solidarity with the journalists and demands the government to come out with details," it said.

In August, the Delhi High Court sought Purkayastha's stand on a plea by the city police seeking vacation of an earlier order granting him interim protection from arrest in an unlawful foreign funding case.

The website recently hit the headlines for allegedly receiving money from US millionaire Neville Roy Singham for pro-China propaganda in India.

Citing an investigation by The New York Times, Thakur had recently claimed that NewsClick's money trail revealed an "anti-India

Tejas Mark 2. These 97 jets will be in addition to 83 such jets

Rs 48,000 crore order to public sector giant HAL. On being asked if these 97 would have any improvement over

growth in technology. The prototype of the

The IAF chief said the

siles in a year The IAF chief said the

India had contracted for five such squadrons: three were supplied before the Russia-

Mother, toddler burnt alive as car collides with truck in Karnataka

woman and her toddler daughter were burnt alive when their car caught fire after colliding with a truck on NICE road here on Tuesday.

The father and another daughter escaped with serious injuries and are undergoing treatment at a hospital.

The deceased has been identified as Sindhu and her two-year-old daughter. According to police, the incident took place near Sompura when Mahendran. B. was driving the vehicle with his wife

Sindhu and two daughters. At about 4 a.m., Mahendran who was driving from Mysuru Road towards Kanakapura road, lost control over the car and it collided with a truck and rammed into a wall. The car caught fire

While Mahedran and his elder daugh-

BENGALURU, Oct 3 (Agencies): A ter managed to escape, Sindhu and the other daughter got trapped in the car and were charred.

The truck driver also lost control after

the collision and the vehicle turned turtle on the roadside. Mahendran had rented the car to visit

Nagasandra with family. He hails from Tamil Nadu and resides in Vijinapura near Ramamurthy Nagar in Bengaluru.

The bodies have been shifted to the KIMS hospital.

Talaghattapura traffic police have reached the spot and are investigating

Prima facie, it appears that Mahedran had dozed off while driving resulting in the tragedy, police said, adding that the exact cause of the accident is yet to be ascertained.

Woman found dead with gunshot wound in house in **UP's Bareilly**



BAREILLY, Oct 3 The incident took (Agencies): A 28-yearold married woman was found dead with a gunshot wound at Badagaon village of Sirauli area here, with her family police said. alleging that she was Circle officer Deepkilled by her in-laws,

police said on Tuesday.

place on Monday night. Rishibala was found dead in her bed with an illegal .315-bore mini rifle also in the room,

shikha Ahibaran Singh said the victim's uncle Harpal had in his complaint accused her inlaws of killing her. Rishibala's body was

sent for a post-mortem and forensic teams collected evidence from the spot, police said. According to police, at the time of the incident, Rishibala's hus-

band Gappu was in his fields. Her brother-inlaw Durvesh told police that when he returned he found her dead in the room. The family initially reported the death as a

case of suicide and did not inform the police for about an hour, police said.

A probe is on.

PM Modi, Rishi Sunak extend wishes for Akshardham temple inauguration in USA

WASHINGTON, Oct 3 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Rishi Sunak have extended greetings ahead of the inauguration of an Akshardham Temple in Robbinsville city of New Jersey, said to be the largest Hindu temple outside India in the modern era.

"It is an occasion of profound spiritual significance for the vast legion of devotees worldwide," Modi wrote in a letter to BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham in Robbinsville.

Sending his best wishes to everyone at BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha and all those involved in this initiative, Modi said the inaugural celebrations of Akshardham Mahamandir showcase Indian architectural excellence and its glorious ancient culture and ethos.

It will also help in establishing a connection between the members of the Indian diaspora, particularly the youth, to connect with and take pride in Maa Bharati, he said. "We were amazed and awed by the beauty of this temple and its universal message of peace, harmony, and becoming a better human being," the British prime minister said in his message ahead of the temple's



"Our philosophy and traditions

emphasise that the ultimate goal

of an individual's life revolves

around 'Seva' or selfless ser-

Noting that temples have been

the hub of service and socio-

cultural activities for centuries,

he said they are not only centers

of devotion but also serve as

platforms for giving expression

to art, architectural excellence,

literature, and knowledge. Such

profound cultural principles

have been guiding humanity for

"Bhagwan Swaminarayan

presented eternal ideals of our

culture and wove it into powerful

lessons that could be accessed

by every section of society. He

vice," he wrote.

generations.

inauguration on October 8.

"This is not only a place of worship, but a landmark that also portrays India's values, culture, and contributions to the world," he said.

Prime Minister Modi further said that India and the United States share an abiding relationship and both nations have nurtured and broadened these ties into a robust, multifaceted relationship, fostering extensive interactions among their people.

Observing that India's enduring and illustrious spiritual heritage holds timeless and universal relevance, he said, that spirituality constitutes an integral element of our sociocultural heritage and principles.

purity of thought and conduct through spirituality and social reform," Modi said. From September 30, the highly

emphasised the importance of

anticipated dedication celebrations of the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham in Robbinsville in the presence of Mahant Swami Maharaj are underway, the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha said.

This marks a significant milestone after 12 years of dedication by over 12,500 volunteers across North America. The stone Mahamandir, set to become the centrepiece of the Akshardham campus, is a marvel of craftsmanship and devotion, blending intricate artistry with spiritual significance, it said.

Globally, BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardhams are landmarks of Hindu art, architecture, and culture. They serve as spiritual and community hubs, open to people of all faiths and backgrounds.

Akshardham in New Jersey marks the third such cultural complex globally. The first Akshardham was created in Gandhinagar, the capital of Gujarat, India, in 1992, followed by Akshardham in New Delhi in

back to prison," he added.

ADMSP was founded by

former detainees held in Sed-

naya, Syria's largest jail which

has become a byword for torture

and the darkest abuses of the

In a report last year, the group

described Sednaya's "salt

rooms," primitive mortuaries

The latest ADMSP report is

based on interviews with 32

people including former detain-

ees, security personnel and

medical staff, as well as leaked

Rights groups have long

accused President Bashar al-

Assad's government of torturing

detainees and executing prison-

In 2011, Syrian government

forces cracked down on peace-

ful protesters, triggering a com-

piex war that has left more than

500,000 dead and forced mil-

Up to one-fifth of that toll died

in government-run prisons,

according to Britain-based mon-

itoring group the Syrian Obser-

Some of the horrific images of

dead Syrians smuggled out by

"Caesar", a defector who had

worked as a photographer for

the military police, were shot

inside Tishreen hospital, accord-

ing to human rights groups.

vatory for Human Rights.

ers without fair trials.

documents.

lions to flee.

designed to preserve bodies.

Tallest Ambedkar statue in North America to be unveiled on October 14



WASHINGTON, Oct 3 (Agencies): The tallest statue of the principal architect of India's Constitution, B R Ambedkar, outside India is set to be unveiled in Maryland on October 14, the organisers have said.

The 19-foot statue, named 'Statue of Equality', is part of the Ambedkar International Centre (AIC) being built on 13-acre land in Accokeek city of Maryland, approximately 35 kms south of Washing-

"This is the largest statue of Babasaheb outside India and has been installed as a part of the Ambedkar Memorial being constructed at this centre," said the AIC.

Born on April 14, 1891, Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar - popular among his followers as Babasaheb was the chairman of the Constituent Assembly's most crucial Drafting Committee that earned him the moniker Architect of the Indian Constitution.

Post-Independence, he was also the Minister of Law and Justice in Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's first Cabinet. Ambedkar played a key role in social movements that fought for the rights of Dalits and untouchables.

Ambedkar died on December 6, 1956. months after he embraced Buddhism on October 14 that year, the date coinciding with the unveiling of the statue in Maryland. October 14 is celebrated as Dhamma Chakra Parivartan Din by Ambedkarites.

The statue has been made by renowned artist and sculptor Ram Sutar, who also built the statue of Sardar Patel, called as Statue of Unity, and installed on an island in Narmada, metres downstream of the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gujarat.

"Large number of representatives of the Ambedkarite movement and his followers are expected to attend the event from across the USA and other parts of the world," it said.

According to the AIC, this memorial will serve to spread Babasaheb's messages and teachings and showcase a symbol of equality and human rights.

Representatives from various countries are expected to attend the statue's unveiling ceremony on October 14.

