

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## BRIEFLY

### Two involved in Jawahar Nagar stabbing held: Police

SRINAGAR, Oct 16 (Agencies): A police spokesperson on X (formerly Twitter) wrote: "During the investigation of FIR no. 45/2023 at Rajbagh PS, two accused individuals, namely Umer Fayaz Sheikh, son of Fayaz Sheikh of Ikhrapora, and Imran Mushtaq Wani, son of Mush-taq Wani of Jawahar Nagar, were arrested for stabbing a youth in Jawahar Nagar on 14.10.2023."

The police has also recovered the weapon used in the offense.

### KPDCL announces Kashmir's winter power curtailment schedule

SRINAGAR, Oct 16 (Agencies): In preparation for the upcoming winter season, officials have released an updated power curtailment timetable for the Kashmir Valley.

As per the provided schedule, the Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has specified a daily 4.5-hour power curtailment for metered areas. This curtailment will be distributed across three shifts; morning, afternoon, and evening. Non-metered areas, on the other hand, are set to experience an 8-hour curtailment regularly.

### Glass top train to chug from Budgam to Banihal

SRINAGAR, Oct 16 (Agencies): In a first, a glass-top train, Vista-dome will run from Banihal to Budgam, offering locals and tourists a panoramic viewing experience of the dramatic landscape enroute.

This service, being offered by the railways in Jammu and Kashmir, will allow passengers to enjoy breathtakingly beautiful locations along the 110 km journey, covering it in just 90 minutes.

The air-conditioned coach features large glass windows, a glass roof, an observation

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## 224-Meter viaduct completed in Ramban on JK National Highway: Nitin Gadkari



JAMMU, Oct 16 (Agencies): Union Minister for road transport and highways, Nitin Gadkari on Monday said that they have successfully completed the construction of a 224-meter viaduct

(2-lane) at Sher-e-Bibi, enhancing the region's connectivity and facilitating transportation across challenging terrain.

In a post on X, In Jammu and Kashmir, we have successfully com-

pleted the construction of a 224-meter viaduct (2-lane) at Sherebibi, with an estimated cost of 12 crores, this infrastructure is situated along the Ramban to Banihal section of NH-44.

"This 224-meter segment, as a part of the broader project, not only reduces the travel distance by 125 meters, thus mitigating steep gradients, but also avoids the need for a steep cutting with a hill slope angle exceeding 80 degrees."

Furthermore, it significantly facilitates the smooth flow of vehicles, bypassing the challenging terrain of Sherebibi Area gradients. It's important to note that this project contributes to the region's economic growth and enhances its overall connectivity.

Under the visionary leadership of the

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## Amit Shah attends Navratri Puja at Sharda Temple in Kashmir



NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday took part in the Navratri puja at the Sharda temple in Kashmir, where it was held for the first time since 1947, saying it signifies the return of peace in the Valley.

The minister said the puja at the temple

marks the rekindling of the nation's spiritual and cultural flame under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On Monday, Navratri Puja was held at the newly built Sharda temple located along the LoC in Teetwal in Kashmir. The temple was inaugurated by the home minister on

March 23 this year on the same piece of land – and on the same pattern – where the temple existed in pre-partition days.

"It is a matter of profound spiritual significance that for the first time since 1947, the Navratri pujas have been held in the historic Sharda Temple in Kashmir this year.

"Earlier in the year the Chaitra Navratri Puja was observed and now the mantras of the Shardiya Navratri puja resound in the shrine. I was fortunate to reopen the temple on 23rd March 2023 after restoration," Shah said on X.

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## CB files chargesheet against father-son duo for forging school leaving certificate to secure Govt job

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 16: The Economic Offences Wing – Crime Branch Jammu has officially filed charges against a father-son duo, Mukhtyar Ahmed and Bashir Ahmed, for their alleged involvement in a complex case of forging and preparing false school leaving certificates to obtain a government job within the Power Development Department of Jammu



and Kashmir. This fraudulent act has been said to cause significant losses to the Government Exchequer.

The case, registered under FIR

No. 26/2023 U/S 420/467/468/471/120-B/RPC at the P/S Crime Branch Jammu, revolves around the intricate web of deceit spun by the accused individuals. It is believed that they conspired to create counterfeit school leaving certificates, ultimately leading to one of them securing a government job in the Power Development Department. This deceitful act not only jeopardizes the integrity of the

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## Jammu-Srinagar National Highway closed due to landslide

JAMMU, Oct 16 (Agencies): Authorities on Monday suspended the traffic on Jammu-Srinagar national highway following a landslide in the Shalgiri area of Banihal in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir.

A police spokesperson informed in a post on X that a landslide has

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## Parts of Kashmir, Ladakh receive fresh snowfall, plains lashed by rains

SRINAGAR, Oct 16 (Agencies): Parts of Kashmir Valley and Ladakh Union Territory received fresh snowfall while rains lashed plains plummeting temperature on Monday.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar predicts light to moderate rain or snow over higher reaches, very likely at scattered places in J&K

on Monday. Currently, it is overcast with intermittent rain and snowfall over higher reaches at scattered places in J&K, the MET office said.

It said light rain or snowfall over higher reaches was likely in scattered places on October 17. The overall improvement in weather is likely from October 18

onwards, the MeT office said.

There is also a possibility of a significant drop in temperature across Jammu and Kashmir, the MeT office added.

Gurez in north Kashmir's Bandipora and Peer Ki Gali on the Shopian-Poonch road received snowfall Monday.

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## SC rejects woman's plea seeking termination of 26-week pregnancy

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Ruling in favour of pro-life, the Supreme Court on Monday rejected a woman's plea, seeking medical termination of 26 weeks of pregnancy. A bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chan-

drachud, also comprising Justices JB Pardi-wala and Justice Manoj Misra passed the order observing that there are no threats to the mother, not a case of foetal abnormality and doctors will face a viable foetus. The court directed the

government to bear all medical costs and the delivery to be conducted by AIIMS at the appropriate time. SC clarified the choice to give the child up for adoption depends on the parents.

The court noted that pregnancy has crossed

over 24 weeks and termination of a 26-week pregnancy can not be allowed as it would violate the provisions under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act.

All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS)

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## 11,000 old vehicles of Central Armed Police Forces Identified; To be scrapped

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): As many as 11,000 vehicles belonging to the Central Armed Police Forces such as the BSF, CRPF and CISF will be scrapped as part of a Central government policy to dispose of all automobiles older

than 15 years, officials said.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has also requested all state governments and Union Territory administrations to take necessary steps for scrapping worn-out operational vehicles of

state police organisations and to replace them with better technology and fuel-efficient vehicles.

The MHA has taken steps to ensure that vehicles that are older than 15 years are

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## Agniveer Amritpal Singh committed suicide, Military honours not extended to his funeral as per rules: Army

NEW DELHI, Oct 15 (Agencies): The Army on Sunday said Agniveer Amritpal Singh committed suicide by shooting himself while on sentry duty and that military honours were not extended to his funeral as deaths arising out of self-inflicted injuries are not given such honours.

The Army asserted that it does not differentiate among soldiers based on whether they joined the force prior to or after the implementation of the Agnipath scheme.

There were allegations that the military honours were not extended to Singh's funeral as he was an Agniveer soldier.



The Army's Nagrota-headquartered White Knight Corps on Saturday said that Singh died while on sentry duty in Rajouri sector due to a self-inflicted gunshot

injury.

In a statement on Sunday night, the Army said there has been some "misunderstanding and misrepresentation" of facts related to

the unfortunate death of Singh.

"It is a grave loss to the family and the Indian Army that Agniveer Amritpal Singh committed suicide by shooting himself while on sentry duty," the Army said.

"In consonance with the existing practice, the mortal remains, after conduct of medicolegal procedures, were transported under Army arrangements along with an escort party to the native place for the last rites," it said.

The Army said the Armed Forces do not differentiate between the soldiers who joined

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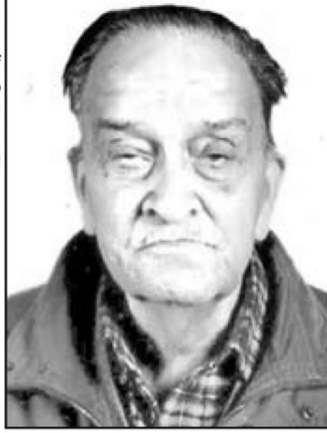
**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Ramesh Chander Dutta** S/o P.C Dutta R/o Lane No. 9 Green Enclave near Church, Rehari Colony, Jammu on 15-10-2023.

**UTHALA** will take place at Hari Mandir, Rehari Colony at 3.00 to 4.00 pm on 17th Oct. 2023 (Tuesday).

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Savita Dutta- Wife  
Munish Chander Dutta- Brother & Sister-in-Law  
Virender Kumar and Rama Dutta- Brother & Sister-in-Law  
Late Anjana and Birender Bakshi- Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Shashi Vaid & Ashwani Vaid- Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Usha and Late Kewal Krishan Sharma- Sister & Brother-in-Law  
Sarita and Romesh Khajuria- Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law  
Samriti and Rajender Vaid- Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law  
Anju and Late Kamal Dutta- Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law  
Rajeev and Praveen Bali- Brother & Sister-in-Law  
Sanjeev and Lakshmi Bali- Brother & Sister-in-Law  
Ankush Dutta & Bindu Sharma - Son & Daughter-in-law  
Mob.: 7006617163, 9419181078, 7006870006



**Sh. Ramesh Chander Dutta**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With lot of pain and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Karamyogini Rani Wali** W/o Late Sh. Sohan Lal Wali erst-while resident of Hanand Chawalgam, Kashmir, at present C-49, Ayodhya Nagar, Bhopal, M.P on Friday, 13 Oct. 2023.

**10th Day Kriya** shall be performed on Sunday, the 22nd Oct. 2023 at 9 AM at Khatlapur Ghat, Lower Lake, Bhopal.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Kulbushan Wali & Lovely Wali  
Ramesh Raina & Sudha Raina  
Ravinder Koul & Sonia Koul  
Dileep Kathi & Lucky Kathi  
**Samast Wali Pariwar**  
M.: 9589210403, 9425017403, 9755475226



**Karamyogini Rani Wali**

**10TH DAY/13TH DAY**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Kanta Devi** W/o Sh. Butti Singh (Billawar) R/o H. No. 48 F Extn. 09 Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

**Tenth Day** will be held on 17th of October 2023 (Tuesday) at Gorkha Mandir at 11 am.

**13th Day** will be held on 20th of October 2023 (Friday) at Our Residence.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Rajinder & Virander Singh (Son)  
Itti & Isha Rajput (Daughter)  
Pooja & Anoop Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
**Grand Children:-** Mehvesh & Mayur Sharma  
**Contact No. 9906014710, 9070076007, 9682377588**



**Smt. Kanta Devi**

**10TH DAY /13TH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **MANGAL SINGH CHIB**. S/o Late Basawa Singh Chib R/o H.No 357 Lane No 1 Sarwal, Jammu.

**Tenth Day** will be held on 14th of October 2023 (Saturday) at Shiv Mandir Sarwal at 12 PM.

**13th Day** will be held on 17th of October 2023 (Tuesday) at our residence.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Lata & Amrik Singh Chib 8492969666  
Rimpy & Hardeep Singh Chib 9419124820  
Swati & Arjun Singh Chib 7889550241  
**Grand Children:** Manvi Chib, Dushyant Chib, Nityam Chib, Sattyam Chib, Naksh Chib & Avantika Chib



**MANGAL SINGH CHIB**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Smt. Ashaji Bhan** W/o Late. Omark Nath Bhan, originally from Bhan Ashram, Baba Pora, Habbra Kadal, Srinagar, Kashmir, passed away on 13th October 2023 at Pune.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 22nd October 2023 at Alandi Ghat, Pune followed by **Assembly** at their Pune residence, i.e., 801, A7 Mirchandani Palms, Konkane Chowk, Rahatani, Pune.

**FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:**

Mrs. Shanta Bhat  
Mrs. Veena Bhan  
Sh. Shyam J. Bhan  
Dr. Rajni Bhan Safaya  
Mrs. Rita Bhan Zutshi  
Dr. Ashima Bhan  
Mr. Satyan Bhan and Mrs. Simran Bhan  
Mr. Sandeep Bhan  
Vivaan and Riyaan

**From:**  
**Bhan, Bhat Family**  
**Contact Nos.**

Shyam J. Bhan: +91 9810068535  
Satyan Bhan: +91 8879512582  
Sandeep Bhan: +91 9953242768



**Smt. Ashaji Bhan**

**ADH BARKHI**

I missed you today just as I missed you yesterday. Just as I will miss you for the rest of my life.

**Adh Barkhi** of my beloved wife **Late Smt. Tripta Sharma** will be performed on Tuesday i.e. 17.10.2023 at our residence House No. 3, Ward No. 2 Indira Colony, Old Janipur, Jammu on 12 Noon.

**Grief Stricken:**

Rajesh Kr Sharma - Husband  
Smt Kamlesh Sharma - Mother in law  
Ms Gunjan Sharma - Daughter  
Mr Vasu Sharma - Son  
Smt Jyoti Sharma W/o Lt Rajinder Sharma (Sister in law)  
Smt Dimple & Sh Kamal Khajuria (Sister in law & Brother in law)  
**Brother & Bhabhi**  
Smt & Sh Anil Sharma & Meena Sharma (PNB)  
Smt Anju Sharma W/o Lt Sh Vinod Sharma (JK Bank)  
Smt & Sh Ajay Sharma & Bindu Sharma (XEN Irrigation Deptt)  
Smt & Sh Rakesh Sharma & Jyoti Sharma (Edu Deptt)  
Smt & Sh Pankaj Sharma & Kiran Sharma (Dy SP JK Police)  
Mobile Nos. 6005284978, 7889485686, 7006209898



**Late Smt. Tripta Sharma**

**OBITUARY FROM MALUN SIDE**

With profound grief and sorrow it is to inform sudden demise of **Sh. Soom Nath Bhat** S/o Late. Swami Prakash Ram Bhat, originally from Battargam, Kupwara, Kashmir at his residence Plot No.913, Flat No.S-3,Shalimar Garden Extn 1, Sahibabad.

**Tenth day Kriya** will be performed on 20th October 2023 at Chota Haridwar, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad followed by assembly at their residence at 10.30 am.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

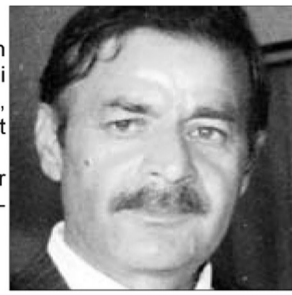
Smt. Raj Rani Pandita (Karhama)  
Sh.G.L.Pandita & Smt. Usha  
Sh Gash Lala & Vandna Pandita  
Sh.Kumar Jee Pandita & Smt. Anita  
Sh.Bal Krishen & Smt Sonia

**SISTERS:**

Smt.Susheela & Sh.M.L.Pandita  
Smt.Bharti & Sh.R.K.Dhar  
Smt.Julli & Sh.P.L.Pandita

**From:**

**Pandita, Dhar family**  
9419159151, 9210323628  
**Contact Nos:** 8373900110 (Sanjay)  
9582890460 (Rahul)  
7838806682 (Anita/Baby Jee)



**Sh. Soom Nath Bhat**

**VAHRVAR**

(16th October 2023) (Monday)

A Man of strong values of the head and the heart, known for his humility and affectionate nature.

One year has passed and your affectionate image is still present in our hearts.

May his blessings always be with us.

Shat shat naman to the pious soul.

Bhan Parivar

(Prana Bhan - 6005734207,  
Rajinder Bhan - 9871149269)

**H.No. 43,**

**Colonel's Colony, Bhori**

**Talab Tillo, Jammu**

**All Relatives, Friends, Near and Dear Ones**



**Sh. Tej Krishan Bhan**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we have to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Mohan Lal Bhat** S/o Lt Sh. Sarwanand Bhat R/o Ladoo Batapora Pampore Kashmir A/p Flat No 04, Block 49, Jagti township who passed away on 11th Oct 2023 (Wednesday) presently stayed at Community Hall behind lane No 04 Jagti township.

**10TH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 20th Oct 2023 Friday 8 AM at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Santosh Bhat -Wife  
Dazy Bhat W/o Sh. Kaka Ji Bhat (Brother & Bhabhi)  
Anjali Koul W/o Sh. Arvind Koul (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Shivani Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Ramesh Bhat (Daughter & Son in Law)  
Himani Rana W/o Lt. Sh. Arun Rana (Daughter & Son in Law)  
CELL NO 9796223133, 7051978014



**SH. MOHAN LAL BHAT**

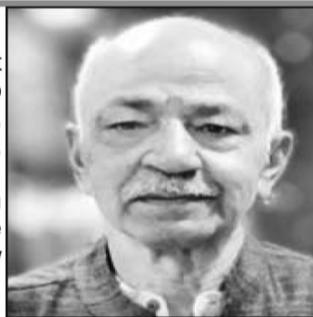
**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that **Shri. Shibhan Lal Kak (Baraj)** erstwhile R/o Sathoo Bala later Channapora, Srinagar, presently at Gurgaon has left to heavenly abode, on October 10, 2023.

The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on October 19, 2023 at Sri Gauri Shankar Temple New Palam Vihar, Gurgaon. Resi Add: P-21, New Palam Vihar, Phase -1, Gurgaon (Haryana)

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Kishni Kak (Wife)  
Jawhar Lal Kak (Brother)  
Brij Krishen Kak & Rajdhulari (Brother & Sister in law)  
Sanjay & Kanchan Kak (Son & Daughter in law)  
Ajay & Anita Kak (Son & Daughter in law)  
Sukanya & Ansuya (Grand Daughters)  
Shanta Zadu (Sister in law)  
Ashok & Khemilata Handoo (Brother & Sister in law)  
Vijay Ganjoo (Sister in law)  
Chandra's, Raina's, Kak's, Zadoo's & Kampassi's  
**Phone: 9903859422, 9821611600, 9711958083**



**Shri. Shibhan Lal Kak (Baraj)**

**OBITUARY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved **Sh. Chuni Lal Dass (Kaka Ji)** S/o Late Shyam Lal Dass R/O Bomai Sopore, Kashmir A/P H No 4, L No 3 Patta Bohri Jammu left for heavenly abode on 14-10-2023.

