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Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Traffic movement disrupted on Srinagar-Jammu highway after landslide

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Traffic movement was disrupted on Srinagar-Jammu national highway after a landslide at Shalgr in Banihal area late last night, officials said today.

He said that there was an acute congestion between Ramban and Banihal due to a landslide at Shalgr, accident at Nachlana, breakdown of trucks and movement of deras.

He urged the commuters to follow lane discipline and plan their journey accordingly.

Earlier, an official said that the movement of traffic was halted on both sides of the highway due to landslide at Shalgr.

The official said that men and machinery are on job to clear the debris of the landslide.

Trooper shoots himself dead in J&K after wife commits suicide in Rajasthan

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): A Border Security Force (BSF) trooper shot himself dead in J&K's Kupwara district after learning that his wife had committed suicide back home in Rajasthan.

Officials said that head constable, Rajendra Yadav of BSF was posted in Kupwara district of the Valley. When he learnt that his wife, Anshu Yadav had hanged herself from a fan in her house in Dheerpur village of Rajasthan on Tuesday, the BSF trooper shot himself dead with his service revolver.

Officials added that the couple had fought on the phone before the wife took the extreme step.

They had been married eight months back. "The body of the BSF trooper will reach his home on Thursday", officials said.

Man injured in bear attack in Poonch

JAMMU, Oct 19 (Agencies): A man was seriously injured after he was attacked by a

Adopt whole of Government approach in Governance: Jitendra Singh tells J&K Administrative Service officers

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday asked the officers of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Services to adopt a "whole of government" approach, pointing out that the days of working in silos are over.

Addressing the 6th Capacity Building Programme for Officers of J-K Administrative Services organised by the National Centre for Good Governance in the national capital, the Union Minister asked the officers to identify the schemes having commonality and adopt an integrated approach of execution for better efficiency and result, benefitting the common



man. Noting that there is a change in the demography of central and state civil services due to the advent of technology even in the rural and remote areas and the democratisation of resources, Singh said the toppers in the central civil services are increasingly from states such as Punjab, Hary-

ana and Jammu and Kashmir, owing to these twin factors.

Singh said public policy in India is currently aimed at enhanced transparency and accountability in governance, with the focus on fiscal federalism, transforming rural India, and improving the quality of public service delivery. "India has improved

systems of grievance redressal to make them more relevant to our times, and has tried to address any lingering sense of injustice springing from an administrative act by simplification of administrative processes and strengthening institutions. It is to this end that digital advancement has enabled citizens grievance redressal," the minister said.

Singh also promised to implement a call centre approach in Jammu and Kashmir, currently being implemented at the Centre to personally ascertain the satisfaction level of the persons having redressed their grievances.

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CIK raids multiple locations in Kashmir, says social media misused for threats



SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) on Thursday conducted searches at five locations in Kupwara, Srinagar, Anantnag and Pulwama districts of Kashmir.

The searches were conducted in pursuance to search warrant obtained from the Court of Special Judge Designated under NIA Act Srinagar in case FIR No.

07/2023 U/S 153-A, 505, 506 IPC, 13, 18, 18-B, 39 UAPA registered in P/S CIK Srinagar, said an official.

He said the case pertains to a "deep conspiracy hatched by terrorist organization (s) with their associates in Kashmir valley in conspiracy with handlers sitting across who are uploading criminal content on different social media platforms which

are not only seditious in nature but are also spreading anti India narrative aiming at glorifying/glamorizing terrorists and also inciting and luring gullible youths to take up arms against sovereignty of India by joining terrorist ranks."

"During preliminary investigation, it was revealed that some of these individuals/entities were profiling individuals, especially those who would like to take a different and independent stand against secessionists or terrorists and who are in support of peace, order and a violence free society, as legitimate targets of vilification and violence," said the official.

He said these anti-national elements are

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Delhi-LG approves increase in monthly relief to Kashmiri migrants

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): In a major relief to Kashmiri migrant families in Delhi, Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has approved the enhancement of eligibility criteria for obtaining Adhoc Monthly Relief (AMR), being paid to these families, from Rs 10,000 per month to Rs 27,000 per month, said an official statement from LG Office.

This enhancement in eligibility will increase the number of beneficiaries being covered by about 70 per cent. Now, beneficiaries earning upto Rs.27,000 per month rather than the previous amount of Rs



10,000 per month will be eligible for AMR, added the statement.

This enhancement comes after a long gap of 16 years, when the eligibility for AMR was doubled from Rs 5,000 per month to Rs 10,000 per month, in 2007. In 1995, the GNCTD had fixed the eligibility for AMR amount at Rs 5000 per month.

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Rohit Sharma gets 3 challans for speeding at 215 km/hr to join his team in Pune: Report

CHANDIGARH, Oct 19 (Agencies): Rohit Sharma, the Indian cricket captain, has received three speeding tickets on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway while driving to join his team for the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup, the Pune Mirror reported.

According to the report, Rohit Sharma drove on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway in his Lamborghini, with the speeds of over 200 km/h

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Man impersonating as IAS officer arrested for defrauding local resident in Budgam: Police

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police on Thursday said to have arrested a person impersonating as an IAS Officer for defrauding a local resident in Central Kashmir's Budgam district.

He said that on October 18, 2023, the Budgam Police Station received a formal written complaint from Ghulam Hassan Malik, a resident of Aalipora Puthibagh, about an alleged impersonation scam. The applicant accused an Ayush Koul, also known as "Vicky", residing at Rose Lane No. 06, Rajbagh, Srinagar, of posing as an IAS offi-

cer and defrauding him of INR 6.5 lakh under the pretext of securing government employment for the applicant's son.

"In response to the complaint, an FIR No. 302/2023 was registered under sections 419 and 420 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) in police station Budgam. During the investigation, the primary suspect, Ayush Koul, was apprehended", he said.

It was revealed that Koul had an accomplice, identified as Burhan Bashir, a resident of Nundresh Colony, Bemina. Both Ayush Koul and Burhan Bashir were arrested.

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One dead, three injured in road accident in Doda

SRINAGAR, Oct 19 (Agencies): One person was killed and three others injured in a road accident in Bulandpur village of Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said today.

An official said that a car bearing registration number JK06B 6028 was heading to Charota Bulandpur when it met with an accident near Khasal.

He said all four occupants were rescued in a critical condition from the car and moved to a nearby health facility in Assar, where one of them was declared brought dead.

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JKPCL, RUVNL to purchase 1,000 MW power from SJVN

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Discoms Jammu & Kashmir Power Corporation Ltd (JKPCL) and Rajasthan Urja Vidyut Nigam Limited (RUVNL) have agreed to purchase power from energy producer SJVN Ltd.

"JKPCL and RUVNL have given their consent for purchase of 600 MW and 500 MW power, respectively, against a capacity of 1,000 MW at a tariff of Rs 2.57/kWh," SJVN said in a regulatory filing on Thursday. SJVN Ltd has also

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Former Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain's interim bail extended in money-laundering case

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The Supreme Court has extended the interim bail granted earlier to former Delhi minister Satyendar Kumar Jain in a money-laundering case till November 6 when his plea for regular bail will be taken up for hearing. A bench of justices A S Bopanna and Bela M Trivedi had taken note of the mentioning of the plea by senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Jain.

"List the matter on 06th November, 2023 at 3 pm before the bench comprising Justice A S



Bopanna and Justice Bela M Trivedi. In the meanwhile, the interim bail, granted earlier, is extended till the next date of hearing..." the bench said in its order passed on October 10. Prior to this, the top court had extended the interim bail of Jain till

October 9 and asked him to not make the pendency of the proceedings before it a ruse to delay the trial in the case.

The Enforcement Directorate has claimed that the AAP leader was seeking repeated adjournments in the trial court on grounds that his bail plea was pending before the apex court. The probe agency has alleged that Jain has taken as many as 16 dates from the trial court.

The Supreme Court had on May 26 granted interim bail to Jain for six

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TENTH DAY KRIYA

With lot of pain and sorrow, we inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Karmyogini 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.



Karmyogini 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 KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Smt. Ashaji Bhan** W/o Late. Omkar Nath Bhan, originally from Bhan Ashram, Baba Pora, Habba 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



Smt. Ashaji Bhan

From:
Bhan, Bhat Family
Contact Nos.
Shyam J. Bhan: +91 9810068535
Satyan Bhan: +91 8879512582
Sandeep Bhan: +91 9953242768

KRIYA / UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Vijay Lakshmi** W/o Shri Sat Pal Suri originally resident of Sunderbani presently staying at 129/6 Lower, Roop Nagar Jammu. The Noble soul left this Mundane World for heavenly abode on 7-10-2023.

Kriya will be performed at our residence 129/6, Lower Roop Nagar Jammu on 19-10-2023 (Thursday) at 12.00 pm.

Uthala shall take place on 20-10-2023 (Friday) at Hari Mandir Rehari Jammu from 3 pm to 4 pm.

Grief Stricken

Shri Sat Pal Suri - **Husband**
Daughters-in-law & Sons
Sweety & Sanjiv Suri
Rakhi W/o Late Rajiv Suri
Daughter & Son-in-law
Neemal & Rakesh Gupta
Grand Children
Shivam, Saksham, Ridham, Garima, Raghav, Madhav and Jagriti
Mobile: 7889647497, 9419687777



Smt. Vijay Lakshmi

UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform you the sad demise of our beloved **Sonu Kumar** S/o Prithvi Kumar R/o Lane No.19, Block No. 110, Flat No.15 Jagti Township Nagrota Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 12-10-2023 (Thursday).

Uthala will be performed at Community Hall behind Lane No.22 Jagti Township Nagrota Jammu on 23-10-2023 (Monday).

GRIEF STRICKEN

Father & Mother
Prithvi Kumar & Harven Devi
Pooja Raina -**Wife**
Charvi Sudan -**Daughter**
Des Raj & Krishna Devi -**Uncle & Aunt**
Late Shadi Lal & Kamla Devi -**Uncle & Aunt**
Vinay Kumar -**Brother**
Sunil Kumar & Sonia -**Brother & Bhabhi**
Manoj Dhar & Seema Dhar -**Brother & Sister-in-law**
Rajesh Koul & Rajni Koul -**Brother & Sister-in-law**
Contact No. 9622604667, 9797763844, 9596126458, 9596726724



Sonu Kumar

BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved, **Bhai Harbans Singh** (All J&K Private Goods Carrier) S/o Late Bhai Manna Singh R/o 3247 Residency Road, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 14/10/2023.

Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 20-10-2023 (Friday) 9:30 am at our residence
Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib On 22-10-2023 (Sunday) 11:00 am at our residence.
Antim Ardass at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha Nanak Nagar Jammu from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Sdn Avtar Kour- **Wife**
Son And Daughter-in-Laws
S. Vikramjeet Singh & Sdn. Ravinder Kaur
S. Harmanjeet Singh & Sdn. Manpreet Kour
Daughter And Son-in-Law
Sdn. Amandeep Kour & S. Kamaljeet Singh
Mb No. 7889861203

Harbans Singh
President (All J&K Private Goods Carrier)**OBITUARY FROM MALUN SIDE**

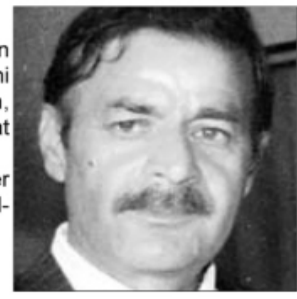
With profound grief and sorrow it is to inform sudden demise of **Sh. Soom Nath Bhat** S/o Late. Swami Prakash Ram Bhat, originally from Battargam, Kupwara, Kashmir at his residence Plot No.913, Flat No. S-3, Shalimar Garden Extn 1, Sahibabad.

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

TENTH DAY/KRIYA RASAM PAGRI

"Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure"

With profound grief, sorrow we inform the untimely sad demise of our beloved **Mr Rajeev Malgotra** son of Late Sh Surinder Kumar Gupta R/o Ramkot.

Tenth Day shall be performed on 18/10/2023 (Wednesday) at 11:00 AM at our Residence, Upper Bus Stand Opposite Police Station Ramkot.

Kriya will take place on 21/10/2023 (Saturday) at our residence
Rasam Pagri shall also be performed on 21/10/2023 (Saturday)

GRIEF STRICKEN

Mrs Anita Gupta (Wife)
Dr Niharika (Daughter)
Hrithik Malgotra (Son)
Brother and Bhabies
Mr Vikas Malgotra and Anita Gupta
Mr Muneesh Malgotra and Preetee Gupta
Mr Sanjeev Malgotra and Geetika Gupta
Sister and Brother-in-law
Anuradha Gupta and Jagdish Gupta

Nephew and Niece
Jimmy, Ridham, Krishnav, Gudia, Riya, Angel and Mannat
Contact No. 9682644901, 7006026911, 7006692943, 9419185262



Mr Rajeev Malgotra

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 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 Patia 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)
Bhabies & Brothers
Smt & Sh. Shibani 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)**10TH DAY KRIYA**

Om Namoh Bhagvate Vasudevaya.
acchedyo 'yam adahyo 'yam
akledyo 'sosya eva ca
nityah sarva-gatah sthanur
acalo 'yam sanatanaah (BG 2.24)

[translation: This individual soul is unbreakable and insoluble, and can be neither burned nor dried. He is everlasting, present everywhere, unchangeable, immovable and eternally the same.]

With a heavy heart, it is to inform everyone that our beloved **"Smt. Kavita Atri Ganjoo (Chandra)"** W/o Kishen Ganjoo, prior residence- Karan Nagar, Srinagar J&K, presently residing at Greater Kailash - 1, New Delhi - 48, attained Nirvana on 12th October, 2023.

10th Day Kriya shall be performed on 21st October '23 (Saturday) at Ganga Ghat of Chota Haridwar, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad, at 7:30 AM.

11th and 12th Day rituals shall be performed at home.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Kishen Kumar Ganjoo (Husband) 9811052024
Arjun Ganjoo (Son) 8383872534
Alycia Ganjoo (Daughter-in-law) 8383872534
Pushpa Handoo (Mother) 9910110930
Anita Revu (Sister-in-law) 8657373764
Anil Jotshi (Brother-in-law) 9810865511

Anil Atri (Brother) 9910110930
Geetika Atri Mohan (Sister)
All Relatives & Friends

Smt. Kavita Atri
Ganjoo (Chandra)**TENTH DAY / THIRTEENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that **Mr. Rakesh Kumar Sen (Retd. Account Officer)** R/o H.No. 520 Opposite Govt. Quarters Subash Nagar Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 10-10-2023.

Tenth Day will be performed at Shanti Ghat Shakti Nagar near A.G. Office Jammu on 19-10-2023 (Thursday) at 9 am.

Thirteenth Day will be performed on 22-10-2023 (Sunday) at Home at 12'O clock.

GRIEF STRICKEN

All Sen Family Members
All Bhutyal Family Members
All Shan Family Members
Mobile No: 96891986083, 7006472062

Mr. Rakesh Kumar Sen
(Retd. Account Officer)**TENTH DAY/KIRYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh K L Kakkar** 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 Sudesh Kumari - **Wife**
Sons and Daughters-in law
Arun Kr. Kakkar (AE, REW Jammu) & Anu Kakkar
Ravi Kant Kakkar (Tax Inspector, Local Bodies) & Madhu Kakkar
Daughters and Sons in law
Geeta Bhatia & Rajiv Bhatia
Anita Mahajan & Rajeev Mahajan
Rajni Gupta & Ashwani Gupta
Grand Children
Akshat, Kunal, Kritik, Arpit, Rahil, Gudia, Mannu, Vasu, Janu & Janvi etc.
Mob. 9419202940, 9419191294, 9419272810



Sh K L Kakkar

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 Sheela 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. Balbir Singh & Smt Ritu Bandral
Late Sh. Praladh Singh & Smt Veenu Singh
Daughters & Son in Laws
Sh. Joginder Singh and Smt Deepshikha Bandral
Smt Veena Jamwal & Sh. Shivdev Singh
Smt Neelam Jamwal & Late Sh. Yashpal 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)**BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS**

With profound grief & sorrow, it is informed that our beloved **Sardarni Hardeep Kour**, wife of S. Devinder Singh R/o H.No.1, Apna Vihar Extn. Left for heavenly abode on 13-10-2023.

PROGRAMME:
Arambh Shri Akhand Paath on 18-10-2023 (Wednesday) 9 AM at H.No.1, Apna Vihar Extn.
Bhog Shri Akhand Paath on 20-10-2023 (Friday) 9 AM at H.No.1, Apna Vihar Extn.
Antim Ardass & Smapat on 20-10-2023 (Friday) from 10:30 am onwards at Gurudwara Baba Feroz Singh Ji, Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar till 12 noon. Followed by Guru Ka Langar.

