

# TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 06, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

**Zeenat Aman reveals pet name Dev Anand gave her**

NATIONAL | 7

**False cases being slapped to weaken Opposition, atmosphere of fear created: Arvind Kejriwal**

INTERNATIONAL | 8

**"Hundreds Of Our Missiles...": Putin Warns Over Nuclear Threat To Russia**

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## BRIEFLY

### Army Officer Who fired on Soldiers in Rajouri to face Court of Inquiry

JAMMU, Oct 6 (Agencies): The army has initiated a Court of Inquiry against a major-rank officer who allegedly opened fire on his colleagues and exploded grenades inside a camp in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday.

At least five personnel, including three officers, were injured in the Thursday incident at the Neeli post near Thanamandi.

Officials said on Friday that army officers have rushed to the scene to take stock of the situation in view of the "unfortunate happening".

The erring officer has been detained and is being questioned, the officials said, adding a Court of Inquiry has been ordered into the incident.

The tense situation at the camp lasted nearly eight hours before the officer was overpowered inside the armoury late in the evening on Thursday.

Though the army remained tightlipped over the incident, it came out with a post on X late Thursday night, claiming an officer was injured in a likely grenade accident at a post in Rajouri.

"On 05 Oct 23 one officer was injured in a likely grenade accident at a post in Rajouri sector. Officer evacuated and stable post initial treatment. Further investigation of the incident in progress," the White Knight Corps of the army posted on X.

Official sources said there was a firing practice going on at the camp for the past several days and the accused officer started firing on his colleagues and subordinates without any provocation on Thursday afternoon.

Later, he took shelter inside the armoury of the camp and hurled grenades when the commanding officer, along with his deputy and medical officer, moved near the building in an effort to persuade him to surrender, the sources said.

All the three officers were injured when a grenade, hurled by the accused, exploded near them, they said. Two other soldiers were also injured in the

Turn to page 9

## Over 9,000 landless people given land in J&K so far: LG Manoj Sinha



KUPWARA, Oct 6 (Agencies) : Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that over 9,000 landless people have been given land in the

region so far and only those eligible will get 5 Marla land from the government.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function at Dak Bunglow, the

LG as per news agency, said that the administration has been able to bring transparency and have adapted to the pro-people approach and a new dawn of develop-

ment is being written.

He said that over 9,000 landless people in Jammu and Kashmir have been given the land and that only eligible landless people will get 5 Marla land in J&K.

The LG, who was on a 2-day visit to Kupwara district, also said that the Railway Minister has already sanctioned budget for a technical survey. "Once the survey is completed and DPR is submitted, Kupwara will be connected with the rail link soon."

He said that Kupwara is on the path of prosperity and development

Turn to page 9

## Sikkim flash floods: 6 soldiers among 19 dead; 103 missing

GUWAHATI, Oct 6 (Agencies): At least 19 people have died, including six army personnel, in the flash floods in Sikkim in the early hours of Wednesday, the State Disaster Management Authority said.

"19 people are dead and 103 are missing in the Sikkim flash floods," the report stated on Thursday.

The search for the missing people is now focussing on the areas downstream of Teesta River. Search and rescue efforts are continuing to locate the 16 missing soldiers in Sikkim.

Earlier on Wednesday evening, out of the initial 23 missing soldiers, one was recovered alive.

Sikkim Chief Secretary Vijay Bhushan Pathak said, "As per the check-post data available, around 3000 people are stranded in Lachen and Lachung. 700-800 drivers are stuck there. 3150 people who have gone there on motorcycles are also stuck there... we will evacuate all with helicopters of Army and Air Force."

Moreover, the army made those who were stuck in Lachen and Lachung speak to their families through voice over the internet.

Injuries and persons missing have been reported from Chungthang in Mangan district, Dikchu, Singtam in Gangtok district and Rangpo in Pakyong district.

In Mangan district, 4 people have died and 17 people are reported missing. Similarly in Gangtok, five deaths have been confirmed with 22 missing.

In Pakyong district, 10 deaths including 6 Army men have been confirmed while 59 people remain missing.

The Sikkim Government on Wednesday confirmed the deaths of

Turn to page 9

## Shrine Board Introduces Virtual Darshan Via Natural Cave For Vaishno Devi Pilgrims



JAMMU, Oct 6 (Agencies): In yet another landmark step to facilitate the pilgrims, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has introduced virtual darshan through natural cave

by installing kiosks at five locations en route Bhawan nestled in Trikuta Hills of Reasi district in Jammu and Kashmir. Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board,

Anshul Garg on Friday said, "Virtual darshan of Mata Rani through the holy natural cave to be available for pilgrims at different locations."

The pilgrims, he said can enjoy a unique immersive experience through VR Headsets this Shardiya Navratri starting from October 15 by making digital payments of Rs 101/- only.

The kiosks will be available at Niharika Bhawan (Katra), Serli Heilipad, Ardhkuwari, Parvati Bhawan and Durga Bhawan.

Turn to page 9

## Over 73 lakh devotees pay obeisance at Mata Vaishno Devi till Sep this year

JAMMU, Oct 6 (Agencies) : As the number of pilgrims reaching the holy cave shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi is swelling every month, more than 73 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum till September this year.

The shrine is located in the Trikuta Hills of Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir.

An official said that it is expected that this year,

Turn to page 9

## 10 Police officials face investigation in Srinagar vehicle hiring scam

SRINAGAR, Oct 6 (Agencies): The Government has given approval for an inquiry into a Senior Superintendent of Police and his subordinates in relation to corrupt practices in the hiring of vehicles for the Police Control Room (PCR) in Srinagar, The Daily Excelsior reported.

The sanction was granted to the Crime Branch of the Police under the Prevention of Corruption Act to investigate 10 police officials involved in the vehicle hiring scandal. These officials comprise SSP Zubair Ahmad Khan,

ASP Farhat Jeelani, SDP Mushtaq Ahmad, SI Nisar Ahmad, Head Constables Abdul Rashid and Fareed Ahmad, as well as constables Bilal Ahmad, Najamul Gani, Syed Tasweer, and Tawseef Ahmad.

In July of this year, the Police had requested the Government's approval for a Crime Branch inquiry into these officials under the Prevention of Corruption Act of 1988.

An official, while speaking to The leading local newspaper stated that the PCR in Srinagar

had engaged private vehicles to transport security forces and that the officials had falsely reported more vehicles than were actually hired. Some of these vehicles were purportedly provided with fuel receipts from petrol pumps but were never utilised for security duties. This fraudulent activity resulted in significant financial losses to the state's treasury.

The initial inquiry into the scam had been ongoing for several months, and once the fraud was confirmed, the Police sought the Government's

Turn to page 9

## Rs 12,000 cr remain in circulation, RBI says day ahead of Rs 2000 note exchange deadline

MUMBAI, Oct 6 (Agencies): Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Friday said 87% of the Rs 2,000 denomination notes being withdrawn have returned as deposits into banks while the rest has been exchanged across counters.

Addressing a press conference after the announcement of the bi-monthly monetary policy review, Das said



Rs 12,000 crore of the Rs 3.56 lakh crore worth of Rs 2,000 notes in circulation as on May 19,

2023 are yet to come back.

Last on Saturday, the

Turn to page 9

## Fake domicile case, Police arrest three

SRINAGAR, Oct 6 (Agencies): Police on Thursday registered a case in fake domicile certificate issuance case and booked three people, including a Rohingya woman, after

she obtained a domicile certificate in her name, by fraudulent means.

Anwara Begum of Myanmar, a facilitator and a revenue official, who issued the domicile certificate, have been

booked and are being questioned, Hindustan Times reported.

SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal while speaking to Hindustan Times said, "In Kishtwar, especially in Marwah- Dachan

areas, Rohingya women have married local men. Earlier, they were booked and convicted under the foreigner's act, but now a case of obtaining a domicile

Turn to page 9

## Kashmir hospitals witness surge in RSV cases: DAK

### Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 6 : Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said hospitals in Kashmir are witnessing surge in severe Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) cases.

"Over the last few weeks, hospitals are seeing increase in number of seriously-

ill RSV patients," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan in a statement issued to GNS.

Dr Hassan said young children and elderly are coming to hospitals with severe pneumonia requiring oxygen, some needing intensive care and support of ventilators to help them survive the respiratory distress.

RSV is not new. We see it every year during winter months. RSV particularly affects young children. It can be life-threatening in infants and older adults.

"Most years, infections typically occur in the late fall and winter, often overlapping with flu season. But since last year we are seeing early

Turn to page 9

## Man booked for 'abusing' cabin crew on Air India flight

NEW DELHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): A man has been booked for allegedly using abusive language and passing lewd comments towards the crew members aboard an Air India flight, the Delhi Police has said.

According to the FIR lodged in connection with the incident, a crew member working in the economy class cabin said the accused - originally seated at 21B and later at 45H - started passing lewd comments and abusing others on board.

He was verbally warned by the cabin

Turn to page 9

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# LG Sinha interacts with PRIs, residents of Border Villages, various other public delegations

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KUPWARA, Oct 6: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on the second day of his visit to Kupwara interacted with various public delegations today.

The delegations comprising of PRI members; residents of Border villages; Traders federation; members of Pahadi, Gujjar Bakerwal and minority communities; Farmers, Transporters, media fraternity and Bar Association apprised the Lt Governor on various development-related issues and other matters of public importance.

The Lt Governor assured the delegations of time-bound redressal of their genuine issues and grievances.

Interacting with the



media persons, the Lt Governor said, people-centric policies have given fresh impetus to all-round development in the district and the common man is living in a peaceful environment. He also said that well-planned efforts have resulted in significant increase in tourist influx

in the district. "Electricity has reached the far-flung areas and works under Jal Jeevan Mission has been expedited. We are hopeful to achieve the target of covering all villages, panchayats and households under 'Nal Se Jal' by 31st December this year in

the district. 70 percent work has already been completed," the Lt Governor said.

Responding to the query on rail connectivity to Kupwara, the Lt Governor said, the railway ministry has sanctioned a survey of rail line for Kupwara district. Once the survey is com-

pleted and the DPR is submitted, I hope work on rail link will be started and Kupwara will be connected to the rail network.

The Lt Governor also launched winter plantation drive as a part of the Green J&K campaign. 8.5 lakh saplings to be planted in the district during the drive.

Earlier, the Lt Governor paid obeisance at Mata Kheer Bhawani Asthapan Tikkar Kupwara and prayed for peace, prosperity, happiness and well-being of one and all.

The Lt Governor spent the night at Kupwara and interacted with many public delegations and officers to assess the development needs of the people of the district.

# Ayushman Bhave medical camp provides vital healthcare access to remote areas: Col Mahan



**TOP NEWS REPORT**

KATHUA, Oct 6: Colonel Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman of District Development Council (DDC), Kathua, today inaugurated day-long healthcare initiative at Community Health Center (CHC) in Basohli, Kathua, today.

The event saw the participation of senior doctors from 18 faculties of the Government Medical College (GMC) Kathua, along with para-medical staff, including the GMC Principal, Dr. Surinder. Over 500 patients, hailing from far-flung regions, were examined and treated for various medical conditions, with some individuals requiring specialized care referred to GMC Kathua/Jammu. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including Sushma Jamwal, BDC Chairperson; Ajeet Singh, ADC Basohli; Sagar Vishwakarma, Tehsildar Basohli; Dr. Anuradha Kerni, BMO Basohli; and

Yubkaran Singh, Shiv Padha, Ashok Purohit, among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Col Mahan Singh commended the initiative undertaken by the Medical and Healthcare Department to bring essential healthcare services to the doorsteps of residents in the remote areas of Basohli Sub-District through the "Ayushman Bhave" initiative. He said that the "Ayushman Bhave" medical camp represents a commendable effort by the Healthcare Department to address the healthcare needs of the underserved and

remote areas, showcasing the commitment to providing quality medical care to all sections of society.

The DDC Chairman also announced that a similar medical camp would be conducted in Bani tomorrow, extending the reach of this vital healthcare service. He urged the local community to actively participate in spreading awareness about such camps, ensuring that information reaches the maximum number of needy families, thereby optimizing the benefits of these essential healthcare initiatives.

# Cong protests against BJP over Rahul Gandhi poster

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Oct 6: Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Friday held a protest against the BJP for portraying Rahul Gandhi as a 'new age Ravan' in a social media poster.

The BJP poster on X had triggered a strong criticism from the Congress which on Thursday called it totally unacceptable and "downright dangerous".

