

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 05, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Govt firmly committed to rooting out Terrorism: HM Amit Shah

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the Narendra Modi government is firmly committed to rooting out terrorism from the country. Shah also said Prime Minister Modi's vision is behind the policy of zero tolerance for terrorism adopted by the country. The home minister said this ahead of an anti-terror conference that he will inaugurate here. "The Modi government is firmly committed to rooting out terrorism from our country. Will inaugurate the '3rd Anti-terror Conference' hosted by @NIA_India in New Delhi today and illustrate Modi Ji's vision behind the policy of zero tolerance for terrorism adopted by our nation," he wrote on X.

Shikhar Dhawan granted divorce from Aesha Mukerji on grounds of cruelty by wife

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): A Delhi court on Wednesday granted cricketer Shikhar Dhawan divorce from his estranged wife, Aesha Mukerji on grounds of mental cruelty. Judge Harish Kumar of Patiala House Courts accepted all the claims made by Dhawan in his divorce petition, as his wife did not contest the allegations or defend herself.

The court acknowledged the mental agony endured by Dhawan, who was compelled to live separately from his only son for an extended period. While not issuing any order on permanent custody of the child, the court granted Dhawan visitation rights to spend time with his son in both India and Australia, and allowed video calls between them.

Furthermore, the court ordered Mukerji to facilitate the child's visits to India, including overnight stays with Dhawan and his family, during at least half of the school vacation periods within the academic calendar. Recognising Dhawan's stature as a renowned international cricketer, the court urged him to approach the Union government to seek assistance in addressing visitation or custody matters with his son, particularly involving his counterpart in Australia. Earlier, the courts had held that the mother alone does not possess

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Over 2.5 lac appointments made through backdoor by past regimes: CS Mehta



KUPWARA, Oct 5 (Agencies): Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday said that over 2.50 lac jobs were given to undeserved through backdoor channels by past regimes in the Union Territory of J&K. "I feel ashamed to say that over 2.50 lac undeserved candidates had been given government jobs in J&K through illegal and backdoor

means," Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta as per KNS said while speaking to an event held in north Kashmir's Kupwara. He said the present dispensation led by Lieutenant Governor is committed to provide dignified livelihood means to educated youth and is firm to put an end on illegal and backdoor appointments. "No job will be provided through back-

door means. Poor children who were being deprived in past will be given due rights and jobs now," Mehta said. He added some elements are spreading lies about government that it has stopped recruitment processes "but I want to put facts to fore that 30,000 jobs were given to J&K youth in last three years".

He also added that gone are those days when government jobs were given on nepotism and corruption and rights of poor were being snatched. "Those deserve government jobs will be given due rights where as those don't deserve should opt other means of livelihood. It is better to

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Renowned North Kashmir Footballer dies of electric shock

SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): In a tragic incident, a well-known footballer from north Kashmir's Baramulla district was fatally electrocuted to death on Thursday.

Imtiyaz Ahmad Rather, a 30-year-old resident of Rangwar Baramulla, came into contact with a live wire while carrying out repair work at his home. "Rather was immediately rushed to the Baramulla district hospital where doctors declared him brought dead."

Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident.

Sikkim flash flood: 14 killed, 22 soldiers among 102 missing



GANGTOK, Oct 5 (Agencies): Fourteen people have died and 102 others, including 22 army personnel, were missing after the cloudburst over Lhonak Lake in North Sikkim triggered a flash flood in the Teesta river basin, officials said on Thursday. So far, 2,011 people have been rescued, while the calamity that happened on Wednesday affected 22,034

people, the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA) said in its latest bulletin.

The state government has set up 26 relief camps in the four affected districts, it said.

A total of 1,025 people are taking shelter in the eight relief camps in Gangtok district, while the number of inmates at the 18 other relief camps was not available immediately.

The flash flood in the Teesta river, triggered by the cloudburst in Lhonak Lake in North Sikkim, caused accumulation of huge quantity of water, which turned towards Chungthang dam destroying the power infrastructure before moving downstream in spate, flooding towns and villages.

The flood destroyed 11 bridges in the state, with

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Don't use such actions which tomorrow will inflict on you: Farooq on MP Sanjay Singh arrest

SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): National Conference president and Member Parliament Farooq Abdullah on Thursday came in support of arrested Aam Aadmi Party leader Sanjay Singh and asked the government not to use such actions which tomorrow will inflict on



them. Rajya Sabha member

Sanjay Singh, was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with the Delhi excise policy case on Wednesday.

"Sanjay Singh has been very vocal in the Parliament against many acts of Government which he opposed. I think it is wrong to

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Govt likely to announce DA hike for employees

SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): The central government is set to announce a DA increase for its employees between Navratri and Diwali. The DA hike, effective from July 1, 2023, could exceed the initially reported 3 per cent, News18 reported.

Based on the latest Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW), central government employees may see a 4 per cent increase, raising the dearness allowance to 46 per cent.

Government employees receive DA, while pensioners receive DR. These allowances are adjusted twice annually, in January and July, benefiting over one crore central

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Kashmir's First Agniveers join Indian Army



SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): The inaugural group of Agniveers from the Kashmir valley officially joined the ranks of the Indian Army on Thursday.

The Army confirmed that a passing out parade for this first Agniveer cohort took place at the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry Regi-

ments (JAKLI) centre in Srinagar on Tuesday. These Agniveers were selected through the Army Recruitment Office (ARO) in Srinagar and participated in the passing out parade with a ceremony. The event was also joined by the Agniveers' parents.

"Passing out Parade

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3 booked in Kishtwar over issue of domicile certificate to Rohingya Woman

JAMMU, Oct 5 (Agencies): Three people have been booked over the alleged issuance of a domicile certificate to a Rohingya woman in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district on Wednesday, officials said.

The trio are the woman, a facilitator and the official who issued the domicile certificate.

Kishtwar Senior Superintendent of Police Khalil Poswal said they are investigating the matter.

Over Rs 1.5 lakh fine realised for tobacco use at public places in 2023: Director Health



SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): In a reso-

lute effort to curb the menace of tobacco

use in public places, the health department in Kashmir have realized fines amounting to over 1.5 lac rupees from violators in 2023, Director Health Kashmir, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather said on Thursday.

Speaking to media persons on the sidelines of one day Media

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Replace defective handset, pay Rs 30k compensation: Consumer commission orders cell phone Co

SRINAGAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): A district consumer commission in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla has ordered a mobile phone company to replace a "defective" phone, besides paying a compensation of Rs 30,000.

The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRC) Baramulla was hearing a complaint by a consumer Irshad Ahmad Sheikh who had filed a complaint in 2015 stating that the phone he purchased malfunctioned after a few days.

The complainant said



District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

he purchased a mobile phone from a shop at Main Chowk Sopore on July 7, 2014, for Rs 5,900. However, the phone malfunctioned after a few days of purchase.

The complainant then

approached the company's service centre in Baramulla on July 20, but the phone remained unrepared. Instead they formatted the memory card. Subsequently, the complainant moved to the service centre on

July 25 which yielded no better results, and he was left with a non-functional phone.

The complainant said the issue disrupted his academic pursuits as a student at Kashmir University, rendering him unable to afford a replacement.

The Consumer Forum found the opposite parties, in this case, guilty of unfair trade practices, specifically selling a defective phone and failing to rectify the issue.

As a result, they have been ordered by the DCDRC to replace

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Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar 9419143503

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 Mangotriam Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 30-09-2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed on Sunday 08-10-2023 at Rajpura Mangotriam 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. Purn Singh, Banshi 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** Alam 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. Arvinder Singh Jt. Dir. Agriculture
Son & Daughter-in-law
S. Indrepreet Singh, Er. Nagbani School & Sdn. Gurpreet Kaur
Grand Children: Dr. Amanpreet Kaur (Registrar (Anesth) GMC)
Mr. Gursimran Singh (Er.) Miss Harshleen Kaur & Mr. Divyot Singh

**S. Lachhman Singh****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Kamla Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Bishan Dass Gupta** (Kripind Wale) R/o H. No. 213, Mohalla Paharian, Jammu expired on 24.09.2023 (Sunday).

10TH DAY will be performed on 3rd October 2023 (Tuesday) 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. Neelam Gupta & Sh. Subash Gupta
Smt. Seema Gupta & Sh. Parveen Gupta
Smt. Jyoti Gupta & Sh. Sunil Gupta
Smt. Chanchal Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Chaman Lal (Jethani)
Smt. Darshna Devi W/o Sh. Bharat Bhushan (Devar & Devrani)
Smt. Bachna Devi W/o Lt. Sh. Kewal Krishan (Nanad)
Grand Sons & Grand Daughters-in-law
Sh. Puneet Pargal & Smt. Sheena Gupta
Sh. Kishu Mahajan
9419191357, 979687211, 7051473095

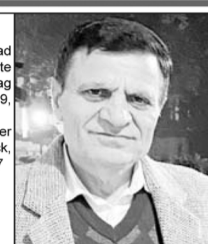
**Smt Kamla Devi****TENTH DAY/ DAHIM DOH**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Shibhen Krishen Pandita S/o Late Sh. Jagar Nath Pandita** Originally from Ikumoo, Kokernag, currently residing at B-104, Brisk Lumbini, Sector 109, Dwarika Expressway, Gurugram on 29th September 2023.

Tenth Day Dahim Doh shall take place on 08th October 2023 (Sunday) at Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir, T. Block, Phase I, Sector 109, New Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Sabita Pandita - Wife
Smt. Dulari & Sh. Pitarbhar 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
Mr. Sahil Pandita - Son
Contact Details: +91 94198 61486, +91 97188 66179, +91 94191 87643, +91 965092312, +91 91878 81213

**SH. SHIBHEN KRISHEN PANDITA****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 resident of Tenuara, Pullywama A/P H. No. 158, Prem Nagar New Plot, Jammu (Near Vishal Bar) on 10-10-2023.

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be performed on 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 & Smt. Kishni Bhat - Devar & Devrani
Smt. Kamla Ji - Bhabhi
Smt. Raj Dulai Choudhary - Bhabhi
Smt. Shanta Ji - Bhabhi
Smt. Dulari Pandita - Bhabhi
Smt. Kanta Raina - Sister

Mr. Ramesh Kumar & Mrs. Sarita Bhat - Son & Daughter in Law
Smt. Pinki & Mr. Ravi Kumar Pandit - Daughter & Son in Law
Smt. Jolly & Sh. Dileep Kumar Pandit - Daughter & Son in Law
Mrs. Manesha & Mr. Sumet Veshan - Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law

Grand Children:
Bindu, Indu, Mohit, Deepu, Niha
CONTACT NO: 9796423683, 7006596893, 9149524179, 9906163317

**SMT JAI KISHORI BHAT****OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Dwarika Nath Bhat S/o Late Sh. Shamboo Nath Bhat** on 2/10/23 (Monday) originally resident of Lar - Ganderbal Kashmir Presently residing at H.No. 69, Indira Theatre Lane, New Mohinder Nagar, Jammu.

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held on 11/10/23 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat near (Directorate of School Education) At 10:00 AM.

Grief Stricken

Son & Daughter-in-Law
Dr. Sachan & Dr. Archana Bhat
Dr. Pawan & Dr. Sunita Bhat
Dr. Akash & Dr. Sunaina Bhat

Brothers & Sister-in-Law
Sh. Raj Nath & Smt. Ratni Bhat
Sh. Kundan Lal & Smt. Suman Bhat

Daughters & Son-in-Law
Dr. Meenakshi & Dr. Virender Trisal
Dr. Swati & Dr. Akshay Sarode
Dr. Shikha Bhat

Sisters and Brother-in-law
Smt. Usha & Sh. O. N. Bazaz
Smt. Krishni & Sh. H. L. Bakshi
Smt. Phoola & Sh. S. K. Raina
Smt. Prana W/o Late Sh. R. K. Vuthoo

Grand Children: Shivansh, Vibuthi, Kriday, Luv, Annapurna, Vihaas
Mob No 9469543090, 8803545756

Bhat, Bazaz, Bakshi, Raina, Vuthoo, Trisal, Pandita, Tickoo

**Sh Dwarika Nath Bhat****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.

TENTH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE HELD ON 7TH OCT.2023 AT MUTHI GHAT, JAMMU AT 8.30 AM.

OM SHANTI**GRIEF STRICKEN**

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

**SMT. PRABHA BHAT (ASHA JI)****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR DEAR **SH. BAKSHI LAL NAJAWAN S/O LT. SH. DINA NATH**. ORIGINALLY RESIDENTIAL FROM BIYAWA, BARAMULLA (KASHMIR) AND PRESENTLY AT H. NO.-185, LANE-4, SEC-1, NEAR JAGADAMBE PLACE, DURGA NAGAR, JAMMU, LEFT HEAVENLY ABODE ON 27TH SEPT, 2023.

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 06-10-2023 (FRIDAY) AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT 8:00AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

SISTER-IN-LAW AND BROTHER
SMT. PUSHPA DEVI AND SH. INDER KUMAR

DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND SON
MRS. PINKY AND MR. TEJ KRISHAN

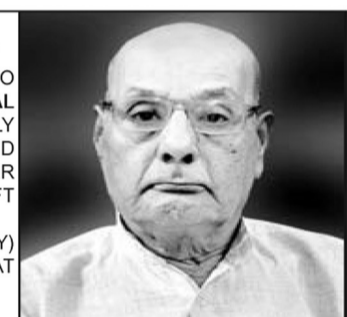
DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW
MRS. GIRJA AND MR. GIRDHARI LAL

MRS. PINKEY AND MR. BRIJ LAL

MRS. JYOTI AND MR. RAKESH

GRAND CHILDREN: MEENU, SONU, SUNNY, GEETIKA, RITIK AND TANIYA

MOBILE NO- 9469275138, 7889612161

**SH. BAKSHI LAL NAJAWAN****10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our revered **Dr. Madan Mohan Gupta S/o Late Sita Ram Gupta** (Bhaderwah Wale) on Tuesday, 26th. Sep. 2023.

10th. Day will be performed on Thursday, 5th. Oct. 2023 at **Gurudwara Hall, Rani Talab, Jammu** at 11.30 a.m.

Kriya Will be performed on Sunday, 8th. Oct. 2023 at 12.00 Noon at our residence 76/4 Extn., Sanjay Nagar, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mona & Sanjeev Jandial - Daughter & Son-in-Law

Meenu & Kapil Gupta - Daughter & Son-in-Law

Smt. Nirmala Gupta - Bhabhi

Jyoti & N.K. Gupta - Daughter-in-Law & Nephew

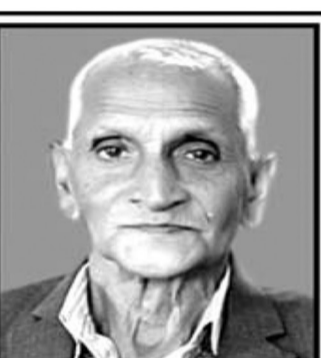
Geeta & Arun Gupta - Daughter-in-Law & Nephew

Bindu & Avinash Gupta - Daughter-in-Law & Nephew

Anu & Arvind Gupta - Daughter-in-Law & Nephew

Neelam & Vijay Nagpal - Niece & Son-in-Law

Grand Children: Abhishek, Ankit, Tanisha, Tanish, Ananya, Sameeksha, Sulaksh & Chaitnya

**Lt. Dr. Madan Mohan Gupta**

94191 96673

70063 69465

70510 16492

90705 33262

FIFTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Bal Krishan Puri Ji S/o Late Sh. Faqir Chand Puri R/o 8-Extn. Mohinder Nagar, Jammu** on 2/10/2023.

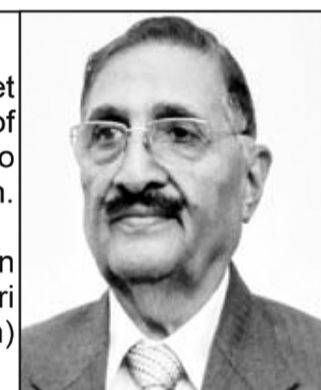
Fifth Day shall be performed on 6/10/2023 (10.00 am - 11.00 am) at Shri Radha Krishan Temple Hall (Tootian) Rani Talab, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Parivar of Late Shri Mangat Ram Verma & Tarawanti Verma

Dhakki Sarajan Jammu.

Mob.: 7780953142, 9419259588

**Sh. Bal Krishan Puri (Retd) FA & CAO****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you that our beloved father **Karmayogi Sh. Dina Nath Ganjoo S/o Late Sh. Rugh Nath Ganjoo**, originally from Hugam, Anantnag presently at H No 337, Lane No 9, Ward No 1 behind Baghera Petrol Pump TCP Udhampur, left for his heavenly abode on 29th September 2023.

