

TOP NEWS OF J&K

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Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Soldier injured in sniper fire from Pakistan side along LoC

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 (Agencies): A soldier was injured in sniper fire from the Pakistan side along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said on Saturday.

The incident took place in Keran sector late Friday night.

"Pakistan Army fired a sniper shot at an Indian army post in the Keran sector on Friday evening. Soldier Saurav Kumar was wounded in this incident. He was airlifted to the army's 92-base hospital in Srinagar for specialised treatment.

"Doctors described the soldier's condition as out of danger and stable," the officials added.

Govt has made better winter preparations this year: Div Com Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 (Agencies): Divisional Commissioner Kashmir V K Bidhuri Saturday said that government has made better winter preparations this year as compare to previous year. He said directions have been passed to districts and concerned officers that negligent behavior won't be tolerated in this regard.

"We have got instructions to ensure better winter preparations this year," Divisional Commissioner Kashmir VK Bidhuri as per KNS said while speaking to reporters here.

He said for upcoming winters men and machinery have been equipped to ensure timely snow clearance so that common people do not encounter inconvenience. He also said that control rooms established for providing better facilities this winter will also be activated timely.

To a query, he said all districts have been strictly directed to address power crisis within a short period of time. "In urban areas directions have been passed to replace damaged electric transformer within 12 hours while as in rural areas the issue will be resolved within 24 hours," he

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'Police Commemoration Day': LG pays tributes to martyred personnel



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 On 'Police

Commemoration Day', the Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha paid tributes to the martyred per-

sonnel of the Police and CAPFs at Martyrs' Memorial, Armed Police Complex, Zewan today.

"I salute the bravehearts of Jammu Kashmir Police. The nation will forever be indebted to the bravery, courage and supreme sacrifice of our police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty," the Lt Governor said.

The arms were reversed and a two-minute silence was observed to honour the Martyrs.

Sh Aftab Malik, Chairman, District Development Council, Srinagar; Sh Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Sh R K Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Sh Dilbag Singh, DGP and senior officers of Civil and Police Administration also paid tributes to the martyred Policemen.

Fight against terrorism reaching to its logical conclusion in J&K: DGP Dilbag Singh



SRINAGAR, Oct 21 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Saturday said that police have taken the fight against terrorism almost to its logical conclusion while

efforts are on to make peace a permanent feature in the UT.

Addressing the police commemoration day at Zewan in Srinagar, DGP Singh, said that J&K has been hit by the menace of terrorism since the

past over three decades. "The fight against wiping out the terrorism from J&K soil is reaching its logical conclusion. Efforts are on to make the prevailing peace in J&K as a permanent feature," DGP said.

He said that even though efforts to disrupt peace from across continue, police are working hard to foil all such bids. He said this year eight policemen including officers were killed in anti-militancy operations. "Some officers from the army and other forces also lost their lives," he

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5-year term of elected representative of JMC to end on October 30, SMC on November 5



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 : The five-year term of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) is coming to an end on October 30, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) on November 5, while the terms of other urban local bodies (ULBs) in Kashmir would end between October 28 to December 26.

Official data available reveals that the five-year tenure of Jammu Municipal Corporation would end on October 30, 2023 and Srinagar Municipal Corporation

(SMC) on November 5, while the terms of other urban local bodies in Kashmir would end between October 28 to December 26.

The end of the tenure of urban local bodies means that the term of all corporators/councillors, including those elected in bye-elections, is also over. The mayors, presidents, vice-presidents, corporators/ councillors of urban local bodies would no longer be entitled to perks, privileges and honorarium.

According to documents, the tenure of municipal committee

Kupwara would culminate on November 02 while the terms of Langate and Handwara municipalities would end on November 18.

In North Kashmir's Baramulla district, the term of elected representatives in Baramulla municipal council ends on November 09, while the five-year term of Sopore municipality culminates on November 04.

The term of four other ULBs-Kunzer, Pattan, Uri and Watergam- also ends on November 04.

As per documents, the term of president, vice -president and councillors of municipal committee Bandipora ends on November 02. The tenure of representatives of Hajin and Sumbal municipalities ends on November 18, 2023.

In Budgam districts,

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Feels good to donate blood that can save someone's life: Special DG CID RR Swain

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 (Agencies): On the occasion of Police Commemoration Day at Zewan in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Director General (CID), RR Swain delivered a poignant message, underlining the irreplaceable value of blood as a natural gift beyond human creation



"Blood is a nature's gift and cannot be manufactured by humans themselves. When we share joy and sorrow with each other, which is

an emotional intangible thing, so why cannot we share this tangible thing like Blood with others. It feels good to donate blood that can save someone's life," said RR Swain.

The event witnessed the organized effort of the J&K police with 200 policemen actively participating in a blood

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Vinod Kumar is new SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh SSP Udhampur



JAMMU, Oct 21 (Agencies): Government of Jammu and Kashmir has effected a minor reshuffle in the Police Department.



An order in this regard has formally relieved Chandan Kohli as SSP Jammu for Senior Executive Cadre of Cabinet Secretariat, and

replaced him by Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur Vinod Kumar.

"In pursuance of the approval of Competent Authority to the appointment of Shri Chandan Kohli, IPS (AGMUT: 2013) as Deputy Secretary in the Senior Executive Cadre of the Cabinet Secretariat, on deputation basis, for a period of 04 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is

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Police crack Patiala murder case; accused was in relation with victim's wife

PATIALA, Oct 21 (Agencies): The Patiala police have cracked the murder of an elderly man who was stabbed to death on Thursday.

The police have arrested 25-year-old Gurtej Singh, who was in a relationship with the victim's wife.

SSP Varun Sharma said they had arrested Gurtej of Shadipur village and Arshdeep Singh and Ajay for killing Balbir Singh.

The trio, along with

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Kashmir BJP brings back two expelled leaders

SRINAGAR, Oct 21 (Agencies): Following the resolution of internal disagreements within the Kashmir unit and the reception of 'apology letters' from dissatisfied leaders, the BJP has reinstated two leaders in the Valley who were relieved of their roles in Kashmir in August this year due to "pressure from dissenting party leaders."

J&K's BJP president, Ravindra Raina, as per a report in The New Indian Express has recently appointed Veer Saraf as the BJP vistararak (party promoter) for the Anantnag-Rajouri parliamentary constituency and Mudasar Wani



as the BJP vistararak for the Srinagar seat.

Saraf, Mudasar, and another Jammu-based leader, Abhijeet Jasrotia, were removed from their positions in Kashmir in August this year and were directed to report to the BJP headquarters in Jammu. This decision came after approximately 100 party leaders from the Valley expressed

their objections to "interference from Jammu-based leaders."

These dissatisfied leaders, some of whom were original party members in Kashmir, claimed that they were being overlooked, and there were efforts to seize control of the Kashmir unit by the Jammu cadre. They demanded a role in the decision-making process. More than a month after dissenting voices emerged in the Valley, the party took action against the disgruntled leaders and party workers, issuing show cause notices to over a dozen party members, including

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EDITORIAL

IMPROVING
VILLAGE LIFE

Our India is a country of villages. There are more than six lakh villages in India and more than 70% of the total population of our country lives in villages. Someone has rightly said that villages have been created by God himself whereas cities and metros are the gift of humans.

In ancient times, people living in villages in India were proud of their agricultural work. In those days the villagers were happy with village life because they had not seen the glamor of the cities. The fertile land of the villages here produced gold in the form of grains. The villagers also worked hard and that is why the economic condition of the villages was strong.

The British never paid attention to the progress of the villages during their rule. They remained busy in establishing big cities, so that they could establish their complete authority there. The ravages of nature always continued to attack the lives of farmers. Sometimes they were hit by drought and sometimes by floods. Sometimes they were tortured by moneylenders, sometimes by landlords and sometimes by businessmen.

Due to the exploitation by the British, rural life has not flourished even after independence. The villagers live a very simple life. They live in kutcha houses made of mud. They live a simple life and eat simple food. Women also work in the fields.

Even today there is a lack of education in the villages and even today they have not been able to get rid of the evil practices like casteism, casteism, casteism, child marriage etc. The biggest reason for this is the lack of money and education in the villages. Due to lack of education, they give too much importance to small things and get into fights for this and then their hard-earned money ends up in the courts.

After the independence of the country, our government is trying to improve the condition of the villagers. Land is being given to landless farmers, so that they can earn their livelihood by doing farming on that land. The government is opening hospitals and schools in villages. 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' is being run.

Gram Panchayats are also a concrete step in this direction. Due to cooperative institutions, farmers are also getting the right prices for their produce. Farmers are being taught new modern methods of farming, so that they can earn money by producing food grains according to the increasing population.

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Confessions of an Amrika returned Bharatiya Naari

By: Shobhaa De

Two things happened during my fortnight-long absence from desi shores... the chilling Hamas attack on Saturday, October 7, and Mahua Moitra's cigar-chomping pics a few days later. Don't get me wrong. There is zero connection. The ongoing war being waged in Israel has polarised the world, while Ms Moitra's bribe-for-query predicament (with or without the cigar) has polarised India. In distant Palo Alto (Silicon Valley), where I was a speaker at SALA 2023, the horrific news about the incredibly well orchestrated Hamas assault was still to register (due to the time difference) as authors, artists, poets and the organisers bustled around a sun-dappled Atherton campus in Menlo Park for the fifth edition of the prestigious South Asian Literature and Arts Festival, the brainchild of two amazing women (Ambika Sahay and Kiran Malhotra), who were determined to introduce "Changing Narratives" to resident billionaire techies who are masters of the universe. They totally are! And yes, these are some of the most successful Indians on earth. Just in terms of brains and money power, there's more concentrated clout within this 50-mile radius of sylvan Californian bliss than one would find anywhere else on the planet. But for a dumbo, techie-challenged woman (me!), I was just elated to meet so many of my late brother Ashok Rajadhyaksha's IIT Kharagpur colleagues. After a point, it felt like I was at a huge IIT reunion, with instant connections being forged. I was blabbering away in Marathi to some of the big noises, flaunting our

unabashed parochial pride ("Mee Marathi..." type of chest-thumping). Uddhav T -- I missed you! Swear!!! I'd like to think us khadi kurta clad Maharashtrians outnumbered the dandily dressed Punjans.

The idea of such a fest is a huge thing in an environment that thrives inside a tech bubble which all but excludes the Arts. As Mayuranki Almaula, a dynamic SALA board member explained, the Valley is driven by folks whose mental reserves are primarily invested in the next big tech thing. The only "social" talk that one hears involves words like "start-ups" and "funding". People are either frenziedly pitching new ideas or consolidating old ones. Attention spans are shockingly short -- if the person you are feverishly networking with, looks away in the first twenty seconds, consider your pitch wasted. Move on.