Led by former minister Yogesh Sawhney, scores of Congress workers took out a protest rally in the city. They



shouted slogans against the BJP and burnt its

effigies. "We condemn such

acts of the BJP. The protest is to show our

anger over the cheap act of BJP. We wanted to take a rally to the Raj Bhawan to hold protests there, but were prevented from doing so," Sawhney told reporters here. "Rahul ji is our leader and we cannot tolerate such language against him."

He is the leader of this country, Sawhney said. "The People of this country like him. The BJP is afraid of the growing love of the people towards Rahul ji, that is why it is adopting such tactics," he said.

# DGP sanctions over Rs. 1.70 crore welfare loan, special welfare relief

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Continuing its efforts to provide financial assistance to the Police personnel, the Director General of Police, J&K Shri Dilbag Singh has sanctioned a welfare loan/relief of over Rupees one crore seventy lakh in favour of 140 Police personnel.

He has also sanctioned meritorious scholarship in favour of 195 wards of serving Police personnel for their performance in the annual examination of class 12th.

Under an order,

Rupees one lakh fifty thousand each has been sanctioned in favour of 40 police personnel for the purpose of marriage of their sons and daughters. Similarly, Rupees one lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of 49 police personnel for the purpose of their own marriage.

Rupees forty nine lakh fifty thousand has been sanctioned in favour of 43 police personnel for meeting their financial needs for self medical treatment or for the treatment of their family member. The amount

ranges from rupees fifty thousand to rupees three lakh. In addition to this, rupees two lakh ninety thousand has been sanctioned as welfare relief in favour of eleven police personnel for medical treatment.

In the same order, eight police personnel have been provided welfare loan of rupees eleven lakh for the purpose of higher/professional education of their wards.

The welfare loan sanctioned to the Police personnel is refundable and is recovered in monthly installments from their

salaries without any interest. The amount has been sanctioned out of the Central Police Welfare Fund (CPWF).

Meanwhile, the DGP has also sanctioned meritorious scholarship of over rupees twelve lakh fifty six thousand in favour of 195 wards of serving police personnel who have secured above 80% marks in the annual examination of 12th class during the academic session of 2022-23.

Rs 7200 each has been sanctioned in favour of 72 wards who

have secured 90% & above marks while rupees 6000 each has been sanctioned in favour of 123 wards who have secured 80% & above marks in the annual examination.

Police Headquarters is running many schemes for the welfare of its personnel and their families. There are also schemes for the wards of Police personnel and SPOs. Besides, there are schemes for the NoKs of martyrs, their wards and also for the retired Police personnel and their spouses.

# Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria initiates road blacktopping in Chinar Enclave, RS Pura

**TOP NEWS REPORT**

JAMMU, Oct 6: Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, demonstrated the administration's commitment to providing excellent infrastructure facilities to the residents of Jammu by launching the blacktopping work of roads in Chinar Enclave, RS Pura, located in the Jammu South constituency. This initiative addresses a long-standing demand from the local community and aims to improve the overall infrastructure in the area. The road development project will be carried out under the supervision of the Public Works Department (PWD).

Billawaria shared that several months ago, a delegation from Chinar Enclave approached



him, highlighting the deplorable condition of the roads in the locality. In response to the citizens' concerns, he promptly instructed the relevant department to prepare a cost estimate for the road improvement project. Today, through his proactive efforts, the development work has commenced, marking a significant step towards fulfilling the aspirations of the local residents.

Speaking at the inauguration, Deputy Mayor Billawaria expressed confidence in the transformative development initiatives initiated by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He emphasized that these initiatives are poised to revolutionize the development landscape of Jammu and Kashmir. Billawaria also commended the Union

Administration led by Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha for their commitment to introducing pioneering measures across various sectors, including the economy.

Deputy Mayor Billawaria urged the community to actively participate in maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in the area, emphasizing the importance of preserving a clean and green environment. He encouraged residents

to adhere to safety and health guidelines while the construction work is underway.

Highlighting the administration's dedication to city development, Deputy Mayor Billawaria assured that similar development projects would be undertaken in areas requiring improvement. Local residents expressed their satisfaction and relief, acknowledging the positive impact of the developmental work initiated by Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria.

The event was attended by prominent community members, including Mandal President Ranjit Singh, Harbans Chaudhary, Satpal Chaudhary, Surjit Kumar, Sunil Sharma, Davinder Sharma, Rinku Kumar, and others.

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**E-Tender Notice**  
Sr. DEE/GFZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.iimps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revise bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No.	251-Elect-T-32/2023-24
Name of work	Electrical work in c/w Modification of O/H conductor with AB cables along allied work at Major stations over FZR division
App. Cost. (in Rs.)	1,53,02,947.02
Earnest Money (in Rs.)	2,26,500.00
Completion period	06 Months
Opening of tender	26.10.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.
Website Particulars	www.iimps.gov.in
251-Elect/T/Notice No. 24-Elect/2023-24 Dated :- 04.10.2023	3081/2023

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Subject: **Corrigendum of E-NIT No: TLMD-IV/3/19of2023-24 dated 13.09.23**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**EXTENSION OF DATES**

The dates of captioned E-NIT's are hereby extended:

1	Last date for submission of hard copy of e-bid	10.10.2023(02.00PM)
2	e-Bid submission (end) date & Time	10.10.2023(02.00PM)
3	Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	12.10.2023(02:00PM)

**CHANGE IN SBD**  
"Security deposits will be deducted from every bill as per PWD clause" wherever mentioned in SBD and NIT is withdrawn.

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

-sd-  
**DIP/J-3308-P/23**  
Executive Engineer,  
Transmission Line Maint. Div.-IV,  
Jammu

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (M) G.W.D. DIVISION JAMMU**  
**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
**E-NIT NO GWD/135 OF 2023-24 DATED 04.10.2023**

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor UT of J&K, the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu invites tenders by e-tendering mode from reputed and registered firms, who have sufficient experience in the field of below mentioned works:-

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee(In Rs)	Qty.	Estimated cost (value of work) (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Validity of Rates
Re-development and Stabilization of Tubewells at (05 Nos) locations in District Jammu under UT Capex Budget (2023-24)	Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu	1000.00 (Non-Refundable) Deposited in Govt. treasury through e-challan under the receipt head 0215 in favour of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. GWD Div. Jammu payable at Jammu mentioning name of work	05 Nos	Rs. 21.25 lacs	@2% of the quoted rates in shape of Fresh CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PHE (M) GWD Division	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 04.10.2023 to 12.10.2023
- The pre bid meeting if desired, shall be held in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) G.W.D. Division Jammu on 06.10.2023 at 1300 hrs.
- The Bids shall be uploaded on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 07.10.2023 (1400 hrs) to 12.10.2023 (1800 hrs.)
- The complete bidding process shall be online and scanned copies of the following documents will have to be uploaded before due date:-  
(i) Scanned copy of treasury e-Challan/receipt for Rs. 1000.00 against the cost of tender document under the receipt Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (M) Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu indicating name of work to be executed. It may be noted that the receipt of the e-challan should be of the date after the issuance of publication of the e-tender. (ii) Scanned copy of EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR @2% of the quoted rates in favour of Executive Engineer, PHE (M) Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu. It may be noted that the EMD should be of the date after the issuance of publication of the e-tender (iii) Scanned Copies of tender documents, terms and conditions duly signed and stamped (each page) by bidder. (iv) Scanned copy of GST Registration from competent authority (v) Scanned copy of PAN Card.
- The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu on 14.10.2023 at 1400 hrs. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids shall be opened on the next working day during the office hours.
- The Cover - II i.e. Financial Bids of the firms who qualify in Cover - I shall also be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu during office hours or some other working day convenient to tender opening authority.
- Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.
- Account Head: UT Capex Budget (2023-24)
- AAA No. JSPHE/MC(R)/42 of 2023-24 Dated 30.09.2023
- Accord of T.S. No. (attached as per Annexure "A")

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division  
Jammu

No GWD/3879-81  
Dated: 04.10.2023  
**DIP/J-9121/23**

## EDITORIAL

PREVENT  
CRIME

**W**e commit more crimes as we boast of our progress in the field of civilization. There are crimes throughout the world. There are crimes against man and woman everywhere. Robberies have become a daily routine. There are many racketeers who rob people of their hard earnings. Forgery, fraud and perjury are newspaper's reports every day. Young girls are never safe of hooligans. Poverty, unemployment and illiteracy are the main reasons of all these crimes. Societies and welfare organizations should take initiative to stop these crimes.

The crime is a result of various things in our life, the first biggest and the greatest one is called money, an expression is that "money is root of all evil". Many people who are in need of money, they commit different types of crimes just to avail money. And the second one and most popular is revenge, in this circumstance most people do not want to call the police, mostly such types of incidents are happened in upper Sindh.

Poor people commit some small crimes because of money; they may steal and snatch things like mobiles and bikes. Some people used to be beggars, some people were workers but none of them was born as a criminal.

Poor people who have aim, mission and destiny in his life, they can become transcendental person without commit any crime but fame, painstaking and hard work is needed. Not only poor people commit crimes but also rich people are busy in commit crimes and to breach law and legislation, although they are already rich. They accumulate money through many ways against humanity. They give the priority to accumulate lots of money through some faster methods such as grog's, trade and smuggling etc.... they should use their money in useful projects for the sake of healthy, prosperous and peaceful society.

People, who commit small crimes, are not like great and dangerous crimes. The punishment of small crimes is small and lower level. a criminal of a small crime have to be sentenced to prison for months or just to pay money as a compensation ( fine ) or any other punishment according to the stand point of the judge. And on the other hand, huge crimes require a strong punishment such as almost represented in torture and murdering crimes. The punishment of such crimes is sentence to imprisonment of life or sentence to death to make criminals afraid and timed of committing these crimes against human rights. These persons with their dreadful crimes do not have the right to reside side to side with other peaceful people.

Justice is a small word, but it has a great and transcendental meaning as it play an important role in crimes and punishment. A judge has to take the balance of each criminal to be perfectly matched with his crime. Justice also makes criminals be afraid, timed and coward of each punishment. Such punishments become compel to the criminal to think hundreds of times before committing any crime.

Now, we have to plane to eliminate these types of crimes from our peaceful society, and to make jurisdiction in order to law according to constitution of Pakistan. restoration of justice in all over the world under the supervision of law to give the rights to each desire person, sovereign to the institutions and departments as they do their properly and we have to promote law education to every one as we serve the nation as well as individual rights and lawyers use their knowledge and power of law to defeat culprits, to execute proper punishment for contempt of law and order.

Generally, crimes are considered the biggest problem in our daily life. all classes of people commit crimes but on one of them has the right to do. Crime is a bad phenomenon that appeared in all ages and it is prevalent till now.....

## Nobel Boost: New Malaria Vaccine; TB Vaccine Next?

By: Chandrakant Lahariya

**T**he first week of October 2023 was very significant for vaccine development at the global level. First, two scientists -- Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman -- were named as winners of 2023 Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology, for the research and development of mRNA based Covid-19 vaccines. Second, the World Health Organisation recommended another malaria vaccine R21/Matrix-M. This is the second ever vaccine recommended against malaria.

Vaccines are proven and life-saving interventions, every year vaccines save millions of lives and prevent severe disease and hospitalisation. If the world has come out of the Covid-19 pandemic, a lot of credit goes to the Covid-19 vaccines. Though the vaccines are difficult to develop, yet, it is rarer that vaccine researchers get a Nobel Prize. In fact, the other Nobel Prize awarded for vaccine research was in 1951 to Max Theiler for his development of the yellow fever vaccine.

We often hear that mRNA-based vaccines were developed in less than 10 months. That is only partially true. This vaccine could develop only on the foundation of the hard work and research of many scientists and researchers over the last three decades. A natural question is what makes mRNA-based vaccine development stand out and prize-worthy? The answer is that mRNA is a vaccine platform which opens the window for the development

of other vaccines and therapeutics in future, including for tuberculosis, dengue, foot and mouth disease, Zika and Nipah viruses, etc. This platform provides the unprecedented opportunity to tweak the vaccines in the shortest possible time, allowing them to respond to changes in the pathogen. Though mRNA-based Covid-19 vaccines had not been used in India as by the time Indian-made mRNA vaccines for Covid-19 had been licensed in India, the majority of the population had already been vaccinated. However, indigenous vaccine production capacity gives the opportunity for further research for other vaccines.

