

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Madhurima Tuli on learning Kathak



NATIONAL | 7

PM Modi Pays Tributes To Jayaprakash Narayan, Nanaji Deshmukh On Their Birth Anniversaries

INTERNATIONAL | 8

Gaza Will "Never Go Back To What It Was": Israeli Defence Minister



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BRIEFLY

Groom denied bail for skipping his wedding reception over dowry

SRINAGAR, Oct 11 (Agencies): A Jammu and Kashmir court has recently denied bail to a man arrested for allegedly making dowry demands and failing to attend his wedding reception, which was scheduled four years after his nikah to the bride.

According to a police complaint, the man's absence at the reception was due to alleged dowry demands made by his family, demands which were unmet by the bride's family. Additional Special Mobile Magistrate at Awantipora, Shahber Ayaz, while refusing bail to the groom and his father, expressed concerns about the potential impact of the case on society.

"The alleged incident has the potential to disrupt the social fabric and serve as a threat to moral values. I do not find any justification for the accused's release, especially in a situation where public outcry and potential law and order issues exist," the judge remarked.

As per the police and the bride's account, the wedding reception, referred to as the "departure ceremony" in the order, was planned for September 2023 in Kashmir's Awantipora, four years after the nikah took place.

The bride claimed that prior to setting the date for the reception, the groom had persuaded her to engage in a physical relationship since the nikah had already taken place. She believed him to be her husband and met with him accordingly, as stated in court.

However, on the day of the reception, the bride's family was informed that the groom and his family would not attend unless they received Rs 20 lakh in cash and a car as dowry.

Consequently, the bride filed a police complaint, resulting in charges against the groom and his father for cheating (Section 420) and cruelty to women (Section 498-A) under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), as well as violations of the Dowry Prohibition Act.

The accused individuals contested these allegations and insisted that a false complaint

Turn to page 9

President Murmu arrives in Srinagar, pays tribute at Martyrs' Memorial



SRINAGAR, Oct 11 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday paid tribute

to the fallen soldiers at the Army headquarters after arriving on a two-day visit to Jammu and

Kashmir, officials said.

The president landed at the airport in Srinagar where she was received

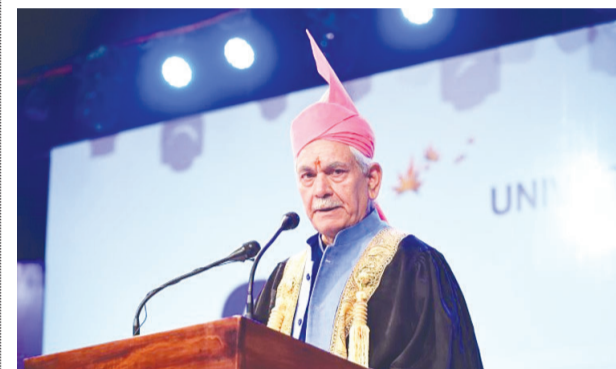
by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha. She was also accorded a guard of honour on her first visit to the Union Territory, the officials said.

The president then travelled to Badamibagh Cantonment, the headquarters of the Army's 15 Corps — also known as the Chinar Corps — where she paid tribute to the fallen soldiers at the martyrs' memorial.

The president will attend the convocation ceremony of Kashmir University.

Turn to page 9

Learning fosters critical and analytical thinking in professional careers: LG Sinha



SRINAGAR, Oct 11: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said learning should be lifelong as it fosters critical and

analytical thinking in professional careers.

Addressing the 20th convocation of the University of Kashmir here, the Lt Governor said "learning fosters critical

& analytical thinking in professional careers, enabling steady contributions to ongoing social transformation in our fast-growing economy". He said learning should be lifelong and in the coming decades, knowledge will be the main driver of economic growth.

President Droupadi Murmu, who arrived here on a two-day visit to J&K, was the chief guest at the Convocation presenting degrees and medals to the

Turn to page 9

Inter-state narcotics network: J&K Police, Punjab counterparts arrest key accused



SRINAGAR, Oct 11 (Agencies): In a major blow to inter-state narcotics network, Jammu

and Kashmir police and their Punjab counterparts have arrested one drug smuggler from

Mullanpur, Dakha and seized Rs 4.94 crore along with 38 fake vehicle number plates.

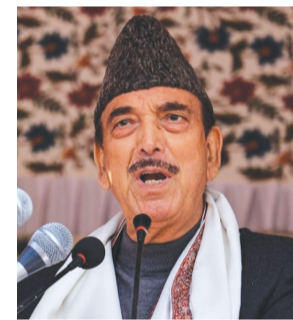
DGP Punjab wrote in a social media post that the arrested person is one of the key accused in 30 kg heroin recovery made in Jammu recently. "Investigations ongoing to establish backward and forward linkages. Police said that the revolver was also recovered from the arrested person.

Turn to page 9

We all should jointly fight militancy: Ghulam Nabi Azad on terror incidents in J&K

JAMMU, Oct 11 (Agencies): DPAP chairperson Ghulam Nabi Azad on Wednesday expressed concern over terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir during the last one and a half years and called for a united fight.

"The security situation has improved during the last five years. But for the past one and a half years, particularly in the Rajouri sector, incidents have taken place. The incident in Kokernag in Kashmir also took place.



We are concerned about it," he told reporters on the sidelines of a meeting with several delegations here.

The Democratic Pro-

gressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairperson was replying to a question about the present security situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

It appears militancy is again attempting to raise its head, Azad said and added that "we all, people of J&K, the government and politicians should jointly fight it out". "It is not solely the responsibility of the government, but all of us," he said.

Turn to page 9

Agniveer dies due to bullet injuries along LoC in Poonch

POONCH, Oct 11 (Agencies): An Agniveer was killed due to bullet injury along the Line of Control (LoC) in Mankote sector of Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Wednesday.

They said Sepoy (Agniveer) Amritpal Singh, presently posted near the LoC in Mankote area of Mendhar sub division of Poonch district, was performing sentry duty at the time of incident. He died on spot, they said. Later, a police party visited the spot and after completing all legal formalities, the body was shifted to a hospital for postmortem. Confirming it, a police official told news agency they were verifying whether it was an accidental fire or a case of suicide.

RTO Kashmir records revenue of Rs 200 Cr in Q1, Q2 of FY 2023-24

SRINAGAR, Oct 11 (Agencies): The Regional Transport Office Kashmir has recorded revenue of Rs 216 Cr. in the first two quarters of current financial year 2022-23, representing a growth of 30 percent compared to the previous financial year during the same period.

The information was shared during a meeting led by Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, Regional Transport Officer Kashmir.

The meeting also highlighted a significant achievement by the MVD Kashmir as they issued a record number



of 1607 Fresh Commercial Route Permits for Maxi Cabs, Taxis, and Buses in the last six months, after the process was resumed after nearly 10 years. This showcases the department's proactive efforts in liberalizing commercial permits and improving transportation

services.

Furthermore, the RTO commended the officers and officials of MVD for their remarkable performance in collecting fines for various road safety, traffic and transport violations. The fines collected have witnessed a remarkable growth of 71 percent, with total recov-

ery increasing from Rs 0.87 Cr. to Rs 1.50 Cr. during the period under review.

RTO urged officers to continue working with enthusiasm towards this objective and emphasized that violators should not only be penalized, but their driving licenses, registration of vehicles, and commercial permits should be suspended and cancelled.

It was given out in the meeting that across all the districts of Kashmir division, 303 driving licenses, 52 registration certificates of vehicles,

Turn to page 9

Drugs smuggler succumbs to bullet wound in Jammu

JAMMU, Oct 11 (Agencies): A narcotics smuggler shot at by Army personnel while trying to smuggle drugs from across the border along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district succumbed on Wednesday, officials said.

Yasir Nazir (22), a resident of the Karmara village in Poonch, was admitted in Government Medical College, Jammu, on September 24 after he was arrested in an injured condition from the Gulpur Sector, the officials said.

Turn to page 9

Pathankot attack mastermind Shahid Latif killed in Pakistan Mosque

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist Shahid Latif, believed to be the mastermind of the 2016 attack on an Indian Air Force base in Pathankot, was gunned down on October 11 by unidentified assailants in a mosque in Daska town of Pakistan's Sialkot district, officials said.

Latif, alias Bilal, a designated ter-

rorist under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, is learnt to have been shot dead along with two of his associates by three gunmen.

He had infiltrated into the Kashmir Valley in 1993 and was arrested a year later. He was in Jammu jail with Masood Azhar, founder of the JeM, till 2010, officials said.

He was deported to Pakistan in 2010 following his release and for-

mally joined the terror group, they said.

"This is the biggest blow to JeM on Pakistan soil," an official said. Latif was wanted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Seven IAF personnel were killed when four JeM terrorists sneaked into the Pathankot Air Force Station on January 2, 2016. The siege went on for three days.

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BJP attracts growing support from Muslim community: Khatana

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, a nominated Member of Parliament representing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), stated that the Muslim community is increasingly recognizing that so-called mainstream political parties, including the Congress, have utilized and manipulated them for mere political advantage. He emphasized that a significant number of Muslims are now joining the BJP, expressing their admiration for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who holds a special place in their hearts.

Er. Gulam Ali Khatana made these remarks during the occasion of prominent social activists from Billawar joining the BJP. He reiterated



ated the BJP's commitment to the principles of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" and highlighted the significant increase in developmental activities across the nation during the nine years of Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

Among the distinguished individuals who

formally joined the BJP were Mohd. Rafique, along with Shabir Ali, Gulam Mohd, Nazir Mohd, Sultan Mohd, Azam Khan, Basharat Hussain, Kalim Ullah, Dev Raj, Shahbaz Rather, Sunny, Sanjeev, Dinesh, and others.

Er. Gulam Ali Khatana underscored that the BJP prioritizes service

to the common masses without any discrimination based on caste, color, creed, religion, or race. He emphasized that the Modi-led government has consistently delivered on its promises and maintained a clean and transparent record, setting it apart from other governments marred by

corruption, nepotism, and favoritism.

Mohd. Rafiq, a prominent social activist, expressed his deep admiration for the policies and programs of the BJP government, particularly its special focus on educating the Muslim community. He acknowledged the party's commitment to expanding its outreach programs to reach hitherto untouched, unheard, and discriminated communities.

Er. Gulam Ali Khatana and the new BJP members celebrated this important moment, signaling a growing and inclusive political landscape where the Muslim community is increasingly engaging with the BJP and its vision for a more prosperous and harmonious India.

SBI donates 30 wheelchairs to GRP, RPF Jammu as part of CSR initiative

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: The State Bank of India's (SBI) Regional Manager, Sh. Kumar Ji Raina, today, led a heartfelt Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative by handing over thirty wheelchairs to the Government Railway Police (GRP) and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in Jammu. The presentation took place during a dignified event hosted at the GRP Lines in Jammu.

The thirty wheelchairs were officially received by Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) Naresh Sharma of the GRP Jammu, and Station House Officer (SHO) RPF Inspector Chetan Parkash. The event was also graced by the presence of SHO GRP Jammu Inspector Niaz, among other esteemed



attendees.

During the presentation, Regional Manager Sh. Kumar Ji Raina expressed the significance of the wheelchairs, underscoring their intended use for specially-abled passengers and commuters in need of assistance at bustling railway stations and medical facilities managed by the police and GRP in Jammu.

In response, DySP Naresh Sharma conveyed the gratitude of

the GRP on behalf of their team. He appreciated the kind gesture demonstrated by the SBI Regional Office in extending support through the provision of these wheelchairs under their CSR program. The wheelchairs will make a significant difference in aiding individuals with mobility challenges, ensuring their comfort and accessibility at railway stations and associated medical units in the region.

Kesri demands stringent action against drugs suppliers, sympathizers of terrorists

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri in a press conference today on drug abuse and terrorism said that these are two sides of the same coin because money is required to spread terrorism. To fulfill this, these people bring drugs from Pakistan and

send them to India, for which terrorists adopt new tactics to sell chita and many such drugs in Jammu division. By luring the common people with money, they are pushing the young generation towards this direction, which is like a bane for our society, just as termite make wood hollow, similarly this addiction is making the young generation hollow

in the society, added Kesri. Kesri further said that on the other hand, the money collected from this drug is used by terrorists to buy weapons and increase terrorism. The Resistance Front TRF is a group created by Lashkar and Jaish-e-Mohammed. The job of these people, who are hired servants of Pakistan, is to disturb

the area of Jammu and Kashmir in India and to target and kill the Hindu leaders there, the police of Jammu division is working for this, but one of the drug smugglers here is Luv Gurjar who is supplying drugs and has connection with terrorist groups and he is also responsible for Police killings in the last few years. Kesri said Gurjar keeps roaming

from place to place in Jammu district, Samba district, Kathua district, Reasi district, Udhampur district and is smuggling drugs. Kesri urged Police, especially IG Jammu, to arrest him as soon as possible to avoid further killings and especially Hindu leaders. Balveer Kumar, City Head Raju Honda, Paramjit Singh, Praveen Gupta were present.

Kundal advocates for timely compensation to farmers for crop damage

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Yashpal Kundal, a former minister and a senior leader of the Indian National Congress in Jammu and Kashmir, recently embarked on a visit to the panchayats within the Ramgarh assembly constituency. His primary mission was to listen to the concerns of the region's farmers and other residents. During his interactions with the farming community, Kundal examined the damage caused to crops in the fields due to unseasonal rain and strong winds. He called upon the government to swiftly assess the extent of damage and provide just compensation to the affected farmers.

Farmers shared their grievances with Kundal, highlighting the recurring issue of crop damage and the delay in receiving compensa-



tion for previous losses. Kundal assured them of his commitment to addressing their concerns promptly and announced his intention to meet with the Tehsildar to advocate for appropriate compensation.

Kundal further emphasized the need for the government to expedite the process of compensating farmers whose

lands on the border are utilized by the Border Security Force (BSF). He acknowledged the challenging situation faced by the youth living in border areas, particularly the lack of essential facilities and employment opportunities. In response to this, Kundal urged the government to initiate special recruitment drives for border youth,

thereby improving their prospects for a brighter future.

Additionally, Kundal advocated for the waiver of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans for farmers whose crops have suffered damage due to adverse weather conditions. He also called for the waiver of electricity rent for farmers' pump sets, considering the financial burdens they

are already facing.

Kundal expressed deep concern for elderly citizens who are struggling to access their pensions, often facing unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. He urged the government to expedite the pension disbursement process by promptly verifying documents, ensuring that senior citizens can meet their daily needs without undue delay. During his visit, Kundal extended his consultations to the panchayats in Rajpura, where he listened to the concerns of the local farming community.

The visit was attended by several prominent individuals, including Mandeep Chaudhary, Satpal, Subhash Charak, Mahesh Sharma, Suresh Kumar, Vinay Sharma, Sai Das, Rampal, Joginder Sharma, and others.

Anil kick starts blacktopping of road in Jindrah

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, OCT 11: Anil Sharma, Sarpanch, Panchayat Halqa Jindrah of Block Dansal Jammu today inaugurated Blacktopping work of road in Devak Sthan area leading to Holy Shrine of Devaka in Jindrah.

Honouring the demand of the locals regarding repair and renovation of the road of villagers, Anil in the presence of prominent Locals and officers of PWD started development works amounting Rs 10 lakhs. He congratulated the



residents for getting their demands fulfilled and assured that all pending works would also be started and completed


in time bound manner. He said from 2019 to till date, Jindrah has witnessed an era of developmental activities in every nook

and corner. Directions were also issued to the concerned Contractor to complete the work in time bound

manner as specified in the tender.


The villagers appreciated the Sarpanch for taking up the issues concerning the Panchayat Jindrah with the officers and administration at top level.

Prominent people who were present at the inauguration program include Je Roshan Lal Bhagat, rtd Head Master Ganga Dutt Sharma and Ranjeet Singh, Onkar Singh, Yash pall Sharma, joginder pall, Sham Lal, Raj Kumar and Deepak Kumar.



Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER,
Kishtwar Forest Division, Kishtwar, (Forest Complex Sarkoot, Kishtwar)
Tel./ Fax No.: 01995-259465 e-mail: dfokishtwar@gmail.com dfokishtwar@jkfdnic.in



E-TENDERING
Short Tender Notice: e-NIT No.:76of 2023 dated:06-10-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with the U. T. of J&K/Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

Name of Work:

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in lac)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Receiving/Opening Authority
1	Survey & Installation of Demarcation Boundary Pillars. Survey & Installation of 51 No. of BPs in Comptt.5/N & 6/N(ChichhaForest) in Nagseni Range of Kishtwar Forest Division under CAMPA NPV for the year 2023-24.	3.95468	11864	A, B, C & D	Rs. 600/-	30 days	Tender Opening Committee

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:-

Note:-The Contractor shall provide labour and other accessories @ Rs. 350/BP required for conducting survey of BP's with field staff of this division.

www.jktenders.gov.in

Position of funds: Demanded
Position of AA/TS: Accorded/ TS under process.