IN GRIEF:
Daughter Singh & Rajpreet Kour -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Anmeet Kour & Gurmeet Singh -**Daughter & Son-in-law**
Ujjwal Singh & Rupinder Kour -**Son & Daughter-in-law**
Grand Children: Neeraj, Anyimish, Jasleen, Sarveen, Anyimol
Mobile No. 9871155277

Sardarni Hardeep
Kour**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI**

With profound grief we inform that **Smt. Satya Devi** W/o Late Tara Chand Magotra breathed her last on 9th October, 2023.

10TH DAY shall be performed at 11 AM on 18th October, 2023 (Wednesday) at 298-Last Sarwal Moh, New Plot, Jammu. **KRIYA** shall be performed on 19th October, 2023 (Thursday) at 298- New Plot at 12 noon.

RASAM PAGRI shall take place on 20th October, 2023 from 4PM to 5PM at Panch Mandir, Sector-2, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Daughters-in-Law & Sons
Neemal & Vinod Magotra
Babli & Ravi Magotra
Neera W/o Late Varinder Magotra
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Sunita & Dr. Shashikant Goswami
Bhabhis & Brothers
Des Raj Sharma
Sudesh W/o Late Mulk Raj Sharma
Chanchal W/o Late Comdt. Hans Raj Sharma
Lalita & Surinder Thappa
Nalini & Gp. Capt. Suraj Sharma



Smt. Satya Devi

Devranis & Devars
Shakuntla Devi & Anant Ram Sharma
Gayatri & Gopal Dass Sharma
Grand Children & Great Grand Children
(M) 095607 61616 | 094191 80641

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sdn. Manjeet Kaur** W/o S. Gurdeep Singh Raina SAO (Retd.) R/O Sector-E, House No. 438, Sainik Colony, Jammu.

PROGRAMME
Arambh Shri Akhand Sahib at our residence on 20th October, 2023 (Friday) at 9:30 AM.
Bhog Shri Akhand Sahib at our residence on 22.10.2023 (Sunday) at 10.30 AM.
Shabadh Kirtan & Antim Ardass will be performed at Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha, Sainik Colony, Jammu from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mother-in-law & Father-in-law
Sdn. Niranjan Kaur W/o Late Sub. Raj Singh (Batote Wale)
S. Gurdeep Singh Raina SAO (Retd.) M.O.D. - **Husband**
S. Harpreet Singh Sajjan and Anupriya Kaur - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Sdn. Jaspreet Kaur & S. Gurmail Singh - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Sdn. Jaspreet Kaur & S. Jugal Singh - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
All nears & dears
Mob. No.: +91-9419189140, +91-9622035444



Sdn. Manjeet Kaur

10TH DAY / KRIYA

With heavy heart it is to inform that **Smt. Rani Koul Nee Roop Gijri** W/o Sh. Triloki Nath Koul originally R/O Wanpora (Khandra) Pulwama Kashmir presently Flat-179 first floor sector 33 (Under-Pertha Colony) Faridabad Breathed her last on 15-10-2023 (Sunday) at her Faridabad Residence.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 24-10-2023 (Tuesday) at Murad Nagar followed by Assembly at our Faridabad Residence at 12.30 noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN-

T.N. Koul (Husband).
Subash & Heema Koul (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Smt. Tita Koul W/O Late Daya Krishen Koul (Daughter)
Aneta (Karki) & Shibani Ji Bhan (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Bety & Bai Krishen Bhat (Daughter & Son-in-law)
All Grand Children:
Samast Koul Parivars, Bhan Parivars, Bhat Parivars
& All Near and Dears.
Contact no's: 9911967812

Smt. Rani Koul Nee
Roop Gijri**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr. Mrs. Kaushalya Lahori (M.A., Ph.D.)** W/o Mr. B.L.Lahori of Battapora Shopian & presently residing at Durga Niwas Kanhauli Muzaffarpur (Bihar).

10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at MUK-TIDHAM, Sikanderpur, Muzaffarpur (Bihar) on 22nd October 2023.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Arandati Lahori (Mother-in-Law)
B.L. LAHORI (Husband)

Mrs. Khema & A.K. Lahori (Bhabhi and Brother-in-Law)
Mr. Dalip Lahori (Brother-in-Law)
Usha Ji & M.L. Bhat (Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law)
Suneeta & Dr. A.K. Kaul (Sister-in-Law & Brother-in-Law)
Bupinder & Pinky Kotha (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Sharat & Mnu Lahori (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Nimisha Lahori (Grand Daughter)
Asha

LG Sinha inaugurates Vistadom Coach in Sgr; says post G-20 summit, foreign tourist arrivals up by 350 pc

TOP NEWS REPORT

SRINAGAR, Oct 19: Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday inaugurated the state-of-the-art Vistadom Coach and stated that the new train will give an opportunity to the local travellers and tourists to enjoy modern day travel experience in the Valley. Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the Vistadom Coach at Srinagar railway station, the LG said that the Vistadom Coach is a state-of-the-art train with advanced features of entertainment and sitting. "This coach



has rotational facility of seats, power sockets as charging points, transparent glass made roof and windows and automatic doors with sensors etc," he said, adding that "Local travellers and tourists travelling in Vistadom Coach will enjoy the modern

day travel experience in Valley and feel the natural beauty right from Budgam, Qazigund, and Banihal very closely." The LG said that the Vistadom coach offers 360-degree views of the train journey. They come complete with huge glass windows,

and rotating chairs so that travelers can face the windows to soak in the views or turn them around to talk to other passengers.

The LG said that the new train will chug from Budgam to Banihal while time is not far when the train will connect Kashmir with Kanyakumari. He said introducing the Vistadom Coach is another step towards J&K's developmental journey.

He said post G-20, the number of foreign tourist arrivals have gone up in J&K by 350 percent while as against last year's 1.88 Crore tourist

arrivals, this year, 1.70 Crore tourists have visited J&K till September 30. Interestingly, the J & K administration is eyeing 2.25 Crore tourist arrivals by the year end.

The LG said that the new train will not only ferry the travellers from Budgam to Banihal but also provide livelihood opportunities to the youth at Budgam, Qazigund, and Banihal points. He said that with the prevailing peace, youth have changed their mind set and are becoming part of the developmental journey of J&K.

INC relaxes Nursing admissions norms for Punjab Colleges

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Indian Nursing Council has relaxed the criteria for the admission in Nursing Courses for Punjab State.

Giving this information to the press, Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near

Chandigarh & President, Punjab Unaided Colleges Association (PUCA) said that a delegation of Nursing Association met Dr. T Daleep, President Indian Nursing Council (INC), New Delhi under the leadership of S. Gurdial Singh Buttar, President, Nursing Training Institute Association,

Punjab. The delegation requested INC to relax nursing admission criteria for specifically Punjab because a lot of students could not appear in the entrance test conducted by Baba Farid University of Health Sciences (BFUHS, Faridkot).

Ch Manmohan urges Govt to compensate hailstorm-hit farmers for crop damages

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Ch. Manmohan Singh, President of the All India Jat Maha Sabha, Jammu and Kashmir, and former Mayor Jammu, has raised serious concern over the extensive damage to the standing crops of farmers due to recent rains and hailstorms in Jammu region.



amount of Rs 3000 to 4000 per kanal for sowing their crops. In light of this, he urged the government to provide a compensation of at least Rs 5000 per kanal to help farmers recover from their losses. This assistance is seen as essential for their survival, especially in the face of the current era of high inflation, he added.

In a statement issued here today, Ch. Manmohan Singh has urged both the State and Central Governments to take immediate action in compensating the affected farmers for their losses. He asked government to immediately direct the officials of Revenue, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments to assess the losses being faced by farmers due to recent rains and thunderstorm.

He stated that during the previous instance of crop damage, the promised compensation was not delivered, resulting in considerable distress among the farming community. With their livelihoods hinging solely on agriculture, the lack of compensation has exacerbated their challenges.

Ch. Manmohan Singh emphasized the bumper crop yield this season, which has been marred by the unrelenting rains and hailstorms. He mentioned that a farmer has spent a minimum

Ch. Manmohan Singh also raised concern over the plights of farmers whose land has come under the border fence due to which they are unable to cultivate their fields nor they have compensated till date. He urged the Defence Minister and Modi government to look into the matter and release adequate compensation to such farmers who land has come under the border fence.

Ch. Manmohan Singh also raised concerns over the plight of farmers whose land has come under the border fence, due to which they are unable to cultivate their fields nor they have receive any compensation till date. He urged the Defence Minister and the Modi government to look into the matter and release adequate compensation to such farmers whose land has come under the border fence. Ch. Manmohan Singh underscored the urgent need to address the challenges faced by farmers in the region and support them during this critical time by granting compensation at the earliest. He further urged the government to waive off pump set and power bills of farmers to support them in the hour of crisis as they are the food growers of the country.

He asserted that the Central Government headed by PM Modi has launched several schemes for the welfare of the farming community. He asked what the point of such schemes was if farmers were not compensated at the time of need.

GDC Udhampur organizes bank account opening drive



TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Oct 19: Govt. Degree College (Boys) Udhampur today on 19/10/2023 organized saving bank account opening drive for students and faculty in collaboration with Punjab National Bank. Principal of the college Prof. (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta took this great initiative for fostering knowledge among the students of the college as how to open account and what benefits one accrues via account opening in the teen age. The students were astounded with this initiative of the principal and came up with positive response. Personnel from Punjab National Bank Mr. Virender Kumar Khajuria, Branch Head, PNB, Dhar Road Udhampur, Mr. Sourabh Gupta, Senior Manager, Branch Head PNB, Main Bazar Udhampur, Mr. Deepak Kumar, Manager, CAC (Customer Acquisition Centre), Jammu and Mr. Haricharan Sewak,

Marketing Officer, CAC (Customer Acquisition Centre), Jammu were the personnel from Punjab National Bank who were provided with all support and space to facilitate account opening of the faculty and students. More than 150 students including faculty (Teaching and Non Teaching) opened account with PNB. The students were more responsive as the drive was pertaining to opening of zero balance account with numerous benefits PNB is imparting. They also apprised the stakeholder about the varied beneficial schemes the bank offers the the account holders. The faculty who made the event unreservedly were Dr Vipul Chalotra (HOD Commerce), Prof Rajinder Kumar, Dr Jyoti Sharma, Prof, Sandhya Bhagat, Prof, Kaku Ram, Dr Ridhi Sharma, Dr Lata Raj, and Prof. Yogesh Sharma. Finally the event ended with thanks to the team of PNB bank.

Kishtwar Police apprehends murder suspect evading arrest for five years

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Oct 19: A remarkable breakthrough in the pursuit of justice was achieved today by the Kishtwar Police, as they successfully apprehended a murder suspect who had managed to evade arrest for five long years.



This significant arrest is a testament to the unwavering determination and relentless efforts of the law enforcement authorities.

Senior Superintendent of Police Kishtwar, Sh. Khalil Poswal-JKPS, provided insights into the arrest operation, revealing that a dedicated team of Kishtwar Police had obtained crucial information regarding the suspect who had eluded capture for half a decade.

The suspect was wanted in connec-

tion with Case FIR No. 04/2018, which involved charges under sections 302/341/34/RPC.

Acting on this vital information, a dedicated team, led by Inspector Sam Pal Gill, Station House Officer of Police Station Warwan, and operating under the vigilant supervision of Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Marwah, Sh. Devindar Singh Bandral,

relentlessly pursued leads. They executed a targeted raid at a suspected location, ultimately resulting in the successful apprehension of the fugitive in the

Shopian district. The arrested individual has been identified as Nazir Khatana, son of Haji Yaqoob Khatana, hailing from Kot in District Reasi.

SSP Kishtwar, Poswal-JKPS, underscored the unwavering commitment of the Kishtwar Police to the pursuit of justice.

He extended his appreciation to the local community for their cooperation and support throughout the investigation, acknowledging the pivotal role that community involvement played in this successful operation.

This arrest serves as a compelling reminder that, irrespective of the passage of time, the law enforcement agencies remain steadfast in their dedication to securing justice for victims and their families.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION
Mendhar

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 07 of 2023-24 Dated 16 -10-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (in lacs)	Cost of doc.1 (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of road from Gallian To Gursai by way of Earthwork for drains,P/L WBM-III,3.0 meter span culvert and wire crates.Tehsil Mendhar Distt.Poonch,(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24).	12.47	600	24940	60 Days	B,C,D Class
2	Construction of road from PMGSY Gursai Nallah by way of Earthwork for drain,P/L WBM -III and wire crates.Tehsil Mendhar Distt.Poonch,(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24).	10.93	600	21860	60 Days	B,C,D Class
3	Construction of road from Ramkund Simkan to Thera, by way of P/L WBM-II,Surface Dressing,900MM Dia HPC.Tehsil Mankote Dist Poonch.(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24).	10.36	600	20720	60 Days	B,C,D Class
4	Construction of road from Narol to Paloon Roziwala by way of P/L 900MM Dia HPC.Teh Mendhar District Poonch,(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24).	13.18	600	26360	60 Days	B,C,D Class
5	Construction of road from Bhatakass to Mohalla Gujran Topa.Tehsil Mendhar, District Poonch by way of earthwork for drains,P/L WBM-GR-II and 900mm dia HPC.(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24)	12.20	600	24400	60 Days	B,C,D Class
6	Construction of road from Uicchad to Limba, By way of Earthwork in drains,R/wall and P/L 900 mm Dia HPC.Tehsil Mankote, District Poonch.(Under MH 5059 District plan 2023-24).	10.30	600	20600	60 Days	B,C,D Class

Position of AAA:- Accorded.
Position of T.S :- Accorded
Position of funds :- Partially/Available

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:

1	Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	16-10-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 16-10-2023 to 25-10-2023, 1855 Hrs
4	Bid submission Start Date	16-10-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	25-10-2023 up to 1855 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	27-10-2023 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Mendhar.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Mendhar uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Mendhar as mentioned in the bid documents.
- Successful bidder will submit 3% additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/. The total 5% will be released after completion of defect liability period of the work.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division, Mendhar.
- The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Mendhar. The date for same shall be intimated separately.
- No: XE/PWD/MDR: 48-54
Dated:- 16-10-2023

sd/= Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Mendhar
DIP/J-9808/23

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TRANS. LINE
MAINTT.DIV-IV, JKPTCL, AMBEDKAR CHOWK, JAMMU
J&K.

Email: extlmd4@gmail.com/Fax: 0191-2453427

Subject: **Corrigendum of E-NIT No: TLMD-IV/3/20of2023-24 dated 13.09.23**

EXTENSION OF DATES

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

1	Last date for submission of hard copy of e-bid	20.10.2023(02:00PM)
2	e-Bid submission (end) date & Time	20.10.2023(02:00PM)
3	Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	21.10.2023(02:00PM)

CHANGE IN SBD

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

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

sd- Executive Engineer, Transmission Line Maintt. Div.-IV, Jammu
DIP/J-3535-P/23

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice

Sr.DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No	Name of Work	App Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion Period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect/T-34/2023-24	Electrical work in c/w Modernization of bridge work shop at Jalandhar Cantt under Dy.CEWS/JRC.	1,91,07,167.02	2,45,500.00	06 Months	08.11.2023 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

251-Elect/T Notice No.26-Elect/2023-24 Dated: 17.10.2023

Serving Customers With A Smile

EDITORIAL

CAREER
DEVELOPMENT

Career development is a process that takes place over the life span and on the assumption that biological, psychological, sociological, and cultural factors influence carrier choice, career changes, and career withdrawal across the stages of development. All these are based on development theories. The developmental career theory choices life span is of three stages in an individual's lifetime.

It consists of activities undertaken by the individual employees and the organisation to meet career aspirations and job requirements. An important requirement of career development is that every employee must accept his/her responsibility for development as all development is self-development.

Although career planning is mainly an individual process, the employing organization can assist through career counselling offered by the personnel staff and the supervisors, through workshops to assist the people in evaluating themselves and in deciding open developmental programmes, through career-planning work book made available to interested employees, and through the dissemination of information about jobs, within the organization and outside the organization.

Career Managements is the other subset of career development. Whereas career planning is primarily a personal process, career management focuses more on open plans and activities done by the organization. In career management the management of the organization matches individual employee career plans with organizational needs and implements programmes to accomplish these joint objectives.

The personnel department plays a central role in orchestrating the entire process. Individual career plans are related to the organization human resource inventory and needs forecasts. Management designs careers paths. It provides information about job openings and makes career counselling available to the employees.

The important part while deciding the best career for you, is knowing your capabilities. It is imperative that you are fully aware of what skills you have, your traits and which combination of your attributes will maximize your performance. As the famous quote goes, "failing to plan is like planning to fail" holds true no matter what kind of choice you are making.

Planning becomes very imperative when it comes to making your career. Understand that time is a luxury and you do not have it.

If you desire to have a successful professional life, then work towards it right from the beginning, without any deviations. Visualize your goal, set your standards and memorize your mission statement. Analyze the formal education that you have received over the years and how it has moulded you.