The second major news has been the WHO recommendation for a malaria vaccine. It is significant as malaria is a major challenge in most low- and middle-income countries. In Africa, it is among the leading causes of mortality in children. Yet, till 2021, no safe and effective malaria vaccine was available. In late 2021, the first-ever malaria vaccine RTS S/as01 was approved, which has now become available for children in three countries in Africa. However, the currently available vaccine has a production capacity of around 18 million doses per year, far lower than the demand. Around 28 countries in Africa intend to use the malaria vaccine, but there is not enough supply. With the approval of the second malaria vaccine, which has an annual production capacity of around five to 10 times the existing vaccine -- 100 to 200 million a year -- it is likely that vaccines would

be available for more countries. This newly-licensed vaccine will be manufactured by Indian manufacturers, which brings an Indian connection, and also ensures that the malaria vaccine would be available at lower price than other vaccines.

These two developments are a reminder that the world needs more vaccines and also to use the available vaccines more effectively. The vaccines have power to prevent the diseases with a few shots and prevent mortality. This is also a reminder that to prepare for epidemics and pandemics, countries and governments need to invest in vaccine research and development. The research investment of today produces results a few decades later. It is a reminder that countries like India and Indian manufacturers have the capacity to make vaccines available and affordable for the rest of the world.

The benefits of already proven and available vaccines are not reaching the target beneficiaries. Children of this generation are less at risk of many diseases than the children of four decades ago. India has made immense strides in the number of vaccines offered through the universal immunisation programme in this country. Till early 2007, only six antigens were part of the national immunisation programme. In 2023, WHO recommended that vaccines will be offered to children in India through government programmes. Vaccine research is catching up and more vaccines will become available in the near

future. That will lead to the improved survival of our children.

However, the benefits of these vaccines are not reaching everyone. A few days ago, there were media reports of a measles outbreak in some areas of Delhi. This is a reflection of the variable and incomplete reach of the measles vaccines, specially of those most vulnerable and marginalised children. Similarly, a number of already licensed vaccines -- other than the Covid-19 vaccines -- can benefit adolescent and adult populations. Yet, it is a lack of knowledge and awareness that the benefits of vaccines do not reach adult populations. People have misconceptions and many people fear vaccines. The vaccines are safe and effective and protect from future illnesses. So, there is nothing to worry about vaccines. Increasing adult vaccination coverage is an area that should get attention in India.

In future more vaccines will become available and will be administered to both children and adults. This is indeed good news. In fact, vaccine research is an area where there should be competition between countries to produce more and affordable vaccines. We hope soon there will be a new vaccine against tuberculosis, which can help India to eliminate the tuberculosis disease. What vaccines achieve in preventing illnesses for a long period, no other intervention does. The vaccines are a modern-day wonder. We should celebrate the Nobel Prize for the vaccines.

## Increase the concentration to some extent

By: Vijay GarG

**P**arent's common complaint about their wards is their lack of concentration. While studying, they are often distracted by several things which results in making learning a huge task for them. There could be several reasons for this: restlessness, playfulness, dreamy nature, lack of understanding or interest in studies or some stress.

We suggest a fewer simple tips which will help increase your child's concentration to some extent. Try them...

**Taking note**

Taking down notes during classes is a habit that should be inculcated in children. Making a note of something important being taught by the teacher helps the child to reinforce what has been taught. While revising the lesson, these notes will help to improve his concentration as he has to pay complete attention to what the teacher is saying and later concentrate

on trying to recall what his notes say.

**Focus on one thing**

Multitasking is not everyone's cup of tea. Especially in children, this can be quite a task. Ensuring that the child concentrates on one single task at hand can improve his level of concentration to a large extent.

**Sleep over it**

Research has proven that when you study a topic before going to bed, the information is shifted to the long term memory. This proves that enough rest is of vital importance to concentration and good memory. If there is an overload of information without proper sleep, it will be a futile exercise in learning.

**Take a break**

It has been observed that children tend to concentrate better when they are given breaks between two study sessions. These breaks help them to re-vitalize their interest and start again with renewed energy. This makes shifting to another subject or

topic easier. They could utilize this break to play, read, listen to music or do any leisurely activity.

**Lifestyle changes**

It's not just the child's habits that should be blamed for their lack of concentration. Many times, there are some other factors like the people and environment around him that needs to be improved. Besides school, at home too, one needs to ensure that his concentration is optimum. Look around for habits that could be instrumental in distracting him, like listening to music or TV on high volume. A family member or neighbours' loud behaviour could also be playing the spoilt sport. Similarly check whether your habit of supervising over every aspect of your child's studying is affecting his concentration levels?

Also ensure that he sits to study in a well-lit room with good ventilation with least possible noises in the background. These small yet important things could

go a long way in helping him regain his concentration level.

**Stress levels**

Besides his habits, there could be psychological issues that your child could be facing that could be impairing his concentration level. For example constant fights between parents, bullying at school or home, competition with peers or some sort of phobia are just a few instances that keeps a child distracted. It is important to identify the problem and rectify it as soon as possible.

**Techno temptations**

These days, children have several electronic gadgets to indulge in. Be it television shows, virtual games, social media etc. and other tempting gadgets which are a concentration buster for sure. Wean them off these unnecessary distractions to encourage your child's concentration levels.

*(Vijay GarG Retired  
Principal Educational  
columnist Malout  
Punjab)*

## CRPF Women Motorcycle Expedition Promotes National Unity on Rashtriya Ekat Yatra

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the nation's premier security force, is committed to fostering national unity, mutual harmony, and internal security. In observance of 'National Unity Day' on October 3, 2023, the Directorate General of CRPF, Delhi, initiated the 'CRPF Women Motorcycle Expedition-2023,' bringing together CRPF women bikers from three corners of the country, namely Srinagar, Shillong, and Kanyakumari, for the 'Rashtriya Ekat Yatra' (National Unity Journey).

The team of women bikers embarked on their journey from Srinagar on October 3, 2023, and has now reached Jammu, comprising a total of 61 women bikers under the guidance of Mrs. Tara Yadav, Deputy Commandant. In honor of this remarkable women's squad, a grand event was organized on October 6, 2023, in collaboration with Mukti Society, Kidji Smart School, Gajansu, Mah (Jammu & Kashmir). Mr. Sandeep Kheerwar, I.P.S., Inspector General of Police, Jammu Sector, and Shri Rakesh Sethi, Deputy Inspector General of Police,



CRPF Jammu Range, along with 160 Battalion CRPF jawans and local school children, participated in the event.

The event featured vibrant and captivating performances, including a mesmerizing Dogri dance by local artists. The CRPF women's band added to the program's splendor with their stirring rendition of patriotic songs.

During the program, Shri Hariom Khare, Commandant-160 Battalion, highlighted CRPF's history of empowering women in the security force. CRPF proudly established the first women's battalion in India in 1986, subsequently expanding to six successful women battalions. Thousands of women security personnel have stood along-

side their male counterparts, facing every challenge head-on. Due to their indomitable courage and bravery, CRPF's women soldiers have been honored with Ashok Chakra, Sena Medal, and numerous bravery medals from the President.

These valiant women from CRPF are not only safeguarding the nation but also engaging in peacekeeping missions under the United Nations in countries like Liberia and Kosovo. Additionally, CRPF's talented women athletes have earned international medals for India.

The CRPF women's team embarked on this yatra from Lal Chowk, Srinagar, on October 3, 2023, and will journey through various states of India, concluding on

October 31, 2023, on the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, where they will pay their respects. It is expected that the message of national unity and women's empowerment, disseminated by these exceptional women bikers, will instill a new sense of awareness and energy among the citizens of our country. This will motivate them to fulfill their responsibilities and contribute to strengthening our nation.

During her address, Ms. Nidhi Sharma, Founder of Mukti Society, shed light on the status of women and youth in rural areas, outlining the society's efforts to integrate them into the mainstream of development. CRPF

women bikers also interacted with local women's groups and youth, sharing their experiences and information about women's participation in CRPF and women's empowerment. They encouraged them to contribute to the progress and development of the nation.

The event witnessed the presence of several distinguished individuals, including Shri Manu Hansa, JKAS, SDM Madh; India's first para-rover Ms. Kritika Khanna; Senior Prosecution Officer Ms. Ritu; Chairperson of FICCI Phulo, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, Varuna Anand; Shri Kamaljeet Kumar V. of 160 Battalion, and Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Deputy Commissioner, among others.

## Mission Statehood protests against JMC's Inaction amid Dengue Outbreak in Jammu City

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, led a protest against the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) for its perceived inaction in addressing the escalating cases of chikungunya and dengue in Jammu City.

During the protest, Dimple highlighted the alarming rise in daily dengue cases among the city's residents, affecting nearly every household in Jammu.

He emphasized that numerous dengue cases had been identified in all wards of the city, and the situation demanded immediate attention.

Dimple applauded the recent halt in the imposition of property tax as a victory for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He described the battle against the BJP's property tax policy as a long-fought victory.

Dimple urged the Jammu and Kashmir government and the JMC to promptly initiate dengue control measures, including sanitization efforts in all city wards.

He expressed concern over the growing garbage problem in Jammu City, with overflowing drains and garbage water, creating a pandemic-like situation.

Dimple criticized the JMC for its inability to address the issue of

stray dogs, stating that the city had become overrun by them. He cited reports of thirty thousand dogs in 75 JMC wards in Jammu City and fifty thousand reported dog bite cases in 2022 in both Jammu and Kashmir regions.

Dimple called for the dissolution of the JMC due to its perceived failure in controlling the dengue outbreak and managing the stray dog population. He urged the LG to conduct fresh JMC elections.

Prominent protesters at the event included Sat Sharma, Sachin Soi, Rupesh Bhat, Ashok Kumar, Bunty, Ajay Mehta, Manjiet Anand, Arjun, Anmol, and others.



## Team Mask Force Chairman extends condolences for tragic shooting of minor student in Anantnag

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: Team Mask Force (TMF) Chairman, Vijay Sharma, expresses deep condolences and sorrow over the tragic killing of a 10th-grade student in a terrorist attack in Anantnag.

The victim, Sahil Bashir, son of Bashir Ahmed Dar and a resident of Watnigam

Dalgam at Wanihama, was injured during a militant attack on Wednesday evening in the Anantnag district. Unfortunately, Sahil succumbed to his injuries on Thursday evening at SKIMS, Soura.

The heart-wrenching incident occurred when terrorists opened fire on Sahil, causing fatal gunshot wounds. The

loss of a young life is indeed a tragedy that deeply saddens us all.

Vijay Sharma, Chairman of Team Mask Force, expressed concern over the deteriorating security situation in the region. Despite government claims to curb militancy in the valley, incidents like these continue to occur. Sharma pointed out that

terrorism has shown its presence not only in the valley but also in Rajouri/Poonch District.

In these trying times, our thoughts and prayers go out to Sahil Bashir's family and loved ones. We extend our deepest condolences to them and hope that they find strength and support during this difficult period.

## National Wildlife Week celebrated in GDC Kathua

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 6: A series of activities sponsored by J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council were held in GDC, Kathua today on 6th of October 2023 to celebrate the National Wildlife Week. The activities were organized by Ravi Eco Club and Science Club of the College included Guest Lecture by Mr. Amit Sharma Wild life Warden, Jambo Zoo and Poster Making Competition. The event was organized under mentorship of Principal, GDC, Kathua Prof. Seema Mir and with coordinated efforts of Ms. Sunita Razdan, Joint Director J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council, Prof. Rakesh Singh, Convener, Science Club, Dr. Deepshikha, Convener Ravi Eco Club and Dr. Pankaj Gupta Organizing Secretary and Nodal Officer. The organizing committee members Dr. Surya Partap Singh, Dr. Suresh Sharma, Prof. Neha Mahajan, Prof. Surbhi Gupta, Prof. Neeru Sharma, Dr. Verinder Singh, Prof. Ram Krishan, Prof. Nisha Bhagat also played a crucial role in successful organization of the different activities. More than 100 students participated in the Guest Lecture and the poster making competition.

The event was started with the kindling of lights by Chief Guest, Prof. Seema Mir in presence of Prof. Rakesh Singh, Mr Amit Sharma, resource person, Prof. Jaswinder Singh, Prof. Raj Kiran, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Deepshikha Sharma & Dr. Anupama Arora.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC, Kathua stressed that such type of awareness programmes/activities are very important at this time to increase the awareness among the common mass regarding the role of wildlife in maintaining nature's equilibrium. Any damage done to wildlife over a prolonged period of time endangers the entire ecosystem. She further appreciated the efforts put by Ravi Eco Club and Science Club in organizing these activities and also thanked J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council for sponsoring the event. She further said that the festivities coincide with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, which further reinforce amongst us the principles of non-violence and compassion for all living beings.