International Monetary Fund mission to arrive in Pakistan by late October for economic review: Report

Ukraine says downed 29 Russian

drones, missiles overnight

ISLAMABAD, Oct 3 (Agencies): The International Monetary Fund will send its delegation to Pakistan in the last week of October to review the cashstrapped country's economic performance in the first three months of the current fiscal year, according to a media report on Tuesday.

Quoting sources in the Ministry of Finance, The Express Tribune newspaper said that during the meeting with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission, the caretaker government will also discuss reforms in various sectors, including taxes and energy.

The report said once the economic review is successfully completed, Pakistan will receive the next installment of USD 700 million from the IMF after its board's approval.

The Washington-based global lender transferred USD 1.2 billion to the cashstrapped country in July, as part of the

KYIV, Oct 3 (Agencies): Ukraine

said Tuesday it had downed over two

dozen Iranian-made attack drones and

a cruise missile launched by Russian

forces from the Crimean peninsula,

Kyiv has warned that Moscow is

restarting a campaign of aerial attacks

on Ukrainian energy infrastructure that

last year left millions without heating

"On the night of October 3, 2023, Rus-

sian occupiers attacked (Ukraine) with

31 Shaheds (unmanned aerial vehicles)

and an Iskander-K cruise missile," the

air force said, specifying it had downed

Its statement said that the drones

and missiles were shot down by forces

responsible for the southern region of

the missile and 29 of the drones.

annexed by Moscow in 2014.

and water for long periods.

USD 3 billion bailout programme for nine months to support the government's efforts to stabilise the country's

Although essentially a bridge loan, it offered much respite to Pakistan, which was battling an acute balance of payments crisis and falling foreign exchange reserves, the report said.

Meanwhile, it has also been reported that a plan for expenditure reduction is prepared, and discussions will be held on the plan to reduce expenses, including freezing allowances, and pensions, and suspending officer recruitment.

The government is also likely to be compelled to increase gas prices on IMF demands.

Pakistan's economy has been in a free fall mode for the last many years, bringing untold pressure on the poor masses in the form of unchecked infla-

'Left to die': report exposes horrors at Syria army hospital

BEIRUT, Oct 3 (Agencies): Syrian authorities abused and left detainees to die at a Damascus military hospital, using the facility to cover up the torture of prisoners, a rights group and former detainees said.

Sick prisoners sent from detention facilities to the capital's Tishreen Military Hospital for treatment rarely received any medical attention, according to a report released Tuesday by the Association of Detainees and the Missing in Sednaya Prison (ADMSP), a Turkey-based watchdog.

Instead, security forces at the hospital jail and even medical and administrative staff inflicted "brutal torture" on detainees, including physical and psychological violence, according to the report titled "Buried in Silence".

It covers abuses from the start of Syria's civil war in 2011 to 2020, but the authors said they believe many of the practices persist today.

Abu Hamza, 43, said he was taken to the jail at the Tishreen hospital three times during his incarceration, but only saw a doctor once.

"Prisoners were afraid to go to the hospital because many did not return." said Abu Hamza. who was jailed for seven years, including at the notorious Sednaya prison on the Damascus outskirts

"Those who were very sick would be left to die in the hospital lockup," said Abu Hamza, who like others agency spoke to used first names or pseudonyms for fear of reprisals. "If we could walk, we'd be sent

Left for dead Abu Hamza said guards at the minutes before leaving. According to the ADMSP

hospital prison "once barged in and ordered us to lie on the ground", beating them for 15

report, inmates who died in cus-

tody from torture or poor condi-

were taken to the Tishreen hospital and then to "mass graves" near the capital. Inmates arriving at the hospi-

tions, particularly at Sednaya,

tal were first held "in the same room where bodies of detainees were collected", and sick detainees were forced to help transport prisoners' corpses, the report said.

Abu Hamza said he was made to toil for hours, barefoot and in the bitter cold, loading bodies into a vehicle at Sednaya prison and then offloading them at Tishreen Hospital near its jail.

There, security forces wrote a number on the corpse or on a piece of paper. A photographer would then take pictures of the

The ADMSP report said no autopsies were conducted and the hospital issued "death certificates with false information", often citing heart attack, kidney failure, or stroke as the cause of death.

Sometimes inmates "between life and death" were placed among the corpses and left to die or even killed, according to

Abu Hamza recalled a detainee who was "fighting for his life" in the hospital jail.

"They did not bring a doctor. Instead, they put him aside, among the corpses. They left him to die," he said.

The report said a jail officer would sometimes kill very sick detainees, or prisoners would be ordered to take part in doing

Awoke 'among corpses' Tishreen Hospital plays a

pearances, covering up torture, falsifying the causes of death" and other abuses amounting to "crimes against humanity" said ADMSP co-founder Diab Ser-

"central role in enforced disap-

"What happens inside Tishreen hospital and other military hospitals is a systematic policy" adopted by the authorities, he

A Syrian doctor is currently on trial in Germany accused of torture, murder and crimes against humanity while working in mili-

tary hospitals in his homeland. Lawsuits have been filed elsewhere in Europe, as well as the United States and at the International Court of Justice, against the Syrian government and offi-

cials on accusations of torture. Mahmud was only 16 when he was jailed in 2014 and sent to Tishreen Hospital, where he said other detainees beat him

severely. "They held me to the ground. stepped on me and covered my mouth... (until) I passed out," he

"I woke up a short time later and found myself among corpses in the corner of the cell," Mahmud said, adding he was taken back to Sednaya prison without receiving any medical attention.

During the rest of his time in detention, he was too scared to visit a doctor, despite contracting tuberculosis.

"I could no longer chew food at one point, but I didn't tell anyone so they wouldn't take me back to Tishreen hospital," Mahmud

Turkey detains dozens of Kurdistan Workers' Party suspects in raids following suicide bomb attack

Mykolaiv and the central region of Dni-

President Volodymyr Zelensky this

week urged the European Union to

widen sanctions on Russia and also

Iran for its supply of attack drones for

propetrovsk.

Moscow's forces.

(Agencies): Police detained at least 67 people across Turkey on Tuesday in a sweep targeting people with alleged links to Kurdish militants, days after a suicide bomb attack in the Turkish capital.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said police carried out raids in 16 Turkish provinces, detaining 55 people suspected of being part of the "intelligence structure" of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. At least 12 other suspected PKK members were rounded up in a separate opera-

tion in five provinces, Yerlikaya wrote on X, the social media platform formerly known as

The PKK has led a decades-long insurgency in Turkey and is considered a terror organization by the United States and the European Union. Tens of thousands of people have died since the start of the conflict in 1984.

On Sunday, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device near an entrance to the Interior Ministry hours before President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was set to address Parlia-



ment as it returned from its summer recess. A second would-be bomber was killed in a shootout with police.

Two police officers were slightly wounded in the attack. The suspects

arrived at the scene inside a vehicle they seized from a veterinarian in the central Turkish of Kayseri after shooting him in the head, officials

The PKK claimed

responsibility for the attack, according to a news website close to the group, while Turkish authorities identified one of the assailants as a PKK militant. Hours later, Turkey's Air Force carried out airstrikes on suspected PKK sites in northern Iraq, where the group's leadership is based. The Defense Ministry said a large number of PKK militants were "neutralized" in the strikes.

Yerlikaya did not clarifv whether the people rounded up on Tuesday were suspected of direct involvement in Sunday's attack.

Egyptian President announces re-election bid for third term



CAIRO, Oct 3 (Agencies): Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi has announced his re-election bid for a third term in office in the upcoming polls scheduled for December.

"Just as I responded to the call of the Egyptians before, today I respond to their call once again, and I announce that I'm determined to nominate myself for a new presidential term," Sisi, who assumed power in 2014 in the aftermath of the 2013 coup, announced.

"I call on Egyptians to participate in the elections to choose the country's president," Xinhua news agency quoted the 58-year-old leader as saying.

The election will be held on December 10-12, while Egyptians living abroad will cast their votes on December 1-3.

Candidate registration will begin from Thursday through October 14. An estimated 65 mil-

lion Egyptians are eligible to vote in the crucial polls. Sisi won his first presidential elections in 2014

and was re-elected in In 2019, constitutional

amendments stretched the presidential term to six years from four and exceptionally allowed him to run for a third term.