Publishing Date	06-10-2023
Download Start Date	06-10-2023
Bid Submission Start Date	07-10-2023 at 10:00 AM
Bid submission End Date	07-11-2023 upto 01:30 PM
Date of opening of Technical Bid (online).	09-11-2023 at 12:30 PM (In the Office of D.F.O, Kishtwar, Forest Complex Sarkoot Kishtwar).
Date of opening of Financial Bid(online)	11-11-2023 at 12:30 PM (In the Office of D.F.O, Kishtwar, Forest Complex Sarkoot Kishtwar).

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website:-<https://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on **11-11-2023 at 12:30 PM** in the office of **Divisional Forest Officer, Kishtwar**. In case of public holiday on the date of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- In case the cost of lowest bidder is found below the advertised amount, the bidder has to deposit an additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR before issuance of award of contract to the tune as per below details:
 - Upto 15% below rate over advertised cost Nil
 - 15% to 20% below rate over advertised cost 5% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR.
 - 20% to 25% below rate over advertised cost 10% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR.
 - 25% to 30% below rate over advertised cost 15% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR.
 - Below 30% rate over advertised cost 25% in shape of CDR/FDR of advertised cost & 10% in shape of bank guarantee of advertised cost.
- Bids must be uploaded along with scanned copy of cost of Tender Document in shape of e-challan /copy of receipt from treasury indicating name of work favoring Divisional Forest Officer Kishtwar by crediting the requisite charges to the head **0406 -Forest (Revenue)**.
- The successful bidder i.e. L-1 has to deposit the earnest money in shape of CDR pledge to **Divisional Forest Officer, Kishtwar within (3) Three days from opening of financial bids**. The bids for the work shall remain valid till 90days.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" options as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per IT Act; bidders can get Digital Signature Certificate from approved vendor.
- The Bidders have to submit their financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical /hard form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents viz:1). Valid Registration Card issued by govt. Agency dealing with such works. 2). PAN Card. 3).GST Registration Certificate (Self attested photocopy). 4). Receipt of cost of Tender documents. 5). Valid Sales Tax Clearance Certificate (Form GSTR-3B). 6). Valid email-id, contact number & Address. No registered post/courier will be accepted. The L1 will submit the original documents in the office within two days from the date of opening of financial bid.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (Technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of information regarding publishing the e-NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The accepting department however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. The contractor shall arrange the key materials like Cement, Steel in his own from authorized dealers for the above said work and quality of material shall be ISI marked and have to be verified/passed by the concerned Range Officer/Work in charge of the department before start of work.
 - Cement of Ambuja, ACC, Birla Plus, JP Baland, Banguar or equivalent brand.
 - Steel of SAIL, TATA TISCON, Rashtriyaspal or equivalent brand.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD Form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed document.
- An affidavit has to be furnished by the bidder regarding abiding by all the terms and conditions of e-NIT and Tender document.

DIP/J-9347/23
Sd/-
Sagar Singh (JKFS)
Divisional Forest Officer
Kishtwar

EDITORIAL

DRUG ADDICTION-
GROWING MALADY

Strikingly enough seats of learning of the elites-schools, colleges and university campus which are the centers of learning, borrowed from the West, are the biggest centers of drug users too. The West has a total sway over these centers of learning—in knowledge—in permissiveness—in drug addiction. Sex is no bar—the mentor and the pupil share all the three equally. The young teacher may practise a little restraint—the young student doesn't.

A deep research in the field is full of risks for private individuals as the trade is backed by mafias and big kingpins living in palacious mansions apparently doing some other business. Thus the research has been always based on the drug addicts who visit hospitals for counter addiction known as drying out. It shows that the number of drug addicts among females is much less than among males. Otherwise no group of people has been spared by this evil.

The people include engineers, doctors, jewelers, taxi and truck drivers, young businessmen, executives, plumbers, carpenters, students, rag pickers and low paid child workers. The age group in which the addiction is most prevalent is 10-25. Matured people are conscious of the effects while the young ones take to it as an experiment. The rich get themselves treated but the poor succumb to it and finally languish and die.

The most common drugs are narcotics which relieve mental and physical pain. The most fetched for in this category is heroin. Then there are depressants known as sedatives and barbiturates which bring peace through sleep and laziness.

Much in demand are the stimulants like cocaine. But the greater demand, especially among elites, is of amphetamines and hallucinogens like LSD, Marijuana and Hashish. These drugs take the addict to a different land. He is away from this material world and swims in an unreal pleasant dreamland.

All the drugs have various harmful effects. But the most pathetic condition is one when a drug addict does not get his dose. There is a withdrawal syndrome (the effects created by withdrawing the drug). It includes vomiting, muscle cramps, convulsions and delirium—sometimes resulting even in death.

A WHO report estimates that there are 50 million drug addicts in the world. 30 million consume marijuana, 8 million cocaine, 1.7 million opium, 700,000 heroin and near about 10 million take cheaper narcotics like brown sugar. Cannabis one of the earliest drugs is now grown and consumed in Latin America, Africa and middle East.

Americans spend 90 billion a year on drugs. It is a great health hazard in the States where alone 4 million people take cocaine, 20 million marijuana and 4,90,000 consume heroin the costliest drug. 36 per cent of the high school students were found using drugs in the USA in 1990. There is a mind boggling amount of illegal production of Cannabis (40,000 tons) and opium (4,500 tons) in the world every year. Drug trafficking is one of the greatest headaches for he different governments and the Interpol.

A despatch from WHO head in Bangladesh Abey Sundere was quoted in Dhaka that there are 7 million drug addicts in Bangladesh even when drug peddling carries penalty of death. Of these 7 million 10,00,000 are heroin addicts mostly in 20-29 age group. Drug control in Bangladesh would cost 1-7 million dollar under a United Nations master plan.

Brash boys of BJP: Will Bidhuri, Biren, Bhushan call shots in 2024?

By: Sunil Gatade

At one time, Vimal was a brand close to the late Dhirubhai Ambani's heart. Reliance was taking baby steps at that time. The tagline of the "Vimal" brand of sarees was: "A woman expresses herself in many ways... Vimal is one of them".

Turning to the present-day "kamal", the BJP's poll symbol, and what it signifies under the Modi-Shah duo is "brashness". "Brazening it out with brashness" could be the tagline of the new BJP, which has dumped its Atal Behari Vajpayee ways entirely while seeking greener pastures.

Nothing succeeds like success. The Prime Minister is being shown as the "Vishwa Guru". His brand has brought to the fore Bidhuris, Biren Singhs and Braj Bhushan Sharan Singhs as torchbearers of a brash politics that fails to give any quarter to the Opposition, minorities and women. Sadly, this BJP's symbol could be a bulldozer or a raging bull. What else could one think of?

Mr Bidhuri is a symbol of what is wrong with today's BJP. Living in the time warp of "Akhand Bharat", the new BJP wants to make it known that its Hindutva brand must always be seen as hardline. So, it is natural that the Bidhuris and their kind will be let loose here and there.

It is no secret Operation Bidhuri was to keep the Hindutva pot boiling. The passage of the

women's reservation bill and the ifs and buts over its implementation have failed to bring much kudos to either the ruling party or its leader. The demand for a OBC quota and similar suggestions have almost punctured the balloon.

Mr Bidhuri's denigration of a fellow MP, Danish Ali, and the attack on his faith was tantamount to the desecration of Parliament, but the way the BJP has treated him is a signal that he is virtually the male version of the controversial Pragya Thakur, MP from Bhopal. The tragedy is that BSP supremo Mayawati has also treated the entire affair lightly, even though Danish Ali was once the leader of her BSP in the Lok Sabha. This speaks volumes of her marginalisation and her being co-opted by the BJP.

Mr Bidhuri has always been a Hindutva hardliner and BJP loyalist. The South Delhi MP is no paratrooper and is a darling of the Sangh Parivar. But the tragedy with the Modi bhakts is that he always remained a backbencher who had taken up the task of hooting out the Opposition in the House whenever the situation warranted. The likes of Rahul Gandhi and Arvind Kejriwal were like red rags. Missing the skills of a Meenakshi Lekhi or the softness of a Manoj Tiwari, Mr Bidhuri depended almost entirely on his rabble-raising skills.

Mr Bidhuri's rants in Parliament also signify that the going isn't good for the BJP in the Assembly elections in

Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Telangana. That paradoxes never cease in politics is clear from the fact that the Congress is emerging as the bugbear for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has failed to generate fresh ideas and appears stale as the Lok Sabha polls are nearing.

Despite the setbacks, Mr Modi hasn't given up on his pet project of a "Congress-mukt Bharat". That was evident from the BJP's recent rally in Bhopal. In his 50-minute speech there, the PM referred to the grand old party some 40 times in not-too-glowing terms. The brashness stems from the belief that those opposing the BJP are not made of sterner stuff.

Mr Modi might have virtually kept mum on troubled Manipur and failed to visit the key northeastern state for the past three months. But the brashness of chief minister N. Biren Singh and the backing provided to him by the Modi-Shah duo is virtually being exposed by the state BJP itself, which has brought the unease in the state to the notice of the party high command. What a tragic irony, the BJP state chief in Manipur is herself confiding that she is in constant fear of an angry mob attempting to burn down her house. The actions or otherwise of Mr Biren Singh have ensured that the BJP has politically become unsettled in the Northeast.

The Braj Bhushan Sharan Singhs know their place in the system and they also know the

system inside out. The controversial "Bahubali" stands unfazed despite allegations of sexual harassment and protests against him. The law is taking its own sweet time to catch up with the BJP MP from Uttar Pradesh, given his reach and influence. But his conduct has cost much to the ruling party.

Brashness is the symbol of arrogance of those who always have their way. But this is playing less dividends for the BJP, as is evident from the Assembly results in Karnataka a few months back. The Modi-Shah duo had pushed aside an unwilling veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and brought in Basavaraj Bommai in his place as the chief minister.

The party was beaten lock, stock and barrel so much that it is looking shaky in the five state elections due soon. The way it is going about in these states does not indicate it has learnt any lessons from the Bengaluru flop show. The PM might be campaigning hard but he looks more like a man under siege than a confident general marshalling his forces to demolish the opponent. "It is not to question who and why" — looks to be the order of the BJP high command, which has thrown three Union ministers, four MPs and a general secretary into the fray in a blitzkrieg action.

This audacity is bound to grow by leaps and bounds with the clock ticking for the Lok Sabha polls.

The Role Of Technology In The Future And Its Impact On Society

By: Vijay GarG

Technology has played a crucial part in developing the modern world, from the development of the wheel to the most recent advances in artificial intelligence.

Our lives have gotten simpler, more productive, and more interconnected as a result of technological advancements. Technology has brought about many good improvements that have altered the way we connect and the environment, from cell phones to virtual reality to artificial intelligence.

However, technology's effects on society have not always been beneficial. Despite its many favorable effects, it has also generated undesirable side effects that must be handled. Some of the negative effects of technology on society include technological dependency, cyberbullying, and privacy invasion. The increasing use of automation and AI has sparked worries about the loss of jobs and the widening income divide.

The future of technology appears even more interesting in light of the constant emergence of new technologies. While these innovations may usher in welcome improvements, it is essential that we not lose sight of the risks they may pose and take measures to mitigate them. Some of the most important technological developments that will define our world in the next years will be discussed, as will the good and negative effects of technology on modern society.

Future Of Technology:
1. Artificial Intelligence
One of the most fascinating developments in modern technology is artificial intelligence (AI). Voice recognition, picture identification, and NLP are just a few of the domains where AI has made great strides. Yet AI has many more promising applications than that. AI might significantly alter the healthcare, financial, and transportation sectors. It also has the potential to aid in the fight against climate change and extreme poverty.

2. Internet Of Things
The term "Internet of Things" (IoT) describes the global system of interconnected computing devices that can exchange data and instructions through the Internet. Many sorts of sensors, from those used in industry to those in the household, fall under this category.

There has been a lot of success with the IoT in automating homes, controlling energy usage, and improving transportation. The Internet of Things (IoT) is now pervasive, and it is anticipated that this trend will only accelerate in the years to come.

3. Augmented And Virtual Reality
Both augmented and virtual reality have seen significant growth in interest over the past several years. The goal of both virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) is to allow users to interact with digital information superimposed over the physical world. Uses for these technologies may be found

in entertainment, instruction, and medical treatment, among others. Virtual and augmented reality experiences are anticipated to be ever more realistic and immersive.

4. Blockchain
Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies rely on the underlying technology known as the blockchain. Nevertheless, blockchain technology may be used for more than just cryptocurrencies. Blockchain is a distributed ledger that facilitates safe data storage and transfer. Financial services, healthcare, and supply chain management are just a few examples of sectors that might benefit greatly.

5. 5g Networks
The fifth-generation (5G) mobile networks will be significantly quicker and less laggy than the existing fourth-generation (4G) networks. New uses, including autonomous vehicles, smart cities, and telesurgery, may be made possible by 5G networks. In some regions of the world, however, infrastructural issues have slowed the introduction of 5G networks.

6. Quantum Computing
Computing in the quantum realm involves the application of quantum mechanical concepts to the computation process. Problems that are now intractable with classical computing may be amenable to solutions with quantum computing.

The creation of novel materials and the simulation of complicated chemical events are only two examples of how quantum computing may be put to use. But in its infancy, quantum computing faces several technological hurdles that must be conquered before it can be broadly embraced.

7. Biotechnology
Innovations in industry and medicine that make use of biological systems, cells, and creatures are called "biotechnology." Medicine, farming, and even power generation are just some of the many fields that might benefit from biotechnology. When new illness remedies and cures are discovered, biotechnology is poised to play an increasingly larger role in people's lives in the years to come.

8. Robotics
Automatic devices that can carry out certain tasks are the focus of robotics research. Several industries could benefit from the use of robotics, including construction, medicine, and transportation. There is hope for the future of robotics in creating machines with human-like cognitive abilities.

9. Cloud Computing
Computing in the cloud involves transferring data to and storing it on remote servers. Data storage and retrieval have been completely transformed by cloud computing. As more and more programs and services are built to take use of cloud computing, its prominence is only projected to grow. Cloud computing, for instance, may run AI programs like voice assistants and picture identification services.

10. Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is becoming increasingly crucial as the prevalence of technology grows. Cybersecurity is the practice of keeping computers and networks safe from intrusion via electronic means. The prevalence of cyber threats suggests that protecting data will only grow in significance.

Impact Of Technology On Society

Positive Impact:
1. Better Communication
The advancement of communication is one of the most noticeable benefits of technology to modern civilization. Thanks to technological advancements, we can now send and receive messages instantly and with greater ease.

People from all over the world can communicate with one another because of the widespread availability of social media, messaging applications, and video conferencing technology. Because of this, people can maintain relationships with their loved ones, expand their social circles, and form communities with shared interests and values.

2. Enhanced Information Access
With the advent of the internet, formerly inaccessible knowledge is now at everyone's grasp. The Internet has made it possible for anybody to gain exposure to new ideas, practices, and perspectives with only a few mouse clicks.

Hence, people are better able to pursue knowledge on their own time and widen their perspectives. Also, this has aided in the spread of knowledge in vital areas like health, science, and politics, allowing for more well-informed citizens.

3. Increased Education
Because of technological advancements, learning is now more convenient and productive than ever before. As e-learning platforms proliferate, students no longer need to be physically present in a classroom to benefit from its content.

As a result, students may now study whenever and wherever they like, making for a more adaptable educational system. Interactive learning technologies, such as simulations and virtual reality, have also been developed thanks to technological advancements, which make education more interesting and useful.

4. Efficiency Gains
Thanks to technological advancements, a wide variety of tasks may now be completed more quickly and with less material waste. Companies may save money and boost production by using robots for routine activities like data input and manufacturing. Because of this, businesses have been able to expand their offerings, boosting the economy and leading to the creation of new jobs.