The magnificent Stanford campus (a possible venue partner at SALA 2024) is shimmering under an unnaturally blue sky as I walk around like a star-struck fan. What must it be like to be a student here, I ask myself incredulously, after having walked away years ago from a luscious Reuters Fellowship in this hallowed institution. The answer was in front of me -- written in Chinese. Okay. Let me clarify. I only but only spotted earnest Chinese students cycling around the vast campus. "Nobody else can afford the fees..." someone commented. The Chinese presence in the Bay Area is so predominant, soon the street names may change to Xi Jinping Avenue. And Chef Chu's iconic Chinese restaurant downtown will open multiple branches to accommodate the demand.

I loved my time with the original Silicon Valley geniuses casually dressed in the Bay Area uniform of tees, shorts and flip-flops. Some chuckled that Elon Musk grabs coffee at his favourite hub, and nobody bothers him. Others talked about the laidback lifestyle that encourages these geniuses to chill out with other geniuses and not bother about the rest of the world. Palo Alto is so deceptive -- it resembles any prosperous suburb shown in popular television serials. I was dying to meet a few "Desperate Housewives" at a posh country club in Saratoga, which will be celebrating a dhoom dhaam Diwali this year. Take that, you Chinese chaps. Go organise your own Dragon Dance.

"Donald Trump is scared of us...", declared a very successful business lady, when I suggested Palo Alto techies were backing Trump the Chump. Scared? Of The Donald??? Of our desi brigade? Par kyon? Driving around in the latest Tesla, with Maclarens and Ferraris roaring past, I was intrigued by life in the fast lane. Our IITians definitely rule -- that's a great feeling. A triumph. They've made their mark (and millions) in America, but remain asli desis at heart -- they eat desi, think desi, live desi, dream desi. Bollywood remains the biggest connect to the world they've left behind. "Stardust!" they'd exclaim, each time I was introduced. Errrr... Ummmm... Stardust is over 50 years old... I'd interject quickly. "Did you really write Neeta's Natter?" they'd ask, eyes shining. Meeeeeow... I'd respond. The reference points are cute but dated. Like much else about their nostalgia. I was feeling like

Dev Anand -- forever looking ahead, while around me, the cravings for home were rooted in the past.

By the time I arrived in New York, I had taken a lot of Palo Alto back with me -- the Google campus can floor anybody. We were shown around by a bright, young, successful Niladari Saha, who works for YouTube and is on to something big (Ssssssh!). His is a story out of India that's inspiring and worth sharing. Starting off "poor" (his words) in West Bengal, today he leads a great time, lives the good life in San Fransisco, flies around the world, and retains a loveable modesty which keeps him grounded. Nope. He is here to stay. But all he wants is for his parents to enjoy a comfortable life in Kolkata, where he has bought them their first home and car. "They are my primary responsibility," he states sincerely, as he points to Charlie's Café and Sundar Pichai's corner office. The iconic Android and dinosaur on the premises are there as reminders of where the magic began in 1998. You can take a techie out of India but you can't take India out of him... it's all about loving your parivaar.

"Technology is the greatest equalizer", someone sighs. It sure as hell is, I respond, as we head to the Big Apple. New York is not the New York the world is familiar with. "Covid has changed everything", a garrulous bartender tells me, as the once trendy hangout empties by 9.30 pm. Hamas has declared Friday the 13th as "The Day of Rage", and nobody wants to leave home!

Brace yourselves, folks -- it's "Howdy Bharat" time....

Self development will open the way to success



By: Vijay Garg

Personal development focuses on developing your social, emotional and communication skills, while professional development focuses on the acquisition of knowledge and skills. For your own development, it is important that you constantly

assess your life's goals, objectives and values. During this time, you also develop the necessary skills and abilities to your full potential. Personal development can be done by yourself or with the help of someone. It will help you in your professional development and reaching your career goals. It happens. ■ Stay committed For career growth, it is important that you remain committed to the company you are working for and your work. It will go a long way in improving relationships in your workplace. It is also helpful in achieving your goals along with your personal and professional growth. When you are committed to some work, you are able to do that work better.

■ Win people's trust If you are a manager in a company, then it is important for you to have leadership skills. If you are very good, if you are able to provide leadership, it helps your colleagues reach their goals. Being a responsible and trustworthy manager means people can count on you. You will have confidence, positivity and consistency, which will make the entire team trust your decisions. ■ Take care of moral values Having a good work ethic is one of the most important personal skills that all employees look for. If you are morally positive, hard-working and honest, you will boost the morale of everyone you work with in an organization. Will increase. The result will be to promote fair-

ness and decency among all employees. ■ Always room for improvement Personal development focuses not only on improving your weaknesses but also on enhancing your strengths. There is always scope for improvement in it, because it does not remain static, but continuously works towards development. As your strengths increase, your career prospects improve. When you share your skills with people around you, your Working relationships also improve.

(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Malott)

District Udhampur wins Divisional level Inter District Table Tennis Tournament trophy

TOP NEWS REPORT

UDHAMPUR, Oct 21: District Udhampur captured the Championship trophy in Divisional level Inter District Table Tennis Tournament by defeating District Jammu in a contested and thrilled final match at Indoor Hall Subash Stadium Udhampur in under 19 years boys.

In the final match, Udhampur defeated Jammu by 03-01. Earlier in semifinal matches, Udhampur District defeated Poonch by 03-0 and Jammu District defeated Samba by 03-0.

The tournament was organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports under the guidance of Director Youth Ser-



vices and Sports J&K UT Subash Chander Chibber and also under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai and under the overall supervision of DYSSO Udhampur Ramesh Chander Mishra. Pushpiner Kour Zonal Physical Education Officer of DYSS Office

Udhampur was the chief guest on the concluding function in the presence of staff of DYSS Office and field staff. About 52 boys drawn from different 08 Districts of Jammu division participated in the tournament. All the matches were officiated by technical panel of field staff from DYSS Office Udhampur.

Later the Chief Guest distributed the medals and trophies to winner and runner-up teams.

Among those who were present on the occasion were Anita Goswami PEM, Som Dev Khajuria PEM, Ramesh Chander PEM, Sanjeev Kumar PEM, Rajan Head Asst., Jatin Sethi PET.

Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmadabad performs first bloodless heart transplant in Asia

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 21: Marengo CIMS Hospital, part of the Marengo Asia Hospitals Group, has marked a significant advancement in heart transplants by performing the first bloodless heart transplant in Asia.

This surgical procedure pioneers a protocol of goal-directed bleeding management leading to transfusion-free heart transplants.

Dr Dhiren Shah, Director, Heart Transplant Programme, Dr Dhaval Naik, Heart Transplant Surgeon, Dr Niren Bhavsar, Cardiothoracic Anesthetist, and Dr Chintan Seth, Heart Transplant Anesthetist and Intensivist at Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmadabad led the team to accomplish the outcomes successfully.

The surgery was performed on a 52-year-old Indian patient, Chandraprakash Garg, suffering from Ischemic Dilated Cardiomyopathy and end-stage heart failure.

The donor was a 33-year-old who lost his life in a road traffic accident. Surgeries such as high-end heart transplants require a high amount of blood for



transfusion as there is a significant amount of blood spillage during the surgical procedure.

During high-end surgeries, blood transfusion can lead to potential risks and complications. Blood is also an organ and transfusion is considered to be an organ transplant in itself, to be completely monitored and controlled.

Marengo CIMS Hospital followed appropriate protocols to achieve this distinguished feat successfully. In these surgical procedures, meticulous surgical techniques are applied, following tailored protocols to reduce surgical blood loss to the point where transfusions become unnecessary. Bloodless heart transplant surgeries are remarkably intricate, requiring highly skilled medical professionals with extensive experi-

ence. The success of these procedures hinges on precision and accuracy, as they involve careful assessment and control of blood loss, ultimately obviating the need for blood transfusions.

Notably, the patient who underwent this highly innovative protocol therapy was discharged in just nine days, in stark contrast to the conventional heart transplant patient who typically requires 21 to 24 days at the hospital before discharge. With this clinical outcome, Marengo CIMS Hospital will be amongst the top 10 global institutes to perform absolute Zero blood transfusion in a highly complex heart transplant life-saving procedure. Zero transfusion also ensures significant mitigation of short- and long-term transfusion-inflicted complications along with reduced

length of stay and overall improvement in clinical outcomes. There are patients with the challenge of their bodies not accepting external blood transfusions. For these patients, allowing no scope for heart transplants with this rarity, this therapy offers significant hope for heart transplantation.

Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program, Marengo CIMS Hospital says, "A blood transfusion-free heart transplant represents a remarkable milestone in cardiac surgeries and showcases the significant strides made in surgical techniques and technology.

Dr Niren Bhavsar, Cardiothoracic Anesthetist, Marengo CIMS Hospital says, "A cardiothoracic anesthetist has a critical role to play where the goal is to avoid the need for blood transfusion. From assessing the medical history of the patient, co-morbidities, and overall health conditions, the anesthetist works with the transplant team to manage anemia, nutritional support, and other interventions to reduce the need for transfusion.

Prakriti elected President of WDC Kathua

TOP NEWS REPORT

KATHUA, Oct 21: The spirit of democracy and leadership flourished at the Government Degree College for Women in Kathua on October 21, 2023, as the college held elections for its student executive body and student general body. This democratic process aimed to empower students by allowing them to choose their class representatives and to engage actively in shaping the future of their institution.

Students from B.A/B.Sc. Semesters 1, 2, and 5 participated with enthusiasm, exercising their voting rights to select their respective class representatives. Later in the day, the election of the College Executive Body took place in the office chamber of the Principal, where the elected Class Representatives (CRs) collaboratively formed the Student Executive Body through a democratic procedure.

The newly elected Student Executive



Body comprises the following office-bearers President: Ms. Prakriti (Semester 5); Vice-President: Dalu Mangotra, General Secretary Bhomila Rajput, Treasurer Tania Rajput, Literary Secretary Kashish; Cultural Secretary Sonika Sharma and Sports Secretary Pratibha.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Savi Behl, the Principal of the college, congratulated the newly elected class representatives and encouraged them to actively contribute to the smooth

functioning of the college. She stressed the importance of maintaining high academic standards and promoting excellence in curricular activities.

The entire election process was efficiently conducted under the supervision of Dr. Rachna Devi, with the valuable support of senior faculty members Dr. Ashwani Khajuria and Prof. Ravinder Kour, as well as the cooperation of all teaching faculty members at the college. Dr. Behl also expressed her appreciation for the

Department of Student Welfare (DSW) for its systematic and well-organized management of the election process.

The successful completion of these elections marks an important step in fostering leadership and democratic values among the students of Government Degree College for Women, Kathua. It is a testament to the institution to provide opportunities for its students to actively engage in the governance and growth of their college.

AAP condemns politicization of armed forces

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 21: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has expressed strong condemnation for what it sees as the overt and covert politicization of the Indian Armed Forces by the ruling dispensation, raising concerns about the involvement of the Army in political activities.