J&K Open presented by J&K Tourism returns for its third edition

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 3: The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), the official sanctioning body of professional golf in India, along with J&K Tourism, today jointly held a press conference in Jammu to kickstart the third edition of the J&K Open presented by J&K Tourism which will be staged at the pristine Jammu Tawi Golf Course in Jammu, from October 4-7, 2023. The total prize purse for the event has been enhanced to Rs. 50 lakh this year. The Pro-Am event will be held on October 8.

The tournament is supported by Presenting Partner J&K Tourism as well as Host Venue Jammu Tawi Golf Course.

Jammu and Kashmir is home to some of the top tourist destinations in the country. Jammu, bestowed with breathtaking scenic beauty amidst the proud mountain ranges exhibits all the qualities that make it a soughtafter tourist destination. Among the most popular tourist attractions in the Jammu region are the Mata Vaishno Devi Temple, Amar Mahal Palace, Mubarak Mandi Palace and Patnitop, to name a few.

The tournament is part of J&K Tourism's great initiative of promoting golf tourism in the region. J&K is blessed with some spectacular golf courses such as Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Royal Springs Golf Course (Srinagar), Pahalgam Golf Course (Lidder Valley) and Gulmarg Golf Club. These



gives us a great platform to proj-

ect the UT of Jammu & Kash-

mir as a favourable destination

across the world. Our partner-

of the J&K Open also provides

us the opportunity to showcase

the outstanding golfing venues

Manav Gupta, Secretary,

Jammu Tawi Golf Course, said,

"We are proud to host the lead-

ing Indian professional golfers

at Jammu Tawi Golf Course for

the second year in succession.

We have worked towards pro-

viding the best possible play-

ing conditions at JTGC and are

confident that the players will

enjoy their experience of play-

ing here. The J&K Open also

provides immense exposure for

our local golfing talent who get

to rub shoulders with the best

professionals in the country.

This exposure will go a long way

in helping J&K produce cham-

pion golfers in the future.'

in J&K to a wider audience."

courses provide a heavenly experience to golfers.

The field of 114 players including 109 professionals and five amateurs will witness participation by top Indian professionals namely Om Prakash Chouhan, Aman Raj, Akshay Sharma, Sachin Baisoya, Sunhit Bishnoi, Harshjeet Singh Sethie, Gaurav Pratap Singh, Karan Pratap Singh and Kshitij Naveed Kaul,

to name a few. The foreign challenge will be led by Bangladesh's Badal Hossain, Nepal's Sukra Bahadur Rai and Canada's Sukhraj Singh Gill, to name a few.

The local challenge will be led by J&K-based players including professionals Bhawani Singh Parmar, Pawan Parihar, Fayaz Ahmed Langoo, Raghav Wahi and Mir Ahmad as well as amateurs Prabhnoor Singh, Umar Yaqoob Mir, Vedant Handa, Arindam Sudan andZorawar Singh. Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Special Secretary to Government, J&K Tourism Department, said, "We look forward to our continued association with

Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO, PGTI, said, "The third edition of the J&K Open presented by J&K Tourism is one of the most-awaited tournaments of the 2023 PGTI season with the professionals having fond memories of playing at the magnificentJammu Tawi Golf Course for the first time last year. Tournamentssuch as these will go a long way in providing a boost to Golf Tourism in J&K. We thank J&K Tourism and the Jammu the J&K Open golf tournament Tawi Golf Course for reiterating and the PGTI. This tournament their support to PGTI with the enhanced prize purse this year. We're excited about witnessing yet another enthralling week of for Golf Tourism for business golf amidst the mesmerizing and leisure travellers from all surroundings of J&K." ship with PGTI and the staging

Jammu Tawi Golf Course, is an 18-hole course, designed by internationally renowned designer Col. K.D Bagga. The course was commissioned on 24th April 2011. This picturesque Golf Course is located along the National Highway 1A connecting Jammu to Srinagar, in a valley along the river Tawi.The course has fairways approximately 6600 meters in length, it has two big and three small water bodies and a water channel about 3200 meters

lona. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir undertook the construction of this prestigious project of Jammu Tawi Golf Course with the intention of giving a boost to Golf Tourism and grooming young boys and girls to become golf professionals.

Motivational lecture organized for fresher students at SMVD University



Top News Report

KATRA, Oct 3: School of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra organized a Motivational Lecture on 'Embracing Failure as a Stepping Stone' delivered explicitly by Mr. Yogesh K Verma, CEO, Perfect Square, New Delhi for the Fresher students who have joined various Undergraduate and Postgraduate Programs in the current Academic Session.

Verma has immense experience with the corporate world having worked as General Manager - Special Nutrition Business, Heinz and prior to that has spent 25 years with Nestle India Limited in different positions such as National Key Institutes Manager, Regulatory Affairs Manager, Branch Manager, etc. He has also represented India as a Delegate through Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) in Codex Committee on **Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary** Uses (CCNFSDU), a CODEX body, meeting continuously for three years 2008-2010. He is the Founder Director of Alimente', a premium food Company.

He is currently an esteemed Faculty at Indian Aviation Academy and a Skill Expert Member of the DBT-PG Programme Advisory Committee at SMVDU. He is an expert Council Member to many research firms like Advantus Global-China, Third Bridge,

UK, GLG (Gerson Lehrman Group) New York, USA and manages Perfect Square - A Training & Business Consultancy Company. The objective behind organizing the lecture was to strongly promote positive values and problem solving as new-age skills to the young minds. The students actively interacted with the expert with an overwhelming response to his question.

The event was also attended by Deans, Heads of Schools, Faculty, Staff members and Research Scholars of the University.

The speaker deliberated on the importance of a positive approach in life, especially when one is facing a crisis and unforeseen obstacles. He discussed that the people with positive attitude always remain hopeful and see the best even in difficult situations. In contrast, those with negative attitudes may be more pessimistic and disagreeable, and typically expect the worst outcome in tough situations.

He thanked Dr. Balbir Singh, Dean, Academic Affairs; Dr. Ratna Chandra, Head, Biotechnology; Dr. Sharada Potukuchi and Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Coordinators of the DBT-PG Program who organized event at short notice and for giving him a platform for sharing his views with the young minds of the University.

Sarv Shakti **Sena Celebrates Foundation Day**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 3: Sarv Shakti Sena Jammu and Kashmir marked a significant milestone as it celebrated the Foundation Day of the organization at the revered Janki Mandir. The event also served as a joyous occasion to celebrate the birthday of the National President, Neeraj Sethi.

The day was filled with spiritual fervor as members of Sarv Shakti Sena came together to commemorate the organization's journey and reaffirm their commitment to the principles of Hindutav and Sanatan Dharma.

Speaking on the occasion, President Rajan Gupta expressed his gratitude to all members and supporters of Sary Shakti Sena for their unwavering dedication to the cause. He emphasized the organization's dedication to the betterment of Hindutav and the preservation of Sanatan Dharma, highlighting their ongoing efforts to promote and protect these ancient traditions.

As part of the celebrations, a 'langar' (community meal) was organized, symbolizing the spirit of unity and brotherhood that Sarv Shakti Sena stands for.

Sarv Shakti Sena extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in this auspicious event and looks forward to continuing its mission of upholding the rich heritage and values of Hindutay and Sanatan Others who present are Ex.Sarpanch Rajroop Singh, Mahant Damodar ji and Advocate Munish Sharma.

SCs under Modi govt on path of progress: Sanjay Nirmal **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Oct 3: Claiming that the BJP is reaching at doorsteps of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the UT, the SC Morcha National General & North Zone Prabhari, Sanjay Nirmal, said that the ongoing exercise is yielding good results, as the public response is very encouraging.

Sanjay Nirmal was addressing a meeting of the J&K BJP Anusuchit Jaati Morcha office bearers, district presidents and district prabharis and senior leaders at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, on Tuesday

The meeting was convened by Morcha President & former MLA Neelam Langeh, to seek details related to 'Basti Sampark Abhiyaan' and



its impact in the areas housing the population of the Schedule Caste community.

Sanjay Nirmal said that the objective of this 'Basti Sampark Abhiyaan' is to visit the SCs' localities, interact with the families of this community and share with them the beneficial schemes launched by Narendra Modi government for them and also

meet such persons, both male and female, who have availed the benefits of the schemes. A large number of people from among the beneficiaries belonging to the SC samaj have themselves shared that they have moved on path of progress and prosperity through welfare initiatives of the Modi government, he said.

