

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Elderly man dies after being hit by load carrier in Ganderbal

GANDERBAL, Nov 3 (Agencies): An elderly man was killed after being hit by a load carrier in central Kashmir Ganderbal district on Friday, officials said. An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the man was trying to board a bus when load carrier hit him in Wusan area today, resulting in grievous injuries to him.

He said that the man was shifted to PHC Wusan, where from he was referred to SKIMS Soura for further treatment, however, he succumbed to his injuries.

The deceased has been identified as Mohammad Yousuf Sheikh (80) of Wudan Ganderbal.

Nearly 97,000 Indians held trying to enter illegally between Oct 2022 to Sept 2023: US Border Protection Agency

WASHINGTON, Nov 3 (Agencies): A record 96,917 Indians were arrested while crossing illegally into the US between October 2022 and September 2023, according to the latest US Customs and Border Protection (UCBP) data. Indians apprehended while crossing the US border unlawfully have reportedly witnessed a five-fold increase in the past years.

In 2019-20, 19,883 Indians were apprehended. In 2020-21, 30,662 Indians were arrested while in 2021-22 this number was 63,927, according to the data.

Of the 96,917 Indians arrested between October 2022 and September this year, 30,010 were caught on the Canadian border and 41,770 at the frontier with Mexico.

Those arrested are classified under four categories — Accompanied Minors (AM), Individuals in a Family Unit (FMUA), Single Adults, and Unaccompanied Children (UC).

Single adults make up the largest category. In fiscal year 2023, 84,000 Indian adults crossed into the US illegally. 730 unaccompanied minors were among the

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Don't want Supreme Court to become 'Tarikh-Pe-Tarikh' Court: CJI Chandrachud

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Friday urged lawyers not to seek adjournments in fresh matters, saying he does not want the Supreme Court to become a 'tareekh-pe-tareekh' court. At the outset of the day's proceedings, the CJI flagged the issue of lawyers seeking adjournments in fresh matters and said in the last two months



adjournment slips were moved in 3,688 matters by advocates.

"Unless it is very very necessary, please don't

file the adjournment slips...I don't want this court to be a 'tareekh-pe-tareekh' court," the CJI, who was sharing

the bench with justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said.

"Tareekh-pe-Tareekh" (repeated adjournments) was a famous Sunny Deol dialogue in Bollywood film "Damini" where the actor rued the adjournment culture in courts.

The CJI said that now with the help of lawyers' bodies, the time gap in the listing of fresh matters after their filing in the top court has been

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"I felt very good after winning 3 medals": says Sheetal Devi after reaching at her home in Jammu

JAMMU, Nov 3 (Agencies): Indian archer Sheetal Devi has arrived at her home in Jammu after bagging three medals at the 4th Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China.

The para archer received a warm welcome on Thursday from her family members and the higher officials of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board on behalf of the Chairman of SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT).

While speaking to the press, Sheetal Devi said that she never thought she could achieve this



milestone. The Indian archer added that her coach motivated her constantly.

"I felt very good after winning 3 medals. When I started Archery, I never thought I could do this.

My coach motivated me a lot and gave me confidence that I could do archery. Today I gave my country 3 medals and I feel very happy," Sheetal said.

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Farmers in Border Areas of J&K in crisis as Non-Local Labourers leave following Cross-Border Firing

JAMMU, Nov 3 (Agencies): Farmers in the border areas of Arnia in Jammu and Kashmir are facing a grave shortage of labourers for the harvest of Basmati rice following cross-border firing and shelling last week.

Most of the labourers who come from other parts of India have left the area following the ceasefire violation.

As the farmers raised serious concerns over any delay in harvesting, the administration on

Thursday sent mechanical harvesters to the area to cut the crops.

The cross-border shelling by Pakistan Rangers, the first major ceasefire violation since 2021, started around 8 pm Thursday in the Arnia area of RS Pura sector and lasted around seven hours, leaving two BSF jawans and a woman injured.

"We are facing difficulty in harvesting Basmati crop due to a shortage of labourers. Most of the labourers who come

from outside Jammu and Kashmir have fled the area following cross-border shelling and firing last week," Ram Singh, a farmer, told reporters here.

While rains damaged the crops in the second week of October, the cross-border firing and shelling affected the farmers further, he said.

Scores of families were seen engaged in harvesting themselves in the fields in various hamlets along the International Border (IB) in

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Non-availability of initial appointment orders on JKHRMS | J&K Govt asks admin secretaries to submit supportive documents within 15 days

JAMMU, Nov 3 (Agencies): The J&K government has asked all the administrative secretaries to submit supporting documents, in support of the claim of around 1000 employees, whose "salaries have kept withheld since the rolling out of JKHRMS because of non-availability of initial appointment orders",

within 15 days.

The list of these employees, including two District and Session Judges; one IFS and one JKAS officers, has maximum i.e., 540 employees of J&K Health and Medical Education department.

"In order to establish the genuineness of the appointment of these

employees, the specified list of supporting documents, though not exhaustive, is critical in support of the claim of the employee in whose case initial appointment order is not available," GAD has directed.

The list of supporting documents includes authenticated first

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India establishing Defence wings in new locations around World: Army Chief Gen Pande



NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): India's outlook emphasises respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations as well as peaceful resolution of disputes and adherence to international rules, Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande said on Friday, against the backdrop of the festering border row with China in eastern Ladakh.

In an address at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue, Gen Pande also said that India is establishing defence wings in new locations around the world and that the Army is keen to enhance the scope and scale of joint military training and exercises with friendly foreign partner nations.

Delving into current geo-political upheavals, he emphasised on the need to take note of growing salience of national security in international affairs and the 'renewed currency' of hard power.

The Chief of Army Staff described India as the 'bright spot' amidst the backdrop of deepening and geo-political flux.

"Our outlook emphasises respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations, equality of all, peaceful resolution of disputes, avoidance of use of force and adherence to international rules, laws and regulations," Gen Pande said without making any specific references.

The Chief of Army Staff said India's commitment towards positively engaging all stakeholders has been "unwavering and enduring" over the years.

"In the military domain we understand our role in the emerging multi-lateral architecture. We are keen to enhance the scope and scale of our joint training and exercises, interoperability, sub-regional perspectives and sharing of best practices with friendly foreign partner nations," he said.

"To give fillip to our defence cooperation outreach, we are establishing defence wings in new locations around the world," he said.

"The challenges we face are significant but so are the opportunities and collective wisdom and strength," the Army Chief added.

Talking about India's rising stature, he said it has a credible voice at the world stage, "one that is distinct, rooted in Indian ethos and effective in articulating the

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SC asks AAP MP Raghav Chadha to tender unconditional apology to RS Chairperson

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday asked suspended AAP lawmaker Raghav Chadha to tender an unconditional apology to Rajya Sabha chairperson Jagdeep Thakkar on the select committee issue, and hoped that he would take a "sympathetic" view of the matter.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra asked Attorney General R Venkataramani to apprise it of the developments in the matter after the Diwali vacation.



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The CJ said the lawmaker will have to meet the Rajya Sabha chairperson to tender an unconditional apology on the issue. The vice president, in turn, may take a sympathetic view of the entire matter and take further steps in this regard.

Chadha has been under suspension since August 11 after some MPs, a majority from the

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Div Com Jammu inaugurates Apple authorised store



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Imagine|Tresor, has launched its new Experiential Apple store, at Residency Road, Jammu on Friday. Store was inaugurated by Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar.

The launch event witnessed the presence of ADC Jammu Anusuya Jamwal, President Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Arun Gupta and all senior team members from the Tresor Family.

Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar said, "Launch of second Imagine Apple store in Jammu, is testimony of the

development in the city and also syncs with our motto #Badalta-JammuKashmir. With festive season in place, it's a great opportunity for people of Jammu to explore the new products."