In a joint statement issued by senior AAP leaders, including Major General Retired R.S. Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Banday, Ram Singh Chauhan, Nirmal Mahna, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, S.S. Jamwal, Sarpanch Ravinder Singh, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Ram Pal Khajuria, Sandeep Parihar, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Suresh Bhagat, Ashni Mattoo, S. Ranjodh Singh, and G.N. Khan, the party expressed its dismay at the recent developments involv-

ing the Indian Army. They accuse the ruling government of trying to exploit the Army for its political gains, which they believe is lowering the image and integrity of the valiant soldiers who serve the nation.

The AAP leaders expressed great shock and anguish over the government's attempts to engage Army personnel in the promotion of what they refer to as "JUMLA schemes" announced by the government. They point out that the Indian Army is not the Army of the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister does not have the authority to issue directives to the Army. Instead, it is the President of India who serves as the Supreme Commander of all three wings of the Armed Forces. The duties of the Army are governed by the Army Rule and Regulation Act of 1954, which prohibits the

Army from participating in any activities related to politics. The leaders believe that the present government's actions are undermining the Indian Constitution and its institutions.

The AAP leaders highlight that the Defense Forces have been directed to establish 822 "SELFIE POINTS" across nine cities, excluding five states that are going to the polls in November-December of this year. These SELFIE POINTS are tasked with promoting various government policies, all with photographs of the Prime Minister. The AAP leaders consider this to be a dangerous and shameful act by the government.

In response to these developments, the AAP leaders have appealed to the President of India to take cognizance of this situation and intervene to pro-

tect the image of the Army in the eyes of the nation. They have also urged the public to see through these actions and stand up to protect the constitution, its institutions, and democracy. They express their concerns about the misuse of brute majority in Parliament, including nullifying judgments of the Supreme Court related to the powers of the elected AAP Government of Delhi, all for the political ambitions of a few. They also express their concerns about the removal of the Chief Justice of India from the panel empowered to select the Chief Election Commissioner of India, as well as the Election Commissioners.

The AAP is committed to preserving the integrity of the Indian Armed Forces and ensuring that they remain apolitical, focusing solely on their vital role of safeguarding the nation.

Awareness programme on World Iodine Deficiency Day held at GHS Bijarni

TOP NEWS REPORT

DODA, Oct 21: In connection with the celebration of Global Iodine Deficiency Disorder Prevention Day, the HWC Sub Centre Bijarni in collaboration with GHS Bijarni today organized an awareness programme in the premises of Govt High School Bijarni.

The awareness programme was held on the directions of worthy Block Medical Officer Ghat Dr Ab Gafour Ahmed.

I/c Headmaster GHS Bijarni Sh Ajay Sen presided over the programme which was attended by the staff of GHS Bijarni and HWC Sub Centre Bijarni including Ehtsham Aziz, Sh Ashwani Kumar, Kirna Rana, Anita Devi, Lalita Rana, Junaid Firdous, Farooq Ahmed, Suhaib Nisar besides health staff viz Faizan A Trambo & Ms Sunjita



Shan besides students of the school.

During the course of the awareness programme, Sh Faizan A Trambo, resource person from health department enlightened the participants in detail about the signs, symptoms, causes, and prevention and danger signs of Iodine Deficiency Disorder.

The participants were

also informed in detail the requirement of iodine intake in food for normal growth and development of humans and how its deficiency in the body may lead to serious illnesses which can start before birth, jeopardize children's mental health and often their very survival. It was also informed that serious deficiency of iodine during pregnancy can

result in stillbirth, spontaneous abortion, congenital abnormalities like cretinism and mental retardation.

It was stressed that to prevent iodine deficiency sources of iodine like milk, meat, eggs, cereals, grains, salt, vegetables and fruits etc should be included in daily diet in adequate quantity.

I/c Headmaster Sh Ajay Sen also spoke on

the occasion and highlighted the importance of the day.

Pertinently, World Iodine Deficiency Day or Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day is observed every year on 21st October. The aim of this day is to generate awareness of the adequate use of iodine and to highlight the consequences of iodine deficiency.

Renowned Prof Devinder Singla joins Aryans College of Law

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 21: Renowned Law Professor, Dr. Devinder Kumar Singla recently joined as Principal at Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh. The college offers 3 years LLB & 5 years BA.LL.B courses which are approved by Bar Council of India, New Delhi & affiliated with Punjabi University, Patiala.

Dr. Singla has earned name in legal field as well as in teaching during his experience of last 34 years. Dr. Singla said, "I am happy and excited to work under the guidance of renowned Dr. Singla. I am sure that he will broaden the opportunity to learn & will provide law students with a comprehensive understanding of the legal system. This will generate different kinds of skills and knowledge in the budding lawyers to serve the society, added Kataria

It is to be mentioned



Group while welcoming him said that the entire Law faculty & the students are very excited to work under the guidance of renowned Dr. Singla. I am sure that he will broaden the opportunity to learn & will provide law students with a comprehensive understanding of the legal system. This will generate different kinds of skills and knowledge in the budding lawyers to serve the society, added Kataria

It is to be mentioned

that Dr. Singla has done Ph.D. in Law from Punjabi University Patiala and. He has guided more than 35 LLM students & 4 in Doctorate research. Singla also has academic & research experience of more than 34 years. He has published various research papers, attended workshops & conferences at national & international levels. He has also published books. He is a life member of various law societies.

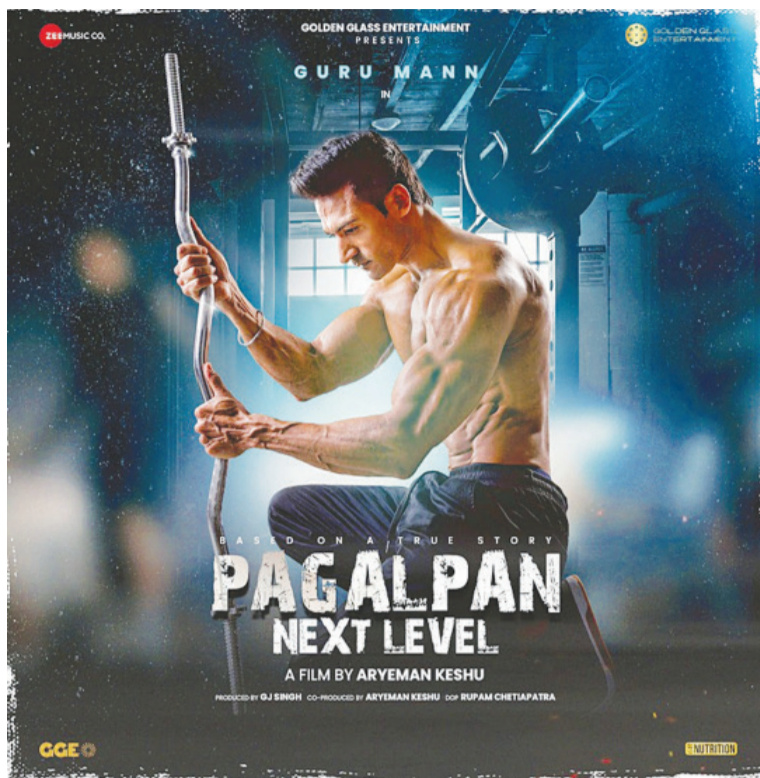
Fit hai, hit hai: Fitness influencer Guru Mann, who will appear in his debut film Pagalpan Next Level soon, is currently on an India tour to educate the youth about fitness

Fitness celebrity and entrepreneur Guru Mann is currently on a 21-day India tour to 21 cities to educate youngsters about health and benefits of exercising regularly. Born in a village near Rayya, Amritsar, Punjab, Mann is settled in San Francisco, USA.

Mann says, "When I first thought of working in the fitness industry, I faced resistance at my home itself. My father was against the idea and didn't think it to be a secure career. But I still went with it and worked on myself, and also did certifications to gather all the knowledge to guide others. As I shifted base to America and witnessed people in the West being serious about their health, it made me wonder why Indians were far behind. I wanted to give back to my country and T-Series helped me start Mission India Fit in 2014."

Body zone

Gurjinder Mann, known to his 6.3 million followers as Guru Mann, is today a respected name in the fitness industry. He feels that the basic knowledge



to get fit should be readily available and must be free of myths.

Our country has for long been troubled by fitness and health issues. India is currently an 'unhealthy' nation as per recent

data surveys, not just in terms of disease but fitness as well. Mission India Fit is Mann's honest attempt to change how India is placed on the global map. He has been providing solutions to

every problem, be it recovering or battling a disease through a healthier lifestyle and exercise.

On what keeps him motivated during hectic travels across cities, Mann says it is food that act as a fuel for his body. "As long as I get self-designed meals six times a day (breakfast, lunch, dinner and in between three snacks), I am good to go. I specifically eat meals that have anti-aging and anti-inflammatory properties. My soul purpose is to stay healthy and keep fit, especially after losing my father at a very young age," he said.

Screen presence

Inspired to stay fit after seeing Salman Khan's physique in the film Pyaar Kiya To Darna Kya, Mann is taking a step further to inspire the youth as he gears up for the release of the first fitness film of India titled Pagalpan Next Level. Releasing on October 27, Mann plays the lead role. "My efforts in expanding Mission India Fit to more and more cities keeps me motivated and passionate about my work as a fitness guru."

Taking up a challenge



Sony Entertainment Television's show Kavya – Ek Jazbaa, Ek Junoon, starring Sumbul Touqeer Khan in the titu-

lar role, showcases the journey of an IAS officer determined to serve the common man.

Talking about the

latest development in the show, where Kavya finds herself surrounded by challenges, Sumbul says, "I believe when challenges come your way, you discover your own strength and worth. This same resilience is embodied in Kavya, a determined young woman with dreams, adept at handling adversity and proving her worth in such incidents."

She adds, "In life, you encounter various individuals—some enrich your existence, while others try to shatter it, even betray you. Yet, you learn lessons from these experiences. In Kavya's life, Adhiraj is her friend, offering support at every turn. However, it's a poignant truth that those who love you the most can also inflict the deepest wounds. What I've learnt, both from life and Kavya, is that irrespective of the challenges life may throw at you, always confront them head-on."

Kirti Kulhari shakes a leg

Known for her versatility and diverse choice of roles, Kirti Kulhari made her Bollywood debut with the family entertainer Khichdi, as Punjabi kudi Parminder. Her character garnered critical acclaim and now Khichdi 2 is on its way! Recently, the makers dropped the song, Vande Rakha, from the film, showcasing JD Majethia and Kirti Kulhari's sparkling chemistry.

About her experience of reuniting with JD and shooting the song in Switzerland, Kirti said, "When I heard Vande Rakha for the first time, I fell in love in love with the quirkiness of the song instantly. It sounded like such a cool



song to dance on and as it is choreographed by Ganesh Acharya, it just felt perfect. I feel everything about the

song worked out so beautifully. I had almost forgotten that JD is such a great dancer till I was reminded of it."

Vicky Kaushal-starrer 'Sam Bahadur' is shot with real Indian soldiers

Vicky Kaushal's upcoming biopic 'Sam Bahadur' recently released its teaser which got heavy praise from audiences. The film is based on the legendary Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw. Many of the soldiers featured in the action scenes were in fact real life personnel in the Indian Army.