Neelam Langeh said

that the Morcha leaders and activists have put splendid efforts in reaching the SC community areas and convince them that it is only the Modi government and the BJP, which are always concerned for their socio-economic upliftment. He asked the morcha leaders to keep going to the people even after the culmination of

the ongoing exercise

and induce a sense of security among them. SC Morcha National

Secretary & J&K Prabhari for Morcha, S. Santokh Singh Gumtala, in his address, said that we have can proudly claim that Narendra Modi showered one scheme after the other on SCs with the sole objective of freeing them from poverty and provide best accessible means to lead dignified

SC Morcha, J&K Prabhari, Jagdish Bhagat, Morcha Vice President Rakesh Sangral, former VC Balbir Ram Rattan, morcha General Secretaries Gulshan Bhaghat and Adarsh Jathiar also addressed the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting were conducted by SC Morcha National Executive Member Mohan Lal Thappa and vote of thanks was presented by Gulshan Bhagat.

SC Morcha leaders Mohinder Bhagat, Seema Devi, Vijay Anand Gill, Engineer Narinder, Jeet Raj Kalsi, Rakesh Dev, Rajan Bhagat, Hans Raj Loria, Asha Bharti, Yashpal Shivgotra, Manohar Menia, Dr. Pankaj, Girdhari Dogra, Adv. Sachin, Amit Langeh, Vandana Kumari, Lokesh Bhagat, Balvinder Kalsi, Sham Lal Bhagat and others, attended the meeting.

Later, Sanjay Nirmal, Neelam Langeh, Santokh Singh Gumtala and other leaders visited Raipur Gujran, Jinder, Melu and Kuttan Jam villages of Suchetgarh constituencies and interacted with the members of SC community under Basti Sampark Abhiyan.

FROM PAGE 1

Empowerment, full rights to Nari Shakti a topmost priority of J&K Admin: LG Sinha

the women to lead J&K's growth journey. "Empowerment and full rights to Nari Shakti is a commitment and topmost priority of J&K Administration. Our daughters are scripting success in academics, research, innovation and business sector to fulfill the dreams of an aspirational society," the Lt Governor said.

Nari Shakti is playing a crucial role in the developmental journey of J&K UT and they are also making immense contribution for Viksit Bharat. It is Nari Shakti that will ensure human dignity and social equality in the future, he said.

The Lt Governor extended his best wishes to all the Veeranganas participating in the bike expedition. Veeranganas of Valley QAT and Pipe Band of CRPF presented spellbinding performances to mark the occasion.

The cross-country bike expedition is collaborative efforts of CRPF and Ministry of Women and Child Development to celebrate women power of the country. During the journey, all three teams from Srinagar, Shillong and Kanyakumari will interact with the target groups of "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" (BBBP) like school children and college girls, women self-help groups,

cadets of the NCC, children of CCIs, NYKS members, adolescent girls & boys, anganwadi workers etc.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; A.K Choudhary, Special DG Crime; Nalin Prabhat, ADG CRPF J&K Zone; Ajay Kumar Yadav, IG CRPF; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; senior officers of CRPF, Civil and Police Administration and people in large numbers were

Army Unit scales Mount Harmukh to commemorate **Platinum Jubilee**

dedication and grit of the Indian Army towards tirelessly safeguarding our borders and national interests," Army Spokesperson said.

Its determination to conquer one of the tallest peaks of Kashmir also reflects the camaraderie and commitment to duty towards protection of the nation, no matter of the odds, he added.

All set for LAHDC-K Polls on Wednesday, First **since 2019**

no major security issues in Kargil. The counting of votes is scheduled for October 8, and the new council will be in place before October 11.

The Hill Council in Kargil came into existence in July 2003. In the 30 Councilors team, 26 are elected from the respective constituencies, and the rest, four, are nominated from the principal minority and

2 Army personnel injured in encounter in Raiouri

to break the cordon resulting in retaliatory fire, officials said.

In the gun battle, two army personnel were injured, a senior police officer said. He said that they have been hospitalised and their condition is stable.

Two terrorists are believed to be inside the cordoned area, they said, adding reinforcements have been rushed to plug all possible escape routes, they said.

A defence spokesperson said the joint operation was launched in the general area in Kalakote and technology is being used

to monitor the terrorists. Presently, an intense operation is under-

way, he added. **Police teams dispatched** to Kashmir, Punjab in **Cocaine seizure** investigation

exploring the possibility of drug transportation via drones from Pakistan or through porous points along the LoC.

The arrested drug peddlers from Saturday evening, Sarabjeet Singh of Jalandhar and Honey Basra of Phagwara, are suspected to be low-level operatives tasked with transporting 30 kg of narcotics in an Innova car by a Punjab-based drug cartel. The seized drugs are thought to originate from Afghanistan.

Along the entire LoC in J&K, security forces are collaborating to prevent narcoterror modules from smuggling drugs into India. However, challenging topographical conditions in many mountainous regions provide opportunities for terror groups to facilitate drug smuggling into J&K. Several such attempts have been thwarted in LoC bordering districts, including Rajouri, Poonch, Baramulla, Bandipore, and Kupwara, in recent times.

Sources within Army intelligence have highlighted that the proceeds from drug sales in India contribute to the financing of terrorism orchestrated by the ISI. "It's a perilous cycle where funds spent by drug addicts on purchasing drugs in various Indian cities are diverted towards targeting civilians. The reason Pakistan is currently using J&K as a transit point, rather than Punjab, is due to the challenging terrain along the LoC, which provides cover for smugglers," the sources explained to The Tribune.

Two earthquakes hit Nepal, tremors felt in **Delhi-NCR**

"Earthquake of Magnitude: 6.2, Occurred on 03-10-2023, 14:51:04 IST, Lat: 29.39 & Long: 81.23, Depth: 5 km, Location: Nepal," it added.

More details are awaited.

QR code scams up in India. over 20K cases registered since 2017: Report

transaction value of Rs 15.18 trillion (\$204.77 billion). Moreover, the report mentioned that another prevalent TTP (threats, tactics, and procedures) among cybercriminals is the use of "evil twin" or hotspot honeypots. In this scenario, threat actors establish an insecure Wi-Fi network, enticing users with free internet access upon scanning their QR code.

Once connected, hackers intercept and eavesdrop on the data being transmitted, pilfering personal or confidential business information, online banking credentials, and credit card details, the report explained. Given the global adoption of hybrid working, individuals must exercise caution and connect only to secure Wi-Fi networks to avoid falling into these cyber-traps.

Markets fall in early trade on unabated foreign fund outflows

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 347.09 points to 65,481.32. The Nifty declined 117.3 points to 19,521.

MUMBAI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices declined in early trade on Tuesday amid unabated foreign fund outflows and sluggish Asian market cues.

Fall in index majors Reliance Industries and HDFC Bank also dragged the benchmark indices lower.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 347.09 points to 65,481.32.

The Nifty declined 117.3 points to 19,521.

Among the Sensex firms, Maruti, State Bank of India, JSW Steel, HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Tata Steel. Tata Motors. ITC, Reliance Industries and NTPC were the major laggards.

Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, UltraTech Cement and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the gainers.

In Asian markets, Tokyo and Hong Kong were quoting lower while Shanghai traded in the green.

The US markets ended mostly in the green on Monday

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.89 per cent to USD



89.90 a barrel

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,685.70 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

FPIs (Foreign Portfolio Investors) turned net sellers and pulled out over Rs 14,767 crore from the Indian equities in September, primarily due to dollar appreciation, steady rise in the US bond yields, and a spike in crude oil prices.

Equity markets were closed on Monday on account of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti.

"There are mixed cues for the October series, which historically has been a good month for markets. The major negative for the nearterm will continue to be the sustained FII selling.

The dollar index rising above 107 and the US 10-year bond yield at 16-year high of 4.68 per cent are major headwinds for the market since FIIs are likely to continue selling in response to the rising dollar and US bond

yields. "But, on the positive side, the bulls will be emboldened to buy on the back of the tailwind of the 5 per cent crash in Brent crude prices," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

The BSE benchmark had climbed 320.09 points or 0.49 per cent to settle at 65,828.41 on Friday

The Nifty advanced 114.75 points or 0.59 per cent to end at . 19.638.30.