The choice of dates for Wildlife Week, spanning from October 2 to October 8, holds deep symbolism.

Prof. Rakesh Singh Convener of the Whole event extended warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Resource

Person and all the participants. He said that such type of awareness programmes/activities are very important at this time. He further pointed out that, The theme for this year's Wildlife Week, "Preserving Our Natural Heritage," reminds us that the Earth's biodiversity is not just a collection of species; it is a legacy that we must safeguard for future generations. Our wildlife, whether on land, in the oceans, or soaring through the skies, plays a vital role in maintaining the delicate balance of our ecosystems. The celebration of the 69th Wildlife Week, a significant event aimed at raising awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation in India. He encouraged the participants to engage actively throughout this Wildlife Week, participate in discussions, ask questions, and share their thoughts and ideas. Let us use this platform to learn from one another and to inspire positive change.

Resource person Mr Amit Sharma delivered a very informative talk on "Human Wildlife Conflict and New Jambu Zoo" In the power point presentation, he emphasized that human-wildlife conflicts are becoming more frequent, serious and widespread as human populations grow and habitats are lost. Moreover, he highlighted that effectively managing human-wildlife conflicts protects communities, stops conflicts escalating, builds trust in conservation and avoids retaliation against wildlife.

In the Poster making competition, twenty students participated and the 1st position was secured by Sumanishi, (Sem- Vth), whereas Vishal Gupta (sem -IIIrd) and Rupali Jasrotia (sem-v), got 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively. However, Kamakshi (Sem-V), Kanika (Sem-IIIrd) and Arpita (sem v) received Consolation prizes. The Jury members for Symposium were Dr. Anupama Arora, Dr. Roshan Lal and Prof. Surbhi Gupta.

At the very outset Dr. Deepshikha Sharma, convener Ravi Eco Club introduced the theme and objectives for celebration of National wild Life week and appeal the participants to protect and preserve India's Flora and Fona through heart and soul.

The proceedings of the event were jointly conducted by Dr. Deepshikha Sharma and Ms Minakshi Bakshi. The even was ended with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Assistant Professor in Chemistry. Others who also attended the programme were Dr. Kamaldeep Singh and Prof. Jagdish.

## Deputation of Domana residents meets AP leader Bodh Raj Bhagat

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: A group of residents from Domana met with Mr. Bodh Raj Bhagat, State President of the SC Wing in Apni Party today. During the meeting, the residents raised concerns about the inadequate basic amenities in Domana, which have significant-

ly impacted the daily lives of the community.

The deputation also expressed dissatisfaction with the continued power outages, even after the installation of smart meters. They claimed that they were receiving disproportionately high electricity bills, considering their lower electricity usage.

Furthermore, the residents brought up various developmental issues and requested their prompt resolution. Bodh Raj Bhagat, who attentively listened to their concerns, assured them that he would raise these issues with the relevant authorities.

Bodh Raj Bhagat

reiterated Apni Party's commitment to ensuring fair and equitable development without bias in all regions. He expressed his disappointment with the authorities for their failure to provide essential services and round-the-clock electricity, despite the installation of smart meters.

## Surya Roshni launches festive lighting collection, array of home appliances



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: Surya Roshni in its 50th year of operation is one of India's most respected and trusted brands for Lighting, Fans, Home Appliances, Steel Pipes, and PVC pipes.

As the largest branded manufacturer of lighting products in India, Surya Roshni continues to set the industry standard. It is perhaps the only company in India that invested significantly in the last century in conventional lighting manufacturing excellence and now in this century in the new technology which is energy saving and modern LED Lighting manufacturing

excellence. In the past 7 years, Surya Roshni LED lighting has successfully saved an impressive amount of energy for the country.

Surya has yet again invested in R&D to bring out a slew of products specially designed for the upcoming festive season. An epitome is the Platina LED Bulb, which not only illuminates every corner of a room with its wider spread of light but also conserves energy with a product life of 25,000 hours (under rated conditions). In addition to the all-new energy-efficient Platina, Surya takes pride in launching the bouquet of indoor and outdoor Lighting products including Profile

Strip light, Slim Trim & Shine Nxt Downlighter, for beautiful indoor decorations; Jag Mag String light and Sparkle Rope light, for levelling up the outdoor decorations, this festive season.

The company continues to innovate and has launched BEE Star labelled fans which not only save Rs.1000 to Rs.1800 per year per fan (16hrs of daily usage and metro energy tariffs) but also add to the home décor.

Some of the new offerings include Rice Cooker (indicook), Juicer Mixer Grinders (Aspire, Galaxy[1]), Heavy-weight Dry Irons (Shakti Plus, Bolt), InfraRed and Induction Cooktops,

and a range of Storage and Instant Water heaters (Speedy, Insta Hot - 5lit). Speaking on the occasion Mr. Jitendra Agrawal, CEO - Lighting and Consumer Durables, Surya Roshni, said "With immense pride, I applaud Surya's exceptional team, whose concerted efforts, dedication, and innovation have brought to life, a range of lighting and appliances, that will make the upcoming festival a joyous celebration."

Understanding the relevance of festivities, the company has adopted a comprehensive 360-degree marketing strategy. This approach involves a series of promotional initiatives across diverse social media platforms, retail outlets, and on-ground activations. These endeavours are aimed at engaging both customers and channel partners, in a meaningful way. Aligned with the Government's PLI scheme, the company is making a substantial investment of 25 crores in its technology labs and manufacturing facilities. This strategic move contributes to import substitution, furthering its pursuit of self-sufficiency / atmanirbharta.

## Despite only a few roles coming his way, Rohan Vinod Mehra, son of noted film actor Vinod Mehra, believes the key to success lies in persistent efforts

Indeed, as he puts it, "It is a unique situation". Is Rohan Vinod Mehra, who lost his father, noted film actor Vinod Mehra, even before he was born, an insider or an outsider? How does the handsome young actor deal with the fact that while his show Kaala has left some critics unimpressed, his performance is being universally acknowledged?

Rohan, however, is not only ready to take on our queries, even those a bit discomfiting, but is rather disarmingly honest and charming in his responses. For those who may not have liked Kaala, his first repartee is, "Everyone is entitled to an opinion." Having said that, he rises in passionate defence of both the show and its director, Beejoy Nambiar, "Nambiar sir pushes the envelope and his work is so rooted yet contemporary. I think he truly deserves to be celebrated."

Undeniably, it was a challenge for Rohan to play the complete arc of his character, Subhendu, who ages from 25 to 55. Playing father to an actor (Avinash Tiwary) a few years older than himself, however, was not such a difficult proposition even though many advised him not to. Choice, interestingly, is not a word he can fully relate to. For someone who is 'an insider in theory' but outsider since he grew up in Kenya far removed



from arc-lights, he has had no option but say yes to whatever came his way. Of course, if he had an alternative, he would still have made his debut with Bazaar, which allowed him to rub shoulders with Saif Ali Khan.

Tough going

Despite an assured debut, work has only trickled by. Till Kaala happened, he has been from one audition to another and faced rejection up, close and umpteen number of times. On the trick to surviving in this industry where a role may not be yours even after an excellent audition, he quotes Winston Churchill: "If you are in hell keep going." Fierce zeal and passion for his craft has indeed ensured, "I am going somewhere." After Kaala, he is hopeful and optimistic. Soon he will be seen in

Adbhut, which stars Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

Like father, like son

Rohan is mighty proud of his father Vinod Mehra's acting abilities and risk-taking ability too. As he is discovering the actor as well as the father he never saw through his cinema, he gushes, "He was a complete artiste. It would be a great honour if people compare me with him."

Sure, he has inherited his father's passion for music and photography (a book is on the anvil.) If Mehra senior wanted to work behind the camera and died before he could complete his first directorial, Gurudev, Rohan too desires to turn a director. In fact, he went to an acting school just to know how to direct actors. Only alongside he fell in love with acting. He

says, "I always wanted to be a storyteller. While learning the craft of acting, I became aware that actors are storytellers too, only they use their body to that effect."

He has already made short films like Afterword and the wisdom he has gained from various directors has certainly come in handy. He shares, "From Sanjay Leela Bhansali, whom I assisted in Bajirao Mastani, I learnt the significance of pre-production. Nikhil Advani is so inspirational and with Nambiar sir I understood how you can create magic within a limited budget. Sabbir Khan, my director in Adbhut, loves his actors so much that you think you can do anything." While direction can wait, the writer in Rohan is in hyperactive mode. He has penned several scripts, mostly relationship dramas. "I hope to direct them one day, when someone backs my projects." Or he makes enough money to make his own?

Right now, the space where actors like him, not yet stars, find themselves in, is indeed a very crowded. "On OTT, it might be easy to get your first break. But with so much talent around, it's becoming incredibly difficult to stand out." Nevertheless, he has in Kaala. Stardom as yet may not be Rohan's USP, he sure is busy carving a unique space.

## Zeenat Aman reveals pet name Dev Anand gave her



After sharing a cute picture of her pet dog, veteran actress Zeenat

Aman penned a note revealing the interesting story behind the name

of her pet and also revealed what names Dev saab (Dev Anand) used to call her by. Zeenat on Wednesday took to Instagram and shared a picture of herself in an all-white outfit along with a long note.

The note read, "Childhood pet names can be sticky things. As a little girl, I was the apple of my father's eye, and he used to lovingly call me Babusha. A name that emerged as a go-between Babushka and Babugosha. He had quite the sense of humour because Babushka, which refers to an old Russian lady, and Babugosha, which refers to a pear, are hardly apt monikers for one's daughter."

"My childhood friends, many of whose parents would socialise with my own, were quick to pick up on this nickname. In their mouths, Babusha evolved into Babs, which is how my earliest friends still know me," the actor continued.

She also revealed what late actor Dev Anand used to call her, Zeenat added, "Later of course, Dev saab started to refer to me as 'Zeenie', and then the media concocted 'Zeenie baby'..."

## Asha Negi announces new project

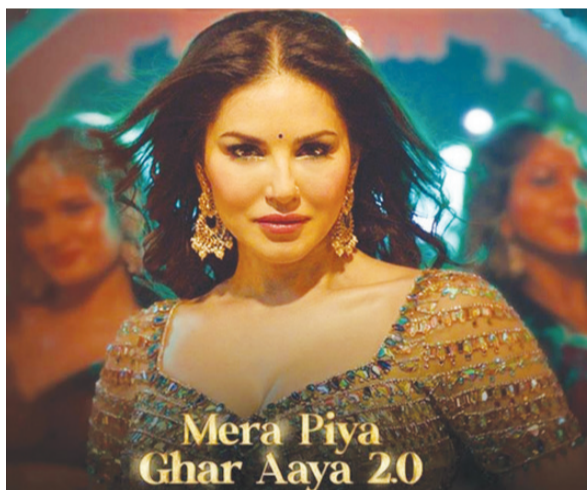


Asha Negi shared details about her new project in collaboration with OTT platform TVF (The Viral Fever).

And guess what? The project also features versatile actors such as Chunky Panday, Navjot Gulati and Gagan Arora. Lakshya Kochhar is also a part of it.

Sharing a few pictures with whole team, Asha took to Instagram and wrote, "Super excited for this collaboration with @theviralfever Thankyou @arunabhkumar for such a heartwarming welcome to the TVF family! @shivanibengani I know how much we wanted this to happen, here is our first and many more to come! @navjotgulati Sir, the journey has just started and it looks so much fun already! And my beautiful team of fellow actors and crew, I'm so looking forward to learn and grow with you all! Let's do this!"

## Sunny Leone's tribute to Madhuri Dixit comes as 'Mera Piya Ghar Aaya 2.0'



Actress Sunny Leone will be seen in the recreated version of 'Mera Piya Ghar Aaya 2.0' which is originally picturised on Madhuri Dixit Nene in the 1995 blockbuster movie 'Yaarana'.

A source had earlier revealed that Sunny was practising hard to recreate a renowned dance number that the iconic Madhuri had once performed.

The teaser of the track 'Mera Piya Ghar Aaya 2.0' was unveiled on Thursday and the song will be released on October 8. Neeti Mohan has sung the song. Choreographer Vijay Ganguly recreated this dance number, which combines the sensuous charm of Madhuri with the timeless music of Anu Malik and originally choreographed by the renowned choreographer Saroj Khan.