If you stem from a commerce background, then finance, management, chartered accountancy and many more commerce-related fields will be open to you. This does not mean that the other areas of professional work have shut their doors down for you. Shifting to an entirely different profession, is not as big a deal as it seems. With proper education and a little experience of the related field, you can easily make that change happen.

Another way of going about choosing your career option, is fixing yourself an appointment with a career counsellor. As the phrase suggests, a career counsellor helps you to analyze your capabilities and skills. In this way the counsellor guides you through the ocean of alternatives and helps you to decide on what is the best option for you.

Career tests or aptitude tests determine where your inclination lies and in which field you will be able to deliver your cent percent. For engineers, who wish to opt for a career in management, enrolling in MBA programs prepares them for the sought career. This very popular trend, has been observed globally in the recent times. Even for those who think their careers are stagnating and potential is wasted, a career change can help in achieving job satisfaction.

To reach these high standards, choosing the right field that matches your expectations, is important. Before embarking on a new career life, make sure that you have researched the subject through and through. Considering your family while deciding your career, is a vital aspect. If you are married, take your spouse's opinion about the choice you have made.

Two decades on, India plans to strengthen diplomatic corps

By: Dilip Cherian

After nearly two decades since the last major restructuring of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) cadre, the Modi Sarkar has approved a proposal to increase the cadre's strength by 215 officers over the next five years. This significant decision stems from India's growing influence and a desire to play a more prominent international role. It comes close on the heels of the success of India's hosting of the G-20 summit apart from several India-led international initiatives.

Sources have informed DKB that the cadre review and restructuring must be seen in the context of India's rising influence and the government's plans to open nine new Indian missions in the coming years. Veteran observers say that the move is reminiscent of the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) cadre's expansion during the 1990s, coinciding with India's economic growth.

The ministry of external affairs (MEA) has disclosed that the average number of senior government functionaries' visits to countries with Indian missions has increased from around 9-10 per year to nearly 35-40 visits in 2023. This has necessitated the need for more specialised personnel both in New Delhi and at India's missions abroad.

This view was endorsed earlier by the parliamentary standing committee on external affairs, which also recom-

mended expanding India's diplomatic corps to match its global aspirations, highlighting the understaffing of the IFS compared to other countries. The IFS currently constitutes only 22.5 per cent of the ministry of external affairs (MEA) workforce.

Interestingly, the move has provoked commentators to argue that all services need more officers, not just the IFS. Apparently, by some calculations, India's babu strength peaked in 1986, with 19,000 officers per million people. Since then, the ratio has fallen to around two per cent, well below the Asian average of 2.6 per cent. Some may recall Modi's call for maximum governance and minimum government. Clearly, that viewpoint is being jettisoned in the light of new realities.

Transfers raise questions: Will auditing stay honest?

The recent transfers of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) officers who were closely involved with key audit reports presented recently in Parliament have raised concerns about the integrity of auditing processes. These reports unveiled corruption and irregularities in Central ministries and departments.

Of particular concern are the transfers of three Indian audit and accounts service officers, two of whom were responsible for audits revealing corruption in the Dwarka Expressway project and Ayushman Bharat. Another officer, who

initiated the Ayushman Bharat audit, was also relocated. In the case of Atoorva Sinha, principal director of audit for infrastructure, overseeing the CAG report on highway projects, his report exposed irregularities and massive cost overruns in the Dwarka Expressway project.

The timing and circumstances of these transfers, combined with the sensitivity of the reports involved, have raised questions about the auditing process. The public hasn't forgotten the tumultuous period during the UPA government when the CAG reports on the 2G scam and coal block allocation scam played a pivotal role in questioning the government's credibility.

The CAG Girish Chandra Murmu has argued that transfers and postings are administrative matters, but it is equally important to maintain public trust in the auditing process. Mr Murmu, who assumed office in 2020, emphasises that reading ulterior motives into these transfers is presumptuous, but the concerns remain. And in the absence of a credible explanation, the public is likely to wonder: Will anyone audit honestly?

RTI anniversary shadowed by challenges

Implemented 18 years ago, the Right to Information Act, once celebrated for empowering citizens to seek information from government bodies, now stands at a crossroads. Recent data sheds light on a concern-

ing backlog of appeals and complaints under the RTI Act, creating a major roadblock to transparency and accountability. In June this year, a staggering 3.2 lakh appeals and complaints languished unresolved in 27 information commissions across the country.

One of the primary reasons for the backlogs is the failure of Central and state governments to take timely action to appoint information commissioners to the Central Information Commission (CIC) and state information commissioners. A study also found that six commissions, including the CIC and state ICs of Manipur, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Bihar, and Punjab are currently without a chief. The CIC is reportedly working with only four commissioners, even though seven posts are vacant. In fact, chief information commissioner Y.K. Sinha's tenure ended earlier this month. During his tenure, Sinha managed to reduce the number of pending cases before the commission by more than 50 per cent.

However, four commissions in Jharkhand, Telangana, Mizoram and Tripura are defunct as no new commissioners have been appointed after the incumbents demitted office.

Usually, the anniversaries of such historic legislation should be marked by progress and rejuvenation. But unless these serious challenges are addressed, the age of transparency and accountability may be ending in India.

Boost Your Confidence In The Workplace

By: Vijay GarG

If you struggle with feelings of self-doubt and long to boost your confidence at work, you're not alone. One-third of Americans suffer from imposter syndrome, according to a Money Penny survey. The study also showed that women (35%) tend to suffer more than men (30%) from feelings of inadequacy in the workplace.

Some common signs of low confidence at work include downplaying your achievements, perfectionism, negative self-talk and a fear of making mistakes, to name a few. You might even turn to overachieving and taking on more than you can handle to deal with a lack of confidence. Unfortunately, if left untreated, low self-esteem can hinder your professional development and keep you from reaching your full potential.

Work on your personal brand
Your personal brand reflects how you want people to see you. It exists whether you create it or not. However, ideally, it should be intentional and consistent. To audit your existing brand, then, determine what adjustments need to be made. By identifying your target audience and being authentic, you can build a personal brand that helps differentiate you in today's increasingly competitive work environment.

Volunteer for high-profile assignments

Another way to boost your confidence at work is to volunteer for high-profile assignments. Projects that increase your visibility help you get ahead in your career. One reason is that when people know who you are, they are more likely to consider you for promotions. Also, it's a great way to build relationships with people in other departments.

Find a mentor
The right mentoring relationship can boost your confidence as well as your career. Start by identifying your goals and asking yourself who your role models are. Is there someone already informally mentoring you? They may be a great source of ongoing assistance and support in a formal capacity.

Identify what makes you unique
Whether you're an excellent communicator, a gifted problem-solver or a natural leader, everyone has special talents that separate them from the crowd. Think about your core gifts. For example, what qualities do others say they admire in you? What comes easily to you that may be difficult for others? Then, post a comprehensive list somewhere visible to boost your confidence.

Celebrate small wins
With all the distractions in life, we forget to acknowledge small victories at work. But celebrating those little wins can help you know your worth.

Be cognizant of your language
You don't have to be the loudest person in the room to speak with confidence. Instead, focus on your speech habits. Try to eliminate words like "just,"

It's also a good way to remind yourself that you are making progress, which keeps you motivated.

Speak up intelligently in meetings

Whether the meeting is remote or in-person, it pays to prepare beforehand. Remember that you've been invited because you have something valuable to offer. Making your voice heard has multiple benefits, like boosting your confidence, improving your communication skills and strengthening professional relationships. By sharing your ideas with the team, you'll showcase your value and knowledge, which can lead to leadership opportunities down the road.

Connect with colleagues
When you feel disconnected, it can wear on your self-esteem. Feelings of loneliness can even negatively impact your health. In fact, one study reveals that loneliness increases your chance of stroke or coronary heart disease by 30%. Feelings of isolation have become even more pronounced with the rise in remote work. To combat these emotions, establish social ties at work. Connecting with colleagues will boost your confidence while building trust and cultivating connections.

Change your inner dialogue
Do you speak to yourself the way you would to a best friend? If the answer is no, it's time to practice positive self-talk. Be good to yourself. If a negative thought enters your mind, replace it with a positive twist.

Stop comparing yourself
Is your organization filled with a bunch of PhDs while you were lucky to finish your undergraduate degree? Or maybe you notice your peers getting promoted more quickly and wonder, "Why not me?" Comparing yourself to others is a waste of time because it makes you anxious and frustrated. Plus, it distracts you from what's important. Instead, take back your power and embrace the competition. There will always be someone more intelligent or successful. The trick is acknowledging the unique value you bring to the table.

"well," or "I think." These words and phrases undermine the point you're trying to make. Also, when people are nervous, they tend to babble. So, take your time when sharing an idea or making a statement.

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(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout
Punjab)

J&K Women carrying heaviest burden of lingering undemocratic rule: Shameema

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference women's wing said that the women of Jammu and Kashmir carry the heaviest burden of the lingering undemocratic rule.

This was said by the Women's Wing State President Shameema Firdous while addressing mammoth one-day women's convention at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu.

The convention was organized by Satwant Dogra, Provincial President JKNC Jammu. Ajay Sadhotra former minister and Additional General Secretary, Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province and Babu Rampal former minister and Central Zone President also attended the convention. Among those who were present include Bimla Luthra State Vice President Women Wing, Dr. Shamshad Shan DDC Chairperson Ramban, Shamim Begum DDC Dansal, Rajni Devi BDC Chairperson and District President Samba



Women Wing, Vijay Lakhshmi Datta, Rita Gupta, Dilshad Malik, Rashida Begum, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Daljeet Sharma, District President Jammu Rural B, Kousar Parveen District President Kathua, Anju Bhagat District President Reasi, V. D. Sharista District President Udhampur Rural Women Wing, Savitri Devi District President Udhampur Urban, Mehmooda Lone District President Rajouri Urban Asha Mehra, Priyanaka, Soma Devi, Neelam and others.

The functionaries who addressed the gathering

highlighted the role of the party in ameliorating the socio-political and economic backwardness of women in Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh.

In her address, Shameema Firdous said, "Post 2015 situation has been marked by widening gender disparity in the region. Rising unemployment, development deficit and deepening uncertainty has affected everyone in the region but women are the worst sufferers of them. Prevailing political or social issues have had a devastating effect on the dignity and lives of women," she said, adding, "We in NC deem

it incumbent on our part to reduce these inequalities by providing administrative comfort and cushion to our mothers and sisters. I am hopeful we all together can restore the lost dignity of our mothers and sisters in the manner as was envisioned by Madra Maharban."

"It was Sher e Kashmir who brought women of Jammu and Kashmir into the political discourse. It was NC that took upon itself to change the fate of women of J&K under its revolutionary Naya Kashmir manifesto. In the later decades also, whenever NC was in power, it left no stone

turned to transform its vision of empowering women into reality," she said.

"As contemporary women of Jammu and Kashmir are suffering from more predictable issues as a result of conflict, household violence, dowry, destitution, poverty and unemployment there has been no headway towards bolstering the socio, economic and political prospects of women. The successive governments since 2015 claimed much as an act of tokenism but on ground nothing was done to mitigate the suffering of women," she added.

Gurmeet announces pledge of support for Shri Ranbireswar Temple

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Gurmeet Singh, President of Beopar Mandal and District General Secretary of the Congress Party, has made a significant commitment to the general public and the revered Shri Ranbireswar Temple following the unfortunate incident of the temple's partial collapse. Mr. Singh has pledged that when the upcoming government of the Congress Party comes into power, he will contribute Rs 10 crore to the Dharmarth Trust, which manages the Shri Ranbireswar Temple. This generous donation is aimed at facilitating essential repairs and enhancing the sanctity and significance of pilgrimage sites and temples.

Gurmeet Singh has also called upon the Honorable Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, representing the BJP-led government, to promptly allocate Rs 10 Crores as relief funds for the immediate repair and restoration of Shri Ranbireswar Temple. This timely financial support is essential to address



the damages incurred and to maintain the temple at its finest.

The Shri Ranbireswar Temple, a 200-year-old historical treasure, suffered a partial collapse due to the negligence of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory government. This unfortunate incident occurred amidst rainfall, exacerbated by multiple visible cracks on the temple's structure, which had gone unattended. Fortunately, no devotees were present at the time of the collapse. Regrettably, the statue of Nandi and a small Shivalinga were damaged due to the incident.

Gurmeet Singh emphasized the historical and religious importance of the Shri Ranbireswar Temple, constructed in 1883 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh. The temple houses the

tallest eight-foot Shivalinga in North India and twelve more Shivalingas made of crystal, ranging from 15 to 38 centimeters in height. The temple also features Shivalingas brought from the Narmada River.

Following the incident, a 30-member State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team conducted rescue and assessment operations, ensuring no casualties were recorded. The temple's Trust is now taking steps to form a committee to investigate the cause of the accident and plan essential repair work.

Gurmeet Singh's commitment to the temple and his appeal for immediate relief funds highlight the urgency of preserving this significant religious and historical site, ensuring its swift restoration and reopening to devotees.

IIT Jammu Hosts SMVDU Students on the 75th Anniversary of Transistor



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu had the honor of hosting a group of students from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) on the occasion of the "75th Anniversary of the Transistor." This event was organized by the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society (CASS). The visit provided a valuable opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the world of cutting-edge research and innovation.

Distinguished speakers

at the event included Mr. Preet Yadav (Manager Chair, IEEE CASS Delhi Chapter), Dr. Yogesh Singh Chauhan (Professor at IIT Kanpur and IEEE EDS UP Chapter), and Dr. Santosh Kumar Vishvakarma (Professor at IIT Indore and IEEE CASS MP Chapter). These speakers shared their insights and expertise with the visiting students.

During the visit, students were introduced to various scientific societies, including the IEEE Circuits and Systems

Society (CASS), and were informed about the membership benefits of these scientific societies. Additionally, the students were exposed to the state-of-the-art 5-nm technology design being conducted at IIT Kanpur labs, through informative videos and presentations.

The visit culminated in an engaging Q&A session, where SMVDU students had the unique opportunity to interact with the speakers and seek guidance on pursuing higher education and research in the field

of electronics and electrical engineering.

The students expressed their gratitude to the Head of the Department of Electronics and Communication, Dr. Anil Kumar Bhardwaj, for orchestrating this insightful visit. They also thanked Dr. Vikram Singh, Assistant Professor, for accompanying them on the trip. Special thanks were extended to Dr. Neeraj Tripathi (Assistant Professor) for encouraging the first-semester B. Tech (ECE) students to participate in this enriching event.

DC Kulgam flags-off Millet Walkathon from Mini-Secretariat to promote healthy eating habits

TOP NEWS REPORT

KULGAM, Oct 19: The Food Safety Department of Kulgam, in collaboration with the Food & Drug Administration J&K, organized a highly impactful Walkathon named 'Eat Right Millet Walkathon.' The event was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner of Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-din Bhat, in the presence of Assistant Commissioner of Food Safety Kulgam, Syed Nighat, and the Food Safety Officer of Kulgam. This Walkathon commenced from the Mini-Secretariat and concluded at the



Government Girls High School Kulgam, with enthusiastic participation from hundreds of students from the district.

The Walkathon concluded at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Kulgam, where a remarkable Yoga ses-

sion took place. During this session, participating students demonstrated various yoga asanas in a serene and tranquil atmosphere. This event provided students with an excellent opportunity to focus on their physical and mental well-being.

During his address at the event, the Food Safety Officer of Kulgam emphasized the importance of adopting healthier lifestyles. He stated that the Millet Walkathon and Yoga Session were collective efforts aimed at promoting a healthier and happier society.

Rekha inaugurates "Karva Chauth Ustav" expresses India on the path of Development led by women

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: A women's weekend commenced today as per the Dogra ceremonies. Jammu women geared up to commemorate "Karva Chauth Ustav" in style in Zone by the park in Jammu. The event exemplifies the enlightening of the traditional lamp in the esteem presence of BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, Sanjita Dogra BJP Mahila Morcha President, Anita Gandotra, Geetanjali Mahajan, Neeru Anand, Poonam Gupta, Pumi Choudhary, Mahila Morcha District President Divya Jain and other prominent women of the society. The program is blended and organized by a young enterprising woman Divya Abrol. On the extravaganza occasion, Rekha Mahajan along with Sanjita Dogra flanked by many women assembled to celebrate the Karva Chauth Ustav in an extravagant slam style. The Karva Chauth Ustav in collaboration with many sponsors highlights the carnival event in the shape of a



grand mela to create a sparkle in the festival spirit of thousands of strong women and girls who will fast for their husbands on Karva Chauth which is on 1 November. Special features in this grand mela are a wide range of festive dresses, Jewellery and handmade Bangles, Wedding Trousseau packing, Handbags and clutches, and many more attractive items. Hundreds of women and young girls were seen shopping in this grand event in their festive attire.