World Bank retains India's growth projection at 6.3%

NEW DELHI. Oct 3 (Agencies): The World Bank has retained its projection of 6.3 per cent growth in GDP during the current fiscal as against the RBI's expectation of 6.5 per

"The expected moderation is mainly due to challenging external conditions and waning pentup demand. However, service sector activity is expected to remain strong with growth of 7.4 per cent and investment growth is also projected to remain robust at 8.9 per cent," said the World Bank's latest 'India Development Update' (IDU).

The April update, too, had forecast India's GDP to grow at 6.3 per cent in 2023-24 as against its earlier projection of 6.6 per



cent made in October last year.

The report by the Asian Development Bank's (ADB), which will follow, is awaited to see if it retains or lowers its earlier projection of 6.4 per cent GDP growth in the current fiscal, down from its earlier forecast of

6.8 per cent.

The RBI, too, will give fresh projections at the end of its Monetary Policy Committee meeting chaired by its chief Shaktikanta Das on October 6.

"An adverse global environment will continue to pose challenges in the short-term," said Auguste Tano Kouame, World Bank's Country Director in India.

"Tapping public spending that crowds in more private investments will create more favourable conditions for India to seize global opportunities in the future and thus achieve higher

growth," he said in a statement. "While the spike in headline inflation may temporarily constrain consumption, we project a moderation. Overall conditions will remain conducive for private investment. The volume of foreign direct investment is also likely to grow in India as rebalancing of the global value chain continues," said Dhruv Sharma, senior economist, World Bank, and lead author of the report.

Hyundai Motor India says all its vehicles to come with 6 airbags



NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Hyundai Motor India on Tuesday said all its models in the country would now come with six airbags as standard.

The automaker also announced that it has decided for voluntary participation in the recently introduced Bharat NCAP with 3 models to begin with, and more models to follow.

Under the Bharat NCAP programme, car manufacturers can voluntarily offer their vehicles tested as per the Automotive Industry Standard (AIS) 197.

Based on the performance of the car in the tests, the vehicle will be awarded star ratings on a scale of 0-5, for adult occupants (AOP) and child occupants (COP).

Potential car customers can refer to these star ratings to compare the safety standards

of different vehicles and accordingly make their purchase decision.

The carmaker also announced that its mid-sized sedan Verna has received a five-star rating in adult and child occupant protection by Global NCAP.

Hyundai Motor India MD & CEO Unsoo Kim said safety for all is the company's utmost priority.

"We have been benchmark creators in standardisation of vehicle safety features. Now, we are elated to announce the standardisation of six airbags across all models and all variants," he added.

Hyundai Motor India COO Tarun Garg said with rising road network and increase in speed limits it is natural to upgrade the

Taking a big leap in the safety journey, the company has now decided to standardise six airbags in all models and all variants, he noted.

The automaker is also looking to enhance ADAS (advanced driver-assistance system) and connected features across its entire product range, Garg said.

World gets second low-cost vaccine for malaria

NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): The World Health Organisation on Tuesday recommended the use of a low-cost and highly effective malaria vaccine developed by the Punebased Serum Institute of India (SII) in collaboration with the University of Oxford in the UK.

The R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine is the world's secondever WHO recommended vaccine for preventing malaria in

In 2021, the RTS, S/AS01 vaccine became the first jab against the mosquito-borne disease to receive the WHO nod.

The WHO's independent advisory body, the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG), recommended use of the vaccine after reviewing its safety, quality and effectiveness standards last month.

Their recommendation was based on pre-clinical and clinical trial data, which showed good safety and high efficacy in four countries, at sites with both seasonal and perennial malaria transmission.

"As a malaria researcher, I used to dream of the day we would have a safe and effective vaccine against malaria. Now we have two," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, in a statement.

"Demand for the RTS,S vaccine far exceeds supply, so this second vaccine is a vital additional tool to protect more children faster, and to bring us closer to our vision of a malariafree future," he added.

The R21/Matrix-MTM malaria vaccine has been licensed for use in Ghana, Nigeria and Burkina Faso. In combination with public health measures such as the use of insecticidetreated bed nets, the new vaccine can help save and improve the lives of millions of children and their families.

In areas with highly seasonal malaria transmission (where malaria transmission is largely limited to 4 or 5 months per year), the R21 vaccine was shown to reduce symptomatic cases of malaria by 75 per cent during the 12 months following



a 3-dose series.

A fourth dose given a year after the third maintained efficacy. This high efficacy is similar to the efficacy demonstrated when RTS, S is given seasonally.

The vaccine also showed good efficacy (66 per cent) during the 12 months following the first three doses. A fourth dose a year after the third maintained efficacy.

Mathematical modelling estimates indicate the public health impact of the R21 vaccine is expected to be high in a wide range of malaria transmission settings, including low transmission settings.

At prices of \$2-\$4 per dose, the cost-effectiveness of the R21 vaccine would be comparable with other recommended malaria interventions and other childhood vaccines.

"The R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine is easily deployable, cost-effective and affordable, ready for distribution in areas where it is needed most, with the potential to save hundreds of thousands of lives a year," said Professor Sir Adrian Hill, Director of The Jenner Institute, at Oxford.

SII has already established production capacity for 100 million doses per annum, which will be doubled over the next two years. This scale of production is critical because vaccinating those at high risk of malaria will be important in stemming the spread of disease, as well as protecting the vaccinated.

"For far too long, malaria has threatened the lives of billions of people across the globe, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable amongst us. This is why the WHO recommendation and approval of the R21/Matrix-M vaccine marks a huge milestone in our journey to combat this life-threatening disease," said Adar Poonawalla, CEO of the Serum Institute of India, in a statement.

Vedanta Resources will honour all payments due in 2024, says Anil Agarwal



NEW DELHI, Oct 3 (Agencies): Vedanta Resources, the UK-headquartered parent company of Vedanta Ltd., is well-positioned to meet its debt obligations in 2024, its chairman Anil Agarwal told CNBC-TV18 in an interview.

Anil Agarwal said "all finances are lined up for payment of dues" and that the condomerate will honour all payments due in 2024.

The Vedanta boss highlighted that the conglomerate has a payment of \$1 billion due in January 2024 and another \$500-\$600 million in mid-2024.

He also said Vedanta will complete the sale of steel assets by March 2024. It may be noted that the company in June began the review of its steel and steel raw material business.

"Have seen strong response for steel

head and neck cancer in countries like India: Study

Fewer but higher radiation doses could effectively treat

and iron business, which will help reduce debt," Agarwal said, adding that the sale could be completed by March

Reducing debt crucial for Vedanta demerger

Shares of Vedanta Ltd, which experienced a significant surge following the approval of the demerger plan by the board, gained further after Agarwal's statement on how the company plans to tackle its debt payments.

While Vedanta's ambitious plan to list six businesses separately garnered positive feedback from investors on Dalal Street, analysts are wor ried about the parent company's high levels of debt. It is worth mentioning that Vedanta Resources has pending payments of approximately \$4 billion from now until FY25.

Many analysts believe that the demerger, aimed at unlocking shareholder value, will have no merit if the group fails to meet its debt obligations.

Therefore, Anil Agarwal's statement on the group's planned measures to reduce debt is crucial and may help reduce some skepticism.

Poor sleep may increase risk of hypertension in women: Study

NEW YORK, Oct 3 (Agencies): Women who struggle with getting enough sleep may be at greater risk of developing hypertension, or high blood pressure, a new study has shown.

Women who sleep less than seven to eight hours a night are at a significantly higher risk of developing hypertension, revealed the findings published in the journal Hypertension.

In addition, the team from Brigham and Women's Hospital in the US also found that women with sleeping difficulties had higher BMIs, lower physical activity, and poorer diets, on average and were more likely to smoke and drink alcohol and have previously gone through menopause.

"These findings suggest that individuals who struggle with symptoms of insomnia may be at



risk of hypertension and could benefit from preemptive screening," said Shahab Haghayegh, a research fellow at the Brigham and Harvard Medical School.

"Hypertension is associated with many other physical and mental health complications. The sooner we can identify individuals with high blood pressure and treat them for it, the better we can mitigate future health issues," Haghayegh added.

For the study, the team at Channing Division of Network Medicine of the Hospital followed 66,122 participants between 25 and 42 years of age all without hypertension.

They collected information based on age, race, body mass index (BMI), diet, lifestyle, physical activity, history of sleep apnoea, and family history of hypertension.