Founder and Managing Director, Shaurya Seth, Tresor Group said "We are delighted to add second store in the series in J&K. Jammu is an important market for us and will play an integral role in the overall growth strategy of the company. We are hopeful of expanding with more store launches in the future which will continue to cater to the needs of our customer and bring the experience to newer levels."

National Sales Head, Kunal Sangar said, "We are excited and happy about our new store launch at Residency Road, Jammu and anticipate a great response which could be seen in the euphoria amongst the customers who lined up for the launch. With a complete range of all products under one roof, we endeavour to offer enhanced customer support and after-sales service. Customer Experience is an obsession and not a KRA for our team mates".

"Imagine offers a wide range of Apple products and complementing range of branded accessories. The store will have the assortment of accessories

to help buyers get the most out of the product range. Whether you are looking for a MacBook sleeve or an iPad case, the latest Mac accessories or latest music accessories, the store stocks a huge range of accessories for Mac, iPad and iPhone. The store is in abundance of Apple's full line of desktop computers, laptops, mobiles and entire range of iPhone, iPad, AirPods, Apple Watches and beats", said Shruvan Kokroo, Group Head Marketing and CSR, Tresor Systems Pvt. Ltd.

Aman Sharma Cluster Head North, Tresor said, "With the newly launched store, Imagine Tresor has introduced its second authorized Apple store in Jammu and 39th in the country. The store is located on the ground floor and has a complete range of Apple products and suiting eco system products range. We will be launching more stores soon in Udaipur, Gurgaon & Delhi, in the next phase."

"Customers can also avail of upto 20% off on all Apple products and up to 30% off on accessories from 3rd to 6th November 2023", said Chandra Pandey, National Procurement Head, Tresor.

Nav Durga Kala Manch stages Nukkad Nataks

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Nav Durga Kala Manch staged three impactful Nukkad Nataks in various locations across Jammu City to mark Vigilance Week 2023.

Under the guidance of Secretary Bharat Singh Manhas, these performances aimed to convey the powerful message of "Say no to corruption," with a script written by Shashi Bhushan Sharma and direction by Shazi Khan.

On Friday, these thought-provoking Nukkad Nataks were held at the Food and Drug Control Office in Patoli, the Irrigation and Flood Control Office on Canal Road, and the Jal Shakti Vibhag Mechanical Rural

Circle in Jammu.

The talented artists, including Shazi Khan, Irfana Banoo, Aarzo Salathia, Ajay Baba, Rehaan Khan, Anil Bhatt, Kamakshya Dogra, and Harshvardhan Sharma, effectively conveyed the message to large and engaged audiences.

At the conclusion of each performance, the public's views on the importance of the message were sought, and their appreciation for Cultural Secretary Bharat Singh Manhas' efforts to organize such awareness-creating Nukkad Nataks was evident.

They also called for the continuation of similar initiatives on various themes in the future.

CANCELLATION/DIVERSION & PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

In order to undertake the Pre-Non Interlocking/Non-Interlocking work at Pathankot Yard of Jalandhar City-Jammu Tawi Section, Northern Railway will take suitable Traffic & Power Blocks upto 07.11.2023. During this period following trains will temporarily be affected as under:-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS	
Train No. & Train Name	Date(s) of Cancellation (from originating station)
04611/04612 Amritsar-Pathankot-Amritsar Special	07.11.2023
14633/14634 Amritsar-Pathankot-Amritsar Express	07.11.2023

DIVERSION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Name	Diverted via	Date (from the Originating Station)
19223 Ahmedabad Jn.-Jammu Tawi Express	Pathankot Cantt.-Bharoli Jn.-Jammu Tawi	Upto 06.11.2023
19224 Jammu Tawi-Ahmedabad Jn. Express	Bharoli Jn.-Pathankot Cantt.-Jalandhar City	03.11.2023 to 07.11.2023
18309 Sambalpur Jn.-Jammu Tawi Express	Bharoli Jn.-Pathankot Cantt.-Jammu Tawi	04.11.2023
18101 Tatanagar Jn.-Jammu Tawi Express	Bharoli Jn.-Pathankot Cantt.-Jammu Tawi	05.11.2023
19415 Ahmedabad Jn.-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express	Bharoli Jn.-Pathankot Cantt.-Jammu Tawi	05.11.2023
19416 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Ahmedabad Jn. Express	Bharoli Jn.-Pathankot Cantt.-Amritsar	07.11.2023

PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Train Name	Short Terminate at/ Originate from	Date (s) (from originating station)
04397/04398 Amritsar-Pathankot-Amritsar Special	at/from Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 07.11.2023
06951/06952 Pathankot-MCTM-Pathankot Special	at/from Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 07.11.2023
06933 Amritsar-Pathankot Special	at Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 07.11.2023
06949/06950 Jalandhar City-Pathankot-Jalandhar City Special	at/from Pathankot Cantt.	03.11 to 07.11.2023
06935 Verka Jn.-Pathankot Special	at Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 06.11.2023
06936 Pathankot-Verka Jn. Special	from Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 07.11.2023
06938 Pathankot-Amritsar Special	from Bharoli Jn.	03.11 to 06.11.2023

For any kind of information, passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

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Shivani Charak leaves Delhi to hone skill on international climbing

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: To secure a place for the Paris Olympics-2024, Shivani Charak of J&K, a top ranked sport climber of India, who brought laurels to our UT by becoming the first female athlete of J&K to compete in the Asian Games (19th Asian Games, Hangzhou, China) during the last 75 years, shall compete in the Asian Qualifier at Indonesia, in which four Olympic Quota places in Sport Climbing shall be up for grabs for the Paris Olympics-2024.

To prepare herself for performing to her full potential in the Asian

Qualifier to be held at Indonesia from 9th to 12th November, 2023, Shivani Charak left today for Delhi to hone her skill and stamina on international standard climbing walls.

Since Indian Mountaineering Foundation, the apex body for sport climbing in the country, is not sponsoring any climber for the event Mountaineering Association of J&K has decided to manage sponsorship of its own climber Shivani Charak, the pride of J&K, for the Olympic Qualifying event so as to give her an opportunity to prove her mettle at the global level.



It is pertinent to mention here that it is exclusively a testament to her dedication, grit, hard work and will power that Shivani could rise to the global level despite lack of proper climbing infrastructure in our Union Territory. Meanwhile, before

her departure for Delhi Shivani Charak called upon the General Secretary of Mountaineering Association of J&K Shawetika Khajuria who assured her all possible help regarding her preparation for the international competitions. Principal Apple Kids

International Pre School, Bantalab Arti Sharma and Seema Sharma, Director of Sprawling Buds ICSC School were also present on the occasion. All of them wished good luck to Shivani for success at the Olympic Qualifying event.

BLSKS conducts one-week special Nukkad Natak campaign on "Dengue"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: The Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) in coordination with STAP conducted a one-week special Nukkad Natak campaign on "Dengue" in Jammu to raise awareness about vector-borne diseases, including dengue and malaria, and their treatments.

The campaign was a part of the 387th Friday Series Musical Play "Inderdhanush" and was held at the open-air theater Durga Bhawan, Janipur Jammu.

The programme was inaugurated by V.K Magotra, the Former Regional Director of Directorate of Field Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, and Dr. Tara Singh Charak, Former Chief Medical Officer of Jammu and Kashmir Government, Udhampur. Renowned Media Person Mukesh Singh also presided over the function.

The aim of this initiative was to rejuvenate and promote the traditional and primitive folk art and culture of the Jammu and Kashmir region and India in general.

The campaign featured Nukkad Natak (street plays), skits, folk songs, and awareness items with themes related to diseases like "Chara Da Bukhar," "Roko Roko Malaria Gi Roko," "Bacho Bacho Dengu Kola Bacho," "Machar dani lai de ve," and "Khat Dana Nai oh dinda- Machar Bura."

These performances were designed to educate the masses about the prevention and treatment of vector-borne diseases, especially dengue and malaria. The Chief Guest praised the efforts of the organizers in creating awareness programs with colourful, effective, and result-oriented content to promote love, peace, national unity, communal harmony, Indian democracy, and health.