Negative Impact:
1. Reduced Social Engagement
While technology has made communication easier, it has also reduced the need for interpersonal contact. People's reliance on electronic means of communication has increased alongside the proliferation of social media, making them less likely to conduct

significant face-to-face exchanges. Because of this, many people are feeling lonely and isolated, which can have serious psychological implications.

2. Screen Time Increased
Screen time has grown as a result of technological advancements, which can have harmful impacts on both physical and mental health. Eye fatigue, back discomfort, and trouble sleeping have all been associated with excessive screen usage. In addition to the negative effects on health and relationships, addiction may develop when people spend too much time in front of screens.

3. Job Displacement
Jobs have been lost due to automation because robots and software can do the labor formerly done by humans. Because of this, many individuals have lost their employment or are struggling to make ends meet. There are now possibilities in areas like artificial intelligence and robots thanks to technological advancements, but many people are finding it challenging to make the shift.

4. Privacy Issues
Privacy issues have surfaced as a result of technological advancements, as private information is increasingly mined for profit and political gain. This has raised concerns about security breaches, theft of personal information, and governmental snooping. There have also been concerns raised regarding the morality of social media's data practices, which have led to criticism of the platforms.

Final Words
The state of technology in the future is exciting and dynamic. Artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, augmented and virtual reality, blockchain, 5G networks, quantum computing, biotechnology, robots, the cloud, and cybersecurity are just some of the most significant technological breakthroughs that will alter our world in the next years.

While there are many positive outcomes to the widespread use of these technologies, there are also negative outcomes, such as technology dependency, cyberbullying, and privacy violations, that must be addressed. Better communication, easier access to information, more productivity, and higher quality healthcare are just a few of how technology has benefited civilization.

Nevertheless, technology has the potential to reduce employment opportunities and increase the economic disparity. It is vital that we, as a society, remain aware of these hazards and take steps to reduce them while still enjoying the advantages that technology provides.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
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Punjab)

Jat MahaSabha demands swift action on long-pending OBC Status for Jat Community



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: All India Jat MahaSabha, Jammu and Kashmir, has fervently called upon the government to fulfill their long-standing promise to grant Other Backward Class (OBC) status to the Jat community.

This resounding call was made during a meeting convened by Ch. Manmohan Singh, President of AIJMS, Jammu and Kashmir, and former Mayor in Jammu today. In the meeting, District Presidents, Tehsil Presidents, and other office bearers of the Jat MahaSabha were present and deliberate on the pressing issues facing the Jat community.

Addressing the assembly, Ch. Manmohan Singh threw light on the unwavering commitment of the Jat MahaSabha in its struggle to secure OBC status for the Jat community. Over the last decade, the MahaSabha has tirelessly organized hundreds of rallies, Grand Mahila Adhiv-

shan, and National Level Sammelan to the cause of the Jat community. Through these efforts, the government's attention was drawn to this critical issue, showcasing the community's determination and dedication.

Ch. Manmohan Singh further pointed out that while the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, made an announcement regarding the conferment of OBC status to the Jat community, no substantial progress has been made to fulfill this promise. He expressed his deep concern over the government's inaction in this matter and urged swift action to rectify this situation.

Ch. Manmohan Singh hoped that the government at the Centre will grant OBC status to the Jat community before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. He asserted that if the government fails to fulfill its commitment regarding OBC status to Jat community before the upcoming elections, it should not expect support from the

Jat community at the ballot box.

Ch. Manmohan Singh underscored the Jat MahaSabha's unwavering dedication to the welfare of the Jat community, pledging to continue the fight until OBC status is granted. The MahaSabha remains steadfast in its commitment to working tirelessly for the upliftment and empowerment of the Jat community.

He appealed to the government to act promptly and honor their commitment to the Jat community, recognizing the importance of OBC status in securing the community's future.

One of the primary concerns discussed during the meeting was the non-payment of compensation to border dwellers whose land has come under the border fence. Ch. Manmohan Singh disclosed that the MahaSabha has already met with Defence Minister. However, despite this, there has been no progress in addressing this issue.

Ch. Manmohan Singh

fervently appealed to the Defence Minister to consider the genuine demand of border dwellers, who have long awaited compensation for their land.

Furthermore, the meeting addressed the distressing damage inflicted on standing crops due to a recent hailstorm.

Participants expressed their deep concern and called upon the government to provide adequate compensation to the affected farmers, recognizing the significance of agriculture to the Jat community.

In addition to these matters, the participants highlighted the long-standing absence of a gathering for Advisory Members. To address this concern, it was unanimously decided that the meeting of Advisory Members of All India Jat MahaSabha, Jammu and Kashmir, will be held on October 22 at 11:00 AM at the Golden Leaf Banquet Hall, Babliana in Jammu.

Ch Manmohan Singh

said that there are more than 500 Advisory Members of Jat MahaSabha, J&K, and the Jat MahaSabha is functioning with their active involvement. So, this meeting will play a pivotal role in determining the future course of action regarding the promised OBC status by the government, he added.

The participants also emphasized the importance of education and skill development for the children of the Jat community, highlighting the need for investment in their future.

In conclusion, Ch. Manmohan Singh extended his gratitude to the District Presidents and Tehsil Presidents, urging them to promptly inform the Advisory Members in their respective areas about the upcoming meeting scheduled for October 22, emphasizing the importance of punctuality with a start time of 11:00 AM.

Among those who were present in the meeting include Brig Pawan Sauntra, Col R.L. Gangaal, Ch Avtar Krishan, Mdm. Kuldeep Kaur, Sarpanch Dev Raj, Ch Rashpal, Kamal Randhawa, Ram Pal, Sd. Vijay Singh, Ch Suresh, Engg Yash Pal, Ch Onkar, Ch Sunil, Ch Sham Lal, Ch Rattan, Ch Pawan, Capt. Shamsheer Singh, Capt. Gopal Sandhu, Mdm. Pammi, Rajni Choudhary and many others.

Punjabi feature film 'Meri Jind Jaan' to hit cinema screens on Oct 13

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Simran Visual Art, a renowned name in the world of cinema, today officially introduced their latest Punjabi feature film titled "Meri Jind Jaan." The film is set to hit cinema screens on October 13, 2023. In Jammu, eager viewers can catch the movie at Apsara Theatre, Gandhi Nagar, with showtimes beginning at 12:30 p.m. Additionally, Hari Cinema, Raghunath Bazar, will feature four daily screenings. Notably, the film is simultaneously releasing in various states including Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan, on the same day, October 13, 2023, which is a remarkable achievement for the team.

"Meri Jind Jaan" features a talented cast, including Biramjeet and introducing stars Aarti Bhagat, Sonia Dogra, Shivpal Singh, and S. Sawarn Singh (from Punjab), Veena Dogra, Meera Tapasvi, Rakesh May'us, Amarjeet Kour, Shamsheer Singh Chohalvi, Sharanieet Kour, Rahi Simbalpuria, Vicky Sagar, Davinder Dhanjal, Rakesh Chalotra, Arun Sharma, Amrik Singh, Chanchal, Jackson, Bindia, and more.

The film boasts captivating lyrics by Rahi Simbalpuria, Bikram Singh, and R. Samyal. Cinematography is han-



dled by Vinod Gupta, with Neeraj Badyal as the editor and music composed by Kuldeep Sapru. The soulful voices behind the songs are Rahi Simbalpuria. The film's Production Head, Shamsheer Singh Chohalvi, and Executive Producer Dr. Satvir Singh Raina have played pivotal roles in bringing the project to fruition. The film is written, produced, features fight sequences, and is directed by Bikram Singh.

"Meri Jind Jaan" is poised to make history as the first film from Jammu and Kashmir to grace screens beyond the borders of the state. This is a moment of pride for all stage drama artists, particularly those from Jammu, and especially those rooted in Punjabi culture. Many of the film's cast members have dedicated decades to the dramatic arts.

The film's storyline is a heartwarming family drama, characterized by its clean and impactful narrative. It explores the responsible relationship between a brother and

his sister, the watchful eye of a father over his children, and the village Panchayat's commitment to safeguarding against the mischievous elements within the community. In its entirety, "Meri Jind Jaan" is a commendable artistic endeavor by the Simran Visual Art team, featuring sweet and melodious songs with immersive sound and music.

In conclusion, Shamsheer Singh Chohalvi, the Production Head, strongly urges all art and culture enthusiasts to watch this film with their families, friends, and colleagues.

The press conference was attended by prominent figures, including Madan Rangila, Rahi Simbalpuria, Shamsheer Singh Chohalvi, Dr. Baljit Raina, and Bikram Singh, who provided insights into the film's creation and its significance. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by S.S. Chohalvi, followed by a delightful gathering with the press and electronic media professionals, who generously covered the occasion.

GangaDhar Ji Maharaj Hari Naam Sankirtan illuminates Village Pasgal, Bishnah Tehsil with ancient wisdom



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: The enchanting village of Pasgal, nestled in the heart of Bishnah tehsil, came alive with spiritual fervor as thousands gathered to partake in the profound Hari Naam Sankirtan led by the venerable religious preacher, Shri GangaDhar Ji Shastri. In this momentous gathering, participants had the privilege of imbibing the timeless scientific knowledge passed down by the ancient Rishis of India.

Shri GangaDhar Ji Shastri, a respected religious preacher, graced the occasion with his enlightening discourse on the significance of Shradha during the ongoing Pitru fortnight. He expounded, "Our ancestors are akin to the roots of a tree, playing an indispensable role in our lives. Thus, the worship of our ancestors

has the power to bestow happiness, peace, and countless blessings upon humanity."

The act of performing Shradha, a profound and time-honored tradition, is a remarkable discovery from the annals of ancient Indian wisdom. Lord Ram himself conducted Shradha rituals in the sacred Gaya Tirtha during his exile, which enabled him to connect with his beloved father, King Dashrath. Shri GangaDhar Ji Maharaj eloquently guided the eager listeners through various facets of Sanatan culture and theology, imparting valuable insights to lead happier, more prosperous lives.

The spiritual discourse touched upon fundamental principles of life – the pursuit of personal happiness, the cultivation of love and harmony within communities, dedicated service to the

nation, and the crucial mission of safeguarding the younger generation from the pitfalls of vice. Shri GangaDhar Ji's wise sermons not only nourished the soul but also emphasized the importance of holistic health and well-being.

This grand five-day-long Hari Naam Sankirtan program was a remarkable journey for devotees, who not only drank deeply from the fount of knowledge but also indulged in nourishing meals from the Bhandara, a gesture of communal sharing and caring.

The event served as a potent reminder of the need to continue organizing such knowledge-sharing sessions within society. By doing so, we can promote human and moral values, nurturing a harmonious world where ancient wisdom remains a beacon for generations to come.

JU, TBS organises session on 'Commodity Derivatives Exchange'

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: The Business School, University of Jammu organized an interactive session on "Commodity Derivatives Exchange" on the occasion of World Investor Week that is being observed from 9th-15th October, 2023. The event was organized under the able guidance of Prof. Vinay Chauhan, Director The Business School, University of Jammu.

Invited speaker, Jay Gopal Goel, Senior Manager Business Development Division, Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) in his expressive



address enlightened the students about the nature of commodities and the inherent risks entailed in day-to-day businesses. He delved into the complexities of commodity price mechanisms and the accompa-

nying volatility, offering invaluable insights. Furthermore, he elucidated the concept of derivatives and urged the students to keep a track of commodity prices with a particular focus on crude oil. Mr. Goel meticu-

lously explained the regulatory framework of governing commodity market and provided a comprehensive overview of the commodities ecosystem.

Ajay Kapoor, a prominent stock market analyst and Business Partner and Director at Sharekhan, Jammu was also an invited speaker for the session. He shared his extensive knowledge by enlightening the students about the essential do's and don'ts of financial and commodity markets. He navigated through the complexities of the subject matter, providing guidance to the attentive audience.

Earlier, Prof. Alka Sharma, senior faculty member, TBS and Director, Skill Incubation Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre, University of Jammu formally welcomed the guests and ignited the students' enthusiasm by emphasizing the importance of developing robust financial skills.

The enthusiastic students asked pertinent questions that were duly addressed by the experts. The event was coordinated by Dr. Amisha Gupta, Associate Professor, TBS and Dr. Shelleka Gupta, coordinator, Management Club of TBS.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Showcases special-purpose Hilux at the East Tech 2023

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) today showcased two special purpose iconic Hilux, modified with the support of an authorized external vendor, at the East Tech 2023 (ET2023), a technology-showcase annual event conducted by the Eastern Command of the Indian Army in association with Government of Assam. This event aims to promote state-of-the-art indigenous development and production of defence technological capabilities and attain "Atmanirbharta" (self-reliance) in defence sector. Further, this year reflects a bigger leap in reinforcing the Indian army's endeavours in the areas of Synergy & Research Development and Innovation for modernization of the Indian

army.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Varinder Kumar Wadhwa, General Manager – Strategic Business Unit (East) of Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "We, at TKM, take great pride and are deeply honoured to have the opportunity to present the customized variants of the iconic Hilux, at the East Tech 2023. This has enabled Toyota to demonstrate the distinctive features of special purpose Hilux (modified through our authorized external vendor) that can cater to the specific needs of the Indian army to enhance the operational efficiency at defence sites. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast to extend necessary support to defence sector in achieving self-reliance."

Having conducted

comprehensive market survey to understand the different mobility requirements of the specific consumers which includes the Indian Army, TKM through its authorised external vendor has made certain modifications on the versatile Hilux (two units displayed), to suit the varied needs which can also aptly meet the Indian army requirements. These curated vehicles signify TKM's commitment to identify unique solutions to meet special customers' requirements including army usage, and thus support the evolving mobility needs across markets and verticals, thereby providing 'Mobility for All'.

Further to such market survey, TKM has applied two distinct modifications through an authorised external vendor,

to the Toyota Hilux – namely the Field Diagnosis Vehicle (FDV) and the Forest Patrolling Vehicle (FPV), to serve specific army needs and other special consumer requirements. Given the operational and logistic challenges of Indian army, owing to diverse terrain and climatic conditions, it necessitates more customisation and dedicated solutions to significantly overcome the on-ground necessities of the troops. In this direction, the FDV is designed to provide essential vehicle servicing in remote locations, supporting the Army at defence sites. On the other hand, the FPV helps Indian army for patrolling movement, surveillance and is equipped with fog lamps for better vision at night, digital video for record-

ing and winch for rescue operations during emergency situations.

In addition to these modified versions, the general-purpose Hilux (catering to the general customers' personal and business uses) was also on display at the Expo being held during Oct 10-11th at the Mani Ram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati. Earlier in July 2023, TKM handed over a fleet of Toyota Hilux, marking the company's first-ever delivery of its Hilux to the Indian Army. Further, in Sep 2023, Toyota displayed two modified (with the support of an authorised external vendor) Hilux vehicles - Field Diagnosis Vehicle (FDV) and Rapid Intervention Vehicle (RIV) at the North Tech Symposium organised by Northern Command of Indian Army.

Shweta Bachchan, Navya wish Amitabh Bachchan on his 81st birth anniversary



As megastar Amitabh Bachchan turned 81 on Wednesday, his daughter Shweta Bachchan took to Instagram to share a photo of herself with Big B.

She captioned the post as, "Happy 81st Papa Big shoes (and hugs) no one can ever manage to fill."

In the picture, Shweta

is seen giving a tight hug to her father.

While Amitabh is seen in the image clad in a printed jacket paired with black trousers, Shweta wore a black dress.

Amitabh's granddaughter, Navya Naveli Nanda, too, took to her Instagram stories to wish him.

She shared a group photograph of Amitabh, herself, Amitabh's granddaughter Aaradhya, Jaya and Navya's brother Agastya.

Sharing the photo, Navya wrote, "Happy Birthday Nana."

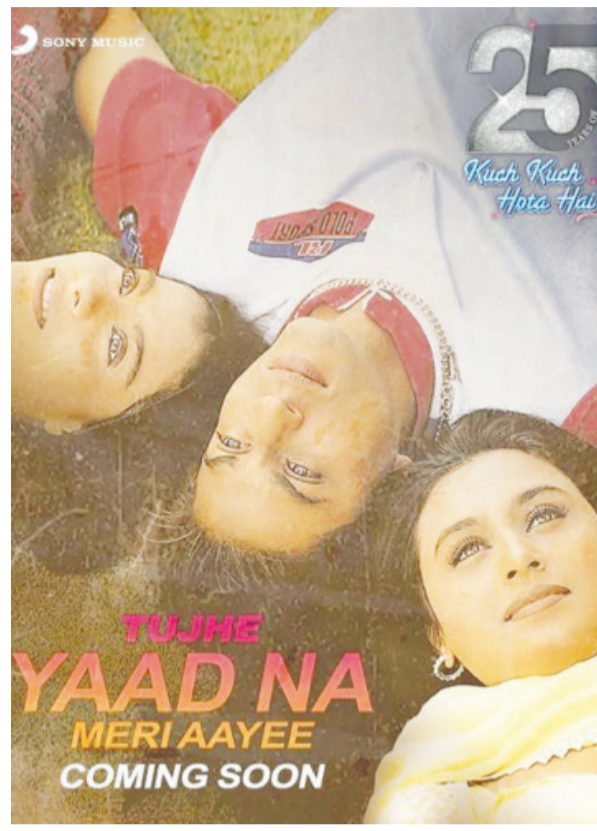
She also shared a selfie of herself with Amitabh in other stories.