The 'Sardar Udham' star is essaying the roles of some of the most revered heroes of India, which even makes the roles themselves a harrowingly difficult task, given the weight of the subject matter and the reverence of the figure on hand.

Nonetheless, the actor



was perfectly able to pull off the role of Sam Manekshaw, nailing it right from his posture to his overall demeanour, thus really helping to bring the iconic military figure to life.

The film being a biopic based on one of the greatest and most bat-

tle-hardened soldiers ever naturally features several war scenes, as well as scenes depicting settings of the Army command, Armed Forces personnel and more.

Interestingly enough, in order to ensure maximum authenticity and do

justice to the Indian military, many of the artists featured in the film for various action sequences, or any scene involving the military features are not junior artists.

Instead, all the extras who don the uniform of the Army are real-life personnel of the Indian

Armed Forces, meaning that they shot the film with real soldiers while showing actual Indian Army cantonments, and using sets to portray the more dramatic moments of the film.

Featuring some stellar production and praiseworthy set design, VFX, acting, dialogue, and overall aesthetic to suit historical authenticity, 'Sam Bahadur' stars Vicky Kaushal, Fatima Sana Shaikh, and Sanya Malhotra in lead roles.

Produced by RSVP Movies, the movie is directed by Meghna Gulzar and will hit theatres on December 1, 2023.

'Brutiful' relation!: Will Smith joins Jada Pinkett Smith at book promotion, calls their relationship brutal and beautiful

Will Smith joined Jada Pinkett Smith on stage as she promoted her new memoir in her Baltimore hometown, pledging lifelong support for her just a week after she revealed that the couple had been separated since 2016.

"Jada is the best friend I have ever had on this planet, and I am going to show up for her and support her for the rest of my life," Will told the crowd at the Enoch Pratt Free Library on Wednesday night, crediting Pinkett Smith's sacrifices for his successes. Smith's appearance

with their two children, Jaden and Willow, and his son Trey Smith, was apparently a surprise for Pinkett Smith. It came at the end of a talk about her book, Worthy. Pinkett Smith said the family, including her aunt and uncle and Will Smith's mother and sister, was in town to celebrate the 70th birthday of her mother, Adrienne Banfield-Norris, on Wednesday.

Smith called their relationship 'brutiful', explaining that it was both brutal and beautiful. "It is a sloppy public experiment in uncondi-



tional love," he said, a description that prompted Pinkett Smith to double over in laughter.

Pinkett said their estrangement was in the past and that she and Smith had been working towards repairing their relationship in the last 18 months.

"Will and me are good," Pinkett Smith said. "All the people who don't understand and got something to say are just going to have to fall in line.

The truth of the matter is I'm not leaving Will's side and he's not going to leave mine..."

Karan Johar mighty impressed by Jaideep Ahlawat's performance in 'Jaane Jaan', 'I'm glad I worked with you in 'Raazi'

Actor Jaideep Ahlawat has captivated audiences and garnered praise from fans with his performance in 'Jaane Jaan'. Filmmaker Karan Johar recently praised Jaideep Ahlawat for his outstanding performance. Johar said, "My god, I'm so glad I got the opportunity to work with you in 'Raazi', and then I saw you in 'Jaane Jaan', and you blew my mind." 'Jaane Jaan' has been selected as the opening film of The Himalayan



Film Festival 2023. Helmed by Sujoy Ghosh, 'Jaane Jaan' also stars Jaideep Ahlawat. The film is based in Kalimpong and is the

official adaptation of the bestselling novel 'Devotion of Suspect X' by Keigo Higashino. Earlier, Jaideep Ahlawat, said, "This festival

is a cinematic celebration that transcends borders, presenting cinema from all over the country and fostering an exchange of ideas. It's not just about watching films that makes it so great; it's about hearing directors share their filmmaking journey in Q&A sessions, encouraging local talent by providing a platform to showcase their work. Moreover, it offers invaluable learning tools and opportunities to budding artists

through short film competitions, screenwriting labs, and master classes. I think it's a remarkable initiative that truly empowers the Himalayan film community."

Meanwhile, Jaideep will be seen in the upcoming movie 'Three of Us' alongside Shefali Shah and Swanand Kirkire which is set to release on 3rd November in cinemas.

He also has 'Paatal Lok 2', and 'The Broken News 2' in his kitty.

Couple goals: Richa Chadha, Ali Fazal set to share the stage as a couple

Actor couple Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal, who are known for their work together in the Fukrey franchise, are set to share the stage before a live audience together as a couple for the first time at the upcoming India Film Project in Mumbai during the weekend.

The two day event provides a nurturing environment and platform for creative minds across arts and culture, offering in-depth discussions about their professions, addressing pertinent questions, and providing valuable insights.

Richa shared, "It's a unique occasion for Ali and me to come together on a public platform like the India Film Project. We're thrilled to share our experiences, both as actors and as collaborators in Pushing Buttons Studios. I have always loved watching when two actors collaborate in this unique platform. Ali and I are each other's sounding board, and this platform is a unique way to engage in a chat with the audiences and with each other."

Richa and Ali are the founders of the production house Pushing Buttons Studios, and will engage in a capti-



ating exchange in a unique format of actors on actors, where they will be interviewing each other on their craft. Ali Fazal said, "This conversation is a conversation starter for artists on artists. To maybe shed a light on our own individual perspectives on the art of acting as we see it today. We hope that some

of this resonates with artists across the globe.

The world of cinema is ever changing and there is space for everyone and anyone who wants to create."

The India Film Project is scheduled to take place on ground at Mehboob Studios in Mumbai on October 21 and 22, 2023.

India A Step Closer To Realise First Human Space Flight Programme: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that ISRO's successful launch of a test vehicle as part of its Gaganyaan mission takes India a step closer to realising its first human space flight programme.



Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Saturday successfully launched a test vehicle with payloads related to the country's ambitious human space flight programme, Gaganyaan. Scientists simulated an abort situation for the

Crew Escape System (CES) to carry the Crew Module out of the test vehicle, TV-D1, as they made a splash into the Bay of Bengal with planned precision, setting off jubilation among ISRO scientists at the Mission Control Center.

5 of family killed in road accident on Yamuna Expressway near Noida

NOIDA, Oct 21 (Agencies): Five people, including a child, were killed after a van was hit by an unidentified vehicle on the Yamuna Expressway (YXP) in Greater Noida on Saturday, police said.

under the Rabupura police station area, an official said. "There were eight people in the Ecco that was hit by an unidentified vehicle. Five passengers died while the three injured are undergoing treatment at a private hospital," a police spokesperson said. An investigation into the matter is under way, the official said.

Madanpur Khadar in south Delhi and was on its way to Palamu district in Jharkhand. Those who died have been identified as Upendra Baitha (38), his brother Bijendra Baitha (36), Bijendra's wife Kanti Devi (30), their daughter Kuv (12) and Suresh Baitha (45), police said.

2 Naxalites killed in encounter with police in Chhattisgarh's Kanker



KANKER, Oct 21 (Agencies): Two Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Saturday, a senior official said.

place around 8 am in a forest located under Koyalibeda police station limits when a team of the District Reserve Guard (DRG), a unit of the state police force, was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Inspect-

tor General of Police (Bastar Range) Sundaraj P told agency. After the exchange of fire stopped, the bodies of two male Naxalites along with an Insas rifle, one .12 bore rifle and other arms and ammunition was recovered from the spot, he said. The identity of the deceased Naxalites is yet to be established, the official said, adding that a search operation is still under way in the nearby areas. Three constituencies in Kanker district are among the 20 assembly seats that will go to polls in the first phase of the two-phased elections in Chhattisgarh to be held on November 7.

Online fraud against US citizen: Cryptocurrency worth USD 9,30,000 seized by CBI from Ahmedabad-based man

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): The CBI has seized cryptocurrency worth more than USD 930,000 (around Rs 7.7 crore) from an Ahmedabad-based man who allegedly cheated a US-citizen posing as a senior executive of a multi-national company's fraud department, officials said.



to the government's wallet at the time of the seizure, the officials said. He allegedly convinced the victim that his account on Amazon was being accessed by unscrupulous elements, and that his social security was being used from four different states to open accounts on the e-commerce platform. "It was also alleged that the accused induced the victim to withdraw cash from his bank accounts and deposit the same in Bitcoin in the RockitCoin ATM Wallet, and also shared a QR code falsely informing

him (the victim) that the same was opened by the US Treasury for him," the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) spokesperson said. It is alleged that to gain the victim's trust, Shaishav e-mailed a forged letter, dated September 20, 2022, claiming it was issued by the US' Federal Trade Commission. "In pursuance of the said inducement, the victim allegedly withdrew an amount of USD 1,30,000 from his bank accounts on different dates during the period August 30, 2022, to September 9, 2022, and

65% fall in incidents of terrorism, insurgency in Northeast: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): There has been a 65 per cent fall in incidents of terrorism, Left Wing Extremism and insurgency in the Northeast, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday.



He also asserted that the country's "three hotspots -- LWE (Left Wing Extremism-hit states), the Northeast and Jammu and Kashmir -- are becoming peaceful."

The Narendra Modi government has made strict laws while maintaining a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, the home minister told a gathering after paying homage to martyrs on Police Commemoration Day at the National Police Memorial.

The government has also worked towards making the best anti-terrorism force in the world by setting up the "Police Technology Mission" for modernisation of the police force, he said.

Shah said that the

Modi government has introduced three Bills in Parliament for a comprehensive overhaul of the criminal justice system. The three legislation will replace 150-year-old laws and guarantee all due Constitutional rights to every citizen, the minister said and added that the proposed laws will also reflect Indianness. "There has been a 65 per cent fall in terror, Left Wing Extremism and insurgency incidents in the Northeast, thanks to the efforts and achievements of police personnel," Shah said.

He said he is fighting terrorists, preventing crime, maintaining law and order in front of huge crowds or protect-

ing people by acting as a shield during disasters, police personnel have proved themselves in all situations.

Referring to the role played by police personnel in a disaster, he said that in the past, through the NDRF (National Disaster Response Force), personnel of different police forces have earned a name across the world in disaster management.

"No matter how big the disaster is, when NDRF personnel reach there, people get confidence that now there is no problem as the NDRF has arrived," he said.

Shah said the Modi government is working towards improving sev-

eral schemes being run for the welfare of police personnel by making changes to them from time to time.

The Modi government is dedicated to the welfare of all personnel and is concerned for their safety, he said.

Paying tribute to 36,250 police personnel who laid down their lives while serving the nation since independence, he said this police memorial is not just a symbol but a recognition of the sacrifice and dedication of police personnel towards nation building.

On October 21, 1959, 10 policemen died in the line of duty during an ambush laid by heavily armed Chinese troops at the Hot Springs in Ladakh. Since then, every year, October 21 is observed to honour these martyrs and all other police personnel who died in the line of duty.