**10th Day** will be performed on Monday 23-10-2023 at 8 AM, Muthi Ghat near the Directorate of School Education.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt. Kamalawati (Mother)  
Smt. Reeta Ji (Wife)  
Mr.Mohit (Son)  
Ms.Monica (Daughter)  
**Bhabis & Brothers**  
Smt & Sh. Shibhan Ji  
Smt & Sh Ramesh Kumar  
Smt & Sh Satish Kumar  
**Sister & Brother in law**  
Smt Asha Ji & Sh R.K. Sapru  
**Mob: 7006346289, 9469231236**



**Sh. Chuni Lal Dass (Kaka Ji)**

**ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Jaswinder Singh (Rly. Department, Jammu)** S/o Late S. Kalyan Singh (Hari Nagar, Delhi Wale), A/P Basti Gobind Pura, Simbal Morh, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 08.10.2023. The Antim Ardas will be performed as per programme given below:-

**PROGRAMME:**

**Aramb Sri Akhand Path Sahib** (at residence): 15.10.2023 (Sunday) at 9.00 AM.

**Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib** (at residence): 17.10.2023 (Tuesday) at 9.00 AM.

**Shabad Kirtan and Antim Ardas:** From 10 am to 12 Noon. (At Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Basti Gobind Pura, Simbal Morh, Jammu)

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Sdn. Harbans Kour - **Mother**  
Sdn. Gurpreet Kour (Teacher, Govt M/S, Brij Nagar) - **Wife**  
S. Inderjit Singh (Rajan) - **Brother**  
Sdn. Harpreet Kour (Ruchi), JK Bank - **Bhabhi**  
S. Harbans Singh, Retd. Principal - **Father-in-Law**  
Master Jasmehar Singh - **Nephew**  
**And All Relatives & Friends**  
**Contact No.:** 7889715872, 9667717245



**S. JASWINDER SINGH (Rly. Department, Jammu)**

**KRIYA AND UTHALA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Mrs Sushma Gupta** D/o Late Smt Pushpa Gupta & Sh Om Prakash Gupta R/o 24 D/C Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

**Kriya and Uthala** will be performed at 'Panj Mandir, Block, Gandhi Nagar' on 17-10-2023 from 3 to 4 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Dr Sanjay Gupta, Prof. Skin, ASCOMS- (Husband)  
Mrs Anika Mohan & Mr Varun Gupta (Daughter in law & Son)  
Dr Niharika & Dr Abhinav Rohmetra- (Daughter & Son-in-law)  
Prerak Gupta & Agastya Rohmetra- Grand Children  
Dr Swarsh & Dr Satish Mahajan-Pathankot (Nand & Nandoal)  
Mrs Sangeeta & Mr Raman Kumar Gupta - Bangalore (Devrani & Devar)  
Mrs Rita & Mr Arun Kumar Gupta- Lucknow (Devrani & Devar)  
Mrs Kavita & Mr Satish Kumar Gupta (Bhabhi & Bhai)  
Mrs Rajni & Mr Rajnish Gupta - Pathankot (Bhabhi & Bhai)  
Mrs Sunita & Mr Sunil Mahajan - Kathua (Behan & Jija)  
Copntact : 9419189186, 9906074199, 9796818954, 9796002184, 8881997788



**Mrs Sushma Gupta**

**TENTH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh K L Kakkur** S/o Sh Late Jethu Ram (Retd ACD, RDD) R/o H No. 304, Gali No. (11) Shakti Nagar, Jammu who left us heavenly abode on Sunday 8th Oct. 2023.

**Tenth Day** will be performed at our residence on Tuesday 17 Oct. 2023 at 10 AM on our residence.

**Kirya** will be performed at our Residence on Friday 20 Oct 2023 at 11 AM.

**Uthala** will be performed at Om Palace, Shakti Nagar, Jammu at 2 PM- 3 PM.

**Grief Stricken:**

Smt Sudeesh Kumari - **Wife**  
**Sons and Daughters in law**  
Arun Kr. Kakkur (AE, REW Jammu) & Anu Kakkur  
Ravi Kant Kakkur (Tax Inspector, Local Bodies) & Madhu Kakkur  
**Daughters and Sons in law**  
Geeta Bhatia & Rajiv Bhatia  
Anita Mahajan & Rajeev Mahajan  
Rajni Gupta & Ashwani Gupta  
**Grand Children**  
Akshat, Kunal, Kritik, Arpita, Rahil, Gudia, Mannu, Vasu, Janu & Janvi etc.  
**Mob. 9419202940, 9419191294, 9419272810**



**Sh K L Kakkur**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt Sheela Devi** W/o Sh. Balwan Singh R/o Shiv Nagar, Udhampur.

**10TH DAY** will be performed on 17th October 2023 at 11.00 AM (Devika Ghat).

**KRIYA** will be performed on 20th Oct 2023 at Devika Ghat.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Sons & Daughter in laws  
Sh. Babu Singh & Smt Rita Bandral  
Late Sh. Prateesh Singh & Smt Veenu Singh  
Sh. Joginder Singh & Smt Deepshikha Bandral  
**Daughters & Son in Laws**  
Smt Veena Jamwal & Sh. Shivdev Singh  
Smt Neelam Jamwal & Late Sh. Yashpaul Singh Jamwal



**SMT SHEELA DEVI**

**10TH DAY/13TH DAY**

With lot of pain and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Ranjit Kumar Kotwal (Rajat)** S/o Late Sh Balwant Roy Kotwal, Employee JK Board of School Education Jammu R/o Sector 4, Sharika Vihar Lower Roop Nagar Jammu on Sunday the 8th October 2023.

**10TH Day** shall be performed on Tuesday, THE 17th October 2023 (Tuesday) at 9 AM AT MUTHI GHAT JAMMU (NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION OFFICE).

**13TH DAY/ KRIYA** will be performed on 20-10-2023 (FRIDAY) at 12:15 PM at his Residence Sector 4 Sharika Vihar Lower Roop Nagar Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Anita Manhas -Wife  
Rudhra Kotwal -Son  
**Mob:9906725524**



**Ranjit Kumar Kotwal (Rajat)**

**Mourning from Malun Side**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt. Prabha Thaploo** W/o Lt. Sh. Jawahar Lal Thaploo D/o Lt. Sh. Shanker Nath Watloo of Akingam Anantnag Kashmir originally R/o Lal Chowk Anantnag Kashmir presently at Lane No. 19, Block No. 99, Flat No. 22 Jagti Township.

**Mourning from Malun Side** will be held at the above address.

**GRIEF STRICKENS**

Smt. Kamila Ji Mattoo W/o Lt. Sh. CL Mattoo of Anantnag  
Smt. Kanta Ji W/o Manohar Krishan Raina of Salla Anantnag  
Smt. Veena Ji & Sh. P.L. Watloo of Akingam Kashmir  
**Mob No. 9868977964, 9086557202**



**Smt. Prabha Thaploo**

**MOURNING FROM MALUIN SIDE**

With profound grief & sorrow, we intimate the sad & untimely demise of our Jija Ji **Sh. Chuni Lal Pandita (Dass)** S/o Late Sh. Shyam Lal Pandita R/O Bomai-Sopore H/o Smt. Reeta Pandita presently Udaywalla-Bohri near PNB Bank on 14-10-2023.

**Mourning from Maluin Side** will be held at H.No. 31, Shanker Colony, Gangyal Near Police Station Gangyal Jammu.

**Brothers & Bhabhis**

Smt. & Shri Jawahar Lal Raina  
Smt. & Shri Rattan Lal Raina  
Smt. & Shri Chand Ji Raina  
Smt. Usha Raina - **Bhabhi**

**Brothers-in-law & Sisters-in-law**

Smt. & Shri Chaman Lal Pandita  
Smt. & Shri Roop Krishen Bhat  
**Mob.: 9419190936, 9419605608, 7006234819**



**Sh. Chuni Lal Pandita (Dass)**

**CONDOLANCE**

We condole the sad and untimely demise of **S. Jaswinder Singh** (Rly. Department, Jammu) S/o Late S. Kalyan Singh (Hari Nagar, Delhi Wale), A/P Basti Gobind Pura, Simbal Morh, Jammu on 08.10.2023. We also pray Akalpurakh to bestow Eternal Peace to the departed soul and Give courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

**Grief Stricken**

S. Harbajan Singh (Retd. Manager, Bank of India) R/o 461/C, Jeevan Nagar, Digiana, Jammu & his entire Family Members:  
Sdn. Paramjit Kour  
S. Gurpartap Singh  
Ms. Raspreet Kour  
**Mob. No.9622977333**



**S. Jaswinder Singh (Rly. Department, Jammu)**

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## Strategic Plan, involving administration as well as civil society to be rolled out to check drug addiction: Dr Jitendra

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Oct 16: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS, PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh today expressed concern over the menace of drug addiction spreading even to Reasi district and the holy destination of Katra Vaishnodevi.

The Minister said he was disturbed to receive reports about rising cases of substance abuse by the youth in this region.

The Minister had held review meetings with the local administration and law enforcing agencies on the matter in the last two days.

Dr Jitendra Singh appealed to parents and the local administration to wean away children from drugs, saying their potential must be



harnessed to realise Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's vision of making India a developed nation by 2047. He said the sanctity of the holy city of Katra must be preserved, and it must become a source of inspiration for social values.

The Minister said a strategic plan is being formulated at the local administration level and social level to check

drug addiction. Hotspots will be identified and social awareness will be created to curb the menace, he informed.

Dr Jitendra Singh was speaking after inaugurating a Multimedia Exhibition of the Central Bureau of Communication, Jammu, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, at Katra to mark the Navratri festival.

The theme of the

weeklong exhibition being organised at Government Boys' Higher Secondary School, Katra is 9 Years of Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan. The exhibition coincides with Navratri Festival in Katra.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh said the development of the region is the top priority of Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre.

He said revolutionary development has taken place in the region in the last nine years. Talking about infrastructure projects,

Dr Jitendra Singh said the world's highest railway bridge has come up in Reasi. The Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway is being developed.

In his address, Joint Director, Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Jammu, Shri Ghulam Abbas said the unit has been creating awareness about government schemes and programmes among the public. Today's exhibition is part of the efforts to reach the message to the grassroots, he added.

Deputy Commissioner, Reasi, Ms. Babila Rakwal, SSP, Reasi Amit Sharma and other senior officials of the administration were present on the occasion.

## Akhand Jyot, Holy Chharri reaches Raghunath ji Temple, invites devotees for Darshan



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has placed the illuminated Akhand Jyot and sacred Chharri, received from the Holy Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi, placed at Raghunath ji Temple in Jammu for devotees to have Darshan.

Manish Sahni, President of Shiv Sena State Unit, revealed that following the traditional

lighting of the Akhand Jyoti at the Vaishno Devi shrine during Navratri and the continuous scared Jyot and the Chhari have been made available for Darshan, extending a warm invitation to all devotees to perform Darshan of scared and Akhand Jyot.

It's worth mentioning that on Saturday, after a traditional Puja at the historic Raghunath ji Temple in Jammu,

Kuwarani Dr. Ritu Singh and Sahil Maharaj formally initiated the journey of the Akhand Jyot and the Chhari. Following the Darshan of the Akhand Jyot and the sacred Chhari at the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine during the first day of Navratri, they have now been placed at Raghunath ji Temple for devotees to have Darshan and seek blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi.

## Army organizes cycle learning capsule, distributes 61 bicycles among girl students

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SAMBA, Oct 16: In a significant stride towards fostering women's empowerment and promoting girl child education, the Rising Star Corps of the Indian Army organized a cycle learning capsule and distributed 61 bicycles to girl students of the Government Higher Secondary School in Rajpura, District Samba, Jammu & Kashmir.

This noble initiative aims to remove transportation barriers for girl students in border villages, enabling them to commute to school with ease and pursue their education without hindrances.

At the culmination



of the cycle learning capsule, the School Principal and villagers expressed their profound gratitude to the Indian Army for their remarkable initiative. The distributed bicycles will not only simplify the daily journey to school but also foster a stronger commitment to education among these

young girls. The Rising Star Corps' endeavor exemplifies the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation and simultaneously contributing to the development of a prosperous and inclusive society. By promoting girl child education and addressing the spe-

cific challenges faced by students in border areas, they are playing a pivotal role in shaping a brighter future for these communities.

This initiative underscores the belief that education is a powerful tool for empowerment and a pathway to a better and more equitable society.

## DC Kupwara reviews beautification measures of Municipal Towns

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KUPWARA, Oct 16: In order to review the steps being taken for beautification of towns falling under three municipalities of the district the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today convened a meeting of all the concerned agencies, here.

At the outset, Executive Officer Municipal Council Kupwara, Naveed Ajaz through a detailed PowerPoint Presentation elaborated on measures being taken by Municipality for beautification of towns.

During the meeting, DC reviewed measures being taken for Beautification of Kupwara, Handwara and Langate

towns wherein threadbare discussion was held on Sanitation, face-lift of market places, creation of open and green spaces, street lighting, traffic signals, development of pavements, creation of vendor zones in all three major towns of Kupwara district.

The DC said that there is ample scope of beautification in all three Municipalities of the district. She emphasized that with the smaller but creative interventions we can beautify our towns and give them a better aesthetic look.

Addressing the ULBs and concerned officers, Ayushi stressed for identification of proper space for creating iconic

landmarks in all the three towns which may serve as Selfie points and attraction for the visitors.

The DC directed the Executive Officer Municipal Council to develop uniform prototypes for signages, 3D wall painting and colour coding of government offices and other business establishments in all three Municipal towns.

She also directed concerned agencies to speed up the pace of the work on SLWM plants in all the three Municipalities and gave a timeline of one month to complete the SLWM plants.

Ayushi asked PDD

to provide electricity to the people according to the schedule. "Follow schedule of cuts strictly and synchronize scheduled cuts with grid cuts" DC said.

Presidents, MC Kupwara, Reyaz Ahmad; MC Handwara, Abdul Majeed Pandith; Presidents, traders federation Kupwara, Handwara, Langate; Chief Planning Officer Kupwara, District Information Officer, Ex. Engineers of R&B Kupwara, R&B Handwara, PDD Kupwara, PDD Handwara and PHE; DFO Social Forestry, Eos of Municipality Kupwara and Handwara and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

## Bharat Tibet Sangh Delegation Engages in Meaningful Discussions with Tibetan Parliament in Exile

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: A high-profile delegation from the Bharat Tibet Sangh, led by Sh. Saurabh Sarswat, All India General Secretary, recently embarked on a significant visit to the Tibetan Parliament in Exile in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh. The delegation was warmly received in the standing committee hall by Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering TeyKahang, and their interactive meeting was marked by discussions on the Tibetan democracy in exile and the establishment of the Tibetan Parliament in exile in 1959 under the spiritual leadership of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama Ji.

During the meeting, Deputy Speaker Dolma Tsering TeyKahang shed light on the concerning situation in Tibet under China's rule, emphasizing the severe restrictions imposed on religious practices, language, and basic human rights.

The Deputy Speaker shared insights into the Tibetan Parliament in Exile's efforts to raise global awareness about the Tibetan



cause through state advocacy campaigns, encouraging collaboration with grassroots organizations in India. She also explained the Tibetan Parliament in Exile's open letter campaign, aimed at bringing Tibet to the forefront of international dialogue through a roundtable discussion involving parliamentarians from around the world.

The Bharat Tibet Sangh delegation, representing the people of India, expressed their unwavering commitment to the cause of Tibet and their dedication to resolving the Sino-Tibet conflict. They pledged to champion the Tibetan cause with renewed vigor, reaching out to the general public in India and worldwide.

A parallel delegation from Jammu and Kashmir, under the

leadership of Dr. Kuldeep Sharma, Parbhari Northern Region, and Sh. Vivek Singal, State President of Jammu & Kashmir, along with Miss Shivani, joined the All India delegation in Dharamsala and McLeod Ganj. The delegation had the privilege of meeting His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama Ji, Mr. Penpa Tsering, Prime Minister of Tibet in exile, and the Cabinet Ministers, receiving blessings from His Holiness.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama Ji expressed his gratitude to the Indian leadership for providing asylum to Tibetans immediately after China's uprising in 1959. He commended the Bharat Tibet Sangh for their unwavering moral support in the Tibetan cause and the restoration of Mansarovar

(Mahadev Shiva Sathali).

Dr. Kuldeep Sharma, representing the Northern region, called upon Indians to pledge for reduced usage of Chinese products and to support local products, thereby strengthening the local economy and endorsing the vision of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi.

In the press conference held today, Sh. Vinay Katal, Parbhani, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh, highlighted the Bharat Tibet Sangh's commitment to spreading the message of His Holiness the Dalai Lama Ji and working towards the liberation of Tibet, including the sacred land of Kailash Mansarovar.

The delegation comprised prominent leaders, including Vivek Singhal, State President; Satish Poonchi, State Convenor; Manjari Singh, State Women President of Jammu & Kashmir; Ashwani Kumar Sharma, Senior Vice President; Giat Nandan Jain, Vice President; Vipin Aggarwal, Secretary; Pankaj Sharma, District President; and others.