B Praak to recreate iconic song 'Tujhe yaad na meri aayi' from SRK, Kajol, Rani Mukerji-starrer 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai'

As the romantic drama 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' starring Shah Rukh Khan, Rani Mukerji, and Kajol turns 25 on October 16, the makers are all set to bring recreation of the iconic song 'Tujhe Yaad Na Meri Aayee' of the film to mark this occasion.

Taking to Instagram, singer B Praak shared this exciting news and expressed his gratitude for this opportunity.

He wrote, "#tujhey-a a d n a m e r i a a y i 25years!!!They say "If you dream with all your heart , the dream starts manifesting and they do come true I am thrilled to announce that i got the HONOUR to sing for one and only @iamsrk , sir And @kajol #ranimukherjee i hope you like Our efforts My only dream to sing and recreate this magical song in our style.



"Thank you @karanjohar for accepting my request And Trusting us That We Can Do Jus-

tice To Your Magical Song!!!The Best No 1 Lyricist @jaani777 You Killed It And Biggest

Thanks To @azeemdayani For Always Supporting Our Efforts,"he added.

As soon as the announcement was made, fans flooded the comment section.

One of the users wrote, "Tujhe yaad has been my favorite since childhood, excited for this" "Memories flashing in my mind!!," another commented.

Another comment read, "this is gonna bring back so many memories!" Another user wrote, "Absolutely Nostalgic and now with @bpraak 's version it's gonna be on another level. Only prak can sing this heart shattering song and make it soul shattering period."

"Don't want new version, original is the best no offense to anyone but ...," comment read.

Karan Johar also shared the news on his Instagram story and wrote 'Version 2.0'

'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai', released on October 16, 1998, starred Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol, and Rani Mukerjee in the lead roles. The movie bagged several awards and received an overwhelming response from the audience and critics alike.

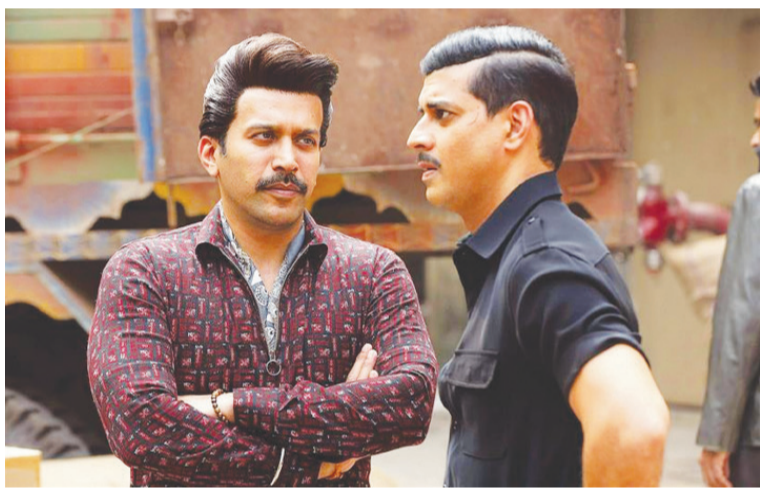
Apart from the lead cast, the flick also starred Salman Khan, Archana Puran Singh, Anupam Kher, and Johny Lever.

The movie proved to be a trendsetter of the '90s. From cementing the trend of gifting friendship bands on Friendship Day to SRK's 'cool' pendant and Anjali's bob-cut, the film set the pace for many new trends.

Tahir Raj Bhasin and Anjum Shharma, who are part of upcoming period drama Sultan Of Delhi, talk about their co-stars and the infectious energy on sets

Once Upon a Time in Mumbai director Milan Luthria gears up for his OTT debut with crime thriller series Sultan Of Delhi, starring Tahir Raj Bhasin and Anjum Shharma in the lead roles. The two sound upbeat about the series being a human story, quite contrary to what the trailer reveals. We find out more...

The screenplay is adapted from author Arnab Ray's book Sultan Of Delhi: Ascension. As the name suggests, it has a backdrop of Delhi from the 1960s. So, did hailing from Delhi help Tahir Raj Bhasin, who essays the character of Arjun Bhatia? "Yes. Definitely it did help. It added a layer of authenticity to the part. Having said that, it is based in the 60's, the time when I was not around! But I read about the history of the city, the culture that existed post-independence and that really helped. I know the things that Delhi people like."



Director Milan isn't the only one debuting with this project, apparently it happens to be actress Mouni Roy's digital debut as well. This series also stars Neha Sharma, Anupriya Goenka, Harleen Sethi and Mehreen Pirzada.

On his part, Anjum shares, "Well, there are plenty of impactful dialogues. But there is one line which I think I liked and

audience will love too — main to sirf Johnny Walker ko jaanta hoon. Talking of women power on sets, he adds, "Women have a pivotal part in the series. I mainly worked with Mouni Roy. She is very sweet and used to make the atmosphere very light. She is beautiful and very graceful."

Mind and heart About Anjum and Tahir's

chemistry in the series, the latter elaborates, "In the journey of Arjun Bhatia (Tahir's character), he meets a number of people who take him in different directions. But the most influential is the way his journey is impacted by Bangali's (Anjum) entry. If Arjun is the mind of the operation, Bangali is the impulse and the heart. Together they make an interesting pair."

For authentic locations, they had to visit different places. Tahir adds, "We went to Patiala, Amritsar and smaller towns of Gujarat. It was a challenge because if you had to reach the sets at 7 am, you had to wake up at 4! But when you see the results on screen, you feel satisfied."

The series also stars veteran actor Vinay Pathak and both of them had a great time sharing screen space with him. Tahir says, "Vinay sir has great energy that he brings to the sets. He has a lovely personality."

Madhurima Tuli on learning Kathak



Madhurima Tuli is now putting her best foot forward quite literally, as the actress is now learning the classical Kathak dance and learning pretty well.

Showing her desire to learn the dance, the actress posted a video of herself doing some Kathak moves. As part of both relaxing as well as learning

something new, Madhurima says wanting to learn something new isn't really age-dependent.

Elaborating on this, the Chandrakanta actress says, "I have always believed that learning isn't age-specific. Right from my childhood, I have been a dancing enthusiast."

The actress adds, "As far as classical dance is concerned, I have learnt Odissi for the longest time and completely fell in love with it. Kathak was also on the cards for a long time. I am glad that it finally started. I am definitely looking forward to learning more." Madhurima has an impressive roster of projects in the TV as well as the OTT formats, and has branched out into various genres ranging from drama, romance, mythology, thriller, soap operas, action and more.

Apart from her role in television, the actress has also been part of some Bollywood films such as Naam Shabana, Baby, Hamari Adhuri Kahani, and even international productions like The Black Prince.

In the web series front, the actress was seen in the military-action-drama series Avroth: The Siege Within.

Shubhangi Atre turns stylist for Angoori bhabhi

Shubhangi Atre, who is known for her role as Angoori bhabhi in the sitcom Bhabiji Ghar Par Hain, disclosed that she handpicks and purchases all her outfits for her character in the show.

The actress also shared insights into the extensive effort invested in picking her costumes in the show, including her recent visit to Indore City, where she effortlessly made a striking style statement.

Shubhangi shared, "Every saree or lehenga that Angoori wears in the show is meticulously thought out and crafted with a genuine passion. I dedicate significant effort to choosing, picking, or designing each outfit that graces my character in the show."

"I take great pride in sharing that all the attire I sport on the show is personally styled by me, resulting in a sizeable and diverse collection. Styling Angoori not only brings me immense joy but also a profound sense of satisfaction. Whenever I shop for Angoori's outfits, I wholeheartedly immerse myself in the process," she said.

Shubhangi said that



from Angoori's traditional accessories to the sparkling lehengas and even her floral hairbands, she carefully select every element, always mindful of her character's evolving appearance. "The transformation in my overall look and makeup is noted, as Angoori resonates with numerous viewers, particularly women and homemakers. The jewellery I choose seamlessly blends elegant designs, merging traditional and modern aesthetics to achieve a complete look," said the actress.

The Kasturi fame actress further said, "Recently, during a visit to my hometown Indore to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi, I made sure to wear an attire that was both lightweight and vibrant, accompanied by minimal accessories." "On the first day, I chose a lemon-yellow saree, perfectly complementing Indore's sunny and bright climate. In the evening, I opted for a white lehenga adorned with dazzling mirror work, creating a dreamy and enchanting look," she said.

The show airs on &TV.

Journey ends for Archana Gautam and Nyrraa M Banerji as Khatron Ke Khiladi 13 gets its finalists



In this stunt-based reality show Colors Khatron Ke Khiladi 13, the semi-finale episode left viewers stunned, as it culminated in an unexpected double elimination.

During this pivotal episode, contestants Nyrraa M Banerji, Arch-

ana Gautama and Rashmeet Kaur found themselves at the bottom of the scoreboard, setting the stage for a nerve-wracking elimination challenge.

The elimination stunt required the three contestants to ride a cycle across a plank, jump off

it, grab a net, and pick flags in the least amount of time. Rashmeet Kaur outperformed Archana Gautam. Moreover, in a shocking twist, host Rohit Shetty and crew members forbade Nyrraa from performing the stunt for the sake of safety.

Talking about her elimination, Nyrraa says, "At the beginning of the show, I feared everything and now that I'm eliminated from the show, I know that I can fight my fears. I'm so glad that my mother and brother encouraged me to be part of this incredible adventure."

Spending time with contestants who came from different walks of life taught me many valuable lessons. I felt dejected because I got eliminated on a technicality in the semi-finale."

Sharing thoughts on being eliminated, Archana says, "My heart was full as I bid farewell to this amazing show. I am thankful to God for this wonderful opportunity to connect with the viewers, who have loved me for who I am. This was a life-changing experience for me. I am disheartened that I was eliminated from the show after having come so close to winning the trophy."

Here's sending lots of love to all the people who rooted for me and enjoyed watching me on the show."

PM Modi Pays Tributes To Jayaprakash Narayan, Nanaji Deshmukh On Their Birth Anniversaries

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid tribute to Jayaprakash Narayan, the hero of the anti-Emergency movement, on his birth anniversary, saying his selfless service will always inspire people.

PM Modi lauded Jayaprakash Narayan, fondly called JP and also a noted freedom fighter, as the pioneer of "total revolution", a slogan he coined to mobilise the masses against the then Indira Gandhi government, which imposed the Emergency in 1975.

He strived his whole life to strengthen Indian democracy,



the prime minister said in a post in Hindi on X.

Jayaprakash Narayan was born in Bihar in 1902 and

emerged as one of the leading Socialist figures in the country.

PM Modi also paid tribute to Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader

Nanaji Deshmukh on his birth anniversary, saying he dedicated his life to the development of villages and tribal regions.

His sacrifices and service will inspire every generation, he said.

Nanaji Deshmukh, who came from the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), actively collaborated with JP in coordinating protests against the Indira Gandhi government and was lauded for voluntarily quitting politics later to dedicate his life to social service.

He was born in Maharashtra in 1916.

PM Modi to visit Uttarakhand tomorrow, lay foundation stone of various projects

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will pay a day-long visit to Uttarakhand on Thursday during which he will offer prayers at Parvati Kund and Jageshwar Dham and inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of development projects worth about Rs 4,200 crore in Pithoragarh.

In a statement, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said Modi would reach Jollingkong in Pithoragarh district around 8.30 am and offer prayers at Parvati Kund.

He will also seek the blessings of the holy Adi-Kailash at this place. The area is well known for its spiritual importance and natural beauty, the PMO said.

The Prime Minister will reach Gunji village in Pithoragarh around 9.30 am where he will interact with local people and visit an exhibition highlighting local art and products.

He will also interact with the personnel of

the Army, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), according to the statement.

At around 12 noon, Modi will reach Jageshwar in Almora district where he will offer prayers at Jageshwar Dham. Located at an altitude of about 6,200 feet, the Jageshwar Dham comprises about 224 stone temples.

Post that, the Prime Minister will reach Pithoragarh around 2.30 pm and inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth about Rs 4,200 crore in sectors such as rural development, road, power, irrigation, drinking water, horticulture, education, health and disaster management, among others, the statement said.

The projects that will be inaugurated and dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Modi include 76 rural roads and 25 bridges built in rural areas under the

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; 15 buildings of BDO offices in nine districts; and the upgrading of three roads built under the central road fund, it added.

The projects whose foundation stone will be laid include a scheme for the construction of 21,398 poly-houses, which will help in increasing the production of flowers and vegetables and improving their quality, a scheme for cultivation of high-density intensive apple orchards and five NH projects, according to the statement.

These also include projects to upgrade the state emergency operation centre in Dehradun, prevent landslides in Baliana and Nainital, and improve other infrastructure.

The Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of a 50-bedded hospital block in Champawat, Astro turf Hockey Ground at Haldwani Stadium, Nainital, and a Velodrome Stadium at Rudrapur.

FCRA violations case: CBI searches at residence of NewsClick founder

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): The CBI has registered an FIR into the alleged FCRA violations by news portal NewsClick and carried out raids at two locations on Wednesday, officials said.

A team of agency officials searched the residence and office of NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha,

who was recently arrested by the Delhi Police in a case under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, they said.

It is alleged that the portal received foreign funds in violation of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), they said.

In its probe against the portal, the Delhi Police had alleged that



funds were fraudulently infused by an active member of the propa-

ganda department of the Communist Party of China, Neville Roy

Singham. The allegations have been denied by the portal.

Taxi driver dragged under wheels of car in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): A 43-year-old taxi driver died after being dragged under the wheels of his own vehicle for several metres while resisting a carjacking attempt on a busy road in southwest Delhi's Vasant Kunj area, police said on Wednesday.

A video purporting to show the man being dragged under the car on Tuesday has become widely circulated on social media.

The Delhi Police said it received a call about a man's body lying near the NH-8 service road in Vasant Kunj North at



11.30 pm.

The victim has been identified as Bijender, a resident of Faridabad.

The police have registered a murder case in this connection.

It is suspected that the victim was attacked during a robbery bid but the police are trying

to piece together the sequence of events, officials said.

The incident is a re-run of the hit-and-run case in which a 20-year-old woman was dragged to death while she was trapped under a car in the Kanjhawala area of Delhi on new year's day.

Cancel transfer orders of CAG officers who exposed scams: Congress

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Accusing the Modi government of getting three officers of the CAG's office transferred for exposing "corruption" in major government schemes, Congress party today demanded immediate cancellation of the transfer orders.

"The Modi government operates mafia style under a cloak of silence and intimidation. If anyone exposes its modus operandi of corruption, they are threatened or removed", Congress general secretary in-charge of communi-



cations Jai Ram Ramesh said in a statement on Wednesday.

Ramesh said the latest victims are three officers of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), who exposed "scams" in government schemes

in a report tabled during the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

Ramesh said the CAG report showed scams across infrastructure and social schemes. It documented 1400% cost inflation and ten-

dering irregularities in the Dwarka Expressway, in addition to a diversion of Rs. 3,600 crore from highways projects, faulty bidding practices, and 60% cost inflation of Bharatmala scheme.

An audit of the Ayushman Bharat scheme showed lakhs of claims made to dead patients and at least 7.5 lakh beneficiaries linked to a single mobile number, Ramesh said.

Citing media reports, Ramesh said three CAG officers in charge of reporting on the Ayushman Bharat and Dwarka

Expressway "scams" have been transferred to "hide the blatant corruption" in the Modi Government. Ramesh said this is despite the fact that the CAG is supposed to be an independent body.

"We demand that these transfer orders should be cancelled immediately, the officers return to the CAG and action must be taken on these mega scams relating to Dwarka Expressway, Bharatmala and Ayushman Bharat", the Congress leader demanded.