TENTH DAY KRIYA shall be held at Devika Ghat Udhampur on 8th October 2023 (Sunday) at 10:00 am

IN GRIEF

Sh. Shyam Lal Ganjoo (Brother)

(Sons & Daughters in Law)

Sh. Raj Nath Ganjoo & Smt. Sunita Ganjoo

Sh. Avtar Krishen Ganjoo & Smt. Rekha Ganjoo

Sh. Inder Ji Ganjoo & Smt. Daisy Ganjoo

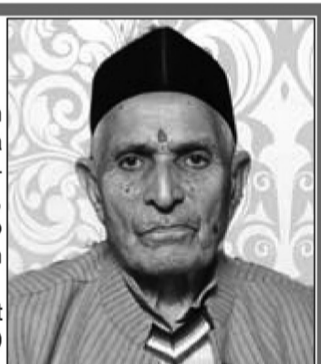
Sh. Barat Ji Ganjoo & Smt. Komal Ganjoo

Sh. Veer Ji Ganjoo & Smt. Beauty Ganjoo

(Daughters & Sons in Law)

Smt. Durga Jee & Sh. Manohar Nath Raina

Smt. Meena Kumari & Sh. Triloki Nath Raina

**Karmayogi Sh. Dina Nath Ganjoo**

& SAMAST GANJOO PARIVAAR.

CONTACT No's: 7006633506, 9419106232,

7006290023, 9419770111, 7006617153

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Ram Payari W/o Late Sh. C.R. Verma R/o H.No. 622-A, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu** on 03-10-2023.

The **Uthala** shall be performed at Laxmi Narayan Mandir Gandhi Nagar, Jammu (Back Gate) from 4 PM to 5 PM on 6-10-2023 (Friday).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Smt. Mansa Devi W/o Sh. Kamal Kumar (Ex Consultant AG J&K)

Smt. Reeta Devi W/o Sh. Paramjit Kumar (Chief Warden Civil Defence Jammu)

Smt. Asha Sharma W/o Sh. Suresh Chander

Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Raj Kumari W/o Late G.L. Sihotra

Dr. Simmi & Dr. K.K. Thakur

Grand Children: Neelam, Karanti, Meena Saher, Sanvi, Sachiv, Shrenik, Devish & Aariv

Mobile No: 9419187997, 9469211115

**SMT. RAM PAYARI****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Ram Pyari W/o Sh. Hans Raj Sharma** on 27/9/2023 R/o H.No. 310, Lane No. 11, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 06-10-2023 (Friday) at 10.00 am at our residence H.No. 310, Lane No. 11, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

Kriya will be performed on 07-10-2023 (Saturday) at our residence at 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sh. Hans Raj Sharma - Husband

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Kuldeep & Manka Sharma

Ravi & Shalu Sharma

Kiran Bala & Jai Kumar - Daughter & Son-in-law

Grand Children: Shubam, Deepali, Dhruv, Mehak, Shifali, Adharv

Ph. No.: 9906382664, 7889771626

**Smt. Ram Pyari****TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Bishan Dutt Khajuria S/o Lt. Pt. Beli Ram R/o JDA Q.No. 46, Last Matador Stop, Janipur.**

Tenth Day will be performed on 6/10/2023 at 11.00 am at our residence.

Kriya / Rasam Pagri will be performed on 7/10/2023 at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Pushpa Rani (Wife)

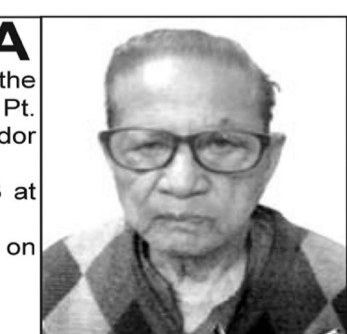
Son & Daughter-in-law

Tarsem Khajuria & Madhu Khajuria

Grand Son & Daughter

Aditya Khajuria

Vanshika Khajuria

**Bishan Dutt Khajuria****Mob.: 962232054****KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Kulbir Singh Sambyal S/o Sh. P.S. Sambyal.**

Kriya shall be performed on 6th October, 2023 (Friday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

Uthala will be performed on 6th October, 2023 (Friday) from 4 PM to 5 PM at our residence H.No. 45-A, Subash Nagar Rajpura Road, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sambyal's Family

**SH. KULBIR SINGH SAMBYAL****TENTH DAY KRIYA**

No one could jump over the Eternal cycle of Birth & Death, Still Humans with head and heart pass through great pain and suffering at the physical loss of dear ones.

With the same emotions, we inform heavenly departure of our beloved **Sh. Jawahar Lal Sultan** from Bagati Kanipora Srinagar at present residing at H.No. 59, Durga Nagar Sector - 1, Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be held at Muthi Ghat on Saturday, 7th of October, 2023 at 8.30 am

Thereafter 11th & 12th day rituals shall follow at the residence of departed soul.

Sultan's (Durga Nagar)

**Sh. Jawahar Lal Sultan****TENTH DAY / KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our mother **Prasino Devi W/o Late Sh. Krishan Lal Khajuria (Sunjwawala) A/P R/o Akalpur Morh Lower Muthi near Vimal Vidhyala Lower Muthi Jammu, 28 Sep. 2023 (Thursday).**

JMC signs tripartite agreement for street light installation & maintenance in Jammu

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Rahul Yadav, Commissioner of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) today informed all concerned parties about the ongoing installation and commissioning of street lights within the jurisdiction of JMC. He said this project is being executed in accordance with a tripartite agreement involving the Power Development Department (PDD), Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), and the Housing & Urban Development Department.

Speaking to media persons here today, the JMC commissioner said that as per the agree-



ment, all 75 wards within the purview of Jammu Municipal Corporation are set to receive street lights in two phases. The distribution of responsibilities in this partnership is as follows: PDD is responsible for providing the necessary infrastructure, including poles, phase wire, and related accessories for the installation of street

lights. EESL is tasked with supplying street lights of varying wattages according to the area's requirements, and JMC is entrusted with supervising the project's implementation and making payments for the maintenance of the street lights, he added.

He said as of now, the installation of 61,300 street lights has been successfully completed in Phase-I, and work on the installation of street lights in Phase-II is currently in progress. Out of the 35,130 street lights planned for Phase-II, approximately 31,500 lights have already been installed.

In accordance with the tripartite agreement, EESL is obligated to provide street lights with the necessary accessories and maintain these lights for a period of 07 years.

The Commissioner asserted that the JMC is responsible for making payments for the maintenance of the street lights, as outlined in the agreement. JMC fulfills this obligation for the completed 61,300 street lights only. EESL takes care of the maintenance aspect on a regular basis, and there are three avenues for lodging complaints with EESL: a Toll-Free Helpline at 1800-180-

3580, the JK.LED app exclusively for J&K residents, and another app available nationwide called EESL SAMPARK app, he added.

He said individuals can register their complaints through these platforms, and EESL promptly addresses and rectifies these concerns on an ongoing basis. EESL maintains a comprehensive record of these actions, which is periodically reviewed to ensure the effectiveness of the maintenance efforts. This rigorous monitoring process ensures the quality of service provided by EESL in maintaining the street lights, he added.

BJP opposes, all sections support opposition call for early elections: Congress

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Why BJP has got utter frustration, due to joint call of all major opposition parties for peaceful dharna on Oct. 10, for holding early elections and restoration of democratic rights to J&K people, asked JK Congress, stating that all people want early elections and statehood.

Questioning BJP for its nervousness, after the announcement of the peaceful dharna in Jammu on Oct. 10 by the main opposition parties to launch a joint struggle for the restoration of democratic rights under the constitution to the people of J&K, JKPC has said that it reflects the ruling party's frustration and lack of faith in the democracy & elections.

The ruling party is the afraid of facing people, due to the fear of backlash of the people in the elections, otherwise why should it be opposed to the peaceful protest dharna of the opposition parties, for holding early elections to the Assembly besides to the Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats on their due times.

JKPC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma questioned BJP for favouring deferment of elections which are due to the ULBs and Panchayats, when entire population wants early restoration of democracy through elections and restoration of statehood and constitutional rights to land and jobs to the people. We shall intensify our joint struggle in days to come, he added.

He lashed out at the dual stand of BJP with regard to elections, which is evident from the reaction of the BJP to the opposition's call for holding early elections and restoration of democra-

cy to the people of J&K. He said that BJP is only doing lip service by public posturing for holding elections but in fact it is opposed to the opposition's demand and peaceful struggle to put pressure on the government against its policies to defer and delay all elections, on one pretext or the other, except to Lok Sabha.

On one hand the Centre Govt. and UT administration as well as the ruling BJP claim normalcy and lot of improvement on the militancy front, while on the other hand it is delaying holding of elections in State Assembly, ULB and Panchayats for security reasons. He emphasized that the peaceful dharna of opposition on Oct. 10, has the support of all sections of people demanding elections in Assembly, ULB and Panchayats besides restoration of the democratic rights and statehood without further delay.

Meanwhile the opposition political parties including Congress, NC, PDP, Shiv Sena, Panther Party and other like minded political parties and social organizations have started gearing up for the peaceful dharna on Oct. 10. A meeting of the coordination group of different parties, which was constituted in the all party meeting on Oct. 3, was held here today to finalize the arrangement and the venue of the proposed dharna. The group also approached to Dist. Administration for identifying and allocating suitable site, as suggested in the letter for the proposed dharna of all opposition parties. The groups comprise of Ravinder Sharma (Congress), Rattan Lal Gupta(NC), Firtzo Tak (PDP, I.D. Khajuria and Com. Hari Singh (CPIM) and Harshdev Singh (Ex-Minister).

Opposition Parties unite to protect their seats, neglecting public interest issues: Kapoor

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Amit Kapoor, the President of Dogra Welfare Organization and a prominent leader championing the cause of prepaid meters, property tax, old age pension, and various public interest issues, has taken a strong stance against the opposition parties. Kapoor accuses them of banding together solely to safeguard their political positions, with no genuine concern for the issues affecting the public.



ate the opposition parties' performance on October 10th, focusing on whether they raise issues of public interest or merely pursue their political agenda. Kapoor affirmed that the date for the rescheduled fast would be announced after this evaluation.

Addressing the media, Amit Kapoor questioned why the opposition parties had failed to unite on critical issues such as prepaid meters, property tax, old age pension, unemployment,

and other matters that directly affect the public. He expressed disappointment that these parties had not raised their voices on these pressing concerns, even when the Central Government had committed to addressing the issue of statehood.

Kapoor likened the opposition parties to "spent cartridges" and urged the people to reject such established political figures. He called upon the electorate to support and bring forth new faces in upcoming elections

who could effectively advocate for the public's interests.

Amit Kapoor also directed strong criticism towards the administration of the Lieutenant Governor (LG), accusing it of neglecting the people's problems and vowing that lawlessness would not persist in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted the recent electricity supply cutoff to around a hundred houses in the New Plot area and the removal of electrical wiring as examples of this negligence.

Initially planning to embark on a fast unto death starting October 6th to address issues such as prepaid meters, property tax, old age pension, exorbitant electricity bills, the waiver of outstanding bills, power

shortages, and other matters, Kapoor has postponed his protest to assess the opposition's commitment to public issues on October 10th.

Kapoor reiterated that these concerns are pervasive across Jammu and Kashmir and affirmed that the agitation would continue until prepaid meters are abolished and other public issues are resolved. He warned that once electricity becomes privatized, the cost to consumers could increase significantly, making it crucial to resist the introduction of prepaid meters.

Furthermore, Kapoor called for the immediate dismissal of old electricity bills, emphasizing that many individuals are unable to pay these arrears.

SKJEVS Trust initiates plantation drive



Chand Shastri Pathak State Award in Sanskrit" to honor Sanskrit scholars who make noteworthy contributions to the promotion, propagation, and enrichment of Sanskrit language and literature. Such an award, he believed, would restore Sanskrit to its former glory.

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: A lecture-series on the life and contributions of Dr. Uttam Chand Shastri Pathak, who was a prominent figure in propagating Sanskrit learning and dedicated his life to social service and the promotion of Sanatan Dharma. Such an award would not only recognize Sanskrit scholars in Jammu and Kashmir but also contribute to national integration. She commended the efforts of Shri Kailakh Jyotish Evim Vadik Sansthan (SKJEVS) Trust at Government High School Muthi, Jammu, in ward no 67, in remembrance of his third death anniversary. The event also marked the commencement of a plantation drive by the trust.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was School Principal Kiran Sharma, and Samaj Sevi Ajay Sharma served as the Chief of Honour. Naresh Raina, Trustee of Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vadik Sansthan Trust, presided over the function.

Kiran Sharma, in her keynote address, emphasized the importance of reviving Sanskrit and promoting Sanskrit scholarship. She suggested insti-

tuting a State Award in Sanskrit in honor of Dr. Uttam Chand Shastri Pathak, who was a prominent figure in propagating Sanskrit learning and dedicated his life to social service and the promotion of Sanatan Dharma. Such an award would not only recognize Sanskrit scholars in Jammu and Kashmir but also contribute to national integration. She commended the efforts of Shri Kailakh Jyotish Evim Vadik Sansthan (SKJEVS) Trust at Government High School Muthi, Jammu, in ward no 67, in remembrance of his third death anniversary. The event also marked the commencement of a plantation drive by the trust.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is notified for the information of all concerned that timing of stoppage of train no. 19027/19028 Bandra Terminus - Jammu Tawi - Bandra Terminus Weekly Express at Gotan station has been revised as under:-

Train No. 19027 Bandra Terminus - Jammu Tawi Exp. From 30.09.2023		Station	Train No. 19028 Jammu Tawi - Bandra (T) Exp. From 02.10.2023	
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.
02:31	02:33	Gotan	00:08	00:10

Any inconvenience caused to the passengers is deeply regretted.

Download RailMadad App from www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EXPERIMENTAL STOPPAGE OF TRAINS

This is notified for the information of rail passengers that Railways have decided to provide stoppages to the following trains on the stations shown against each on experimental basis as under:-

Train No. & Name	Station	Timings		Date (From Originating Station)
		Arr.	Dep.	
12555 Gorakhpur-Bathinda Jn. Superfast Express (Daily)	Bhatu	10:13	10:15	From 14.10.2023
12556 Bathinda Jn.-Gorakhpur Superfast Express (Daily)	Bhatu	15:51	15:53	From 15.10.2023
14733 Bathinda Jn.-Jaipur Jn. Express (Daily)	Bawani Kherra	01:25	01:27	With Immediate Effect
14733 Bathinda Jn.-Jaipur Jn. Express (Daily)	Kosli	02:54	02:56	With Immediate Effect
19415 Ahmedabad Jn.-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express (Weekly)	Kosli	11:47	11:49	From 08.10.2023
19415 Ahmedabad Jn.-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express (Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	12:13	12:15	With Immediate Effect
19416 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Ahmedabad Jn. Express (Weekly)	Kosli	05:11	05:13	With Immediate Effect
14085 Tilak Bridge-Sirsa Express (Daily)	Jatusana	20:55	20:57	With Immediate Effect
14086 Sirsa-Tilak Bridge Express (Daily)	Jatusana	06:18	06:20	With Immediate Effect
19611 Ajmer Jn.-Amritsar Jn. Express (Bi-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	00:49	00:51	From 05.10.2023
19612 Amritsar Jn.-Ajmer Jn. Express (Bi-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	01:43	01:45	From 05.10.2023
19613 Ajmer Jn.-Amritsar Jn. Express (Bi-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	00:49	00:51	With Immediate Effect
19614 Amritsar Jn.-Ajmer Jn. Express (Bi-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	01:43	01:45	From 06.10.2023
12983 Ajmer Jn.-Chandigarh Jn. Express (Tri-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	00:49	00:51	From 06.10.2023
12984 Chandigarh Jn.-Ajmer Jn. Express (Tri-Weekly)	Charkhi Dabri	01:08	01:10	From 07.10.2023
19027 Bandra (T)-Jammu Tawi Express (Weekly)	Luni	02:31	02:33	With Immediate Effect
19028 Jammu Tawi-Bandra (T) Express (Weekly)	Luni	00:08	00:10	With Immediate Effect

Note: Train no. 14085 Tilak Bridge-Sirsa (Daily) Express has also been revised at Kosli station from (Existing Arrival/Departure-20.54/20.56; Revised Arrival/Departure 21.06/21.08) due to stoppage at Jatusana station.

For any kind of information, passengers are advised to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

Visit RailMadad Website :- www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER BHALWAL (JAMMU)

Subject:- Engagement/Hearing of Helpers/AAVAs under support at Pre Primary (ECCE) for the year 2023-24.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

The Village Level application forms on prescribed format are invited from the eligible female candidate of the below mentioned school falls as per terms and conditions laid/mentioned below. The Eligible female candidates of the Village of the school for engagement/hearing of helpers/AAVAs purely on honorarium basis @5000/-P.M for the session 2023-24. In pursuance of Society Order No. 07 of Chirag 2023 dated: 09-01-2022, Director SAMAGRA SHIKSHA, J&K order No. Edu/PP/SMS/Quality/4296-4395/2023-24 dated: - 08-08-2023 and Chief Education Officer Jammu's endorsement No. CEOJ/Samagra/7911-13 dated: 19-09-2023 till 31st March 2024.