In recognition of the sacrifices made by

police personnel and their paramount role in preserving national security and integrity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the National Police Memorial (NPM) in Chanakya-puri here to the nation on Police Commemoration Day in 2018.

The memorial comprises a central sculpture, the 'Wall of Valour' and a museum.

The central sculpture, which is a 30-foot high granite monolith cenotaph, stands for strength, resilience and selfless service of police personnel.

The 'Wall of Valour', on which the names of martyrs are engraved, stands as a steadfast acknowledgement of the bravery and sacrifice of police personnel who have laid down their lives in the line of duty since independence.

The museum is conceptualised as a historical and evolving exhibition on policing in India.

Rajnath Singh inaugurates military heritage festival; launches project 'Udbhav'

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday launched a project that aims to promote indigenous discourse in the Army by integrating India's ancient strategic acumen into contemporary military domain with a focus on making the force "future-ready".

Singh also inaugurated the first edition of the Indian Military Heritage Festival in Delhi that has been organised to celebrate India's rich military culture and heritage, especially to showcase the "unmatched bravery" of the armed forces in the security of the nation.

About the project 'Udbhav', the defence ministry said it is designed to weave a strategic vocabulary and conceptual framework that is deeply embedded in India's philosophical and cultural heritage.

"It sets the stage for a robust, progressive and future-ready Indian Army that not only resonates with the nation's historical military sagacity but is also attuned to the demands and dynamics of contemporary warfare and diplomacy," the defence ministry said.

"The project signals a series of in-depth research, discussions, studies, and engagements to delve into and disseminate the



rich, varied and often under-explored treasures of India's strategic thought and military history," it said in a statement.

It said the present-day military concepts, prevalent globally, have been largely shaped by the research and doctrines of western armies and they do not wholly suffice the unique, localised requirements and the rich cultural-strategic legacy of the Indian Army.

"Through the project, the Indian Army acknowledges that the nation is a treasure trove of ancient texts and manuscripts that delineate sophisticated, varied and contextually rich strategies in statecraft, warfare and diplomacy," the ministry said.

"This project is a significant

leap towards evolving new, indigenously-resonant military concepts, building upon and enhancing existing strategies while intertwining them with the rich, diverse tactical and strategic wisdom encapsulated in historical documents," it said.

Project 'Udbhav' is a joint collaboration of the Indian Army and the United Service Institution of India.

The ministry said the Indian Military Heritage Festival aims to celebrate India's rich military culture and heritage, which has evolved over the centuries, through conversations, art, dance, drama, story-telling and exhibitions.

It said the festival will primarily bring forward different understandings and perspectives

through panel discussions by eminent scholars, practitioners and serving as well as retired officers.

Chief of the Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande and Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari were among the dignitaries present at the event.

Talking to reporters, Singh said the Indian Military Heritage Festival, which showcases the unmatched bravery and invaluable role of the armed forces in the security of the country in the last few decades, will inspire the youth of the nation.

It will also make them enthusiastic to know more about the Indian military and their gallant deeds, he said.

The ministry said the festival seeks to create a "benchmark" in the domain of public engagement with military history and heritage.

The festival will showcase military culture through military band performances, including the Army symphony band presentation and brass band displays, and a cultural evening.

An exhibition to highlight and celebrate select milestones and achievements in the nation's long and illustrious military history is being organised in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Heritage.

Suspected Maoist Kill BJP Worker In Chhattisgarh's Mohla Manpur



RAJNANDGAON, Oct 21 (Agencies): A Bharatiya Janata Party worker was killed allegedly by unknown gunmen in the Maoist-affected district of Mohla Manpur in Chhattisgarh, a top police official said on Saturday. Police have suspected the role of Maoists behind the murder in the poll-bound state.

Rajnandgaon Inspector General (IG) Rahul Bhagat said the police force, Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), District Reserve Guard (DRG), and others immediately reached the spot after receiving

the information.

"In the Mohla Manpur Ambargarh Chowki district, under the Aundhi police station, Birju Taram was killed by unknown gunmen... Since last night, proceedings have been ongoing on the incident," IG Bhagat told ANI on Saturday.

The incident took place on Friday evening.

"We have started the investigation," IG said, adding that the blockade has been imposed on all the routes for travel.

"The area is Maoist-affected, and we have gotten a few rounds

of cartridges from the spot. It is a possibility that Naxalites may have executed this," he said.

Earlier during the day, two Maoists were killed following an exchange of fire with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Saturday morning, a top police official said.

The official further said that the District Reserve Guards recovered two bodies of Maoists, along with arms and ammunition, in the Gome Jungle of Koyalibeda police station limits today at 8:00 am.

"Kanker DRG recovered two male naxal dead bodies along with an INSAS rifle, one 12-bore rifle, and other arms and ammunition after an escalation of force (EoF)," said P Sunderraj Inspector-General, Bastar.

Polling for 20 seats in the 90-member Chhattisgarh Assembly will be held on November 7 while votes for the remaining 70 seats will be cast in the second phase on November 17.

The counting of votes in Chhattisgarh, along with those in four other poll-bound states, has been scheduled for December 3.

YRS pays tribute to Maharaja Gulab Singh

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 21: On the occasion of 231st Birth Anniversary of first Dogra Ruler and Founder of State Jammu Kashmir, Ladakh and Tibetan, Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) paid tribute to Maharaja Gulab Singh at their Statue in SMGS Hospital Shalimar Jammu.

YRS reached the statue and paid tribute with flowers and raised the slogans of "Maharaja Gulab Singh ji Amar rahe, Dogra Rulers Zindabad and Jai Jammu Kashmir" and remembered the contributions of Maharaja Sahab for Jammu and Kashmir.

Surinder Singh Gilli Ex President YRS along with Mukesh Singh Sr Vice president, Vikramjeet Singh Vice president,



Balbir Singh Senior member, Avtar Singh Jammu Distt. president, Sanjay Singh Samba distt. president, and other members Akash Singh, Udayveer Singh, Deepak Singh, Sunil Shan,

Daljrit Singh, Sethu Singh Daljit Singh, Anil Singh paid tribute. Gilli said the Maharaja Gulab Singh is the founder of State and the due to thinking of Maharaja Sahab J&K is a princely

State and only state which is not ruled by British Government and J&K is the biggest independent state at that time and Administration of JK UT describes their contributions in the educational books as the future generations knows about our Rulers and warriors.

While briefing the media Vishal Singh Spokesperson YRS briefs that the contribution of Maharaja Gulab Singh is unforgettable and the people of J&K, Ladakh has to be remembered their contributions and on the occasion of Functions of our Rulers and warriors, everyone has to be paid tribute and remembered them as due to these heroes Jammu and Kashmir has a historical and glorious past.

6000 take part in Navaratri 'Dandiya Masti' event

Top News Report

LUDHIANA, Oct 21: As many as 6000 people participated in 'Dandiya Masti' programme during Navaratri celebrations at Central Park, Omaxe Royal Residency, Ludhiana on Saturday night.

The event was filled with dance, music, food delicacies and energetic traditional Gujarati folk dances Garba and Dandiya Raas by Dandiya artists from Gujarat that truly celebrated the spirit of the festival.

Preetika Bhasin the finalist of Star

Voice of India 2019 and Habit Taneja finalist of Star Parivar also gave live performances during the occasion.

During the occasion, various contests like cutest smile (girls), best dressed male and female, best dressed couple, junior garba guru (girl), cutest couple of the evening, garba king and queen, garba gurus of evening and star performer of the evening were also held.

Jatin Goel, Executive Director, Omaxe Group said that the people's support and enthusiasm made Omaxe Dandiya celebration a truly memorable experience for all.



'Job Scams in J&K demand accountability'

Give Deptt wise, year wise bifurcation of backdoor appointments: Harsh Dev

Top News Report

JAMMU, Oct 21: Seeking stern punitive action against the delinquent Ministers and Bureaucrats for Job scams in J&K as divulged by the Chief Secretary recently, Harsh Dev Singh Former Education Minister and State President JKNPP sought complete disclosure of all such backdoor appointments indicating the names of deptts concerned, year of such appointments and approving authority in each case.

It is shocking that 2.5 lakh backdoor appointments, as stated by the LG and Chief Secretary, were made in the past with not a single approving authority having been penalized till date, lamented Singh. He said that the Chief Secretary's initiative would be truly appreciable if the scamsters were brought to book and punished under law. He was addressing a press conference in Jammu today.

Terming backdoor appointments as the biggest sin against educated youth and official impropriety of the highest order, Singh said that such a dacoity committed on the rights of meritorious students needed to be sternly dealt with and most exemplary punishment inflicted upon the delinquent authorities. He said that any appointment made without public notification and without a proper selection process affording



opportunities of participation to the competing candidates in the said process was illegal as per law and repeated judgements of the Supreme Court. He said that though it may not be possible to rescind all such appointments but the authorities who made them without following the norms of equity and in defiance of proper procedures needed to be made accountable and punished.

Harsh Dev Singh, who is known for making statements based on facts and figures, said that the number of daily wagers was almost doubled between 2014 and 2018. He divulged that the number of daily wagers was 62000 in 2014 but it rose to 110,000 in 2018 as revealed in the legislative assembly in response to an AQ of MLA Akhnoor. Who made these appointments of additional around 50,000 daily rated/contingent workers during the currency of ban and that too in a period of four years in BJP-PDP rule is the most pertinent question, remarked Singh.

Pointing towards the brazen defiance of procedures in police appointments, Singh said that over 4500

SPO's were appointed through backdoor as per the replies given in legislative assembly in 2017-2018.

And interestingly the officers who made such appointments were rewarded with prize postings rather than punishing them. Will the govt initiate action on this? The answer is 'no' because the blue-eyed officers made them to favour their political masters as a measure of quid pro quo. And moreover there is ample truth in the maxim that criminals in Khakhi and Khadi never get caught.

Drawing the attention of the authorities towards large scale backdoor appointments in J&K Bank, the NPP President reminded that even the erstwhile Governor SP Malik had pointed out that over 3000 appointments of favourites were made on monetary and extraneous considerations during 2017-2018 but still the govt chose to bury its head in the sand.

Likewise massive backdoor appointments culture was witnessed in Industries deptt, SICOP, SIDCO, J&K Cements Ltd, corporations, Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB), Forests, Health, PHE, Power and various other depart-

ments whose details were readily available but the helmsmen chose not to act for reasons best known. Shockingly, in Health deptt, the Hospital Development Fund meant for providing facilities to patients was used for backdoor appointments with none to take cognizance.

"And then there have been thousands of 'ghost workers' spectral entities having no corporeal existence but still paid out of the state exchequer. And yet none to take note with mere loud exhortations made by helmsmen without any follow up action. All such announcements however have evoked only cynicism in view of the frequency with which they were made but forgotten each time. The present chief secretary has however evoked some hope but it remains to be seen as to how successful his initiatives turn out to be. After all it is not easy to catch the big fish who though have indulged in such dubious trades and manipulations but are enjoying the patronage of New Delhi and its bumptious leaders", asserted Singh.