## Contractors raise serious concern over inordinate delay in release of security deposits

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: All Contractors Associations in Jammu Province raised serious concern over delay in the release of security deposits stands out as a pressing issue. Contractors have reported that security deposits, held by Divisions for more than three and a half years, have not been released for any completed projects. The absence of clear procedures for the release of these deposits by departmental staff has added to the frustration of contractors.

Furthermore, dissatisfaction with the categorization and handling of tenders has been expressed. Contractors are concerned that tenders were initially categorized under different heads and later shifted to the "languishing head." They argue that the department's changes to conditions after the fact have led to payment delays and disputes.

Additionally, inefficiencies in bill processing have been a source of contention. Some contractors submitted bills to the department over a



year ago, yet the department has not uploaded these bills for processing. This situation has left contractors in the precarious position of having to provide proof for work completed a year prior.

Issues related to NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) funding were also highlighted. Contractors have completed works in accordance with NABARD guidelines but have not received payments for over a year. The funds allocated under the NABARD Head have not been disbursed, causing financial distress to contractors. There have also been instances where the department failed to acknowledge pending liabilities in favor of

contractors who executed NABARD-funded projects.

In the realm of pending payments for closed schemes, the contractors shed light on the fact that certain schemes have been officially closed by the department. However, payments for works executed by contractors following proper e-tendering procedures remain outstanding. Contractors emphasized that it is the duty of the department and government to release these pending payments.

Furthermore, contractors raised concerns about discrepancies between online and offline payments for works executed under the NRWDWP (National Rural Drinking Water Programme). More

than 172 water supply schemes in the union territory still await payment, despite repeated engagements with the department.

The Contractors Associations have voiced concerns about a potential violation of contracts in the Jal Jeevan Mission. The department is attempting to alter the provision for GI Pipes in works allotted under the Jal Jeevan Mission by opting for HDPE pipes. Contractors argue that this constitutes a violation of existing contracts and raises questions about the integrity of the projects.

The Contractors Associations in Jammu Province have called for a transparent and efficient resolution of these issues. They emphasize the importance of honoring contractual agreements, ensuring timely payments, and safeguarding the rights of contractors engaged in critical infrastructure projects. The collective leadership of the Contractors Associations is committed to working collaboratively with government departments to address and rectify these critical matters.

## EDITORIAL

## NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

New Product Development is the process of designing, building, operating, and maintaining a good or device.

Software and internet companies use a product development process to ensure that they are not just manufacturing a technology, but creating a product that people will want to buy and continue to use.

New product development is development of altogether new product so far as the company is concerned. There is a misconception that new product development is the sole responsibility of the production related departments of an industry. This must be actually done jointly by the production related departments and the marketing department.

New product development is absolutely necessary for any company. Any company which does not plan this will not only be able to succeed but also will find it difficult to survive. New product development however is not an easy affair. It is an expensive, painstaking, time consuming and risky affair. In spite of all these discouraging facts every company has to take it as a challenge and go about developing new products.

New Product Development ingenuity of the human mind which from the beginning of the time has invented innumerable products for the benefit of mankind. Imagine life without the wheel, led to horse carriages, trains, trams and cars? What about the phone, which led to cell phones, videophones, and satellite phones? However for every successful product there are dozens which could not see the light of day.

But the creative genius is not afraid of failures; he pushes ahead with new ideas, products and services. Each firm sells products needed by customers. Each product has a life of its own. It takes birth in the inventor's crucible; it is then engineered for manufacture, made and sold. As newer products enter the market the old ones give way to them.

This is usually done for products which have had a good run in the market in their introductory, growth and maturity stages. Innovations should not render the product so expensive as to make it out of reach of customers. However, the new products should appear different, should give extra benefits and still be value for money.

Firms selling shoes can take up the sale of sandals, boots and leather garments. This will help the firm to establish itself in the market as it already has the raw material sources and marketing channels in place.

If a firm making radios starts manufacturing television sets then it would be considered horizontal diversification. Such product extensions are cost effective as they use the same distribution channels, have several common components and similar technology. Sometimes the new product may overtake the old one in terms of sales.

In the 1960s and 1970s, technological developments took time to reach India. Today, many technological advances are available to India in almost real time, i.e. as soon as they are in the market in the country of their origin. Computer software is a classic example. In fact, software exports form a major chunk of India's total exports.

Cell phones or mobile phones were introduced in the Indian market several years after being invented and introduced elsewhere in the world. But India has caught up with the rest of the world quite fast.

Geographic diversification helps a firm in increasing sales and market share. Exporting can be one of the methods as well. Firms can also plan to diversify into different market segments, with minor changes in product offerings, if required.

## Don't look Westward: The Sun still rises in the East

By: Sanjaya Baru

Maybe one could dismiss it away as Kant cant. But the followers on the social media of India's G-20 sherpa, Amitabh Kant, were not so generous. Many reacted derisively to Mr Kant's supercilious tweet: "I have travelled to Europe a few times recently. In my view the Indian airports are far bigger and better, our road network is far more widespread with quality roads, our airlines deliver far better and more efficient service at lower price points and now Indian trains (Vande Bharat) will give us top class quality and connect India through its length and breadth." I recall that when New Delhi got its new airport terminal over a decade ago, many who flew Delhi-Frankfurt-New York (JFK or La Guardia) made that kind of comparison. Even today, the Delhi and Hyderabad airports outshine Frankfurt and JFK.

It's true that Europe has many rundown airports and many European cities have depressed neighbourhoods. It's also true that India has a few bright and shining airports and a few swank neighbourhoods. But one must not make much of a muchness about Indian infrastructure in general being superior to European. Not surprisingly, few of Mr Kant's followers on X (formerly Twitter) were willing to endorse his hyperbole. We still have some way to go and I am sure the young Mr Kant will still be around to see that happy day.

Whenever westward travelling Indians made the Kant kind of comparison between India's new infrastructure and Europe's old, I would always encourage them to look East. Travel to airports and drive on roads in Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, I would say to them, not to mention Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, to make the inter-country comparison that we ought to.

On any parameter of development, from school education, women's health and sanitation to manufacturing capability and infrastructure



development, the Asia to our East has marched well ahead of India over the past half century. Over the past couple of decades, India has been bridging the gap and will continue to do so, but the relevant comparison for India to make is with East and Southeast Asia. Not Europe.

The Sun still rises in the East.

At a time when Europe is in the midst of a regional conflict and the Mediterranean is catching fire, the Asia to India's East remains relatively calm and stable. At the recently concluded annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the economic data presented show that apart from the United States, most of the economies performing well this year, 2023, and expected to perform reasonably well next year, are to India's East. China is slowing down, but with growth expected to be 5.0 per cent this year, it remains way ahead of the Euro Area's 0.7 per cent. Japan, the world's third largest economy, is bouncing back with output growth expected to be 2.0 per cent. India is catching up with its eastern neighbours, logging an average of around 6.0 per cent growth in the medium term.

Besides year-on-year growth, what sets the Asia to India's east apart is the quality of education, healthcare, urban infrastructure and manufacturing output. Each time I travel eastwards I return impressed not just by the physical indicators of development, roads and airports, but by the healthy

and happy look on the faces of young children as they pour out of well-provided schools. The optimism of young people is palpable.

The Indian post-colonial obsession with Europe makes many continue to compare oneself with the West, but it is the East that has set the standards of knowledge-based development over the past half century. It is not just the developed East -- Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore -- but also the developing East -- China, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam -- that offer lessons in modernisation and development. It is perhaps for this reason that the far-sighted Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao launched in 1992 what has been called a "Look East Policy" and Prime Minister Narendra Modi followed it up with an "Act East Policy".

At the end of a meeting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, in New Delhi in April 2005, and having concluded his official business, Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi surprised Dr Singh with a question. India is in the middle of Asia, Mr Koizumi said to Dr Singh, there is to your East a "Rising Asia" and there is to your West an "Unstable Asia". In which direction will India move? In 2005, it was an extremely pertinent question to ask.

India was still beginning to record phenomenal growth rates, over 8.0 per cent per year during Dr Singh's first term in office, in a political framework of inclusive and liberal

democracy. Dr Singh assured Mr Koizumi that India "looks East" and that a Rising India would be part of a Rising Asia.

In Mr Koizumi's view, it seemed, the Asia to India's East had resolved many issues and was focused on economic and social development. While the Asia to India's West was still battling the ghosts of a medieval era. The recent events in West Asia once again draw attention to the instability that has long characterised the region. While many worry that China may do to Taiwan what Russia did in Ukraine, I would discount such concerns for the simple reason that China, as much as its neighbours, remains focused on development. East and Southeast Asia will not risk conflict that will disrupt development. Europe can stew in its juice.

In recent years I have often reflected on the Koizumi question. Are we still on course to be a part of Rising Asia, or are we likely to be part of an "Unstable Asia"? As I travel within India, between the North and the South, and as one looks at news from the Hindi-speaking region and the South, this question constantly presents itself. The honest answer to the Koizumi question seems to be that South India is now certainly a part of "Rising Asia". The India between the metropolitan expanse of New Delhi and the Vindhyas is yet to join that journey. My advice to young Indians for a long time has been: Travel East to See the Future.

## Medical - IIT competition



By: Vijay Garg

A recent survey conducted on the instructions of the district administration in Kota city of Rajasthan, which has developed as a major coaching hub of the country, has confirmed that a large number of students there are suffering from severe depression

and other mental health problems. Have been. This survey was conducted between April and September this year. Keep in mind, during the same period there were reports of suicide of 19 students. If these are added, the number of students who committed suicide this year would be 25. She goes. Seeing the increasing number of suicides among students, the district administration started keeping their records from 2015 and since then this is the highest number of suicides in any one year. However, this survey is not just a part of efforts to understand the problem but to solve it as much as possible. During the survey, 83 such students were found who were victims of severe depression. Two students were found on the verge of suicide. They had begun the process of self-harm. Not only providing immediate counseling to all of them. Rather, necessary steps were

taken to provide relief to the coaching centers and parents by informing them. Thus, it can be assumed that these cases of possible suicide were stopped in time. But these efforts are not enough, this is clear from the fact that even when this survey was going on, there were reports of suicides of students and this was when other efforts to stop suicides were also going on simultaneously. Under these, steps were taken like installing spring ceiling fans in the rooms of hostels and PG centers and installing anti-suicide nets in the balconies. Went. As the survey report also indicates, the root of the problem lies elsewhere. When students come to Kota, they roam around the city for the first one or two months and have fun. Matters get worse when the coaching education comes to its full end. The feeling of not being able to keep pace with daily studies and

being left behind in the competition proves to be heavy for these teenagers living alone away from home and family. The problem is definitely seen in its most serious form in Kota, but its nature is national. After all for 1.25 lakh seats if 20 lakh students each compete, as is seen in NEET, then the fierce nature of the competition can be easily estimated. After all, why is it that even today middle class families in the country see their children's career becoming successful only after they get medical or IIT? Unless effective efforts are made to change this situation, measures like safety net, spring fans and counseling will give us only limited results.

(Vijay Garg Retired  
Principal Educational  
Columnist Malout  
Punjab)

# Bhaderwah Campus's Computer Science Department Empowers Jail Inmates

## TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADERWAH, Oct 16: The Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (IT) Bhaderwah Campus is making a profound difference in the lives of incarcerated individuals by providing them with essential skills and Computer knowledge through a three-month certificate e-learning course. The certificate distribution ceremony was a moment of pride and accomplishment for both the inmates and the educational institution.

In a ceremony held today at District Jail Bhaderwah, certificates were awarded by Dr Jatinder Manhas Head of the Department of Computer Science & IT, Bhaderwah Campus, in the presence of Superintendent District Jail Bhaderwah Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Malla to the enthusiastic Jail inmates who successfully completed the program. The first three months course was run from 15th May to 15th August 2023 and on 29th August exams were conducted.

Rector Bhaderwah Campus Prof. Rahul Gupta in his message congratulated both Dr Jatinder Manhas and Mushtaq Ahmed Malla



for the successful culmination of this three months e-learning course. "The success of this e-learning course at District Jail Bhaderwah, the University of Jammu's commitment to social responsibility and community engagement. By extending the reach of education to the incarcerated population, the university is paving the way for a brighter, more educated future for all," he added further saying that it is the Vision of Vice Chancellor University of Jammu Prof. Umesh Rao to carry forward extension activity programmes.

The Computer Science and IT program, in collaboration with the District Jail Bhaderwah, is designed to equip inmates with practical skills in computer science, programming lan-

guages, software development, and digital literacy. Over the course of three months, dedicated faculty members at the Bhaderwah Campus provided hands-on training and guidance to the participants, empowering them with the tools they need to pursue a brighter future upon reintegration into society.

Dr. Jatinder Manhas Head of Computer Science Bhaderwah Campus highlighted the significance of the program, stating, "Education has the potential to break barriers and create opportunities. This program represents a stepping stone towards positive change for these individuals, and we are immensely proud of their dedication and hard work."

He further said that it was the continuous

efforts of Arif Haleem Khateeb, External Relations Officer Bhaderwah Campus who liaised the course and created a good communication between both the organizations for the successful culmination of this three months course.

"Department of Computer Science & IT, Bhaderwah Campus, is proud to be a part of this initiative, aligning with our mission to foster a learning environment that transcends traditional boundaries," he added saying further that Bhaderwah Campus believe that education has the power to transform lives, and by reaching out to incarcerated individuals, we are fostering a culture of rehabilitation, empathy, and hope."

Superintendent District Jail Bhaderwah Mr.

Mushtaq Ahmed Malla thanked the Rector Bhaderwah Campus Prof. Rahul Gupta for such initiative for the inmates of the District Jail Bhaderwah Bhaderwah. He further said that such kind of initiatives are always fruitful and beneficial for the society.

Inmates who participate in these educational programs while incarcerated are statistically proven to be less likely to re-offend, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in breaking the cycle of crime., Programmer emphasized the University's dedication to creating a positive impact through education.

The faculty members who were part of this program include Dr Abid Sarver, Bablu Sharma, Dr Neeraj, Abrar Sheikh, Upma, Priya, Parvesh Singh, Yassir Ali and Rahat Ali Mughal.

Bhaderwah Campus remains committed to its mission of leveraging education to transform lives and believes in the potential of every individual to contribute meaningfully to society. The successful completion of this program by the inmates demonstrates the positive impact education can have on rehabilitation and reintegration.

# Dimple questions BJP-RSS leaders on Accession Day

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir, has called upon BJP-RSS leaders to clarify their stance on the Accession Day and the conditions of the Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh of J&K with India on October 26, 1947, as the approaching accession day is marked by significant discussions.

Addressing media persons here today, Dimple highlighted the discussions of nationalism and patriotism by BJP-RSS leaders during their visits to Jammu and Kashmir, with expectations of visits by the Prime Minister and Home Minister in the coming days. He urges these leaders to openly address their position on the Instrument of Accession.

Dimple alleged that BJP-RSS leaders have not upheld the Standstill Agreement and the conditions of the Instrument of Accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh. He pointed out that BJP's actions on August 5, 2019, when they revoked Article 370, effectively broke the terms of the Instrument of Accession. Consequently, Dimple questions the legitimacy of celebrating the acces-



sion day by BJP.

Dimple asked where the conditions of the Instrument of Accession are being honored, as well as the laws that protect the lands and jobs of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He criticized what he deems to be empty statements by BJP-RSS leaders, describing them as further wounding the sentiments of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and making a mockery of the dogras, chinav valley, pier panjal, pahadi, lada-khis, Kashmiris, and all religious communities in the region.

Dimple reaffirmed the commitment of "Mission Statehood" to reunite the people of all three regions of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, along with POK, GILGIT, and Baltistan, into a new map for Jammu and Kashmir.

He highlighted the resolution of liberation passed by the Gov-

ernment of India in the Indian Parliament, emphasizing that BJP has taken no steps towards the liberation of these regions and instead dismantled the J&K Dogra state into union territories.

Dimple declared that the mission will not allow any divisive efforts by groups or B-teams associated with BJP, with an intention to divide the princely Dogra state of Maharaja Hari Singh and the region's rich history on communal or regional lines.

Dimple criticized the BJP and RSS for their lack of clarity and silence on issues related to statehood and special status, which he believes has erased the history, identity, and culture of the Dogra community. He mentions concerns about changes in land laws, domicile regulations, and the replacement of the PRC state subject.

# Advanced HIPEC Surgery for Ovarian Cancer Successfully Performed in Jammu

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: In a remarkable medical achievement, surgical oncologists Dr. Vikas Heer and Dr. Paras Khanna, in collaboration with Shankus Cancer Hospital and Aashna Oncology Association, have successfully conducted an advanced and complex cytoreductive surgery in the field of Gynae-oncology. The pioneering procedure, combined with Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC), offers new hope for patients battling ovarian cancer.

The 47 years old woman from Rajouri presented with complaints fo abdominal

distension and vague abdominal pain. Subsequent investigations revealed a stage 3 ovarian cancer diagnosis, signifying that the cancer had spread to her upper abdomen. The recommended treatment protocol included both surgery and chemotherapy with the surgery sandwiched between chemotherapy.

The patient underwent three cycles of chemotherapy prior to the surgical intervention. The procedure was led by Dr Vikas Heer, Consultant Surgical Oncology and was complemented by the dedicated support of the anesthetic team, led by Dr. Jameel Hussain, a Consultant Oncoanesthesia. The

surgery encompassed a radical removal of the uterus, ovaries, pelvic and paraaortic lymph nodes, omentum, and total peritonectomy. Subsequently heated chemotherapy was infused directly into the abdomen using a specialized machine for a duration of 90 minutes. The entire surgical process lasted for about 10 hours. The patient had an uneventful recovery from this procedure and was discharged on the ninth yad after surgery.