Rekha Mahajan, while speaking after inaugurating a celebration on the occasion of Karva Chauth. She asserted that the grand and outstanding function shows how we are connected with our traditional rituals. She stated Women are

the reflection of ethics, loyalty, decisiveness, and leadership in all formats. Rekha said our Vedas and tradition have given a call that women should be able and capable of giving a new dimension to the nation under the clairvoyant leadership of PM Modi. Rekha underscored that the Modi-led government is committed to women to encourage and giving new wings under many government schemes, more than 80 percent of the loans under 'Standup India' are in the name of women. About 70 percent of loans have been given to women under Mudra Yojana. She counted that local vocal is also playing a crucial role in developing the confidence and upliftment of all women in J&K under the visionary supervision of PM Modi.

Rekha Mahajan also complemented the organizer of the program Divya Abrol and lauded the endeavors including her team members she also hails the efforts of young women entrepreneurs for the installation of many stalls to highlight the vocal for local products on the occasion of Karva Chauth festival.

Sanjita Dogra while congratulating women for celebrating this festival said that this is how we stay firmly rooted in rich culture. While lauding the organizer of the program, Sanjita Dogra said that today's women are not lagging behind men in any field and it would not be wrong to state that women have excelled better than their male counterparts in many sectors.

Army organizes Catering & Hospitality Management Course

TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Oct 19: The Indian Army, in its relentless commitment to empowering the youth, Indian Army is pleased to announce a comprehensive 15 days Catering and Hospitality Management Course at Bhandarkut village of Kishtwar District of Jammu and Kashmir.

Starting from 18 Oct 2023, this program aims to equip the enthusiastic youth of the region with valuable skills and knowledge in the domain of catering and hospitality. The course has been meticulously designed to foster a dynamic learning environment, providing participants with a robust foundation in various aspects of the hospitality industry.

Led by seasoned professionals



and supported by the dedicated efforts of the Indian Army personnel, this initiative endeavors to create a transformative learning experience that will not only enhance the employability of the youth but also contribute to the economic development of the region.

This program is a testament to the Indian Army's commitment to fostering a skilled workforce and empowering communities across the nation. By enabling the youth with specialized training, the Indian Army is dedicated to nurturing a more prosperous and self-reliant future.

Actor Maria Pedraza on Spanish cinema post 'Money Heist': Now we don't have to go to US to be known

Spanish actor Maria Pedraza, best known for her roles in globally hit shows such as "Money Heist" and "Elite", says streaming platforms have made Spanish cinema popular outside and now artists don't need to travel to the United States to showcase their work.

At 27, Pedraza is an emerging name in Spanish cinema. She made her debut with filmmaker Esteban Crespo's "Amar" in 2014.

"Thanks to streaming platforms, we have been experiencing this change. We have almost started our profession with the platforms, and it is very gratifying to see how people from other countries can appreciate our work so closely, even though it's made in Spain.

"You feel connected, and also you have the feeling that we don't have to go to the US in order to be known," the actor told agency in an interview.

"Money Heist", which ran on Netflix for four seasons, was one of the most watched non-English dramas on the streaming service. In the crime caper show, Pedraza played the role of Alison Parker, a character who is held hostage along with many others.

"As an actress, I believe 'La casa de papel' has been the right production at the right time for this transformation. It's been absolutely a before and after



event for this kind of landscape," Pedraza added.

She currently stars in Prime Video movie "Awareness", co-starring Carlos Scholz and Pedro Alonso.

Scholz said it is quite impressive that the global audience are now looking for distinct stories

from the Spanish industry.

"What is happening is incredible, the fact that you as a journalist from India, is already aware of the film and wants to know about the film. This was unthinkable before, it's a new thing. The platform has globalised productions. So it's for-

tunate and hopefully it will last, this new reality," he added.

"Awareness", currently available on the streaming platform, follows Ian (Scholz), a rebellious teenager who can manipulate minds with his ability to generate visual illusions.

"He uses this power to survive - running small, indiscreet, scams. When one of his cons goes awry, his abilities publicly spiral out of control and Ian becomes the target of two rival organisations, each seeking to exploit his powers," according to the official plotline.

Pedraza plays the role of Esther, a confidant of Ian. The actor said she had a positive feeling about the film when she was approached to play the role.

"When I first got to know about the project, I had the intuition or expectation that it was gonna be a powerful film as the script fascinated me. When I was cast, I didn't know how it's going to turn out because it's out of your reach. The only thing you can give to it is your character and your interpretation of the role.

"After seeing the final film, it's just impressive. The editing work, the filming, the sound, the whole contribution of many crafts and talents has given a powerful product," Pedraza said.

"Awareness" is directed by Daniel Benmayor. It also stars Oscar Jaenada and Lela Loren.

Anne Hathaway to play prison psychologist in 'Eileen'



American actor Anne Hathaway is all set to play a mysterious prison psychologist in the thriller film Eileen,

directed by William Oldroyd. The trailer for Anne Hathaway's most recent film, Eileen, was unveiled on Tuesday by

Neon. The movie stars Oscar winner, 40, and Thomasin McKenzie (Jojo Rabbit, Last Night in Soho), as employees at a Massachusetts jail in the 1960s, who form an odd connection that turns out to be dangerous.

The trailer shows McKenzie, 23, as her title character Eileen meets Rebecca (Hathaway), a platinum-blond, cigarette-smoking psychologist who takes on something of a mentorship role towards the younger employee.

The movie was written by Moshfegh and her husband Luke Goebel, who previously collaborated on last year's Jennifer Lawrence-Brian Tyree Henry movie Causeway.

Eileen is the second of two fall 2023 releases Hathaway stars in as a psychologist. She also appears in the new romantic drama She Came To Me alongside Peter Dinklage and Marisa Tomei.

Eileen releases in New York and Los Angeles-based movie theatres on December 1, and everywhere on December 8.

Salman Khan is thrilled with the positive response to the trailer of 'Tiger 3'

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan is thrilled with the positive response to the trailer of Tiger 3 and said that he has been fortunate to have movies in his career that have given him a lot of love.

Salman said: "I think what we are witnessing today as a response to the Tiger 3 trailer is simply outstanding. I have been fortunate to have films in my career that have given me a lot of love. But to get this volume of appreciation and to see this amount of frenzy after a trailer launch is truly special and a rare feeling."

He added: "I'm happy that our trailer has hit all the right notes and people are supremely excited to watch Tiger 3 in cinemas! I'm also really touched by how people have reacted to seeing Katrina and me back as Zoya and Tiger."



Mona Ambegaonkar's presentation of Chetan Datar's play Ek Madhav Baug brought out some harsh realities

The Supreme Court pronounced its verdict on the legal recognition of same-sex marriage, a select motley group witnessed a moving play reading by actor Mona Ambegaonkar. Noted playwright late Chetan Datar's play Ek Madhav Baug, written in the 80s, stays as relevant decades on.

As the same-sex couples braced up for another long wait to meet their dreams and rights, the evening held a poignant hue. Performed at the studio at veteran playwright's Neelam Mansingh Chowdhry's house, Ambegaonkar took



those present through shock, denial, anger, sorrow, acceptance to myriad other emotions. A mother stumbling across her gay son's sexuality and going through his diary, she ventures into his lonesome, lost world.

With powerful rendition in Hindi Ambegaonkar made the evening a poignant one.

Ambegaonkar has long delved in television and cinema, she's Dr Chitra Sheshadri of the medical drama Dhadkan and Dr Anjalika Deshmukh, head of the Forensic Department, in CID. Seen in films Hazaar Chaurasi Ki Maa, Phir

Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani and Mrityudand, she's recently been part of web series M.O.M. — Mission Over Mars.

Also, an activist Ambegaonkar has long performed the play Datar's Ek Madhav Baug in English and Marathi, along with Hindi over the years at varied venues. "We spend so much time talking about what we hate, if only we could change the focus to what we love, it would be a different world all together."

The evening also saw reading of Reema Moudgil's book Perfect Eight.

Indraneil Sengupta talks about his role in Aarya 3



Indraneil Sengupta, known for his roles in projects like Mulk, Doctor G, Human, is set to star in crime thriller drama Aarya Season 3, and opened up about the emotional baggage that came with his character Sooraj.

Indraneil said, "My character is consumed by his demons. I do not want to sound too dramatic about it, but as actors, we have been professionally acting for quite some time and we are equipped and trained enough to understand it, to let that out, to let it consume us without getting bogged down by the emotional baggage that comes with it."

"It's a part of my job, and I'm able to do it without taking it back home with me. So, I wasn't too bothered by the emotional baggage my character was going through," he added. Created and co-directed by the visionary Ram Madhvani and co-produced by Amita Madhvani, Ram Madhvani Films and Endemol Shine India, Aarya 3 will air on Disney+ Hotstar from November 3.

Soniya Bansal stands strong in BB House!



In the most recent Bigg Boss 17 episode, a heated confrontation unfolded between Abhishek Kumar and Soniya Bansal, triggered by a prank orchestrated by Vicky Jain.

As Salman Khan's Bigg Boss 17 continues to captivate viewers, the 17 contestants are diving headfirst into the intense competition. On the inaugural day, the house was already ablaze with drama as contestants began forming opinions about one another.

Adding fuel to the fire, Vicky's prank set off a fiery exchange between Abhishek and Soniya.

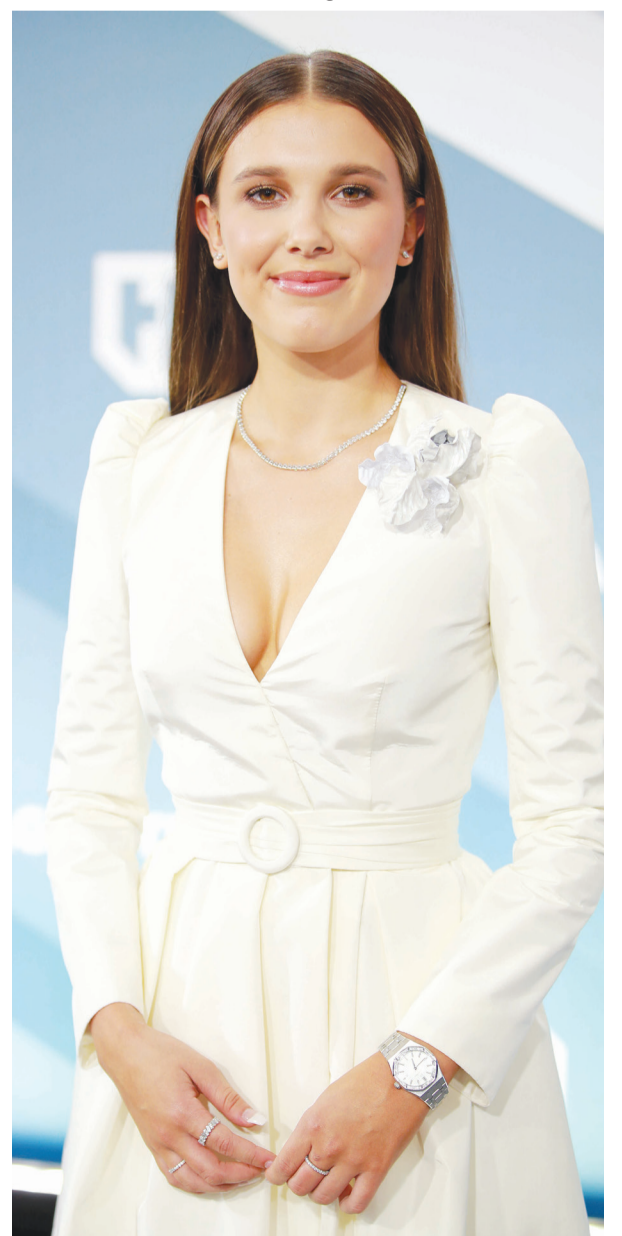
Bigg Boss was not pleased with Vicky's actions and reprimanded him for the prank. This left several housemates disappointed with Vicky Jain for his misleading antics.

Soniya speaks her mind and audiences are liking her straightforward attitude.

How Millie Bobby Brown manages her mental health amid public scrutiny

Actress Millie Bobby Brown attends therapy sessions and writes journals to keep her mental health in check. The Stranger Things actress is determined to focus on her self-care and hates the way the world views her in terms of her looks. "I go to therapy, I journal, I take self-care days. I think self-care is lighting a candle and taking a moment to yourself, and counting your blessings and embracing your true inner self and nurturing that," she said. Millie also recounted a recent incident where she felt abused over her looks in public. She said: "The other day I was in a restaurant and I was asked if I could take a picture with this man, and I said, 'No. I'm really not feeling like I want to today.' And he said, 'Well, you're not looking that great anyway.'"

Millie has been named one of the Glamour's Women of the Year 2023, alongside 39-year-old actress America Ferrera, and each have their own cover of the title in a special edition of the magazine.



Rajya Sabha Chairman refers complaint against 5 BRS MPs to Privileges Committee

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has referred a complaint against five BRS members, including party's floor leader K Keshava Rao, over "displaying placards" in the House during its meeting on September 18 to the privileges committee for investigation.

The complaint against Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) members was filed by BJP leader Vivek Thakur.

Thakur filed a notice under Rule 188 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha against K Keshava Rao, Damodar Rao Divakonda, Ravichandra Vaddiraju, K R Suresh Reddy and B Lingaiah Yadav.

The complaint alleged that the BRS members "contemptuously" displayed placards in



the Rajya Sabha while it was in session on September 18, 2023, in gross violation of the well-established rules of conduct for members of the Upper House, thereby causing unwarranted disturbances in its proceedings and lowering its dignity.

"On consideration of the facts, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha has referred the matter under Rule 203 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation

and report," an official communication from the Rajya Sabha secretariat said.

In another communication, the Chairman has extended time to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports for examination and presentation of report on 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021'.

"Chairman, Rajya Sabha, has granted an extension of time for a period of three months i.e. till 24th January, 2024 to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports for examination and presentation of report on The Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021," the order said.

"Large-Scale Corruption In Telangana": Rahul Gandhi Says KCR 'Losing' Polls



HYDERABAD, Oct 19 (Agencies): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said that he could feel that the Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao-led BRS party is losing the upcoming Assembly polls in Telangana. Speaking at a corner meeting on the way from Bhupalpally to Peddapalli during the Congress' ongoing 'Vijayabheri' Yatra

in the state, he said the upcoming electoral battle is between Dorala (feudal lords) Telangana and Prajala (people's) Telangana.

"I feel that KCR is going to lose the elections. This is a fight between Dorala Telangana and Prajala Telangana...a fight between Raja and Praja," he said.

Attacking Chandrasekhar Rao, Rahul Gandhi said even after ten years, the chief minister of Telangana continues to distance himself from the people.

Alleging that there is large-scale corruption happening in Telangana, Rahul said referring to KCR, all the controls in the state are with one family only.

The AICC leader further said the BJP attacks all opposition leaders and cases are filed using the ED, CBI, and Income Tax Departments, but KCR is spared.

He said when he raises the issue of caste census to be taken up in the country, there is no word either from Prime Minister Narendra Modi or KCR.

PMO imposter case: CBI conducts searches at premises of Ahmedabad-based Maayank Tiwari

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The CBI has conducted searches at the premises of Ahmedabad-based Maayank Tiwari who was allegedly posing as a high-ranking official of the Prime Minister's Office, and was trying to force an eye hospital chain to "forget" more than Rs 16 crore owed to it by an Indore-based hospital, officials said.

A number of documents were seized during searches conducted recently, and are being examined, they said. The agency said Tiwari has not been arrested so far.

Tiwari had allegedly called and sent messages from his mobile phone, asking the promoters of Dr Agarwal's -- which runs a chain of

eye hospitals -- to settle a dispute with the hospital in Indore, which allegedly had to return Rs 16 crore to the hospital chain, they said.

It is alleged that Dr Agarwal's had entered into an agreement with two doctors who ran the Indore-based hospital to join the franchise for which over Rs 16 crore was paid, they said.

The Indore hospital allegedly started violating the terms of the agreement which resulted in a dispute, and Dr Agarwal's wanted their money back and the termination of the agreement, they said.

The matter went to the High Court which appointed an arbitrator to negotiate. The arbitrator, in an interim injunction,

asked the Indore hospital to deposit Rs 16.43 crore within four weeks.

During the dispute, the promoters of Dr Agarwal's allegedly started getting messages and calls from Tiwari to forget the alleged dues and settle the matter with the doctors running the Indore hospital.

When the Prime Minister's Office came to know, it immediately asked the CBI to probe the alleged impersonation of a PMO official.

"Prima facie, this is a case of impersonation of PMO official and misuse of the name of the PMO, since neither this individual nor the professed designation exists in this office," the PMO said in a complaint to the CBI.

Supreme Court issues notice to Delhi Police on pleas filed by NewsClick founder and HR head against arrest under UAPA

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Thursday issued notice to the Delhi Police on petitions filed by NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha and its HR head Amit Chakravarty challenging their arrest and subsequent police remand in a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) -- an anti-terror law.

Directing the Delhi Police to respond to the petitions filed by Purkayastha and Chakravarty, a Bench led by Justice BR Gavai posted the matter for October 30.