Indian TV actor claims sister, husband killed in cold blood in front of their kids in Israel attack

MUMBAI, Oct 11 (Agencies): As the war between Israel and Gaza escalates, gruesome details of the horror of Hamas' attack on Israel are emerging.

Actor Madhura Naik, who is known for her work in 'Naagin', 'Uttaran' and 'Breathe', has shared that her sister and brother-in-law were killed by the Hamas terrorists during the attack on Israel.

She took to Instagram to share details, which left the netizens shocked. She shared that the two were killed right in front of the eyes of their kids in Israel. She said women, children and the elderly

were being targeted in Israel and murdered in broad daylight.

View this post on Instagram

A post shared by Madhura Naik (@madhura.naik)

She wrote: "Odaya, my sister and her husband were brutally murdered by Palestinian terrorists in front of their children, were found dead today. Deeply saddened by the tragic loss of our beloved cousin in the terror attack. Her warmth, kindness, and love will always be remembered."

She further mentioned, "Our thoughts and prayers are with her and all the victims. May they



rest in peace.

Please stand with us and the people of Israel in this time of difficulty. It's time people see the reality of these terrorists and how inhumane they can be."

The actor said she had received a barrage of hate for being Jewish. She said, "I was shamed, humiliated and targeted for being Jewish. I would like to tell everyone that this

pro-Palestinian Arab propaganda, which makes Israelites look like cold-blooded killers, is not true."

The actor said she did not support violence in any form.

Man held for uploading private pictures of live-in partner on social media platforms

BENGALURU, Oct 11 (Agencies): A 26-year-old man was arrested here for allegedly posting morphed private pictures of his live-in partner on various social media platforms, police said on Wednesday.

Sanjay Kumar was in live-in relationship with his 24-year-old girlfriend for some time now. The two hail from Vellore in Tamil Nadu and knew each other since class 10. The couple was planning to get married.

The man derived "pleasure" from reading comments posted below the uploaded pictures of her girlfriend,

they said.

The woman along with Sanjay Kumar filed a complaint with police alleging someone had uploaded her private pictures on some social media platforms such as Telegram and Instagram.

Based on the complaint, a case was registered under section 420 (Cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property) of the India Penal Code and other relevant sections of the Information Technology Act, a senior police officer said.

As part of the probe, the investigators

approached the social media platforms concerned to take down those photos and also sought details of the alleged account holder through whose handle they were uploaded online.

During investigation, it turned out that it was in fact her boyfriend who had posted them, he added.

The accused was then arrested and he confessed to the crime during interrogation.

He had also posted morphed pictures of his friends and relatives on social media platforms, police said.

Man arrested for sending email threatening attack on Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad

AHMEDABAD, Oct 11 (Agencies): The Ahmedabad crime branch has arrested a man for allegedly sending an email threatening attack on the Narendra Modi Stadium in the city, officials said on Wednesday.

The accused, who has no criminal background, was arrested from Rajkot, they said.

The massive stadium

is one of the venues of the ongoing cricket World Cup and the India-Pakistan cricket match will be played here on October 14.

The accused had allegedly sent an email claiming that there would be a blast on the stadium, an official said without elaborating.

The accused, a native of Madhya Pradesh,

resided on the outskirts of Rajkot. "He had issued a brief mail from his phone and carrying his name. He has no criminal background," the official said.

The Ahmedabad police earlier said extra security arrangements had been made for the India-Pakistan match on October 14.

The face-off between

the neighbours on the cricket field is expected to draw a huge crowd.

More than 11,000 personnel of various agencies including Gujarat Police, NSG, RAF, and home guards among others will be deployed in Ahmedabad and at the Narendra Modi Stadium during the match, a senior official said on Monday.

Self-styled godman arrested in Delhi for sexual assault

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): A 33-year-old self-styled godman was arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting women on the pretext of helping them with their problems, police said on Wednesday.

Vinod Kashyap, who also runs a YouTube channel, was arrested in connection with two complaints of sexual assault registered at Dwarka North police



station, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) M Harsha Vardhan said.

"Vinod ran the Mata Masani Chowki Darbar in Kakrola area. He also

ran a YouTube channel, which has a large following," the officer said.

"In both the cases, it was alleged that he called the women devotees on the pretext of

helping with their problems and told them that they must do 'guru seva'. He then sexually assaulted the women and threatened them not to disclose the incident," he said.

The police registered two cases under Sections 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the IPC and arrested the accused. Further investigation is under way, Vardhan added.

Smell of death hangs thick in Israeli village near Gaza border where bodies of babies, men and women lie scattered in ruin

KFAR AZA, Oct 11 (Agencies): On the road approaching this rural village, the bodies of militants lie scattered between the shells of burned-out cars. Walls and doors of what used to be neatly kept stucco homes are blasted wide open. As bags holding the bodies of slain residents await identification, the smell of death hangs thick in the hot afternoon air.

This is the scene confronting Israel's military as it battles to beat back a sweeping assault launched by Hamas from the Gaza Strip.

"You see the babies, the mothers, the fathers in their bedrooms and how the terrorists killed," Maj Gen Itay Veruz, a 39-year veteran of the Israeli army who led forces that reclaimed the village from militants, said on Tuesday as he stood amid the wreckage.

"It's not a battlefield. It's a massacre."

The Israeli military led a group of journalists, including an Associated Press reporter, on a tour of the village on Tuesday, a day after retaking it from what they said was a group of about 70 Hamas fighters.

Kfar Aza, surrounded by farms and just a few minutes down a country road from the heavily fortified fence Israel erected around Gaza, is one



of more than 20 towns and villages attacked by Palestinian fighters early on Saturday. Before the attack, the kibbutz, whose name means "Gaza village" in English, was a modestly prosperous place with a school, a synagogue and a population of more than 700.

Walking through what is left provides chilling evidence of its destruction.

On the town's perimeter, the gate that once protected residents had been blasted open. Inside the settlement, the doors of many homes had been blown from their hinges by militants using rocket-propelled grenades. Throughout the town, walls and torched cars

are riddled with bullet holes, tracing a path of violence that continues inside to bedrooms with mattresses spattered in blood, safe rooms that could not withstand the attack, even bathrooms.

Inside one partially destroyed home a framed quotation from a popular television theme song hinted at what Kfar Aza meant to its residents: "I'll be there for you, because you're there for me, too," it read. "In this house, we are friends."

Outside, unexploded hand grenades were scattered on the ground. A few minutes away, a Hamas flag lay crumpled in the dirt near a paraglider, used by militants to attack by air.

By the time journalists were escorted into the town on

Tuesday, rescuers had already removed the bodies of most of the villagers killed in the attack. But reporters watched as crews carried several more bags containing bodies to a truck and then to a lot in front of Kfar Aza's synagogue, where workers attached name tags.

An AP reporter saw the bodies of about 20 militants, many of them badly bloated and disfigured. Hundreds of Israeli soldiers, in helmets and body armour, patrolled the town on Tuesday, as the sounds of explosions and gunfire echoed in the distance.

Veruz, retired from the military for eight years before he was recalled on Saturday, said the scene was unlike anything he had ever witnessed, even in a country where violent clashes with Hamas and other militant groups are frequent. A military spokesman, Maj Doron Spielman, agreed, comparing the toll in Kfar Aza and nearby villages he visited to scenes he witnessed as a New Yorker after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

"I remember going through 9/11 and waking up the next day, the next week, and everything had changed," he said. "It's the same thing again. But worse because we're such a small country."

6.3 magnitude earthquake shakes part of western Afghanistan where earlier quake killed over 2,000



HERAT, Oct 11 (Agencies): Another strong earthquake shook part of western Afghanistan on Wednesday morning after an earlier quake killed more than 2,000 and flattened whole villages.

The latest 6.3-magnitude earthquake was about 28 kilometres outside Herat, the capital of Herat province, and 10 kilometres deep, according to the US Geological Survey. The epicentre of Saturday's quake was about 40 kilometres northwest of the provincial capital, and several aftershocks have been strong.

Taliban officials said more than 2,000 people

had died across Herat after the earlier quakes. They subsequently said the quakes killed and injured thousands but didn't give a breakdown of casualties.

Information on damage from the latest tremor was not immediately available. But there is little left of the villages in the region's dusty hills besides rubble and funerals.

In Naib Rafi, a village that previously had about 2,500 residents, people said almost no one was still alive besides men who were working outside when the quake struck. Survivors worked all day with excavators to dig long trenches for mass

burials.

On a barren field in the district of Zinda Jan, a bulldozer removed mounds of earth to clear space for a long row of graves.

"It is very difficult to find a family member from a destroyed house and a few minutes to later bury him or her in a nearby grave, again under the ground," said Mir Agha, from the city of Herat, who had joined hundreds of volunteers to help the locals.

Nearly 2,000 houses in 20 villages were destroyed, the Taliban have said. The area hit by the quakes has just one government-run hospital.

Gaza Will "Never Go Back To What It Was": Israeli Defence Minister

TEL AVIV, Oct 11 (Agencies): Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) is moving to "full offence" against Hamas targets as the counter-offensive in the wake of the terror attacks rages on, The Times of Israel reported.

In an address to troops deployed along the Gaza border, the Israeli Defence Minister said, "I have released all the restraints. We have [regained] control of the area and we are moving to a full offence."

He asserted that Gaza will "never go back to what it was."

"You will have the ability to change the reality here. You have seen the prices [being paid], and you will get to see the change. Hamas wanted a change in Gaza; it will change 180 degrees from what I thought," The Times of Israel quoted the minister as saying in a report.

"They will regret this moment, Gaza will never go back to what it was," the Defence minister said, adding that Israel, with all its might and, without compromise, would eliminate "whoever comes to decapitate, murder women, Holocaust survivors".

Hinting at the ongoing counter-offensive continuing for several months, he added, "We will return here, to Be'eri, in a few months, and the situation will be different. We will resettle the kibbutz until its last meter."

After Gallant's address, the top spokesperson for Israeli Defence Forces (IDF), Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, said killing senior Hamas members was a top priority, according to a report by The Times of Israel.

Informing that the troops were still looking for Hamas terrorists in southern Israel after the multi-pronged terror attacks on Saturday morning, Hagari added, "The directive to



the forces is clear. Find terrorists and destroy them."

"We are making a strong defence on the border. There were infiltration attempts today, but the terrorists were eliminated before they reached the fence," he added.

The bodies of 103 terrorists were found in Kibbutz Be'eri, he said, adding that Hamas gunmen murdered more than 100 Israelis in Kibbutz.

Meanwhile, as part of the ongoing counter-offensive against Hamas, dozens of Israeli Air Force fighters struck over 200 targets in the Al-Furqan neighbourhood, a spot from which Hamas launches attacks, according to a report.

In a post shared on X, IDF stated, "Dozens of Israeli Air Force fighter jets struck over 200 targets in the Al-Furqan neighbourhood—a terrorist hotspot from which Hamas devises and executes their attacks."

This is the 3rd counter-strike in the area during the last 24 hours, in which 450 targets were struck."

It added that dozens of fighter jets hit over 70 targets through Darje Tupah in Gaza on Tuesday night.

"Dozens of IAF fighter jets attacked more than 70 targets throughout Darje Tupah in Gaza tonight. The Darje Tupah area serves as a terrorist nest for the terrorist organization Hamas and from where many activities against Israel are carried out," the Israeli

Air Force posted on X.

It added that it will continue to act powerfully against the terror infrastructure, which enables Hamas to plot and execute attacks on Israel.

Meanwhile, the IDF also confirmed that the first plane carrying US armaments arrived at the Nevatim Airbase in southern Israel on Wednesday. It added that cooperation between the two militaries is a key part of ensuring regional security and stability in times of war.

The Israeli security forces also bombed the house of the father of Mohammed Deif, the head of Hamas's military wing believed to be the key plotter of the terror attacks, The Times of Israel reported.

As the war against Hamas entered its fifth day, the toll from the rocket and ambush attacks by the terror outfit in Israel mounted to over 1,200, with more than 2,700 injured and 50 confirmed to have been taken hostage or missing, the IDF stated.

It added that over 4,500 rockets have been fired from Gaza, so far.

On the other side, over 770 Palestinians have also been killed in air raids by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF). The Health Ministry in Gaza said, adding that another 4,000 have been wounded in the ongoing counter-offensive.

Among the dead are 140 children and 120 women, the ministry spokesperson said.

'If they intervene...': Iraqi-Yemeni armed groups warn US amid Israel-Hamas war

BAGHDAD, Oct 11 (Agencies): Powerful Iraqi and Yemeni armed groups aligned with Iran have threatened to target US interests with missiles and drones if Washington intervenes to support Israel in its conflict with Hamas in Gaza that already shows signs of expanding to further fronts.

The comments come amid strong support by the United States for Israel's response to the attacks and a US pledge to rapidly provide additional munitions to Israel and deploy a carrier strike group to the Eastern Mediterranean.

In Iraq, Kataib Hezbollah, a powerful armed faction with close ties to Iran, said it would target US bases with missiles, drones and its special forces if Washington



intervened in the conflict.

US officials have accused the group of previous attacks on US interests in Iraq. The group has denied the claims.

The United States currently has 2,500 troops in Iraq - and an additional 900 in neighbouring Syria - on a mission to advise and assist local forces in combating Islamic State, which in 2014 seized swathes

of territory in both countries.

Iraqi politician Hadi Al-Amiri, leader of political and military group the Badr Organisation that is close to Iran, had made similar threats.

"If they intervene, we will intervene ... we will consider all American targets legitimate," Al-Amiri said.

Badr comprises a large part of Iraq's Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF), the state para-

military organisation that contains many Iran-backed factions.

The PMF has voiced its "unequivocal support" for the Palestinian factions fighting Israel and the Iraqi government has said the Palestinian operations were a natural outcome of what it calls "oppressive" policies by Israel.

In past years, Iranian-backed militias in Iraq regularly targeted US forces in Iraq and the US embassy in Baghdad with rockets, though such attacks have abated under a truce in place since last year, as Iraq enjoys a period of relative calm.

'AXIS OF RESISTANCE'

In Yemen, the leader of the powerful Houthi Movement warned that the group would respond

to any US intervention in Gaza with drones, missiles and other military options.

He said the group was ready to coordinate intervention with other members of the so-called "Axis of Resistance" which encompasses Iranian-backed Shi'ite Muslim factions in Iraq and Lebanon's Hezbollah group, which has already entered the fray.

Yemen's Houthi movement has battled a Saudi-led coalition since 2015 in a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands, during which it has targeted strategic assets in the Gulf, most notably energy facilities in Saudi Arabia.

Yemen has enjoyed a year of relative calm as peace negotiations gain traction.

NASA To Reveal First Images Of Largest Asteroid Sample Collected In Space

Scientists think similar asteroids could have delivered organic building blocks to Earth along with water through collisions billions of years ago.

HOUSTON, Oct 11 (Agencies): NASA is set to reveal on Wednesday the first images of the largest asteroid sample ever collected in space, something scientists hope will yield clues about the earliest days of our solar system and perhaps the origins of life itself.

The OSIRIS-REx mission collected rock and dust from the asteroid Bennu in 2020, and a capsule containing the precious cargo successfully returned to Earth a little over two weeks ago, landing in the Utah desert.

It is now being painstakingly analyzed in a specialized clean room at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

The space agency will hold a live streamed news conference at

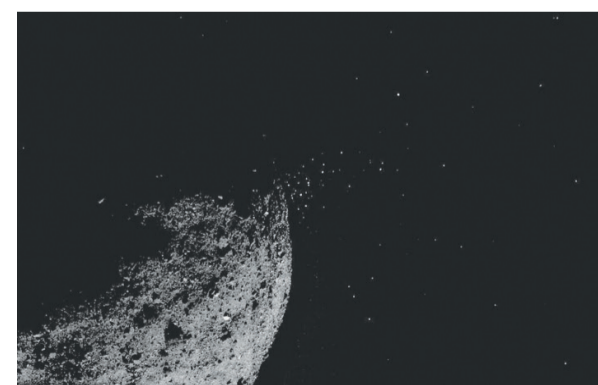
11:00 am Eastern Time (1500 GMT) to share photographs and preliminary scientific analysis.

OSIRIS-REx wasn't the first mission to rendezvous with an asteroid and bring back samples for study -- Japan succeeded in the feat twice, returning bits of space pebbles in 2010 and 2020.

But the substantial amount of material -- 250 grams (half a pound) -- as opposed to the 5.4 grams returned by Japan's Hayabusa2 -- is a key difference.