Dr. Jameel Hussain, a proficient consultant in oncoanesthesia, played a critical role in the success of the procedure, both during surgery and in post-surgery ICU care. Dr. Jameel high-

lighted the challenges faced by the anesthesia team, particularly during the HIPEC phase, in maintaining the patient's hemodynamics

Dr. Heer underscored that Cytoreductive surgery in conjunction with HIPEC (Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy) is a complex and highly effective approach and this combination significantly enhances the overall survival chances for patients battling ovarian cancer. He also emphasized that heated chemotherapy demonstrates a selective cell-killing effect on cancer cells, amplifying the cytotoxic impact of traditional chemotherapy drugs.

# Govt Polytechnic organise seminar on 'Role of Technology in Career Development'

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Government Polytechnic College Bikram Chowk Jammu today organized an AI Tech-based seminar on Role of Technology in Career Development- AI Powered Interview Practice for the final year students of the institute. The seminar was aimed to enhance the interview skills of students using latest technology of artificial intelligence. Er. Arun Bangotra Principal of the college while speaking on the occasion encouraged the students to adapt the latest skill sets and advances in their respective fields for employment. He also said that interview should always be considered as a process of learning rather than an event of judgment.

Er. Udesahaya Mahajan and Er. Lovtish Sharma from "Clear Fundae", New Delhi were the keynote speakers for the seminar. They discussed about the various aspects of interview



process and blended it with their AI tool "CLEAR FUNDAE". Er. Lovtish demonstrated the AI tool to the students and shared with them the ways of exploring, explaining and justifying the answers for various sets of questions and gave demonstrations on AI Powered Interview Practice. Er. Ajay Thapa, Training and Placement Officer, Er. Sakshi Kapahi Lecturer I&C, Er. Yogesh Raina Lecturer Automobile Engineering made all the necessary arrangements for smooth conduct of the event.

# Unnat NGO Empowers Children with Candle-Making Skills

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Unnat NGO took a significant step towards nurturing young talents by organizing a candle-making training program today at Bhagwati Nagar's Government Girls High School. The event was under the esteemed guidance of Unnat's President, Sudarshan Abrol.

During the program, Neena Abrol, General Secretary of Unnat, expressed the importance of supporting local businesses by encouraging the purchase of locally crafted products. She stressed the need to motivate family members to embrace these locally made items, ultimately bolstering the local business community.

Unnat NGO comprises dedicated members, including Dr. Anuradha, serving as the Treasure, along with Preeti Gupta, Kanchan Sharma, and many others.

# Skill development program empowers youth in Jammu

## TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: The 160 Bn. CRPF demonstrated its commitment to empowering local youth through a Skill Development Training Program held at NITS Polytechnic in Miran Sahib, Jammu. The 45-day program focused on two vital aspects of vocational training: electrician and plumbing.

The opening ceremony of the program was marked by the presence of esteemed guests, including Sh. Rakesh Sethi, DIGP, Jammu Range, CRPF, Sh. Savinder Gupta, Principal of NITS Polytechnic, Sh. Angom Naresh Singh, Second in Command, and Sh. Rana Pratap Singh, Dy. Commandant of 160 BN CRPF, alongside other



staff and enthusiastic students.

Rakesh Sethi, DIGP, CRPF, engaged with the students, emphasizing the significance of such training programs in shaping their future careers. The 45-day

course involves eight hours of daily training, and upon completion, students will receive certificates and tools relevant to their respective courses.

This initiative demonstrates the 160 Bn.

CRPF's dedication to enhancing the skill sets of local youth, providing them with valuable training that will not only bolster their personal growth but also contribute to their future success.

# Local employment denied in Rattle Hydroelectric Project: Ajeet

## TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Oct 16: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference senior leader, Ajeet Bhagat, has strongly criticized the management of Megha Engineering Limited and Infrastructures Limited regarding employment opportunities for local youths in the Rattle Hydroelectric Power project at Drabshalla, specifically within the Chenab Valley Zone encompassing Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts.

Bhagat expressed concerns that the management of Megha Engineering Limited and Infrastructures Limited has chosen to hire operators and other manpower from outside the Jammu and Kashmir region, despite the presence of skilled local youths in the Chenab Valley Zone, including Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts.

He emphasized that a significant number of skilled, highly skilled, semi-skilled, and

unskilled youths are readily available within the Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts of the Chenab Valley Zone. Bhagat found it disconcerting that the company management has opted to bring in manpower from outside Jammu and Kashmir, and he firmly asserted that such a practice would not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Ajeet Bhagat has called for the immediate prioritization of employment for one member of each

land-affected and project-affected household within the organization's workforce. He further pointed out that the management of Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Limited intends to place all manpower on a third-party payroll, a move that will not be accepted by the youths of Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts in the Chenab Valley Zone. Bhagat conveyed the potential for dire consequences if these actions are not halted promptly.

## Karan Johar celebrates 25 years of directorial debut 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai'

Thanks audiences for marking his journey as a filmmaker with warmth

Director Karan Johar on Monday celebrated the 25th anniversary of his directorial debut 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' and thanked audience for marking his journey as a filmmaker with warmth.

Released on October 16, 1998, the Hindi film starred Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol and Rani Mukerji and went on to redefine new-age friendship and romance at the time.

Its dialogues such as "Pyaar dosti hai", "Kuch kuch hota hai Rahul, tum nahi samjhoge" to "Tussi ja rahe ho?" are still etched in fans' minds.

Karan shared a montage of some of the iconic moments from 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' on his Instagram account.

"Twenty-five years ago is where it all began...and here we are today. Celebrating not just a film but an EMOTION for me and from all the love we get for it, I gather it is for everyone too..."

"Thank you for showering unending love for this tale of pyaar & dosti till today and thank you for marking my journey as



a filmmaker for 25 years with such warmth... #25YearsOfKuchKuchHotaHai #KKHH @iamsrk @kajol #RaniMukerji," the 51-year-old director captioned

his post. "Kuch Kuch Hota Hai" revolved around three college classmates Rahul (Shah Rukh), Anjali (Kajol) and Tina (Rani Mukerji).

Anjali was in love with her best friend Rahul, who loved Tina. Years later, Rahul and the now-deceased Tina's young daughter, also named Anjali (Sana Saeed), attempts to reunite her father and Anjali.

Karan, whose latest release was 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani', said he is grateful to the people he works with, the people who watch his films and to the magic of movies.

Produced under Dharma Productions by the director's late father Yash Johar, the film also starred Salman Khan in an extended guest appearance.

"Special mention always to @beingsalmankhan @apoorva1972 @dharmamovies @sonymusicindia," Johar further wrote.

The soundtrack for the film was composed by Jatin-Lalit and the lyrics were penned by Sameer. Songs such as the titular 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai', 'Ladki Badi Anjaani Hai', 'Saajanji Ghar Aaye' and 'Koi Mil Gaya', among others, are still popular.

## Former Miss World contestant Sherika De Armas dies of cancer at 26

She was called 'one of the most beautiful women', brother says 'fly high, little sister'



Former Miss World candidate Sherika de Armas, 26, passed away, following a two-year battle with cervical cancer, according to local Uruguayan media.

She died on October 13 after a two-year cervical cancer battle.

She was Miss Uruguay in 2015. De Armas though did not make the top 30 at the 2015 Miss World contest in Sanya, China, she was one of only six 18-year-olds to compete.

"Fly high, little sister. Always and forever," her brother, Mayk De Armas, said on social media.

The reigning Miss Uruguay, Carla Romero, mourned that De Armas was "too evolved for this world. One of the most beautiful women I have ever met in my life."

## Gauahar to host Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa

The dance reality show Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa is quite a popular show and this year, it's set to be even more spectacular with the fabulous Gauahar Khan taking the reins as host.

Gauahar has done some spectacular work. Her previous stint as a host in shows like India's Raw Star and IRL: In Real Love was nothing short of extraordinary. Her ability to connect with contestants and the audience alike was lauded by viewers.

Gauahar's past hosting roles have seen her effortlessly blend wit and warmth, creating a conducive atmosphere for contestants to perform at their best.

This year, Gauahar



promises to bring her signature style to Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa. Her interaction with contestants and judges is expected

to be a highlight of the show, and her magnetic stage presence will undoubtedly elevate the competition.

## Healing touch: Selena Gomez feels therapy could change the world

Singer-actress Selena Gomez hopes to 'give back' to the world after starting her therapy journey. The 31-year-old superstar had been battling mental health issues for years and fell into a dark place. Since starting therapy, however, she has begun to heal.

Gomez opened up about her battle with depression and informed, "I think what has truly helped me is learning about it. I started learning about Dialectical Behavioural Therapy. And I started to really understand, or at least try to understand, why I was feeling these emotions."

"Later, finding out I



have a diagnosis of bipolar wasn't scary for me. It felt like I understood what was happening and then I could try to find the right people to help me and guide me through it. So I feel very fortunate, which is why I think it's so important for me to give back," added Selena.

Gomez also champions the benefits of therapy to her friends, many of whom have tried it. Selena started seeing a therapist after an episode of psychosis in 2018. She is now a major advocate of mental health awareness, particularly in young people. According to the World Health

Organisation (WHO) 700,000 people tragically take their own lives after struggling with mental health issues every year.

Selena added, "If people don't understand how important this issue is to our generation and don't know the statistics, I would encourage them to look into that. Because I feel like this is something we can truly change. And by affecting people and really giving helping tools and skills... I mean, it sounds so stupid, but we could change the world. If anything, I just want to make people feel great, feel seen, heard and loved."

## Madonna narrates near death health scare, 'I forgot five days of my life'



Queen of pop Madonna said to fans on the first night of her world tour that she feared she "wouldn't make it" after her near-death health scare.

She made the remarks on stage at London's O2 Arena, where she kicked off her much-anticipated "Celebration" shows after they were postponed when

the singer was rushed to hospital in June suffering a "serious bacterial infection."

"I didn't think I would make it, and neither did my doctors. That's why I woke up with all of my children sitting around me," Madonna told her fans at the sold-out concert while holding her guitar, reports aceshowbiz.com.

She added: "I forgot five days of my life, or my death, I don't really know where I was. But the angels were protecting me. And my children were there."

"And my children always save me, every time. If you want to know how I pulled through and how I survived, I thought, I have got to be there for my children. I have to survive for them."

Madonna then played an acoustic version of the Gloria Gaynor track 'I Will Survive', reports aceshowbiz.com.

After recovering from her illness at home in New York, Madonna told fans she was rescheduling her world tour in October.

There had been reports the singer had been exhausting herself in rehearsals for the shows, but before they were relaunched, it was reported she was in top health.

Her tour features a 45-song set list celebrating Madonna's 40-year career, with her opening night showcasing a series of raunchy outfit changes and a moment where she pulls her skirt over one of her dancer's heads while straddling his shoulders.

## Know her mantra: Balance is the key in life, says Pranitaa Pandit



Pranitaa Pandit, who has been a part of many shows like Kavach, Jamai Raja and Uttaran, says to get ahead in life one has to struggle. And this struggle period might take a toll on personal relationships.

"Some personal relationships take a backseat because of the hustle, which in my view is not wrong. Everyone comes to the world alone and is a survivor. We need to struggle and survive for which financial goals are extremely important. So, goals and ambition contribute to a happy life and once that is set, only then can one focus completely on personal relationships. Due to this, a lot of times, relationships take a backseat. I believe balance is the key and the biggest struggle is to understand how to strike a balance," she says.

Time management has gone for a toss due to cell-phones, as one is always accessible. She adds, "It's a choice that people are making and, of course, it's becoming difficult to avoid. But being suffocated is also a choice that people are making. Why can't one be inaccessible for some time?"

## Mind it!: Both physical and mental health are essential, believes Simaran Kaur



Tose Naina Milaika actress Simaran Kaur says mental health is important for the overall well being of an individual. She adds that people need to concentrate on this as much as their physical health.

"It's the ability to maintain a balanced and positive state of mind, even during life's ups and downs. It involves emotional resilience,

self-awareness, and the capacity to cope with stress and adversity while maintaining a sense of inner peace," she says.

She adds, "Many individuals put significant emphasis on their physical health, such as exercising and eating well, but they often overlook the importance of nurturing their mental health. It's crucial to

recognise that both physical and mental health are essential for a truly healthy and fulfilling life."

About what she thinks is important for good mental health, she shares, "Good mental health requires a holistic approach. It includes practicing self-compassion, managing stress effectively, fostering healthy relationships, seeking support when needed, and maintaining a positive perspective in life. Self-care, both physically and emotionally, plays a pivotal role in sustaining good mental health."

Celebrities are often scrutinised in public and, thus, many of them face issues of low self-esteem, depression and anxiety; Simaran says, "Individuals in the entertainment industry often face a unique set of challenges that can make them more susceptible to depression and anxiety. The constant public scrutiny and performance pressure can contribute to mental health issues. However, it's important to remember that mental health concerns can affect people from all walks of life."

# Ahead of 2024 general election, Supreme Court refers petitions against Electoral Bonds Scheme to Constitution Bench

The matter will be taken up on October 30

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Ahead of the 2024 general election, the Supreme Court on Monday referred petitions challenging the Electoral Bonds Scheme to a five-judge Constitution Bench, saying it involved an important constitutional issue.

"In view of the importance of the issue raised, and having regard to Article 145(3) of the Constitution, the matter be placed before a Bench of at least five judges," a three-judge Bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud said.

The Bench said the matter would be taken up on October 30.

The top court had on March 21 this year said it would examine if petitions challenging the validity of the electoral bonds scheme for funding of political parties needed to be referred to a Constitutional Bench for an "authoritative pronouncement".

An Electoral Bond is a bearer instrument like a Promissory Note which can be purchased by an Indian citizen or an Indian company whose identity would remain secret from everybody except the SBI from whom it has to be purchased. Once purchased, the buyer can give it to a political party, which can



encash it using its bank account.

It was introduced through the Finance Act, 2017, which made amendments to several statutes, including RBI Act, Representation of People Act, Income Tax Act and Companies Act to facilitate the scheme which was notified on January 2, 2018.

In its PIL filed in 2017, Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) alleged corruption and subversion of democracy through illicit and foreign funding of political parties and lack of transparency in their accounts.

Maintaining that several constitutional issues having a tremendous bearing on the sanctity of electoral process were involved in the petitions challenging the validity of Electoral Bonds Scheme, ADR had earlier urged the Supreme Court to refer the matter to a Constitution

Bench.

The Centre maintained that the electoral bonds scheme was an "absolutely transparent" mode of political funding and it was impossible to get any black or unaccounted money through it.

The Supreme Court had on October 10 said it would take up petitions challenging the Electoral Bonds Scheme for final hearing after Dussehra vacation as the petitioners chose not to argue on the scheme being passed as a Money Bill.

Attorney General for India R Venkatramani had on the last date of hearing told the Bench that one of the issues raised in the petitions against the Electoral Bonds was the issue relating to Money Bill which was pending before a seven-judge Constitution Bench.

On behalf of the petitioners,

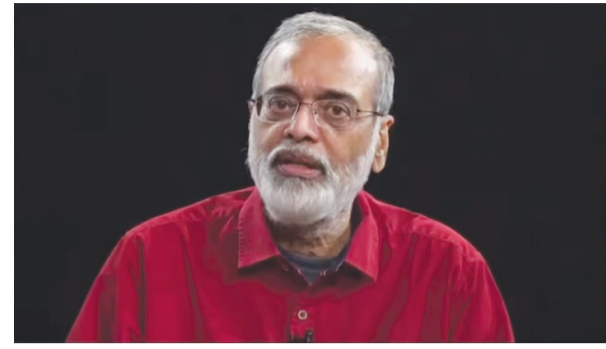
advocate Prashant Bhushan had said while Money Bill was one of the issues raised in the petitions, there were other issues to be decided independent of the Money Bill.

Contending that a corruption-free society was a facet of right to life under Article 21 (right to life and liberty), Bhushan had said anonymous funding of political parties violated the Right to Information of the citizens as it promoted corruption by allowing companies benefiting from the government of certain parties to anonymously donate to those political parties.

After the petitioners' advocates, including Bhushan, said they would like the matter to be heard without arguing on the Money Bill issue in view of the 2024 general election, the CJI had posted the matter for final hearing on October 31 as the pre-hearing procedural formalities had already been completed.

On March 26, 2021, the Supreme Court had refused to stay the sale of electoral bonds ahead of the Assembly elections in West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, saying "We do not see any justification for the grant of stay at this stage."

# NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha, its HR head Amit Chakravarty move Supreme Court against arrest and remand



NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha and its human resources department head Amit Chakravarty on Monday moved the Supreme Court challenging a Delhi High Court verdict dismissing their petitions challenging their arrest and subsequent police remand in a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) – an anti-terror law.

On behalf of Purkayastha and Chakravarty, senior counsel Kapil Sibal mentioned their petition before a three-judge Bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud who said he would look at the papers and list it.

Mentioning the petition out of turn, Sibal urged the CJI to list it for urgent hearing, saying, "He (Purkayastha) is a 70-plus man in custody."

Purkayastha and Chakravarty were arrested by the Special Cell of the Delhi Police on October 3 after a case was lodged by the Delhi Police against the duo under UAPA for allegedly receiv-

ing money to spread pro-China propaganda. According to the FIR, a large amount of funds from the news portal allegedly came from China to "disrupt the sovereignty of India" and cause disaffection against the country.

Purkayastha conspired with a group – People's Alliance for Democracy and Secularism (PADS) – to sabotage the electoral process during the 2019 general election, police alleged. On October 10, the trial court sent them to judicial custody for 10 days.

The Delhi High Court had on Friday dismissed petitions filed by Purkayastha and Chakravarty challenging their arrest and subsequent police remand under stringent provisions of the UAPA.

Holding that there was no "procedural infirmity" or violation of legal or constitutional provisions in relation to the arrest and the remand order was sustainable in law, Justice Tushar Rao Gedela had rejected their petitions for being "devoid of any merit".