The order came after senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Devadatt Kamat, representing Purkayastha and Chakravarty, respectively, urged the Bench to hear the matter urgently as the accused



have been in jail since their arrest on October 3.

Purkayastha and Chakravarty have challenged a Delhi High Court verdict dismissing their petitions against their arrest and remand under the UAPA.

The top court had on Monday agreed to list the matter urgently after Sibal mentioned it before the bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud. On

Wednesday, the Justice Gavai-led Bench had posted the matter for hearing on Thursday, saying it needed to go through the files.

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 receiving money to spread pro-China propaganda.

According to the FIR, a large amount of funds to 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 -- 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 last week 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".

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.

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".

Rajasthan Assembly polls: No differences in Congress over grant of tickets, says CM Ashok Gehlot

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday said he wants to leave the state's top post but the post is not leaving him and probably may not leave him.

He, however, also said that there would be something in him that the party high command had chosen him to lead the state thrice but any decision taken by the

leadership going forward would be acceptable to all.

Gehlot, whose government had faced a rebellion led by his bete noire Sachin Pilot in 2020, said he has adopted the policy of "forgive and forget" and moved on.

Taking strong objection to the raids by the Enforcement Directorate and Income Tax Department against Opposition leaders, he



sought the Prime Minister's intervention to

stop them immediately as the model code was

in force.

He also urged the Election Commission to intervene.

Asked whether there were any differences within the party on the grant of party tickets, he said there are no differences and all decisions are taken unanimously.

Rajasthan Assembly polls would take place on November 25 and votes would be counted on December 3.

3 members of family found hanging at home in Kerala's Palakkad



PALAKKAD, Oct 19 (Agencies): Three members of a family were found hanging at their home in Kuzhalmannam

area of this north Kerala district on Thursday.

A 42-year-old woman, her 19-year-old son and her sister's 24-year-old

son were found hanging in a room of their house by family members in the morning, police said.

Police said some mental health issues are suspected to be the reason behind the three ending their lives.

It said the inquest proceedings are going on and thereafter the bodies would be sent for post-mortem.

83-Year-Old Man, Son's Live-In Partner, 30, Killed By Grandsons

KANPUR, Oct 19 (Agencies): An 83-year-old man and his son's live-in partner were stabbed to death allegedly by his grandsons in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur Dehat district in the early hours of the morning today, police said.

Ram Prakash Dwivedi, 83, and his son Vimal's live-in partner Khushbu, 30, died, while Vimal, 63, was critically injured in the incident that took place in Amrodha town, they said.

According to locals, there was friction in the family over Vimal's live-in relationship with 30-year-old Khushbu.

The accused, 42-year-old Lalit and his step-brother Akshat, 18, went to their father Vimal's house and thrashed him, Ram Prakash and Khushbu. The two then stabbed Ram Prakash and Khushbu multiple times, said Superintendent of Police BBGTS



Murthy.

While Vimal was trying to get out of his house, Munna, who earlier used to live with the Dwivedi family, saw him. Munna immediately informed Vimal's elder brother Kamal, who lives in the adjacent house.

Vimal was rushed to the district hospital and later shifted to Lala Lajpat Rai (LLR) Hospital in Kanpur, where his condition is stated to be critical, police said.

After receiving information about the inci-

dent, police acted promptly and arrested Akshat and Lalit while they were trying to run away to evade arrest, Mr Murthy said.

The two were apparently unhappy with their father over his live-in relationship with 30-year-old Khushbu, said Additional Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar Pandey.

During intensive interrogation, they confessed to having killed Ram Prakash and Khushbu, he said.

Naga Sadhu Strangled Inside Temple At Ayodhya, Accused Missing: Cops

AYODHYA, Oct 19 (Agencies): A 44-year-old Naga Sadhu, Ram Sahare Das, was strangled to death in the Hanumangarhi temple complex in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya on Thursday, the police said.

According to the police, Mr Das's disciple, Durbal Das, discovered his lifeless body in his room at the ashram late on Wednesday evening.

A deep mark was visible on Mr Das's throat, police said.

Police and forensic experts arrived quickly at the scene and began their investigation. They are searching for Umesh Shukla, son of Rishabh Shukla, who lives in the same complex and is considered a suspect. Mr Shukla is

currently on the run.

The CCTV cameras installed in the temple premises were also found switched off.

This is the second incident at Hanumangarhi within a month. A few days ago, a Naga Sadhu died by suicide

in the same area.

The police are yet to ascertain the motive for the murder.

However, they are investigating all possible angles, including personal rivalry and robbery.

IIT-Khargapur student suicide: Kin allege 'unnecessary pressure' by faculty

KOLKATA, Oct 19 (Agencies): A day after a fourth year student of IIT-Kharagpur was found dead in his hostel room, his parents on Thursday held a section of the institute's faculty responsible for their son's apparent suicide.

They alleged that K. Kiran Chandra was forced to take the extreme step owing to "unnecessary" pressure by the faculty.

This morning, the victim's father and uncle arrived at the university from their home state Telangana and claimed that Kiran was under tremen-



dous pressure from a section of the faculty over completion of a project within a specific period.

"The institute authorities could have informed us if Kiran was lagging somewhere. Unable to bear the pressure, our son resorted to the extreme step," the victim's father said.

However, the victim's father and uncle confirmed that they will not initiate any legal proceedings against the IIT-Kharagpur authorities as it not bring back the victim.

Meanwhile, the IIT-Kharagpur has also confirmed the death as "suicide" in a statement issued

by them.

Since last year, the institution has been in the national headlines because of mysterious deaths of students within the campus.

In October 2022, a student Faizan Ahmed died under mysterious circumstances within the institute campus.

In his case too, the body was recovered from a hostel room. The matter reached the level of Calcutta High Court.

Again in June this year, another student Suriya Dipen was found dead in the campus.

Israel-Hamas conflict: UK PM Rishi Sunak arrives in Israel

Will warn against Gaza war escalation

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (ISRAEL), Oct 19 (Agencies): British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak arrived in Israel on Thursday to demonstrate solidarity with a country reeling from an Oct. 7 rampage by Hamas gunmen and to hold talks with his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu.

With Israel's counter-offensive against Hamas in Gaza spiralling, Sunak will share his condolences for the loss of life in Israel and in the Palestinian enclave and warn against further escalation, his office said.

"Above all, I'm here to express my solidarity with the Israeli people. You have suffered an unspeakable, horrific act of terrorism and I want you to know that the United Kingdom and I stand with you," Sunak told Israeli reporters after landing.

Sunak was due to visit other regional capitals after Israel.



In an early statement, he said a Gaza hospital blast on Tuesday that caused mass Palestinian casualties should be "a watershed moment for leaders in the region and across the world to come together to avoid further dangerous escalation of conflict", adding that Britain would be at "the forefront of this effort".

Sunak will also urge the opening up of a route to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza from Egypt as soon as possible, and to enable British nationals trapped in Gaza to leave.

"Every civilian death is a tragedy. And too many lives have been lost following Hamas' horrific act of terror," Sunak said.

At least seven British nationals have been killed and at least nine are still missing since the attack on Israel, Sunak's spokesperson said.

Alongside Sunak's visit, British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly, who visited Israel last week, will travel to Egypt, Turkey and Qatar over the next three days to discuss the conflict and seek a peaceful resolution, his office said.

Britain said the three countries were "vital to international efforts to uphold regional stability, free hostages and allow humanitarian access to Gaza".

Cleverly will meet with senior leaders there to discuss efforts to prevent the conflict spreading, the urgent need to open the Rafah crossing with Egypt to let aid reach those who need it and for Hamas to release hostages, Britain said.

US House lawmaker receives death threats after voting against Jordan for Speaker

WASHINGTON, Oct 19 (Agencies): US Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks has received "credible death threats," she said in a statement, after voting against Representative Jim Jordan for Speaker of the US House of Representatives.

Jordan, a hardline conservative, was formally nominated by a majority of his party last week but has been unsuccessful in getting the necessary 217 Republicans to back him in two House votes so far, with more lawmakers from his own party opposing him on Wednesday than in the first vote on Tuesday. A third vote is expected to take place on Thursday.

Miller-Meeks, a Republican who represents a politically competitive district in Iowa, voted for Jordan the first time but switched to vote for Representative Kay Granger, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, on Wednesday afternoon.

Since then, Miller-Meeks said in a statement, she has received "a barrage of threatening calls" in addition to multiple death threats. She added that the authorities have been notified and her office is fully cooperating.

"One thing I cannot stomach, or support is a bully," she said. "I did not stand for bullies before I voted for Chairwoman Granger and when I voted for Speaker designee Jordan, and I will not bend to bullies now."

It was not immediately clear who made the threats.

"We condemn all threats against our colleagues and it is imperative that we come together," Jordan said in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter. "Stop. It's abhorrent." Jordan has struggled to win over both moderates who do not feel he understands the issues their districts face, and others who have expressed concern about Jordan's ability to unite the party.

Although lawmakers who are withholding their support have said Jordan himself has been courteous and kind in conversations attempting to win them over, many have spoken out about the bullying tactics of his supporters.

"The last thing you want to do is try to intimidate or pressure me, because then I close out entirely," Representative Mario Diaz-Balart, a Republican who has refused to support Jordan, told reporters earlier this week.

Israel will let Egypt deliver some aid to Gaza as doctors struggle to treat hospital blast victims

KHAN YOUNIS (GAZA STRIP), Oct 19 (Agencies): Israel said that it would allow Egypt to deliver limited humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip.

The first crack in a punishing 10-day siege on the territory came a day after a blast at a hospital killed hundreds and put immense strain on Gaza's struggling medical system.

The announcement to allow water, food and other supplies happened as fury over the blast at Gaza City's al-Ahli Hospital spread across the Middle East, and as US President Joe Biden visited Israel in hopes of preventing a wider conflict in the region.

There were conflicting claims of who was behind the explosion on Tuesday night, but protests flared quickly in the region as many Arab leaders said Israel was responsible.

Hamas officials in Gaza quickly blamed an Israeli airstrike, saying hundreds were killed. Israel denied it was involved and released a flurry of video, audio and other information that it said showed the



blast was instead due to a rocket misfire by Islamic Jihad, another militant group operating in Gaza. Islamic Jihad dismissed that claim.

The Associated Press has not independently verified any of the claims or evidence.

Israel shut off all supplies to Gaza soon after Hamas militants rampaged across communities in southern Israel on October 7.

As supplies run out, many fami-

lies in Gaza have cut down to one meal a day and have been left to drink dirty water.

The bloody devastation at al-Ahli threw the siege's impact into sharp relief. Video from the scene showed the hospital grounds strewn with torn bodies, many of them young children. Hundreds of wounded were rushed to another Gaza hospital where doctors, already facing critical supply shortages, performed surgery on the floors, often without anaesthesia.

Biden said Egypt's president agreed to open the crossing and to let in an initial group of 20 trucks with humanitarian aid. If Hamas confiscates aid, "it will end", he said. The aid will start moving on Friday at the earliest, White House officials said.

Egypt must still repair the road across the border that was cratered by Israeli airstrikes. More than 200 trucks and some 3,000 tons of aid are positioned at or near the Rafah crossing, Gaza's only connection to Egypt, said the head of the Red Crescent for North Sinai, Khalid Zayed.

Israel's endgame? No sign of post-war plan for Gaza

DUBAI/WASHINGTON, Oct 19 (Agencies): Israel is vowing to wipe out Hamas in a relentless onslaught on the Gaza Strip but has no obvious endgame in sight, with no clear plan for how to govern the ravaged Palestinian enclave even if it triumphs on the battlefield.

Codenamed "Operation Swords of Iron", the military campaign will be unmatched in its ferocity and unlike anything Israel has carried out in Gaza in the past, according to eight regional and Western officials with knowledge of the conflict who declined to be named due to the sensitivity of the matter.

Israel has called up a record 3,600,000 reservists and has been bombarding the tiny enclave non-stop following Hamas's assault on southern Israel on October 7, which killed about 1,400 people, mostly civilians.

The immediate Israeli strategy, said three regional officials familiar with discussions between the US and Middle Eastern leaders, is to destroy Gaza's infrastructure, even at the cost of high civilian casualties, push the enclave's people towards the Egyptian border and go after Hamas by blowing up the labyrinth of underground tunnels the group has built to conduct its operations.

Israeli officials have said that they don't have a clear idea for what a post-war future might look like, though.

Some of US President Joe Biden's aides are concerned that while Israel may craft an effective plan to inflict lasting damage to Hamas, it has yet to formulate an exit strategy, a source in Washington familiar with the matter said.

Trips to Israel by Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin this past week had stressed the need to focus on the post-war plan for Gaza, the source added.

Arab officials are also alarmed that Israel hasn't set out a clear plan for the future of the enclave, ruled by Hamas since 2006 and home to 2.3 million people.

"Israel doesn't have an endgame for Gaza. Their strategy is to drop

thousands of bombs, destroy everything and go in, but then what? They have no exit strategy for the day after," said one regional security source. An Israeli invasion has yet to start, but Gaza authorities say 3,500 Palestinians have already been killed by the aerial bombardment, around a third of them children - a larger death toll than in any previous conflict between Hamas and Israel.

Biden, on a visit to Israel on Wednesday, told Israelis that justice needed to be served to Hamas, though he cautioned that after the 9/11 attacks on New York, the U.S. had made mistakes. The "vast majority of Palestinians are not Hamas", he said.

"Hamas does not represent the Palestinian people," Aaron David Miller, a Middle East expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said Biden's visit would have given him a chance to press Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu to think through issues such as the proportional use of force and the longer-term plans for Gaza before any invasion.

"CITY OF TUNNELS" Israeli officials, including Netanyahu, have said they will wipe out Hamas in retribution for the attack, the deadliest in Israel's 75-year-old history. "We are of course thinking and dealing with this, and this involves assessments and includes the National Security Council, the military and others about the end situation," Israeli National Security Council director Tzachi Hanegbi told reporters on Tuesday. "We don't know what this will be with certainty." "But what we do know is what there will not be," he said, referring to Israel's stated aim to eradicate Hamas.

This might be easier said than done. "It's an underground city of tunnels that make the Vietcong tunnels look like child's play," said the first regional source, referring to the Communist guerrilla force that defied U.S. troops in Vietnam. "They're not going to end Hamas with tanks and firepower."

Two regional military experts told Reuters that Hamas' armed wing, the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, has mobilised

for an invasion, setting up anti-tank mines and booby-trapped explosive devices to ambush troops.

Israel's coming offensive is set to be much bigger than past Gaza operations that Israeli officials had previously referred to as "mowing the grass", degrading Hamas's military capabilities but not eliminating it. Israel has fought three previous conflicts with Hamas, in 2008-9, 2012 and 2014, and launched limited land invasions during two of those campaigns, but unlike today, Israel's leaders never vowed to destroy Hamas once and for all. In those three confrontations, just under 4,000 Palestinians and fewer than 100 Israelis died. There is less optimism in Washington, though, that Israel will be able to completely destroy Hamas and U.S. officials see little chance that Israel will want to hold onto any Gaza territory or re-occupy it, the U.S. source said.

A more likely scenario, the person said, would be for Israeli forces to kill or capture as many Hamas members as they can, blow up tunnels and rocket workshops, then after Israeli casualties mount, look for a way to declare victory and exit. The fear across the region is that the war will blow up beyond the confines of Gaza, with Lebanon's Hezbollah and its backer Iran opening major new fronts in support of Hamas.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian warned of a possible "preemptive" action against Israel if it carried out its invasion of Gaza. He said last weekend that Iran would not watch from the sidelines if the US failed to restrain Israel.

Arab leaders have told Blinken, who has been criss-crossing the region this past week, that while they condemn Hamas' attack on Israel, they oppose collective punishment against ordinary Palestinians, which they fear will trigger regional unrest. Popular anger will ratchet up across the region when the body count rises, they said.

Washington has sent an aircraft carrier strike group to the eastern Mediterranean and is concerned that Hezbollah might join the battle

from Israel's northern border. There has been no sign, however, that the U.S. military would then move from a deterrent posture to direct involvement.

The regional sources said Washington was proposing to re-energise the Palestinian Authority (PA), which lost control of Gaza to Hamas in 2007, although there is huge doubt whether the PA or any other authority would be able to govern the coastal enclave should Hamas be driven out. Miller, a former US Middle East negotiator, expressed deep skepticism about the potential for establishing a post-Hamas government to rule Gaza. "I could paint you a picture more appropriate to a galaxy far, far away and not on planet Earth on how you could combine the UN, the Palestinian Authority, the Saudis, the Egyptians, led by the US marshalling the Europeans, to basically convert Gaza from an open-air prison to something much better," he said.