NASA chose to sample Bennu because it is believed to be rich in organic compounds.

Scientists think similar asteroids could have delivered organic building blocks to Earth along with water through collisions billions of years ago.



Bennu's orbit, which intersects that of our planet, also made the roundtrip journey easier than going to the Asteroid Belt, which lies between Mars and Jupiter.

NASA researchers have so far been heartened by the discovery of "bonus particles," described as black dust and debris coating the sample collector.

Back in October 2020, when OSIRIS-REx probe shot nitrogen gas

at Bennu to collect its sample, a flap meant to seal it got wedged open with a piece of rock, allowing some of the finer material to flow out of the collector without escaping altogether.

"The very best 'problem' to have is that there is so much material, it's taking longer than we expected to collect it," said deputy OSIRIS-REx curation lead Christopher Snead, in a statement.

"It's really spectacular

to have all that material there."

It's thought that Bennu formed from pieces of a larger asteroid in the asteroid belt, following a massive collision between one and two billion years ago.

Data gathered by the spacecraft revealed the particles making up its exterior were so loosely packed that if a person were to step onto the surface, they might sink in, much like stepping into a pit of plastic balls.

In addition to scientific insights, better understanding of Bennu's composition could prove useful if humanity ever needs to steer it away.

While it has no chance of hitting Earth through the mid 2100s, the chances rise to around 1 in 1750 between then and the year 2300, NASA says.

DC presides over Public Outreach Camp at Dassal Panchayat

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Oct 11: In a resounding display of commitment to effective governance and prompt issue resolution, Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal led a successful public outreach event in Dassal panchayat of block Rajouri as part of the Weekly Block Diwas initiative.

The event provided a crucial platform for residents and their representatives to articulate a range of concerns, encompassing road maintenance, staffing enhancements in government institutions, water scarcity, and healthcare infrastructure improvement. Specific issues which were raised during the event were upgradation of MS Kariyan for HS level, scarcity of water, PDD issues etc.

Amid the proceedings, government officials also seized the opportunity to raise awareness about ongoing schemes, fostering public participation and urging residents to take advantage of available initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner underscored the dedication of the administration to delivering essential services directly to the community. He reassured the public that earnest efforts were underway to realize this objective.



Extending appreciation to all stakeholders for their contributions to various government endeavors, he lauded their diligence and encouraged their continued commitment to public welfare.

Moreover, the Deputy Commissioner ensured that grievances of the citizens have been noted and that concerned departments would take step-wise actions to address genuine concerns.

During the event, immediate directives were issued to prioritize and resolve the issues raised by the public in a time-bound manner, resulting in the on-the-spot resolution of several matters.

In a resolute response to the pressing issue of water scarcity, the Deputy Commissioner extended a solemn promise to the public. With unwavering determination, he pledged that every household across the district would soon enjoy the luxury of functional,

readily accessible tapped water connections. This commitment is backed by the ambitious and transformative Jal Jeevan Mission schemes, which are set to be implemented with utmost diligence and efficiency.

Addressing the concern of left-over beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G), the DC assured that every eligible beneficiary who had previously been left out would be comprehensively included under the scheme. This unwavering commitment underscores the dedication of the administration to ensuring that no deserving individual is left behind, and that the dream of a safe and secure home becomes a reality for all.

In response to the concern of upgrading MS Kariyan to the HS level, the Deputy Commissioner expressed resolute commitment to address this issue effectively. He assured the public that he will take

up the matter with the concerned authorities.

Regarding the issues of the power sector, the Deputy Commissioner said that the district administration is committed to resolve all the issues regarding the PDD sector for the convenience of the public so that no issue becomes a hurdle in the installation of the receiving station.

The Deputy Commissioner also extended his heartfelt congratulations to all the stakeholders for the successful completion of the "Meri Maati Mera Desh" campaign throughout the district. This monumental achievement stands as a testament to the unwavering spirit and unity of the people. In addition to this, he proudly announced that the "Amrit Kalash" programs have also been successfully organised in every single block within the district.

Concluding the event, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of sustained

progress and collaboration among stakeholders, aimed at elevating the quality of life for district residents. The successful Weekly Block Diwas in Dassal panchayat of block Rajouri showcased a multitude of issues discussed and effectively resolved. Commendations poured in from appreciative residents who recognized the administration's dedication to issue resolution.

The Block Diwas has emerged as an exceptional forum, fostering direct dialogue between the public and district authorities. It stands as a source of immense contentment, allowing citizens to voice grievances and witness prompt actions to address them. The event highlighted the proactive stance of the administration in redressing public concerns and unwavering dedication to serving its constituents.

Among the others who attended the event were CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; PO ICDS, Shoket Mehmood Malik; ACP, Sheraz Chowhan; DPO, Auqil Nuvaid; AD Employment, EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; EXEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid; EXEN PWD(R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan and other district and sectoral officers.

Dogra Front & Shiv Sena stages protest against political flip-flopping on Art 370



Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 11: Dogra Front and Shiv Sena, under the leadership of Ashok Gupta, organized a protest rally in the city of Jammu.

The protest was aimed at highlighting what they perceived as the double standards of the opposition political parties in Jammu and Kashmir concerning Article 370.

The protesting Party's President stated that opposition parties in Jammu & Kashmir had initially declared that they would not contest elections until Article 370 was restored. However, after securing victories in the

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) elections, their stance and promises have undergone a noticeable change.

It was noted that leaders of prominent opposition parties, including Mufti and Farooq Abdullah, were conspicuously absent from the protest.

The political party leading the protest had, at one point, vowed not to participate in elections until Article 370 was reinstated.

Yet, they are now openly celebrating their majority in the LAHDC elections. According to Mr. Ashok Gupta, this apparent contradiction in their position

demonstrates opportunistic politics, which he believes misleads the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

He further emphasized that Article 370 is now a thing of the past, and any political party attempting to reinstate it would likely face a backlash from the electorate, resulting in a loss of voter support.

Present at the time of the protest were several key members of the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena, including Ramesh, Geeta, Rahul, Ashish, Amit, Brij, Sushil, Akshay, Rakesh, Rajkumari, Prem Satya, Prem, Abhishek, and many others.

VC DDC Udhampur launches macadamization work of Balpur to Kamdala PMGSY road

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, OCT 11: Vice Chairperson District Development Council Udhampur, Juhi Manhas Pathania, in presence of PRIs and local public, on Wednesday inaugurated macadamization work on Balpur (Dhar road to Kamdala (Babey) via Sundla road in Teshil Majalta amid thunderous applause, rendering of slogans and boosters of appreciation from the locals of the area.

The road is being built at a cost of Rs 8.28 crore and would connect to 3 villages benefiting almost 2000

souls of the area. The said road fulfils the long pending demand of the people for a standard all weather road. Pathania congratulated the people of the area and informed them that the said road project is the first road under PMGSY-III in District Udhampur which is nearing completion.

For this, she applauded the efforts of all those involved in making this project a reality especially the PMGSY authorities and contractor agency and urged them to continue working towards achieving the goal of providing better connectivity and quality infrastructure

to rural areas. Moreover, the people of the area also appreciated the authorities and expressed their gratitude for the early completion of the project which will provide them a much needed relief.

The construction of this road is a significant milestone for the people in the area and a testament to the government's commitment to improving rural infrastructure. The road is expected to boost economic activity in the region and improve the overall quality of life for the people.

Later, the Vice Chairperson distributed joining letters to newly



recruited AAYAS in a programme organised by the Department of School Education at ZEO office Babey.

Pathania, while sensitising the newly appointed "Aayaas," exhorted them to play a vital role in schools, encompass-

ing a significance that goes beyond their designated responsibilities. Their importance lies in their contribution to maintaining a safe, nurturing, and efficient educational environment, ultimately influencing the overall learn-

ing experience for both students and educators. Firstly, Aayaas provides invaluable assistance in managing the day-to-day operations of schools. They help in maintaining cleanliness, ensuring proper hygiene, and organizing spaces, which are essential for a conducive learning atmosphere. Their efforts contribute directly to the well-being and health of the students, creating a positive and comfortable environment that is conducive to learning. Moreover, Aayaas often serve as extended caregivers and emotional support for young children, especially in

primary schools.

Furthermore, Aayaas contributes to the safety and security of the students. They are vigilant and watchful, ensuring that students are protected from potential hazards and incidents. Their presence and alertness add an extra layer of assurance for both students and parents, allowing them to have peace of mind while the students are at school. They contribute to the overall well-being of the school environment, impacting the safety, cleanliness, and emotional comfort of students. Their influence extends beyond their designated duties,

making them an integral part of the school community and an essential component in the educational experience for both students and educators.

Prominent among those who remained present included Vishal Sadhotra, BDO Khoon, Putter Ram, ZEO Babay, Amit Abrol AEE PMGSY, Raman Khajuria, Sarpanch Sundla, Kamala Devi Sarpanch Babey, Manoj Verma Sarpanch Bilaspur, Nisha Sharma Sarpanch Mottu, charan Das Naib Sarpanch Nakki, Shiv Ram, Kulwant Singh, Bishan Singh and others.

FROM PAGE 1

President Murmu arrives in Srinagar, pays tribute at Martyrs' Memorial

Following Murmu's arrival, Sinha said in a post on X, "Extended a warm welcome to Hon'ble President Smt Droupadi Murmu ji on her arrival at Srinagar airport." Security has been beefed up in Srinagar and adjoining areas for the visit.

Security forces, including police and Central Reserve Police Force, have been deployed in and around Kashmir University.

Latest gadgetry such as drones and CCTV cameras are being used to maintain vigil in the city.

Learning fosters critical and analytical thinking in professional careers: LG Sinha

students and scholars. "I am grateful to Murmu for gracing University of Kashmir's Convocation Ceremony with her august presence", Sinha said, adding "It was heartening for me to know that out of total students conferred with gold medals today, more than 66% are our daughters". Accomplishment of our daughters, their self-confidence, courage and the ability to create new records in education and various other fields is a matter of great pride for the entire Union Territory, the Lt

Governor said. He said it is a reflection of a brighter future for the nation and a step towards women-led development.

Sinha said that higher educational institutions must strive to create a strong ecosystem for advanced research, innovation, new invention & suitably respond to society & industries needs.

"We need to have a robust mechanism to serve local communities & bring change in the life of the last man in queue", he added.

The Lt Governor said convocation is a very important day in the academic calendar as well as in student's lives. It is a stepping stone on the path of progress, both academic and professional with infinite opportunities to contribute to build a strong and 'Viksit Bharat'.

Inter-state narcotics network: J&K police, Punjab counterparts arrest key accused

On October 1, two narcotic smugglers were arrested with 30-kg heroin worth crores of rupees from a vehicle in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir. The recovery was made from a Punjab-bound vehicle on the Srinagar-Jammu national highway.

We all should jointly fight militancy: Ghulam Nabi Azad on terror incidents

in J&K

On the dharna by the main Opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir, including the National Conference, the Congress and the PDP, on Tuesday for restoration of democratic and constitutional rights in the Union Territory, Azad said, "The leaders who had given the call (for the demonstration) were themselves absconding."

"This shows their seriousness," he said in an apparent reference to NC chief Farooq Abdullah and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti, who could not make it to the dharna on Tuesday.

Azad, who met several delegations, particularly of the Gujjar-Bakarwal community, said the government should look into the issues of this community and address their grievances.

RTO Kashmir records revenue of Rs 200 Cr in Q1, Q2 of FY 2023-24

and 305 commercial permits were suspended or cancelled in the last two quarters.

It was revealed that during the Q1 & Q2 of the financial year, 43297 new vehicles were registered. Also, 2604 fresh permits were issued and 9792 renewed; 2627 fresh fitness certificates were issued and 14256 renewed; 17599 fresh driving licenses were issued and 17956 renewed, besides 6594 vehicle transfer cases were completed in the first two quarters. RTO Kashmir reiterated the impor-

importance of prioritizing a smooth and reliable public transport system to enhance the convenience of the general public. "By implementing an efficient public transport system, the number of cars on the roads can be significantly reduced, thereby alleviating traffic congestion. It will not only ensure ease of mobility for the residents but also contribute to more sustainable and environment friendly transportation", he stated.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Regional Transport Officers from all 10 districts in the Kashmir division.

Drugs smuggler succumbs to bullet wound in Jammu

Nazir was shot at by Army troops when he attempted to escape after being signalled to stop while trying to smuggle narcotic substances from across the border. A packet containing drugs was seized from him at the time of his arrest, they added. He succumbed to his injuries around 1.25 am and his body was shifted to the mortuary for post-mortem, they said.

His body will be handed over to his family after legal formalities are completed, the officials said.

Groom denied bail for skipping his wedding reception over dowry

had been made against them. They also noted that the alleged offences car-

ried a maximum prison term of seven years. Therefore, they argued for their release on bail in accordance with the Supreme Court's guidelines outlined in the Arnesh Kumar case.

While acknowledging the general principle that bail is the norm and detention the exception, the judge concluded that this case warranted an exception, citing the public outcry and the role of the accused's arrest in maintaining peace in the area.

"In my opinion, the Arnesh Kumar judgment cannot be treated as a bail order or a magical solution to secure the accused's release on bail," the Court emphasised.

The court also noted that the case was still in the early stages of investigation and more severe charges could potentially be added.

In a related development, the complainant's lawyer argued that the offense of rape might apply in this case, as the groom had allegedly persuaded the complainant to engage in a physical relationship on a "false promise of marriage."

Considering these factors, the Court dismissed the bail application of the groom and his father.

Advocates Sheikh Mudasir, Irfan Javid, and Adil Nabi represented the bail applicants, while Additional Public Prosecutor Romisa Rasool represented the Jammu and Kashmir government. Advocates Zahid Hussain Dar and Syed Irfan Muhammad appeared on behalf of the complainant.

Sensex, Nifty gain for 2nd straight session as oil prices stabilise

The S&P BSE Sensex was up 425.68 points at 66,505.04 at 9:55 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 gained 122.20 points to 19,812.05.

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices gained momentum for the second consecutive session as investors gained confidence from stabilizing oil prices and easing US rate concerns.

The S&P BSE Sensex was up 425.68 points at 66,505.04 at 9:55 am, while the NSE Nifty 50 gained 122.20 points to 19,812.05. Broader market indices also registered strong gains for the second consecutive day as volatility fell.

It may be noted that all 13 major sectoral indexes posted gains on the day, with notable increases in high-weightage financials, which jumped 0.5 per cent, and information technology, which added nearly 1 per cent.

Tata Consultancy Services, India's leading IT company, is set to kick off the earnings season later in the day, along



with considerations for a share buyback.

Meanwhile, realty stocks gained over 1 per cent, extending their rally following strong business updates from key constituents and the central bank's decision to pause rates last Friday.

On the other hand, Bank of Baroda faced a 2 per cent decline after the Reserve Bank of India barred the state-owned lender from adding customers to its mobile app.

Ameya Ranadive, research analyst at Choice Broking, said,

"Looking ahead, it will be pivotal for Nifty to maintain levels above 19,650, empowering bullish sentiments in building their positions. A swift ascent above 19,700 in the initial hour of trade could potentially trigger an unwinding of calls, propelling the index to higher levels."

"Immediate support is situated at 19,550 levels. Following a sharp surge on Monday, the volatility index, often referred to as the 'fear gauge', exhibited a decline on Tuesday, indicative of a market recovery," he added.

Sebi investigating ties between Adani Group and Gulf Asia fund: Report

An earlier report by the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project suggested that the fund invested in several listed Adani firms.

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): India's market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) is investigating the relationship between the Adani Group and a fund incorporated in the British Virgin Islands to see if there has been a violation of share ownership rules, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

The fund is called Gulf Asia Trade & Investment, the sources said. It is owned by Dubai businessman Nasser Ali Shaban Ahli, according to checks of its website last month although the site has since been pulled down.

The fund has invested in several listed Adani firms, according to the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) and data that the investigative journalist group has provided to Reuters.

The probe is part of the Sebi investigation into the Indian conglomerate which follows a January report by short-seller

Hindenburg Research that said offshore shell companies "surreptitiously" owned stock in Adani listed firms, posing governance concerns.

A key question for Sebi investigators is whether Gulf Asia's ties with the Adani Group were such that it would be deemed to be acting "in concert" with key Adani shareholders, said the sources, who declined to be identified as the investigations are ongoing and private.

This part of the Sebi investigation has not been previously reported.

The Adani Group did not comment on the Sebi probe and its possible ties with the fund when contacted by Reuters.