Justice Gedela had

dismissed their contention that they ought to have been supplied with the grounds of arrest after being apprehended by police, saying the UAPA did not mandate furnishing the written grounds and only talked of the accused being "informed" about the reasons for arrest within 24 hours.

"After examining the entire issue in the right perspective, it appears as of now that the grounds of arrest were indeed conveyed to the petitioner, as soon as may be, after the arrest and as such, there does not appear to be any procedural infirmity or violation of the provisions of the Section 43B of the UAPA or the Article 22(1) of the Constitution and as such, the arrest is in accordance with law," it had noted.

However, in view of the recent Supreme Court verdict in Pankaj Bansal's case, the high court had said it would be "advisable" that the police henceforth provide the grounds of arrest in writing to an accused after redacting "sensitive material".

The high court had sought to emphasise that offences under the UAPA directly impacted the stability, integrity and sovereignty of the country and were of utmost importance since they affected national security.

# ISRO 'very busy' with various exploration missions in pipeline: Chairman S Somanath

CHENNAI, Oct 16 (Agencies): ISRO has lined up a series of exploration missions including to Mars, Venus and to the Moon again, apart from the maiden human spaceflight programme, Chairman S Somanath said.

The space agency also has drawn up plans to launch missions for studying climate and weather conditions of the Earth, the space agency chief said, speaking to reporters.

Besides, ISRO is also working on regular scientific missions including communication, remote sensing satellites, Somanath, who is also the Secretary of the Department of Space, said here.

Speaking about the Gaganyaan programme, he said the maiden TV-D1 test flight is scheduled for October 21.

Elaborating about the upcoming missions undertaken by the Bengaluru-headquartered space agency, he said, "We have exploration missions. We have plans to go to Mars, Venus, again sometime to the Moon. We also have programmes to look at the climate and weather of Earth."

Stressing that the scientists at ISRO would be focused on taking up regular missions like launching satellites for communications and remote sensing, he said scientific missions are



also in the pipeline to look at issues like aeronomy, thermal imaging, and climate change impact assessment.

"So many things are there and we are very busy doing all of this," he said.

To a query about whether scientists were able to receive any kind of response from the Vikram lander of the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft, which successfully made a soft-landing on the surface of the Moon on August 23, he said Vikram had done its job very well during the lunar day (equivalent of 14 Earth days) at which time it was programmed to perform its functions.

"It is happily sleeping on the Moon. It has done its job very well. Maybe if it wishes to wake up, let it wake up. Until then, we will wait," he said. ISRO made efforts to re-establish communication with rover Pragyan and

lander Vikram after they were put into sleep mode in September following the onset of night on the Moon.

"No signals have been received from them. Efforts to establish contact will continue," ISRO had said.

After the historic landing on August 23, lander Vikram and rover Pragyan performed different tasks on the lunar surface, including detecting the presence of sulphur and recording relative temperature.

About ISRO's maiden mission to study the Sun, Somanath said the spacecraft is 'very healthy' and is on a 110-day long journey to the Lagrange point L1 and is expected to reach the intended destination by "middle of January."

"It is a long journey. It is almost 110 days of journey and it has covered some distance now. We corrected a little bit of its trajectory, because early correction is important to reach the L1 point. After tracking, we find it is going in the right direction towards the L1 point," he said.

Observing that the rocket is on a "complex travel", Somanath said, "It takes almost another 70-75 days further to reach. By the middle of January, it will reach there. After that, we will make some corrections to make it enter into the Halo orbit at the

L1 point."

"After that instruments will be switched on and it will start doing the scientific data streaming. Currently, everything is very healthy on Aditya L1," he said.

Aditya-L1 was launched on September 2, and it is the first Indian space-based observatory that will study the Sun from a halo orbit around the first Sun-Earth Lagrangian point (L1), which is located roughly 1.5 million km from the Earth.

Earlier, Somanath visited the residence of renowned agricultural scientist M S Swaminathan, who passed away on September 28. He met the family members of the eminent plant geneticist known as the driving force behind India's 'Green Revolution', here in the city.

"I am here today just to pay my tributes and my affection to his (M S Swaminathan's) contribution... Whoever works in whichever field whether it is space, agriculture or sustainability and many other domains, we all find a place to work together," he said.

"Thank you so much for the opportunity. His (M S Swaminathan's) legacy will continue to inspire more young people in the country to work in science and technology," Somanath said.

# 3 killed as roof of community hall collapses during rain in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur



CHENNAI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Three people were killed in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district on Monday after the roof of a community hall collapsed. The three had gone inside the community hall to take shelter after it started raining heavily while they were waiting for a bus.

The three people who died have been identified as Murali, Manikandan and Gowtham.

Onlookers pulled them out of the debris and took them to a government hospital where they were declared brought dead.

Police started an investigation into the matter.

# Several injured in shooting incident over alleged molestation in UP's Mahoba

MAHOBA, Oct 16 (Agencies): Seven people were referred to Mahoba District hospital after they sustained injuries in a shooting incident in Bendo village of UP's Mahoba district, said Mahoba SP Aparna Gupta.

The incident reportedly happened after a BA student protested against the alleged molestation by the accused, identified as Jitendra Tiwari.

Jitendra Tiwari and his father reached the victim's house and allegedly fired gunshots which resulted in injuries to 10 people, of which seven were referred to the district hospital. It is being said that the victim (BA student) had been troubled for a week on her way to college by the accused, Jitendra Tiwari.

Talking about the incident to media personnel, Mahoba SP Aparna Gupta said, "We received information from village Bendo regarding gunshots being fired and some people getting injured in the incident after which police reached the spot."

SP Gupta further informed that the injured were taken to a nearby health-care centre for treatment where their

condition was reported stable and for better treatment, the injured were later referred to Mahoba district hospital.

All the injured are out of danger, she said.

"Senior officials also visited the spot of the incident and an investigation is being carried on to figure out the cause of the incident," said SP Gupta. After the complaint, the case will be registered into the matter, she added.

She further said that four teams have been formed to look into the matter and soon the accused will be apprehended. Police force has also been deployed in the area and there is no problem of law and order in the area as of now, Mahoba SP said.

Reacting to the allegations that the shots were fired after a protest against eve-teasing, SP Gupta said that all the aspects of the incident are being investigated to figure out the cause of the incident.

The Mahoba SP further said that prima facie, an old dispute between the parties involved in the incident has been reported.

# Benin national, arrested in drugs case, escapes from Delhi police custody; nabbed later

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): A 31-year-old Benin national, arrested in connection with a case of illegal drug supply, escaped from police custody but was nabbed from Nihal Vihar here a few hours later, officials said on Monday.

Uche Uwadiogu was arrested on October 3 with 1 kg of heroin, an

official said.

He fled on Sunday while being taken to the Chander Vihar area for further investigation, the officer said, adding that after running some distance, he sat on the motorcycle of his associate and they both sped away.

Police personnel chased him but were unsuccessful in nab-

bing him. A police official suffered minor injuries in the chase, the officer said.

Uwadiogu was nabbed from the Nihal Vihar area after a seven-hour search. His associate, Nanso Rexfelison (42), a Nigerian national, was arrested later, the police officer said, adding both the accused are being interrogated.

# Allahabad High Court acquits Maninder Pandher, Surrender Koli in Nithari case; overturns death penalty



PRAYAGRAJ (UP), Oct 16 (Agencies): The Allahabad High Court on Monday acquitted Surrender Koli and Maninder Singh Pandher in the infamous Nithari serial killings case in Noida for lack of evidence.

Both had been sentenced to death on charges of rape and murder.

A total 19 cases had been lodged

against businessman Pandher and his domestic help Koli in 2007. The CBI had filed closure reports in three of the 19 cases due to lack of evidence.

The sensational killings came to light with the discovery of the skeletal remains of eight children from the drain behind Pandher's house in Nithari, Noida, on December 29, 2006.

Further digging and searches of drains in the area around Pandher's house led to more skeletal remains being found. Most of these remains were that of poor children and young women who had gone missing from the area.

Within 10 days, the CBI took over the case and its search resulted in the recovery of more bones.

# Earthquake of magnitude 4.0 hits Uttarakhand

UTTARAKHAND, Oct 16 (Agencies): An earthquake with a magnitude of 4.0 on the Richter Scale hit Uttarakhand on Monday morning.

According to the National Center for Seismology (NCS), the epicentre of the earthquake was located 48 km northeast of Pithoragarh. It occurred at



9.11 am. Yesterday, tremors were felt in Delhi and its neighbouring areas after

a 3.1 magnitude earthquake occurred nine kilometres away from Haryana's Faridabad.

## Joe Biden considering trip to Israel in coming days, but travel isn't final

*It would be a powerful symbol of sympathy and support following the brutal attack by Hamas*

WASHINGTON, Oct 16 (Agencies): President Joe Biden is considering a trip to Israel in the coming days but no travel has been finalised, a senior administration official said.

It would be a powerful symbol of sympathy and support following the brutal attack by Hamas.

A trip would be a chance for Biden to personally affirm to the Israeli people that the US is standing firm behind them. But it would come amid growing fears that a looming Israeli move into Gaza could spark a wider war with devastating humanitarian consequences.

And Biden's presence could be seen as a provocative move by Hamas' chief sponsor, Iran, or potentially viewed as tone deaf by Arab nations as civilian casualties mount in Gaza.



Secretary of State Antony Blinken has already been travelling around the Mideast this past week trying to prevent the war with Hamas from igniting a broader regional conflict.

The official could not publicly discuss internal deliberations about the potential presidential travel and spoke to the Associ-

ated Press on condition of anonymity.

Biden also made his strongest public statements yet to restrain Israel after the October 7 attack that killed more than 1,400 people including at least 30 US citizens, warning in an interview with CBS' 60 Minutes that aired on Sunday that Israel should not

reoccupy Gaza.

"I think it'd be a big mistake," Biden said. "Look, what happened in Gaza, in my view, is Hamas, and the extreme elements of Hamas don't represent all the Palestinian people. And I think that it would be a mistake for Israel to occupy Gaza again." Israel left Gaza in 2005; Hamas won the elections the next year.

Still, Biden said, "taking out the extremists ... is a necessary requirement".

Biden and his administration officials have refused to criticise Israel or its bombing campaign that has killed civilians in Gaza. But they've urged Israel, Egypt and other nations to allow for humanitarian aid and supplies into the worsening conflict zone.

"I'm confident that Israel is going to act under the rules of war," Biden said in the interview.

## Muslim boy stabbed 26 times by US man in hate crime motivated by Israeli-Hamas war, police say



CHICAGOL, Oct 16 (Agencies): An Illinois man was charged with hate crimes for stabbing a six-year-old Muslim boy to death and wounding his mother in an attack that targeted them for their religion and as a response to the war between Israel and Hamas, officials and Muslim rights activists said.

The boy was stabbed 26 times with a military-style knife with a 7-inch (18-cm) serrated blade, the Will County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

The 32-year-old woman had multiple stab wounds and is expected to survive the attack that occurred on Saturday in Plainfield Township, about 40 miles (64 km) southwest of Chicago.

US President Joe Biden said the boy's family were Palestinian Muslims who "came to America seeking what we all seek - a refuge to

live, learn, and pray in peace".

"This horrific act of hate has no place in America," Biden said in a statement.

Joseph Czuba, 71, was charged with first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, two counts of hate crime and aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, the sheriff's office said.

"Detectives were able to determine that both victims in this brutal attack were targeted by the suspect due to them being Muslim and the on-going Middle Eastern conflict involving Hamas and the Israelis," the Will County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

Agency could not identify an attorney for Czuba. He was in jail awaiting his initial court appearance, the office said.

Although Czuba did not make any statements to detectives, as is his constitutional right, police said they

determined the charges through interviews and evidence.

When police arrived at the scene, they said they found Czuba sitting on the ground outside the home with a cut to his forehead. The victims were in a bedroom.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) identified the boy as Wadea Al-Fayoume and said the woman, Hanaa Shahin, was his mother.

"The Islamophobic rhetoric and anti-Palestinian racism being spread by politicians, media outlets, and social media platforms must stop," CAIR said on the social media platform X.

FBI Director Christopher Wray warned the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference to stay vigilant "in this heightened environment".

"There's no question we're seeing an increase in reported threats, and we've got to be on the lookout, especially for lone actors who may take inspiration from recent events to commit violence of their own," Wray told the conference in San Diego, according to the FBI website.

## Free hostages, UN Chief tells Hamas, asks Israel to allow humanitarian aid in Gaza

GENEVA, Oct 16 (Agencies): UN chief Antonio Guterres has called on Hamas to immediately release all hostages without conditions and urged Israel to allow rapid and unimpeded access to humanitarian aid for civilians in the Gaza Strip.

The Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip, home to about 2.3 million people, is under a total blockade. Israel has cut off all supplies of food, water and fuel in the wake of ongoing hostilities with Palestinian militant group Hamas.

On Monday, Israel's Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said it would impose a "complete siege" on the territory.

"In this dramatic moment, as we are on the verge of the abyss in the Middle East, it is my duty as Secretary-General of the United Nations to make two strong humanitarian appeals," Guterres said here in a statement on Sunday.

The UN Secretary-General appealed to Hamas that it must release all hostages immediately without conditions.

"To Israel, rapid and unimpeded access to humanitarian aid must be granted for humanitarian supplies and workers for the sake of the civilians in Gaza," Guterres said.

"Each one of these two objectives is valid in themselves. They should not become bar-

gaining chips and they must be implemented because it is the right thing to do," he said.

The UN chief sounded a dire warning, saying: "Gaza is running out of water, electricity and other essential supplies."

He noted that the United Nations has stocks available of food, water, non-food items, medical supplies and fuel, located in Egypt, Jordan, the West Bank and Israel and these goods can be dispatched within hours.

"To ensure delivery, our selfless staff on the ground, along with NGO partners, need to be able to bring these supplies into and throughout Gaza safely, and without impediment to deliver to those in need," Guterres said.

The United Nations, along with other humanitarian agencies, has been working round the clock to preposition aid since the latest conflict between Israel and Hamas broke out following the militant group's October 7 assault on several locations inside Israel and Israel's subsequent declaration of war.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on Sunday that heavy Israeli bombardments on Gaza, from the air, sea and land, have continued almost uninterrupted.

Over the past 24 hours, there have been 455 Palestinian fatal-



ities in Gaza and 856 injuries, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

Following Israel's ultimatum on Friday that Palestinians in Gaza should relocate to the strip's south, OCHA said that by Saturday afternoon, nearly 600,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) were hosted in the central and southern parts of Gaza alone, in increasingly dire conditions.

It added that since then, this figure has risen significantly. About 300,000 people are situated in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency's (UNRWA) designated emergency shelters, and the rest in public facilities and with host families.

The OCHA said an almost full evacuation of Sderot city, in southern Israel, was completed on Sunday. Smaller Israeli communities around Gaza have

been fully vacated in previous days, while a large proportion of Ashqelon City's residents have also reportedly left.

The UN agency added that since the start of hostilities, 2,670 Palestinians have been killed and 9,600 have been injured.

The fatality toll in Gaza during the eight days of hostilities has already surpassed the total number of fatalities during the 2014 escalation, which lasted for over seven weeks (2,251 Palestinian fatalities).

According to the Palestinian Civil Defense, the number of missing people, presumably trapped beneath the rubble may exceed 1,000.

The Ministry of Health in Gaza said that as of October 15, 47 families were killed, amounting to about 500 people.

## Philippines calls out China for its 'unsafe actions' in South China sea



MANILA, Oct 16 (Agencies): The Philippine military has called out China to stop "unsafe actions" in the South China Sea, after a Chinese navy ship shadowed and attempted to cut off a Philippine navy vessel conducting a resupply mission late last week.

A Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) vessel came as close as 350 yards as it tried to cross in front of the Philippine ship near Thitu island, Manila's biggest and most strategically important outpost in the South China Sea, according to armed forces chief

Romeo Brawner.

"These dangerous and offensive manoeuvres by China's PLAN not only risk collision but also directly endanger the lives of maritime personnel from both sides," Brawner said in a statement.

The Chinese embassy in Manila did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Monday.

It was the latest in a series of attempts by China to monitor and block Philippine resupply missions to personnel in Manila-occupied features in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea.

China's claims sovereignty to almost the entire South China Sea, through which more than \$3 trillion of trade passes each year.

Ties between Manila and Beijing have soured since Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos pursued closer ties with Washington, including increasing US access to more Philippine military bases.

## Israel evacuates communities along Lebanon border: Army



JERUSALEM, Oct 16 (Agencies): Israel's army said Monday it was evacuating residents living along its northern border with Lebanon amid rising tensions there 10 days into its war with Palestinian militant group Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

An Israeli civilian and an army officer were killed Sunday in missile attacks from Lebanon, and the army carried out retaliatory strikes and attacked infrastructure of the Hezbollah militant group.

The Israeli army Monday noted in a statement "the implementation of a plan to

evacuate residents of northern Israel who live in the area up to two kilometres from the Lebanese border to state-funded guesthouses".

The move affects thousands of people living in 28 communities.

Many have already left the area after repeated cross-border fire in recent days has claimed lives on both sides of the UN-patrolled border between Lebanon and Israel which remain technically at war.

Israel's Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said his country had "no interest in a war in the north, we don't want to escalate the situation".

"If Hezbollah chooses

the path of war, it will pay a very heavy price," he said on Sunday. "But if it restrains itself, we'll respect the situation and keep things the way they are".

Israel has been at war since Gaza's Hamas militants staged an unprecedented attack on October 7 in which its gunmen shot, stabbed and mutilated people in a surprise onslaught that shocked the nation.

The attack and fighting since have killed more than 1,400 in Israel which has vowed to destroy Hamas and responded with a heavy bombing campaign on Gaza that had killed more than 2,750.