He also emphasized the global efforts to control malaria and the progress that has been made in recent years, while noting that malaria remains a significant health challenge in many parts of the world. The artists of BLSKS presented a total of six programs in various areas of Jammu District, including Dansal, to reach a wider audience. The songs on the theme were written by Dr. M.L. Dogra, and the music was assisted by M.C. Kotwal, the Music Director of BLSKS. These songs were also recorded and uploaded on social media platforms to further raise awareness among the general public.

Dr. M.L. Dogra, the chairman, highlighted the importance of creating awareness about diseases like dengue, especially among children and pregnant women who are more vulnerable to such illnesses in tropical countries. He discussed the

devastating effects of malaria and how it can be deadly, particularly to these vulnerable groups. The event aimed to showcase the progress made in countries working towards malaria elimination and inspire other nations to continue their efforts in combating the disease.

Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease that affects humans and other animals. It can cause symptoms such as fever, tiredness, vomiting, and headaches. In severe cases, it can lead to yellow skin, seizures, coma, or death. The disease is transmitted through the bites of infected mosquitoes, and several species of the Plasmodium parasite can cause malaria in humans.

The event emphasized the need to continue the fight against malaria, mobilize resources, and engage communities and individuals in malaria prevention. The performers and participants in the musical play included singers, musicians, actors, and students from music and computer institutes, all of whom contributed to the success of the program.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Master Deepak Kumar for the successful conduct of the program. Dr. M.L. Dogra's message reinforces the importance of creating awareness about vector-borne diseases and continuing the fight against malaria.

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
PHE MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH JAMMU
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT PHE/JMS/97 of 2023-24 Dated 31-10-2023**

Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered/ reputed firms.

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee(In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Validity of Rates
1	2	3	4	5
Providing and replacement of damaged components of LT Control Panel of Tube well Women College Gandhi Nagar under Non Plan	PHE Mech. Division South Jammu	Rs. 200.00 (Non-Refundable) In the shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html	@ 2% of estimated cost/ tender value In the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu	Bid shall be valid for 180 days

- 1) Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **01-11-2023 (12:00 PM) and uploaded from 02-11-2023 (10:00 AM) to 09-11-2023 (03:00 PM)**. The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- 2) Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table.
- 3) The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the tenderer shall be debarred from participating in tendering process for a period of 1 year.
- 4) The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of **Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu on 10-11-2023 at 3:00 P.M** or any other day convenient to the Ex. Engineer in the Office chambers of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu.
- 5) The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall also be opened online in the office of the **Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division South Jammu** during office hours and shall be communicated separately.
- 6) Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>
- 7) The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L₁ bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division South Jammu within 05 days after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L₁ bidder within 05 days after opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- 8) Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.

No: PHE/JMS/2832-36
Dated:- 31-10-2023

DIP/J-10522/23

**Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Department
PHE Mech. Division South
Jammu**

EDITORIAL

UNEMPLOYMENT-A TERRIBLE PROBLEM

The problem of unemployment in India is a terrible problem. Here about 44 lakh people come and stand in the queue of unemployed every year. Today there are crores of uneducated and educated unemployed in India. The first and foremost reason for unemployment is the continuous increase in population.

The population in India is increasing at an annual rate of 25 percent. For which there is a need to provide employment to 50 lakh people every year whereas only 5-6 lakh people get employment. Our education system is at fault for unemployment.

There is a lack of vocational education here. In the absence of practical or technical education, the student remains unemployed after completing education. Apart from this, unemployment is also increasing due to closure of small and cottage industries.

Due to shortage of raw materials and finished goods not being consumed in the market, workers are leaving small and cottage industries. Thus the problem of unemployment is increasing further.

Mechanization has also taken away employment from the hands of countless people and made them unemployed, because one machine completes the work of many workers. As a result, a large number of people are becoming unemployed.

Solution to this unemployment is also possible. The best way to reduce unemployment is to control population growth. Unemployment can also be prevented by stopping population growth. Apart from this, education should be made employment oriented so that the student can get employment after getting educated.

Development of small and cottage industries is also essential to reduce unemployment.

These industries should be encouraged by the government by providing money, raw materials, technical assistance and consumption of their finished goods, this will also reduce unemployment. Apart from this, employment can also be increased by developing industries like poultry farming, dairy farming, horticulture etc.

To reduce unemployment, the government should emphasize on works like road construction, tree plantation etc. so that the uneducated unemployed can get employment. In short, we can say that a permanent solution to unemployment is possible by reducing the birth rate, commercializing education and encouraging small industries.

Employment is the basic need of a person. God has given us brain, hands, legs, many mental powers, heart and emotions so that they can be fully utilized and man can achieve self-realization. This may be the goal of our life, but if we have no work to do, if we do not have the opportunity to use the powers mentioned above, then many problems arise.

First, we cannot fulfill our physical and mental needs. Second, in the absence of work, we will come to mischief. Third, in the absence of suitable employment opportunities, we will not be able to develop ourselves morally and spiritually. Thus, in a society in which the problem of employment is complex, there will be frustration, crime and underdeveloped personalities.

Central posting of Gujarat IPS officers sets off huge Delhi buzz

By: Dilip Cherian

The recent request by the ministry of home affairs (MHA) for the Central deputation of seven high-ranking IPS officers from the Gujarat cadre has stirred more than the usual buzz and anticipation, particularly among those officers who feature prominently in the list.

The IPS officers on the list include V. Chandrashekar, IGP of Surat range, Achal Tyagi of Mehsana, Praveen Meena, SP of Anand, Amit Vasava, SP of Ahmedabad, Ajit Rajan, DCP of Ahmedabad cyber cell, Sunil Joshi, SP of ATS and Shweta Shrimali, SP of Ahmedabad Central Jail. It's noteworthy that this would be Mr Chandrashekar's second stint in Central deputation, having previously served as DIG with the CBI.

Also notably, the husband-wife duo of Sunil Joshi and Shweta Shrimali has opted for Central deputation with the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Mr Joshi's request to steer clear of the CBI reportedly led to his assignment with the NIA. The home ministry, meanwhile, has expressed a preference for CBI deputation for the remaining five IPS officers.

According to sources, in total, 13 IPS officers from various states were initially shortlisted for Central deputation. The MHA has already

approached other states to relieve six IPS officers and a similar request for the seven Gujarat cadre officers is expected soon.

Sources say that this move is taking place in the context of more than 10 Gujarat cadre IPS officers who are already serving in various key positions in Central agencies. Gujarat never had it so good until the advent of the Modi Sarkar!

Meanwhile, though DKB is scrupulously avoiding being casteist, our deep throats are murmuring about a certain Central agency that has a promotion list that's skewing some balance and disconcerting some. But on that, maybe more later?

Will Pandian's transition to politics alter governance in Odisha?

A significant development in Odisha is likely to impact the state's political dynamics in the months ahead. V.K. Pandian, who has been serving as the private secretary to chief minister Naveen Patnaik since 2011, took voluntary retirement, opening the door to a more direct and influential role in the state's administration.

A 2000-batch IAS officer, hailing from Tamil Nadu, Mr Pandian's decision to apply for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) was promptly approved within just three days. His swift transition raised eyebrows and gar-

nered significant attention.

What makes Mr Pandian's exit from the IAS particularly noteworthy is his immediate appointment to key positions in the Odisha government. Within a mere 24 hours of relinquishing his prestigious civil service career, he was designated as the chairman of "5T", a ground-breaking governance reform initiative, and "Nabin Odisha", a recently launched rural development scheme. Importantly, these roles are vested with the authority and rank of a Cabinet minister, placing Mr Pandian at the heart of Odisha's political landscape.

Beyond his redoubtable professional qualifications, Mr Pandian's personal connections also play a pivotal role in this transition. His Odia wife is a significant asset as he embarks on this political journey. His proven reliability and dedication over the years while serving as chief minister Naveen Patnaik's private secretary further add to his credentials.