Harsh Dev Singh further challenged the govt to prove even a single backdoor appointment having been made during his tenure as Education Minister. Only he can question others whose own track record is clean, said Singh urging upon the govt to put the details of all backdoor appointments in public domain.

Hamani, Suraj Singh, Prajakta enthrall audience at devotional song competition



Top News Report

KATRA Oct 21: All India Devotional Song Competition as part of Navratri Festival being organized by SMVD Shrine Board, Deptt. of J&K Tourism, Mh1 in association with in association with J&K Bank, Nice Gems, Divin-iti, Nidheesh Builders Jammu Pvt.Ltd., Pure Roots, Vishwayatan Yog Ashram Complex with active support of District Administration and the local host Community, began today at Yog Ashram Complex in the evening by lighting of the traditional lamp by Zonal Head J&K Bank Rajesh Gupta, in presence of Celebrity Singers Himani Kapoor, Suraj Singh, 108 Sh. Ramesh Baba ji, Chairman All India Devotional Song

Committee and President Hotel Association Rakesh Wazir, Vice President Ajay Kotwal, J&K Bank Cluster Head Ravi Sharma, Avinish Sharma, parshottam Raina, Naresh Raina etc.

Whereas on 5th day and last day of preliminary rounds Juhu Singh already a famous singer from Jammu took 1st Position and got its entry into Semi Final to be held on 22nd Oct. whereas Anmol Raja from Hoshiarpur and Lalit Bhardwaj from Jammu stood 2nd and 3rd position was shared by Raghav Bhatyar from Jammu, Chetan Sanmotra from Katra and Kritika from Jammu shared 3rd position jointly and got their entry into quarter final and were provided with the cash

prizes of 10,000, 5,000 and 3,000, respectively by special invitees of the event.

Celebrity singer Himani Kapoor who is known Indian film playback singer as well as a devotional singer who sang Bollywood's song like Jogi Mahi of film Bachna Ae Haseeno, Meri Awargi of film Good boy Bad boy, Dum Dum Band Baja Barat etc. has a long list of film songs which she has sung mesmerised the audience with her presence and her presentation.

Likewise celebrity singers Suraj Singh and Prajakta Shukre too gave their performances and the people were seen totally getting involved on their songs and enjoyed them fully. Rakesh Wazir Chair-

man of the competition while speaking on the occasion said that top film and music personalities from Bollywood would Judge the Final of the Competition going to be held on 23rd besides performing their as well and live telecast of the event is available on Mh1 till final and asked the people to see this event in large while coming at venue.

The Devotional Song Competition was adjudged by the panels of experts in music including Renowned Dr. Surinder Kumar Sharma HOD Govt. Degree College Sunni Shimla and Dr. C L Verma Ex. Chairman Post Graduate University of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Usha Kher Phd in music from Delhi University and renowned singer.

FROM PAGE 1

Fight against terrorism reaching to its logical conclusion in J&K: DGP Dilbag Singh

said. The DGP said that over the past few years, the situation has witnessed a sea change in Kashmir. "J&K is on the path of peace and development," he said. The J&K police chief paid rich tributes to the fallen heroes stating that so far 1606 policemen were killed in line of duty. "Today, we stand with our martyrs and pay them rich tributes. J&K and the entire nation is highly indebted to them," he said, adding that the entire police force stands with the families of police martyrs. Meanwhile, J&K police organised a blood donation camp in which 200 policemen participated and donated blood.

5-year term of elected representative of JMC to end on October 30, SMC on November 5

the tenure of all the municipal committees including Budgam, Chadoora, Char-e-Sharief, Khan Sahib and Magam ends on November 12.

In South Kashmir's Anantnag district, the term of municipal council Anantnag and municipal committee Achabal would come to end on October 28, while the tenures of representatives in municipal committees including Ashmuqam, Mattan, Pahalgam, Bijbehara and Qazigund ends on November 14.

According to official data, the term of representatives in Dooru-Verinag Municipal committee ends on November 01. In Kokernag, the term is ending on October 31.

The term of elected representatives in Kulgam and Devsar municipal committees is ending on October 29, while in Yaripora, the term is ending on November 04, 2023.

The term of elected representatives in Pampore municipal committee is ending on December 26, while the tenure of Tral municipality is coming to an end on November 29.

The term of lone municipalities in Shopian and Ganderbal districts is coming to an end on October 29 and November 08, respectively.

Feels good to donate blood that can save someone's life: Special DG CID RR Swain

donation camp, symbolizing their dedication to community welfare.

Vinod Kumar is new SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh SSP Udhampur

earlier, the officer is relieved from the Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir, to enable him to take up the new assignment at the centre", reads an order.

Besides appointment of Vinod Kumar as SSP Jammu, the order reads that Swarn Singh Kotwal, IPS, SDRF 1st Battalion, Srinagar, is transferred and posted as Director, Special Security Force, J&K, Vice Joginder Singh.

Joginder Singh, Special Security Force, J&K, on the other hand is transferred and posted as Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur, vice Vinod Kumar.

Police crack Patiala

murder case; accused was in relation with victim's wife

Harpreet Kaur, wife of the victim, planned the murder. We have arrested the wife," said the SSP.

"The wife of the deceased has been arrested and she has confessed that she was in touch with Gurtej for the past few years," said CIA in-charge Shaminder Singh.

Balbir had married Harpreet after divorcing his first wife. According to the police, Balbir Singh (68), a resident of Sant Nagar area, was going to the nearby park for a morning walk when the incident took place on Thursday.

"As he reached Passey Road near the Patiala Media Club, someone stabbed him in the neck. The attack took place around 5.40 am," said DSP (City) Sanjeev Singla. The SSP said they got some clues about the victim's wife and cracked the case in two days.

"The CIA staff zeroed in on the involvement of Gurtej and his arrest led to his two associates who had accompanied him during the crime. Also, the role of the vic-

tim's wife came to the fore," the SSP said. Kashmir BJP brings back two expelled leaders

former MLC and one of the party's founding members in Kashmir, Sofi Yousuf.

In addition to bringing in two leaders from Jammu, Manzoor Bhat, a disgruntled leader, was replaced by Sajid Yousuf Shah as the BJP's Media in charge for Kashmir. The discontent had severely disrupted the party's activities in Kashmir for nearly two months.

Govt has made better winter preparations this year: Div Com Kashmir

said and added, "Electric transformers have already been moved to important areas to meet out the demand in unfavorable weather conditions".

He said ration supplies have also been sent to districts to stock it for winters while as in hilly areas the supplies will be sent by November 15. He added that Sonamarg Power Grid will also get power supply in winters as authorities have ensured supply from Z-Mode this year.

Akasa Air CEO 'dead set against' no-poaching pact for pilots: Report

Akasa Air CEO Vinay Dube firmly opposed the idea, highlighting that pilots, like any other employees, should have the freedom to work for any airline of their choice.

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): Low-cost carrier Akasa Air's CEO Vinay Dube said he is completely against the idea of having no-poaching agreements among airlines in the wake of the recent pilot crisis at the airline.

The airline chief told news agency PTI that he is "dead set against" the idea of having any such agreement between airlines, asserting that it would not be right.

Until recently, the airline had been facing a pilot crisis after 40-odd pilots unexpectedly resigned and left without serving their notice periods. Dube, however, indicated that the airline is slowly recovering from the turbulence it faced earlier this year.

He told the news agency that the airline has expanded its pilot roster from around 330 in April to over 450 today.

"We had about 330 pilots in April. Approximately, 40 went away without (serving) notice



period or with one day, two days or less than 24 hours. Today, we have little over 450 pilots between April and today, we have probably added about a third of additional pilots despite a small number leaving," Dube told agency.

'Pilot issues behind us'

Vinay Dube acknowledged that the abrupt exits in which some pilots left without notice were unprecedented, resulting in flight cancellations and a dent in the carrier's market share. Legal actions have been initiated against the pilots involved.

However, Dube believes that there is no need for industry-wide measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

"We have obtained judicial clarity, so I don't believe any further actions are necessary. The issue is behind us, and we are now focused on growth," Dube said, adding that Akasa Air plans to expand its network by 10 per cent in December and over 33 per cent by March.

"We have the clarity now and it says that pilots need to respect the contractual notice period," Dube noted.

'Dead set against no-poaching pact'

When asked about the possibility of a no-poaching agreement among airlines for pilots, Dube firmly opposed the idea, emphasising that pilots, like any other employees, should have the freedom to work for any airline of their choice.

"Not at all. Absolutely not. I am dead set against it. I think pilots like any other employees

should be completely allowed to work with whatever airline they want and I don't believe that the airlines should collude on this topic at all. I don't think there is a need and I don't think it is right," he said.

Akasa Air currently operates approximately 700 weekly flights and aims to have a fleet of 25 planes by the end of the fiscal year.

Dube also praised the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for its efficient support throughout the airline's journey, despite some initial challenges.

"From the very beginning, we got our AOC (Air Operator Certificate) and the airline started in less than 24 months. That is as efficient as it gets from the regulatory perspective. It is just that the judicial order that was passed lacked a bit of clarity from their perspective which were able to get subsequently. I would not say they were not helpful because they were incredibly helpful and efficient."

'Can raise tax demand for any year': CBDT Chairman Nitin Gupta

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): Brushing aside the criticism that the tax department is refusing refunds by adjusting them with tax dues dating back to 2002, 2003 or 2004-05, Gupta said.

"The taxpayers are given the opportunity by the tax department by sending them the demand notice, and the taxpayer can respond to that. Taxpayers should avail the opportunity and come up with the claim that he has paid the demand or facts of the matter. It could be that he paid the demand but it has not been entered into the system," he said.

Gupta further added that if the refund is smaller than Rs 5000, then the tax department releases the refund, even if there is a demand," he added. Gupta expressed confidence in the government's ability to achieve the direct tax collection target for the current fiscal year.

There is no time limit to that. If you open a case today, you will create the

demand today. Whatever demands have to be raised, appeal effect will have to be irrespective of whether it pertains to 2002, 2003 or 2004-05," Gupta said.

"The taxpayers are given the opportunity by the tax department by sending them the demand notice, and the taxpayer can respond to that. Taxpayers should avail the opportunity and come up with the claim that he has paid the demand or facts of the matter. It could be that he paid the demand but it has not been entered into the system," he said.

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He informed that the government collected Rs 100 crore in tax deducted at source (TDS) from crypto exchanges over the past six months till September. Gupta further said that tax rates for High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs) at 39% are comparatively lower than those in the US, UK, and other developed countries. He added that the government has moved forward with the new tax regime and does not anticipate changes in the old regime.

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'Borrowing for consumption good for economy': Monetary Policy Committee

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): The members of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) took solace in the fact that inflation pressures are waning and domestic demand remains robust, revealing the minutes of the MPC meeting held from 4th to 6th October. The MPC decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 6.5% even though its policy statement reeks of hawkishness.