In the meantime, calls for the creation of humanitarian corridors within Gaza and escape routes for Palestinian civilians has drawn a strong reaction from Arab neighbors. They fear an Israeli invasion will spark a new permanent mass wave of displacement, a replay of the 1948 Israeli war of independence and 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Millions of Palestinians who were forced to flee then have remained stranded as refugees in the countries that hosted them. East Jerusalem, captured by Israel in the 1967 war and then annexed, and Israeli settlement expansion across occupied territory are at the core of the conflict with Palestinians. Netanyahu has openly embraced the religious and radical far-right, promising to annex more land to be settled by Jews. Hundreds of Palestinians have died in the West Bank since the start of the year in repeated clashes with Israeli soldiers and settlers, and there is widespread concern that the violence might engulf the territory as nearby Gaza burns. "Whatever worst-case scenario you have, it will be worse," a second regional source said about the potential for the conflict to spread beyond Gaza.

10 civilians killed in Russian attacks on Ukraine, Kyiv reports progress in south

ZAPORIZHZHIA (UKRAINE), Oct 19 (Agencies): Russian attacks overnight and on Wednesday killed at least 10 civilians in Ukraine, while senior Ukrainian military officials said their troops had made some headway in counter-offensive operations in the southern theatre.

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, in his nightly video address, said the death toll had risen to five from four in a morning missile strike on a residential building in the south-eastern city of Zaporizhzhia.

Officials said a 31-year-old woman was killed in an attack on the village of Obukhivka in the central region of Dnipropetrovsk and a man and a woman were killed in an overnight attack on the southern region of Kherson.

On Wednesday evening, Ukraine's Interior Ministry said two bodies had been pulled out from under the rubble of a food shop hit by a Russian missile near the southern city of Mykolaiv.

Local officials in Sumy region, on the Russian border, said an "infrastructure site" had been hit in a drone attack, but provided no further details.

"The evil state continues to use terror and wage war on civilians. Russian terror must be defeated," Zelenskiy wrote on the Telegram messaging app.

The apartment building in Zaporizhzhia suffered serious damage to one entrance from the third to the fifth storeys, he said. A picture posted by Zelenskiy on Telegram showed the building with a gaping hole in the middle, its entrance destroyed and windows smashed.

In Obukhivka, near the city of Dnipro, residents said a strong explosion blew out windows and knocked people to the ground.



Officials said about 20 houses were damaged.

"A woman all covered in blood ran out from one of the houses, shouting and crying. I think that her daughter died," Victor, 32, a construction worker, told Reuters television. "We entered the house and saw a dead girl."

SOUTHERN ADVANCE CONTINUES: GENERAL

General Oleksandr Tarnavskiy, in charge of Ukraine's operations in the south, said Ukrainian forces were proceeding with their planned advance towards the Sea of Azov. Troops from the Tavria, or southern, group of forces "are continuing their offensive. They have had partial success to the south of Robotyne," Tarnavskiy wrote on Telegram.

Robotyne is one of a group of villages in the south that Ukraine wants to secure as part of the advance - aimed at severing a land bridge linking Russian positions in the south and east.

Oleksandr Shtupun, a spokes-

person for southern troops, also reported progress near Robotyne.

Shtupun told national television that shelling had eased around the town of Avdiivka, the focus of fierce Russian attacks in the past week west of the Russian-held town of Donetsk. But troops in the sector were preparing for a variety of scenarios.

Ukrainian troops are also trying to recapture land in eastern regions.

The General Staff, in its evening report, said its forces had repelled attacks in several areas of the 1,000-km (620-mile) front line - including 15 around the long-contested town of Maryinka in Donetsk region and 10 further north near Kupiansk.

Russia's Defence Ministry gave few details of its troops' operations, but said a depot of Ukrainian aviation equipment had been destroyed in central Dnipropetrovsk region.

Agency could not verify accounts from either side.

CBC's multimedia exhibition in Katra continues to pull crowds on 4th day

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Oct 19: The ongoing eight day long multimedia exhibition on 9 Years of Seva, Sushashan aur Garib Kalyan organised by the Central Bureau of Communication in Katra saw an appreciable peak in footfall as it entered its fourth day on Thursday.

The exhibition, which is aimed at the mass awareness of various public welfare schemes of the government and the progress made in different sectors during the last nine years, is being organised by CBC's Field Office, Udhampur at Government Higher Secondary School, Katra from October 16 to October 23.

Information about the welfare schemes is disseminated to the public in an integrated manner through photo exhibits, informative standees, expert lectures, IEC material as well as by medium of performing arts and cultural programs.

District Development Council (DDC) member, Katra, Ms. Nirmala Devi presided over the proceedings on the fourth day. Speaking on the occasion she appreciated the goodwork CBC is doing for public awareness at the grassroots level. She said that the exhibition is an opportunity for the local residents and devotees alike to know about a spectrum of schemes and programmes being run by the government for public welfare.

In his address Sh. Ghulam Abbas, Joint Director, CBC, J&K and Ladakh region said that awareness is the first step in the success-



ful implementation of public welfare schemes and CBC works to ensure that the masses have the right type of information to get the benefits. He said the multimedia exhibition at Katra is designed to provide the information through a direct interaction between the stakeholders and in an easy as well as entertaining way.

Rahul Kushan, Branch Head, State Bank of India (SBI), Katra also addressed the audience and apprised them about various schemes aimed at financial inclusion, self employment, farmer welfare, social security and

upliftment of the poor and the marginalised. He made a special mention of Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), National Livelihoods Mission (NLM) and PM MUDRA yojana.

Various activities for students were organised in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School, Katra which included a devotional dance competition and tug of war for the girls. Students from different schools of the Katra sub division enthusiastically participated in the events. An open quiz on the Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes was also organised by CBC earlier in the day. Prizes and commendation certificates were awarded to the winners in each category of the competition at the conclusion of the program.

As part of the CBC's integrated communication strategy, empanelled cultural troupes from different parts of the country continued to enthral the audience with their performances aimed to provide information through entertainment. Apart from

the activities based on the theme of 9 Years of Seva, Sushashan aur Garib Kalyan, the performances also have an appeal for national integration, communal harmony under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

Among others who participated today event were Deputy Superintendent of Police, & OSD Sh. Raj Kumar, Principal GHSS Katra, Sh. Fateh Singh, Heads of various Private and government Educational Institutions devotees & Locals. Ms. Usha Dogra, Teacher GHSS Katra moderated the day long event.

Dr Karan Singh, Vikramaditya assess damage caused to Ranbireswar Temple

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, OCT 19: Chairman Trustee of J&K Dharmarth Trust, and former Member of Parliament, Dr. Karan Singh and Vikramaditya Singh, Trustee of Trust and former MLC on Thursday assessed damage caused to Shri Ranbireswar Temple due to heavy rainfall and lightning which struck the temple on Tuesday.

Moved by the unfortunate incident, Dr Karan Singh reached the historical temple directly after arriving at Jammu Airport as he was in Delhi when this natural catastrophe occurred two days back.

The Chairman Trustee also visited inside the temple premises, took stock of the whole temple complex, paid obeisance and performed Pooja.

Dr Karan Singh expressed deep concern over the damage caused to the temple after the lightning struck the ancient building holding lot of significance among the devotees of Lord Shiva hailing from J&K and even



from outside the UT. After a thorough assessment of the damaged portion, Dr Karan Singh has assured that sooner than later, the building will be restored to its original shape as already the restoration work is in progress.

In a press briefing, the former Member Parliament also assured that the concerned government agencies shall be approached for the safety audit of the building before giving a green signal to the devotees to resume normal course of offering prayers.

Speaking with media persons, Vikramaditya Singh, who has come from Srinagar directly to the temple, said that it was the grace of the Almighty that no loss of life or injury was reported despite collapse of the building due to incessant rain and

lightning. He also laid stress on scientific audit of the entire building for its structural viability and safety concerns. He said that Dharmarth Trust is committed to restore the pristine glory of the temple but it is not in favour of compromising on the matter of safety and therefore every possible step will be taken prior to its reconstruction to ensure safety of the building.

"The J&K Dharmarth Trust remains resolute in its commitment to preserve this revered place of worship and ensuring the safety of all those who visit Shri Ranbireswar Temple. The restoration process will proceed with the utmost care and diligence, underscoring the trust's dedication to upholding the spiritual heritage of the region", he added.

Thursday Mind meet held at Central University Jammu

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Department of Economics in collaboration with School of Languages, Central University of Jammu, organized a Thursday Mind Meet panel discussion focusing on the National Educational Policy (NEP) 2020.

Kamal P. Patnaik, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh region was the Chief Guest and shared his thoughts on "New Education Policy for a New India". Mr. Patnaik in his address covered the genesis of the National Educational Policy 2020 and underscored the mechanism of taking the Indian knowledge system forward. He not only shed light on the intricate nuances of the policy but also gave us a broader perspective on how it aligns with the economic and financial land-

scape of India. He emphasised on 3 E's viz. Education, Ecology and Economy as foundation of NEP 2020. The correlation between education and the financial fabric of the nation was highlighted by him. He broadened the horizons of interventions by demonstrating the RBI's commitment not just to monetary and fiscal matters, but also to the educational framework, which is the bedrock of our nation's future.

Patnaik referred to how Indian Universities are undergoing changes to achieve the much-needed objectives. He also pointed out what currently ails Indian research and how NEP 2020 makes an attempt to make research responsible, relevant, and people friendly while being at the forefront of learning. He discussed the regional imbalance that is currently observed in India. Sh. Patnaik was optimistic

about the outcome of the NEP 2020 that is intended to make research in Indian universities more proactive and inclusive. He emphasised that a proper policy framework can bring in desired transformative changes in our educational country.

Ananya Khajuria, Research Scholar of the Department focussed on taking inclusive approach by encouraging collaborative research and student exchange programmes for holistic development.

Janhavi Chohan, PG student of the Department appreciated the Government's initiative to integrate traditional knowledge and values into the modern education system thereby fostering the deeper connection between students and their cultural roots. Ms. Kritika, UG student of the Department, showed concern about the

education structure system wherein the inclusion of Indian regional languages has shown a positive impact on the students as well as on the teachers.

The Thursday Mind Meet programme is an outcome of consistent initiative by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain on research, dissemination and skill enhancement among the students. He appreciated the initiatives taken by the Department of Economics and School of Languages and encouraged the Department to hold more events of this nature for the students' overall development.

Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu appreciated the initiatives taken by the Department of Economics and encouraged the Department to conduct more of these kinds of events.

FROM PAGE 1

Adopt whole of Government approach in Governance: Jitendra Singh tells J&K Administrative Service officers

On the Digital India programme, the minister said it is centred on three key vision areas — digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen, governance and services on demand, and digital empowerment of citizens.

He said the overall goal is to ensure that digital technologies improve the life of every citizen, expand India's digital economy, and create investment and employment opportunities while the country's latent digital and technological capabilities.

The minister said Digital India has considerably reduced the gap between government and citizens and has also helped in delivering substantial services directly to the beneficiary in a transparent and corruption-free manner.

"In the process, India has emerged as one of the pre-eminent nations of the world to use technology to transform the lives of its citizens," Singh said.

He said the new age competency of civil servants has to be anchored in ethics and accountability, maintaining that the Centre has maintained a "zero tolerance approach to corruption", bringing greater transparency to government processes, enhanced supervision and severe penalties in cases of proven misconduct.

"India's Legislative and Constitutional Framework to fight corruption has been greatly strengthened with a mandatory declaration of assets by civil servants on an annual basis, thereby focusing on preventive vigilance," the minister added.

On the occasion, V Srinivas, secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), said the training is a platform for collective learning and sharing and working towards improving the quality of life.

He also stressed on the need for accelerated and inclusive development for resilient

growth and emphasised on the importance of technology in transforming the lives of citizens.

Srinivas said the officials should create a conceptual framework to meet the needs and expectations of people and work for the holistic development in the state.

The 6th capacity building programme has been underway at NCGG since October 9 and will culminate on October 20. The event is being attended by 37 officers of the JKAS, holding the ranks of secretaries, special secretaries, additional secretaries, CEOs, directors, joint commissioners, and mission directors, among others.

During this programme, civil servants of Jammu & Kashmir interacted with domain experts on diverse topics such as communication strategies, poverty elimination, Rural Housing, skill India, Artificial Intelligence in Government, Tourism and Culture, Jal Jeevan Mission, digital India, approach to Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, Ayushman Bharat, anti-corruption strategies, vigilance administration, circular economy, rejuvenation of rivers, innovation & entrepreneurship, etc among other important areas. The participants will also take for exposure visit to the Parliament.

The capacity building programme is scientifically tailored to equip civil servants of Jammu and Kashmir to deliver robust and seamless services to the people.

CIK raids multiple locations in Kashmir, says social media misused for threats

also profiling bonafide government servants working in Kashmir and perpetually keep issuing threats, sometimes open and sometimes veiled to harm their person, reputation or properties in order to prevent them in performing their lawful duties.

"During the course of preliminary investigation, it was also revealed that through these Facebook accounts, these associates of terrorist organization(s) are promoting feeling of enmity and disharmony among different religious and regional groups and provoking youth to indulge

in large scale violence and disturbance against the peace and tranquility of Kashmir."

During the searches, incriminating material including electronic gadgets and other articles having bearing on the investigation of the case were seized and recovered, he said.

"Analysis of the data would follow and leads that would emerge would become the basis for further investigation."

The official said that searches are aimed at dismantling the terror ecosystem in the valley by identifying such elements who are inimical to the peace and security of the state and are supporting/abetting terrorism by luring gullible youth into the fold of terrorism.

Delhi-LG approves increase in monthly relief to Kashmiri migrants

member. Apart from this, a non-migrant girl marrying into a migrant family will be added as a member of the Kashmiri migrant family.

There shall be mandatory Aadhar seeding of data relating to the family members eligible for AMR. Also, the payment of relief to the migrants will be only through the Aadhar Payment Bridge System/PFMS, which will be as per the extant norms.

AMR is provided to the J&K migrants under the "Security Related Expenditure (Relief & Rehabilitation)" introduced by the Central Government in 1989-90, for supporting the relief and rehabilitation of those who were uprooted from the Kashmir valley during the militancy. In Delhi, AMR was provided to the migrant families registered by GNCTD during 1990-93.

At present, approximately 2000 families in the national capital are being paid AMR at the rate of Rs 3250 per person per month, subject to a maximum of 04 people per family. Out of this amount, Rs 1000 is the share of the GNCTD, and Rs. 2250 is the share of the Government of India, which is reimbursed by the MMA.

The monthly expenditure incurred on AMR is approx. Rs 2.50 crore. The number

of beneficiaries is, however, expected to increase by nearly 70 per cent after factoring in an increase in the number of "units" because of the raising of the eligibility criteria and the rise in the number of family members due to splitting and addition that will now be allowed.

Rohit Sharma gets 3 challans for speeding at 215 km/hr to join his team in Pune: Report

and even touching 215 km/h at one point. Traffic police officials worried about Sharma speeding on the highway and suggested he travel in the team bus with a police escort.

India will play their fourth match in the ongoing World Cup on Thursday, against Bangladesh at Pune's Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium.

Man impersonating as IAS officer arrested for defrauding local resident in Budgam: Police

The public is urged to exercise caution and vigilance, verifying the credentials of individuals offering such promises to avoid falling prey to fraudulent schemes. The police also encourage anyone with pertinent information related to this case to come forward and assist in the ongoing investigation.

One dead, three injured in road accident in Doda

The deceased was identified as Maneel Kumar, son of Choor Singh of Nagvas Assar, while the injured persons were identified as Mukesh Kumar, son of Chali Singh (22), Santa Kumar, son of Prem Singh (23), both residents of Sanga Charota, and Sandesh Kumar, son of Nek Raj of Nagvaash Thandapani (28).

JKPCL, RUVNL to purchase 1,000 MW power from SJVN

offered power to the beneficiaries of the northern region from 1,000 MW solar PV station to be developed under CPSU scheme of the central government in Poogal tehsil of Bikaner district in Rajasthan, it said.

The power generated by the project will be used by government entities, either directly or through discoms (distribution companies).

Under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Power, SJVN Ltd is a joint venture of the central government and the government of Himachal Pradesh.

Former Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain's interim bail extended in money-laundering case

weeks for spinal surgery, saying a citizen has a right to receive treatment of his choice in a private hospital at his own expense. On September 12, it extended till September 25 the interim bail of Jain in the case.

The ED had arrested the AAP leader on May 30 last year on the charge of money-laundering through four companies allegedly linked to him. It had arrested Jain based on a CBI FIR registered against him in 2017 under the Prevention of Corruption Act. He was granted regular bail by the trial court on September 6, 2019, in the case registered by the CBI.

Man injured in bear attack in Poonch

wild bear in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Thursday, officials said. The incident took place in the Adayee area when Mohammad Bashir was passing through a forest while returning home from work, they said. After hearing Bashir's cries for help locals rushed to the spot and rescued him. Bashir sustained serious injuries on his face and neck, the officials said.

Markets fall for second day running on weak global trends

The 30-share BSE Sensex plunges 490.44 points to 65,386.58

MUMBAI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices declined in early trade on Thursday, falling for the second day running, amid weak trends in global markets and fresh foreign fund outflows.