Mr Pandian's move is not just a shift in his career, it is a major turning point in Odisha's political narrative. With a dedicated babu now assuming a prominent political role, it will be worth watching how Odisha's governance is affected and what new strategies, reforms and initiatives will unfold.

A rare climbdown by Modi govt

It's indeed a rare climbdown for the Modi Sarkar. Barely a week after issuing a circular deputing joint secretary, directors and deputy directors as district "rath prabharis" to highlight the government's achievements, the Centre has backed down after facing a severe backlash from, among others, babus themselves! Even more surprising is that the Election Commission has issued a notice saying that such activities cannot be held in constituencies where the model code of conduct is in force until December 5.

After facing criticism from Opposition parties and several retired senior bureaucrats, I&B Secretary Apurva Chandra, too, echoed the poll panel's words, adding that using the term "rath prabharis" for senior government officers is improper and these officials would now be addressed as nodal officers. While the campaign will continue, the negativity it has created in the bureaucracy and among the public may have surprised the government itself.

For most of its tenure, it has cultivated a pliant babu culture, with few daring to question their political masters, especially on issues like propriety and ethics of governance. This strong resistance from the babus, then, is a rare occurrence indeed, but one that bodes well for the future of civil services and democracy.

Sports Commentator - How to become a Sports Commentator



By: Vijay GarG

Sports Commentators (Sportscasters) describe the events of a sporting game or event. They may broadcast the event on radio, giving enough of a description for the listener to understand what is going on. Sports Commentators also work in television, giving a commentary as a companion to a game. In periods of little action, a commentator may talk about current events in the sport or different aspects of the sport's history.

In today's time, there are many career scopes for them in Sports fields along with many other areas. They must have knowledge of different languages depending from country to country along with good knowledge of the English language.

Sports Commentator Eligibility Educational Qualification

The minimum educational qualification for becoming eligible to Sports Commentator courses is 10th or 12th class with journalism subjects.

Sports Commentator Required Skills

Sports Commentators should

have speaking, writing, listening and interpersonal skills, research abilities and media production skills.

They should possess good knowledge of media production, communication and dissemination techniques and methods.

They should also be good in telecommunications such as knowledge of transmission, broadcasting, switching, control and operation of telecommunications systems.

They must possess quick thinking skills as during commentary they have a sudden turn in momentum from one team to the other, an injury to a player, sudden weather changes. The ability to think quickly and stay calm and professional when the unexpected or even traumatic happens is a valuable skill for sportscasters.

How to become a Sports Commentator?

One has to follow the steps given below for becoming a Sports Commentator.

Step 1

To become a Sports Commentator, one needs to have an excellent speaking manner and the ability to think on your feet as well. They need a great knowledge of sports, as well as some skills in journalism.

Step 2

Sports Commentator should have a good educational background; should complete a four-year Bachelors' degree in Journalism, Broadcast Journalism, or Communications. Some of the courses are given below. For Diploma/ Degree courses, students should be 10th or 12th class pass with journalism or communication as one of the sub-

jects. Degree/Diploma courses are:

B.A. (English with Journalism)

Diploma in Broadcast Journalism

B.A. (Journalism and Mass Communication)

Step 3

Students willing for having post graduation courses can go for them. There are many institutes offering courses in journalism and communication. Some of Masters' Degree courses are given below of which candidates can take up. For Master Degree courses, they must have been passed their graduation in the concerned subjects like journalism and communication with at least 50% marks. Postgraduate Courses are:

M.A. (Broadcast Communication)

M.A. (Advertising and Communication Management)

M.A. (Broadcast Journalism)

Institutes offering Courses for Sports Commentator

Shaheed Bhagat Singh College of Management and Technology, Faridabad

MIT Jansanwad College, Latur

MIT International School of Broadcasting and Journalism, Pune

Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi.

Sports Commentator Job Description

Some of the Sports Commentators perform other roles in the broadcast media industry. They may write a column, or work as a broadcast reporter. Some are employed in the sporting industry and work as a commentator on the side. Some of them are often employed by sports facilities, such as arenas or race clubs. They are also known as Announcers.

Sports Commentator Career Prospects

Sports Commentators have jobs option in radio stations can be considered as the entry point to a career as a commentator. Later they can move on to TV or other private channels/ media.

They are also employed by newspapers, radios or by TV stations to comment on the match.

They also have jobs on sports channel such as Star Sports, ESPN Ten Sports, Zee Sports and DD Sports employ sports commentators.

They are also employed by sports organizations and networks to cover live action i.e play-by-play of sporting events.

Commentators can write commentaries or columns for newspapers, magazines, or other publications. In majority cases, former sportsmen after retirement take up commentating as a profession.

Sports Commentator Salary

The pay scale for Sports Commentators varies greatly, mainly depending on the place of employment and their own quality and presentation. In an average, Commentators earn anywhere between Rs.5000 to Rs.10,000 a day. But well-known ones command a better sum from Rs.25,000 onwards for a day. Their annual income depends on the number of days in a year you get work for.

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

KP Sabha elections is farce, present body is holding office unconstitutionally: KPs

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Expressing concerns over the Kashmiri Pandit Sabha (KP Sabha) elections, some prominent Kashmiri Pandits, including ex-JMC commissioner Kiran Wattal, Dr. Ashok Aima, and Sadhu, have labeled the proposed Prof Agnishekhar KP Sabha elections as a farce and have claimed that the present body is holding office unconstitutionally.

They argued that the current KP Sabha body has been in office for six years, which is in violation of the Sabha's constitution, which specifies a two-year term for elected officials.

The general body members of the Sabha are supposed to be elected by recognized Mohalla Committees, which have been non-existent for the last decade,



they said adding that this absence of elected representatives from Mohalla Committees has created concerns about the legitimacy of the current Sabha.

The office bearers of the Sabha are supposed to be non-political, but the current president, K.K. Khosa, had unsuccessfully contested assembly elections from Jammu West on the ticket of a Kashmir-based party, which is seen as a violation of the Sabha's constitution, they said.

They also alleged that membership has been restricted to the relatives, office bearers, and close associates of the current committee since 2018, without any public notification, which is considered undemocratic.

They said that genuine voters have been harassed, and 700 votes of displaced Kashmiri Pan-

dit (KPs) have been deleted.

The president's term, originally from 2015 to 2018, was extended for another two years through an amendment to the constitution without the approval of the Registrar Society, they said adding that Sabha was not re-registered after 2016, and this amendment was considered illegal.

The present election for the position of president is criticized as a formality, as one candidate has withdrawn from the contest, and the Sabha has not been re-registered, raising questions about the legitimacy of the election.

They appealed to permanent members, term members, and displaced brethren to come forward and restore the Sabha's glory, emphasizing the organization's long history and its prominent role in the KP community.

Implement NCPCR Manual's guidelines in toto in all schools: Jammu School Edu



JAMMU, Nov 3 (Agencies): Jammu School Education Department has directed all the Heads of the Department to circulate and implement in toto the guidelines of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) manual in all the schools of the province.

As per the order issued by the Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma, all the Chief Education Officers of Jammu Division referring to the implementation of NCPCR guideline manual in all the schools have stated that the NCPCR deals with the universality and inviolability of child rights and focus on the protection of all children in the age group of 0 to 18 years.

"As you all know that a safe and secure environment is a prerequisite for effective teaching and learning. The importance of safety in schools cannot be denied, as it aids in students' emotional, mental, and physical development," the order read.

The Directorate however, directed the CEOs to circulate NCPCR's Manuals on 'Safety and Security of Children in Schools among all the schools (both Govt. and Private) for awareness and effective implementation of the guidelines.

Meanwhile a senior official in the Education Department said that in their formative years, children spend more time at school than anywhere else other than their own home.

"At school, children need a secure, positive, and comfortable environment to help them learn and grow. A safe learning environment is essential for students of all ages. Without that they are unable to focus on learning the skills needed for a successful education and future," he said.