## Antony Blinken Returns To Israel After Talks In 6 Arab Countries

AMMAN, Oct 16 (Agencies): US Secretary of State Antony Blinken was returning Monday to Israel after talks in six Arab states, hoping to coordinate efforts against Hamas while finding ways to alleviate Gaza's looming humanitarian crisis.

Just four days after he paid a lightning visit to Tel Aviv to show solidarity, Blinken was expected to meet Israeli leaders in Jerusalem as Israel prepares a major ground operation in the Gaza Strip.

"I want an opportunity to share everything that I've heard -- that I've learned -- over the last few days visiting with our other partners and to talk about the way forward with our Israeli allies and friends," Blinken told reporters Sunday in Cairo.

The trip comes as President Joe Biden reportedly considers an invitation to visit Israel to demonstrate further what the US leader has described as unwavering solidarity.

Israel has declared war on Hamas after the Islamist group broke through the heavily fortified border and shot, stabbed and burned to death more than 1,400 people, most of them civil-



ians.

Israel has responded with relentless bombing, killing at least 2,670 people, the majority ordinary Palestinians, in the blockaded and impoverished Gaza Strip.

US officials say Blinken heard wide opposition to Hamas from leaders during his tour -- but also concern on the plight of the Palestinians.

"I made clear that it cannot be -- must not be -- business as usual with Hamas going forward," Blinken said in Cairo.

"And at the same time, as I said, we're determined to do everything we can to address the needs of people in Gaza,"

he said.

"Civilians should not have to suffer for Hamas's atrocities."

- 'Mistake' to reoccupy Gaza -

Under US pressure, Israel on Sunday resumed the supply of water to the southern Gaza Strip after earlier vowing to keep out all supply of food, water and energy to the densely populated territory.

The United States also named a coordinator to spearhead humanitarian relief into Gaza, retired ambassador David Satterfield, who was expected to arrive in Israel on Monday.

The Biden administration has said that Israel has a right to respond and has stopped

short of calling for restraint or a ceasefire.

But it has also warned against more extreme measures such as mass expulsion of Palestinians, a prospect feared by Palestinian Authority president Mahmud Abbas, a Hamas rival based in the West Bank.

Biden, in an interview aired Sunday with the CBS News show "60 Minutes," cautioned of dangers in any bid by Israel to reoccupy Gaza.

"I think it would be a mistake," Biden said.

Israel pulled out of Gaza in 2005. Two years later, Israel imposed an air, land and sea blockade of the territory after it came under the control of Hamas, considered a terrorist group by Israel and the United States.

Blinken held talks in four of the five Arab states with diplomatic relations with Israel -- Jordan, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

He also visited Saudi Arabia, which put its own normalisation bid with Israel on hold after the violence, and Qatar, a US partner that maintains relations with Hamas.



## 47th Annual Athletic Meet 2023 successfully concludes at Sainik School Nagrota



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: 47th Annual Athletic Meet 2023 held from 11th to 13th Oct at Maj Somnath Sharma (PVC) Stadium in Sainik School Nagrota got a resounding success, showcasing the indomitable spirit of the school's cadets and their dedication to sports.

Three days were filled with exciting activities and displays of athletic prowess. The highlight of the event was the grand march past led by the School Captain, Cadet Arush Verma. Each house exhibited impeccable discipline and teamwork, setting the stage for a day of thrilling competitions. School Sports Captain, Cadet Hardik Pandey administered the oath-taking ceremony, a solemn pledge of integrity and sportsmanship

and emphasized the importance of fair play and camaraderie in sports.

The torch lighting ceremony was another highlight, with the sports captains of the respective houses taking centre stage. On the opening day Capt (IN) AK Desai, Principal Sainik School Nagrota added prestige to the event and expressed confidence that all the participants will uphold true sportsman spirit and exhibit highest standards of discipline on and off the field which is the hallmark of Sainik School and formally declared the Meet open.

Three day Meet included track and field events like Long Jump, High Jump, Javelin Throw, Discuss throw and races for all Houses. The young athletes left spectators in awe of

their extraordinary abilities and commitment to excellence. Their feats not only displayed their physical prowess but also epitomized the true spirit of sportsmanship.

On the closing ceremony Maj Gen RK Sachdeva, Additional Director General, NCC, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh Directorate and Mrs (Dr) Sonia Sachdeva presided over the function as Chief Guest and gave away the medals and trophies to the winners.

The Closing Ceremony was marked by an impressive march past by the participating houses amidst resounding applause from the audience. Cadet Angel Chaudhary of Jhelum House was declared the best Athlete amongst girl cadets.

Cadet Priyanshu Singh of Jhelum house was declared the best

athlete amongst the Seniors and Cadet Adarsh Kumar Tiwari of Chenab House won the best athlete award in the Junior house.

Trikuta house and Sindh houses lifted the overall champions trophy in Senior and Junior category respectively. Addressing the cadets, the Chief Guest complimented the winners as well as the organizing team for putting up a stupendous show.

Chief Guest in his address appreciated all Cadets for displaying commendable zeal and high standards of performance in various events. The cheers and applause from the school community and supporters reverberated throughout the stadium, celebrating these exceptional athletes and their remarkable achievements.

## DC Ganderbal chairs DCDC meeting

### TOP NEWS REPORT

GANDERBAL, Oct 16: In order to make primary agriculture credit societies (PACS) as economic vibrant entities by diversifying their business activities at grass-roots level, a meeting of District Level Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC) was today chaired by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal at VC Room here.

At the outset, detailed discussion was held on various agenda points including status of adoption of Model Bye laws by PACS, status of hardware purchase, targets for establishing new multipurpose PACS, formation of FPOs by PACS, identification of PACS for convergence with PM-KUSUM scheme, establishment of Jan Aushadhi Kendras by PACS and other initiatives.

While discussing the agenda points, the DC stressed the importance of the Cooperative movement and how it benefits society on a large scale for their economic

empowerment and income generation.

During the meeting, Deputy Registrar Cooperative Ganderbal presented an overview of the present status of Cooperative Societies in the district besides deliberating upon the work being done to strengthen the Cooperative movement across the district.

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics and IT, NABARD and CSC e-governance service India Ltd has signed a Memorandum of Understanding enabling PACS to undertake CSC services. Under this initiative more than 300 e-services in rural areas including banking, insurance, health services, bus/air/rail tickets etc shall be provided by the PACS.

In order to further diversify the business activities of PACS to make them vibrant economic entities, the DC directed the Deputy Registrar Cooperative Ganderbal to provide handholding to PACS in carrying diversified activities

like opening up of Jan Aushadhi Kendra, LPG/ Petrol/ Diesel distribution outlets and CSCs.

He further emphasized on timely adoption of model by-laws by all registered PACS to make them economic generation resources.

The DC also directed for identification of PACS for convergence with the PM-KUSUM scheme for promoting green energy so that farmers associated with PACS can replace Agricultural Diesel Pumps with solar agricultural water pumps and ensure their energy security by installing photovoltaic modules on the periphery of their land.

The DC directed all the members of the committee to work in close coordination in order to fulfill the various initiatives undertaken under the guidance of the Ministry of Cooperation in order to strengthen the cooperative ecosystem by way of registering more PACS in the district and assured all possible support from District Administration to achieve the set targets.

## Preparations for conduct of Swachta 3.0 reviewed

### TOP NEWS REPORT

SHOPIAN, Oct 16: The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Shopian, Dr Zakir Hussain Faaz today convened a meeting of all district and sectoral officers to review the preparations for conduct of Swachta 3.0 in the district.

The ADC impressed upon the officers that the cleanliness should not be confined to ceremonial exercise but should be impactful on

the ground. He asked the officers to ensure cleanliness of their respective offices and share the photographs of pre and post cleanliness drives with the Assistant Commissioner Panchayats on a daily basis.

The District Officers were asked to conduct inspection of sub offices of their respective departments to monitor the status of cleanliness and were directed to also initiate a pro-

cess for weeding out of unnecessary physical files and closing of e-files. The ADC said that the scrap material including machinery and old records should be disposed-off as per the circular directions of the Government.

He impressed upon all the officers to initiate the process of switching over to e-office as soon as possible and also ensure the quality disposal of pending grievances on priority.

He asked the con-

cerned to make monitoring of Swachta activities a regular part of their duty in their respective jurisdiction. Earlier, the AC Panchayats briefed the meeting about the plan for implementation of Swachta 3.0 Campaign which includes cleanliness at campaign sites, space management and beautification of offices, disposal procedure of scrap and redundant items, public grievance and appeals, record management etc.

## FROM PAGE 1

### 224-Meter viaduct completed in Ramban on JK National Highway: Nitin Gadkari

Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi Ji, we remain steadfast in our commitment to delivering exceptional highway infrastructure to the state of Jammu & Kashmir.

### Amit Shah attends Navratri Puja at Sharda Temple in Kashmir

the return of peace in the valley but also marks the rekindling of our nation's spiritual and cultural flame under the leadership of PM @narendramodi Ji," he added. A large number of pilgrims from all over the country attended the puja.

### Jammu-Srinagar National Highway closed due to landslide

forced the closure of the highway. "Both side traffic halted on Jammu-Srinagar (NH-44) due to landslide at Shalgr, Banihal," the spokesman said.

### Parts of Kashmir, Ladakh receive fresh snowfall, plains lashed by rains

Bandipora-Gurez Road was closed for vehicular traffic as a precautionary measure in view of the fresh snowfall.

Dress, the world's second-coldest place after Siberia, received the season's first snowfall along with Leh, Kargil, and Sanku in Ladakh Union Territory on Monday. Light to moderate snow showers can also occur in Leh and Kargil districts until tomorrow.

The MeT office has also issued an advisory to the farmers to postpone crop harvesting until October 17.

The inclement weather may temporarily disrupt transportation, especially at vulnerable places like Zojila, Mughal Road, Sinthan Top, Sadnatop, etc., the Met office said.

Faizan Arif, an independent weather forecaster, said Monday and Tuesday afternoon, moderate rain and snow showers are expected in most areas of Jammu and Kashmir. A few areas in higher reaches can receive heavy snowfall.

There are chances of snowfall in the ski resort of Gulmarg (85 per cent), the tourist spot of Sonamarg (85 per cent), and Pahalgam (55 per cent).

He said day temperatures, especially today, can stay below 14°C at most places in Kashmir Valley, and a significant drop in day temperatures is expected in the

Jammu region as well.

There is a risk of shooting stones or landslides along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, he added.

The minimum temperature recorded at Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, was 8.2°C on Monday, up from 8.6°C a day ago.

The tourist hot spot of Pahalgam in South Kashmir had a low of 3.8°C against 4.5°C the previous night, Kokernag had a low of 7.2°C against 7.3°C the previous night, and the ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded a low of 2.2°C against 2.8°C a day ago, the MeT office said.

### SC rejects woman's plea seeking termination of 26-week pregnancy

on Monday apprised the Supreme Court that no abnormality has been detected in the foetus of a woman who had petitioned to seek the medical termination of her 26-week pregnancy and that with proper care and treatment under appropriate medical supervision, the mother and baby can be managed well during pregnancy and postpartum psychosis.

"It is felt that with proper care and treatment under appropriate medical supervision, the mother and baby can be managed well during pregnancy and postpartum as has been previously evidenced by her response to medications. In case of worsening of symptoms she may be admitted and treated," AIIMS report said.

The hospital's report was filed after the apex court directed it to do so in an order on October 13.

A bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, also comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra said that it will try and pass the order on the petition post lunch today.

The woman has sought the termination of her 26-week pregnancy whereas the Centre has filed an application seeking a recalling of the top court's order by which the woman's petition has been allowed.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati submitted the AIIMS report that stated that the woman has a past history of postpartum psychosis, currently controlled on medications.

AIIMS report also said that as per the assessment by ultrasonography and fetal Echo, the foetus did not present any structural anomaly.

AIIMS also said that the continuation of pregnancy to full term while the woman is on the revised medications is not likely to significantly increase the risk of adverse outcomes for the mother and foetus as compared to other pregnant women.

The court also took the note of AIIMS report.

ASG Bhati, appearing for the Centre, apprised the court about the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 and said that it is a liberal and pro-choice legisla-

tion, aimed at giving absolute primacy to the reproductive autonomy and health of the woman while balancing the rights of a viable unborn child.

She further added that now it is not a matter of choice but a choice between pre-term delivery and full-term delivery.

She assured the court that the government would assist her and her husband with everything including medical counselling.

Senior Advocate Colin Gonsalves apprised the court on the issue related to the unborn child and said that in international law today there is no right to the unborn child and the right of the woman is absolute.

But the court remarked with a question whether the woman should be allowed to abort even at 33 weeks of pregnancy in those cases where the foetus is not abnormal.

The court also said that the challenge to be law should be dealt with in some other proceedings as now the matter is limited to the woman and the state.

The matter was referred to a three-judge bench after a two-judge bench on October 11 gave a split order on the married woman's plea seeking termination of a 26-week pregnancy.

The Supreme Court on Wednesday gave a split order on the married woman's plea seeking termination of a 26-week pregnancy as one of the judges ruled against the termination while the other judge expressed disagreement and said that the woman's decision must be respected to undergo the procedure of termination of her pregnancy.

A two-judge bench of Justices Hima Kohli and BV Nagarathna gave the split decision while hearing the Centre's plea seeking the recalling of its earlier order allowing the woman to undergo the procedure of termination of her pregnancy.

Justice Hima Kohli said that her judicial conscience does not allow her to permit termination. Expressing disagreement, Justice BV Nagarathna said that the woman's decision to undergo termination of her pregnancy must be respected.

The woman has submitted an affidavit stating she does not wish to carry out her pregnancy due to her mental condition and ailments.

On October 9, a bench of justices Hima Kohli and BV Nagarathna directed the woman to visit the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department, AIIMS, New Delhi on October 10.

The court had also directed the AIIMS to admit the petitioner for her to undergo the procedure of termination of her pregnancy at the earliest with follow-up as may be advised by the treating doctors.

### CB files chargesheet against father-son duo for forging school leaving certificate to secure Govt

### job

employment system but also has severe financial implications for the government.

The incident came to light following a written complaint lodged by Sarfarz Ahmed, who, through the Right to Information Act-2005, obtained information from the Chief Education Officer in Jammu. Mr. Ahmed raised concerns that the school leaving certificate issued in favor of Mukhtyar Ahmed was not authentic, as the admission number 1311 was associated with another individual, Nazia Bano. This revelation points to the fact that the school leaving certificate provided by Mukhtyar Ahmed was indeed counterfeit, resulting in his improper appointment within the PDD J&K.

Upon receiving this complaint, the Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu initiated a preliminary verification, which led to the establishment of prima facie evidence against the accused. Subsequently, the case was registered for a thorough investigation. Relevant documents were obtained and seized from the concerned school and the Power Development Department of J&K. Statements of witnesses were recorded, and circumstantial and material evidence was collected to strengthen the case against the accused.

The investigation revealed that Mukhtyar Ahmed and his father, Bashir Ahmed, allegedly conspired to create fraudulent documentation to secure a government job. As a result, they now face charges under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, including 420, 467, 468, 471, and 120-B. The charge sheet has been presented in the Court of Law, where a judicial determination will decide the outcome of this complex case.

The Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu remains committed to upholding the law and ensuring that individuals involved in such fraudulent activities are brought to justice. This case underscores the importance of maintaining the integrity of our government institutions and the consequences that those who seek to deceive will face.

### 11,000 old vehicles of Central Armed Police Forces Identified; To be scrapped

scrapped as per the 'Vehicle Scrapping Policy' of the Government of India, officials said on Monday.

In this connection, around 11,000 vehicles of the CAPFs have been identified that are older than 15 years and these vehicles shall be scrapped in a phased manner, they said.

The CAPFs are the BSF, CRPFs, CISF, ITBP, SSB, NSG and the Assam Rifles.

According to an estimate of the MHA, the CAPFs together have more than 1 lakh

vehicles which are deployed in different parts of the country in multiple tasks.

### Agniveer Amritpal Singh committed suicide, Military honours not extended to his funeral as per rules: Army

prior to or after the implementation of the Agnipath scheme as regards entitled benefits and protocols.

"Unfortunate instances of death arising out of suicide/self-inflicted injury, irrespective of the type of entry, are accorded due respect by the Armed Forces along with deep and enduring empathy with the family," it said.

"Such cases, however, are not entitled to military funerals as per the extant Army Order of 1967, in vogue. Policy on the subject has been consistently followed ever since, without any discrimination," it said.

"As per data held, there has been an average yearly loss ranging between 100-140 soldiers since 2001 where deaths occurred due to suicides/self-inflicted injuries, and military funeral in such cases was not accorded," the Army said.

It said the disbursement of financial assistance and relief as per entitlement is given due priority, including immediate financial relief for conducting funerals.

"Such unfortunate instances of loss bear heavy on the family and the Forces as a fraternity. During such times, it is important and incumbent on the society to uphold the respect, privacy and dignity of the family while empathising with them in their moment of grief," the Army said.

"Armed Forces are known for adherence to the policies and protocols and will continue to do so as hithertofore. The Indian Army requests support of all sections of the society while it follows its established protocols," it said.

### Glass top train to chug from Budgam to Banihal

lounge, and rotatable seats. The train will make stops at key locations, including Srinagar, Awantipora, Anantnag, Qazigund, and Banihal. It is expected to be a huge hit among visitors and locals, providing a feature-rich train experience.

The new train also includes an air-conditioned chair car coach for a premium-class passenger journey. Additionally, trays have been attached to the seats for passengers to enjoy food items, and light meals can be ordered during the journey, similar to an airplane journey. An official mentioned that a trial run of the train was conducted by Northern Railways from Budgam to Baramulla under the supervision of higher railway officials.