Sunny's choice to perform on this legendary number not only pays homage to Madhuri but also promises to be a visual treat for fans. The track was originally sung Kavita Krishnamurthy and the music was given by Anu Malik.

## Neha Dhupia to make her OTT series debut

Bollywood actress and entrepreneur Neha Dhupia is all set to make her mark in the digital space with a quirky comedy about modern-day human relationships.

Neha shared, "I am thrilled to be part of this wonderful project that not only marks my debut in the OTT series space. It's a fun concept and I can't wait to explore a whole new gamut of quirks that the project and script had tied in with it."

The show is being helmed by a debutant director and will go on the floors in late October. The show explores modern-day human relationships from the perspective of a nuclear family.

The shoot for the show is expected to start in late October.

Neha previously starred in Lust Stories, which was an anthology of short films produced



by Ashi Dua, and is now foraying for the first time

into the space of a full-fledged digital series.

## Jimmy Sheirgill talks about one mistake he made as an actor

Actor Jimmy Sheirgill has said the one mistake he regretted in his acting career was shedding his chocolate boy image and opting for intense roles.

The actor, who is now being seen in Netflix series Chooona, said, "I want to tell all the young actors of today that one should enjoy the image of a chocolate boy in their prime youth. Don't try to rush towards mature roles."

Enjoy this phase as much because it will never come back. You will automatically move towards mature roles in your career. This is one mistake I made in my career that I was in a rush to change my



chocolate boy image. And I regret doing that today."

About performing character roles, he said, "I stayed relevant for so many years in the industry because of the character roles. I was doing back-to-back romance, singing songs and one day I realised people would have enough of this now. That's when I decided to do character roles and I did films like Munna Bhai. A Wednesday, Tanu weds Manu and it all started to make a difference for me." Chooona is a heist comedy drama created, written and directed by Pushpendra Nath Misra and produced by Flying Saucer.

## Kapil Sharma, Huma Qureshi, Hina Khan summoned by ED in Mahadev betting app case



The Enforcement Directorate has summoned comedian Kapil Sharma, actors Huma Qureshi and Hina Khan for questioning on different dates in connection with its money launder-

ing probe linked to the Mahadev betting app case, officials said.

The federal probe agency had already summoned Bollywood actor Ranbir Kapoor for questioning on October

6 at its regional office in Raipur.

He is understood to have sought about two-week to appear.

The three actors latest to be summoned have been asked to appear

at the Raipur office of the agency on different dates, the officials said.

The agency will record their statement under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and try to understand the mode and flow of payment allegedly done to them by the app promoters.

These actors may not be accused in the case, it is understood.

They are understood to have promoted the Mahadev app and some had entertained guests at a wedding of a promoter of the app (application) that was held abroad.

## Supreme Court refuses to restrain Bihar Government from acting upon caste survey data

Issues notice to Nitish Kumar-led government on petitions challenging the validity of entire exercise

NEW DELHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday refused to restrain the Bihar Government from acting upon the recently published data of caste survey even as it issued notice to the Nitish Kumar-led government on petitions challenging the validity of the entire exercise.

A Bench led by Justice Sanjiv Khanna, which had earlier refused to stay the Bihar caste survey, turned down repeated requests by the petitioners' counsel to stay any further action on the caste survey data. "We cannot stop the state government or any government from taking decisions. That would be wrong," Justice Khanna told the petitioners' counsel.

The Bench, however, said, "If there is an issue with regard to data, that will be considered. We are going to examine the other issue regarding the power of the state government to conduct the



exercise."

Noting that data has already been collected, the Bench said, "One of the issues will be with regard to breakdown of data and whether we should at all touch upon it. If we uphold everything, whether it should be left to..."

The top court asked the Bihar Government to file its response to the petitions in four weeks and gave an additional four weeks to the petitioners to file their counter-affidavit and posted the matter for further

hearing on January 2024.

The petitioners' counsel contended that since the entire data gathering exercise was illegal, the state government should be restrained from acting upon it.

According to the data released on October 2—barely months before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections—Other Backward Classes (27.1 per cent) and Extremely Backward Classes (36 per cent) constituted 63 per cent of Bihar's total population which stood at a little over

13.07 crore. Scheduled Castes accounted for 19.65 per cent, the caste survey data revealed.

"Ek Soch Ek Paryas", an NGO, and Nalanda resident Akhilesh Kumar have challenged the August 1 verdict of the Patna High Court upholding the June 6, 2022 notification issued by the Bihar Government for the caste survey.

The petitioners contended that it was actually a census which in terms of the constitutional mandate, only the Union Government was empowered to conduct. The nature of information sought in the survey violated the right to privacy of the respondents, they contended.

The Patna High Court had on August 1 rejected petitions challenging the caste survey, saying, "We find the action of the state to be perfectly valid, initiated with due competence, with the legitimate aim of providing development with justice."

## Mortar Shell Carried By Floodwaters Explodes In Bengal's Jalpaiguri, 2 Dead

JALPAIGURI, Oct 6 (Agencies): At least two persons were killed and four others injured in West Bengal's Jalpaiguri district as a mortar shell, reportedly carried by the floodwaters of Teesta river, exploded, police said on Friday.

Police believe that the mortar shell belonged to the Army and was carried by floodwaters flowing down the hills following the cloudburst and flash floods in Sikkim on Wednesday.

Local police sources said the incident took place in Chapadanga village in Kranti block on Thursday when one person took the mortar shell home to sell it as scrap metal and tried to break it open.

"The four injured persons have been admitted to a hospital. A thorough probe has started,"

a senior police officer said.

"The condition of at least two injured persons is extremely critical and the death toll might increase," he said.

Meanwhile, the Jalpaiguri Police has issued an advisory urging people not to handle any firearms or explosives flowing down the river.

"In light of the severe flooding in Sikkim, certain military equipment including firearms and explosives were carried by the Teesta River. We urge the public to be vigilant and report any unfamiliar objects, crates, packages, firearms or any suspicious items seen floating in the water to the nearest police station immediately.

"Please refrain from handling these items in any manner, as they

pose a potential risk of a dangerous explosion," the notice stated.

The Sikkim government has also urged a similar warning, asking people to be careful if they venture into the Teesta River basin as there could be explosives and ammunition lying under the muddy waters.

"These ammunitions should not be handled or picked up inadvertently as they could explode causing grievous injuries," the state Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department said in an advisory.

The local people were directed to bring to the notice of the district administration and related authorities in the event of detection of explosive materials in the river basin.

## Funds came from China to disrupt India's sovereignty: Delhi Police FIR against NewsClick

NEW DELHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): The Delhi Police, in an FIR filed under anti-terrorism law UAPA following allegations against news portal NewsClick, has alleged that a large amount of funds came from China in order to disrupt India's sovereignty and cause disaffection against the country.

The Delhi Police served a copy of the FIR to the portal on Friday, a day after a city court directed it to do so.

According to the FIR, a copy of which is with agency, Chinese telecom giants have floated thousands of shell companies in India.

"In furtherance of this conspiracy to disrupt the sovereignty of India and cause disaffection against India, a large amount of funds was routed from China in a circuitous and camouflaged manner and paid news were intentionally peddled, criticising domestic policies, development projects of India and pro-



moting, projecting and defending policies and programmes of the Chinese government," the FIR says.

It also alleges that the founder and editor-in-chief of NewsClick, Prabir Purkayastha, conspired with a group -- People's Alliance for Democracy and Secularism (PADS) -- to sabotage the electoral process during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

Purkayastha and Amit Charavarty, the human resources department head at NewsClick, have been arrested by the Delhi Police.

## 7 dead, 40 injured in massive fire at residential building in Mumbai

MUMBAI, Oct 6 (Agencies): Seven people, including two minors, were killed and over 40 injured after a fire tore through a residential building in Mumbai's Goregaon area in the early hours of Friday, a civic official said. A few of the injured are in critical condition.

As many as 30 residents were rescued from the terrace and various floors of the ground-plus-seven structure, said the official from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

The blaze started around 3 am at Jay Sandesh building in



Goregaon West, the BMC official said. Initially, officials had given the name of the fire-hit building as Jay Bhavani.

The cause behind the fire is yet to be determined, said officials.

The fire-affected persons were rushed to a trauma centre at

Jogeshwari and civilian Cooper Hospital at Juhu, they said.

Of them, doctors declared six including two minors and as many women dead.

Another person died during treatment, taking the toll to seven. Some of the injured persons

are in critical condition, said officials.

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis expressed grief over the incident. "Pained to know about loss of lives in the fire incident at #Goregaon, Mumbai. We are in touch with BMC & Mumbai Police officials & all the assistance is being provided. My deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones and wishing speedy recovery to the injured ones," he wrote on X.

Before firefighters arrived at the scene, the blaze had covered the building from all sides. It completely gutted the

shops, scrap material and two-wheelers on the ground floor, said fire officials.

It took nearly three hours for the fire brigade to extinguish the blaze. More than eight fire engines and other fire-fighting equipment were used in the operation, a fire official said.

BMC officials said they are trying to find out if some more victims are admitted to private hospitals.

Civic commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal is scheduled to visit the hospitals, where the injured are admitted, in some time, officials said.

## False cases being slapped to weaken Opposition, atmosphere of fear created: Arvind Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): False cases are being slapped in an attempt to subdue and threaten Opposition leaders and parties, Arvind Kejriwal said here on Friday.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supreme said this in response to reporters' queries on the several raids carried out by Central agencies.

"We are seeing how

false cases are being slapped in an attempt to subdue and threaten opposition leaders, opposition parties," Kejriwal said.

In many instances, people are being "split" to induct them into the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which is not good for democracy, he charged.

Kejriwal's comments came two days after senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED)



in connection with its money-laundering probe linked to the 2021-22 Delhi Excise policy case. Kejriwal also claimed

that not only Opposition leaders, but many businessmen are "also being targeted". "An atmosphere of

fear that has been created in the country, not just in politics, but also in business and trade and industry, this atmosphere of fear is not good for the country. A country cannot grow (like this).

The country will not progress by playing this agency-agency game," he said.

The Chief Minister was interacting with reporters during his visit to the Ghazipur landfill site in east Delhi.

## FIR against Maulana for sexually molesting minor girl in Madrasa in Ranchi

RANCHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): An FIR has been lodged against a Maulana of a local Madrasa in Ranchi allegedly for sexually molesting a minor girl by showing obscene videos to her when no one was around. According to the FIR lodged at Ormanjhi Police station in Ranchi by the victim's father, the Maulana used to make the 11-year-old girl sit on his lap forcefully and showed obscene videos to her.

According to locals, she has been doing such shameful acts with other girls also but they could not complain to their parents out of fear. Many girls go to the Madrasa for studies.

Interestingly, during the investigation, the police found that no one in

Madrasa had any idea where he came from, despite the fact that he had been teaching there for the last two years. The 30-year-old Maulana, Imam Ansari is still at large, they said.

"After lodging an FIR, the police have launched a drive to arrest the Maulana," said the officer in charge of Ormanjhi police station Alok Singh. The matter was revealed after the girl was reluctant to go to the Madrasa for the last week and revealed everything before them when they asked her why she did not want to go there, he added.

The victim told her parents that the Maulana used to make her sit on his lap and showed obscene videos to her and often touched her body.

## Supreme Court appoints sign language interpreter for lawyer with hearing impairment

Lawyer Sarah Sunny's senior Sanchita Ain expressed gratitude to the CJI, DY Chandrachud for arranging the interpreter.

NEW DELHI, Oct 6 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday appointed a sign language interpreter for a hearing-impaired lawyer Sarah Sunny. She is India's first lawyer to be registered as a practising lawyer with hearing impairment.

Sarah had earlier filed an application before the Supreme Court registry requesting a court-appointed Indian Sign Language (ISL) interpreter to assist her. The application was filed by Sarah's senior Sanchita Ain, according



to Live Law. "We have an interpreter today for Sarah. In fact, we are thinking that for the constitution bench hearings we will have an interpreter

so that everyone can follow", Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud said. The interpreter was seen helping Sarah during the proceedings in the virtual hearing,

the report said. Sanchita Ain expressed gratitude to the CJI for arranging the interpreter.

Sara is reportedly India's first lawyer to be registered as a practising hearing-impaired lawyer.