Many members of the committee cited the drop in net financial savings as an indicator of strong demand, and therefore, were not too concerned on the growth front. The net financial savings in FY23 dropped to 5.1% compared to 7% in pre-pandemic levels. While many raised concerns over the drop in net financial savings, MPC members see it as a positive sign. According to Dr Ashima Goyal, it was household financial liabilities that increased from 3.8% of GDP in 2021-22 to 5.8% of GDP in 2022-23, resulting in a 2.1% fall in net financial savings. "The rise in financial liabilities implies a rise in household physical investment and shows the interest sensitivity of demand in India, with a youthful population borrowing to acquire assets," noted Goyal.

"This willingness to consume at the cost of reducing savings is very important because it is household consumption that has been propping up the economy in the face of headwinds from fiscal consolidation, weak external demand and tepid capital investment," noted Prof Jayanth R. Varma.

Goyal, though, cautioned against sudden rise in household debt, even if it is low by international standards. "It is best to restrain over-enthusiasm in good times and thus avoid a crash. Prudential tightening, such as raising LTV ratios or risk weights, would be preferable to raising policy rates more," she said. Most members were of the view that given the likely global slowdown, and normal monsoon price pressures are moderate. However, they were mindful of the global fuel and energy prices volatility and firming up of some food commodity prices. "Inflation prints for September and October will need to be monitored carefully to look out for the moderation that our projections anticipate. If we tame inflation durably, we will prepare the ground for a long innings of strong and stable growth," says deputy RBI governor Michael Debabrata Patra.

Some relief for beer makers as raw material prices ease, but long way to go, says United Breweries

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): The beer industry in India continues to be buffeted by high prices of barley, glass and packaging material as it tries to stagger back to its legs from the sharp blows it received over the last one year, going by comments from India's largest beer-maker United Breweries Ltd.

Beer makers like United Breweries have been struggling to protect their profits since late 2022, when the price of barley, a key ingredient in beer making, started climbing due to lower-than-expected crops. Barley prices increased over 40% between October 2022 and March 2023, partly due to the Russia-Ukraine war.



Adding to their woes, prices of other inputs — such as glass and packaging material — also started going up in an inflationary environment late last year.

Although inflation is softening, said the management in a quarterly interaction with investors, the prices were far from stable and could still threaten the recovery path.

"The inflation is still there but it has been softening in this quarter, but volatility remains.. but the softening is helping our gross margins..", Radovan Sikorsky, Chief Financial Officer of United Breweries, said on a conference call with investors.

To deal with spiralling input prices, the company was forced to undertake multiple price hikes

of its beer brands. At the same time, stiff competition has limited its ability to fully offset the impact through pricing actions.

Besides barley, prices of glass bottles have also by their prices in sync with rising energy and transportation costs. This had a drastic impact on United Breweries, which sells over 120 million cases of beer annually. Packaging costs also shot up due to inflated prices of paper, plastic and cardboard.

"The cost of glass bottle is a combination of both the actual price of the bottle and the returnability of it. A combination of these two has an impact on the variable cost. In the case of bottle pricing we haven't seen any real

movement, so we are still under pressure and have to work through it with our suppliers." the CFO said.

Second Quarter Financials

Even as costs have started moderating, the company has also taken hope in the improvement in sales and revenue.

"There have been good results in the second quarter. Volumes were up 7%..net sales were up by 12% even with price increase in states such as Rajasthan, UP, Karnataka and Maharashtra," Sikorsky said.

Another positive aspect of the quarter, he added, was the continued growth in premium products such as Heineken Silver, particularly in states like Karnataka.

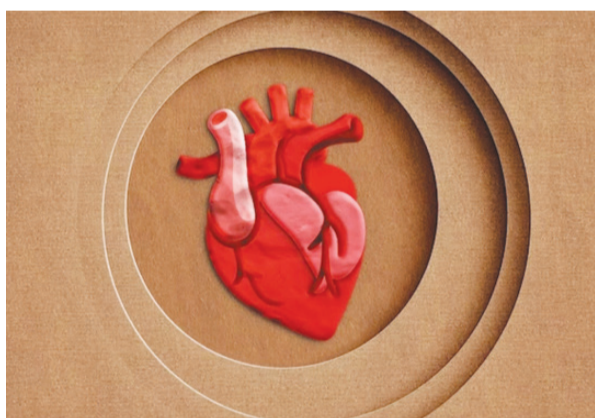
First bloodless heart transplant in Asia performed by doctors in Ahmedabad

NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): In a groundbreaking medical achievement, doctors at Marengo CIMS Hospital in Ahmedabad successfully performed Asia's first bloodless heart transplant.

The patient, 52-year-old Chandraprakash Garg, who was suffering from Ischemic Dilated Cardiomyopathy and end-stage heart failure, underwent this innovative procedure.

The donor was a 33-year-old individual who tragically lost their life in a road traffic accident. Bloodless heart transplant surgeries are exceptionally intricate and require extensive expertise. They involve meticulous assessment and control of blood loss, ultimately eliminating the need for blood transfusions. This is a significant advancement as blood transfusions can lead to potential risks and complications.

During high-end surgery, blood transfusion can lead to potential risks and complications. Blood is also an organ and transfusion is considered to be an organ transplant in itself, to be



completely monitored and controlled.

Notably, the patient was discharged in just nine days, a stark contrast to the typical 21 to 24 days of hospital stay for conventional heart transplant patients. This zero-transfusion approach significantly reduces short- and long-term complications associated with transfusions, shortens hospital stays, and enhances overall clinical outcomes.

Dr Dhiren Shah, who led the surgery, stated that a blood transfusion-free heart transplant represents a remarkable milestone in cardiac surgery and showcases the significant strides made in surgical techniques and technology. He also mentioned the establishment of a Hemostasis Center of

Excellence by adopting the bloodless heart transplant technique.

Meanwhile, Cardiothoracic Anesthetist Dr. Niren Bhavsar, who was also part of the procedure, highlighted the importance of continuous monitoring of the patient's vital signs and other parameters, managing blood pressure, and coagulation parameters.

The experts noted that because there was no blood transfusion, many of its deterrent effects were not seen in the postoperative period, leading to a smooth recovery for the patient. They expressed pride in this remarkable achievement, stating it as a significant step towards solidifying the hospital as a Center of Excellence.

Pig heart transplant recipient reaches 1-month mark, pushing through physical therapy

WASHINGTON, Oct 21 (Agencies): It's been a month since a Maryland man became the second person to receive a transplanted heart from a pig—and hospital video released Friday shows he's working hard to recover.

Lawrence Faucette was dying from heart failure and ineligible for a traditional heart transplant when doctors at the University of Maryland School of Medicine offered the highly experimental surgery.

In the first glimpse of Faucette provided since the September 20 transplant, hospital video shows physical therapist Chris Wells urging him to push through a pedalling exercise to regain his strength.

"That's going to be tough but I'll work it out," Faucette, 58, replied, breathing heavily but giving a smile.

The Maryland team last year performed the world's first transplant of a heart from a genetically altered pig into another dying man.

David Bennett survived just two months before that heart failed, for reasons that aren't completely clear although signs of a pig virus later were found inside the organ.

Lessons from that first experiment led to changes before this second try, including better virus testing. Attempts at animal-to-human organ transplants — called xenotransplants — have failed for decades, as people's immune systems immediately destroyed the foreign tissue.

Now scientists are trying again using pigs genetically modified to make their organs more humanlike.

In Friday's hospital video, Faucette's doctors said the pig heart has shown no sign of rejection.

"His heart is doing everything on its own," said Dr. Muhammad Mohiuddin, the Maryland team's cardiac xenotransplantation chief.

A hospital spokeswoman said Faucette has been able to stand and physical therapists are helping him gain strength needed to attempt walking.

Many scientists hope xenotransplants one day could compensate for the huge shortage of human organ donations. More than 1,00,000 people are on the nation's list for a transplant, most awaiting kidneys, and thousands will die waiting.

A handful of scientific teams have tested pig kidneys and hearts in monkeys and in donated human bodies, hoping to learn enough for the Food and Drug Administration to allow formal xenotransplant studies.

Study reveals why some men don't produce enough sperm

For 10 per cent of infertile males, little or no sperm are produced



NEW DELHI, Oct 21 (Agencies): New research has shed light on what may be going wrong in the process of sperm formation, helping explain why some men do not make enough sperm to fertilise an egg.

Millions of couples worldwide experience infertility with half of the cases originating in men.

For 10 per cent of infertile males, little or no sperm are produced.

The new study from the Stowers Institute for Medical Research in the US, in collaboration with the Wellcome Centre for Cell Biology at the University of Edinburgh in the UK, may lead to potential theories on possible treatments.

"A significant cause of infertility in males is that they just cannot make sperm. If you know exactly what is wrong,

there are technologies emerging right now that might give you a way to fix it," said Stowers Investigator Scott Hawley. In most sexually reproducing species, including humans, a critical protein structure resembling a lattice-like bridge needs to be built properly to produce sperm and egg cells.

The study, published in the journal Science Advances, discovered that in mice, changing a single and very specific point in this bridge caused it to collapse, leading to infertility and thus providing insight into human infertility in males due to similar problems with meiosis.

Meiosis, the cell division process giving rise to sperm and eggs, involves several steps, one of which is the formation of a large protein structure called the synaptonemal complex.

"A significant contributor to infertility is defects in meiosis. To understand how chromosomes separate into reproductive cells correctly, we are really interested in what happens right before that when the synaptonemal complex forms between them," explained Hawley Lab and Wellcome Centre investigator, Owen Davies.

The authors used a precise gene editing technique to make mutations in one key synaptonemal complex protein in mice, which allowed the researchers, for the first time, to test the function of key regions of the protein in live animals.

Just a single mutation, predicted from the modeling experiments, was verified as the culprit of infertility in mice.

"We focused on a tiny little region of one protein in this gigantic structure that we were pretty sure could be a significant cause of infertility," said Hawley.

"What is really exciting to me is that our research can help us understand this really basic process that is necessary for life," Billmyre added.

SaMaPa Awards 2023 announced

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 21: SaMaPa (Sopori Academy of Music and Performing Arts), a leading cultural organization and music academy of India has announced the names of the recipients of this year's prestigious SaMaPa awards, the exclusive national level honours pertaining to J&K. The announcement was made by Pt. Abhay Rustum Sopori, the International award winning Santoor maestro & composer and General Secretary of SaMaPa, who revealed that the award will be presented during the 19th Annual SaMaPa Sangeet Sammelan, the top most classical music festival of Delhi and one of the most prestigious festivals of the country, on 3rd, 4th and 5th November 2023 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi.

SaMaPa is a cultural movement, which has translated from a deep-rooted vision of the Founding Chairman, the great music legend late Pandit Bhajan Sopori, the Saint of Santoor & King of Strings, in creating a unique, unbiased and empowering national level platform for presentation, propagation, and teaching of traditional music and performing arts for the artists and the young talents.