- Only female candidates can apply.
- The candidate must be the domicile of the village where approved school is located.
- Candidate must belong to BPL Category.
- Candidate must be physically and mentally fit to carryout job.
- Minimum qualification of candidate is 8th passes.
- Preference shall be given to the candidate from BPL category in the below mentioned order of priority.
 - Widow.
 - Divorced.
 - Orphan
 - Any candidate among the poorest of poor in the village.
- The age of the candidate must be between 18 to 45 years as on 01-01-2023.
- The candidates shall be in receipt of honorarium of Rs. 5000/- per month which may vary as per approval in the subsequent year in PAB of SAMAGRA SHIKSHA.
- In case of Misconduct/Misbehavior undertaken have the right to terminate the helper/AAVA in consultation with Panchayat Halqa and report from concerned HOL. The replacement for new AAYA/Helper shall be made within 7 days.
- The job chart of the AAYA/Helper shall be issued separately.
- If anybody feels aggrieved with the selection of Helper/AAVA an appeal shall be preferred to the Chief Education Officer Jammu with in the period 07 days from the selection and if not resolved the second appeal may be filed before the Director School Education Jammu.
- In case TIE up cases the preference shall be given to the senior/elder in age.
- The advertised post is purely on temporary basis and the candidate if selected shall not claim for permanent absorption and the candidate shall submit an undertaking in the shape of affidavit duly attested by Judicial Magistrate in this regards.

S.No.	Name of the School	Name of the Village	No. of the Post
1.	PS MOH. RAM DASSIAN AMB	AMB	1
2.	MS GURAH PATTAN	GURAH PATTAN	1
3.	GMS KANGRAIL	KANGRAIL	1 (Vacancy due to Resignation of Apptt.)

The application duly completed in all respect along with supporting documents of candidate must reach in the concerned school of undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. If holiday fall on last date the next date will be the last date for the submission of application form.

Note:- As per the directions of higher authorities, Principal/Headmaster in case of Sr. Secondary/secondary schools in consultation with PRI of the Panchayat/Conselor of the wards shall the authority to make selection of AAYAs/Helper after following the prescribed formalities. In case of UPS/PS, the selection shall be made by ZEO in consultation of PRI/Conselor of ward.

Zonal Education Officer
Bhalwal (Jammu)

ZONE BHALWAL FOR FEMALE CANDIDATES

1 Name of the Post

2 Advertisement Notice No./Ref. Date

3 Name in Block Letters

4 Parentage/W/o/Wd/o

5 Date of Birth

6 Permanent Address- R/n Village Panchayat Tehsil: Inhabitation District Education Zone Mobile No. Pincode: Name of School where for applied:

7 Marital Status:-

8 Category:- Widow/Divorced/ Orphan/ Any other:-

9 Education Qualification details:-

Name of Exam Passed	Year of Passing	Board/School	Marks Obtained	% of Marks

10 Documents Attached:-

- Qualification Certificate with marks card
- Date of Birth Proof
- Domicile Certificate
- Health Certificate
- Category Certificate
- Copy of BPL Ration Card

11 Signature of the PRIs/Municipality Ward Members Concerned with Stamp

I solemnly declared that the above documentary evidence, which supported in the statement I have made are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dated:-

DIP/J-9091/23

Signature of the Candidate

EDITORIAL

FESTIVAL
SEASON

India is a land of fairs and festivals. As different communities belonging to different religions live here, therefore many festivals are celebrated regularly every year. Among these festivals, some are religious; some are based on seasons while some are of national importance. All the festivals are celebrated with great enthusiasm in a colourful atmosphere.

Diwali, Dussehra, Raksha Bandhan, Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Zuha, Christmas, Mahavir Jayanti, Gurunanak Jayanti, Ganesh Chaturhi etc. are the religious festivals of India. These festivals are celebrated by different communities but they are celebrated as a whole. We can see festive atmosphere everywhere in India.

Holi, Baisakhi, Basant Panchami, Bihu, Pongal, Onam etc. are seasonal or harvest festivals. The spirit of Holi is colour-rich and vibrant, flung into the air and smeared with immense joy on friends and dear ones.

This festival marks the end of winter season and advent of bright days of summer. Baisakhi, a harvest festival, is celebrated in North India, particularly in Punjab and Haiyana, when the Rabi crop is ready for harvesting. In South India, during the same period, 'Pongal' is celebrated.

The farmers worship the sun, the earth and the cattle as thanks giving for a bounteous harvest. And then there is Basant Panchami. It marks the arrival of sweet spring the season of pleasant breeze, flowers and fragrance. All fill life with vigour and vitality. Hence people celebrate this festival with great zeal and excitement.

Then comes our national festivals—the Independence Day, The Republic day and the Gandhi Jayanti these festivals are celebrated by all communities throughout the country. The Independence Day celebrated on 15th August every year reminds us those numerous freedom fighters that made the Britishers leave the country.

They gave us our long-cherished freedom. The Republic day, which falls on 26th January, is observed with national feeling. This festival fills us with pride that now we live in a sovereign democratic republic country with a constitution of our own. On this day colourful parade starts from Vijay Chowk which ends at the Red Fort.

Similarly Gandhi Jayanti is also celebrated nationwide. It falls on 2nd October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of Nation. Whole nation pays heartiest tribute to our revered soul, who lived and died for the country.

The festivals make our life colourful and enthusiastic. They bring people together. They come every year to make us forget all ill-will and communal hatred the festivals strengthen the feeling of oneness too people, without any malice, meet with one another and wish for bright future. Thus, festivals are very important and they must be celebrated with pomp and show by all.

Amid India-China friction, we need to set 'real' LAC

By: Mohan Guruswamy

We have two outstanding issues between India and China. The larger one is about the large tracts of territory in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. These two territorial disputes are not going to be resolved even in the foreseeable long term. Hence, Deng Xiaoping sagaciously suggested to Rajiv Gandhi in their 1988 meeting in Beijing that it was best left to history. A hundred years ago, the situations in both countries and their frontiers were very different. What they will be after another hundred years can be anybody's guess?

The urgent and pressing dispute on hand is the issue of the two LACs. These LACs frequently overlap. The term Line of Actual Control, or LAC, was first used by then Chinese PM Zhou Enlai in November 1959 when he wrote to his India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru defining it as "the so-called McMahon Line in the east and the line up to which each side exercises actual control in the west". Nehru rejected this line even after the events of 1962. By this time, he was also saddled with a parliamentary resolution pledging to recover all territories occupied by China. Interestingly, this LAC did not change very much even after 1962.

The problem is that India and China never agreed on where the LAC was in the Ladakh and middle sectors. The perceptions of what each side "controlled" varied, sometimes by a few meters to tens of kilometres. For instance, in the Sikkim sector where they vary at a few places, the actual overlap often is a few meters. This variation is because both sides are vying for better tactical positions to locate their bunkers and sangars, or small built-up structures on higher ground to observe the other side. In a place like the Depsang Plains, the western side of which is with India and the eastern side is with China, the overlap of the LACs is by as much as 20-30 km.

Despite having two widely overlapping LACs in Ladakh, the Indian and Chinese forces had arrived at a unique modus vivendi ever since 1962. That is each side will patrol up to



its perception of the LAC without confronting the other. India even cooperated to the extent of allowing them to patrol their post-1962 LAC. The desire for peace made both sides cobble up such agreements from time to time.

In 1993, the agreement made it incumbent for both sides to caution each other whenever their perceived LACs were crossed. The other side was then obliged to withdraw. This in effect created a no-man's buffer zone. Though the 1993 agreement stipulated that any dispute would be jointly monitored by both sides to decide upon an alignment, this never really happened. Then in 1996, both sides agreed to "exercise restraint when the patrols come face to face". This agreement also stipulated that both sides would not use firearms or resort to any blasting 2 km from their perception of the LACs. Both sides adhered to this but the patrols, while not confronting each other, began tailing each other, keeping a distance between them. This agreement also obliged both sides not to construct anything of a permanent nature in the overlaps of the two LACs.

This worked till 2013, when the People's Liberation Army objected to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) building re-usable shelters in a place called Chumar. In May that year, a tailed PLA patrol decided to dig in midway between the two LACs in Depsang at a place called Rakhi Nula, when the PLA platoon decided to dig in. The ITBP reported this

via their hierarchy to the home ministry. By the time the home ministry informed the defence ministry across the street, some more time elapsed. In the meanwhile, the PLA began to supply their dug-in platoon using vehicles and helicopters. New Delhi saw this as a major breach and ordered the Army in. The Army then dug in at a point about 300 meters away from the PLA platoon, but effectively cutting away retreat.

This crisis was resolved by a meeting between the two local military commanders, with the Indian side agreeing to dismantle the Chumar structures and the PLA pulling out. This led to the more complex 2013 agreement, once again aimed at conflict prevention and conflict resolution, but not deciding on a mutually accepted LAC. This is where we were when the PLA, taking advantage of the Indian security forces' sloppiness in not mirroring the annual PLA exercises in the area, dug in positions in the Galwan Valley, Hot Springs, Ghogra and the area between Fingers 4 and 8 on the north bank of Pangong Tso in the summer of 2020. In Galwan Valley, the PLA's new position was now less than 2 km from the modernised 230-km road from Darbuk to DBO road.

The electronic media, no doubt provoked by the Narendra Modi government, went into a fury over the "Chinese perfidy" and Mr Modi and defence minister Rajnath Singh made fire and brimstone speeches to the troops at Ladakh. The Indian

military buildup was under the full glare of the embedded media and the newly-acquired military hardware was on display. Even the delivery of the first five Rafale fighters, which included two trainers, was turned into a muscle display show. Now we have a situation where the Indian Army and PLA commanders have been in talks from June 16, 2020 seeking a disengagement. The two and fro Kabuki dance continues.

The question here is: who withdraws and to where? This requires the determination of a single LAC. This is beyond the ken of the military commanders of both sides. Military men, even if instructed to find a compromise, are usually loathe to withdraw to tactically disadvantageous positions. But the need of the hour is to do just this. This therefore calls for mediation between the two militaries, and that is best done by a third country's military. A neutral military mediator can understand the tactical security concerns of either side and can help in determining the best position under the circumstances. This is well beyond the capabilities of professional diplomats. But who can this mediator be?

Russia has been engaged with the militaries of both nations for decades and knows both sides well. It also enjoys a measure of trust in both countries. One hopes that both countries will find the good sense to utilise Russian or any other mediation to settle this issue.

Street Library



By: Vijay GarG

A street library, also known as a little free library or a book exchange, is a small structure typically located on a street corner or in a public space where people can take

or leave books for others to enjoy. These libraries are often built in the shape of a small house or cabinet and are often decorated to catch the attention of passersby.

The concept of street libraries began in 2009 when Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin, built a small replica of a one-room schoolhouse in honor of his mother, a former school teacher and book lover. He filled the structure with books and put it on a post in his front yard, allowing neighbors to freely take or leave books. The idea quickly spread, and now there are thousands of little free libraries around the

world.

Street libraries promote literacy, community engagement, and a love for books. They are often run and maintained by volunteers, who take care of organizing the books, ensuring there is a variety of genres and age ranges available. Some street libraries even host events such as book clubs or storytelling sessions to further foster a sense of community.

These libraries operate on a simple principle: "Take a book, leave a book." Anyone can borrow a book from the street library and return it when they finish reading. People are also encouraged to

donate books they no longer need or want, ensuring a constant rotation of reading materials for everyone to enjoy.

Street libraries can be found in urban areas, suburban neighborhoods, and even rural towns, providing access to books for all. They promote a sense of sharing and community spirit, as people take pleasure in discovering new books and contributing to the literary collective.

(Vijay GarG
Retired Principal
Educational columnist
Malout Punjab)

MPDA seeks immediate action on garbage disposal crisis

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Motor Parts Dealers Association (MPDA), Transport Nagar Narwal, Jammu, raised serious concern over the critical issue plaguing the area.

Addressing media persons here today, Rajinder Parshad Kakkar, President of MPDA, sought proper disposal of garbage and solid waste in Transport Nagar. He said One of the primary concerns raised was the need for designated garbage disposal points to be established within all seven yards of Transport Nagar Narwal, Jammu. Members of the association stressed the importance of creating such facilities to address the growing issue of waste management in the area.

Another crucial point of discussion centered around the necessity for a daily garbage collection routine to be implemented and managed



by government authorities. The regular removal of waste was deemed essential to maintain cleanliness and hygiene within the community.

MPDA also recounted previous efforts to address the garbage disposal problem. They had previously organized an interaction program with JKSPC Jammu to conduct awareness workshops for the Transport Nagar community. These workshops aimed to educate residents about the proper disposal of garbage and solid waste. During these efforts, it was mutually agreed

upon that a specific agency would be designated to establish dumping points and ensure the daily collection of garbage.

Despite these efforts and agreements, no concrete action has been taken by any authority, including the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) and JKSPC Jammu. Consequently, Transport Nagar Narwal has witnessed a surge in dengue cases and has become overwhelmed by the accumulation of garbage, creating a severe health hazard for the residents. In light of the worsen-

ing situation, the Motor Parts Dealers Association urgently appeals to the L.G Sahib to intervene and take decisive action. They urged the issuance of time-bound directives, the allocation of sufficient funds, and the assignment of responsibility to a competent authority capable of effectively addressing this pressing issue. MPDA Jammu commits its full cooperation and support to the designated agency in resolving this crisis.

The meeting drew significant participation from members of the Transport Nagar community, including S. Jaswinder Singh, S. Parvinder Singh, Sanjay Dogra, Sham Singh Bhau, and other concerned individuals. The urgency of this matter underscores the immediate need for a comprehensive solution to the garbage disposal crisis in Transport Nagar Narwal, Jammu.

Free & Fair recruitment process is right of every student in J&K: Pushvinder

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: The Jammu Joint Students' Federation (JJSF) organized an impressive induction ceremony at SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu. This event was held under the leadership of Keshav Malhotra, Jammu District President of JJSF, with Advocate Pushvinder Singh Manhas, State President of JJSF, serving as the Chief Guest. The occasion was graced by Atul, State Vice President of JJSF, Raghu Nandan, Opinder Sharma, Yuvraj Singh, Abhisek Sharma, Sagar Sudan, Amit Verma, Nishakar Sharma, Lucky Pardhan, Ritik Verma, and other JJSF office bearers. A substantial rally was conducted, commencing from the college premises and concluding at the Shaheed Sthal outside GGM Science College in Jammu.

In his welcoming address, Keshav Malhotra, Jammu District President, JJSF, emphasized the history of JJSF's unwavering commitment to leading various protests against successive governments' discrimination against the Jammu region. He affirmed that JJSF has consistently stood against



injustice, particularly in the realm of education, and pledged the organization's support to the student community. Malhotra highlighted the importance of commemorating the student martyrs of the 1966 agitation who sacrificed their lives for the welfare of the student community.

Addressing the students, Pushvinder Singh Manhas, State President of JJSF, reiterated the organization's commitment to addressing students' concerns and advocating for their rights. He stressed that there are numerous issues affecting students and youth today that need attention and resolution. Manhas strongly criticized the JKUT Administration and JKSSB for their involvement in recruitment processes conducted by private

firms, accusing them of exploiting the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the necessity of a free and fair recruitment process for every student in J&K and urged the Lieutenant Governor's administration to take measures to ensure transparency in recruitment processes. Manhas also called upon the LG Administration to expedite the development of infrastructure in newly established degree colleges across Jammu and Kashmir to alleviate the students' difficulties.

Furthermore, Adv. Pushvinder Singh Manhas, State President of JJSF, announced the formation of the college unit, with Raghav Singh appointed as President, Vishal Kumar as Working President, Himanshu Samyal as Sr. Vice President, Ashmeet

Singh and Uday as Vice Presidents, Samaksh Sharma and Tanisha as General Secretaries, and several others appointed to key positions within the unit.

The newly appointed members of the unit, under the leadership of Raghav Singh, expressed their commitment to JJSF's non-political ethos and its history of advocating for the rights and welfare of the people of Jammu. They pledged to stand up against injustice on behalf of the students and youth of Jammu under the banner of JJSF.

In addition to the individuals mentioned, Kannu, Tushar Verma, Aman Verma, Bharat Verma, Abhishek Rana, Vikrant Bassan, and Aryan Sharma were also present during the program.

Police Pensioners protest, reiterates demands

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: A protest was held at Hari Singh Park in Jammu, under the chairmanship of Ajit Singh, addressing issues of discrimination faced by retired police pensioners and J&K Fire Services personnel in pay anomalies. The Non-Gazetted Police Pensioners Welfare Forum raised several pressing concerns before the Government of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory.

Singh said the government's Order No. 229-F of 2014, dated 17-10-2014, pertaining to pay anomalies, is a subject of contention. The effect of this order is being applied prospectively, meaning it is in effect from the date of the order. However, the forum argues that it should have been implemented retrospectively, from the year 1996 when the 5th pay commission was introduced throughout the state. This discrepancy left the Police Department without the benefit of this pay revision



for a significant period, and some retirees have even passed away. The surviving retirees are demanding that they receive the benefits they are rightfully owed.

He asserted that follow-up actions regarding the pay anomaly issue, as mentioned in two different orders/circulars (AIG (W) Rtd-59-1/09 41241-96, Dated 8/6/2017 and AIG (W) Saveera /2018/4919-70, Dated 18/01/2018), have not been adequately executed.

He further pointed out that the medical allow-

ance paid by the Central Government has been increased to Rs. 1000/- from July 2017. However, in the context of Jammu & Kashmir now being a Union Territory, the Medical Allowance for retired police personnel remains at Rs. 300/-.

The forum demands that the Medical Allowance should also be raised to Rs. 1000/- to align with the Central Government's policy. The forum requested that a 10% reservation be instituted for admission in professional colleges and in recruitment

for the children of police personnel. This step would acknowledge the sacrifices and contributions made by the police community and provide greater opportunities for their families in professional education and employment.