"The issue of school safety is a major concern at all levels of government from local to federal. 'School Safety' has been defined as creating a safe environment for children, starting from their homes to their schools and back," said.

The official added that this includes safety from any kind of abuse, violence, psycho-social issue, disaster: natural and manmade, fire, transportation. Emotional safety is especially

important because it is often difficult for teachers and parents to detect emotional problems and difficulties in children.

"Bullying can cause victimized students to suffer from lower self-esteem and daily stress about their well-being," he said, adding that the children require a healthy and supportive environment to grow and develop.

"In a significant ruling, the Supreme Court ordered that no new government or private school would be given affiliation if the building did not have fire safety measures and earthquake resistant structure," he said quoting death of 93 children in a fire at a Kumbakonam school in Tamil Nadu five years ago following which, a Bench comprising Justice H Dalveer Bhandari S Bedi said, "Children cannot be compelled to receive education from an unsound and unsafe building."

"This Manual on Safety and Security of children in Schools will act as comprehensive guidelines for the Education Departments, Educational Boards, school staff, students etc and this will also empower students to learn about safety measures," he asserted.

BSP demands early Assembly polls, restoration of Statehood in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Bahujaan Samaj Party (BSP) has demanded early Assembly polls and restoration of Statehood in J&K.

BSP J&K UT General Secretary Rajesh Gupta on Friday said that situation in J&K has worsened due to the steps taken in 2019 and after it.

"There is a complete governance deficit," he added.

The BSP leader hit out

at the Central Government for downgrading the historical state and snatching rights to land and jobs besides trade and business opportunities at the cost of locals and said that Government has failed to achieve any of the claimed benefits of August 2019 decision.

He said Jammu and Kashmir is deprived of democracy for more than four years and there is total uncertainty about Assembly elections and restoration of statehood despite commitment on the floor of the house by the Prime Minister and Home Minister.

"BSP stands guarantee to peace, harmony, dignity, restoration of statehood and rights to land and jobs," Gupta asserted.

One Week MSME sponsored a-ESDP starts at SKUAST-K



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 3: One week Advanced Entrepreneurship skill development programme sponsored by the Ministry of MSME Gol program on entrepreneurship opportunities through commercial floriculture and management strategies for startups was Organized by Division of floriculture and landscape architecture

Sohail Allaqband Representative from MSME while addressing the participants especially young youth emphasized on exploration of these training programs for establishment of their own startups to become futuristic entrepreneurs of the country.

An MoU was signed between Biocarve seeds and SKUAST-K. The founder director of Biocarve seeds Prof Allah Rang revealed the successful journey during establishment of big farm of 8000 Kanals in different

areas of punjab. He also informed how his team with technical and other financial support connected farmers across Punjab from gross root level for commercial floriculture.

He desired to replicate the same for Kashmiri farmers to enhance their income by connecting them to commercial floriculture and also desired to connect them with export market like Holland through buy back policy.

The Chief Guest Prof Haroon Naik, Director Planning and Monitoring expressed the role of SKUAST-K in exploring the new entrepreneurs through these skill based program sponsored by MSME and shared his views about commercial floriculture as a big avenue for youth for establishing them in entrepreneurship business with the scope of export avenues too.

Professor Naik praised innovative role of Vice Chancellor Professor

Nazir A Ganie through his leadership which has resulted SKUAST K as the only Agriculture University in the country.

Prof Nazir A Ganie Vice Chancellor of SKUAST K in his key remarks while interacting with national experts Dr Allah Rang and Dr N K Dandlani expressed thrust on commercial Floriculture so that Entrepreneurship and socio economic upliftment can be achieved for educated youth.

Professor Nelofer of Floriculture Division informed house about the role of Floriculture in sustainable development.

During an interaction session Dr Z A Rather, Dr Z A Qadri, Dr Zahoor A Rather, Dr Riaz and other participants discussed the road map of commercialisation.

Dr Nasir Masoodi presented the overview of program and opportunities for youth in floriculture.

Professor F U Khan presented vote of thanks to chief guest and other delegates.

2 J&K Girls Bn NCC in collaboration with Dept. of Anesthesiology, AIIMS Jammu conducts BLS Training



Top News Report

NAGROTA, Nov 3: To empower the budding leaders with essential life-saving skills and fostering a culture of preparedness and community service, 2 J&K Girls Bn under the aegis of Group Headquarters, Jammu in collaboration with Dept. of Anesthesiology AIIMS, Jammu organised a comprehensive training workshop on Basic Life Support (BLS) for the cadets of 2 J&K Girls Bn. During ATC-J5 at Nagrota Training Academy on 2nd Nov 2023 in the presence of Col Muneesh Jasrotia, Camp Commandant ATC-J5 and Lt Col Rakesh Yadav, AD Training NCC Directorate JK&L.

This training program equipped NCC cadets with the knowledge and skills required to respond effectively during medical emergencies.

The auditorium in NTA reverberated with the highly informative and impactful workshop.

A team of six dedicated doctors led by Dr Sunaina Gupta, Additional Professor introduced the cadets with Scene safety and importance of calling for help through helpline No 108.

Dr Raksha Kundal, Associate Professor and Dr Tarandeep, Assistant Professor, dept of Anesthesiology introduced the cadets with the correct procedure of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Chest compression in emergency

situations.

Dr Parwaiz and Dr Sandeepika upskilled the cadets about how to improve breathing of a victim in situations when single rescuer is present and also when two or more rescuers are available.

The workshop gained the momentum with hands on training for both compression and ventilation provided by the team at four stations.

Dr Raksha and Dr Sunaina oriented the participants about Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and demonstrated how it can help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest as an essential tool in cardiac emergencies.

Cadets were also apprised of specialized techniques for providing Basic Life Support (BLS) to infants, children, and pregnant females.

Dr Aman also addressed specific scenarios such as recovery choking, drowning, management of external bleeding in trauma.

Complementing lecture with hands on training allowed the participants to gain confidence in applying skills learned during workshop.

The programme concluded on a positive note that by providing BLS training to cadets, we are not only empowering them to become responsible and compassionate citizens but also contributing to the larger goal of building a resilient society.

Maintain regular power supply to consumers: KCCI to KPDCL

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 3: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) assessed the unprecedented erratic power supply occurring in Kashmir valley over the past several months which has been gravely affecting the industry, trade /business of all sorts and the households in general.

The Chamber expressed its deep concern and disappointment with the unreliable and contradictory policies of the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) being adopted for maintaining regular power supply to the consumers.

It is strange that the department while starting the process of installation of smart meters had committed to uninterrupted flawless electric supply to the consumers, which has not proved true on the ground as the power supply has been severely erratic for most of the time during the year.

The KPDCL came out with a schedule for electric supply instead of making sure the regular supply.

However, astonishingly the KPDCL has miserably failed to stick to the announced schedule also further compounding the miseries of the all type of consumers.

It appears the Department is continuously failing in meeting the aspiration of the consumers and is not only hiding behind one or the other excuse but is resorting to a false propaganda.

Many weeks ago the KPDCL announced that it had procured power from Uttar Pradesh and was in negotiations for purchasing more from central Grid to ease out of the situation created by the Power shortage.

Nothing has happened since then and the Department came out even with a power curtailment before the onset of winter when the power demand is lesser than that of harsh winter months.

The KCCI requested the Lt. Governor to personally intervene, direct concerned officials to take measures in ensuring the power supply to the consumers and alleviate the miseries of the consumers particularly the Industries, Tourism Sector, Industrial Estates, CA stores, shopkeepers and Traders, Senior Citizen, Sick, students, Health, Education on account of non-availability of regular power Supply through the punishing cold winters.

It is worth mention that the Government spends crores on tourism promotion as a result of which we receive a large number of tourists thereby contributing to various sectors of economy.

The helpless tourists not only face a tough time but become a bad publicity for our tourism due to the prevailing and worsening power crisis. KCCI expects KPDCL shows some responsibility towards the beleaguered population, to say the least.