SaMaPa Vitasta Samman 2023 is being conferred upon the vet-



eran Pakhawaj maestro Pandit Dalchand Sharma (Delhi) for his lifetime contribution to Hindustani Classical Music (Pakhawaj). The award is presented to the eminent and legendary musicians of India who contribute significantly in propagating and preserving the cultural heritage of our country. The Samman has been named after the historical river Vitasta (Jhelum), a symbol of love, harmony, art, culture and Shaivite - Sufi Saint tradition of Kashmir, which represents the cultural ethos and rich heritage of J&K.

SaMaPa Kala Vardhan Samman 2023 is being conferred upon Dr. Rosalin Patasani Mishra - Parichay Foundation (Odisha) for the immense and unparalleled contribution to the field of art and culture. The award is presented to eminent personalities, cultural philanthropists, visionaries and institutions who go beyond the

conventional areas of working and contribute significantly towards the growth, development, promotion and propagation of art and culture.

SaMaPa Nund Rishi Samman 2023 is being conferred upon Shri Shri Shahnaz Rasheed (Jammu and Kashmir) for his immense contribution to the field of Kashmiri Literature as a Poet and a Translator. The award has been named after Sheikh-Ul-Alam, the great Saint of Kashmir and a spiritual leader whose contribution to Kashmiriyat is enormous. The award is given to personalities with enormous contribution and path-breaking works in folk and regional culture in fields like compositions, singing, theatre, films, documentaries, sculpture and other performing arts or light music.

SaMaPa Acharya Abhinavagupt Samman 2023 is being conferred upon Shri Avtar Krishen Mota (Delhi) for his

immense contribution to the field of Kashmiri art and culture as a Writer and a Columnist. The award is in the name of Acharya Abhinavagupt of the 10th century from Kashmir who has been an unmatched thinker, aesthetician, philosopher and an unparalleled commentator of Bharatmuni's Natyashastra. The award is presented to music critics, musicologists, scholars and journalists in appreciation of their extraordinary work by writing music and art reviews, books and journals, and to scholars who have done exceptional research work in the field of art, culture & languages.

SaMaPa Sangeet Tejasvi Samman 2023 is being presented to Dr. Prabhakar Kashyap (Chandigarh) & Dr. Diwakar Kashyap (Khairagarh) for their achievements and contribution to Hindustani Classical Music (Vocal). The award has been

instituted to acknowledge those individuals who are contributing significantly in the field of music at National and International level with their extraordinary talent and are the promising 'Legends in making' of Indian music.

SaMaPa Yuva Ratan Samman 2023 is being conferred upon Shri Viraj Joshi (Pune), grandson of Bharat Ratna Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, in recognition of his conspicuous talent and achievements in the field of Hindustani Classical Music (Vocal). The award has been instituted to recognize, encourage and felicitate the young generation artists of the country who are doing exceptionally well in their respective fields.

SaMaPa Award of Excellence 2023 is being conferred upon Ms. Sadhna Shrivastav for her immense contribution to the field of art and culture as a Television and Stage Presenter, and Documentary Filmmaker. The award has been instituted to honour those personalities who have done exceptional work in the field of audio and video production, direction of commercial and non-commercial documentaries and films, sound engineering, script writing, cultural photography, programme presentation and compering, and also instrument making.

PTTI Vijaypur Observes National Police Day

TOP NEWS REPORT

VIJAYPUR, Oct 21: The Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur solemnly observed National Police Day on October 21, 2023, to pay heartfelt homage to the brave police martyrs who made the ultimate sacrifice for the national security and sovereignty of our beloved country. The occasion witnessed a Commemoration Day Parade by police contingents in honor of the fallen heroes.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Shiv Kumar, an esteemed Indian Police Service (IPS) officer and the Principal of PTTI Vijaypur, provided insight into the historical significance of National Police Day. He recounted a tragic event that occurred on October 21, 1959 when the Chinese army launched an attack on a patrolling Police party of the Central Police Force, led by Sub-Inspector Karan Singh, while performing their duties along the Indo-Tibetan Border. In the face of adversity, the police party displayed exemplary courage, with 10 police personnel making the supreme sacrifice, and another 10 sustaining injuries. This act of valor has been etched in the annals of our nation's history.

In remembrance of this brave episode, the nation observes Police



Commemoration Day every year to honor the memory of the police martyrs. Since 2006, this significant day has been officially designated as National Police Day, signifying the recognition and reverence for the sacrifices made by our law enforcement personnel.

Principal Shiv Kumar also read aloud the names of 188 police officers and officials, including eight from Jammu and Kashmir State, who lost their lives in the line of duty during the current year. Their dedication to upholding the safety and security of our nation serves as an inspiration to all.

Following the tribute, a wreath-laying ceremony took place at the Martyr's Smarak (Samadhi). The event was graced by several distinguished individuals, including Dhushyant Sharma, Vice Principal PTTI Vijaypur; Zia-Ul-Haq, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Outdoor); Devinder Gupta, Deputy Superintendent of Police (R&D);

Kuldeep Raj, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Indoor/Tech); Khushwant Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Admn.); Inspector Vishal Kumar (CDI); Inspector Javed Hussain (RI); Inspector Anil Kumar; Inspector Ram Lal; Inspector Kanwal Raina, Inspector Mulkh Raj, Inspector Vivek Kalsootra, Inspector Bhopinder Singh, Inspector Pawan Kumar, Inspector Himanshu Dutta, Sub-Inspector Sulinder Singh (SM Outdoor), Narinder Kumar, all NGOs, staff, and other personnel.

In addition, the ceremony was attended by esteemed members of the community, including Tajinder Kour (Sarpanch), Moni Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch), Rakesh Sharma (Lecturer), Ajay Verma (Master), Chudu Ram (Retired Police Officer), Raj Kumar, Ashok Kumar, and others, who joined in paying their respects by laying floral wreaths and showering flowers at the Martyr's Smarak.

Two NCC Cadets from GDC Kishtwar shine at All India Thal Sainik Camp & Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat National Level Camp



TOP NEWS REPORT

KISHTWAR, Oct 21: Two dedicated and exemplary NCC Cadets from GDC Kishtwar represented the Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh Directorate in two prestigious national camps, showcasing their remarkable talent and bringing immense pride to their institution. These outstanding young individuals displayed their mettle at the All India Thal Sainik Camp (AITSC) and the Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat National Level Camp.

The All India Thal Sainik Camp, a highly anticipated event in the NCC calendar, took place in New Delhi from September 19th to September 30th, 2023. This prestigious camp witnessed the participation of 1,547 Cadets from 17 NCC Directorates, including 867 Boys and 680 Girls. The camp involved intense competitions in various disciplines, such as shooting, obstacle training, map reading, and other professional training activities.

LCPL Muskan Bhagat and LCPL Anjana Parihar, both hailing from 2 J&K (I) COY NCC BHADARWAH and representing GDC Kishtwar, secured their place in this esteemed camp. LCPL Muskan Bhagat showcased her exceptional shooting skills by clinching the 5th position in the Inter-Directorate Service Shooting competition. LCPL Anjana Parihar excelled in obstacle training, earning her a well-deserved spot at the camp.

Additionally, 10 NCC Cadets from GDC Kishtwar participated in the Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat National Level Camp held at NCC Camping Ground Nagrota from October 3rd to October 14th, 2023. Organized by the 4th J&K Bn under the aegis of NCC Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh Directorate, this camp saw the participation of approximately 500 cadets.

LCPL Muien Raja, a remarkable talent from GDC Kishtwar's 2 J&K (I) COY Bhadarwah, achieved a momentous feat by securing first

place in four events, which included solo song, group song, NIAP-best singer, and the Cultural program.

Dr. Jyoti Parihar, the Principal of GDC Kishtwar, commended the outstanding performance of the NCC cadets and encouraged them to continue working with dedication and sincerity. She emphasized that participating in national-level camps like AITSC and Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat is a significant morale boost for the cadets. Dr. Parihar also expressed her gratitude for the tireless efforts of ANO 2 J&K (I) COY NCC BHADARWAH, Lt. Dr. Madhu Bala, and Lt. Akshay Sharma.

In recognition of their remarkable achievements, the participants were honored by the College Principal.

GDC Kishtwar is incredibly proud of the extraordinary accomplishments of its NCC cadets, who have not only made their institution proud but also left an indelible mark at the national level.

One day awareness camp organized at NCC Nagrota

TOP NEWS REPORT

JAMMU, Oct 21: An informative one-day awareness program was recently conducted at Aryan Public Senior Secondary School R.S. Pura, organized by Civil Defence, Jammu, and executed under the vigilant supervision of Dy.SP Anita Pawar, the Deputy Controller of Civil Defence Jammu. This initiative aimed to equip students with essential knowledge on First Aid, CPR, Choking, Firefighting, and drug addiction prevention, as experts from Civil Defence shared valuable insights with the participating students.

During the program, Civil Defence experts delivered engaging demonstrations on these



crucial topics, offering practical guidance that can prove instrumental during emergencies. The core objective of this awareness program was to educate students on preventive measures to be adopted during both natural and man-made

disasters. The event also featured an insightful lecture by Civil Defence Experts, who shared their expertise and knowledge with the students. Sh. Neeraj Gupta, the Principal of the Senior Secondary School, expressed his

deep appreciation for the significant role played by Civil Defence in raising awareness about disaster management and First Aid. The event witnessed the presence of several esteemed individuals, including Sh. R. Vijay

Magotra, Dy. Chief Warden of Civil Defence Jammu, Smt. Meenakshi Raina, the School Coordinator, Ram Dayal Saini, S.I Incharge Training of Civil Defence, and various other dedicated staff members of the Senior Secondary School. Their active participation and support underscored the importance of such initiatives in educating and preparing the youth to respond effectively to potential crises.

The one-day awareness camp organized at Aryan Public Senior Secondary School R.S. Pura stands as a testament to the commitment of Civil Defence, Jammu, in promoting safety, knowledge, and preparedness within the community, particularly among the younger generation.

DLSA Bhaderwah holds awareness programme on RTI Act

TOP NEWS REPORT

BHADERWAH, Oct 21: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) organized a one day awareness programme on RTI Act in the premises of District Court Complex Bhaderwah here today.

Panel Lawyer Advocate Mohd Majid Malik spoke on the various aspects of RTI Act 2005 and also shared some important landmark judgements of Supreme Court of India that ushered an era of future RTI movement in country for the benefit of marginalized persons of society.

Adv Mohd Majid Malik spelt out the historical relevance of RTI and upholding it in the realm



of rule of law in contemporary society. He aware about the true usage of RTI law and discussed the jurisprudential niceties in

order to make the said law a living reality and added that knowledge is power and information is oxygen for this knowledge information which

helps us to take right decision at the right time. He said that RTI is a statutory mechanism to give information that is existing and available in

the manner and form in which it is held with the public authority. All PLVs of DLSA and litigants also participated in the camp.