The protest served as a platform for retired police pensioners and J&K Fire Services personnel to voice their concerns and seek a resolution to these pressing issues from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory.

Opposition can't compete with BJP in dev, welfare service: Munish

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Once again the opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir have started coming together to form a flock, with nothing to claim but mislead the masses for vote bank politics. The parties, which have recently come on a platform to hold protest in Jammu, are most of those who were in chair in Jammu and Kashmir but failed to come up to the expectations of the people.

This was stated by Jammu and Kashmir BJP senior leader & former General Secretary Munish Sharma, while terming the 'alliance' as the politics of



opportunism to remain alive in the public. He said that the people are well aware that the parties like Congress, NC and PDP, were in power in Jammu and Kashmir for decades. They enjoyed the power on their own or entered into coalition for 'Kursi' (Chair). Their agenda had been appeasement on communal and

regional considerations and Jammu was always given step motherly treatment.

Munish Sharma said that opposition has very important role in a democracy and, as such, their leaders should go to public with their achievements and milestones achieved during their rule but unfortunately, here, in Jammu and Kashmir, only opposing the BJP and the government pleases them. It would be better if they, simultaneously, appreciate the good works of the government, which are visible on ground to everyone.

Munish Sharma further said that compari-

son between the nine years of government under PM Narendra Modi the seventy years and Congress and NC, and some years of PDP, will make clear that BJP did a lot in short period and took Jammu and Kashmir on new heights of development and public welfare.

"These parties stand nowhere, when one talks of development and social welfare related works of Modi government", the BJP leader said and added that every attempt of the opposition group will fail to regain the faith of the masses, who have judged that it is only BJP, which deserves public support.

Jammu District Emerges Victorious in U/14 Girls' Divisional Level Inter District Basketball Championship

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Oct 5: The Divisional Level Inter District Basketball Competition for Girls U/14 years commenced with great enthusiasm at the Army Public School ground, Udhampur. The event is organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, with the patronage of the esteemed Director of YSS J&K UT, Subash Chander Chibber. The competition was conducted under the able chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai (IAS), and was supervised by DYSSO Udhampur, Romesh Chander Mishra.

The inauguration witnessed the presence of Kanika Gupta, District Social Welfare Officer, Udhampur, as the chief guest, and Sanjeev Kumar, Principal APS UDHAMPUR, as the



Guest of Honour. DYSSO Udhampur, Romesh Chander Mishra, presided over the function.

In the opening match, the chief guest and DYSSO Udhampur engaged with the young girl players, joined by the Principal of APS Udhampur, ZPEO Babey, ZPEO Panchari, and all field staff of DYSSO Udhampur.

The chief guest extended a warm welcome to all players, coaches, and team incharges, applauding DYSSO Udhampur and the field staff for their commendable efforts in

ensuring the smooth and successful conduct of the competition.

Towards the end of the event, the chief guest distributed trophies and medals to the winners and runners-up.

DYSSO Udhampur expressed gratitude to the chief guest and Principal APS Udhampur for providing their ground facilities and also presented mementos as a token of appreciation.

Jammu District defeated Doda District in the inaugural match with a score of 16-6, securing their place in the finals.

In the final match, Jammu District emerged as the winner by defeating Samba District with a score of 13-6.

The matches were officiated by dedicated officials, including Sanjay Sharma, Manik Nargotra, Ranbir Singh, Ishang Bandral, Deepak Sharma, Sourab Pandit, and Jyoti Sharma.

Among the prominent attendees were Jasvinder Singh, Ajit Singh, Nisha Sharma, Swardeep Singh, Manjeet Singh (APS), Munazim Asif, Vipin Photra, Palak, and Sonali.

The event also saw the active participation of dedicated office staff, including Anita Goswami, Som Dev Khajuria, Romesh Chander, Sanjeev Kumar, and Sanjeev Khajuria, whose contributions were instrumental in the successful organization of the tournament.

Sham Sharma, Chander Mohan listen public grievances

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: BJP Vice-President & former Minister Sham Lal Sharma, along with Vice-President & former Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta, Secretary Vikas Choudhary and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Incharge Dil Bahadur Singh Jawmal, during weekly Public darbar at party headquarter, Jammu, listened to the grievances of a large number of people from different areas of the UT. The BJP leaders gave them patient hearings and took up every issue with the senior officials of the concerned departments for early disposals.

Sham Lal Sharma, while expressing satisfaction that the people are conveying their thanks for extending



them help in getting their problems solved, said that every day large numbers of people throng the party office with their grievances and every effort is made to get respite to them at the earliest. He said that the party's public darbar is proving a big boon to the suffering people, which is a matter for the BJP.

Chander Mohan Gupta said that the BJP believes in practical work and does not mislead the public on mere sloganeering, every leader and activists of the party is at the back and call of the people.

Vikas Choudhary said that people from all the sections are being benefited by public darbar hearings and there is

a perception that the BJP is in real sense the guardian of the people.

Dilbahadur Singh Jawmal said that the people have found a platform in the form of BJP's public darbar and are visiting party office daily with their problems, most of which are solved instantly, thus providing big relief to the sufferers.

Gurpartap Khairah's novel *How Dinkar Lost His Job And Found A Life* is all about staying positive

Gurpartap Khairah started to write rather early. Starting with short stories whilst still in school, later he changed his genre and published his debut novel *How Dinkar Lost His Job And Found A Life* last year. While English remains his medium for prose, he pens poetry in Hindustani.

"I took writing seriously when I started teaching. Writing fiction opened a floodgate of emotions, there were so many narratives buried inside me," says Gurpartap, who currently teaches English at Hindu College, Amritsar.

Some of his short stories were included in an anthology, titled *Obsession: Eternal Stories of Life and Death*.

He soon realised that this genre wasn't the way forward. "I reached out to publishers who all gave positive feedback but no deal. 'This genre don't sell



unless you are a Ruskin bond' was a standard reply."

As the wave of recession hit and stories of depression and suicide became common, Gurpartap chose to look at things

from a different lens, that of humour. "I wanted to work with an optimistic point of view, the life can take an unexpected turn if one loses his job," says the author.

He deliberately didn't want to include a love track as he began writing. "But somehow Kirti appeared in the course of writing and is now favourite character of my readers," he chuckles.

The novel that was published by Speaking Tiger also details his another love – for RD Burman's music.

"His tracks make it to my novel and aptly so!" Amongst the major literary influences on him, the 'G-force' reigns supreme. "Gulzar sahib and Graham Greene have taught me all that there is – to view and say in a distinctive way about ordinary things."

Gurpartap has three more manuscripts ready – one is a political thriller, another a compilation of children diary entries and a short story collection that deals with love and sex, covering a whole gamut of emotions.

Idris Elba says he's been in therapy for a year to tackle his work-life imbalance



Hollywood star Idris Elba has said he spiralled into 'unhealthy habits' due to his many roles, which have ranged from acting in Hollywood and TV hits to opening a bar and charitable work.

He told the *Changes* podcast about deciding to turn to a counsellor to help him tackle his work-life imbalance: "I've been in therapy for about a year now. It's a lot. In my therapy, I've been thinking a lot about changing."

"It's not because I don't like myself or anything like that, it's just because I have some unhealthy habits that have really formed. And I work in an industry where I'm rewarded for those unhealthy habits, I'm rewarded for that."

The actor added he once found himself working for 10 days straight on a film set and spent his downtime relaxing in his music studio instead of being with his family. He told *Changes* host Annie Macmanus: "Whether it's to be selfish or because I'm a workaholic. I'm an absolute workaholic, and that isn't great for life generally. Nothing that's too extreme is good – everything needs balance – but I'm rewarded massively to be a workaholic..."

Selena Gomez clarifies why she unfollowed Dua Lipa on Instagram

Pop icon Selena Gomez has publicly dispelled the rumours of a feud with Dua Lipa that arose after she unfollowed the singer on Instagram in June. "It was an accident! I was just cleaning up some of my posts. Then somebody called me and was like, 'What happened with Dua?' " Selena said in an interview.

Selena Gomez took to Instagram at that time to put an end to the rumours of a Dua Lipa rivalry that erupted when she unfollowed the singer on Instagram. "A little Versace/Dua moment," the singer captioned the stunning picture at the time.

Lipa, 28, appeared to be overjoyed by the



response. She replied to Gomez's post at that time, "angeeeeeee!!!!!" Gomez has subsequently re-followed Lipa,

but has not re-followed other celebrities she had previously unfollowed, such as Zayn Malik, Gigi Hadid, and Bella Hadid.

Jaz Sinclair shares her perspective on Marie's empowering journey in *Gen V*

Unveiling a diabolical spinoff from the acclaimed *The Boys* universe, Prime Video's recently released series *Gen V*, spinoff to *The Boys*, offers a fresh perspective on the world where superhumans and corporate machinations collide.

In *Gen V*, we follow the enigmatic character Marie, played by the brilliant Jaz Sinclair, as she enters the Godolkin University, the prestigious superhero-only college where students train to be the next generation of heroes. Fueled by her determination and a secret agenda, Marie navigates the treacherous halls of this power-hungry institution, where appearances are deceiving, alliances are



fragile, and the pursuit of power is relentless.

Jaz Sinclair shares her perspective on Marie's empowering journey, "I think when Marie comes to the school and sees

all the ideology, even the posters and the statues of Homelander and A-Train and everybody, for Marie, it just makes her feel spunky like it just makes her feel

like that's me, and I can do that. You know, it's a reminder of why she's here and where she wants to go. More than that, it is like a looming presence."

Marie's character development, marked by surprises, relationships, and self-discovery, is a central element in the series. Further expanding on Marie's interesting arc in the series, Sinclair adds, "I love Marie's arc. I love that she comes into this school in survival mode, and is surprised by her relationships and her friendships, and the horrors of the school and the crumbling of this system that she was taught to trust. And, her coming into her power."

Gen V is a masterful blend of dark humor, intense action, and thought-provoking social commentary, maintaining the spirit of *The Boys*.

Shabana Azmi says Javed Akhtar only had 27 naya paisa when he first landed in Mumbai

Veteran actress Shabana Azmi has recounted an old story of the acclaimed screenwriter, poet and director Javed Akhtar. Detailing her husband's struggles, she said the composer arrived in Mumbai with 27 paisa in his pocket and only had a heart full of dreams and determination, which eventually saw him through and made him successful.

Taking to X, the Masoom actress detailed Javed Akhtar's earliest days as a young man who arrived in Mumbai back in the 1960s and wrote, "On October 4, 1964, a young man arrived at Bombay Central Station with 27 naya paisa in his pocket and a heart full



of dreams. And then life happened."

She added, "He slept at railway stations and footpaths, went without food for days, but his belief in himself was his constant companion. At one of his lowest ebbs he told himself, 'main yun hi marne ke liye nahin paida hua hoon' (I wasn't born just to die like this)...his talent, his resilience, his determination, his spirit and the support of his friends made him the man he is today – Javed Akhtar."

Shabana Azmi is the second wife of Javed Akhtar, as he was previously married to screenwriter Honey Irani. After the two separated, Shabana and Javed got married in 1984.

Jennifer Aniston believes sleeping well is key to her good health



Hollywood star Jennifer Aniston thinks that getting a good amount of 'rest' has helped her

stay healthy and vibrant. "I drink a lot of water, move my body daily, try to eat whole, fresh foods, and get as much sleep as I can. That last part is challenging for me, but it's so important. I feel it when I don't get enough rest," the Hollywood star said. "In addition to all of that, I try to be really mindful about what I let into my head space. Our world is really going through some challenges and I know we all care a lot, but sometimes I think it's imperative that we turn off the noise."

Earlier this year, Aniston described sleep as 'beautiful'. The actress has struggled with insomnia for years, and she has now grown to appreciate the value of sleeping well. She told: "Sleep is extraordinary. It's beautiful. When you're younger, you kind of take it for granted. You think, 'I can survive on three to five hours of sleep and I feel great,' and then, all of a sudden, it just starts not to feel great and your performance isn't as good as it should be," she added.

Aniston also acknowledged that lack of sleep can lead to other health problems. The actress, who is best known for playing Rachel Green in the TV sitcom *Friends*, said: "Lack of sleep leads to all sorts of health issues."

Koffee with Karan to return with Season 8 with more coffee & jazz

The spiciest talk show *Koffee with Karan* is returning for its eight season with a heady mix of dopamine induced coffee and lots of well, Karan being Karan.

The teaser for the new season was unveiled on Wednesday, and it's as self-aware as it could get with show host Karan Johar confessing of having boring conversations on the show during its last edition with 'nepo' kids.

He also thinks of 'inviting' cricketers in the teaser but quickly decides against it considering the controversy it unleashed when Hardik Pandya and KL Rahul graced the show.

The teaser shows two versions of Karan, one is Karan the talk show host and the second is his conscience or rather 'Konscience' who roasts him throughout the course of the teaser over his choice of guests and the show and the content that he puts out there.

This time around, the chat will be edgier, crazier and candid leading to a whole lot of revelations.

Karan says, "We all know you have been eagerly awaiting for the new season of *Koffee with Karan* – and your wishes have been heard! After the



overwhelming response and a lot of conjectures from Season 7, this season let's make my friends and your favourite celebrities spill their secrets along with the no filter conversations on the infamous *Koffee* couch."

He adds, "Coming back to Disney+Hotstar, the new season of *Koffee with Karan* will be full of uninhibited chats, competitive rapid fires and a lot of conversations, which we all love! So why wait? Let's brew *Koffee* with Karan Season 8."

Koffee with Karan 8 is set to drop on October 26 on Disney+ Hotstar.

PM Modi inaugurates multiple development projects in poll-bound Rajasthan

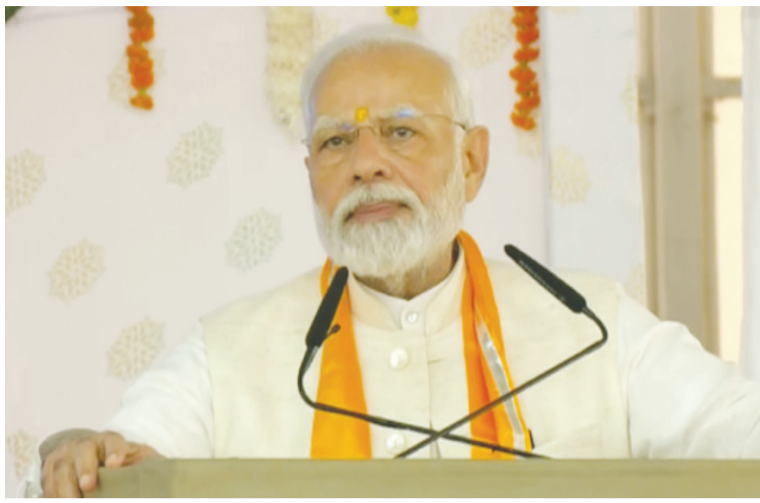
Development projects were inaugurated at a function in Jodhpur

JODHPUR, Oct 5 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched various development projects worth Rs 5,000 crore in poll-bound Rajasthan.

At a function here, Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated multiple development projects in sectors like road, rail, aviation, health and higher education.

He laid the foundation stone of a 350-bedded trauma centre and critical care hospital block at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur, and seven critical care blocks under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) to be developed across the state.

The centre at the AIIMS will be developed at a cost of more



than Rs 350 crore.

The facility will bring a holistic approach in management of trauma and emergency cases by providing multidisciplinary and comprehensive care to patients

while critical care blocks across Rajasthan will augment district level critical care infrastructure.

The prime minister also laid the foundation stone for the development of a state-of-the-

art new terminal building at the Jodhpur airport costing Rs 480 crore and inaugurated the IIT Jodhpur campus as well.

The new terminal building will be developed in an area of about 24,000 sqm and will be equipped to provide services to 2,500 passengers during peak hours. It will cater to 35 lakh passengers annually, improving connectivity and boosting tourism in the region.

Among other projects, he laid the foundation stone of multiple road development projects to be built at a cumulative cost of about Rs 1,475 crore and also flagged off two new train services in the state.

Union ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat was among those present at the programme.

Not A Single Drop Of Additional Water...: Punjab Chief Minister On SYL Canal

CHANDIGARH, Oct 5 (Agencies): Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today said not even a single drop of additional water will be shared with any other state at any cost.

He further informed that the state cabinet has approved the name of Gurminder Singh for the advocate general's (AG) post.

Bhagwant Mann said this after chairing an emergency meeting of the cabinet at his residence in Chandigarh.

Though no official agenda of the meeting was released, the council of ministers discussed the Sutej-Yamuna-Link (SYL) canal issue.

Bhagwant Mann said the name of Gurminder Singh was approved for the AG's post at the cabinet meeting.

"Also, the SYL issue was discussed at the meeting... not even a single drop of additional water will be shared with any other state at any cost... convening the monsoon session (of the state Assembly) soon was also discussed... approval to several pro-people decisions was given," the chief minister wrote on X.

The meeting came a day after the Supreme Court asked the Centre to survey the portion of land in Punjab that was allocated for the construction of a part of the SYL canal.

All political parties in Punjab asserted on Wednesday that the state does not have a single drop of additional water to share with any other state.

However, political parties in Haryana welcomed the top court's directions, saying the people of the state have been waiting to get SYL water for years.