Disappointing earnings from IT services company Wipro also dragged the benchmarks lower.

The 30-share BSE Sensex plunged 490.44 points to 65,386.58. The Nifty fell 137.5 points to 19,533.60.



Tata Steel, JSW Steel, Power Grid, Bajaj Finance, Tata Motors, Bajaj Finserv and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the other major laggards. IndusInd Bank and ITC were the gainers. In Asian markets,

Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading in the negative territory.

The US markets ended lower on Wednesday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.52 per cent to USD 91.02 a barrel.

Google to start manufacturing its pixel devices in India from 2024

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Technology giant Google on Thursday announced the manufacture of its flagship smartphone, Google Pixel, in India.

The company, at its annual Google for India event, said the newly-launched Pixel 8 will be its first Made in India phone and would be available in the Indian market from 2024.

"We shared plans at Google for India to manufacture Pixel smartphones locally and expect the first devices to roll out in 2024. We're committed to being a trusted partner in India's digital growth," Google CEO Sundar Pichai wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

Google said it will partner with international contract manufacturers to manufacture Google Pixel phones in India. The US-based company is also in talks with homegrown contract

manufacturers like Dixon, Lava and Bharat FIH. "We will start manufacturing Google Pixel series smartphones in India. India is a priority market for Pixel smartphones, and we're committed to bringing the best of our hardware and underlying built-in software capabilities to people across the country," said Rick Osterloh, Senior Vice-President at Google.

Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, who was present at the event, said it is good for both India and Google that its Pixel 8 phones will be manufactured in India.

The Minister informed that India has taken big strides in smartphone manufacturing with \$44 billion worth of mobile phones being manufactured in the country.

Vaishnaw also said that within one year of the 5G launch, the country already has installed

375,000 5G sites across the country. He said the country is among the top two countries with a 5G ecosystem.

Google Pixel has struggled to attract consumers in India.

Google introduced Pixel smartphones to the Indian market in 2016 but currently holds less than a 1% market share. Meanwhile, its competitors have strengthened their market positions in the mobile market.

According to CyberMedia Research, Google enjoys a 1% market share globally but only a negligible 0.3% market share in India.

Prabhu Ram, Head-Industry Intelligence Group at CyberMedia Research (CMR) called it strategic moves essential for Google to establish a strong presence in the Indian market.

"Google's Make-in-India gambit for the Pixel phones marks the beginning of a series

of strategic moves essential for Google to establish a strong presence in a highly competitive smartphone market, which offers substantial growth opportunities," he said.

Faisal Kawoosa, Founder and Chief Analyst at Techarc, said with this announcement Google is upping its game with regards to Pixel in India. "This is a really very significant step. We have all seen somewhere Google has been shying from the Indian market in terms of commitment, or I would say in terms of faith. With this announcement, the company has shown faith in the Indian market. I would say it's a big step big leap of faith in India which reinforces its journey in India," said Kawoosa.

Google recently launched in India its Pixel devices, the Google Pixel 8 and Pixel 8 Pro, priced at Rs. 75,999 and Rs. 106,999, respectively.

Tata Group may consider \$1 billion fresh capital into super app venture: Report

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The Tata Group is actively contemplating an injection of an additional \$1 billion in fresh capital into its ambitious super app venture, reported Bloomberg News quoting people familiar with the matter. This comes after the conglomerate invested a substantial \$2 billion earlier this year.

The additional funding, expected to be channeled into Tata Digital Pvt., aims to propel the app's operational efficiency and user-friendliness, ensuring a more seamless digital experience, added the report.

The decision to infuse this substantial capital comes as the conglomerate strives to enhance its digital presence and strengthen its footing in

the ever-evolving digital landscape.

The conglomerate has been engaged in talks with its digital unit, which operates the flagship online platform Tata Neu, to streamline operations and address any glitches that might deter a user-friendly experience.

Moreover, Tata Group is exploring various avenues to fund the super app venture's future needs. One strategy under consideration is tapping into global sovereign and financial investors to secure the required financial backing, as per the people quoted in the report.

This approach aligns with the playbook followed by one of its major competitors, Reliance Retail Ventures. Notably, Reliance Retail



Ventures has consistently secured funding from external sources, with recent investments from entities like Qatar Investment Authority and KKR & Co. valuing the venture at \$100 billion.

It is important to note that deliberations on these financial strategies are currently underway, and specific details of Tata Group's additional capital injection

into the super app venture may undergo modifications.

The conglomerate has maintained a tight-lipped stance on these developments, with no official comments available at this time.

Tata Neu, India's inaugural super app since at least mid-2020, drew inspiration from China's widely used Alipay and WeChat platforms. Despite its promising

start, the app encountered technical hiccups and received customer complaints shortly after its launch last year. Tata Neu offers a diverse range of features, allowing users to purchase groceries and gadgets, reserve airline tickets, book restaurant reservations, and access a plethora of services from brands under the Tata umbrella. Furthermore, the app extends membership services and provides access to financial products such as bill payments, loans, and insurance.

In its pursuit of establishing a robust e-commerce portfolio, Tata Group acquired companies like e-grocer Bigbasket and e-pharmacy 1mg, collectively investing over \$2 billion in the last three years.

Honda, GM plan driverless taxis in Tokyo in 2026



TOKYO, Oct 19 (Agencies): Japan's Honda and US auto titan General Motors announced on Thursday that they planned to launch a driverless taxi service in Tokyo in 2026, helping tackle labour shortages in an ageing society.

Co-developed by San Francisco-based self-driving car operator Cruise, the project will offer "an entirely new kind of mobility experience" in Japan, Honda said in a statement.

"This will be a major step toward the realization of an advanced mobility society," its chief executive Toshihiro Mibe said.

The project is also aimed at "helping address societal issues facing Japan, such as the taxi and bus driver

shortage", Honda added.

Autonomous vehicles are being pushed by Japan's government as the country battles a rapidly ageing population and persistent labour shortages.

In 2020, Japan became the first country in the world to allow a vehicle capable of taking full control in certain situations to operate on public roads.

Auto giants from Toyota to Nissan are also trialling self-driving buses and taxis.

Honda's newly announced service will feature a "vast cabin space" capable of accommodating six passengers, stripped of a driver's seat and a steering wheel. It will "pick up custom-

ers at a specified location and drive them to the destination, entirely through self-driving", with customers able to complete the whole process on a smartphone app, according to Honda.

"Dozens" of the driverless cars are expected to be launched in Tokyo in early 2026, with the developers then hoping to expand the project to a fleet of 500, and to areas outside central Tokyo.

"The benefits of AVs (autonomous vehicles) -- from safety to accessibility -- are too profound to ignore," Mary Barra, chair and CEO of GM, said.

But self-driving cars are no stranger to controversy, with safety under scrutiny as operators including Cruise increasingly gain traction in California.

Honda, GM and Cruise aim to establish a joint venture dedicated to their new initiative in 2024, pending regulatory approvals.

New AI tool to listen to your voice & detect diabetes with 89% accuracy

NEW YORK, Oct 19 (Agencies): Determining whether a person is diabetic could be as easy as having them speak a few sentences into their smartphone, according to a groundbreaking study that combines voice technology with artificial intelligence in a major step forward in diabetes detection.

Scientists from Klick Labs in the US used six to 10 seconds of people's voice, along with basic health data, including age, sex, height, and weight, to create an AI model that can distinguish whether that individual has Type 2 diabetes.

The model, detailed in the journal Mayo Clinic Proceedings: Digital Health, has 89 per cent accuracy for women and 86 per cent for men.



For the study, researchers asked 267 people (diagnosed as either non- or Type 2 diabetic) to record a phrase into their smartphone six times daily for two weeks. From more than 18,000 recordings, scientists analysed 14 acoustic features for differences between non-diabetic and Type 2 diabetic individuals.

"Our research highlights significant vocal

variations between individuals with and without Type 2 diabetes and could transform how the medical community screens for diabetes," said Jaycee Kaufman, first author of the paper and research scientist at Klick Labs.

"Current methods of detection can require a lot of time, travel, and cost. Voice technology has the potential to remove these barriers

entirely."

The team looked at a number of vocal features, like changes in pitch and intensity that can't be perceived by the human ear.

Using signalprocessing, scientists were able to detect changes in the voice caused by Type 2 diabetes. Surprisingly, those vocal changes manifested in different ways for males and females, Kaufman said.

Almost one in two, or 240 million adults living with diabetes worldwide are unaware they have the condition and nearly 90 per cent of diabetic cases are Type 2 diabetes, according to the International Diabetes Federation.

The most frequently used diagnostic tests for prediabetes and Type 2 diabetes include

the glycated haemoglobin (A1C), along with the fasting blood glucose (FBG) test and the OGTT.

Yan Fossat, vice president of Klick Labs and principal investigator of this study, said the new non-invasive and accessible approach offers the potential to screen vast numbers of people and help identify the large percentage of undiagnosed people with Type 2 diabetes.

"Our research underscores the tremendous potential of voice technology in identifying Type 2 diabetes and other health conditions," Fossat said.

"Voice technology could revolutionise healthcare practices as an accessible and affordable digital screening tool."

ICMR completes clinical trials of world's first injectable male contraceptive; study claims it's safe

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has completed the clinical trials of the world's first injectable male contraceptive which showed that it is safe and highly efficacious without any serious side effects.

The findings of the phase-III clinical trial, which involved 303 candidates aged 25-40 years, were published in the international open access Andrology journal last month.

The open-labelled and non-randomized, multi-centre hospital-based phase-III clinical trials were carried out at five different centres (New Delhi, Udhampur, Ludhiana, Jaipur and Kharagpur) and coordinated by the ICMR, New Delhi.

Permission to conduct phase-III clinical trial was granted by the Drugs Controller General India (DCGI) and approved by the institutional ethical committees of the respective centres.

As part of the study, 303 healthy, sexually active and married men and their healthy and sexually active wives who came to the family planning clinic and department of urology or



surgery for vasectomy or No Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) were identified.

The men were injected with 60 mg of Reversible Inhibition of Sperm under Guidance (RISUG).

"The overall efficacy of RISUG with respect to achieving azoospermia was 97.3 per cent and based on pregnancy prevention was 99.02 per cent without any serious side effect," the study stated.

"In the history of contraceptive development, RISUG presents the highest effectiveness compared to all other contraceptives both male and female as they were at the threshold of induction into a mass contraception program," it said.

According to the study, with an ever-increasing world population, there is an urgent need to develop modern methods of male contraception for population control.

Even though vasectomy is quite effective as a contraceptive measure, some major limitations of this method call for the development of improved techniques. An ideal male contraceptive approach should have minimally invasive drug delivery system with a one-time injection, long-term effectiveness with negligible side-effects and the option of reversal.

"To achieve these goals, a novel male contraceptive approach of Reversible Inhibition of Sperm under Guidance (RISUG) has been developed, which has the potential to become for mass use as once injectable and reversible male contraceptive method. Significant features of this method include localized injection and no detectable interaction with other body parts unlike the hormonal injectable contraceptives," the study said.

Dengue tally rises to 235 in Gurugram

GURUGRAM, Oct 19 (Agencies): Despite the Health Department taking preventive measures against dengue, the number of patients suffering from the infection in Gurugram has constantly been rising.

As per details, at least 235 patients had been diagnosed with this mosquito-borne disease.

It has caused great concern among the health officials, who claimed to have swiftly taken action to implement preventive measures over the past few

months. These measures include carrying out extensive fumigation drives and conducting awareness campaigns to educate the public about the disease and its prevention. It is pertinent to mention here that the ongoing strike of the sanitation workers of the Municipal Corporation has led to poor civic amenities in the city with heaps of garbage lying on the roadsides and vacant plots. This has added to woes of the health authorities. The incessant rain, this



week, also worried the health officials.

The potential dengue hotspots mapped by the Health Department

include Wazirabad, Palam Vihar, Basai, Kanhai, Udyog Vihar, Dharam Colony, Jal Vihar Colony, Jharsa,

Khandsa, DLF-1, DLF-4 and Sectors 10A, 12, 12A, 21A, 14, 39, 45, 46, 47 and 52, a health official said, adding that the department is keeping a close watch on these vulnerable areas.

Potential hotspots The potential dengue hotspots mapped by the Health Department include Wazirabad, Palam Vihar, Basai, Kanhai, Udyog Vihar, Dharam Colony, Jal Vihar Colony, Jharsa, Khandsa, DLF-1, DLF-4 and Sectors 10A, 12, 12A, 21A, 14, 39, 45, 46, 47 and 52.

Cricket World Cup 2023: Rohit Sharma On Verge Of Achieving Historic First In ODI Cricket

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Rohit Sharma is on the verge of adding a massive record to his already illustrious career as the Indian cricket team skipper can become the first batter from his country to hit 50 sixes in a calendar year. Right now, Rohit has 47 sixes and if he can hit 3 more sixes in the course of the Cricket World Cup 2023, he will be able to achieve the historic first. Overall, West Indies legend Chris Gayle and former South Africa star AB De Villiers are the only cricketers to achieve this feat. De Villiers tops the list with 58 sixes back in 2015 - a record that Rohit can potentially break considering the number of games left.



captain to lead India to their third ODI World Cup title, the second on home soil after the 2011 triumph.

under their belt, India have made a perfect start to their World Cup campaign. India defeated Australia by six wickets in their tournament opener,

before registering emphatic eight and seven-wicket wins over Afghanistan and Pakistan to sit on top of the points table.

"He's very laid back, Rohit. Very laid back with everything he does. You can even see that by the way that he plays. He's a pretty laconic sort of batsman as well, and that's the way he is both on and off the field," Ponting told the ICC website.

Rohit took the captaincy reins from Virat Kohli in both the white-ball formats in December 2021.

"But I think Rohit will be fine with it. He's a terrific bloke and has been a great player for a long time, and he's done a great job as leader of India." The Men In Blue last won the World Cup when the tournament was jointly hosted by India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in 2011.

World Cup 2023: Good reasons why England have won two tournaments recently, McCullum backs Jos Buttler side

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): The 2023 Cricket World Cup has been a rollercoaster ride for the England team, with their campaign marked by unexpected losses and challenging moments. However, Brendon McCullum, England's red-ball coach, remains optimistic about the team's prospects in the tournament. Despite the setbacks, he believes that the defending champions can still turn things around and breathe life back into their World Cup journey.

a significant blow to England, who entered the tournament as the reigning champions and one of the favourites to lift the trophy. However, the team's woes didn't end there. In a surprising turn of events, England suffered a 69-run defeat at the hands of Afghanistan. The Afghan team, which had previously only won one ODI World Cup match, outperformed the English side, leaving fans and critics alike stunned. This defeat marked England's second loss of the tournament, pushing them down to fifth place in the standings with just one win from three games.

dence in the team's ability to bounce back. "They will get there. It is still early days and this tournament is a slow burn, so there is plenty of time and matches for them to catch up," he said. He further added that upsets are part and parcel of any World Cup, and they add to the excitement and unpredictability of the tournament.



these successes to the quality of the players and their approach to the game.

shaken by the odd bad day at the office."

England's World Cup campaign got off to a rocky start with a nine-wicket defeat against New Zealand. The Kiwis, known for their formidable cricketing prowess, outplayed England in their opening match of the tournament. This loss was

Despite these setbacks, McCullum remains steadfast in his belief in the team. In an interview with the Mirror, he expressed his confi-

McCullum also emphasised the importance of staying true to the team's style of play, which has brought them considerable success in the past. He urged the team not to be shaken by the occasional bad day at the office and to continue playing the game in the manner that has made them a world-class side. He reminded everyone of England's recent victories in two World Cups, attributing

"One thing is for sure, there are good reasons why England have won two World Cups recently. It is the quality of the players and the manner with which they play the game that makes them a world class side.

"They just need to stay true to their method and their style which has brought them so much success and not get

As England prepares to take on South Africa in Mumbai on Saturday, McCullum's words serve as a reminder of the team's potential and the importance of resilience in the face of adversity. The road ahead may be challenging, but with determination, skill, and a bit of luck, England can still make a strong comeback in the 2023 Cricket World Cup.

Won't tinker with winning combination: Paras Mhambrey

PUNE, Oct 19 (Agencies): India bowling coach Paras Mhambrey today made it clear that the team will stick to its winning combination against Bangladesh even if it means that Suryakumar Yadav and Mohammed Shami would have to wait to play in this edition of the ODI World Cup.

istan till now, the Indian team management does not think it is right to unsettle the winning combination. "It is important to maintain the start. As of now, there is no discussion of rotation from our point of view. We want to carry this momentum to the next game as well," Mhambrey said ahead of India's training session today.

fill now and left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav's selection means Ravichandran Ashwin has been sidelined. "Honestly, it is never easy to see. But right now the conversations are on, we had a clear chat with him (Shami).

Whenever we select a squad the message from us is clear that we pick a team we feel is the best for that wicket," Mhambrey said.