The conglomerate has previously said it categorically rejects allegations by OCCRP that there was an "opaque use" of funds by business partners to invest in its listed companies. It has also denied allegations made by Hindenburg, saying all transactions made with entities that qualified as related parties had been fully disclosed.

Sebi and Gulf Asia did not respond to requests for comment. Reuters was not able to contact Ahli. Emails and phone calls made to his main financial services firm, Al Jawda Trade and Services which is based in the United Arab Emirates, went unanswered. Merger document

Indian law stipulates that listed companies should at least be 25 per cent publicly owned to avoid price manipulation and that all deals involving entities acting in concert must identify and disclose the parties.

Ahli was described by the OCCRP in August as one of two individual investors with "longtime business ties" to the group's founder, billionaire Gautam Adani.

The non-profit global network of investigative journalists also alleged Gulf Asia used offshore structures to buy and sell Adani shares between

2013 and 2018, citing a review of filings from tax havens and internal company emails.

A filing made with the British Virgin Islands corporate registry and reviewed by Reuters shows Gulf Asia merged with EYZ Global Pte Ltd - a "related entity" of Adani Enterprises ADEL.NS, the conglomerate's flagship firm, in September 2011.

Gulf Asia was the surviving entity. At the time of the merger, EYZ shareholders would have had ownership in Gulf Asia but the information provided in the document did not make clear how much.

EYZ had been incorporated in the British territory in 2006, while Gulf Asia was incorporated there in May 2011.

According to data shared by the OCCRP with Reuters, Gulf Asia started investing in Adani shares months after Sebi ordered 105 Indian companies in June 2013 to increase the number of shares held by the public to at

least 25 per cent of their total floats.

In April 2014, Gulf Asia held \$51.4 million worth of shares in Adani Enterprises and Adani Power. In March 2017, that had increased to \$202 million in four group companies - Adani Enterprises, Adani Power, Adani Transmission and Adani Ports, according to the OCCRP data.

Adani Enterprises has not listed Gulf Asia as a related party in its annual reports, although EYZ Global was listed for the 2006-2011 fiscal years.

Sebi said in August it was close to completing its probe. At the time, it said it was investigating 24 transactions involving the group's listed companies and had completed work on 22 of them.

The Adani Group, whose businesses span ports, airports, power as well as the property sector, has seen its main seven listed firms lose a combined \$100 billion in market value since the Hindenburg report.

'Taking corrective measures': Bank of Baroda on RBI's suspension of mobile app

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): The Bank of Baroda on Wednesday issued a statement after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) suspended the lender from onboarding new customers on its 'bob World' mobile application.

The public sector bank said it has carried out corrective measures to address the concerns of the central bank, adding that it has initiated steps to "plug any remaining gaps" identified.

"We will work closely with the RBI to address their concerns at the earliest to their satisfaction," the bank said in its statement.

Bank of Baroda also assured that their existing customers will not be impacted by the RBI's directive.

"We would also like to assure

all our existing customers that they will not face any disruption whatsoever and will continue to enjoy uninterrupted services on the Bank's bob World mobile app," the bank said.

"Further, this order does not impact any of the Bank's other Digital Banking channels such as Net Banking, WhatsApp Banking, Debit Cards, ATMs, etc. for servicing its existing customers as well as for onboarding of new customers," it added.

The bank further stated that its mobile application is "fully secure with robust security controls and features".

"We do not expect this action to have a material impact on the Bank's overall business and growth plans," Bank of Baroda



said.

On Tuesday, the Reserve Bank of India suspended Bank of Baroda from onboarding new customers on its mobile application 'bob World'.

"The Reserve Bank of India has, in exercise of its power, under section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, direct-

ed Bank of Baroda to suspend, with immediate effect, any further onboarding of their customers onto the 'bob World' mobile application," the RBI said in a notification.

Shares of Bank of Baroda fell over 2 per cent in early trade and were trading over 3 per cent lower at around 1:10 pm.

Google makes passkeys default option for all users

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Google said that it is making "passkeys" (an alternative to passwords) as the default sign-in method for all users.

With passkeys, users can sign in to apps and websites with a biometric sensor (such as a fingerprint or facial recognition), PIN, or pattern, freeing them from having to remember and manage passwords.

"This means the next time you sign in to your account, you'll start seeing prompts to create and use passkeys, simplifying your future sign-ins. It also means you'll see the

'Skip password when possible' option toggled on in your Google Account settings," Google said in a blog post.

"But while they're a big step forward, we know that new technologies take time to catch on -- so passwords may be around for a little while," it added.

The tech giant also said that one of the most immediate benefits of passkeys is that they spare people the headache of remembering all those numbers and special characters in passwords, they are also phishing resistant.

According to Google, since passkeys for

Google accounts were introduced, 64 per cent of users have said that passkeys are simpler to use than more conventional techniques like passwords and two-step verification.

Meanwhile, Google has announced that it will implement stricter rules in Gmail for bulk senders from February 2024 in an effort to reduce spam and other unwanted emails.

"We're introducing new requirements for bulk senders -- those who send more than 5,000 messages to Gmail addresses in one day -- to keep your inbox even safer and more spam-free," the company said.

More side effects post Covid vax may signal antibody production, reveals study

Increases in skin temperature and heart rate also signal higher antibody levels, finds study

NEW YORK, Oct 11 (Agencies): People who experience more side effects like chills, tiredness, feeling unwell, and headache post Covid-19 vaccination may be having an enhanced antibody production in their bodies, according to a preprint study, that is not yet peer-reviewed.

Protection against SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing Covid-19, wanes over time, and booster uptake has been low.

The new study, by researchers from University of California - San Francisco, US, showed that people who had those side effects after the second dose of a Covid vaccine had more antibodies against the coronavirus at one month and six months after the shot, compared with those who did not have symptoms.

Increases in skin temperature and heart rate also signalled higher antibody levels, the study showed.

The study explored



the link between post-vaccination symptoms, biometric changes, and neutralising antibodies (nAB) after mRNA vaccination.

The team collected data from 363 adults who received two doses of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna Covid.

"We found that certain symptoms (chills, tiredness, feeling unwell, and headache) after the second dose were associated with increases in nAB at one and six months post-vaccination, to roughly 140-160 per cent the level of

individuals without each symptom," said Ethan G. Dutcher, from the UCSF's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, in the paper.

"Each additional symptom predicted a 1.1-fold nAB increase. Greater changes in skin temperature and heart rate after the second dose predicted higher nAB levels. Skin temperature had a stronger predictive relationship for six-month than one-month nAB levels," Dutcher added.

However, this doesn't

mean that people without symptoms don't muster a strong immune response, experts have said, noting that the relative increase in antibody levels among those who experienced side effects was small.

"Lack of side effects should not be taken as a sign that the vaccine's not working," Alessandro Sette, co-director of the La Jolla Institute of Immunology's Center for Vaccine Innovation, who was not involved in the work, was quoted as saying to the New York Times.

An earlier study found that 98 per cent of people who felt no ill effects still produced copious amounts of antibodies, compared with 99 percent of those who had localised symptoms or worse, Sette said.

But, the researchers said, the new findings "suggest that public health messaging could seek to reframe systemic symptoms after vaccination as desirable".

Drinking extra cup of unsweetened coffee could help with weight loss, says study



NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Coffee, a beloved beverage for many, has long been the subject of investigation regarding its potential health benefits when it comes to weight loss.

Whether or not one should have black coffee with or without additives like cream or sugar, has been debated for years.

A recent study published in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition shed light on the impact of unsweetened coffee consumption on weight, as well as the consequences of introducing sugar into one's coffee.

The study's findings revealed a noteworthy correlation: individuals who opted for unsweetened coffee experienced a slight reduction in body weight, while those who sweetened their brew with sugar encountered some degree of weight gain.

This discovery hints at the potential role of unsweetened coffee

in weight management, but it is imperative to emphasise the need for further research to validate these conclusions.

The primary objective of this study was to assess whether coffee consumption contributed to weight loss and to investigate how the addition of cream, sugar, or non-dairy whitener influenced overall health outcomes.

To accomplish this, the research drew from extensive data derived from three significant health studies: the Nurses' Health Study, the Nurses' Health Study II, and the Health Professionals Follow-up Study, collectively providing a vast dataset and a substantial number of participants.

The researchers selected participants for their analysis, applying strict inclusion criteria. For instance, individuals with missing data or pre-existing conditions such as cancer, heart disease, or diabetes at baseline were excluded

from the study. In total, the analysis comprised over 155,000 participants.

To obtain insights, researchers examined the data gathered through food frequency questionnaires, which participants completed at baseline and subsequently every four years.

These questionnaires detailed the frequency of coffee consumption, whether regular or decaffeinated, and the amount of cream, sugar, or non-dairy whitener added. The study, however, did not investigate the impact of fat-free creamer, whitener or milk.

The research also took into account changes in weight occurring at four-year intervals and controlled for various factors, including dietary habits, alcohol consumption, physical activity and medical conditions.

The study's outcomes indicated that consuming one cup of coffee daily, be it regular or decaffeinated, was linked to a modest loss of 0.12 kilograms (kg) of body weight over a four-year period.

Adding just one teaspoon of sugar daily was associated with a 0.09 kg weight gain over the same duration.

The authors of the study conclude that their results could potentially offer an effective weight management strategy, particularly for individuals with overweight and obesity, as the observed weight gain due to sugar consumption was more pronounced in these participants.

World Cup 2023: India vs Pakistan clash to start with musical ceremony, Golden ticket holders expected for game

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): The India vs Pakistan clash on October 14 in Ahmedabad in the World Cup 2023 is all set to have a grand musical ceremony to start and the golden ticket holders are also expected to be present to watch the game.

The cricket rivalry between India and Pakistan is one of the most intense in the world, with matches between the two nations attracting massive global viewership.

The head-to-head record in ODI World Cup matches has been dominated by India. India and Pakistan have faced each other seven times in the ICC Men's ODI World Cup, with India emerging victorious in all seven encounters.



India started their World Cup campaign with a win over Australia, while Pakistan have two victories in two matches to gain momentum heading into the big clash.

The match is now all set to have a grand curtain raiser

event.

There will be a musical ceremony just before the start of the high-voltage India-Pakistan game on 14th at Narendra Modi stadium. Anil Patel, secretary of GCA, said the Golden ticket-holders will be there to watch

the game.

BCCI handed out the golden tickets to Sachin Tendulkar, Rajnikanth and Amitabh Bachchan before the start of the tournament.

A lot of VIPs will be expected to be coming for the India vs Pakistan game.

The Bollywood stars event will start at 12:40 PM on the day and will end by 1:10 PM. Kids will be acting as mascots for the game and will escort teams to the ground.

20-25 Pakistani media outlets will also be coming for the match.

Patel also said that they had also received the approvals, and arranged everything for them. Some officials from PCB are also expected for the match.

Down with dengue, Gill out of Pakistan match

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): Recovering from a bout of dengue fever, Shubman Gill has been discharged from a hospital in Chennai but the India opener will most likely miss the marquee World Cup clash against Pakistan on Saturday in Ahmedabad.

Gill had to be admitted to a hospital on Sunday night after his platelet count dropped below 100,000.

It has been learnt that Gill was admitted at the renowned Kauvery hospital and the Indian team's doctor Rizwan monitored his progress. He had tested positive for the viral infection upon his arrival in Chennai last week and

ended up missing the opener against Australia on October 8. Gill will also miss today's game against Afghanistan in Delhi. He is required to rest for at least one more week and that effectively rules him out of Pakistan match. He could also miss the match against Bangladesh in Pune on October 19. "Shubman Gill was on drip at the Chennai team hotel for the last couple of days. His platelet count dropped to 70,000 and he was admitted to a medical facility as a precautionary measure. He was admitted for all mandatory tests on Sunday night when India played Australia but by Monday evening he was discharged," a

BCCI source said.

A bout of dengue weakens the body considerably and even elite athletes take time to recover completely.

For a normal person, the range of platelet count needs to be between 150,000 and 450,000. Skipper Rohit Sharma had said that his first priority for him is to see that Gill is no longer sick.

"I feel for him. But in terms of, you know, me being the human being first, I want him to get well, not the captain thinking, 'oh, I want Gill to play today'. No, I want him to get well he you know he's a young guy, he's got fit body so he'll recover quickly," Rohit had said.

FEVER PITCH: After tricky Chennai pitch, India face Afghanistan on a belter

NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (Agencies): India skipper Rohit Sharma had pointed out at the start of the World Cup that his team's biggest challenge during the tournament was playing at nine different venues.

After coming through in a tricky low-scoring encounter against Australia on a spin-friendly Chennai pitch on Sunday, the hosts take on Afghanistan at the Arun Jaitley Stadium here today. In the opening game at the venue, South Africa plundered 428 runs to break the record for the highest team total in the men's ODI World Cup. Sri Lanka then scored 326 as both teams benefited from the ground's shorter square boundaries. The match also saw South Africa's pacers taking eight of Sri Lanka's wickets.

The change in the nature of the pitch and the size of the ground may force the team management to play only two spinners and it is likely that R Ashwin may sit this match out and be replaced by either Mohammad Shami or Shardul Thakur. However, India's batting coach Vikram Rathour shied away from talking about prospective changes in the playing XI.

"We have just arrived. I think they (captain and coach) will assess the



wicket and then decide. We have not had any discussion on that yet," Rathour said.

One man who will definitely not play in this match is Shubman Gill, who is yet to recover from dengue. This means Ishan Kishan will get another chance to open the innings. The left-handed batter was dismissed for a duck after he opened alongside Sharma in the last match. The top-order wobble against Australia, when the hosts were reduced to 2/3 within the first two overs, will be a worry for the team management. Rathour, however, said he was confident that the players would be able to adapt to all situations.

"We have a very experienced batting unit at the moment. Everyone knows how they have to play in this format," he said. "Everyone has their own way. We are giving them the freedom to play the way they

want to play.

We have the trust that if they play and back themselves, we will achieve what we are looking to achieve," he added.

Looking to bounce back

Afghanistan, who are smarting from a disappointing show in their opening game against Bangladesh, will have their task cut out against India. For a team that has regularly performed in the T20 format, relying heavily on top-class spinners such as Rashid Khan and Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Afghanistan seem to be out of their depth in ODIs. They have played just 29 ODIs between the last World Cup and this one. In comparison, India have played 66. Afghanistan have lost their last five games. In their opener in Dharamsala, they were beaten by Bangladesh by six wickets after having been dismissed for 154 runs.

Mohammad Rizwan, Shafique hit tons as Pakistan script highest run chase in World Cup history

Run-fest in Hyderabad as Pakistan overhaul Lanka's 345-run target for the loss of four wickets with 10 balls to spare

HYDERABAD, Oct 11 (Agencies): Mohammad Rizwan battled severe cramps to smash an unbeaten century, while young Abdullah Shafique hit a maiden ton as Pakistan scripted a world-record chase to edge out Sri Lanka by six wickets in a high-scoring ODI to continue their winning run in the World Cup here.

Rizwan paced his innings superbly as he shared a match-winning 176-run stand for the third wicket with the 23-year-old Shafique (113) to first resurrect their chase of a stiff 345 and then added another 95 runs with Saud Shakeel (31) as Pakistan romped home in 48.2 overs.

This was the highest successful run-chase in the history of the World Cup as Pakistan extended their winning streak against Sri Lanka in World Cups to an overwhelming 8-0.

Ireland had previously held the record for the highest run chase in ODI World Cups when they successfully chased down 329 versus England during the 2011 World Cup in India.

Opting to bat, Sri Lanka dished out a dominating batting performance to post a challenging 344 for nine, built around the superlative hundreds by Kusal Mendis (122) and Sadeera Samarawickrama (108).

Sri Lanka then left Pakistan reeling at 37 for 2 in 7.2 overs with Dilshan Madushanka claiming both the wickets. While a pull shot became Imam-ul-Haq's undoing, skipper Babar failed again after trying to play one



down the legside.

However, Shafique, playing only his fifth ODI, showed great maturity as he and Rizwan steadied the ship, bringing up the team's 100 in the 19th over. Shafique, who replaced Fakhar Zaman, and Rizwan looked for damage control initially but slowly picked up pace with the former scoring his fifty off 58 balls.

Soon, the 100-run stand between the two was up as Pakistan reached 138 for 2 at the halfway mark with Sri Lanka desperately looking for a breakthrough.

While Shafique deposited two sixes over midwicket and one straight down the ground, Rizwan too produced an inside-out drive off Wellalage for four and another cut shot behind point to score his fifty off 58 balls.