During the hearing in the matter on Wednesday, the top court asked the Centre to survey the portion of land in Punjab that was allocated for the construction of a part of the SYL canal and make an estimate



of the extent of construction carried out there.

A bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul also asked the Centre to actively pursue the mediation process in order to resolve the festering dispute between Punjab and Haryana over the construction of the canal.

The SYL canal was conceptualised for effec-

tive allocation of water from the Ravi and Beas rivers. The project envisaged a 214-km canal, of which a 122-km stretch was to be constructed in Punjab and the remaining 92 km in Haryana.

Haryana has completed the project in its territory but Punjab, which launched the construction work in 1982, shelved it subsequently.

"Kingpin's Turn Will Come": Anurag Thakur On Delhi Liquor Policy Case Arrests



RAIPUR, Oct 5 (Agencies): Union Minister Anurag Thakur on Thursday said the former deputy chief minister of Delhi and others have landed up in jail in connection with an excise policy case and the turn of its "kingpin", who is still out, will also come.

Talking to reporters at the Swami Vivekananda airport in Chhattisgarh capital Raipur, Mr Thakur targeted the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, claiming that those who were elected to power by raising the slogan of "India against corruption" have now been found steeped in corruption.

The Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister arrived here to attend a couple of events.

AAP's Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh was on Wednesday arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in New Delhi in connection with its money laundering probe linked to the 2021-22 Delhi Excise policy case.

Asked about Mr Kejr-

wal's allegations against Prime Minister Narendra Modi after Singh's arrest, Mr Thakur said, "People are laughing at Arvind Kejriwal ji and tension can be seen on his face. They are those people who came by raising the slogan of 'India against corruption' and are now found steeped in corruption".

In Punjab, it (AAP) got elected to power and within two months, the state health minister had to resign due to corruption, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said.

"Kejriwal ji has no answer to the liquor scam that has brought shame to him. So far, the deputy chief minister (of Delhi) and others have gone to jail, but the kingpin is still out. The probe is underway and the turn of the kingpin will also come," Mr Thakur said.

The persons to whom Mr Kejriwal had distributed "certificates of honesty" are in jail since the last one year. Who gave him the right to distribute the certificates, he asked.

"Agli kiski baari hai, ye media ke headline

banne ki tayyari hai (whose turn is next is going to be the media's headline)," he added.

Mr Thakur also targeted the Congress governments in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, where the assembly elections are due later this year.

"Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh are the two states where officers close to the chief minister faced serious allegations of corruption and crores of rupees and gold were recovered from them. They (Chief Ministers) should have been resigned. But they haven't stepped down yet. Now people will oust them (in the upcoming assembly elections)," he said.

Asked about the caste survey done by the Bihar government, Mr Thakur mentioned that PM Modi has said his government is for the poor, down-trodden and those exploited.

"The biggest community is of the poor and we have to bring them out of poverty. In the last nine years of Modi ji's government, 18.5 crore people in the country have been pulled out of below poverty line," he said.

Statistics show how much works have been done for welfare of the poor in the country. When the Congress and its allies did not have an answer to it, they resorted to the caste issue, he claimed.

Andhra cop kills self after shooting dead wife, 2 daughters

KADAPA, Oct 5 (Agencies): A 55-year old Andhra Pradesh police head constable allegedly gunned down his wife and two daughters and later shot himself to death, an official said on Thursday.

The incident, which is entirely due to personal reasons, came to light on Thursday morning and police recovered a suicide note from the 1993 batch policeman's house, the police official added.

"His name is Venkateswarlu and he was working as a writer in Kadapa two-town police station.

He worked till 11 pm last night (Wednesday) and took a pistol and some rounds from the



police station and went to his house," Kadapa sub-divisional police officer Md. Sharif told agency.

Venkateswarlu's eldest daughter, around 20 years of age was doing her first year of graduation, while the younger one was in 10th standard, he said, adding that the constable's wife was around 45 years old.

According to sources, the head constable was believed to have lost money in stock market trading and was also battling some family problems.

Police are in the process of registering a case and have already begun the investigation, including Kadapa superintendent of police Siddarth Kaushal visiting Venkateswarlu's house.

NewsClick row: Delhi Police calls journalist Abhisar Sharma again for questioning

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): The Delhi Police called journalist Abhisar Sharma for questioning on Thursday in connection with a case filed under anti-terror law UAPA, following charges that the NewsClick portal received money for spreading pro-China propaganda, officials said.

According to the officials, the Special Cell of the Delhi Police called Sharma again on Thursday for questioning in connection with the case lodged under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Sharma was questioned in connection with the case at the Special Cell's office on Tuesday.

NewsClick founder and editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha and human resources department head Amit Chakravarty were arrested on Tuesday after several journalists were questioned in connection with the case.

A court here has sent the two to police custody for seven days.

A raid was conducted on Tuesday at 88 locations in Delhi and seven locations in other states.

A total of 37 male suspects were questioned at the Special Cell's office, while nine female suspects were quizzed at their respective places of stay.

Student Stabbed To Death After Fight Breaks Out At Haryana College Canteen



KURUKSHETRA, Oct 5 (Agencies): A BA second-year student was allegedly stabbed to death after a quarrel broke out between two groups of students at the Bhagwan Parshuram College in this Haryana district, police said on Thursday.

The incident occurred on Wednesday evening, they said, adding that the quarrel broke out between the students at the canteen of the college located in Sector-5 of Urban Estate.

Station House Officer (SHO), Sadar Thanesar, Dinesh Kumar said accord-

ing to the FIR lodged in connection with the incident, victim Shivam, a resident of Baroli village in Jind district, was at the college canteen with his friends when another group of students arrived there.

Some of them hurled abuses at one of Shivam's accomplices. When Shivam objected to it, the quarrel broke out and one of the accused allegedly stabbed him with a knife.

The three accused fled the spot on a two-wheeler, police said, adding that Shivam was rushed to a private hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Police arrived at the college soon after the incident and watched the CCTV footage, in which the three accused students were seen driving out of the college premises on a two-wheeler, the SHO said.

He added that a case of murder has been registered and police are raiding a few locations to nab the accused.

Aam Aadmi Party holds protest against arrest of Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh



NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Aam Aadmi party workers on Thursday staged a protest over the arrest of its Rajya Sabha leader Sanjay Singh by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with the alleged liquor scam. Several workers of

the party gathered at the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) office at DDU Marg, raising slogans against the Centre and demanding the release of Singh. The protesters will march towards BJP headquarters.

The party has alleged that the Enforcement

Directorate arrested Singh as he raised issues related to the Adani Group in Parliament.

"If the Bharatiya Janata Party thinks that it can win elections by 'using' central agencies on the basis of power

and imposing dictatorship, then history is the witness that the public gives a reply", said Delhi Minister Gopal Rai said.

Earlier on Wednesday, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) escorted AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh from his Delhi residence after arresting him in connection with the now-scrapped liquor policy case.

The arrest came hours after the ED conducted raids at the residence of the AAP Rajya Sabha MP in connection with the case.

His was the second high-profile arrest in the case after former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia was arrested earlier.

CBI takes over investigation into Censor Board bribery allegations levelled by actor Vishal



NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): The CBI has lodged an FIR against three persons and unidentified officials of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) on the allegations of actor Vishal that he had to pay Rs 6.5 lakh to get a certificate for his film "Mark

Antony", officials said on Thursday.

The action was followed by searches at four locations in Mumbai, including the premises of the FIR-named accused persons.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has lodged the FIR

against private persons Merlin Menaga, Jeeja Ramdas, Rajan M and unidentified public servants of the CBFC.

"It was alleged that during the month of September 2023, a private person entered a conspiracy with others to obtain a bribe of Rs 7 lakh and to get the required censor certificate from CBFC, Mumbai for a movie dubbed in Hindi," a CBI spokesperson said.

He said it was also alleged that in furtherance of the said conspiracy, the accused initially demanded the bribe on behalf of CBFC-Mumbai officials, the amount of which was reduced to Rs 6.54 lakh after nego-

tiations.

"... she allegedly accepted Rs 6,54,000 as bribe on behalf of CBFC, Mumbai officials in two bank accounts of the two other accused. Thereafter, on 26/09/2023, the required certificate was allegedly issued by CBFC, Mumbai for said movie dubbed in Hindi.

It was also alleged that in addition to the said amount, the said accused obtained Rs 20,000 in her bank account from the account of a private company as coordinating fees for herself," the spokesperson for the federal agency said in a statement.

Typhoon Koinu brushes past Taiwan with lashing rain, 190 people hurt

Most cities and counties declared a day off work and school though Taiwan's capital, Taipei, home to financial markets, was not affected and was operating as normal.

TAITUNG, Oct 5 (Agencies): Typhoon Koinu brushed past southern Taiwan on Thursday, injuring 190 people and causing some damage but no deaths, as lashing rains and strong winds forced millions of people in a swathe of cities to miss work and school.

Koinu, which means "puppy" in Japanese, made landfall on Taiwan's Hengchun peninsula as a category four typhoon - indicating winds of up to 252 kph (156 mph) - but it weakened as it crossed into the Taiwan Strait and headed towards China's Guangdong province, according to Tropical Storm Risk.

The heaviest rain fell in mountainous and sparsely populated parts of Pingtung county in the south, and the east coast coun-



ties of Taitung and Hualien, but the typhoon also affected the major southern port city of Kaohsiung.

Most cities and counties declared a day off work and school though the island's capital, Taipei, home to financial markets, was not affected and was operating as normal.

Taiwan's fire department

Chipmaker TSMC (2330.TW) said its factories were also working normally.

The typhoon entered the Taiwan Strait late on Thursday morning but heavy rain was forecast to last into Friday, mostly in the island's south and east.

Taiwan's fire department

reported 190 injuries but no deaths, as well as some damage to buildings.

However, more damage was reported on Orchid Island off Taitung's coast in the Pacific Ocean and home to about 5,000 people, with pictures on social media showing cars blown off roads and fishing boats sunk in a harbour.

Taiwan's two main domestic airlines, UNI Air and Mandarin Airlines, cancelled most their flights for Thursday, while ferries to outlying islands were also stopped.

A total of 46 international flights were cancelled, the transport ministry, said, but the high speed rail connecting northern and southern Taiwan was not affected.

North Korea halts nuclear reactor, likely to extract bomb fuel: Report



SEOUL, Oct 5 (Agencies): North Korea has halted the nuclear reactor at its main atomic complex, probably to extract plutonium that could be used for weapons by reprocessing spent fuel rods, a South Korean news report said on Thursday, citing a government source.

The operation of the 5 megawatt nuclear reactor at the Yongbyon nuclear complex has been suspended since late September, according to intelligence assessment by US and South Korean authorities, the report said.

"South Korea and the US believe this could be a sign of reprocessing work being done to obtain weapons-grade plutonium," the Donga Ilbo newspaper quoted a government source as saying.

Reprocessing of spent fuel rods removed from a nuclear reactor is a

step taken before plutonium is extracted. The Yongbyon nuclear complex is the North's main source of plutonium that is likely to be used to build nuclear weapons.

North Korea has also operated uranium enrichment facilities, which is a separate source of material that could be used for nuclear weapons.

"The possibility of a nuclear test by North Korea is not ruled out," Donga Ilbo quoted a senior government official as saying, without elaborating on what analysis pointed to the assessment that the move may be related to a nuclear test.

South Korea's foreign ministry and defence ministry did not immediately comment on the report.

North Korea has previously halted the operation of the reactor before restarting it and public confirmation of the purpose of such a move,

whether it is for maintenance or for fuel extraction, is usually unavailable.

North Korea claims itself a nuclear state but has kept how many nuclear weapons it may have built or deployed a secret. Independent estimates of the North's plutonium range as high as 70 kg, which could be enough to build 20 or more weapons.

North Korea has conducted six underground nuclear tests and there have been concerns since last year that it may be about to conduct another test as part of a programme to develop miniaturised nuclear warheads.

North Korea's parliament adopted a constitutional amendment last week its policy on the use of nuclear force and leader Kim Jong Un has stepped up calls for the country to boost production of nuclear arms and to diversify its nuclear capabilities.

Second round of Fukushima wastewater release begins

TOKYO, Oct 5 (Agencies): Japan began releasing the second batch of treated wastewater from the Fukushima nuclear plant on Thursday, an incremental step in a decades-long process that has drawn strong condemnation from China.

The discharge, a small portion of the 1.34 million tonnes of wastewater built up since a tsunami struck the facility in 2011, began at 10:18 am (0118 GMT), a spokesman for operator TEPCO told agency.

While Japan has insisted the treated water poses no health risks -- a view backed by the UN's nuclear watchdog -- Beijing has repeatedly criticised the release and banned all Japanese seafood imports in response.

As with the initial release that began on August 24, about 7,800 tonnes of water is expected to be discharged over 17 days.

TEPCO has said the wastewater has been filtered of all radio-

active elements except tritium, which is within internationally recognised safe levels.

"It has been confirmed that the first release has been conducted as planned and in a safe manner," government spokesman Hirokazu Matsuno told reporters Thursday, stressing no abnormalities had been detected.

The government will "continue to communicate, both domestically and internationally, results of monitoring data in a highly transparent manner", Matsuno said.

Japan is also urging China to "immediately scrap import bans on Japanese food, and act based on scientific justifications", he added.

Russia, which has frosty relations of its own with Japan, is reportedly considering following suit on the seafood ban.

Food exports from Japan to China plunged 41.2 percent in August to 14 billion yen (\$94 million), according to finance



ministry data.

China has accused Japan of using the ocean like a "sewer", an assertion echoed at the United Nations last week by Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare, whose cosy ties with Beijing have drawn alarm from traditional Western allies like Australia.

Following August's initial release, numerous Japanese businesses reported having trouble conducting daily operations after being flooded with angry calls from Chinese numbers.

Tokyo, meanwhile, demanded

that China ensure the safety of Japanese citizens after a brick was thrown at its embassy in Beijing.

The release of wastewater is aimed at making space to eventually begin removing highly dangerous radioactive fuel and rubble from the plant's wrecked reactors.

TEPCO will be rigorous in overseeing the second round, an official told reporters at a briefing on Wednesday, while exercising "the utmost vigilance to ensure that there is no unintentional discharge" of treated water into the sea.

Israeli arms quietly helped Azerbaijan retake Nagorno-Karabakh, to the dismay of region's Armenians

TEL AVIV, Oct 5 (Agencies): Israel has quietly helped fuel Azerbaijan's campaign to recapture Nagorno-Karabakh, supplying powerful weapons to Azerbaijan ahead of its lightning offensive last month that brought the ethnic Armenian enclave back under its control, officials and experts say.

Just weeks before Azerbaijan launched its 24-hour assault on Sept. 19, Azerbaijani military cargo planes repeatedly flew between a southern Israeli airbase and an airfield near Nagorno-Karabakh, according to flight tracking data and Armenian diplomats, even as Western governments were urging peace talks.

The flights rattled Armenian officials in Yerevan, long wary of the strategic alliance between Israel and Azerbaijan, and shined a light on Israel's national interests in the restive region south of the Caucasus Mountains.

"For us, it is a major concern that Israeli weapons have been firing at our people," Arman Akopian, Armenia's ambassador to Israel, told The Associated Press. In a flurry of diplomatic exchanges, Akopian said he expressed alarm to Israeli politicians and lawmakers in recent weeks over Israeli weapons shipments.

"I don't see why Israel should not be in the position to express at least some concern about the fate of people being expelled from their homeland," he told agency.

Azerbaijan's September blitz involving heavy artillery, rocket launchers and drones — largely supplied by Israel and Turkey, according to experts — forced Armenian separatist authorities to lay down their weapons and sit down for talks on the future of the separatist region.

The Azerbaijani offensive killed over 200 Armenians in the enclave, the vast majority of them fighters, and some 200 Azerbaijani troops, according to officials.

There are ramifications beyond the volatile enclave of 4,400 square kilometers (1,700 square miles). The fighting prompted over 100,000 people — more than 80% of the enclave's ethnic Armenian residents — to flee in the last two weeks. Azerbaijan has pledged to respect the rights of ethnic Armenians. Armenia calls the exodus a form of ethnic cleansing.

Israel's foreign and defense ministries declined to comment on the use of Israeli weapons in Nagorno-Karabakh or on Armenian concerns about its military partnership with Azerbaijan. In July, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant visited Baku, the Azerbaijan capital, where he praised the countries' military cooperation and joint "fight against terrorism."

Israel has a big stake in Azerbaijan, which serves as a crucial source of oil and is a staunch ally against Israel's archenemy Iran. It is also a lucrative customer of sophisticated arms.

"There's no doubt about our position in support of Azerbaijan's defense," said Israel's former ambassador to Azerbaijan, Arkady Milman. "We have a strategic partnership to contain Iran."

Although once resource-poor Israel now has plenty of natural gas off its Mediterranean coast, Azerbaijan still supplies at least 40% of Israel's oil needs, keeping cars and trucks on its roads. Israel turned to Baku's offshore deposits in the late 1990s, creating an oil pipeline through the Turkish transport hub of Ceyhan that isolated Iran, which at the time capitalized on oil flow-

ing through its pipelines from Kazakhstan to world markets.