## Markets fall on weak Asian equities, spike in Brent crude oil prices

The 30-share BSE Sensex declines 243.36 points to 66,039.38

MUMBAI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices declined in early trade on Monday amid weak trends in Asian markets and spike in Brent crude oil prices due to geopolitical tension in the Middle East.

Falling for the third day running, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 243.36 points to 66,039.38. The Nifty slipped 59.2 points to 19,691.85.

From the Sensex pack, Nestle, Asian Paints, IndusInd Bank, HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Bajaj Finserv were among the major



laggards.

Tata Motors, HCL Technologies, Axis Bank and Maruti were among the gainers.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading lower.

The US markets ended on a mixed note

on Friday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.10 per cent to USD 90.98 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors were buyers on Friday as they bought equities worth Rs 317.01 crore, according to exchange data.

## Rice traders demand flat export duty on parboiled rice

Indian Rice Exporters Federation has also requested government to reconsider its export ban on white rice

KOLKATA, Oct 16 (Agencies): Rice exporters have requested the Centre for a flat export duty of USD 80 per tonne for parboiled rice instead of the current 20 per cent duty to smoothen trade, a top official of the rice exporters' umbrella body said.

The Indian Rice Exporters Federation (IREF) has also requested the government to reconsider its export ban on white rice which was imposed in July and reduction in the minimum export price for basmati rice to USD 850 per tonne to prevent negative impacts on both export volumes and farmers.

The government had extended the 20 per cent duty on parboiled rice exports until March 24.

"We request the government to replace the 20 per cent export duty with a fixed USD 80



per tonne export duty. This will eliminate ambiguity and invoicing issues in rice trade," IREF national president Prem Garg told agency.

The federation wants a dialogue with the government to reconsider the ban on white rice, he added.

IREF also expects the government to release a notification for basmati rice proposing a minimum export price of USD 850 per tonne in contrast to the current rate of USD 1,200 per tonne.

The annual non-basmati rice export value from India exceeds Rs 50,000 crore.

These export restrictions have been imposed by the government to ensure adequate stock of rice and to control food inflation.

Garg noted that the export restrictions have led to a 30 per cent increase in rice prices in the international market, benefiting competing countries like Pakistan and Thailand.

IREF director general Sanjeev Ahuja said the world's largest rice exporter accounts for approximately 46 per cent of total rice exports, amounting to around 22 million tonnes annually.

However, only 6.9 million tonnes have been exported so far, he added.

Out of the 22 million tonnes, 5 million tonnes are basmati rice,

while the rest comprises white and parboiled rice.

The exporters' body expects that if the government restrictions continue, export volumes will be impacted this year.

Garg emphasised that farmers are under pressure due to reduced demand from exporters. The Bharatiya Kisan Sangh has criticised the timing of the export ban announcement, stating that it sends a negative signal to farmers during the current planting season.

IREF, which is just 100 days old and has 4,000 members, said they successfully resolved the issue with the government by clearing 90,000 tonnes of white rice in transit to export destinations after the ban announcement. These shipments were previously stuck at various ports, according to officials.

## Domestic passenger vehicle sales up 2 per cent in September: SIAM

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Passenger vehicle wholesales in India increased by 1.87 per cent year-on-year to 3,61,717 units last month, industry body SIAM said on Monday.

The passenger vehicle dispatches to dealers stood at 3,55,043 units in September 2022.

Similarly, two-wheeler sales increased to 17,49,794 units last month from 17,35,199 units in the year-ago period, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) said.

Total three-wheeler wholesales rose to 74,418 units last month from 50,626 units in September 2022.

Total dispatches last month were up at 21,41,208 units from 20,93,286 units in September 2022.



In the September quarter, overall sales rose to 61,16,091 units from 60,52,739 units in the second quarter of 2022-23.

Passenger vehicle dispatches rose marginally to 10,74,189 units in the second quarter from 10,26,309 units in July-September period of last fiscal.

Commercial vehicles dis-

patches rose to 2,47,929 units from 2,31,991 units in the year-ago period. Total three-wheeler wholesales rose to 1,95,215 units in second quarter as compared with 1,20,319 units in the same period last fiscal.

Total two-wheeler dispatches however declined to 45,98,442 units in July-September 2023 as

against 46,73,931 units in the year-ago period.

SIAM President Vinod Aggarwal said passenger vehicles, three-wheelers, and commercial vehicle segments continued to witness growth in the second quarter of 2023-24, although two-wheeler wholesales numbers posted a marginal de-growth, compared to the same period of last year.

"As we get into the festival season, all segments of the industry are optimistic and look towards posting good numbers in Q3 as well," he added.

This growth in the automobile sectors can be attributed to the all-round economic growth of the country, which is also enabled through the conducive government policies, Aggarwal said.

## Wholesale inflation remains in negative for sixth month at -0.26 pc in September



NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): The wholesale price index-based inflation remained in the negative territory for the sixth straight month in September at (-)0.26 per cent, on easing prices of food articles.

The WPI-based inflation rate has been in the negative since April and was (-)0.52 per cent in August. In September last year, it was 10.55 per cent.

Inflation in food articles eased to 3.35 per cent in September, after remaining in double digits in the previous two months. It was 10.6 per cent in August.

"Deflation in September 2023 is primarily due to fall in prices of chemical and chemical products, mineral oils, textiles, basic metals and food products as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year," the commerce and industry ministry said on Monday.

Fuel and power basket inflation was at (-)3.35 per cent in September, against (-)6.03 per cent in August.

In manufactured products, inflation rate was (-)1.34 per cent, as against (-)2.37 per cent in August.

Data released last week showed that the annual retail or consumer price inflation was at 5.02 per cent in September, a three-month low level.

## Pregnancy complications enhance short, long-term risk of heart disease for people with obesity: Study

'Study provides insight into potential timing for interventions for people with overweight or obesity who are thinking about pregnancy'

WASHINGTON, Oct 16 (Agencies): According to a study, obesity during early pregnancy appears to be a strong predictor of future cardiovascular disease and has been linked to adverse pregnancy outcomes such as high blood pressure, pre-eclampsia, and gestational diabetes.

The findings of the study, which was supported by the National Institutes of Health, were published in Circulation Research. Obesity has long been recognised as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease and pregnancy difficulties caused by high blood pressure. They didn't know which factors influenced a person's cardiovascular disease risk years after pregnancy - obesity or pregnancy problems.

While having adverse pregnancy outcomes was linked with increased cardiovascular disease risks during pregnancy, the complications accounted for a small percentage of increased cardiovascular disease risks in the years following pregnancy for people with obesity.

"We're finding that certain pregnancy complications are unmask-



ing and then increasing cardiovascular disease risks, such as obesity, that were already present. This study provides insight into potential timing for interventions for people with overweight or obesity who are thinking about pregnancy," said Victoria L Pemberton, RNC, a study author and researcher in the Division of Cardiovascular Sciences at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of NIH.

The researchers analysed data collected from the nuMoM2b Heart Health Study of more than 4,200 first-time mothers - about half of whom were overweight or obese. They compared the participants' pregnancy experience to their health two to seven years later.

They found mothers who were overweight or had obesity during the first trimester of pregnancy had about twice the risk of devel-

oping gestational diabetes or having a pregnancy complicated by high blood pressure, compared to participants with normal body weight. These mothers also had increased risks of developing cardiovascular disease risks after pregnancy.

In comparison, pregnancies complicated by high blood pressure explained just 13 per cent of future risks for developing high blood pressure if a person is obese. Likewise, gestational diabetes explained only 10 per cent of future risks for diabetes.

"We want to do everything we can to support a person's heart health, but especially around the time of pregnancy - before, during, and in early pregnancy," said Sadiya S Khan, MD, the study's lead investigator, a preventive cardiologist, and an associate professor of medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of

Medicine, Chicago.

"That includes achieving and maintaining a healthy body weight, knowing your heart health numbers, and finding ways to stay physically active." For some complications the researchers found body weight did not factor into risks. For example, people with overweight or obesity did not have increased risks of having a preterm birth or a baby with a low birthweight.

Additionally, researchers found among all participants, those experiencing preterm births had increased risks of having high blood pressure, high blood sugar, or high cholesterol a few years after pregnancy. Having a baby born with a low birth weight wasn't found to increase risks.

"Looking for ways to support and optimize a person's cardiovascular health is still of the utmost importance if someone has had an adverse pregnancy outcome," said Khan.

"However, if we really want to make a difference in improving cardiovascular health and preventing these pregnancy outcomes, we have to shift to the pre-pregnancy and early pregnancy space."

## 7-year-old girl with advanced heart failure gets new lease of life

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): A 7-year-old girl diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy and advanced heart failure received a new lease on life through a successful heart transplant.

Her journey has been marked by the generosity of a 14-year-old donor, with the operation taking place at SPARSH Hospital in Bangalore on October 16.

The young patient, battling dilated cardiomyopathy, faced an increasingly dire situ-

ation with an ejection fraction of just 15% (the amount of blood that your heart pumps each time it beats).

Dilated cardiomyopathy is a type of heart muscle disease that causes the heart chambers (ventricles) to thin and stretch, growing larger. This condition makes it harder for the heart to pump blood to the rest of the body.

The condition had affected her health, making her eligible for a heart transplant. Remarkably, this was

the second instance of dilated cardiomyopathy affecting her family. Earlier, her elder sister had succumbed to the same disease in 2019.

After a thorough evaluation, the 7-year-old girl was placed on the waiting list for a heart transplant in November 2022. Her situation was further complicated by her small build, weighing only 17 kg, and having blood type O negative.

These factors pose significant challenges in finding a compatible donor.

The miracle came in the form of a 14-year-old boy who became the donor. The heart's transportation from the donor to the recipient was expedited with the help of a "green corridor."

The 14-kilometre distance between the locations was covered in 13 minutes, probably making it the fastest drive of its kind.

The success of the green corridor was made possible by the efforts of the Bangalore Traffic Police.

## Skin diseases could cause sleep disturbances, finds study

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): People with skin diseases can suffer from sleep disturbances, a recent global study revealed. The findings of the study were presented at the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) Congress in Berlin.

The research showed the impact of skin diseases on patients' sleep quality and their overall well-being. The ALL PROJECT, an expansive international research initiative, surveyed over 50,000 adults across 20 countries to assess the repercussions of various skin conditions.

The study's most striking revelation was that 42% of patients with skin diseases suffer from sleep disturbances. These disturbances have far-reaching implications for the quality of life, with almost half (49%) of these patients experiencing reduced productivity at work, compared to a mere 19% of individuals without skin issues.

Itching (60%) and burning sensations or tingling (17%) were identified as the primary symptoms hindering the sleep of patients with skin diseases.

These patients also more commonly reported feelings of fatigue upon waking (81%), daytime drowsiness (83%), tingling sensations in the eyes (58%), and repeated yawning (72%) when compared to those without skin conditions.

Dr Charles Taieb, the lead author of the study, stressed the critical importance of early detection and effective management of sleep disturbances for patients with skin diseases, as these disturbances significantly affect their physical well-being.

Dr Bruno Halioua, another author of the study, called for healthcare providers to incorporate sleep disturbance inquiries into their examinations of patients with skin conditions.

The ALL PROJECT also studied the challenges faced by individuals living with hidradenitis suppurativa, a painful, long-term skin condition causing abscesses and scarring.

This condition affects roughly 1 in 100 people and is often difficult to manage. The study found that 77% of patients with hidradenitis suppurativa reported feeling stigmatised due to their condition.

Additionally, 58% experienced ostracism or rejection from others, with more than half of the patients reporting avoidance of physical contact (57%) and social interactions (54%).

These experiences had consequences on patients, affecting their self-esteem, relationships, and daily lives.

Patients who reported feelings of stigmatisation were more likely to avoid taking selfies (52%) and frequently monitored their appearance when passing by a mirror (72%).

## England will have to show lot of character and resilience from hereon: Jos Buttler

England suffer a 69-run defeat to the Hashmatullah Shahidi-led side

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): England will have to play some of their "best cricket" to come out of the hole they find themselves in following their shock defeat to Afghanistan in the ODI World Cup.

England suffered a 69-run defeat to the Hashmatullah Shahidi-led side with the defending champions faltering in their chase of the 285-run target at the Ferozeshah Kotla on Sunday.

The win was Afghanistan's second-ever in a World Cup match and lifted them to sixth position on the points table behind England.

On whether it was premature to say that England's World Cup defence was under threat, Jos Buttler, whose team is yet to face India, Australia and South Africa, said, "Yeah. As I mentioned just before, it's not been the way we wanted to start the competition, but this is the situation we find ourselves in and we're going to have to play some of our best cricket moving forward."

The skipper said he had full faith in his team to pull through this crisis.

"Yeah, it's a big setback obviously. Before the tournament starts you have a different idea of how the first three games would pan out. We've got to show a lot of character, a lot of



resilience within the team and most of all a lot of belief. There were a lot of excellent players in there and we haven't played well enough today but we must keep that belief," said Buttler.

Afghanistan were helped on their way to their second-highest World Cup total by a fine 80-run innings from Rahmanullah Gurbaz at the start and a superb 28-run cameo by Mujeeb-ur-Rahman in the final overs.

Afghanistan didn't lose a wicket till they had crossed the century mark. England, on the other hand, were 91/4 at one stage.

Asked if he could pinpoint where things started going wrong for England, Buttler said,

"No, we didn't, no we started poorly, first ball of the game I missed one and it sort of set the tone for that first 10 overs, we didn't hit the areas that we wanted to and credit to Gurbaz (80 runs) as he put us under a lot of pressure, played some good shots, but maybe a few too many easy boundaries in there."

England's aggressive style of batting, called 'Bazball', has come to epitomise their cricket in all three formats, more so in Tests under coach Brendon McCullum.

Asked if the team could not "execute properly" the style he wanted it to play, Buttler said, "We always want to play positive and be aggressive and some

days you don't play as well as you want to. Though Afghanistan built good pressure on us, maybe the wicket didn't play exactly how we thought it would play and maybe the dew didn't come in as much as we thought as well."

England have played their best cricket when their backs are to the wall of late, with the fight-back during the Ashes this year being fresh in the mind.

Asked if the two losses in three World Cup matches will sharpen the team's focus a little bit more, Buttler added, "We've played some good cricket in all scenarios, whether we've been on top and frontrunners and fancied or whether we've had our backs against the wall.

"It's a position you find yourselves in, it's not the position you wanted to be in three games ago but the character is excellent as I've mentioned, there'll always be belief and we'll dust ourselves down and go again."

England's charismatic Test skipper Ben Stokes's fitness has been a cause for concern as the all-rounder has not played in any of the three World Cup matches so far. He was seen doing sprints before the Afghanistan match but did not play. "He wasn't fit for this game (against Afghanistan) but we'll see how he pulls up for the next one," said Buttler.

## Positive response for HCL Cyclothon in Chennai

The winners were felicitated by Udhayanidhi Stalin, Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development of Tamil Nadu.



CHENNAI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Over 1,100 cycling enthusiasts from the city took part in the HCL-Cyclothon. The event, which was held in collaboration with the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu and the Government of Tamil Nadu, and under the patronage of the Cycling Federation of India, drew participants in both the professional and amateur categories.

The winners were felicitated by Udhayanidhi Stalin, Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development of Tamil Nadu. Also present at the occasion were Sundar Mahalingam, president of strategy at HCL Corporation and Maninder Pal Singh, secretary general at Cycle Federation of India. HCL Cyclothon carried a prize purse of Rs 30 lakhs.

"I wholeheartedly welcome HCL's role in expanding the horizons of sports in Tamil Nadu. It's truly inspiring to witness a substantial gathering of cycling enthusiasts championing fitness and

fostering a sporting culture in our state. This also underscores the unwavering dedication of the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu and the Government of Tamil Nadu to create an environment conducive to sporting excellence," said Udhayanidhi.

MDAS office-bearers The Madras District Aquatics Association (MDAS) elected its new office-bearers on Sunday, including Kanchi Kailasam as president. The district body chose Krithika Kumar Quintal, Ravindranath K, and Livingston Y as vice presidents of the Association. New office-bearers: President: Kanchi Kailasam; Vice President: Krithika Kumar Quintal, Ravindranath K, and Livingston Y; Secretary: Shruthi Rahul; Treasurer: Apeksha; Joint secretary: Sharath Mukundan; Executive Members: Anand Raja C, Arul Kumar, Austin K, Francis Xavier, Gajalakshmi, Madhava Reddy, Manivannan, Shanmuganathan, Sundar Raj.

## "You Can't Get Away With This": Wasim Akram's Sharp Attack At Mickey Arthur On 'BCCI Event' Remark

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Pakistan's team director Mickey Arthur, under fire over his team's embarrassing show against India in the Cricket World Cup 2023 match on Saturday, left a few scratching their heads with his comments in the press conference after the match. Arthur's remark suggesting that the India vs Pakistan clash in Ahmedabad seemed like a BCCI event over ICC as he didn't hear 'Dil Dil Pakistan' enough in the stadium didn't go down well with fans and a few former cricketers. Wasim Akram, a legend of the game, took a swipe at Arthur, suggesting he should be talking more about what Pakistan's plans for the match were than diverting attention with such comments.

In a chat on A-Sports,



Akram fumed at Arthur, asking what his plan was for his batters to face the mystery spinner Kuldeep Yadav. For Akram, the comments Arthur made didn't make any sense. "Bhaiya hame ye batao aap logo ne kya plan kiya tha? (Brother, tell me what was the plan?) Kuldeep Yadav ko kaese khelina hai? (How did you prepare to play Kuldeep Yadav?) That's what we want to hear. Not this random stuff. You think you can get away with this. No, you can't, unfortunately," he said.

Wasim Akram's former teammate Moin Khan also echoed his sentiments, saying Arthur is only trying to divert attention. For Moin, the BCCI should be praised for organising the event in a manner in a way that helped them make the most of the 'home advantage'.