Once Shafique picked up his maiden ODI ton in the 32nd over, Rizwan smashed two sixes in two balls off Madhushanka

to help Pakistan cross the 200-mark and put it in a position of strength.

A sensational diving catch by substitute Dushan Hemantha ended Shafique's stay but Sri Lanka couldn't make use of the opening.

Needing 132 runs off 102 balls, Rizwan hit two fours and a six before he fell down writhing in pain due to cramps. Despite the discomfort, the 31-year-old kept going and reached his third hundred in the 42nd over.

Rizwan and Saud Shakeel (31) brought the equation down to 62 off 48 balls with Sri Lanka too missing a few catches as 300 was up in the 44th over.

Rizwan clobbered a six over deep midwicket to take Pakistan closer but Maheesh Theekshana dismissed Shakeel but it was too late by then.

Needing 20 off 18 balls, Iftikhar Ahmed then smashed three fours off Matheesha Pathirana to dash the Islanders' hopes.

Earlier, Mendis' 77-ball 122-

run knock was the fastest hundred by a Sri Lankan in World Cup history, while Samarawickrama picked up his maiden ODI ton with a 89-ball 108 as the islanders posted their highest World Cup total against a Full Member.

The 28-year-old Mendis batted with absolute authority, clobbering six maximums and 14 fours. He starred in two 100-plus partnerships with Pathum Nissanka (51) and Samarawickrama to take Sri Lanka across the 200-mark in the 28th over.

Once Mendis was dismissed, Samarawickrama took the onus and paced his innings superbly, using his cuts and drives as Sri Lanka kept accumulating runs with ease. He cracked 11 boundaries and two sixes in his 89-ball knock.

However, Pakistan pulled things back a bit at the back-end as Hasan Ali removed Charith Asalanka (3), Mohammad Nawaz removed Dhananjaya de Silva (25) and Afridi got rid of Dasun Shanaka (12) as Pakistan conceded just 18 runs between 30 to 35 overs.

Samarawickrama held the innings together to keep Sri Lanka on track. But with the pitch slowing down, Pakistan picked up two more wickets to limit them inside 350 in the end.

For Pakistan, Hasan Ali (4/71) claimed four wickets and Haris Rauf (2/64) snapped two but overall it was a poor outing for the bowling unit, especially Shaheen Afridi (1/66 in 9 overs) and Shadab Khan (1/55 in 8 overs).

IOC chief Bach on boxing, lifting issues and more

MUMBAI, Oct 11 (Agencies): The acronym BKC perhaps is more popular than the actual name – the Bandra-Kurla Complex. Though unrelated, the same goes for the IOC. It's such a recognisable abbreviation that people don't really care if the C in IOC stands for council or committee. One thing they do know is that it is one of the most powerful sporting organisations in the world and is represented by some equally powerful administrators.

One of them is IOC President Thomas Bach, who had a small round-table discussion with select journalists. He elaborated on why the IOC slapped sanctions on the International Boxing Association (IBA) and how they are not a recognised body anymore. He also talked about cricket being part of the Olympic programme after the 2028

LA Games forwarded five sports that could be shortlisted for the Games. He said it all depends on the discussions that take place during the executive board meeting followed by the IOC session. He said he is more of a fan of T20 cricket and the sport found acceptance because of its popularity in different parts of the world and the US in particular. However, about its inclusion, he said it will depend on the programme's commission which is looking into the proposal of the 2028 LA Olympics organising committee.

On International Boxing Association and its mess

At this moment in time, as we have always said, we have no problems with the sport nor with the boxers. On the contrary, we want to have boxing in the Olympic programme because boxing is a very global

sport and a sport that you see across all countries, developing or developed countries in any continent. Majority of the boxers come from underprivileged families and boxing gives them a great chance to progress in life. Because of this high social/global value, we definitely want to have boxing in the Olympic programme. However, you can only promote these social values when you have an international federation with integrity. Unfortunately, I cannot see that in this federation and this is why we 2019, the time we suspended them, we have been giving them the opportunity to make progress, improve. They have taken some minor steps in one or two directions. And they have been announcing it a lot but there has not been so much happening and this is why, at this moment, we had



to pull the plug and say 'Okay, now you have had four years and it's getting even worse when it comes to financial transparency and governance'.

Also in regard to judging and refereeing, it's not really up to the standards we would expect from an Olympic sport. But since we want boxing on the programme, we undertook it for the second time after Tokyo. We (IOC) are organising the boxing tournament, but we can't do this forever. We are not an international federation and this is why, I guess, that the result of this meeting

here (Mumbai) will be that boxing will remain somehow pending.

On recognising World Boxing

That's too early. I'm not sure there are even 20 member federations. And I can only suggest that they do their homework. And then, we'll be ready to look at them. They don't have sufficient global representation. If they make progress on that front and then of course, we are ready to look into other issues, whether the governance is in order or if the elections are happening in a democratic manner and if the statutes are according

to the requirements. At this point, it's up to them to organise themselves. I think they have a general assembly now (October or November).

On the issue of weight-lifting

Here we have seen great progress. They have outsourced all the anti-doping management to International Testing Agency (ITA) and the sanctioning to CAS. They have started a robust anti-doping programme. We can also, at least to a certain degree, bring in a change in culture of the sport. Because it's not only about the athletes, whom you can test, it's about the coaches who are telling the athletes that 'if you don't take this, you will never have a chance to win a medal and take it'. It's a vitamin and all these sorts of things. So when we look at the numbers, there is a significant reduction in doping cases. This is the

most strict anti-doping programme weightlifting has ever had in their history.

On Olympics including more youth-oriented urban sports and where cricket fits in the narrative

From our perspective, we are ready for the Paris and LA Olympics. We have from the onset decided that skateboarding, climbing, surfing will be on the programme for Paris and for LA. And with these, they are becoming permanent sports. If nothing unforeseen happens, they will also be in the programme and in '36 and in the subsequent Games. That's our policy with these sports and our accomplished two criteria, which are very important for us. First of all, they're, as we said, young sports and secondly, they are urban sports. You may say, what does urban sports mean? Why is

this important? It is important because in our world today where the kids have so many distractions and not only the kids, also the potential sports fans have so many distractions they do not necessarily get in touch with sports. I'm coming back to the Reliance Foundation to see how many in particular girls they are giving access to sport, who say I never had the opportunity to play sports. You don't get them into sport if you were somewhere in a suburb or building a stadium or a sports facility. And then say, 'OK, on Saturday, we are organizing a fine event for you'. They will not come, they may even not know. And this is why we are saying we have to go where the people are in the real world. These are the urban centres in the virtual world. Then there are the digital platforms and we promote these urban sports.

Week-long Translation Workshop kickstarts at Jammu University

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: With an aim to strengthen the knowledge base of the students at all levels, a one-week skill development workshop (Indian languages) organized by the Department of Journalism and Media Studies in collaboration with the National Translation Mission, Mysore, kickstarted at Prof Gyan Chand Hall, Department of Urdu, here today at the University of Jammu. The seven-day translation workshop aims to make educational content available to the students of Jammu and Kashmir in local languages.

In its aim to promote the cause of translation for education in India, the key note speaker Padamshree Mohan Singh Slathia, said during his inaugural remarks, "Written notes help to learn and grasp the content properly. Government policies are in our favour, but we are not in our own favour and this is not the problem with just Dogri but with all mother tongues. The need of the hour is that intelligentsia cuts across all divisions of discipline and language and come



together to promote dogri in all its usage. He cited the example of this very workshop, which has both resource persons and participants from various disciplines like humanities, social sciences, sciences, and different languages like Hindi, English, Punjabi, and Urdu. He said that the department of journalism has filled the long-standing gap in studies in journalism at the University of Jammu. He further expressed hope that the department and the translation club would continue to conduct many more such programmes.

Earlier, Prof Satnam Kour Raina, Chairperson of Utsah Jammu University Clubs said, "The workshop will

allow the participants to learn a brand-new skill set needed for efficient translation of the content that is much required in the National Education Policy as envisaged by the Prime Minister of India." She congratulated Prof. Garima Gupta and her team for organising this skill development translation workshop. She added that she had also translated one book from Dogri to English, "Dogri de Lambiyakhaniya." She emphasised that every person should know the value of their mother tongue as well and must not be shy about speaking.

Prof Garima Gupta, HoD, Department of Journalism and Media Studies and coordinator of the translation club

said, "The students who are doing their higher studies should get in touch with their mother tongue in order to contribute to their region." She further added that the Department of Journalism and the Translation Club are committed to the preservation and promotion of the various languages of Jammu and to training translators to ensure that there is no gap in this field at the national level.

Sunil Choudhary, organiser of NTM said, in its mission to spread awareness of creating a knowledge society by means of translation and development of human resources prompted the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) prompted a working

group that would bring together different agencies and people involved in the activity of translation, its promotion, publication and dissemination.

During the inaugural session, the second edition of the newsletter JU POST made by the journalism students of the university was launched and the efforts of the students were lauded by all.

Other faculty members present during the workshop were Dr. Pardeep Singh Bali, Dr. Ravia Gupta, Dr. Biswadip Gogoi, and Dr. Sandeep Singh from National Transmission, Mysore, Dr. Pritam Singh and Dr. Harjinder Singh from the Department of Punjabi, Dr. Rajesh from Department of Buddhist Studies. The workshop will provide an exceptional opportunity for the students to learn from seasoned experts and hone their skills in the dynamic world of translation.

Karman Singh, a student of Journalism and Media Studies conducted the function and Dr. Ravia Gupta, lecturer, Department of Journalism and Media Studies presented the vote of thanks.

Dr. Ritu Singh, Pandit Subhash Shastri, Sahil Ji Maharaj to lead 41st Shiv Sena Holy Pilgrimage with Green Flags



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: On October 14, the 41st sacred pilgrimage to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi's abode, commencing from Jammu, will be led by Maharaja Hari Singh's daughter-in-law, Dr. Ritu Singh, along with Pandit Subhash Shastri and Sahil Ji Maharaj, all proudly bearing green flags. Additionally, devotees can avail of complimentary bus services from Maharaja Hari Singh Park in Jammu for the auspicious occasion.

This was stated by Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir today after meeting with

Dr. Ritu Singh, Pandit Subhash Shastri, and Sahil Ji.

Sahni detailed the plans for the 41st pilgrimage, which will start from the historic Raghunath Temple in Jammu. Dr. Ritu Singh will extend a warm welcome to the sacred procession, while Pandit Subhash Shastri and Sahil Ji will lead the majestic journey with green flags in hand. In attendance, we will also have the distinguished presence of National Organizers Ashok Tiwari and Vinod Kumar as chief guests.

Sahni clarified that this pilgrimage will have a profound mythological significance. He

explained that arrangements for free bus services from Hari Singh Park have been made for the convenience of devotees. These buses will depart from Hari Singh Park at 12:30 PM on the specified date. Interested participants can reserve their seats by contacting the party office at 9419182952.

Moreover, arrangements for the Pehla Darshan at the Kool Kandoli Temple in Nagrota have also been organized. Sahni appealed to the devotees to become an integral part of this pilgrimage in large numbers, seeking the blessings of the Maa Vaishno Devi.

Scientific & Technical outreach programme held at MAM College



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: The Scientific and Technical Outreach Programme, organized by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in Mumbai, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Science Club, and the Department of Physics at Maulana Azad Memorial College, Jammu (a Constituent College of Cluster University of Jammu), took place on October 11, 2023, from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm. The Department of Atomic Energy has initiated a nationwide outreach programme, encompassing lectures, seminars, skits, and more, to promote awareness and understanding of BARC Technologies.

BARC, a pioneer in nuclear research, is actively engaging with academic and research institutions to share its vast knowledge in the fields of nuclear power production and the advancement of nuclear science. This initiative

enriches the academic landscape and equips students and faculty with invaluable tools to make a positive impact on the world.

The inaugural session of the programme was hosted by Prof. Rakesh Sharma, Associate Professor of Electronics and Coordinator of the Programme. The day commenced with the lighting of the lamp and Saraswati Vandana, followed by Prof. Rajesh Kumar Gupta, Head of the Physics Department, extending a warm welcome to all attendees and providing an overview of the programme. The event began with a quiz preliminary round, which saw participation from around 150 students.

Renowned scientist Shri R.K.B. Yadav from BARC delivered a lecture on "Radiation Safety in Health and Environment," followed by an interactive session. Shri. S. Mondal presented a lecture on "Nuclear Reactors." Subsequently,

a skit titled "Harit Urja Ka Akshay Srot" on Nuclear Reactors was performed by a team of BARC scientists, followed by lunch.

The programme featured two more enlightening lectures: "Food Irradiation Technology: A Need of the Hour" by Shri. S. Prabhakar and "Innovation & Opportunities in BARC" by Smt. Heema Rao, followed by a skit and the final quiz round coordinated by R.K. Mishra from BARC.

The Scientific and Technical Outreach Programme underscores the college's commitment to excellence in education and its mission to empower students and faculty with knowledge, skills, and inspiration to contribute positively to society and research. The event culminated with a valedictory function, feedback collection, and the distribution of prizes. Dr. Vishal Sharma, Head of Electronics at the College, delivered the vote of thanks.

The programme was conducted under the patronage of Dr. G.S. Rakwal, Principal of Maulana Azad Memorial College. Several staff members and committees, including Prof. Neeraj Sharma, Convenor IQAC, Prof. Sunil Uppal, Head of Chemistry and Convenor of the Science Club, and other dedicated individuals, contributed to the success of this significant event.

Aryans Nursing students participate in Dengue awareness drive

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: With dengue fever cases rising across the region, the district public health department has intensified preventive measures. Regarding this, an awareness drive was organized at Community Health Centre, Kalomajra where B.Sc. Nursing, GNM & ANM students participated.

Dr. Ravinder kaur (senior surgeon), Kalomajra said that With dengue cases rising here, the state government is gearing up to tackle the disease with a multi-pronged



strategy. The health department is taking all the required measures to

curb the disease. People should know that the aedes aegypti mosquito

breeds in stagnant water. The teams are visiting houses and even organiz-

ing area-wise campaigns, she added.

Kaur said that a major challenge that's limiting our efforts is the lack of awareness among people about preventive measures. They casually throw away ice-cream cups, curd containers or coconuts. They never think rainwater can accumulate in them and become a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Aryans Nursing students participated in this awareness camp as well as a speech & poster presentation was also organized.

Entrepreneurship Development Program inaugurated at SMVDU

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 11: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) marked a significant milestone as it inaugurated the Entrepreneurship Development Program, generously sponsored by the Higher Education Department of Jammu & Kashmir. The program, thoughtfully designed for college students, has garnered tremendous enthusiasm from students representing various colleges across the Jammu region. The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, signifying the illumination of entrepreneurial aspirations.

In his inaugural address, Satish Kaul, Resident Director of Emcure Pharmaceuticals Limited, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He expressed his delight at being among the stu-



dents and encouraged them to fearlessly voice any doubts or concerns they may have regarding the challenges on their path to becoming successful entrepreneurs.

Dr. Supran Kumar Sharma, Program Coordinator and Director of Directorate Quality Assurance at SMVDU, underlined the core objectives of the program. He emphasized that the primary focus is to inspire students to embark on a journey of

introspection and familiarize themselves with the proven marketing practices employed by small-scale entrepreneurs.

Dr. Kumud Ranjhan Jha, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at SMVDU, reminded the audience that entrepreneurship is a dynamic journey filled with both successes and setbacks. He urged the students to persevere and learn from every experience.

Dr. Raghendra Kumar Mishra, Dean of Students

Welfare, shared invaluable insights into the world of entrepreneurship. He highlighted the pivotal role of identifying and effectively utilizing underutilized resources as a potential game-changer in the ever-evolving entrepreneurial landscape.

Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, extended warm appreciation for the program's initiation and conveyed best wishes for its success. He reiterated

the university's commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial spirit.

Dr. Sharada Potkuchi, Associate Professor from the School of Biotechnology, delivered a formal vote of thanks, expressing gratitude for the financial support provided by the Higher Education Department of Jammu & Kashmir. The collaboration has paved the way for empowering the region's youth in the realm of entrepreneurship.

Nagendra S. Jamwal, Registrar of SMVDU, ensured the smooth and efficient conduct of the event, contributing to its overall success.

The Entrepreneurship Development Program at SMVDU signifies a vital step toward empowering the youth with the knowledge, skills, and inspiration required to succeed in the world of entrepreneurship.