Azerbaijan has long been suspicious of Iran, its fellow Shiite Muslim neighbor on the Caspian Sea, and chafed at its support for Armenia, which is Orthodox Christian. Iran has accused Azerbaijan of hosting a base for Israeli intelligence operations against it — a claim that Azerbaijan and Israel deny.

"It's clear to us that Israel has an interest in keeping a military presence in Azerbaijan, using its territory to observe Iran," Armenian diplomat Tigran Balayan said.

Few have benefited more from the two countries' close relations than Israeli military contractors. Experts estimate Israel supplied Azerbaijan with nearly 70% of its arsenal between 2016 and 2020 — giving Azerbaijan an edge against Armenia and boosting Israel's large defense industry.

"Israeli arms have played a very significant role in allowing the Azerbaijani army to reach its objectives," said Pieter Wezeman, senior researcher at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which tracks arms sales.

Israel long-range missiles and exploding drones known as loitering munitions have made up for Azerbaijan's small air force, Wezeman said, even at times striking deep within Armenia itself. Meanwhile, Israeli Barak-8 surface-to-air missiles have protected Azerbaijan's airspace in shooting down missiles and drones, he added.

Just ahead of last month's offensive, the Azerbaijani defense ministry announced the army conducted a missile test of Barak-8. Its developer, Israel Aerospace Industries, declined to comment on Azerbaijan's use of its air defense system and combat drones.

But Azerbaijan has raved about the success of Israeli drones in slicing through the Armenian defenses and tipping the balance in the bloody six-week war in 2020.

Its defense minister in 2016 called a combat drone manufactured by Israel's Aeronautics Group "a nightmare for the Armenian army," which backed the region's separatists during Azerbaijan's conflict with Nagorno-Karabakh that year.

President Ilham Aliyev in 2021 — a year of deadly Azerbaijan-Armenian border clashes — was captured on camera smiling as he stroked the small Israeli suicide drone "Harop" during an arms showcase.

Israel has deployed similar suicide drones during deadly army raids against Palestinian militants in the occupied West Bank.

"We're glad for this cooperation, it was quite supportive and quite beneficial for defense," Azerbaijani's ambassador to Israel, Mukhtar Mammadov told the AP, speaking generally about Israel's support for the Azerbaijani military. "We're not hiding it."

At a crucial moment in early September — as diplomats scrambled to avert an escalation — flight tracking data shows that Azerbaijani cargo planes began to stream into Ovda, a military base in southern Israel with a 3,000-meter-long airstrip, known as the only airport in Israel that handles the export of explosives.

The AP identified at least six flights operated by Azerbaijan's Silk Way Airlines landing at Ovda airport between Sept. 1 and Sept. 17 from Baku, according to aviation-tracking website FlightRadar24.com. Azerbaijan launched its offensive two days later.

'Will cut aid to Ukraine if elected': Vivek Ramaswamy on Zelenskyy seeking funds



WASHINGTON, Oct 5 (Agencies): Republican presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy has slammed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for seeking additional funds from the US to hold polls in the war-torn country and asserted that he is on his way to becoming the party's nominee for the 2024 presidential elections.

In an interview, Ramaswamy, 38, defended his statement that he would cut aid to Ukraine if elected as the US president.

"I have a problem with appeasement too, but I want to be very clear. We have to level with the American people here. Just because Putin is an evil dictator -- and he is -- does not mean that Ukraine is good," he said.

"This (Ukraine) is a country that has banned 11 opposition parties. This is a country that has consolidated all media into one state media arm, whose president just last week was praising a Nazi in his own ranks, has threatened the United States not to hold its own normal elections this year unless it gets more funding," Ramaswamy said.

Now polling third and fourth in major national polls, Ramaswamy said he is on his way to becoming the Republican party's presidential

nominee for the November 2024 elections.

"Six months ago, even five months ago, most people across this country didn't know who I was. Now we're already polling in third in national averages in many cases," he said.

"I think we are on our way to the nomination. But, to me, this isn't about me. It isn't about Trump. It's about putting America first. I think that message is resonating across the country. It will take someone of a different generation to reach the next generation," said the Indian American leader.

Responding to a question, he defended his decision to join Tik-Tok.

"Look, the Democrats are absolutely on this platform, and even look at the hypocrisy of some on stage. Nikki Haley's own adult daughter uses Tik-Tok and she's virtue signalling on stage about the importance of hiding from it," he said.

"We have to win elections to drive change in this country. We can't just hide in our own echo chambers. So, yes, I want to win in landslides. I want to reach young people so that we can implement policies like banning social media in kids under the age of 16, which I favour," he said.

"We have to engage in that true open dialogue to be able to enact policies like declaring eco-

nomie independence from China. I think it's hypocritical for many Republicans. You want to just take other companies like Airbnb. Airbnb hands over the user data of us users to the Chinese Communist Party, just like TikTok or any other company. So, the fact that they're American-owned doesn't make a difference," he said.

"These politicians are duping the American people and using it to signal their virtue, even as their own kids are on that same platform. It is hypocrisy," he added.

Ramaswamy said he knows the American dream exists because he has lived it.

"I have built multiple multibillion-dollar companies. I think now is the moment to have a CEO in the White House. Here's what's wrong with Bidenomics, rising prices. That's inflation. Rising interest rates contribute to rising mortgage rates to buy a home, at the same time that you have stagnant wages," he said.

"I understand the frustrations of workers. What are we going to do? First, address that problem by delivering economic growth. Unlock American energy. Drill, frack, burn coal, embrace nuclear energy. Put people back to work by no longer paying them more money, taxpayer money, to stay at home.

"Rescind a majority of unconstitutional federal regulations that failed the Supreme Court's test, by the way, in West Virginia v. EPA. I think a majority of those federal regulations are unconstitutional. I will rescind them on day one. That unlocks our economy," he said.

Defamation of AAP by BJP through false cases registration: Pargotra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 5: The Aam Admi Party (AAP) of Jammu and Kashmir staged a strong protest at Maharaja Hari Singh Memorial Park in Jammu to condemn the arbitrary arrest of Sanjay Singh, MP of AAP.

During the protest, Rajesh Pargotra, Provincial Vice President of AAP in Jammu, vehemently asserted that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had arrested Sanjay Singh at the behest of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and had ensnared him in a



baseless and frivolous excise case. Pargotra went on to elaborate that 48 individuals, including members of the BJP and other like-minded parties, have been occupying govern-

ment bungalows despite lacking any legitimate political status, serving merely as party workers.

Pargotra further emphasized that Brij Bushan Sharan Singh,

an MP from the BJP, who stands accused of a grave crime as alleged by female wrestlers, has been absolved of charges by the BJP. "The BJP's actions," Pargotra stated, "reveal

their anxiety and apprehension about the impending defeat they face at the hands of AAP in the upcoming Assembly elections in five states and the 2024 Parliamentary elections, which is why they have resorted to arresting Sanjay Singh, MP."

Among the participants of the protest were S. Parmveer Singh, Harpreet Singh, Amrik Singh, Amit Langar, Agya Kour, Dixit Gupta, Bodh Raj Sharma, Karan Attri, Surjeet Kumar, Ashu Jangral, Jogindar Bhagat, Subash Khullar, and others.

Sainik Samaj Party raises concern over new policy on Disability Pension

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 5: Col S.S Pathania, President of Sainik Samaj Party, JKUT, expressed his deep concern regarding the recent policy changes related to disability pension and invaliding out of the armed forces. This New Policy, issued on September 21, 2023, supersedes the policy that was in effect since 2008.

Pathania expressed his disappointment, emphasizing that successive governments have not adequately recognized the sacrifices and valor of the Armed Forces. Instead of showing appreciation and gratitude, they have often marginalized them. He highlighted an instance from history, the year 1971 when Pakistan was divided into two parts, and over 90,000 Pakistani soldiers were taken as prisoners. Despite this historic victory, the Congress government reduced the pension for soldiers from the existing 70 percent and increased the pension for civilians from the existing 30 percent to 50 percent, he said.

Prominent among others who were present in the meeting included, DDC member Sangeeta Sharma, BDC Chairman Neena Sharma, President Beopar Mandal Bharat Bhushan Gupta, Vice Chairman Municipal Committee Nowshera Vishal Gupta, local Sarpanches and local customers of the bank. The participants present on the occasion appreciated J&K Bank for providing easy and customer friendly services.

It's worth noting that 25 percent of defense civilians receive 40 percent of the pension budget, as they retire at the age of 60.



He said that the present government appears to be following a similar path, favoring IAS, IPS, and CAPF at the expense of the armed forces. While non-functional financial upgradation has been granted to bureaucrats, IPS officers, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), MES, and others, the government is currently contesting against the Armed Forces in the Supreme Court to deny them the Non-Functional Financial Upgradation (NFFU). The concept of One Rank, One Pension (OROP) seems to be diluted as equalization is now taking place every five years instead of annually, he added.

The new policy on disability pension is expected to have a detrimental impact on the morale and motivation of the armed forces.

Pathania believed that this policy lacks practicality and does not align with the realities faced by the armed forces. The estimated cost sav-

ings of Rs 4,000 crores from implementing this scheme pale in comparison to the substantial sums spent by both the union government and state governments on advertisements in print and electronic media, he added.

He said soldiers who are invalidated from service, whether by their own request or other reasons, will face significant financial challenges, as some of the incentives they previously received will be discontinued. The replacement of disability pension with impairment relief may also be the initial step toward eliminating existing tax exemptions for the armed forces, he added.

Pathania expressed his disappointment that only the armed forces have been affected by this new policy, while civilian defense employees and CAPF personnel have been excluded and continue to enjoy certain privileges. He urged the union government to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices and contributions of the armed forces in safeguarding the nation's security and sovereignty, and to reconsider and reverse this new policy as soon as possible.

J&K Bank has shown phenomenal growth after abrogation of Art 370: Vibodh

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Oct 5: The J&K Bank today is a key financial institution and has made phenomenal growth during the last few years after the abrogation of article 370. These remarks were made by BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta today while inaugurating the J&K Bank ATM at Dharat in Nowshera. This ATM is part of the mission of the J&K Bank to provide ease of banking to every section of the society.

While addressing the locals after inauguration of the ATM, Vibodh informed that with the commissioning of this ATM,

the total number of ATM's in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch has gone up to 84. Commending the role of J&K Bank in providing latest banking facilities to the general public, Vibodh appreciated the role of bank in promoting different financial schemes tailored to meet economic and social security needs of the people. He added that Bank is making footprint at gross root level and has earned profit of 1200 crores for financial year ending March 2023. This he said became possible only because of the efficient working of the bank after abrogation of article 370.

While elaborating on the mas-

sive contribution of J&K bank, Vibodh said that this bank has consistently demonstrated its commitment to the people of Jammu & Kashmir by expanding its network of banking services. The new ATM is a testament to the unwavering dedication of the bank management to providing easy and convenient access to banking facilities to the poor and weaker section of the society, Vibodh added.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head of J&K Bank Satish Kumar said that while deepening its digital footprint in the area the new ATM will cater to the needs of a large population thereby saving their valuable

time and energy. He urged the people of the area to avail the easy and convenient banking services for the convenience of the customers and people at large.

Prominent among others who were present in the meeting included, DDC member Sangeeta Sharma, BDC Chairman Neena Sharma, President Beopar Mandal Bharat Bhushan Gupta, Vice Chairman Municipal Committee Nowshera Vishal Gupta, local Sarpanches and local customers of the bank. The participants present on the occasion appreciated J&K Bank for providing easy and customer friendly services.

Modi Govt committed to serve all sections of society: Yudhvir

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 5: Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President today reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of the Modi government to working tirelessly for the betterment of all sections of society.

Speaking to media persons on the sidelines of a grievances redressal camp at Pt Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawni Jammu, the senior BJP leader emphasized the government's dedication to ensuring comprehensive development that encompasses every segment of the population. He highlighted the various

initiatives and policies implemented by the Modi government that have positively impacted the lives of citizens from diverse backgrounds.

Senior BJP leaders like Ramesh Gupta Spokesman Jammu District, Parveen Kerni Mandal President and Harvinder Singh were present during the camp.

Sethi underlined the importance of inclusive governance and how the government is focused on addressing the needs and aspirations of every citizen. He stated, "The Modi government firmly believes in 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas,' and this principle guides our every



decision and action." He also cited key achievements and initiatives across sectors such as healthcare, education, infrastructure, agriculture, and social wel-

fare that have contributed to the overall progress of the nation. He highlighted the successful implementation of schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Swachh Bharat

Abhiyan, and Digital India, which have had a transformative impact on the lives of millions.

The senior BJP leader expressed his gratitude

to the people of India for their unwavering support and trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He assured the nation that the government remains committed to its mission of inclusive and equitable development, ensuring that every citizen benefits from the nation's progress.

"The Modi government continues to work tirelessly for the welfare of all sections of society, and the Party remain steadfast in its commitment to build a stronger, prosperous, and inclusive India."

Earlier, various deputations, including individual

persons from Ragoora, Sarah, Pargalta, Old City and various parts of East constituency visited the camp to present their grievances on issues such as ration, education, pension, PHE, PDD, revenue, power, water scarcity, roads, and other development-related topics, as well as personal issues.

He resolved most of their issues instantaneously by talking to the authorities concerned on the phone. He assured the public that he will take up the rest of their issues with the concerned authorities and get them resolved soon.

FROM PAGE 1

Over 2.5 lac appointments made through backdoor by past regimes: CS Mehta

go with some business instead of holding a dailywage post," Mehta continued.

Sikkim flash flood: 14 killed, 22 soldiers among 102 missing

eight bridges getting washed away in Mangan district alone. Two bridges were destroyed in Namchi and one in Gangtok. Water pipelines, sewage lines and 277 houses, both kuchcha and concrete, have been destroyed in the four affected districts.

Chungthang town bore the maximum brunt of the flood with 80 per cent of it getting severely affected. The NH-10, considered the lifeline of the state, sustained extensive damage at several places.

Seven people died in Pakyong district, four people died in Mangan and three persons lost their lives in Gangtok, according to the SSDMA.

Among the 102 missing persons, 59 are from Pakyong, including the army personnel. Twenty-two are missing in Gangtok, 16 in Mangan and five people are missing in Namchi.

A total of 26 people sustained injuries, the SSDMA said.

Defence spokesperson Lt Col Mahendra Rawat said the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was helping the state in the rescued operations in Chungthang and Mangan, where four critical bridges have been severely damaged.

"More than 200 people have been moved to safer areas by the BRO in spite of continuous heavy rainfall and extremely bad weather," he said.

"Search and rescue operations for the missing army personnel are still on," he added.

About 10,000 people have been affected by the calamity in the Mangan district, while 6,895 people were affected in Pakyong, 2,579 in Namchi and 2,570 people in Gangtok.

Over Rs 1.5 lakh fine realised for tobacco use at public places in 2023: Director Health

sensitization workshop under national tobacco control programme, he said that the push for a tobacco-free environment is not only a matter of law but also a public health imperative, emphasizing the critical need for public support in achieving this goal.

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, stressed the significance of public backing in the fight against tobacco use. He highlighted that no program or struggle against any issue can truly succeed without the active support of the public. Encouragingly, a significant portion of the fines collected is a testament to the willingness of residents to adhere to tobacco control regulations.

Dr. Rather further emphasized that the battle against smoking extends beyond public places and into homes. Smoking in domestic environments can have adverse effects on children and elderly family members. He cited a recent study conducted in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department, revealing that out of 70,000

people, 50,000 were found to be users of intravenous drugs.

Alarming findings indicated that many of these drug users had a history of smoking, including minors. Dr. Rather underscored the interconnectedness of tobacco use and substance abuse, advocating for a comprehensive approach to address both issues.

To combat the rising concern of substance abuse, particularly among youth, he said that additional treatment facilities (ATF) centers have been established in every district of the valley. He said that these centers aim to provide necessary support and intervention to those in need, offering a holistic approach to tackle addiction and promote healthier lifestyles.

Govt likely to announce DA hike for employees

government employees and pensioners who currently receive a 42 per cent dearness allowance.

In the previous hike in March 2023, DA increased by 4 per cent. Given current inflation rates, the next hike, as per News18 is also anticipated to be 4 per cent, according to various reports.

Several state governments, including Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Jharkhand, and Himachal Pradesh, have recently increased dearness allowances for their employees.

Don't use such actions which tomorrow will inflict on you: Farooq on MP Sanjay Singh arrest

arrest a legislator who is absolutely clean and has been put behind bars because,

according to what I heard, that he did not answer certain questions. You don't arrest a person for not answering a question. If you have something against him, take him to the court," Abdullah told reporters in Srinagar.

Abdullah said that how long will such arrests continue as the education minister Manish Sisodia is already in jail.

"...Poor education minister is already in jail and how long will this continue?" the former chief minister asked.

He said India is a democratic country and everyone has rights.

"For God sake don't use such actions which tomorrow will inflict on you. You are not going to be in power every day. One day this is going to hit you. Think of that day," Abdullah said.

On Ravinder Raina's statement that if opposition was so concerned for constitution and democratic institutions then why they boycotted the Urban Local Bodies earlier, the NC president said the BJP chief gave a statement without understanding.

"No doubt we didn't take part when Panchayat elections were held. I feel very sad about it. Looking at it those people who decided that it should not be done. We did it wrong. But we did take part in the DDC elections that. National Conference may not have taken part but what about other parties who took part," Abdullah said.