Sarah Sunny last month argued her case with the help of an Indian sign language interpreter. At that time, Sanchita Ain made a plea to Chandrachud to let Sarah argue her case with an interpreter. He immediately gave his assent.

## Eight die of scrub typhus in Odisha; tests intensified, says Health Director

BHUBANESWAR, Oct 6 (Agencies): At least eight people have died in Odisha due to scrub typhus, the state's health director said.

"At least eight people in Odisha died due to scrub typhus infection, which spreads through bites of infected chiggers," Niranjan Mishra, Odisha's Health Director said.

Several districts have reported scrub typhus infection, and people are advised for testing at the hospitals across Odisha, the director said adding that the number of tests against scrub infection has been increased to 22 thousand in the state this year.

The Odisha Govern-



ment last month asked district health authorities to increase the surveillance for seasonal upsurge of Scrub Typhus and Leptospirosis in the state.

The state Health and Family Welfare Department has given directions to all the Chief District Medical and Public Health Officers, the Director, of Capital Hospital Bhubaneswar and the Director, of RGH, Rourkela.

"Scrub typhus and Leptospirosis cases are being reported from most of the districts across the state. So intensive surveillance system for early diagnosis need to be strengthened to ensure timely treatment for prevention and management of Scrub Typhus and Leptospirosis," read the statement from Odisha's Health and Family Welfare Department.

The Health Department asked the district health authorities to ensure the availability of tests in DPHL by procurement and supply of required test kits, sensitive doctors to advise the tests in case of PUO and increase public awareness and early diagno-

sis along with increased surveillance.

The department also has asked the authorities to use appropriate antibiotics and an adequate stock of drugs.

Scrub typhus is a disease caused by a bacteria called Orientia tsutsugamushi. Scrub typhus is spread to people through bites of infected larval mites. The most common symptoms of scrub typhus include fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes rash.

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that affects humans and animals. It is caused by bacteria of the genus Leptospira. In humans, it can cause a wide range of symptoms.





## Gurmeet leads protest against PDD's flat rate bills, Smart Meters

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 6: Gurmeet Singh, President of Beopar Mandal and District General Secretary of the Congress (Urban), organized a peaceful protest in Ward no. 3, Jammu East. The protest aimed to address concerns regarding the flat-rate bills issued by the Power Development Department (PDD) for various periods, ranging from one month to a year, for consumers facing issues with their meters, such as damage or malfunction. During the protest, Gurmeet Singh, along with Hardavinder Singh (Ward 3 President), Manohar Joshi, and local residents from adjoining areas, voiced their opposition to this billing practice by the department. They demanded an immediate ban on this practice. Gurmeet Singh emphasized that meters are the property of the department, and any replacement process should not extend beyond three months. Billing should be consistent and not vary from person to person based on individual circumstances. He called for strict compliance with complaint resolution timelines, with strong actions such as suspensions and terminations for department employees failing to



meet deadlines. Gurmeet Singh also alleged that the department's move to install new smart meters is a scam to replace old meters due to inconsistencies between meter readings and consumer bills. He criticized the BJP-led authorities for endorsing this initiative. Protesters raised slogans against the BJP-led Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (UT) Government, demanding the removal of these smart meters. They expressed concerns about the online nature of smart meters, which could pose security threats by allowing unauthorized access to subscriber information. Gurmeet Singh cited incidents of charge leakage, sparking, and short circuits in areas where these meters were installed. He argued that many lives were lost due to these meters and that they should be banned. Gurmeet Singh fur-

ther questioned the fast meter counters in the new smart meters, which result in higher bills for consumers. He urged the government to consider the plight of poor residents who struggle with hefty electricity bills. Singh compared the actions of the Punjab Congress Channi Government, which waived off 12,000 crores in electricity bills for consumers unable to pay during the COVID-19 pandemic, to the UT Government's approach in Jammu and Kashmir, which continued to serve bills despite government orders. He criticized the UT Government for not addressing the difficulties faced by its people and not working on electricity production projects or tackling electricity theft. Gurmeet Singh strongly opposed the installation of smart meters by JKPDCL and called for an immediate halt to this

initiative. He demanded the waiving of bills for the poor and an end to electricity disconnections, offering relief to the people of Jammu and Kashmir UT. Singh also mentioned past incidents of short circuits and fires due to poor quality cables or meters, especially in areas where new poles and meters were being installed. He attributed these incidents to a lack of proper implementation procedures, including the absence of grounding techniques. Prominent participants in the protest included Gurmeet Singh, District General Secretary of Congress, Hardavinder Singh, President of Ward no. 3, Subash Arora, Naiz Sheikh, Ashok Kumar, Shashi Syal, Vice President of RGPM, Ram Lal, Sanjay Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Bashir Ahmed, Javid Iqbal, Vijay Sharma, Brij Mohan, Amarpreet, and others.

## Pitra immersion, Amavasya Tithi Shraddha, Shraddha Paksha conclude on Oct 14: Rohit Shastri

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 6: During Pitru Paksha, our ancestors are believed to visit the Earth to meet their family members. The Amavasya of the Ashwin month is known as Pitru Visarjan Amavasya. Mahant Rohit Shastri Jyotishacharya, President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust, has announced that this year, Pitru Visarjan, Shraddha of Amavasya Tithi, Shraddha for those with an unknown date of death, Sar-



vapitri Shraddha, and Shraddha Paksha will conclude on Saturday, October 14th. Rohit Shastri said for family members who remember the date of their ancestor's death, Shraddha is performed on the specific date of

their passing. However, for those who do not know the date, their Shraddha is conducted on Amavasya, which is known as Sarvapitri Shraddha. He said on the evening of Sarvapitri Amavasya, place two puris of food, rice, fruits, sweets, flowers, and dakshina on both sides of the main door or doorframe of the house. Light a mustard oil lamp on each side as well. This is done to ensure that the ancestors do not go hungry and to light their path as they

return to their realm. At the end of the ritual, pray to the ancestors, bid farewell, and seek their blessings as Pitru Paksha concludes. He further informed that on the day of Shraddha, after performing the necessary rituals, offering tarpan, and conducting puja for the ancestors, set aside a small portion of food for the gods, ancestors, mother cow, crows, dogs, and ants. Distribute food and give Dakshina (donations) to Brahmins and those in need.

## Kathua's Health Mela Under Aayushman Bhava Campaign witnesses overwhelming response

Top News Report

KATHUA, Oct 6: A significant Health Mela under the Aayushman Bhava Campaign was organized today in CHC Bani, Kathua, with the unwavering support and guidance of the esteemed Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Rakesh Mangotra. The event, which aimed to provide essential healthcare services to the community, was coordinated by Dr. Surinder Attri, Principal GMC Kathua, and attended by Dr. Dev Raj Mishra, Block Medical Officer, Bani. The Health Mela witnessed a grand inauguration (Ribbon Ceremony) led by the esteemed District Development Council Member, Smt. Reeta Thakur, at 10:30



AM. The event drew an impressive turnout, with a total of 636 patients seeking medical attention across various specialties. Among the specialties, the Ortho OPD recorded the highest number of patient visits, with 120 individuals seeking orthopedic care. The Gynecology OPD saw 102 patients, while the Surgery department catered to

87 patients. Furthermore, the ENT department provided care to 82 patients, Dermatology (Skin) received 51 patients, Medicine attended to 73 individuals, and Pediatrics saw 73 patients as well. Dr. Dev Raj Mishra, Block Medical Officer, Bani, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the District Health Administration and all the dedicated doctors for their commitment to providing medical treatment

to the underprivileged residents in the remote areas of District Kathua. The overwhelming response to the Health Mela reaffirms the commitment of the healthcare community to ensure the well-being of the people in the region.

**NOTICE**  
I, Varun Magotra, S/o Shri Sat Paul Magotra, R/o Shiv Nagar Udhampur have lost my driving license. My driving License No. is JK1420110016350. Now I am applying duplicate of the same. If anyone have any objection, may approach to the concerned authority within seven days of publication of this notice.

## FROM PAGE 1

### Over 9,000 landless people given land in J&K so far: LG Manoj Sinha

even the security situation has improved as well in the past 3 years. "Common man is living a peaceful life here. This district has seen a significant improvement in the agriculture and allied sector. Both growth and production has increased," the LG said. He said that infrastructure development has also seen significant improvement. "Roads have been developed. Remote areas have been connected with road connectivity. A lot of work has also been done on the transmission and distribution of power supply as well. Compared to the past our strength has improved to a great extent." He said that Kupwara is witnessing a bloom in the tourism sector and a lot of work is being done for its further growth. "Compared to previous years a large number of tourists have already visited here. The establishment of GMC is also a great step. Areas that used to remain closed for at least 6 months are now seeing electricity for the first time. 70 per cent of the work has been done on connecting water taps to each household. By the end of this year 100 per cent target will be achieved," the LG said.

### Sikkim flash floods: 6 soldiers among 19 dead; 103 missing

14 people and over 102 people missing. The State government has asked for three (3) extra platoons of the National Disaster Response Force, which the Central government has approved. There is one platoon of NDRF already in service in Rangpo and Singtam towns. One such upcoming platoon of NDRF will be airlifted to Chungthang for rescue operations. It is assumed that over 3,000 domestic and foreign tourists are stranded in the State currently. Similarly, food and civil supplies will be taken to Chungthang once the weather improves for air connectivity, as per the official report. Meanwhile, the State officials feared ration shortages in the State. Necessities from Siliguri, Bailey bridges will be laid by the Indian Army and National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), informed the State Chief Secretary.

The State government has set up 18 relief camps in Singtam, Rangpo, Dikchu and Adarsh Gaon which have faced most of the damages. However, due to a lack of connectivity with Chungthang, the relief camps there are being set up by the Indian Army and other paramilitaries. South Lhonark lake, situated in North West Sikkim, witnessed a cloud burst causing incessant monsoon rainfall on Wednesday morning. The flowing flash flood made its way through River Teesta sweeping Indreni Bridge in Singtam town, some 30 kilometres from Gangtok informed Gangtok District Administration. Another connecting bridge of Balutar hamlet was also swept away around 4 am.

### Shrine Board Introduces Virtual Darshan Via Natural Cave For Vaishno Devi Pilgrims

"Pilgrims often demand the opening of an old traditional natural cave for darshan, which is thrown open only once in a year," Garg told agency. He said, "to facilitate the pilgrims and fulfill their desire of darshan through the natural cave will now be fulfilled via virtual mode especially the elderly pilgrims who express faith in paying obeisance through the natural cave." "The facility will be available forever for the pilgrims," said the CEO. However, this Navratras modern skywalk flyover and digital locker facilities will also be launched by the Shrine Board at the Bhawan for smooth sailing of the yatra and cater rush during the holy days.

### Over 73 lakh devotees pay obeisance at Mata Vaishno Devi till Sep this year

the yatra figure may be close to one crore. "In comparison to the last year, the pilgrimage to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi this year is increasing every month and if this yatra trend continues, the current year yatra figure will be close to one crore. The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board is encouraging pilgrims by further adding on advanced facilities to facilitate them," the official said. He said that in the first nine months of the current year till September, 73,25,298 devotees visited Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine and in the same period in 2022,

72,10,139 devotees paid the obeisance that showed an increased footfall of 1,15,159 pilgrims. Sharing the break-up, he said that in the month of January 2023, 524189 devotees, 414432 in February, 894650 in March, 1018540 in April, 995773 in May, 1195844 in June, 776800 in July, 710914 in August and 794156 in September visited the shrine thus taking the total to 7325298 lakhs. "In view of recent holidays, base camp Katra town remained buzzing with pilgrims," he added. However, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board said that ahead of Navratras, all adequate arrangements are being made for the pilgrims, adding, "modern skywalk flyover and lockers will also be launched at Bhawan to facilitate pilgrims."

### 10 Police officials face investigation in Srinagar vehicle hiring scam

permission to formally conduct an inquiry into these officials. This marks the second vehicle hiring scandal within the PCR in Srinagar. Previously, a few years ago, a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) presented in the State Assembly had revealed that Rs 4.04 crore had been paid for the hiring of buses, trucks, and light motor vehicles during the 2014 Parliamentary and Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir Police. These vehicles were registered as scooters, motorcycles, non-commercial vehicles, including small cars, tractors, and bulldozers, or were simply non-existent. The multi-crore scam in vehicle hiring by the police during the 2014 elections was first exposed in April 2016. At that time, the Police had denied any wrongdoing, but later, the CAG confirmed the fraudulent activities.