AAP opposes biometric thumb impressions of all family members at ration depot



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Amit Kapoor has said that widow, disabled and old age pensions were already stopped following the orders of Jammu and Kashmir administration. People have to visit offices to complete the formalities.

At the same time, due to the latest Tughlaqi decree of the CAPD department, people are now forced to visit ration depots.

According to the new decree, biometric thumb impressions of all family members are being taken.

Healthy people can go anywhere but sick elders at home also have to stand in queues.

Kapoor said that the government first banned sugar and then cut the ration and now people are being harassed without any reason.

Earlier the government harassed people in the name of smart meters, property tax, toll plazas. After that the pension was stopped and now the ration has also been stopped.

He asked the government what revenge they are taking against the people of Jammu and Kashmir and what the 25 useless people

of BJP sitting in Jammu are doing.

On one hand, Arvind Kejriwal is working on a plan to deliver ration to people from door to door, on the other hand, Jammu and Kashmir administration is stopping ration and making old and sick people stand in queues from home.

Amit Kapoor said that the public is watching everything, its answer will be given in the elections.

They will completely boycott the BJP, which is oppressing the public, and the Congress, which remains a mute spectator.

AAAMDC Bemina organizes Seminar to celebrate Vigilance Awareness Week

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 3: In connection with the ongoing Vigilance Awareness Week, Govt. Degree College Bemina Srinagar on Friday conducted a one-day Inter-College Seminar on 'Say No to Corruption, Commit to the Nation', in the college Auditorium, here.

Principal, Abdul Ahad Azad Memorial Degree College (AAAMDC) Bemina, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Simmani graced

the occasion. SDPO West, Shahjahan was a special guest among many other dignified guests, faculty and students of city colleges.

The Principal of the college highlighted the prevalence and need to rid society of corruption.

Speaking on the occasion, SDPO threw light on the different facets of corruption and its prevalence at various levels in the society.

Afterwards, 13 students from different colleges of Srinagar par-

ticipated in the seminar and highlighted various aspects of corruption, its different forms, and the possible ways to rid society of this menace.

Irfana Rasool, Dr. Musharraf Rehman and Alima Mudasar acted as judges on the event.

Fahad Fayaz from Amar Singh College, Fadak Akeel from AAAM Degree College, Bemina and Maryam Rukhsar from Women's College, M.A. Road obtained the first three positions, respectively.

Mobile phones of 17 Shah Rukh Khan fans stolen as hundreds gather outside his Mumbai home on his birthday

Thieves stole the mobile phones of at least 17 Shah Rukh Khan fans who were among hundreds of people gathered to wish the Bollywood actor on his 58th birthday outside his home in suburban Bandra, the police said on Friday.

The incident took place in the early hours of Thursday when a sea of SRK fans was trying to catch a glimpse of the actor on his birthday outside his home 'Mannat', an official said.

The Bandra police registered two separate offences against unidentified persons in this connection on Thursday, he said.

The first complaint was filed by a 23-year-old photographer from a national newspaper, the official said.

As per his complaint, he came to Bandra Bandstand with



friends and joined the crowd outside Mannat. Around 12.30 am, the complainant realised his mobile phone, which he had kept in his pocket, was missing, the official said.

The photographer soon learnt that many others had also lost

their phones, the official said. He went to Bandra police station to report the theft.

More fans of the actor then came to lodge similar complaints.

The police clubbed the complaints and registered an FIR

for theft against unidentified persons, the official said.

Another FIR was registered on the complaint of a 24-year-old man, who lives in Parel of Central Mumbai, the police said. In all, the police have been informed about the theft of the mobile phones of 17 fans.

Every year, hundreds of fans turn up outside Shah Rukh Khan's bungalow to wish him on his birthday on November 2.

The actor comes out of his home to thank his fans, the official said, adding a huge security deployment is maintained outside Mannat to avoid any untoward incident.

Despite the security arrangements, thieves took advantage of the crowd and stole the phones, the official said.

Kangana Ranaut, on Gujarat tour after 'Tejas' blow, shares video saying her 'heart has been troubled', fans reply 'stick to making reels, not films'



After not so good an opening of her movie 'Tejas' in theatres, Kangana Ranaut visited Shree Dwarkadhish Temple in Gujarat on Thursday.

Kangana shared photos and videos from her tour. The actress also wrote a note saying her "heart has been

troubled". "Floating over the submerged ancient city of Dwarka, why is this place so intoxicating ♥ Hare Krishna #dwarkadhish♥"

In another message with a picture, she wrote: "kuchh dinon se hrday bahut vyaakul tha, aisa man hua ki dvaari-

kaadheesh ke darshan karoon, shree krshn kee is divy nagaree dvaarika mein aate hee, yahaan kee dhool maatr ke darshan se aisa laga ki meree saaree chintaayen toot kar mere kadamon mein gir gae hon. mera man sthir ho gaya aur anant aanand kee anubhooti huee. he dvaarikaadheesh isee tarah apane krp banaaye rakhana hare krshna ♥"

One replied: "Bass reels hi bnaya karro abb ! Films bnana tumhare bass ki baat nahi".

She has requested her online fans to come to the theatres and watch her movie.

Kangana played the lead role in 'Tejas'.

Black Widow angry...

Actress Scarlett Johansson is reportedly suing an app developer for using her name and AI-generated version of her voice in an online ad. The 22-second ad shows Johansson behind the scenes while filming Black Widow, where she says "What's up guys? It's Scarlett and I want you to come with me."

Later, an AI-generated voice meant to sound like the actress takes over, saying, "It's not limited to avatars only. You can also create images with texts and even your AI videos. I think you shouldn't miss it."

Convert Software — the developer behind the app — included text at the bottom of the ad that read: "Images produced by Lisa AI. It has nothing to do with this person."



Representatives for Johansson were quoted as saying in the report

that the actress was never a spokesperson for the app.

Angelina Jolie slams world leaders, says they are complicit in deaths of thousands in Palestine

Angelina Jolie, apart from being an acclaimed Hollywood actress, is also an activist and she has been keeping a close watch on Israel's ongoing war with Hamas.

Taking to her social media, the actress called world leaders complicit in the death of thousands of people in Gaza as they have refused to demand a ceasefire.

On her Instagram, the 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith' actress shared a picture of the horrifying devastation that has taken place, and wrote a lengthy message critiquing the role of world leaders in their inability to stop the war.

She wrote: "This is the deliberate bombing of a trapped population who have nowhere to



flee. Gaza has been an open-air prison for nearly two decades and is fast becoming a mass grave."

She added: "40 per cent of those killed are innocent children. Whole families are being murdered."