"We are asking for our constitutional rights which have been suspended in this state ever since the UT has been created. We are asking for our constitutional rights," he added.

The opposition parties in J&K had announced to hold a protest on October 10 alleging that the democratic rights of the people were under attack.

Kashmir's First Agniveers

Join Indian Army

for the #First batch of #Agniveers from #Kashmir, becoming a part of the Jammu & Kashmir Light Infantry Regiments of the #IndianArmy, was held at the JAKLI Regimental Centre in #Srinagar on 3rd October 2023. The young Agniveers, recruited through ARO #Srinagar, passed out in a #grand ceremony, which was also attended by their proud #Parents," wrote Srinagar-based Chinara Corps of the Army on X.

Replace defective handset, pay Rs 30k compensation: Consumer commission orders cell phone Co

the phone and provide Irshad Ahmad Sheikh with Rs 30,000 in compensation within thirty days.

"Failure to comply will result in an annual interest rate of 9% applied to the compensation amount until it is paid," the consumer commission order said.

Shikhar Dhawan granted divorce from Aisha Mukerji on grounds of cruelty by wife

exclusive rights over a child. The duo had initiated legal proceedings in both India and Australia regarding divorce and child custody.

The court had also reprimanded Mukerji for objecting to bringing the child to India.

Sensex, Nifty end higher amid positive global cues; IT stocks gain

The S&P BSE Sensex ended 405.53 points at 65,631.57, while the NSE Nifty 50 settled 109.65 points higher at 19,545.75.

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices snapped a two-day losing streak and ended Thursday's trading session on a strong note.

The S&P BSE Sensex ended 405.53 points at 65,631.57, while the NSE Nifty 50 settled 109.65 points higher at 19,545.75. Broader market indices also gained sharply as volatility dipped in the wake of improving global cues.

Most of the heavy-weight sectoral indices gained, including Nifty IT, Nifty Bank and Nifty Financial Services. Information technology stocks gained momen-



tum amid improvement in global cues amid a dip in crude oil prices and dip in US bond yields.

The top five gainers on the Nifty 50 were Bajaj Auto, L&T, M&M, Titan and TCS. On the other hand, the top losers were Power Grid, Hindalco, NTPC, Cipla and Nestle India.

Going forward, the market's direction would likely be influenced by several factors, including the Reserve Bank of India's policy decision and commentary scheduled for Friday, September-quarter earnings reports and the potential boost in consumption driven by festive demand.

Government extends SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara's tenure till August 2024: Report

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): The government has extended the tenure of State Bank of India Chairman Dinesh Khara's tenure until August next year, reported news agency.

Dinesh Khara's tenure as SBI Chairman has been prolonged until he reaches the age of 63 next year, as per two government sources cited by the news agency.

This extension aligns with the regulatory provision that permits the SBI Chairman to serve until the age of 63.

Dinesh Khara assumed the role of SBI's Chairman on Octo-



ber 7, 2020, initially appointed for a three-year term.

The government is expected to release an official notification regarding this extension in the near future, as confirmed by the sources.

Furthermore, the government is contemplating a proposal to extend the age limit for the SBI chairman by two years, allowing them to serve until the age of 65.

There is also a consideration to raise the age limit for managing directors of other state-owned banks to 62 years from the current limit of 60, according to the sources.

Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospitals to invest Rs 225 cr to open 10 centres in Mumbai, Pune

CHENNAI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Chennai-based healthcare network Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospitals plans to invest Rs 225 crore to add 10 more centres in the cities of Mumbai and Pune in the next 12 to 18 months, according to its Chairman Dr Amar Agarwal.

The company believes Maharashtra can accommodate at least 50 more eye hospitals.

Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospitals is looking towards markets like Nagpur, Aurangabad, Jalna, Ahmednagar, Kolhapur, Akola, and Nanded to expand in the long-term to reach the count of 50 hospitals in the state. This expansion will comprise both greenfield and brownfield institutions, the company said. It entered the state in 2017,

starting from Pune and rapidly expanding to Mumbai, Nashik, Pune, and Satara. It has 20 hospitals in the state today.

The eye hospital chain opened a new facility in Chembur at Mumbai on Tuesday, marking its 10th hospital in the city.

"Outside of our native state of Tamil Nadu, it is Maharashtra that we are most enthusiastic

about. We have experienced astounding growth in this market," said Adil Agarwal, CEO of Dr Agarwal's.

"We have grown five-fold in Maharashtra in the last 3 financial years, from 4 hospitals in FY20 to 20 hospitals today, and are expecting to add 5 more hospitals in the next 6 months," he said.

Rising commodity prices a huge challenge, but can not solely controlled by govt: Official

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Rising commodity prices have emerged as a huge challenge, but they cannot be solely controlled by government intervention, a top government official told agency.

According to the official, critical commodities affected by ongoing conflicts in Russia and Ukraine, fertilizers, gas, and oil stand out as key imports contributing to the prevailing concerns. "At the current level, the fiscal situation is manageable, but beyond this, it will get

difficult to meet fiscal targets," said the official.

He said that it is a complex situation that can't be solely controlled by governmental interventions. "The recent resurgence of prices, albeit gradual, after a previous decline has sparked apprehension, although they still remain lower compared to the previous year. However, we have accounted sufficiently for such fluctuations in the budget, providing a buffer for the time being," the official who didn't wish to be quoted said.

Recently, the Reserve Bank of India in its report had also flagged the high crude oil price (above \$90 a barrel) as a potential risk to global financial stability. Meanwhile, this newspaper had recently reported about Russia resuming fertilizer trade with the United States, consequently halting the discounts the country was previously giving to India.

The shift in trade dynamics is likely to put pressure on the government's expenditure on fertilizer subsidies



as Russia is a major exporter. India had previously reaped benefits after the Western countries imposed sanctions on Russia following its invasion of Ukraine. According to the official, the government won't

be able to meet its disinvestment target for the current fiscal but the non-tax revenue in the form of dividends from the public sector undertakings and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will offset the deficiency.

High crude price could create organised chaos: Minister Puri

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that rising crude oil prices could create organised chaos and devastation in several parts of the world. The minister, in an interview with a news channel at the ADIPEC oil and gas conference in Abu Dhabi, said that the price of \$100 a barrel of oil is not in the interest of either the producing countries or the consumers.

"If the price goes above \$100, it is not going to be in the inter-

est of either the producing country or anyone's interest. You will have large, organised chaos," said the minister in an interview to a news channel.

As the major oil producing countries including Saudi Arabia and Russia announced reducing its production, the crude price in the international market went up significantly. Saudi Arabia announced on October 4 that it would continue oil supply cuts of 1 million barrels per day (bpd) and Russia too,

has agreed to continue its current export cuts of 300,000 bpd until the end of 2023. Last week, the Brent Crude Future touched 7-month-high \$97 a barrel.

The minister said that the prices of around \$80 per barrel or slightly less than that would be a convenient price range for countries. The minister also warned that high oil prices could again lead to similar economic turmoil as witnessed in 2008 when crude reached \$134.3 per barrel (from \$93.60 in January 2008).

Easy exercises to help with carpal tunnel syndrome

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS) is a prevalent neurological condition where the median nerve in the wrist's carpal tunnel becomes compressed.

The carpal tunnel is a confined space encased by bones and ligaments, and it serves as the conduit for the median nerve, responsible for sensations and hand muscle function.

"CTS is a widespread condition that can affect anyone. It's primarily caused by pressure on the median nerve within the wrist. Wrist injuries, underlying health conditions (such as arthritis or diabetes), repetitive hand movements, and hormonal changes (during pregnancy) can cause CTS," Dr Vivek Loomba Senior Consultant Pain Physician, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi told agency.

The expert added that CTS is more common in women than in men and usually affects people over 30 years of age.

What are the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome?

CTS leads to symptoms like tingling, numbness and weakness, primarily affecting the thumb, index and middle fingers.

These symptoms occur during activities like driving or holding objects, and prolonged hand movements. They



can typically develop gradually and can worsen over time. If left untreated, the condition progresses, resulting in frequent or persistent symptoms.

Excessive usage of laptops and mouse can also cause carpal tunnel syndrome.

Easy exercises for carpal tunnel syndrome Dr Loomba shared the following exercise to help find relief from CTS.

Wrist Extension and Flexion: These exercises involve gently bending your wrist backwards (extension) and forward (flexion) while keeping your arm straight. They stretch the muscles in the inner and outer forearm.

Median Nerve Glide: This exercise focuses on improving the mobility of the compressed median nerve. It includes making a fist, straightening the fingers and thumb, and gently bending the hand back toward the forearm while extending the thumb to

the side.

Tendon Glides: Tendon glides gently stretch the tendons within the carpal tunnel. They include actions like bending the fingers into a hook shape and making a fist, then straightening the fingers and thumb.

Wrist Lift: To strengthen forearm muscles, place one palm flat on a table and use your other hand to press down while lifting your wrist and fingers. This exercise is done in repetitions.

Hand Squeeze: Using a soft rubber ball or rolled-up socks, squeeze and release to work on forearm muscle strength. It's important to repeat this exercise in sets.

Wrist Stretch with Weights: Holding a lightweight object (like a can of beans) in one hand, extend the arm straight and slowly bring the hand up and back toward the wrist. This exercise stretches the flexor muscles in the forearm.

Daylight exposure may help treat type 2 diabetes: Study

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Exposure to natural light may help treat and prevent type 2 diabetes, according to a small study.

The research, presented at the annual meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) in Germany recently, carried out a range of metabolic tests on a group of people with type 2 diabetes when they were exposed to natural light and when they were exposed to artificial light and compared the results.

"The misalignment of our internal circadian clock with the demands of a 24/7 society is associated with an increased incidence of metabolic diseases, including type 2 diabetes," said Ivo Habets of Maastricht University, the Netherlands, who co-led the research.

"Natural daylight is the strongest zeitgeber, or environmental

cue, of the circadian clock, but most people are indoors during the day and so under constant artificial lighting," said Habets.

The yet-to-be peer-reviewed study involved 13 participants with an average age of 70 years who stayed in research facilities, which allowed their light exposure, meal, and activity patterns to be tightly controlled.

They were exposed to two lighting conditions during office hours (8 am to 5 pm) in a randomised cross-over fashion: natural daylight from windows and artificial LED lighting.

There was a gap of at least four weeks between the two interventions, each lasting 4.5 days. During the natural daylight intervention, the light intensity was usually highest at 12:30 pm, with an average reading of 2453 lux.

The artificial light was a constant 300 lux. Evenings were

spent in dim light (less than 5 lux), and the sleeping period (11 pm to 7 am) in darkness. The participants were provided with standardised meals, meaning they ate the same food in both interventions.

Blood sugar levels were continuously recorded by monitors worn on the upper arm, and a range of other tests were performed on the final day and a half of each intervention.

The study found that blood glucose levels were within the normal range (4.4-7.8 mmol/L) for longer during the natural daylight intervention than in the artificial light intervention.

The respiratory exchange ratio was lower during the daylight intervention than during the artificial light intervention, indicating that the participants found it easier to switch from using carbohydrates to fat as an energy source when exposed to natural

light. Per1 and Cry1, genes that help control our body clock, were more active in natural than artificial light, the researchers said.

Resting energy expenditure and core body temperature followed similar 24-hour patterns in both light conditions, they said.

Serum insulin levels measured during the MMT were similar in both light conditions, but the pattern of serum glucose and plasma free acids significantly differed between conditions.

The results, particularly the better blood sugar control during the natural light intervention, suggest that exposure to natural daylight is beneficial to the metabolism and could help treat and prevent type 2 diabetes and other metabolic conditions, such as obesity, Habets added.

New study shows cause of Parkinson's disease

LONDON, Oct 5 (Agencies): In a significant breakthrough, a team of researchers have found underlying mechanisms of Parkinson's disease, offering the potential for innovative treatments in the future. Parkinson's disease is a chronic condition that affects the central nervous system, leading to symptoms such as difficulty walking, tremors, cognitive challenges, and, eventually, dementia.

The disease which afflicts over 10 million people worldwide, currently has no cure, but certain medical treatments can offer relief from its symptoms.

The understanding of Parkinson's disease has been quite limited.

It primarily revolved around the genetic factors responsible for

familial cases, while the causative factors in the vast majority of patients remained unknown.

Researchers from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark found that small fragments of mitochondrial DNA spreads the disease.

"For the first time, we can show that mitochondria, the vital energy producers within brain cells, particularly neurons, undergo damage, leading to disruptions in mitochondrial DNA (LP1). This initiates and spreads the disease like a wildfire through the brain," said Professor Shohreh Issazadeh-Navikas.

"Our findings establish that the spread of the damaged genetic material, the mitochondrial DNA, causes the symptoms

reminiscent of Parkinson's disease and its progression to dementia," she added.

By examining both human and mouse brains, researchers discovered that the damage to mitochondria in brain cells occurs and spreads when these cells have defects in anti-viral response genes.

In the paper, published in the journal Molecular Psychiatry, they sought to understand why this damage occurred and how it contributed to the disease.

"Small fragments of -- actually DNA -- from the mitochondria are released into the cell. When these fragments of damaged DNA are misplaced, they become toxic to the cell, prompting nerve cells to expel this toxic

mitochondrial DNA," Issazadeh-Navikas explains.

"Given the interconnected nature of brain cells, these toxic DNA fragments spread to neighboring and distant cells, similar to an uncontrolled forest fire sparked by a casual bonfire" she added.

Issazadeh-Navikas envisions that the study marks the initial stride towards a better understanding of the disease, and the development of future treatments, diagnostics, and measurement of treatment efficacy for Parkinson's disease.

She also expressed hope that "detecting the damaged mitochondrial DNA could serve as an early biomarker for disease development".

Asian Games: India wins gold in archery compound women's team event

HANGZHOU, Oct 5 (Agencies): Indian women's compound team rallied to down their Chinese Taipei rivals by one-point in a tense final to secure a second gold medal in archery at the Asian Games here on Thursday.

The top-seeded reigning world champion trio of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur shot 60 out of 60 in a perfect final end to overcome their third-seeded rivals 230-229 in the last three arrows and seal their fifth medal in archery.

This was India's second gold in this edition of the continental showpiece after Jyothi and Ojas Deotale secured the top spot in the podium in the compound mixed team event on Wednesday.



With this, India have assured themselves of at least five medals in archery at the continental showpiece.

India have also bettered their best-ever feat that came at Incheon 2014 where they had a share of one gold, one silver and one bronze.

Deotale and Verma, by virtue

of setting up an all-Indian final in men's compound individual, have assured of two medals, while Jyothi confirmed at least a silver by advancing into the women's compound individual summit clash.

Earlier, India had crushed their fourth-seeded opponents 233-219 to set up a gold medal clash

against Chinese Taipei.

The top-seeded Indian trio also had an easy win in the quarterfinal eliminating lower-ranked Hong Kong 231-220.

The Indonesian team of Ratih Zilizati Fadhy, Syahara Khoerunisa, Sri Ranti had advanced into the semis with a tough 232-229 win over formidable Kazakhstan.

The Indians mounted early pressure with a perfect start, shooting all 10s in their first set of six arrows as their rivals slipped to 51 to concede a nine-point lead.

Indonesia failed to recover from thereon, while India's Parneet Kaur, their lowest-ranked qualifier stepped up in style as India capped a massive 14-point win.

Shuttler PV Sindhu bows out in quarterfinals at Asian Games

HANGZHOU, Oct 5 (Agencies): Two-time Olympic medalist Indian shuttler PV Sindhu crashed out in the women's singles quarterfinals, losing in straight games against China's He Bingjiao at the Asian Games here on Thursday.

Sindhu, currently ranked 15th, looked a pale shadow of herself against world No.5 Bingjiao, losing 16-21, 12-21 in just 47 minutes to bow out of the competition.

It was Bingjiao whom Sindhu had defeated in straight games to win the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics but the Chinese has now

avenged her defeat on home soil to deny the Indian a chance to better the colour of her previous two Asian Games medals.

Sindhu had won bronze and silver medals respectively in 2014 Incheon and 2018 Jakarta Asian Games.

The first game started on an even keel between the two players as both shared points till six-all before Bingjiao took a 9-5 lead.

Sindhu struggled with her court coverage as Bingjiao made the Indian run the entire court and sealed the points with accurate placements and smashes to seal the first game easily in

23 minutes.

Sindhu's struggle continued in the next game as Bingjiao took a 5-1 lead.

The star Indian shuttler's returns were short and Bingjiao made no mistake in closing out the points with pinpoint smashes.

Sindhu showed some fight initially in the second game to close the gap at 8-9 with four straight points before the Chinese's took control of the game and raced to 12-8 lead.

Sindhu was nowhere to be seen thereafter and looked to have surrendered as Bingjiao closed out the game and match in quick time.

Naveen Patnaik announces Rs 1.5 crore for javelin star Kishore Jena

BHUBANESWAR, Oct 5 (Agencies): With Kishore Jena bagging a historic silver medal at the 19th Asian Games, the Odisha government announced a cash award of Rs 1.5 crore for the javelin star. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said the reward was in recognition of his stellar performance, perseverance and determination.

"I congratulate him on his win at the Asian Games and also qualifying for the Paris Olympics. Kishore's triumph not only reflects personal excellence but also serves as an inspiration for budding athletes across the country," he said. The Odisha CM assured all support for Kishore for his preparation for the Olympics next year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur congratulated Kishore for his medal-winning achievement.