### Rs 12,000 cr remain in circulation, RBI says day ahead of Rs 2000 note exchange deadline

RBI had said that Rs 3.42 lakh crore of notes had been received back as of September 29, and Rs 14,000 crore was yet to come back. The central bank had also extended the deadline for return of the notes by a week. Das said the RBI wants to "emphatically" focus on the 4% headline inflation target,

and till the price rise number does not get down, the monetary policy will be "actively disinflationary". As the banker to the government, the RBI does not have any worry on the central government finances, Das said. The "outlier" loan growth of 33% as against the overall credit growth of 13-14% made the RBI flag the issue of personal loans and prompt banks to take steps to avoid any risk build-up, Deputy Governor J Swaminathan said. Das asked the financiers to "smell where the crisis is likely to come up" and take appropriate steps. The governor also said that the gross non-performing assets have improved in the June quarter, if one were to go by the unaudited results.

### Fake domicile case, Police arrest three

certificate has surfaced." "Anwara Begum, who has married a local man Fayaz Ahmad Chopan in Dachan, has fraudulently obtained a domicile certificate. She is not the citizen of this country and therefore, law will take its own course," he added. She obtained domicile certificate on September 19, 2020. However, the matter surfaced now. Poswal said that the police have registered a case at Dachan police station under sections 467, 468, 471, 420 and 120-B of the IPC. Meanwhile, HT reported that Illegal immigrants have started obtaining domicile certificates in Jammu and Kashmir and are managing to get Aadhar cards as well.

### Kashmir hospitals witness surge in RSV cases: DAK

surges," he said. The DAK President said RSV kind of took a backseat during Covid pandemic. People were hardly exposed to the virus because of Covid precautions like masking and social distancing. Now with reopening it seems to be coming back again. "Very young children born just before or during the pandemic had no exposure to RSV and didn't build immunity against the virus. And now they are getting exposed to the virus and it is hitting them really hard," he said. Dr Nisar said the symptoms of RSV include runny nose, cough, fever and difficulty in breathing. Infants can manifest with irritability, trouble breathing and refusal

to feeds. RSV is a respiratory virus and spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes. "This year we have vaccine against RSV. The vaccine is recommended for people aged 60 years and older. The vaccine is also approved for pregnant women in their third trimester which will protect the new born babies' up to six months of age. For very young children we have RSV antibody which will help prevent severe disease in this vulnerable group," he said. "Till we have vaccine available, people should continue with precautions like hand washing and cough etiquettes. If you are down with cough or fever stay home and wear a mask. Infants and very young children should be kept away from sick people," he added.

### Man booked for 'abusing' cabin crew on Air India flight

supervisor, before being given a written warning. The crew later restrained him as he continued to behave in the same manner, the FIR said. The passenger also allegedly abused the complainant and other female crew members in the galley, according to the FIR. "He was very loud and used very foul language which scared the passengers and families seated around him. He was also very disrespectful towards our country (India) and his behaviour was very aggressive," the FIR stated. On Sunday, a case under section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the Indian Penal Code and sections 22 and 23 of the Aircraft Rules was registered against the accused passenger, Abhinav Sharma, a resident of Jalandhar in Punjab, police said.

### Army Officer Who fired on Soldiers in Rajouri to face Court of Inquiry

indiscriminate firing by the accused before he was overpowered, the sources said. On the incident, Jammu-based defence PRO Lt Col Suneel Bartwal said in a message, "I have received calls about some firing/terrorist attack on army camp in General Area Rajouri. I would like to inform you that no terrorist attack has occurred, it is an unfortunate internal incident of the camp."



## Asian Games: India crush Bangladesh by 9 wickets to enter final of men's cricket

Will take on the winners of Pakistan-Afghanistan match in the gold medal clash

HANGZHOU, Oct 6 (Agencies): Title favourites India confirmed a medal in men's cricket competition with a crushing nine-wicket win over Bangladesh to storm into the final of the Asian Games here on Friday.

India skipper Rituraj Gaikwad's decision to field first after winning the toss was vindicated by his bowlers, who produced a disciplined effort to restrict Bangladesh to a below-par 96 for nine.

In reply, the Indians hardly faced any difficulty and completed the task in 9.2 overs to storm into the final in their maiden appearance in the cricket competition at the continental showpiece.

India lost the talented Yashasvi Jaiswal for zero in the very first over but that was the only success Bangladesh had as skipper Gaikwad (40 not out off 26 balls; 4x4, 3x6) and Tilak Varma (55 not out; 26b; 2x4, 6x6) sealed the win with 64 balls to spare in the T20I match.

Rising allrounder Varma, who struck a 25-ball fifty, had



an emotional celebration after reaching the milestone when he lifted his shirt to reveal a tattoo dedicated to his parents.

India will take on the winners of Pakistan and Afghanistan in the gold medal clash on Saturday.

Sai Kishore was the most successful bowler for India as he finished with excellent figures of 3/12 from four overs, while Washington Sundar also bowled impressively to end with a tidy

2/15 in his full quota of overs.

There was a wicket apiece for Arshdeep Singh, Tilak Varma, Ravi Bishnoi and Shahbaz Ahmed.

The duo of Gaikwad and Varma toyed with the Bangladesh bowling and were mostly dealing in fours and sixes at the small Zhejiang University of Technology Cricket Field.

Bangladesh's bowlers had no answer to the onslaught launched by Rituraj and Tilak

who seemed to be competing with each other in hitting fours and sixes.

Earlier, Sai Kishore and Washington struck in tandem to restrict Bangladesh who struggled against the slow bowlers.

For Bangladesh, Parvez Hossain Emon (23), Jaker Ali (24 not out), and Rakibul Hasan (14) were the notable contributors with the bat.

While Ali remained not out, Shahbaz ended Rakibul's cameo when he had the batter caught in the 17th over. Before that, Tilak cut short Emon's 32-ball stay in the middle.

In Arshdeep, India have surprisingly picked only one seamer in their playing XI, while Shahbaz Ahmed made his T20I debut for India.

Brief Scores  
Bangladesh 96/9; 20 overs (Jaker Ali 24 not out, Parvez Hossain Emon 23; Sai Kishore 3/12, Washington Sundar 2/15) lost to India 97/1; 9.2 overs (Tilak Varma 55 not out, Rituraj Gaikwad 40 not out) by nine wickets.

## Asian Games: Indian women's recurve team wins bronze

India have already won three team gold medals in compound, mixed, women's and men's sections



HANGZHOU, Oct 6 (Agencies): Indian archers ended a 13-year long wait for a medal in recurve section at the Asian Games when the women's team of Ankita Bhakat, Simranjeet Kaur and Bhajan Kaur defeated Vietnam to win a bronze at the Asian Games here on Friday.

Unfancied going into the continental showpiece, the fifth-seeded women's trio dropped a

set to down their Vietnamese rivals Do Thi Anh Nguyet, Nguyen Thi Thanh Nhi and Hoang Phuong Thao 6-2 (56-52, 55-56, 57-50, 51-48).

For India, this was their record seventh medal overall in archery at the ongoing Asian Games. They have already won three team gold medals in compound, mixed, women's and men's sections.

Abhishek Verma and Ojas Deotale are vying

for a top-two finish in compound individual section, having made it an all-India final.

Jyothi Surekha Vennam has also advanced into the women's compound individual final, assuring at least a silver medal.

This was India's first medal in the Olympic category at the Asian Games since Guangzhou 2010.

The last time India had won a medal in recurve category at the Asian Games was in 2010 when they bagged an individual silver, and team bronze medals in men's and women's team events.

India eliminated fifth seed Japan 6-2 (53-49, 56-54, 53-54, 54-51) in the quarterfinals, while against Tokyo Olympic champions South Korea they bagged a set before going down 2-6 (54-56, 54-57, 57-55, 52-57).

## Shubman Gill down with fever, could be doubtful opener for Sunday's World Cup match

CHENNAI, Oct 6 (Agencies): The Indian team's worries ahead of its opening World Cup game against Australia has been compounded by in-form Shubman Gill's health issues and the batter is a doubtful starter for Sunday's match.

Ishan Kishan could be in line to open in case Gill is ruled out.

Gill, India's most prolific batter in ODIs in recent times, is reportedly down with high fever and will be tested for dengue on Friday before a final call is taken on the matter.

"Shubman has had high fever since landing in Chennai. His tests are being done. He will have tests on Friday and a call will be taken on his participation in opening game," a BCCI source privy to team developments told agency on



the condition of anonymity.

It is learnt that Gill is being tested for dengue and in that case, he could well miss a couple of games.

Physical recovery of dengue patients vary and it normally takes around 7-10 days to be up and match ready.

"Let's not jump the gun. If it's normal viral fever, he could play on antibiotics but it's completely the medical team's call," the source said.

## Asian Games: Indian women's kabaddi team routs Nepal, makes it to 4th successive final



HANGZHOU, Oct 6 (Agencies): Two-time former champions India stormed into their fourth successive final of the Asian Games with a commanding 61-17 win over Nepal in the women's kabaddi event here

on Friday. India, the last edition's runners-up, faced little challenge from their rivals and led 29-10 at half time with Pooja Hathwala and Pushpa Rana spearheading the raids.

Overall, India inflicted five all-out in the match en route to making four out of four finals in the women's kabaddi at the continental showpiece.

For India, Jharkhand youngster Akshima who was making her Asian Games debut was also impressive, making successful raids and earning two touch points.

The Indian men's team, which finished with a bronze medal in the 2018 edition, will take on Pakistan in the semifinal later in the day.

## World Cup opener: Centurions Rachin Ravindra, Conway produce New Zealand's version of 'Bazball' to stun champions England

Trophy holders simply could not muster any response to the assault by the Kiwis pair which began as early as in the second over

AHMEDABAD, Oct 6 (Agencies): Unbeaten centurions Devon Conway and Rachin Ravindra produced their own version of bruising 'Bazball' as New Zealand hammered defending champions England by nine wickets in the World Cup opener here on Thursday.

After England posted a below par 282 for 9 largely due to Joe Root's pragmatic 77, New Zealand romped to 283 for 1 in just 36.2 overs, courtesy buccaneering hundreds by Conway (152 off 121 balls) and Ravindra (123 off 96 balls).

While New Zealand, who regularly punch above their weight in the ICC events, put the rest of the teams on notice with that brutal onslaught, England will have to do more than one boardroom session to regain some confidence.

Kiwis would thank Conway and Ravindra for that, who created a record-breaking 273 off 211 balls during their stunning unbroken second wicket alliance.

For the record, this was the fourth highest stand for any wicket in the World Cup.



The 23-year-old Ravindra, who became the third youngest batter to score a hundred on World Cup debut, and Conway produced a masterclass of cricketing shots all around to ground to leave England gasping for breath.

To drive in a bit of perspective to Ravindra's innings, he stands behind Virat Kohli (22 years) and Andy Flower (23 years, 301 days) in that list of young century makers.

The trophy holders simply could not muster any response to the assault by the Kiwis pair which began as early as in the second over.

Ravindra brought up his maiden century in his 13th ODI and first in the World Cup, whereas Conway's ton was his fifth in the format, first

in the World Cup and second against England.

Having batted only once at the No. 3 position in his fledgling career, Ravindra matched Conway in strokes all around the ground, displaying the authority of a top-drawer player.

Ravindra's outstanding 123 (11x4s, 5x6s) may as well have given New Zealand a happy headache since his runs came at the position usually occupied by regular captain Kane Williamson, who is recuperating from his surgery.

Having amassed 672 runs for IPL 2023 winners Chennai Super Kings, Conway went about his job as if the field here was like his backyard.

The Black Caps opener generally preferred to score his runs through the floor, and he played just two aerial shots during the duration of his innings, which gave a semblance of hope to England to make another breakthrough.

England might have hoped for a better outcome when left-arm pacer Sam Curran (1/47) had Kiwi opener Will Young caught down the leg for a first-ball duck in the second over.

But after that early success, what transpired was completely demoralising for England, as Ravindra and Conway maintained a strike rate of 125 without a fuss.

Of course, the pitch eased up a bit more, compared to the gripper that it was during the England innings.

Neither Adil Rashid's leg-spin nor Mark Wood's express pace — who was hit for 38 runs in his first three overs — could come to England's rescue.

Earlier, New Zealand made regular inroads to keep England's long batting line-up in check and restrict the defending champions to a moderate 282 for nine.