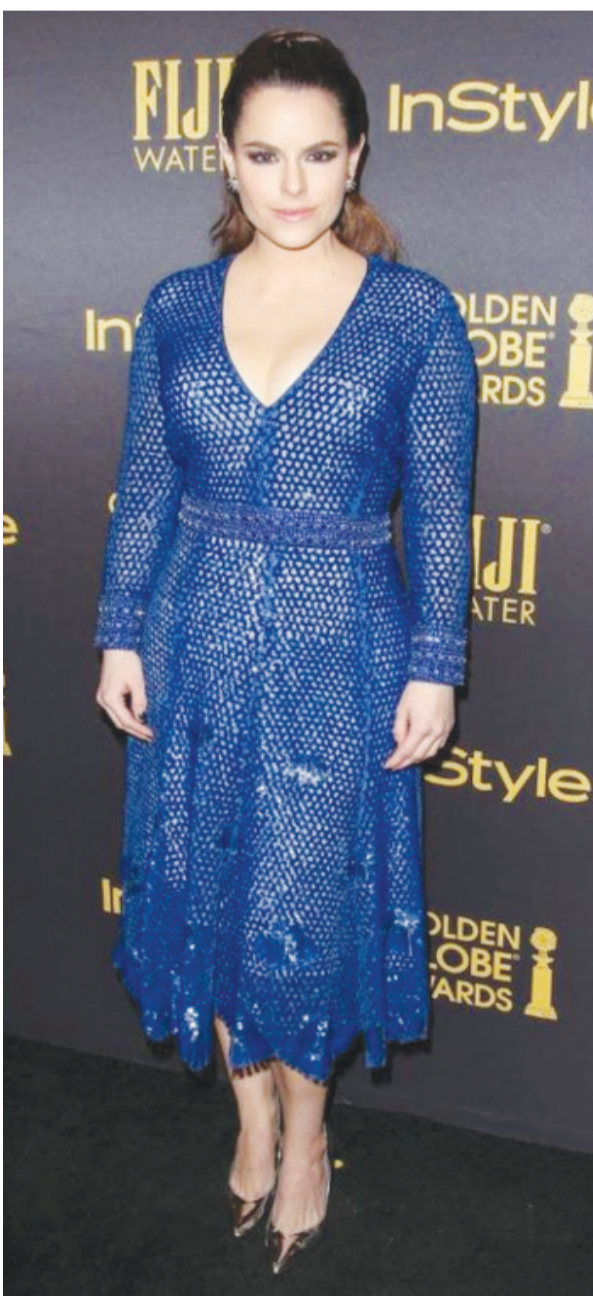
While the world watches and with the active support of many governments, millions of Palestinian civilians - children, women, families - are being collectively punished and dehumanised, all while being deprived food, medicine and humanitarian aid against international law. By refusing to demand a humanitarian ceasefire and blocking the UN Security Council from imposing one on both parties, world leaders are complicit in these crimes."

The 'Original Sin' alum has been calling for a ceasefire ever since Israeli Defence Forces retaliated against the terrorist organisation Hamas after the October 7 killings.

Since the fight has escalated, the IDF has been bombing Gaza relentlessly killing Hamas terrorists in the dozens and destroying much of their bases in Gaza, though at the cost of the civilians in Palestine - both in West Bank and the Gaza strip.

Apart from air operations, the IDF is also conducting several on-ground operations, participating in surgical strikes and targeting various Hamas outposts, cutting off their supply lines and eliminating their commanders.

Schitt's Creek star Emily Hampshire apologises for Depp, Heard Halloween costume



Schitt's Creek actress Emily Hampshire, who played Stevie Budd in the award-winning sitcom, has apologised

after receiving backlash for dressing up, along with a friend, as Johnny Depp and Amber Heard for Halloween.

Hampshire dressed as Depp with fake tattoos, a drawn-on moustache and holding a bottle of wine, while her friend impersonated a crying Heard.

She posted the photo on Instagram, captioned 'Happy Halloween', flanked by two pumpkins, which she has since deleted amid a torrent of criticism on social media. She replaced the post with her apology.

"I want to address what is one of the most thoughtless, insensitive, and ignorant things I've ever done," Hampshire wrote.

"For Halloween, I stupidly thought it would be funny to dress as Johnny Depp and Amber Heard. I am deeply sorry and ashamed for putting something that awful out in the universe. Domestic abuse is never, ever funny. These are real issues with real people and I really regret my actions. In the future I will do better. I'm so sorry," she added.

A Virginia jury awarded Depp \$15 million in damages against Heard over the 2018 op-ed she wrote for 'The Washington Post' that claimed she was a victim of domestic abuse.

The civil jury later added \$2 million in damages to Heard in her counterclaim.

Alma joins the cast of Neerja...



Alma Hussein has been roped in the role of Trisha. She's a perfect match for Abeer and the ideal daughter-in-law for the Bagchi family in Neerja...Ek Nayi Pehchaan.

Talking about her entry in the show Alma Hussein says, "I'm excited as Neerja...Ek Nayi Pehchaan is my first collaboration with Colors. It's surreal. I'll be seen essaying the role of Trisha, who's a Bengali beauty and the daughter of a very successful businessman. She is well-educated and has a lot of poise, grace and maturity, but the only grey trait she has is that she's obsessed with Abeer. I can't wait for the audiences to see me as Trisha and watch my character bring a storm in Abeer and Neerja's love story."

1.1 million copies of Britney Spears' memoir, The Woman in Me, sold after just one week of release in US

Britney Spears' memoir The Woman in Me has sold 1.1 million copies in the US alone through its first week. "I poured my heart and soul into my memoir, and I am grateful to my fans and readers around the world for their unwavering support," Spears said in a statement released of Wednesday by Gallery Books, a division of Simon & Schuster.

The sales figures include pre-orders, print sales, e-books and audiobooks.

The Woman in Me, released on October 24, has been praised by critics as a compelling account of her rise to global fame and her ongoing struggles, including the conservatorship that for years granted her father control of much of her life and her revelation that she had an abortion while dating Justin Timberlake more than 20 years ago.

On the day of publication, Spears posted on Instagram that her book had become 'the highest selling celebrity memoir in history'.

The Woman in Me, for which she did little publicity beyond Instagram,



was the top seller of last week.

But Prince Harry's memoir, Spare, which came out in January, sold 1.6 million copies in the US during its first week.

Spears' memoir helped give a strong boost to streams and sales across her music catalog, according to Luminate, a music and entertainment analytics

company.

In one day last week, from Monday to Tuesday, Spears' catalog jumped 18.2 per cent in on-demand streams, and 36.8 per cent in album sales.

The audio edition of The Woman in Me, read by Oscar-nominated actor Michelle Williams, appears a key factor in the book's initial popularity.

Rs 50,000 crore FDI in food processing sector in past 9 years: PM Modi

The PM addressed the second edition of World Food India at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India's food processing sector has emerged as a "sunrise" industry and has attracted Rs 50,000 crore in foreign direct investment (FDI) in the past nine years.

Modi was addressing the second edition of World Food India at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital. The three-day event will conclude on November 5.

"In the last nine years, FDI worth Rs 50,000 crore has come into the food processing sector. It is a result of the government's pro-industry and pro-farmer policies," Modi said.

He said export of processed food has increased 150 per cent in the last nine years and the domestic processing capacity has increased significantly.

The prime minister disbursed seed capital assistance to over one lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs) and inaugurated a 'food street' as part of 'World Food India 2023'.

The event aims to showcase India as 'food basket of the world' and celebrate 2023 as International Year of Millets. The



first edition was held in 2017, but in consecutive years the international event could not be organised due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

'Seed Capital Assistance' will help SHGs gain better price realisation in the market through improved packaging and quality manufacturing. Addressing the event, Union Food Processing Industries Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras urged foreign investors to invest in India in this sector.

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said the Modi government has ensured food

security of the country and also provided a boost to the food processing sector.

He highlighted the development work done by the central government in the last nine years. The 'Food Street' features regional cuisines and royal culinary heritage, wherein over 200 chefs will participate and present traditional Indian cuisine.

World Food India will provide a networking and business platform for government bodies, industry professionals, farmers, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to engage in discus-

sions, establish partnerships, and explore investment opportunities in the agri-food sector.

During the event, CEOs roundtables will also take place with focus on investment and ease of doing business. Various pavilions have been set up to showcase the innovation and strength of the Indian food processing industry.

The three-day event will host 48 sessions focusing on various aspects of the food processing industry, with an emphasis on financial empowerment, quality assurance and innovations in machinery and technology.

The event is expected to host participants from over 80 countries, including CEOs of prominent food processing companies. It will feature a 'Reverse Buyer Seller Meet', with over 1,200 overseas buyers.

Last month, a senior food processing ministry official said the food processing sector is likely to attract more than Rs 75,000 crore investment during the second edition of World Food India. In the first edition, Rs 75,000 crore was committed, out of which Rs 23,000 crore has come, the official added.

In Congress-Ruled Chhattisgarh, State Involved In Religious Conversions: Amit Shah



PANDARIYA, Nov 3 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah today attacked the Congress, claiming that religious conversion was on the rise in Chhattisgarh under the party-led government, which he alleged was using the state machinery to convert poor tribals.

and said if the BJP is voted to power in the state, those who committed corruption will be sent to jail.