Earlier in the day, the star athlete's family was tense. "We held a puja. As the event started, our family and relatives gathered in one room and watched the telecast," said his sister Itishree Sundara. She said the family was extremely happy and proud. "Our



family is missing him a lot due to his preparation for the Asian Games. He has not visited his home for the last two years. In our family, he is the only athlete. We are eagerly waiting to welcome him to the village," she added.

Coach Samarjit Singh Malhi is waiting to congratulate his pupil too. Speaking to the news agency, he said "Today, I am eagerly waiting to congratulate Kishore for the first time. He has proved that he is a true fighter, with the mental strength to overcome any odds," Malhi said. In the last week of his training, he said, Kishore suffered a hamstring injury which was a matter of concern. But he overcame and made the country proud, said a beaming Malhi.

World Cup 2023: Virat Kohli enjoys extended net session in Chennai ahead of opening match vs Australia

CHENNAI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Virat Kohli returned to training after a short break and sweated it out in an extended net session that took center stage in India's first practice session ahead of their World Cup opener against Australia this Sunday.

Kohli underwent the usual throw-ins for an extended period before facing some local net bowlers. Originally planned as a two-hour training session, Kohli dedicated an extra 45 minutes to make up for the team's missed warm-up games, crucial for simulation.

India's absence from their CWC warm-up matches isn't a significant setback, as they had recently played a three-match ODI series against Australia. Although Kohli didn't participate in the first two games of the series, he managed a composed innings of 56 runs off 61 balls in the final ODI in Rajkot. In addition to Kohli, all-round-



ers Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja, along with left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav, also put in some rigorous training in the nets. Jadeja began with bowling but also had a batting session, while Kuldeep and Pandya focused on their bowling skills before Pandya had a brief batting session.

The remaining team members, including captain-cum-opener Rohit Sharma, were absent from

the training session as Sharma was in Ahmedabad for a pre-competition press conference. India are scheduled to have more training sessions in the coming days before facing Australia on Sunday.

WORLD CUP 2023 TO BEGIN
The stage is set for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, with all 10 captains convening at Ahmedabad's colossal cricket stadium, the world's largest, on

the eve of what promises to be the grandest Cricket World Cup in history.

Over the next 45 days, a total of 48 matches will unfold at ten world-class venues. The tournament kicks off with a rematch of the 2019 Final, featuring England and New Zealand as they face off tomorrow at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

Before this momentous match, a notable event took place: the official ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 photograph was captured at the Narendra Modi Stadium, with renowned celebrity photographer Rohan Shrestha at the helm. Moreover, an interactive panel session was held where the 10 captains expressed their thoughts and aspirations for the forthcoming six weeks, facilitated by host Ravi Shastri and England's triumphant captain, Eoin Morgan.

World Cup 2023: WWE star Drew McIntyre sends best wishes to Rohit Sharma and Indian team

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): WWE Superstar Drew McIntyre sent a special message to Rohit Sharma and the Indian cricket team ahead of the World Cup, which begins on October 5.

McIntyre has been one of the top stars for WWE over the years and has won many titles in the company. Since the start of his second run with the company in 2017, he has won numerous championships, including the WWE Championship twice, the Tag Team Championships, and the NXT Championship once.

McIntyre's connection



to cricket came into the spotlight when he made a powerful gesture that resonated with cricket fans worldwide. During the Superstar Spectacle event that took place in

Hyderabad in September, McIntyre surprised everyone by wearing the Indian ODI jersey. This was seen as a special touch to wish the Indian cricket team the best of

luck for the World Cup. Now the Scottish Warrior has posted a picture on X, wearing the Indian team jersey and wishing captain Rohit Sharma and the rest of the squad

best of luck ahead of the World Cup. The WWE Superstar also said that the love and hospitality he gets every time he comes to India is amazing.

"Good luck to @ImRo45 and the rest of his team as India get ready to host the Cricket World Cup. The hospitality and love you show me every time I'm there is amazing," said McIntyre.

The Indian team will begin their campaign on October 8, squaring off against Australia in Chennai. India had recently defeated Australia 2-1 in the three-match series.

Do not write off Warner, says Hussey

CHENNAI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Australia's 'Mr Cricket' Michael Hussey wishes to put his money on the team from Down Under to perform well in the 2023 ICC World Cup. Australia overcame Pakistan in the warm-up match with Glenn Maxwell cracking a breezy 77 in his team's creditable 14-run win.

Hussey's confidence also stems from the fact the Australian players are familiar with the conditions in India and also have solid batting depth. In a chat with this daily, Hussey insists that the fact that Australia defeated India last time they played in Chennai augurs well for Pat

Cummins and Co. Veteran David Warner may not be at his best, but Hussey cautions one to not write off the dynamic opener. Excerpts:

On Australia's chances
Australia's chances are very good. Very strong and deep batting, high-quality bowling with some all-round options. Adam Zampa's good but would like one more specialist spinner.

On Cummins as captain and the pace attack
Cummins is a good captain, a smart guy, listens to different opinions, not afraid of making difficult decisions. Yes, we have a good crop of fast bowlers, but I believe that

the key to success is for everyone keep performing.

On Maxwell's role
Maxwell will be an important player for Australia as an explosive middle-order batsman but also as the second spinner.

On Steve Smith's experience
Haha! Of course very useful, has (Smith) so much experience and plays pace and spin so well. Certainly a key player for us.

On Warner's recent form
Never write off a champion and Warner is just that. His form seems pretty good of late so let's hope he can take it into the World Cup.

Lovlina Borgohain settles for silver

HANGZHOU, Oct 5 (Agencies): Tokyo Olympics medallist Lovlina Borgohain put up a lacklustre display to settle for a silver medal as Indian boxers signed off with five medals at the Asian Games. Parveen Hooda couldn't overcome the height disadvantage against two-time world champion Lin Yu Ting of Chinese Taipei, losing 0-5 in the women's 57kg category semifinals to sign off with bronze.

Borgohain's defensive performance cost her the gold as she was out-punched in the lopsided final.

The reigning world champion was thrashed by home favourite and two-time Olympics medallist Li Qian in the 75kg final, losing via a 2-3 split decision.

With Borgohain's loss, India's campaign came to an end, winning one silver and four bronze. "I gave my best but could not bring the gold. I am happy



with my performance. I will try to change the colour of the medal in the Olympics," Borgohain said. "I committed some mistakes like I was playing closer to the opponent and got a point cut. I will work on the mistakes," she added.

World Cup 2023: Suryakumar Yadav can win India the tournament if he gets going, says Harbhajan Singh

NEW DELHI, Oct 5 (Agencies): Former spinner Harbhajan Singh believes Suryakumar Yadav is India's X-factor for the 2023 ODI World Cup, saying that his dynamic game could not only win India matches but could help them clinch the tournament.

The Indian team management find themselves in a situation where they have an abundance of talented batters to choose from, which, while a positive, will require them to make some difficult decisions. The current pool of players, including Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Ishan Kishan, Hardik Pandya, and Suryakumar Yadav,



have all demonstrated their abilities in the middle order.

Selecting just three from this talented group poses a formidable challenge. Notably, both Iyer and Rahul have delivered exceptional performances, even rebound-

ing impressively after their injuries, and their track records before those setbacks were outstanding as well.

"Looking forward to Suryakumar Yadav. He is an X-factor. If he gets going, he won't just win you the match, but he

will win you the tournament. If I were a selector, I would have SKY as the second player in my team after the captain. Hardik Pandya is as good as anyone when it comes to hitting the ball and playing the normal game. I would play SKY

if I were part of the team management.

Who knows if they will play him or not?" Harbhajan Singh said at the India Today Conclave.

"I don't know what it is about him (Suryakumar Yadav).

Today, I would be frightened bowling to him but not when I was at my peak. He reminds me of AB de Villiers.

We need a player like him to play. Even if flops, I would still play him for the remaining matches. And another player I want to speak about is Shubman Gill; he has the chance to do something when he could be remembered forever," Harbhajan added.

38 Bn CRPF welcomes the Ladies Bike Expedition-2023 in Jammu



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: The 38 Battalion, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), extended a warm welcome to the Ladies Bike Expedition-2023 on October 5, 2023, at 11:00 AM. The event took place at Mahila Mahavidyalaya Parade in Jammu and was organized by Sandeep Khirwar, Inspector General of Police, CRPF, Jammu Sector, under the guidance of Rakesh Sethi, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rajasthan Jammu, and the able leadership of Madan Mohan, Commandant,

38 Battalion CRPF.

The event witnessed the presence of esteemed guests, including Chandra Prakash Ganga, former Commerce and Industry Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Other notable guests included Gaurav Gupta, former Secretary of Jammu Club, and Vijay Khazanchi, AGM of Jai Beverages, Bari Brahmanna Samba.

During the ceremony, Madan Mohan, Commandant of the 38 Battalion, shared that the bike rally was organized in memory of the great

leader, Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The rally featured three different bike expeditions: one departing from Srinagar to Kevadiya (Ekta Nagar), the second from Shillong to Kevadiya (Ekta Nagar), and the third from Kanyakumari to Kevadiya (Ekta Nagar).

The Yashasvi Bike Rally, from Srinagar to Kevadiya (Ekta Nagar), involved a total of 50 women bikers (Yashaswini), who embarked on a journey covering 2145 kilometers over 28 days, passing through five states and two union territories.

Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, born on October 31, 1875, in Nadiad, held the esteemed positions of the nation's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister from August 15, 1947, to December 15, 1950.

The Central Reserve Police Force, established on July 27, 1939, in Agra under the name County Representative Police, was later renamed the Central Reserve Police Force by Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on December 28, 1949. Today, it stands as the largest paramilitary force globally, with a total of 06 women battalions. These brave women

contribute significantly to national unity and security, serving in various parts of India, from peaceful regions to areas affected by Naxalism. The CRPF women personnel also extend their service abroad as part of United Nations missions in countries such as Kosovo, Liberia, and others.

Dr. S.P. Saraswat, the Principal of Mahila Mahavidyalaya Parade, played a crucial role in the successful execution of the event. The students of Mahila Mahavidyalaya Parade delighted the audience with a vibrant program and provided invaluable assistance in ensuring the smooth conduct of the event.

Hazari Lal, Second Commanding Officer, Mahendra Singh Verma, Deputy Commandant, Neeraj Rana, Assistant Commandant, and all the personnel of the 38 Corps actively participated and contributed to the event's success.

Bukhari, senior Apni Party leadership participates in Antim Ardas at Vijaypur



TOP NEWS REPORT

VIJAYPUR, Oct 5: Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari along with senior leadership Thursday participated in Antim Ardas organized at Vijaypur in Samba District on the tenth day of Balwant Singh, father of Provincial President, Jammu, S. Manjit Singh.

Altaf Bukhari was accompanied by Apni Party Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir and other leaders of Apni Party to Vijaypur where they participated

in the prayers which were organised at the Gurdwara for the eternal peace of the departed soul of Balwant Singh.

Altaf Bukhari and Ghulam Hassan Mir expressed their sympathies on behalf of all the Party leaders in Jammu and Kashmir with the family members of S. Manjit Singh and they prayed for the courage of the bereaved family members to bear this irreparable loss.

To pay their homage to the departed soul, hundreds of people from

different segments of society including politicians, PRIs, members of civil society, police officers, and Govt officials participated in the Antim Ardas.

Meanwhile, S. Manjit Singh expressed his gratitude to all Apni Party leaders, and all the people/politicians cutting across party lines/officials, and all others who visited his residence and shared their grief and extended sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Modi Govt committed to provide "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal": Sat

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: In a major push concerning basic amenities for the residents of Ward No-40, Today Former Minister Sat Sharma CA accompanying Municipal Councillor Neelam Nargotra and Mandal President BJP Talab Tillo Keshav Chopra inaugurated the work of laying fresh water pipes. The works will be done under the supervision of the PHE department at an estimated cost of around 9 lacs.

Speaking on the Occasion Sat Sharma said the BJP led Government at the Centre is implementing the "Har Ghar Nal Se



Jal" mission to ensure every household has functional tap connection for drinking water in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on

regular and long-term basis, Sat said that with the collective effort by the common masses and the inspiration of PM Modi our dedicated JMC

Councillors ensured the quality work.

Speaking on the Occasion Neelam Nargotra stated that areas where problems includ-

ing shortage of water supply and other issues are coming will be dealt on priority and we are committed to work for the common masses.

Speaking on the Occasion Keshav Chopra appreciated the efforts of the councillor and said that it was a long pending demand of the residents of the area which was under process today this demand of the locals has been fulfilled.

Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha President Krishan Lal, Puran Chand, Satish Master, Rahul Nargotra, Abhishek Sharma, Vikas Kumar, Jaipal Sharma and locals of the ward were present.

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh organised a workshop on "Importance of IPR in Academic Research". Mrs Pooja Kumar, Women Entrepreneur, Founder Director; Innove Intellects, Patent agent, Govt. of India interacted with the faculty members & Aryans students of Engineering, Nursing, Pharmacy, Law, Management, Education and Agriculture.

Pooja educated the students on the importance of intellectual property management in academic and



research institutes. They described different types of IPRs, trademarks, copyrights, designs, patents and trade secrets. She exhorted young researchers to apply for the patent registration of their research innovations before publishing it in any research journal.

Pooja said, "Patents not only provide legal protection to researcher's innovation but also give an opportunity for exclusive commercial use of that innovation for a limited time period. It is important to use the right language and full disclosure of information while filing a patent and other IPRs."

UIET, Kathua Campus organises an Industrial Workshop on 'Blockchain and Web3'

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 5: The University Institute of Engineering and Technology (UIET), Kathua Campus, University of Jammu, in collaboration with Shardeum, organised an industrial workshop on "Blockchain and Web3" for the students of the campus. Chirag Ravishankar, Community Manager, Shardeum, with extensive experience in blockchain and Web3, captivated the audience with his insightful presentations and hands-on demonstrations.

During the workshop, Ravishankar not only delved into the fundamentals of blockchain technology but also discussed its real-world applications and the transformative potential it holds. He emphasised the importance of blockchain in revolutionising industries such as finance, healthcare, supply chain management, and beyond. Participants were also exposed to the concept



of Web3, which represents the next evolution of the internet, characterised by decentralised and user-centric applications.

He also encouraged the students to envision themselves as pioneers in the Web3 space, highlighting the numerous opportunities it presents for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu, appreciated the collaborative effort of UIET, Kathua Campus (JU), and Shardeum for organising the industrial workshop on blockchain and Web3. She further

said that the workshop's success is a testament to the commitment of UIET to providing students with hands-on experiences and exposure to emerging technologies. Further, she emphasised that the workshop fostered a collaborative and inclusive environment where all the participants had the opportunity to network with like-minded individuals. She also said that this workshop not only instilled a sense of curiosity and exploration but also empowered students with the confidence to embrace emerging technologies.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/C Coordinator, UIET, Kathua Campus (JU), welcomed the resource person and said that the workshop provided all participants with an introduction to the most current tools and technologies that are at the forefront of shaping the future landscape of blockchain and Web3.

Raghav Sharma, a student of B.Tech. CSE 5th semester, coordinated the whole programme, whereas Mr. Jatyam Billawaria, a student of B.Tech. CSE 5th semester, delivered a vote of thanks. The workshop was attended by faculty members and students on campus.

Shiv Sena urges Shrine Board for Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra Circuit

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Oct 5: Expressing satisfaction over the creation of skywalk facility for devotees on the first day of Navratri in the world famous Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Katra, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit urged the Shrine Board to develop Bhumika Temple in Katra, Deva Mai Temple and other nearby ancient temples, besides making of a yatra circuit connecting all the ancient temple, facilities for visiting the said places and strong security arrangements for devotees in view of upcoming Navratras.

Addressing a press conference held today in Katra, Manish Sahni, State President of Shiv Sena, mentioned that a delegation of state leaders, under his leadership, met with Ajay Salan, Deputy CEO of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board to express their appreciation for the facilities being created by the Shrine Board for



the visiting devotees and presented a memorandum outlining their demands.

Sahani highlighted that Anshul Garg, a Chief Executive Office of the Shrine Board, has already agreed with all the demands.

Additionally, Sahani revealed that the 41st pilgrimage organized by Shiv Sena would be of a mythological nature. This sacred pilgrimage, commencing from the historic Raghunath Temple in Jammu as a procession on 14th October, will

pass through significant shrines like Kaol Kandoli and Deva Mai Temple before reaching Katra.

On the first auspicious day of Navratri, i.e., 15th October, a ceremonial puja will be conducted with all due rituals in the holy cave of Mata Vaishno Devi.

Sahni urged devotees to participate wholeheartedly in this pilgrimage, seeking the blessings of the Maa Vaishno Devi. He also called upon other organizations with similar interests and devotees associated with Shiv Sena to

join hands in making this pilgrimage a great success.

The party Katra unit welcomed Manish Sahni with Maa ki chunri.

Among those who were present include General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, president Kamghar Raj Singh, Youth Secretary Rajesh Handa, District Reasi President Ashwani Kumar, Suman Badu, Aryan Pranam, Vipin Sharma, Sanjay Kumar, Vinod Sharma, Ajay Kumar, and Atul Sharma.