New Zealand spin-

ners exploited the hot and humid conditions in the afternoon perfectly to be on top against England's free-flowing and aggressive batting approach, while producing a collective bowling performance.

With his part-time spin, Glenn Phillips delivered an unexpected but successful spell of 3-0-17-2 accounting for Joe Root (77) and Moeen Ali (11).

Mitchell Santner's 2 for 37 and pacer Matt Henry's 3 for 48 were the other key performances that helped New Zealand keep England under 300 on a surface that offered a good amount of turn and grip in the first session.

The first runs of the 2023 World Cup came off a six when Jonny Bairstow (33 off 35 balls, 4x4s, 1x6s) cleared the backward square ropes with a flick off the pads on the second ball of the tournament from Trent Boult.

A boundary followed soon as England collected 12 runs off the first over to make their intentions clear, but soon the New Zealand bowlers applied breaks on the Three Lions' innings from which they never really recovered.

## World Cup 2023: David Warner lashes out at retirement spotlight being on him ahead of India clash

CHENNAI, Oct 6 (Agencies): Australian opener David Warner has slammed the constant media spotlight on him and his retirement from cricket, calling it sickening.

In recent years, Warner's form has been somewhat inconsistent, particularly in Test cricket. However, he has maintained strong form in the 50-over format, hitting the second most ODI centuries by an Australian batsman and scoring over 6,300 runs overall at an average of around 45. During the World Cup, Warner is expected to play a big role for Australia and

showed good form during the recent series against India.

Warner announced his retirement from Test cricket earlier in the year. Despite his decision to retire from Test cricket, Warner expressed his desire to continue playing white-ball cricket for Australia until the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in 2024, which will be held in the West Indies and USA.

Warner's retirement plan also includes a farewell match at his home ground, the SCG, in January 2024.

Despite this, there has been constant speculation about Warner's



future with the Australian team and the opener has now lashed out at the media spotlight on him. Speaking to Fox Cricket, the opener said he just can't wait to finish as the media will have to turn their focus to someone else.

Warner said that for him, it's all about putting his best foot forward for the team.

"I just can't wait to finish, and then they'll have to find someone else's name to use as clickbait," Warner told Fox Cricket. "It's incredible. To be honest — if I'm being brutally honest,

it's actually been sickening."

"And that's why I always put it back to the team. It's about the team. It's not about me and what I'm doing. For me, it's about going out there and trying to put my best foot forward and playing to the best of my ability to put the team in a good position."

"That's why I gave an end date. Because that's when I'm ending — that's when I intend to end. It's when I intend to go home and spend some time with the family and live life and join you guys (Fox Cricket commentary). I can't wait," said Warner.

## Oz have plan for Indian spinners



CHENNAI, Oct 6 (Agencies): Australia skipper Pat Cummins today asserted that his team has a "plan" to tackle Indian spinners in their opening World Cup match here on

Sunday. "It (preparation) starts with training for the next few days," Cummins said. "The Australian guys play a lot of spin. Our batting order had played a lot in India and done well,

so they know most of the (Indian) bowlers and they have a plan (in place)," he added. Australia just have one specialist spinner in Adam Zampa, and would be relying heavily on all-rounder Glenn Maxwell for his slow-bowling expertise. "Max is a key player for us. He has got an amazing knock; even if he misses out with the bat, he contributes with the ball and vice-versa," Cummins said. Meanwhile, all-rounder Marcus Stoinis is "touch and go" for their opener after picking up a hamstring problem, coach Andrew McDonald said.

## Dr. Darakhshan chairs review meeting for Annual Urs Arrangements at Char-e-Sharief

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson of the Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board and Minister of State, presided over a crucial review meeting today, involving representatives from various departments, to ensure the smooth organization of the Annual Urs celebrations at the shrine of Hazrat Rishi Nooruddin Noorani (RA) in Char-e-Sharief. The meeting took place at the J&K Waqf Board Central Office in Srinagar and was attended by several key officials, including the SDM of Char-e-Sharief, the Tehsildar, Executive Engineers from R&B & PHE, ARTO Budgam, the Executive Officer of Char-e-Sharief Municipality, the DSP Traffic, Block Medical Officer, Assistant Engineers, and Officers from the Fire & Emergency



Services. Additionally, Waqf Board officers, including CEO Dr. Syed Majid Jahangir, were present.

The primary agenda of the meeting was to develop a coordinated plan involving all relevant departments to ensure that visitors to the Urs celebrations receive all necessary facilities. A comprehensive roadmap for joint efforts by these departments was discussed in detail.

Poshakbandi is scheduled for October 11th, Shab-Khwani on October 12th, and the Urs will be observed on October 13th, 2023.

Dr. Andrabi commended the cooperation of all participating departments in collaborating with the Board to establish the required arrangements for the Urs celebrations. She stressed the importance of ensuring a fool-proof facilitation system throughout the

duration of the event.

Dr. Andrabi remarked, "The spiritual Sufi traditions will lead us to our lost glory as a great society, and we, as representatives of the government, must contribute to the best of our abilities to support and enhance this inclusive, peaceful, and pure tradition of our Rishis and Sufis." She also pledged to personally oversee the coordinated efforts of all departments.

## Director Poonch Campus flags off contingent for Youth Festival Sangam-2023

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: In a momentous occasion, Director of Poonch Campus Prof. Rakesh Vaid, ceremoniously flagged off a contingent of talented and enthusiastic students from Poonch Campus to participate in the Youth Festival Sangam-2023 at Baderwah Campus. The event is set to showcase the vibrant cultural fabric and intellectual prowess of the region's youth.

The Youth Festival Sangam-2023, an eagerly awaited event, is scheduled to take place at Baderwah Campus w.e.f October 6th to October 10th and it brings together young talents from various educational institutions to celebrate the essence of unity and diversity through an array of cultural, academic and artistic activities.

Prof. Rakesh Vaid



expressed his heartfelt enthusiasm and encouragement for the contingent, commending their dedication and hard work in representing Poonch Campus on this prestigious platform. He emphasized the importance of fostering creativity, camaraderie and sportsmanship among the youth and encouraged them to showcase their talents with pride and passion.

The students selected for this event have

undergone rigorous training and preparation, encompassing a wide range of cultural and artistic activities, including music, dance, drama, poetry, and academic competitions.

The Director Poonch Campus conveyed his best wishes to the contingent, urging them to perform their best and exemplify the true spirit of unity and talent that the festival embodies. He emphasized the significance of such

platforms in nurturing holistic development and promoting cultural exchange.

The contingent from Poonch Campus under the Supervision of Dr Rubia Bukhari (Campus Officer Poonch Campus and Miss Kalpna Sudan are set to showcase their skills, creativity and teamwork, aiming to make their institution proud and contribute to the overall success of the Youth Festival Sangam-2023.

## Shiv Sena warns Pakistan to desist from unholy acts, burns it's effigy



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: In response to the brutal killing of 15-year-old Sahil Dar by terrorists in the village of Vanihama, Anantnag district, Shiv Sena activists today gathered near Channi Chowk in Jammu and expressed deep sorrow, demanding financial assistance of Rs 1 crore for the victim's family from the Lieutenant

Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.

Manish Sahni, State President of Shiv Sena J&K, strongly condemned the inhumane act of terrorism, symbolically burning an effigy of terrorism with a clear message to those supporting and perpetrating such heinous acts, including Pakistan.

Talking to reporters here, Sahni emphasized that terrorism knows no

religion; it is an enemy of humanity itself. It holds no significance for Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, or any other community. Their only purpose is to spread terror and make their presence felt.

While addressing the issue of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Sahni dispelled claims of weakening terrorism, stating that in recent years, terrorism has not

only affected Kashmir but has also extended its reach to Jammu. Narcoterrorism has also posed a serious threat to the security agencies, he added.

Sahni firmly stated that without teaching Pakistan a lesson, the restoration of peace and tranquility in Jammu and Kashmir is unlikely.

Present at the occasion were key members of the party, including Meenakshi Chhibber, President of the Women's Wing; Vikas Bakshi, General Secretary; Sanjeev Kohli, Vice President; Raj Singh, president Kamghar wing; Geeta Devi, Secretary; Sarishta, Rajesh Handa, Youth Secretary; Mangoo Ram, Manoj, Mamta Devi, Suresh Kumar, Priya Kisru, Nancy Devi, Roshni, Simran, and others.

## Sat inaugurates free acupressure camp



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 6: Former Minister Sat Sharma CA, in the presence of BJP Talab Tillo Mandal President Keshav Chopra, Municipal Councillor of Ward No- 41 Sanjay Baru, and other prominent

leaders, inaugurated a Free 10-Day Acupressure Camp at Shri Shri Durga Mata Temple in Talab Tillo, Jammu. The camp was organized by the Temple Committee members, including Jatinder Khajuria, Dr. Inderjeet Bakshi, and Deen Dayal Sharma.

Acupressure therapist Dr. B.K Dhar examined the patients.

During his address, Sat Sharma appreciated the temple committee's efforts and emphasized that such Free Acupressure camps provide significant benefits to those

in need who may not afford expensive treatments.

Keshav Chopra, speaking on the occasion, praised the relentless efforts of the temple committee towards the betterment of society and announced plans to organize similar camps in every ward of Talab Tillo Mandal, ensuring maximum accessibility for the local population.

Sanjay Baru, in his remarks, commended the organizers for their initiative in providing free acupressure treatment to senior citizens right at their doorstep.

Several other leaders, including Krishan Lal Sharma, Bhubesh Thapa, Rakesh Sharma, Omkar Verma, Ashok Wazir, Vinod Wazir, Rakesh Kumar Mattoo, Koushal Kumar, Ashok Sharma, Jia Lal Gupta, Girish Badyal, and others, were also present at the event.

## GDC Doda hosts extension lecture on 'Say No to Drugs'

### TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, OCT 6: Govt. Degree College Doda, under the guidance of its esteemed Principal, Dr. Attar Singh Kotwal, recently organized an Extension Lecture focusing on the vital theme of "Say No to Drugs."

The program commenced with a warm welcome note delivered by Dr. Jamsheed Ahmed, Head of the Department of English at the college.

The key resource person for the event was Parag Chaturvedi, Second in-Command of 31 Bn. and Adhoc Commandant of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Mr. Chaturvedi engaged with the students and emphasized the significance of youth pursuing their career aspirations while contributing to the betterment of their families, society, and



the nation. He stressed the importance of young individuals staying away from various drugs, including Weed, Morphine, Heroin, Cocaine, and synthetic drugs. The lecture underscored that drug addiction not only burdens families, society, and the country but also leads to untimely and painful deaths.

As part of the program, students were shown three short documentaries that shed light on the harmful effects of drug abuse on students and society as a whole.

Dr. Attar Singh Kotwal, the Principal of the col-

lege, also addressed the students and expressed his concerns about the growing threat of drug abuse among college students. He highlighted that addressing this issue and combating the menace of drug abuse are collective responsibilities that society must shoulder.

The event was attended by other faculty members, including Prof. Manjeet Singh, Dr. Anita Kotwal, Prof. Amit Kumar, Dr. Aslam Rather, and Dr. Masood Kailoo. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Akhter Hussain.

## MSME-Sponsored Awareness Program for Agri-Startups Held at KVK Kupwara

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Oct 6: The Faculty of Agriculture at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir organized a one-day awareness program on strengthening entrepreneurship and management of startups in agriculture and allied sectors at KVK Kupwara.

The primary objective of this awareness program was to identify gaps in the startup ecosystem and develop strategies to create an enabling environment for scaling up successful agri-startups.

The program was conducted under the auspices of SKUAST-K Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship (SKIIE) Centre, sponsored by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), with the ultimate aim of promoting new enter-



prises and instilling an entrepreneurial culture in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

In addition to participating farmers, the program was attended by Prof. Raihana H. Kanth, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. Kaiser Malik, Programme Coordinator at

KVK Kupwara, and faculty members from the Division of Agriculture Extension & Communication, FoA Wadura. Dr. Quadri Javed Ah. Peer welcomed the guests and participants, emphasizing the pivotal role of innovation and entrepreneurship in elevating the

agricultural sector and benefiting its various stakeholders.

Prof. Raihana enlightened the farmers about the significance of skill-based training programs aimed at fostering an entrepreneurial mindset among the youth. Such programs help develop

their skills so they can launch their innovation-led startups and business ventures. She highlighted that startups not only create new jobs, leading to increased employment, but also have a positive socio-economic impact on the region.