"Sometimes you will miss out, someone like him is missing out, someone like Ashwin will miss out and I think that is the communication we had with him (and) we were very clear. It is a difficult decision, honestly we know with the quality that he brings to the team. It is difficult but we have to take the decision, we (can) only have eleven on the field," the India bowling coach added.

Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah have edged out Shami

Earning their stripes against Bangla Tigers



for the scans till tomorrow morning. "Over the years, I've played a lot against him (Shakib). He's got amazing control. He's a very experienced bowler. He bowls very well with the new ball, knows how to deceive the batsman, and is also very economical," Kohli said of Bangladesh's maverick all-rounder.

PUNE, Oct 19 (Agencies): Is there a surprise in store for the fans today as well? The last three days of the ODI World Cup have seen two major upsets — first Afghanistan beat defending champions England, and then Netherlands stunned high-flying South Africa.

ing the trend of shock wins in this World Cup. "There are no big teams in the World Cup. Whenever you start focussing only on bigger teams, an upset happens," he said. "You have to play your best against all these bowlers, and if you aren't able to, these bowlers are able to create pressure and increase the chances of getting you out," he added.

Is it the turn of Bangladesh next? It depends on which Bangladesh side turns up against a rampaging India at the MCA International Stadium here today. Will it be the side that beat India thrice in their last four ODI meetings, the most recent coming in the Asia Cup last month, or the team that has struggled in the World Cup so far with just one win and two losses?

While India may look content with going with the flow, Bangladesh still have many creases to iron out. Their pace battery of Taskin Ahmed and Mustafizur Rahman is just not clicking. Bangladesh's batsmen are performing below-par and their talisman Shakib Al Hasan is yet to recover from a thigh injury. Shakib did not train on the match eve and will have to wait

Virat Kohli took a guarded approach while replying to the official broadcaster regard-

Any side with so many problems may not nurture any hope of a turnaround but Bangladesh are not a regular side. They are the underdogs with a bite. You never know which Bangladesh side may turn up on a given day.

In the World Cups, India have a 3-1 upper hand but Bangladesh have pushed India in the quadrennial event repeatedly. In the 2007 World Cup, Bangladesh knocked India out of the tournament with a five-wicket win in the group stage. In 2011, 2015 and 2019, India survived early scares against Bangladesh.

Pune has already witnessed one of the biggest upsets in the World Cup history when Kenya, a non-Test-playing team, shocked a star-studded West Indies by 73 runs in 1996.

New Zealand hand Afghanistan reality check

CHENNAI, Oct 19 (Agencies): New Zealand brought Afghanistan back down to earth with a 149-run victory to stretch their winning streak in the ODI World Cup.



Three days after stunning defending champions England, the plucky Afghans briefly kindled hopes of another upset when New Zealand's top-order suffered a mini-collapse.

The 2019 runners-up, however, went on to post 288/6 after skipper Tom Latham (68) and Glenn Phillips (71) smashed rapid half-centuries.

They benefited tremendously from sloppy fielding by Afghanistan, who floored four catches and blew a stumping opportunity as well to let New Zealand off the hook.

New Zealand were not as forgiving though when they returned to defend their total and bundled out Afghanistan for 139 inside 35 overs to coast to their fourth successive win in the tournament. "Another great performance," Latham, leading the side in absence of injured Kane Williamson, said after

his team soared to the top of the points table. "We were put under pressure some times. The bowlers managed to take wickets when it was needed." Spin is Afghanistan's strong suit and off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman set to work after they won the toss and elected to field.

India vs Bangladesh: Fans gather in huge numbers as World Cup returns to Pune after 27 years

World Cup 2023: India and Bangladesh are set to lock horns in the match on Thursday at the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) Stadium in Pune.

PUNE, Oct 19 (Agencies): The World Cup has returned to Pune, Maharashtra after a long gap of 27 years. Because of this, there is excitement among the cricket fans of Maharashtra and Pune. Cricket lovers from all over the country have come to watch the India vs Bangladesh cricket match in Pune at the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) Stadium.



Also, many fans have come to support Bangladesh. Every cricket match is being watched with the hope that their team will win and India are being deemed as the favourite. But some Bangladeshi cricket premiers have expressed their displeasure over not getting tickets. Pune hopes that his team will

win. At present there is a strong police arrangement for this match.

Pune hosted 2 World Cup matches, in 1987 and 1996. England beat Kenya by eight wickets in 1987 after Graham Gooch scored 61 runs off 79 balls to win the Player of the Match award.

knock, England chased down a target of 219 with 52 balls left in their innings.

In 1996, the World Cup was a witness to a huge upset after Kenya defeated two-time champion West Indies. After being asked to chase down a target of 167, the Caribbean team, led by Richie

Richardson, was bowled out for 93 in 35.2 overs. Maurice Odumbe became the Player of the Match after he picked up three crucial wickets of Shivnarine Chandernepaul, Jimmy Adams and Roger Harper.

Rajab Ali took three scalps and lent Odumbe the support that he needed.

Cricket World Cup - "You May Become Pakistan's Leading Run-getter But...": Gautam Gambhir's Tough Talk On Babar Azam

NEW DELHI, Oct 19 (Agencies): Babar Azam, Pakistan cricket team captain at the ODI Cricket World Cup 2023, is under a lot of focus. One loss to India for any Pakistan team can do that. Though he scored a half-century in the match against India, Babar Azam could not lead his team to a good total against India. Pakistan were all out for just 191 against India, with Babar Azam top-scoring with a 58-ball 50. However, India surpassed the paltry total in just 30.3 overs with Rohit Sharma scoring a top-notch 86.



Former Indian cricket team player Gautam Gambhir, member of 2007 T20 Cricket World Cup and 2011 ODI Cricket World Cup-winning teams, wants Babar Azam to make wholesome change to his approach to cricket.

"I feel Babar will have to change his personality, his game and,

importantly, his mindset. Pakistan have had a history of attacking batters - Shahid Afridi, Imran Nazir, Saeed Anwar, Aamer Sohail. In the present top three, everyone bats in similar mode. If someone has to take responsibility, it has to be their captain, who bats at No. 3," Gautam Gambhir told Sportskeeda.

"There is no point looking at stats. You may become Pakistan's leading run-getter, but legacy is created by winning tournaments, not individual records. Wasim Akram took

three wickets in the 1992 World Cup final. He did not pick up a five-fer, but everybody talks about it because they won the World Cup. Nobody talks about Mahela Jayawardene's hundred in the 2011 final. Everyone remembers that India won the match."

Gautam Gambhir went to explain his point in detail and even brought up Rohit Sharma's example.

"The team plays how the captain plays. Both Babar Azam and Rohit Sharma scored fifties. One scored a 50, other

scored an 80. None of them scored a hundred, but it was the approach that was the difference. If Pakistan were chasing 190, their mindset would have been just to win the game, whether they get there in 35 or 40 overs," he said.

"It is important for the captain to take responsibility. If the captain is defensive, the team will be defensive. You can't tell the 10 other players in the room that, 'you play positive, I will play [anchor] from one end.'"

Against India, from 155 for the loss of two wickets, Pakistan were all out for 191 and former Pakistan pacer Shoab Akhtar rued the loss of opportunity to post a competitive total on a wicket that was batter-friendly.

"What a waste of opportunity on a great batting wicket. Disappointed. Very disappointed," he posted on X (formerly known as Twitter).

Confederation of All POJK Refugee Organizations unite to commemorate Martyrs of 1947, 1965, 1971

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: In a historic collaboration, various organizations dedicated to advocating for the rights and justice of the Displaced Persons (DPs) of 1947, 1965, and 1971 have come together to form the "Confederation of All POJK Refugee Organizations of DPs 1947, '65, '71." This united front is aimed at collectively addressing the long-standing issues and demands of the affected communities.

The significance of this collaboration lies in its commitment to remembering the tragic events of history and seeking justice for those who suffered during the tumultuous times of 1947, 1965, and 1971. As part of this endeavor, the Confederation will observe October 22nd as a solemn "Black Day."

On October 22, 1947, Pakistan launched an attack on the state of Jammu and Kashmir



under the pretext of a tribal raid, leading to the genocide of Hindu and Sikh populations in the now Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) region. To honor the memory of the martyrs who lost their lives during this tragic episode, the Confederation annually organizes a "Shardhanjali Samaroh." This year, on October 22, 2023, the Confederation will host a significant gathering of Displaced Persons to

commemorate the sacrifices of those who perished in 1947 in POJK. Over 70,000 men, women, and children lost their lives during the genocide of Hindus and Sikhs in the regions of Muzaffarabad, Poonch, Mirpur, Bhimber, Kotli, Kashmir Valley, Budhal (Rajouri), and other areas, which are now under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. The day will also be observed as a "Black Day" to remember the dark events of

history.

It is essential to note that the issues and demands of Displaced Persons have long been pending, despite being recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in Report 183 dated December 22, 2014.

The Confederation invites all Displaced Persons to join the commemoration event at Reen Palace, Chatha Road, on Sunday,

October 22, 2023, at 10:00 AM, to display the strength and unity of DPs from 1947, '65, and '71.

For 76 years, the Displaced Persons have been waiting for justice. The patience of the 1.6 million affected individuals is waning, and they earnestly urge the government to address their long-pending demands without further delay.

The leaders and organizations that are part of the Confederation include Jagjit Singh Soodan from MJR 47, Rajiv Chuni from SOS International, Adv. Amrik Singh from All 1947 POJK Sharnarhi Intellectual Forum, Capt. Yudhvir Singh from DP Front of 1965 and 1971, Vinod Sharma from POJK DP Front, Sharmathi Action Committee, Harpreet Singh from Joint POJK Youth Refugee Forum, and other intellectual figures and dedicated youth volunteers from the refugee community.

DLL organises a career counselling programme at KV Sunjuwan



TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Employment Information Cum Advisory Bureau (EIAB), Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL), in collaboration with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sunjuwan today organised a career counselling programme for the students of class 12th in its premises.

The programme was held under the guidance of Dr. Jeevan Jyoti, Director, DLL. Dr. Harleen Kour, Sr. Assistant

Professor, Department of Commerce, JU was the resource person. Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, EIAB, DLL organised the programme.

Dr. Harleen Kour informed the students about the career prospects and further study options after completing schooling in the science and commerce streams. Dr. Rewa Khajuria apprised the students about importance of career counselling. She also explained the usefulness of psychometric

tests. The programme provided knowledge about the career prospects in these streams. About 44 students at the school while giving feedback, appreciated the programme. They were very interested in knowing the options available for them as board exams are approaching and they are in dire need of such programmes.

The teachers of the school namely Mrs. Manju Sharma and Mrs. Sonika were also present in the programme.

BJYM extends warm welcome to newly appointed SHO Baderwah, Amit Katoch

TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADERWAH, Oct 19: In a gesture of camaraderie and community support, the Bhartiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) team in Baderwah warmly welcomed the newly appointed Station House Officer (SHO), Shri Amrit Katoch, in a meeting held earlier today.

The meeting, marked by enthusiasm and positivity, took place at the local BJYM office. BJYM General Secretary, Sandeep Manhas, along with Vice President Abhimanyu Kotwal, Office Secretary Sandeep Kotwal, and Mandal President Chinta Bhalra Nerbeak Manhas, led the delegation in extending a heartfelt welcome to SHO Amrit Katoch.

During the meeting, BJYM members expressed their unwavering support for the local police department



and commended SHO Amrit Katoch for his honesty and courage in serving the community. The BJYM team members, including General Secretary Mukesh, Secretary Kuldeep, and Rajnish, as well as Booth President Sungli, Bhanu Partap, and Akash Rathore, among others, reiterated their commitment to working hand in hand with law enforcement to ensure the safety and well-being of the community.

Ameresh Kotwal, BJYM IT and Social Media Incharge for District Doda, shared, "We are delighted to welcome SHO Amrit Katoch to Baderwah. His dedication and fearlessness are truly commendable, and we stand shoulder to shoulder with him and the entire police force. Together, we will continue to work towards a safer and stronger Baderwah."

The warm reception highlighted the unity and

cooperation between the local youth and law enforcement agencies, emphasizing the importance of community-police partnerships in fostering a secure environment for residents.

As Baderwah embraces this collaborative spirit, the BJYM remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the endeavors of the police department and contributing positively to the welfare of the community.

Shah's assertion on library carry significance: Prof. Mohtra

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 19: Union Home Minister Amit Shah's assertion that libraries should be built to connect with history, Nanaji Deshmukh library and E-library Incharge and BJP senior leader Prof. Kulbushan Mohtra, said that the views of the former National President speak about the importance of libraries.

Prof. Kulbushan Mohtra said that in the present age of fast life with young generation more busy with social media need to be encouraged to get themselves acquainted with the history and the most authentic material for reading is available in libraries only.

The Union Home Minister is totally right when he says that libraries should be built to connect the youngsters with



the history, language and culture of the country, said Prof. Mohtra, adding that the libraries have been serving many purposes under one roof for long times.

Prof. Kulbushan Mohtra said that the BJP understands the need and importance of setting up of librar-

ies and Amit Shah's assertions strengthen the party's belief about a library.

He said that like other states, Jammu and Kashmir BJP too has set up a library dedicated to one of the most popular ideologue Nanaji Deshmukh.

He said that this library

situated in the premises of BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, has a large collection of books on varied subjects. Besides party leaders and activists, many students, scholars, books reading lovers visit the library daily and read books of their need. There are many such students who are preparing for competitive exams and spent time in this library for reading.

Prof. Kulbushan Mohtra expressed hope that more and more people will get benefited from the library.

He also recalled the old days of the times when J&K BJP set up library and also shared the photograph of the moments of the auspicious occasion of the inauguration of Nanaji Deshmukh library & E-library by Amit Shah, the then National President of the Party.

Empowering youth in Sheep Husbandry: Sanction letters distributed, training program held at SDO Office Handwara

TOP NEWS REPORT

HANDWARA, Oct 19: The Department of Sheep Husbandry, Handwara, organized a significant event on October 19th, with a primary focus on empowering the region's youth in the field of sheep husbandry. This comprehensive initiative encompassed the distribution of sanction letters to selected beneficiaries and a Capacity Building Training Program designed to promote effective wool and pelt processing and marketing under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP).

The event, graced by several prominent figures, witnessed the participation of distin-



guished officers, including DSHO Kupwara, Dr. Sheikh Ishrat; Assistant Director of Sheep Breeding Farm Poshnar, Dr. Kaiser; SDO Handwara, Dr. Bilal Maqbool Bandy; Assistant Livestock Officer Handwara, Ali Mohd Kumar; Dr. Bilal Ah Pir VAS Kralgund; Dr. Tanveer Ah Sofi VAS Handwara; Dr. Javid Sofi VAS Ramhall, along with numerous breeders from the Handwara Sub-District.

The event's primary objective was to strengthen the sheep farming sector and enhance the processing and marketing of wool and pelt within the Kupwara District.

A notable highlight of the event was the distribution of sanction letters to beneficiaries, enabling them to establish sheep units. These beneficiaries had been selected under various government schemes, marking

a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to support sustainable livestock farming and increase the income of livestock keepers.

Dr. Sheikh Ishrat, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Kupwara, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, commended the relentless efforts of the Department of Sheep Husbandry. He emphasized that the distribution of these sanction letters symbolizes the government's unwavering commitment to providing crucial financial support and resources for the establishment and expansion of sheep units.

Dr. Kaiser, Assistant Director of Sheep Breeding Farm Posh-

nar, underscored the importance of these sanctioned sheep units as a testament to the dedication aimed at improving the livelihoods of livestock farmers and advancing the sheep farming industry in the region. The training program was effectively conducted by Javid Ah Rather and Ali Mohd Kumar. They shared best practices and techniques with the participants, equipping them with the knowledge to add value to their wool and pelt products and maximize their profitability.

The program was initiated by Javid Ah and concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Bilal Maqbool Bandy, SDO Handwara.

SMVDU Alumni played a key role in Chandrayaan-3, LVM 3 Rocket

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATRA, Oct 19: Jeetendra Kumar, Alumni of Mechanical Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Jammu and Kashmir; has made an important contribution to India's Chandrayaan 3 mission to the Moon and the LVM 3 rocket that carried it. He is serving as Scientist in ISRO and working in Cryogenic Engine of LVM 3 Launch Vehicle. He was the integral member of the prestigious Chandrayaan-3 Space Mission, showcasing the institution's commitment to producing exceptional engineering talent.

The Chandrayaan-3 Space Mission, a testament to India's technological progress, serves as a reminder of the valuable contributions made by institutions such as SMVD University in shaping the nation's human resource capital.

As the aerospace sector continues to evolve, SMVDU's legacy of producing skilled professionals remains an essential cornerstone. Commendable efforts exemplify the quality of education and skills imparted by SMVD University,



positioning its alumni as pioneers in cutting-edge fields.

Faculty and staff members of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Prof. E. Muthuswamy, Head Department of Mechanical Engineering and Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVD University, expressed immense pride in the achievements of the alumni.