The team tracked sleeping difficulties, such as having trouble falling or staying asleep or waking up early in the morning and collected responses at several time points throughout the study and found 25,987 cases of hypertension over the follow-

Notably, waking up early in the morning was not associated with this increased risk

"Sleep difficulties can also lead to a chain of events that can increase sodium retention, arterial stiffness, and cardiac output, potentially leading to hypertension. Disruptions to the sleep/ wake cycle can also influence blood vessel constriction/relaxation activity and the function of cells that regulate the vascular tone," said Haghayegh.

"I hope these findings further underscore the crucial role of quality sleep in our overall wellbeing," he added.

(Agencies): A type of head and neck cancer that accounts for 30 per cent of all cancer diagnoses in India may be

NEW DELHI, Oct 3 treated effectively with fewer but higher doses of radiation, a large new international study suggests.

The yet-to-be peerreviewed research, presented at the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) annual meeting in San Diego, US, is a phase III clinical trial involving 10 countries across four continents, including India. It found that delivering a course of radiation in 20 rather than 33 treatment sessions was just as effective at controlling cancer for patients with alcohol and tobacco-related, locally advanced disease, without increasing side-effects.

"Head and neck cancer caused by factors other than the human papillomavirus (HPV) remains

a significant burden especially in lower- and middle-income countries," said lead study author Soren Bentzen, a professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore, US. "This is a trial that directly informs how you can effectively deliver radiation therapy to patients in a resourcescarce environment," said Bentzen.

Squamous cell head neck cancers are the seventh-most common type of cancer in the world, accounting for 450,000 deaths each year, according to the researchers.

Head and neck cancers have historically been associated with tobacco and alcohol use, including secondhand smoke and chewing tobacco, they said.

While head and neck cancers associated with HPV typically occur in younger, otherwise healthy people, cancers related to tobacco and

alcohol generally affect older people who have comorbidities that can complicate treatment. the researchers said.

Head and neck cancers account for 30 per cent of all cancer diagnoses in India, compared to 4-5 per cent globally, and an estimated 84 per cent of deaths from head and neck cancer occur in low- and middle-income countries, they said.

Standard treatment for patients with locally advanced squamous cell head and neck cancers in these countries typically involves up to seven weeks of radia-

tion therapy. Low- and middleincome countries often face a substantial undersupply of radiation therapy facilities, forcing many patients to travel great distances and remain away from home for long periods of

time to receive care. In the latest study, funded by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Bentzen and colleagues investigated whether a shorter course of radiation could be equally effective as standard treatment, without increasing the risk for side effects that could harm quality of life.

The team enrolled 792 patients from 12 health centres in 10 low- and middle-income countries: India, Pakistan, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Cuba and South Africa. Patients were treated

with radiation therapy in either 33 fractions or 20 fractions. Most patients (76 per cent) also received chemotherapy. After three years, patients who had

received the accelerated treatment had roughly the same level of tumour control and late-term side-effects as those who received the longer treatment, the researchers said.

Asian Games: India advance to semi-final in men's cricket

Beat Nepal by 23 runs in their Asian Games opener

HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): India started their Asian Games campaign with a comprehensive win against Nepal by 23 runs in the quarterfinal with the help of Yashavi Jaiswal's blistering century followed by combined bowling effort from the bowlers on Tuesday.

They advanced to the semifinal by restricting Nepal to 179/9.

Avesh Khan took three wickets for 32 while Ravi Bishnoi picked up three scalps by conceding 24. Arshdeep Singh got two wickets and Sai Kishore picked up one wicket.

Chasing a massive target, Nepal lost their first wicket early. Avesh dismissed Aasif Sheikh in the 4th over at 10.

Nepal tried to steer the innings by batting steadily, however, they could not succeed as they lost their second wicket in the 9th over. This time Sai Kishore cleaned up Kushal Bhurtel at Nepal were looking helpless as two more batters went back to the pavilion in the 11th over. Ravi Bishnoi strruck his magic

and picked up the wickets of

Kushal Malla (29) and Rohit

Nepal made a comeback in the 14 over when Airee hit three consecutive sixes in Dube's bowling. But, Ravi Bishoi again pushed them back by dismissing Dipendra Singh Airee at 32 in the 15th over.

Nepal's seventh wicket was dismissed in the 17th over with Sompal Kami's dismissal by Avesh Khan at 7.

Gulshan Jha was dismissed in the next ball by Arshdeep Singh in the 18th over.

Avesh got his third wicket by clearing up Sandeep Lamichhane as Nepal failed to chase the target.

Earlier, choosing to bat, India's young openers Yashasvi Jaiswal and Ruturaj Gaikwad started attacking the Afghanistan bowler early in the innings. They brought 50-50-run mark in just 4 overs.

Jaiswal brought about his blistering fifty in just 22 balls in the

7th over by hitting a dashing six. Ruturaj who was playing an anchor inning got out in the 10th over after Dipendra Singh Airee dismissed him at 25.

Afghanistan got the second wicket in quick succession as Tilak Varma was dismissed by Sompal Kami in the 12th over.

Jaiswal from the other end was explosive, hitting the Nepal bowlers in every over. He clinched his century in the 16th over. He scored his ton in just 48 balls. However, Jaiswal's innings came to an end after Airee bowled a full toss but Jaiswal failed to clear it as Bohara caught him.

Rinku Singh showed his power hitting in the last over adding a few more runs as India gave a target huge target of 202/4.

Brief score: India 202/4 (Yashasvi Jaiswal 100, Rinku Singh 37, Dipendra Singh Airee 2-31) vs Nepal 179/9 (Dipendra Singh Airee 32, Sundeep Jora 29, Ravi Bishnoi 3-24).

Asian Games 2023, Canoe: India's Arjun Singh and Sunil Singh Salam win bronze medal in Men's Double 1000m



HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): The Indian duo of Arjun Singh and Sunil Singh Salam secured the bronze medal in the men's canoe double 1000m final at the 2023 Asian Games, with a time of 3:53.329.

This was India's second Asian Games medal in canoeing, following a bronze medal by Johnny Rommel and Siji Kumar Sadanandan

in the same event in Hiroshima in 1994.

Competing at the Fuyang Water Sports Centre on Tuesday, Sunil Singh Salam and Arjun Singh completed their course in 3:53.329 to earn the podium spot.

U z b e k i s t a n 's Shokhmurod Kholmuradov and Nurislom Tukhtasin Ugli won the gold medal with a time of 3:43.796. Timofey and

Sergey Yemelyanov of Kazakhstan won bronze with a time of 3:49.991.

Soniya Devi Phairembam finished eighth in the women's Kayak Single 500m, clocking 2:14.555 in the other medal races on Tuesday. Soniya was also a member of the women's kayak four 500m team, which also included Binita Chanu Oinam, Parvathy Geeta, and Dimita Devi Toijam and finished eighth in 1:55.420.

In the women's canoe double 200m, Kaveri and Neha Devi Leichonbam finished eighth.

The Asian Games 2023 canoe sprint events concluded on Tuesday. The slalom competitions will begin on October 5.

Asian Games 2023: India assured of 1 gold, 2 silver medals in archery

Paudel (3).

HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): India have been assured of one gold and two silver medals in Archery at the Asian Games 2023 as both Abhishek Verma and Ojas Deotale qualified for the men's compound individual final. The Indian duo will now compete against each other and thus assure India's first and second finish on the podium.

Abhishek Verma defeated top seed Jaehoon Joo 147-145, while Ojas Deotale defeated Jaewon Yang by four points with back-to-back 150s. The two archers from the Republic of Korea will compete for a bronze medal.

The second silver was assured when Jyothi Surekha Vennam defeated compatriot Aditi Swami to reach the women's compound individual final at the Asian Games 2023. The semi-final match between the two saw Vennam securing a victory over Swami with a score of 149-146.

The match, held on October 3 in Hangzhou,



demonstrated both the athletes' skills and composure. Initially, both Vennam and Swami shot 60 out of 60 in their first six arrows, before Vennam dropped a point in the third end. Despite this, Swami couldn't maintain her streak with a misfire in the final round leaving her with a score of 146.

Swami, the 17-yearold reigning senior world champion, will now vie for the bronze medal while Vennam will compete for gold in her third Asian Games appear-

Vennam, a multiple World Cup gold medalist, is yet to secure a gold medal in the continental event. Her earlier victories include a silver in 2018 and bronze in 2014, both in team events.