"(He) diverting attention. A lot of people are disheartened and you're making them emotional. I think he should discuss what is his job as a professional rather than showing a new path. As a coach, he shouldn't have said that."

"We should praise them (BCCI) or making the most of the home crowd. Hamare yahan event ho so ham bhi isi tarah utilize karen. (If we host such events, we should also utilize them). We should learn from them."

## Spain beats Norway to reach Euro 2024 with Scotland

OSLO (NORWAY), Oct 16 (Agencies): Spain booked their place at Euro 2024 with a 1-0 win over Norway, also enabling Scotland to qualify from Group A.

Young midfielder Gavi fired home early in the second half to help the 2008 and 2012 European championship winners progress to the tournament in Germany next summer, with two games to spare.

Norway, who last appeared at a major tournament in Euro 2000, and their star striker Erling Haaland can now only potentially qualify through play-offs, but need to hold onto third and hope Serbia qualify from Group G to be eligible. Spain barely allowed Haaland a sniff all night long on a frustrating night for Norway, who sit five points behind their opponents and Scotland, joint top, with only one match remaining.

"From front to back we were really compact, we practically didn't let (Haaland) receive a single ball comfortably," Spain defender Dani Carvajal told TVE.

"They barely created any chances against us, we're going home happy with a ticket for the Euros."

Gavi was made to wait for several minutes before finding out



whether his goal counted or not, as VAR analysed it slowly.

"I think today we were very good and in the end it bore fruit," said Gavi.

"(They were checking the goal) I think for (Alvaro) Morata being offside, I don't know if he was, but in the end they gave it and I'm happy for that."

Spain convince Spain were on top throughout and thought they had taken the lead after 20 minutes when Stefan Strandberg diverted the ball towards his own net and Morata greedily hammered home from almost on the goal line.

However, the strike was ruled out for offside against Morata -- Carvajal's lofted ball forward was aimed at Fati before Strandberg's intervention and if he had left the ball it would have

been an own goal.

Gavi eventually fired Spain ahead in the 49th minute after a hectic scramble in Norway's area, pouncing when Mikel Oyarzabal's shot was deflected into his path.

After VAR finally ruled Gavi's strike valid the 19-year-old Barcelona midfielder was able to celebrate his fifth goal for his country in 25 appearances.

Arsenal playmaker Martin Odegaard sliced an effort wide at the other end as the hosts made a rare foray forward, and Spain goalkeeper Unai Simon saved comfortably from bright teenager Antonio Nusa.

Morata had a shot cleared off the line in the final stages but was offside anyway as Spain sought a second goal to clinch progress.

It did not come but it did not

matter, as a flat Norway could not muster danger during eight minutes of added time, apparently resigned to their fate, while Spain broke into celebrations at the final whistle.

De la Fuente's side started their qualifying campaign with an early defeat by Scotland which called the coach's surprise appointment into question, but Nations League victory in June and straightforward qualification for the Euros since have convinced.

"It's one of the matches in which we've been most satisfied in general terms... the team had great maturity," De la Fuente told a news conference.

"Today I was calmer because I saw the team was very sure of itself."

The coach said the result was what Spanish football needed after a tumultuous period, in which federation president Luis Rubiales resigned over his forcible kiss on the lips of Women's World Cup winner Jenni Hermoso.

"This is good for everyone so that we think more about football," added the coach.

"It sparks hope, it sparks joy, Spanish football is always in the elite and now we'll get our fans excited again."

## "It's Not Just Cricket That Guys Are Playing For": Afghanistan Coach Jonathan Trott After Win Over England

NEW DELHI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Afghanistan coach Jonathan Trott hopes Sunday's World Cup win over England will "encourage boys and girls" to take up cricket even though the country's Taliban rulers ban women from playing sport. The 69-run victory will be regarded as one of the biggest shocks in the history of the tournament as Afghanistan ended a 14-match World Cup losing streak. "It's not just cricket that the guys are playing for," said Trott, who recognised the significance of a win for a nation reeling from recent earthquakes and the Taliban's fractious international relations.

"The guys are very knowledgeable of the things and the hardship that some people are going through because

of the natural disaster and for various other reasons.

"And so, if this can give a smile to people's faces but also encourage boys and girls to pick up a cricket bat or a cricket ball and get playing cricket wherever they are in Afghanistan, then that's the sort of the goal that's been achieved."

Before Sunday, Afghanistan had only won one match at the World Cup when they defeated Scotland on their 2015 debut.

They lost all nine matches they played at the 2019 tournament in England, including a 150-run rout at the hands of the hosts.

But having scored 284 on Sunday thanks to dashing opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz's blistering 80 and Ikrum Alikhil's 58, Afghani-



stan's bowlers set to work.

Only Harry Brook with 66 showed any real defiance while spinners Mujeeb Ur Rahman and Rashid Khan claimed three wickets each as England were dismissed for 215.

- 'Knock-on effect' -

The result left both sides with a win and two losses each after three games of the 10-nation tournament.

"This win is significant, certainly in the manner and by the margin as

well," added Trott.

"There's a lot of confidence that will hopefully come from this, it'll have a knock-on effect to all the other games, but not only in this World Cup, but for the future as well."

Trott knows all about World Cup shocks. In 2011, he was part of the England team humbled by Ireland in Bengaluru despite him scoring 92.

"That's the beauty of the World Cup, isn't it? That's what cricket's about, it pushes and pulls you so much emotionally as a player and as a coach."

"But we can compete with anybody in the world."

Next up for Afghanistan are New Zealand who have three wins from three games including seeing off England in the tourna-

ment opener.

New Zealand, runners-up at the last two World Cups, will be favourites.

Trott, however, believes that his players' exposure to the international game through Twenty20 franchise cricket has only served to bolster Afghanistan self-belief.

"I think the fact that a lot of our players have played with the English players in franchise cricket, they get to know the ins and outs of each player so there's that familiarity and also the confidence," he explained.

"Sometimes I think when you see big Test playing nations you sort of hold them in high regard. I think playing with players like that you see that they are human and you are just as entitled to win."

## It was an emotional battle: Hubert Hurkacz holds nerve to win Shanghai Masters against Andrey Rublev

SHANGHAI, Oct 16 (Agencies): Hubert Hurkacz held his nerve in a dramatic tiebreak to defeat Andrey Rublev 6-3 3-6 7-6(8) in a thrilling final to win the Shanghai Masters, his second ATP Masters 1000 title.

Hurkacz served up 21 aces to Rublev's 13, but Rublev responded with some powerful shots and the final could have gone either way before the Pole came out on top in an enthralling final set tiebreak. "It was such a battle," Hurkacz said. "Especially emotionally. I had a match point and Andrey hit an amazing serve and then he had a match point and then I had some match points." Fifth seed Rublev came into the final without having dropped a set, but that quickly changed when Hurkacz broke the Russian's serve to go 4-2 up and finished off the opening set with an ace. Hurkacz has hit more aces than anyone on the ATP tour this season, and began in the same form in the first set, hitting seven aces to Rublev's two, but the Russian roared back.

Rublev broke Hurkacz's serve early in the second set but it was in the final set where the match really came to life. With Rublev serving at 5-4 down, and

the game at deuce, the Russian lost his temper.

A movement from a photographer when Rublev lost a point and Hurkacz now with advantage, saw the umpire reprimand the Russian for lashing out angrily. Rublev steadied himself to save match point and hold serve, and in the tiebreak, he snatched early control to take a 3-0 lead. Two aces from the Polish player kept him in touch and at 5-6 down he served another ace to save match point. "It was back and forth and such a tricky match. Andrey was playing some great shots. I was trying to respond," Hurkacz said.

Both players broke serve again in quick succession to level the tiebreak at 8-8, but it was Hurkacz who had the last word and broke Rublev's serve again to win the title. "It was one of those matches and I kept believing and I am super happy with how I managed at the end," Hurkacz said.

"It is such a big tournament and so much tradition. It is a huge event and I am really happy now." Hurkacz, who won the Miami Open in 2021, will now move up to 11th in the ATP world rankings.

## Manjit demands formation of sports policy to encourage sportsmanship among youth in J&K

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu, and Former Minister S Manjit Singh on Monday demanded formation of a policy to encourage sportsmanship in J&K, and establishment of fully equipped sports stadiums with trained coaches in each block of Jammu division.

The Former Minister was addressing a meeting of youth in Marh Block that was organised by SC State President Bodh Raj Bhagat with dozens of youth.

In his address, Manjit Singh appreciated the Apni Party leaders for encouraging youth to get involved in sports activities that would



enable them to remain physically and mentally fit.

"The physical activities are important as well as the revival of traditional sports like wrestling, horse riding, bow-arrow etc by involving the youth and the elders of

the villages," he said.

He however expressed surprise as to why the sports are not being given attention by the authorities and many youth divert and often indulge in drug addiction that is an alarming situation.

He demanded coordination between society and the police to ensure curb on the drug peddling and addiction in Jammu and Kashmir.

He demanded that the authorities should establish a sports stadium, fully equip, develop

and maintain already established stadiums, and appoint adequate numbers of coaches for the training of the sports activities in different fields.

He said that "It is unfortunate that the sports are promoted among the youth in Haryana and Punjab which are our neighbouring states of Jammu and Kashmir - but the passion among the authorities is missed."

Meanwhile, the Former Minister along with the Apni Party leaders Bodh Raj Bhagat, OBC Wing J&K President Bhagat Ram, Senior Vice President Jammu Urban, Vaibhav Mattoo and others distributed sports kits among the youth.

## Congress surviving on false dreams: Arvind

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: Terming the assertion of J&K Congress President that 'Cong will be single largest party in assembly elections' as merely an attempt to keep united flock of its leaders & activists, BJP Secretary Arvind Gupta said that the party is surviving on false dreams. The revival of Congress in Jammu and Kashmir is totally impossible and its leaders too are aware of the reality. but they are making repeated statement of 'comeback' so that the party workers do not lose heart and remain stick to Congress.

Arvind Gupta said that gone are the days when the Congress used to gain votes of the people on false slogans and promises. In the present era of people have more and easily accessible modern means of communication and cannot be misled or be fooled. The people are getting well aware of the past years, when Congress was in power at the centre and in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and promoted dynastic rule and corruption, he said.

Arvind Gupta said that the ground realities are well indicators that is not the Congress but Bharatiya Janata party

(BJP), which will be the single largest party in the assembly election and form its government for the first time. He said that the BJP has always worked for development and welfare of all the sections of the society in every state and Union Territory.

He said that refugees, SCs, STs, border peoples, women etc were deprived of genuine rights during the Congress times. They were on roads for justice but no one cared. They were treated as second class citizens. Militancy had strengthened its roots in Jammu and Kashmir during the Congress, NC rule.

"When BJP came to power at the centre under Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014, it took bold and historic decisions to grant citizenship rights to refugees, restored property rights to daughters of the soil, provided political reservation to STs and adopted hard stand against militancy, which has resulted in return of peace and normalcy, the tourists are visiting J&K from across the world and J&K marching on the path of progress and prosperity".

He expressed hope that the people will not fall prey to the false statements and claims of Congress and support BJP in elections.

## JJSF begins 3-day fast as tribute to student martyrs of 1966 agitation

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: To observe 'Martyr Days' and pay tribute to the student martyrs of 1966 Agitation, who had sacrificed their lives while fighting against the decision of shifting Agriculture College from Jammu to Srinagar, Jammu Joint Students Federation began its three-day fast at Shaheed Sthal in front of GGM Science College, Jammu.

Three students, namely Brij Mohan, Subhash Chandra and Gulshan Handa were killed on October 17, 1966 in GGM Science College premises whereas another student leader, Gurcharan Singh was killed on October 18, 1966, in Kanak Mandi, Jammu, when a students' procession was marching



through the streets of Jammu.

To pay homage to these student martyrs, four activists of JJSF today sat on three-day long fast at Shaheed Sthal outside GGM Science College. Those observing fast included Keshav Malhotra, Bharat Verma, Ritik Verma and Vishal Kumar. Rajesh Kumar Gupta Principal GGM Science College

Jammu, Surinder Kumar Principal SPMR College of Commerce, Dr Vinod Bakshi Physical Director GGM Science College along with the staff of their college visited the Memorial to pay homage to martyrs and showered their blessings on the fast observing JJSF activists. A number of students assembled at the venue and recalled the supreme sacrifice of

martyr students.

Among those, who addressed on the occasion, included JJSF President Pushvinder Singh, Vice President Atul, Raghav Singh, Ramandeep Singh, Manish Khullar, Vansh Sharma, Raman Khajuria, Samaksh Sharma, Rohan Sindhu, Karan Kumar, Gourav Sharma, Aryan Sharma and others.

## JU organizes Inter-Collegiate Cross Country (Women) Championship 2023-24

### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16-The Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu, Jammu organized the Inter-Collegiate Cross Country (Women) Championship 2023-24 at Jammu University Campus in which 20 Athletes from 10 colleges took part.

Pooja Devi of GDC Ramnagar clinched Gold Medal by completing the race in 49.48.62mins. whereas Shilpi Thakur of GDC Ramnagar and Sakshi GDC Jindrah stood 2nd and 3rd by completing the race in 50.57.18mins and 52.59.85 mins respectively.

Dr Vikram Sahi, Librarian, Dhanvantri Library, University of Jammu



was the Chief Guest on the occasion and flagged off the race.

Others present on the occasion were Dr. Mandeep Singh Asstt. Prof., Sh. Vimal Kishore Asstt. Prof., Sh. Gagan Kumar, Sh. Vikas Karlopa, Sh. Jai Bharat, Sh. Raj Kumar Bakshi, Dr. Mahak, Sh. Inderjeet Singh, Ms. Richa Mandla, Sh. Rishiv

Sharma, S. Tanpreet Singh Baga GDC Pouni, Dr. Vikesh Sharma GDC Jindrah, Ms. Suman Sharma GCW Parade, Sh. Vikram Jamwal GDC Hiranagar and PTI's of various colleges were present.

The following officials conducted the said event Sdr. Gurcharan Singh, (Athletics Coach), Sh. Nirmal

Singh (Athletics Coach), Sdr Harsimran Singh (Athletics coach) and students of M.P. Ed and B.P. Ed.

The Inter-Collegiate Cross Country (M) Championship was conducted under Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba Director, Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu, Jammu.

## World Endodontic Day observed



### TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 16: PG Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, IGGDC, Jammu observed World Endodontic day under the banner of IFEA. The day was observed with series of activities and events highlighting modern day endodontics under the guidance of Dr. Azhar Malik, Prof. & H.O.D PG Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, IGGDC, Jammu. The events covered

recent advances in the ever-exciting field of clinical Endodontics by way of E-Posters by undergraduates of IGGDC-Jammu, IDS- Sehora, Jammu and Post Graduate Scholars of IGGDC, Jammu chaired by Dr. Ajay Kumar Assoc. Prof. PG Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, IGGDC, Jammu IGGDC & Dr. Parul from IDS, Sehora. The faculty of P.G Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics organized

in house Programmes of patient awareness for the benefit of patients and young doctors engaged in the practice of Endodontics by presentations in the form PPT by Dr. Rachana Dhani Asst. Prof. PG Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, IGGDC, Jammu. The off campus events in the form of dental speciality camps were organized and were arranged by Dr. Shamim Anjum Asst. Prof. PG Department of Conservative Dentistry

& Endodontics, IGGDC, Jammu in which large number of people were screened by faculty and Post Graduate Scholars for various dental diseases and wherever on spot treatments were preferred, the people requiring advanced treatments were scheduled for treatment in the PG Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics.

The cake cutting ceremony was done in the Department, the participants were presented with certificates of appreciation and light refreshments was distributed to all who were part of this programme.

The Programmes were organized under the overall supervision of Principal & Dean IGGDC, Jammu Dr. Rakesh Gupta. Dr. Rudra Compared the events Dr. Ravinder & Dr. Sachin (Lect), Dr. Tania & Dr. Saksham (Registrar), Dr. Sangeetha (Dental surgeon) and Post Graduate Scholars worked in Various capacities for overall success of the programme.

## PG Deptt of Geography, GDC Kathua organizes farewell party

### TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 16: Post graduate department of Geography Govt. Degree College Kathua organized a Farewell Party for passing out students of M.A/M.Sc. Geography semester 4th in the conference hall of the department. Principal of the college Prof. Seema Mir was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

The Programme started with the lighting of a traditional lamp. The proceedings of the function were started by the students of P.G Sem-3rd Reetika and Abida. A series of activities were organized during the event. The students enthusiastically participated in singing and dancing on patriotic and cultural themes.

Principal of the college Prof. Seema Mir in her address congratulated the department for organizing the farewell function. She said that the farewell function is one of the most precious



moments filled with lots of emotions and love. She also added that the P.G department of Geography is the most prestigious department of the college and also an asset for the college. She promises to the department for extending her full support in its overall development.

The Head of the department Dr. Verinder Singh also addressed the gathering on the occasion. He highlighted the achievements of the department and said that the alumni of the department are working in different

capacities in government as well as private agencies. He added that the teachers and students of this department are very dedicated and hard working. He gave his best wishes to the students of the outgoing class. He applauded the efforts of the students and faculty members for making this event a great success.

Department also judged Mr. & Miss Geography 2023 after examining various activities performed by the students. Yuvraj Kyshap was adjudged as MR

and Prity Sharma as Miss. Geography 2023. At the end of the function Principal and Staff Members felicitated Mr. and Miss. Geography 2023.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Amrik Singh Assistant Professor PG Department of Geography.

The others who present on the occasion were senior faculty members Prof. Raj Kiran, Prof. Jagdish Lal, Dr. Surender Singh, Prof. Ruby Raina, Dr. Raj kumar, Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Prof. Charan Singh and others.