The men's compound individual section has also assured India of at least a bronze medal with archers Abhishek Verma and Ojas Deotale advancing to the semifinals. Former 2014 silver medalist Verma overcame a Kazakh rival, while current world champion Deotale easily defeated his competitor from Kazakhstan. Both Indian archers are well placed for a potential head-to-head final

Overall, Indian archers are in contention for nine medals, which includes three in the individual section, at the Asian Games 2023.

Asian Games 2023: India beat Hong Kong 13-0 to storm into women's hockey semifinal

HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): Indian strikers Vandana Katariya, vice-captain Deep Grace Ekka, and Deepika scored a hat-trick each, leading India to a 13-0 victory over Hong Kong in the women's hockey competition at the Asian Games. This triumph in their last pool match propelled the team into the semifinals.

Vandana was an unstoppable force on the field, scoring goals in the 2nd, 16th, and 48th minutes. Likewise, Deep Grace converted penalty corners in the 11th, 34th, and 42nd minutes, and Deepika followed suit by scoring goals in the 4th, 54th, and 58th minutes. Sangita Kumari, Monika, and Navneet Kaur also contributed goals to the victory.

For India, this match was their



fourth in Pool A, from which they emerged with a superior goal difference and ten points. This puts them in a favorable position compared to South Korea, who, despite having a match in hand, sit in second place with seven points.

in men's kabaddi opener

According to tournament rules, two teams from each pool qualify for the semifinals. Throughout the match against Hong Kong, Indian players demonstrated complete dominance on the field, scoring six goals in the first two quarters and seven more

post half-time.

The match started off with a bang as Vandana put India ahead within just two minutes, courtesy of a pass from Navneet Kaur. Despite a couple of unsuccessful attempts at penalty corners in the early game, India continued to show their prowess on the field and doubled their lead courtesy of a goal from Deepika. By the end of the first quarter, an additional two goals from Monika and Deep Grace put India in a comfortable lead.

The second half was no different, as India capitalized on their momentum by netting seven more goals, including two penalty corners converted by Deep Grace. This extended lead further intensified India's command over the game, leading to a comfortable and well-earned victory.

Asian Games 2023: PV Sindhu, HS Prannoy advance to pre-quarterfinals



HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): Indian badminton stars, HS Prannoy and PV Sindhu powered their way into the men's and women's singles pre-quarterfinals following flawless victories against their opponents at the ongoing Asian Games.

rannoy, who is currently 7th in the global rankings, came back strong on court after a back injury forced him to sit out the men's team championships finale against China. He showcased stellar gameplay and tactical acumen in his 21-9, 21-12 win over Mongolia's Batdavaa Munkhbat, which lasted a mere 25 minutes.

His next match will be against either Bahaedeen Ahmad Alshannik from Jordan or Kazakhstan's Dmitry Panarin. On the women's side,

former world champion Sindhu put on an impressive play as she triumphed over Taiwan's We Chi Hsu with a score of 21-10, 21-15. It's worth noting that the only prior encounter between Sindhu and Hsu took place at the Asia Badminton Championships in Dubai earlier this month. Now, Sindhu is set to face either Indonesia's Putri Kusuma Wardani or Hong Kong's Liang Ka

Wing.
Starting with a lead

of 7-5 in the first game, Sindhu strategically kept her errors minimal and indulged in long rallies, skillfully deploying her tosses and clears. She quickly escalated her lead to 11-6 and 15-6. Sindhu was at a 10-point game advantage when her opponent failed an attempted net shot. While Sindhu lost one point, she clinched the game by making Hsu overstep the line.

The following game saw a tense competition. Sindhu successfully held her court initially and managed to lead 4-2. Despite some sharp gameplay from Hsu, Sindhu maintained a slender lead. At the game break, Sindhu held a one-point lead, which she extended to 18-14. A strong backhand return delivered Sindhu to five game points, and she wrapped up the match comfortHANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): The Indian men's kabaddi team began its quest for the Asian Games 2023 title with a clinical 55-18 win over Bangladesh at the Xiaoshan Guali Sports Centre in Hang-

zhou, People's Republic of China. With a track record of being seven-time champions, these Indian kabaddi players are seeking to recapture the Asian Games gold medal after slipping to bronze at the 2018 edition.

Asian Games 2023: India rout Bangladesh 55-18

The match saw a strong first half with the Indian team leading 24-9. The team's aggressive stance was led by Naveen Kumar Goyat and Arjun Deshwal, who executed their raids exceptionally, resulting in the first all-out in the 12th minute.

Despite Bangladesh managing two super-tackles on Pawan Sehrawat and then on Goyat, India maintained a 12-point lead within the first 20 minutes. Bangladesh's raiding efforts faltered in the second half as India widened their lead, sealing the match conclusively in their favour.

In contrast, the women's kabaddi team, silver medallists in the previous edition, saw a

disappointing beginning. They were held to a 34-34 draw by Chinese Taipei on Monday. As the games continue, in the men's event, India finds itself in Group A alongside Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and Japan while Group B comprises Iran, Korea, Pakistan and Malaysia.

The Indian kabaddi team will then face Thailand in their second group match on Wednesday before facing Chinese Taipei in their final group match on Thursday. The top two teams in each group will advance to the semi-finals on Friday.

The men's Kabaddi final at the Asian Games 2023 will also take place on Friday.

Indian-origin Shanti Pereira wins Singapore's first gold in Asian Games athletics in 49 years

HANGZHOU, Oct 3 (Agencies): Singapore is celebrating its first athletics gold win in 49 years at the Asian Games with its Indianorigin sprinter Shanti Pereira winning the women's 200m final in Hangzhou, China.

Pereira clocked 23.03 seconds to finish the race on Monday at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium. This is the first athletics gold medal for the citystate since 1974, when sprinter Chee Swee Lee had won the women's 400m race.

China's Li Yuting took

the silver with 23.28 seconds and Bahrain's Edidiong Ofonime Odiong came third at 23.48 seconds in the Monday race. Odiong's compatriot, Salwa Eid Naser, was disqualified for a false start.

Draped in a Singapore flag, the 27-year-old crouched down on the track and covered her face with her hands, before raising her arms in victory, reported

Channel News Asia.
On Saturday, Pereira ended her country's nearly 50-year wait for a track and field medal at the Asian Games, after



she clinched a silver in the women's 100m. Pereira, whose 200m

personal best stands at 22.57 seconds, then topped all three heats for the event the next day, with a time of 23.14 seconds.

This was her first Asian Games 200m final. At the last edition in 2018, she did not advance past the semi-finals.

The Singaporean has overcome much to get to where she is today, said the Channel report.

She first burst into the nation's consciousness at the 2015 Southeast Asian Games when she took gold in the 200m, clocked a personal best, and set a new national record. Her win also ended a 42-year gold medal drought for Singapore in an SEA Games sprint event.

In August, Pereira became the first Singaporean to make a World Championships semi-finals after a stellar showing in the 200m. She also met the qualifying mark for the event at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

Jammu Sanskriti School Excels at 13th District-level **Speedball Championship 2023**

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Jammu Sanskriti School recently shone bright at the 13th district-level Speedball Championship-2023, which was held at DHSS and organized by the J&K Sports Speedball Association. The school's enthusiastic team participated across various age groups, including Under-10, Under-12, Under-14, and Under-17, showcasing their prowess in this fast-paced sport. A total of 16 students represented JAMMU SANSKRITI SCHOOL, and their remarkable performances led to the school bagging an impressive tally of 10 medals. Among these, there were 4 Gold medals, 2 Silver medals, and 5 Bronze medals.

In the Under-10 category, Akalkirat Singh



secured a Gold medal, while Sehajvir Singh and Eklavya Mohan earned Bronze medals. In the Under-12 division, Rayanshdeep Singh clinched the Gold medal, with Ishaan Sharma and Navyam Mehra taking home Bronze medals each. The Under-17 age group saw Rehaan and Prafful Kumar winning Gold medals, while Raghav and Akshit claimed Bronze medals in the Super Solo category.

The Principal of JAMMU SANSKRITI SCHOOL expressed her pride and appreciation for the students who participated in this sports competition. Mrs. Rohini Aima, who also serves as the Chairperson of the school, lauded the students' dedication and hard work. She extend-

ed her commendations to Mr. Sunny Nanda, the school's Sports Coach, for his guidance and training, which played a significant role in the students' outstanding achievements. These medals not only reflect the students' talent and determination but also highlight the school's commitment to nurturing all-round excellence

Gandhi Jayanti celebrated with zeal at GDC Chatroo



TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, OCT 3: On the occasion of the 154th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Indian nation, the NSS unit of Government Degree College

Chatroo celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with great enthusiasm. The program commenced with a floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi by all the faculty and students of the college. Dr. Haq Nawaz delivered a speech highlighting Gandhi Ji's contributions and emphasized that Mahatma Gandhi advocated peace and non-violence during a time marked by ultranationalism, severe

inequality, and oppres-

sion in colonized societies. Mohd Amir, a 5th-semester student who represented Government Degree College Chatroo at the divisional level at GCW Parade Jammu, also shared his thoughts on this theme. Furthermore, a pledge

for a 'Nasha Mukt Bharat' (Drug-Free India) and non-violence was administered to the faculty and all the students of the college. The entire program was coordinated by Dr. Jaswant Singh, the Physical Education Director of the college. The event concluded with a cleanliness drive within the college campus, reinforcing the values of Mahatma Gandhi in

Mahant Bitta releases new devotional song "Shukran Kara Bawe Wali Da"

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Mahant Shri Bitta, esteemed spiritual leader of Bahu Fort Mandir, released a new devotional song titled "Shukran Kara Bawe Wali Da." This soulful composition, dedicated to the divine, is a heartfelt expression of devotion.

The melodious rendition of "Shukran Kara Bawe Wali Da" is sung by the talented artist Aman Sharma, with soulstirring lyrics penned by Munish Jammu Wala. The enchanting music for the song is composed by Chandan Jassu, and the video editing is skillfully handled by K. K. Malhotra. The project is brought to life under the guidance of Asst. Director Prerna Sharma and produced by Mahant Shri Bitta Ji, Bahu Fort Mandir. This release is presented under the esteemed label of the YouTube channel "Maa Bawe Wali Records." The grand unveiling



terpiece was celebrated during a program organized by Maa Bawe Wali Records, with Sh. Sahil Mahajan, the Managing Director, at the helm.

Mahant Shri Bitta Ji expressed his views on the occasion, emphasizing the significance of devotional music in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted that the melodious tunes dedicated to Gods and Goddesses resonate throughout the region during various religious rituals

and gatherings, including Jagrata, Langar, Seva, Pooja, and other sacred ceremonies. He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to extend their support and encouragement to local artists, enabling them to flourish and attain greater heights in their respective fields, which, in turn, will be a source of pride for all citizens of

Sahil Mahajan added that the youth of Jammu and Kashmir should actively participate in

the region.

religious activities and rituals. Such engagement, he believes, will provide them with spiritual guidance and steer them away from negative influences, including substance abuse, thereby ensuring a brighter and more enlightened future.

Furthermore, Sahil Mahajan reassured artists from the region that Maa Bawe Wali Records and its dedicated team are always ready to provide support and assistance whenever needed.

Gandhi Jayanti celebrations culminates with Swachta Abhiyan at GDC Udh

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Oct 3: In the continuum of activities under Azadi Ka Amrut Kaal, during the year of G20 presidency of India, the Committee for Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Govt. Degree College Udhampur, organized "Swachta Abhiyan" as Swachchanjali along with a series of programmes under "Gandhi Jayanti" Celebrations on the eve of 154th birth anniversa-

ry of Mahatma Gandhi. Various activities related to Mahatma Gandhi Ji's life and his philosophy started from 12 Sept' 23 to 30 September under the direction of J and K Higher Education Department. A series of events commenced with screening of movies related to the life and works of Mahatma Gandhi besides focus on Nasha Mukt Bharat and Bhrashtachar Mukt J&K. It was followed by students making reels

related to Gandhian philosophy of life as well as display of his messages through placards. Slogan writing, competition and symposium remained as a major source of attraction in which a large number of students participated. Many activities like Collage making competition, Book reading of "My Experiments with truth" and "All Men Are Brothers" to motivate and re-instigate the Gandhian principles of truth and non-violence, group discussion on Gandhiji's contribution to education, online quiz on "Gandhian Philosophy of Life" etc. were organized by Committee for Gandhian Centre for peace and conflict studies. Student volunteers of the committee for Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies actively participated and conveyed the message of "Satya, Ahimsa and swachta".

Intra-college Declamation competition (Stage 1) followed by district level declamation competition (stage 2) were organized in which students participated with great enthusiasm and energy. Students from different colleges actively participated in

the event. The programs were conducted under the patronage of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta and overall convenership of Prof Imtiaz Shahid. The Programme commenced with the formal welcome address by convenor Prof Imtiaz Shahid where he explained in detail on the theme of the event 'Truth and Non-violence".

Speaking on the occasion Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Worthy Principal GDC Udhampur deliberated upon the significance of Gandhian Philosphy and importance of such events in college which encourage and inculcate Gandhian values and principles among

the students.

The series of activities concluded with the "Swachtha Abhiyan" within and around the college campus to culminate the month-long activities on Gandhian Philosophy. The Members of Yuva Soch Yuva Bharat contributed with Wall painting in the Swachchanjali Abhiyan at Municipal Park, and a Skit on Swachchta in the Cultural program organized by District Administration and 91.9 Red FM on 2nd October at Subash Stadium under the supervision of Dr. Pankaj Sharma.

The program was coordinated by Dr Firdous Ahmed Itoo, Dr Swarn Singh, Prof. Shaji Khan, Dr. Anita and Dr Jasmeet Kour, members of the committee for Gandhian Centre For Peace And Conflict Studies., Govt Degree College, Udhampur.

The Swachchta Pakhwada concluded with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Anita Sharma.

Rich Harvest School excels in **National Urban Games**

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Rich Harvest School athletes delivered outstanding performances at the recently concluded National Urban Games, showcasing their remarkable talent and dedication.

The U-14 Cricket team emerged as champions, displaying exceptional skills and teamwork as they secured the top position and a well-deserved trophy. The U-17 Cricket team also made a commendable effort, securing the 2nd position and earning a trophy for their achievements.

Our avid skaters showcased their prowess by winning an impressive total of 4 medals, including 1 gold, 2 silver, and 1 bronze, demonstrating



their dedication and skill on the skating rink.

In the discipline of Pencak Silat, our participants exhibited outstanding martial arts abilities, claiming a remarkable total of 10 medals. These included 4 gold, 4 silver, and 2 bronze medals. further emphasizing their commitment to excel-

In the realm of Badminton, our talented athletes added to our medal tally by securing 1 gold medal, further highlighting their prowess and competitive

Anita Bhatia, Head of the Institute, extended her warmest congratulations to all the winners and expressed her best wishes for their continued success in future events.

Samvedna Society organizes Aadhaar enrollment camp at SBI

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 3: Samvedna Society, under the leadership of Chairman Keshav Chopra, organized an Aadhaar enrollment camp at the State Bank of India Talab Tillo Branch, offering a convenient one-stop location for Aadhaar-related services. The camp was inaugurated by SBI Regional Manager K.J. Raina, accompanied by Branch Head Malti Ganjoo.

The Aadhaar Camp provided a range of essential services, including new enrollment, biometric updation, correction of Aadhaar details, mobile number updation, photograph changes, and unlocking the biometric lock in Aadhaar, among others.

During the event, K.J. Raina expressed the State Bank of India's



commitment to serving the common man, emphasizing the bank's dedication to going the extra mile to assist its customers. Raina extended his gratitude to Chairman Keshav Chopra and the Samvedna Society for organizing the Aadhaar camp, acknowledging its value to the commu-

Keshav Chopra, in his

remarks, highlighted Samvedna Society's mission to offer doorstep services related to Aadhaar and various other services catering to children, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities. He reassured the community that Samvedna Society would continue to host such camps in the future, furthering their commitment to the welfare of the residents. The camp saw the

presence of several key individuals, including Operational Manager of Aadhaar Sewa Kendra Jammu, Peer Mubashir Shah, as well as Vikas Kumar, Amit Singh (Operator), Smriti Anand, Satish Dutt, and other dedicated members who actively contributed to the event's success.

Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office: 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from GK Offset Printing Press situated at Shivalik Puram Janipur, Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor: M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor: Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No: (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

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