He dubbed Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel a "prepaid CM" of the Congress, accusing him of turning the state exchequer into an ATM of the grand old party.

Addressing a rally in Pandariya assembly constituency in the poll-bound state, he also accused the Congress of indulging in scams

"In the Congress rule, religious conversion is on the rise. The Constitution gives liberty to every citizen to follow the faith of their choice. But they have started

using the state machinery to convert poor tribals, which is not in the interest of the state. As a result of it, clashes have erupted in every house and village of the state, and the law and order situation has deteriorated," he said.

Our government will not interfere in anyone's religious issue, but if any government encourages conversion, stern action will be taken by the BJP to prevent it, he added.

"Bhupesh Baghel is a prepaid CM of Congress and if he comes to power again, he will be swapped (like an ATM card) by his party and all money from state will be taken by Delhi," Mr Shah said, targeting the Congress leadership.

He also accused Chief Minister Baghel of indulging in politics of appeasement, and said his reverse countdown has begun.

ED raids in Rajasthan in Jal Jivan Mission 'scam'-linked money-laundering case

JAIPUR, Nov 3 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate on Friday conducted fresh searches in poll-bound Rajasthan, including on the premises of a senior IAS officer, as part of its money-laundering investigation into the alleged Jal Jivan Mission scam, official

sources said. A total of 25 premises in Jaipur and Dausa, including that of ACS in the PHE department, Subodh Agarwal, are being covered, they said.

Some other linked persons are also being covered under the provisions of the Prevention

of Money Laundering Act, sources said.

The central agency had carried out similar raids in the case in September.

The state will vote for its 200-member Assembly on November 25.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has alleged that the central agencies



were acting on the directions of the BJP-led gov-

ernment at the Centre to target the opposition.

The Jal Jeevan mission launched by the Union government aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water through household tap connections and it was being implemented by the state PHED in Rajasthan.

Odia singer Debesh Pati arrested over rape, cheating charges

BHUBANESWAR, Nov 3 (Agencies): Popular Odia singer Debesh Pati has been arrested for allegedly engaging in a physical relationship with a woman on the pretext of marriage and later abandoning her, a police official said on Friday.

"On the basis of the order of a local court, we have registered a case under different sections of the IPC, includ-

ing rape and cheating, and under the IT Act. He was arrested on Thursday evening and sent to the court," said Satyaranjan Pradhan, inspector in-charge of Nayapalli police station.

He said that in her complaint, the woman alleged that Pati had repeatedly engaged in a physical relationship with her on the pretext of marriage, and impregnated her. She

alleged that the singer forced her to terminate her pregnancy and threatened to release photographs of their intimate moments on social media when she insisted on marriage, the officer said.

She also alleged that Pati had taken around Rs 5 lakh from the complainant, and was having a relationship with another woman, he added.

Rave parties with snake venom: Bigg Boss winner Elvish Yadav booked, 5 others arrested

NOIDA, Nov 3 (Agencies): The Noida Police have arrested five people for the alleged use of snake venom at a rave party besides booking Bigg Boss winner Elvish Yadav in the case, officials said on Friday.



spiracy following a complaint by PFA against six people, including Yadav, for partying at a banquet hall where snake venom was made available, police said.

"Five people were arrested from the banquet hall and nine snakes were rescued from their possession," a police spokesperson

said.

Those held have been identified as Rahul (32), Teetunath (45), Jaikaran (50), Narayan (50) and Ravinath (45), all residents of Moharband village in southeast Delhi's Badarpur, police said.

In the FIR, complainant Gaurav Gupta of PFA claimed that his group had come to know that Yadav, a YouTuber, used to make videos with live snakes and snake venom in Noida and other parts of NCR with his associates and illegally organised rave parties.

Yadav, also a winner of reality show Bigg Boss, could not be contacted for comment.

Telangana assembly polls: Sharmila-led YSRTP withdraws from fray, to support Congress

HYDERABAD, Nov 3 (Agencies): The YSR Telangana Party (YSRTP) chief YS Sharmila on Friday said she will not contest the November 30 Assembly polls in Telangana and has decided to support the Congress.

Addressing a press briefing here, the YSRTP chief said she has decided to extend her support to the Congress to prevent a split of votes in the polls that might benefit Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao.

"As you know the Telangana State stands at a crucial juncture with elections to the State Assembly scheduled on the last day of this month. People of Telan-



gana are vexed with the misrule of KCR and are all set to topple his draconian regime. In these nine-and-half years, people have witnessed how Telangana's wealth has been siphoned off due to the greed and tyranny of one family. A rich State at formation is now burdened with heavy debt, due to the massive corruption of KCR and his cronies," Sharmila said.

Sharmila, who is the younger sister of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged that with more and more revelations on the corruption of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, there was a dire need for all like-minded parties to put up a joint effort in the best interest of the people of Telangana.

"And to support this cause, the YSR Telan-

gana Party has taken a very important decision. In scripting the imminent defeat of BRS, it is felt that the Congress party stands a chance, and any division of anti-incumbency votes at this stage will be a hurdle in dethroning KCR," Sharmila said.

"As per many surveys and ground reports, it has been felt that our participation in the Assembly elections will directly impact the vote share of Congress in many constituencies. Therefore, the YSR Telangana Party has decided to make the sacrifice of not contesting in the Telangana Assembly elections. I am ok to take this all-important decision to

step back in the larger interest of the state and to ensure the bigger cause of people is addressed," she added further.

Elections for the 119-member Telangana Assembly will be held on November 30 and counting of votes will take place on December 3.

Telangana is set to witness an intriguing triangular contest between the BRS, Congress, and BJP.

In the previous Assembly elections in 2018, the BRS won 88 of the 119 seats, hogging 47.4 per cent of the total vote share. The Congress finished a distant second with 19 seats and a vote share of 28.7 per cent.

Delhi Environment Minister urges Union counterpart to become 'active' as north India grapples with polluted air

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai called upon his Union counterpart Bhupender Yadav on Friday to become "active" in addressing the air pollution problem, emphasising that it's not just the national capital but the entire North India that is breathing polluted air.

At a press conference held here, Rai said the Bharatiya Janata Party is blaming Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for the air pollution problem in Delhi, but he is not responsible for the poor air quality in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

Rai appealed to the Union Environment Minister to become "active", saying, "It doesn't seem like there's a Union Environment Ministry in Delhi."

Citing a study by the independent think tank Centre for Science and Environment, he said 69 per cent of the air pollution in Delhi comes from neighbouring

states. "While we are taking all possible steps to address the problem, no one knows what the environment ministers of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana are doing," he said.

He cautioned that the next 15 days are critical for Delhi-NCR and all state governments should remain vigilant and work together to control air pollution.

Rai said the government received feedback that air pollution monitoring teams set up by concerned departments are not working properly on the ground. "Therefore, we have issued directions to all departments involved to prepare mechanisms to monitor the working of these teams," he said.

Directions have also been issued to ensure implementation of directives issued by the Centre's Commission for air quality management to curb air pollution.



The pollution control panel on Thursday ordered a ban on non-essential construction work, stone crushing, and mining in Delhi-NCR as the air quality in the capital nosedived to the 'severe' category.

Construction work related to national security or defense, projects of national importance, healthcare, railways, metro rail, airports, inter-state bus terminals, highways, roads, flyovers, over bridges, power transmission, pipelines, sanitation, and water supply are exempt from the ban.

This action is part of Stage III of the Graded Response Action

Plan (GRAP) — Centre's air pollution control plan implemented in the region during winter.

Under Stage III, restrictions are also imposed on the operation of BS III petrol and BS IV diesel four-wheelers in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, and Gautam Budh Nagar.

GRAP categorises actions into four stages: Stage I - 'Poor' (AQI 201-300); Stage II - 'Very Poor' (AQI 301-400); Stage III - 'Severe' (AQI 401-450); and Stage IV - 'Severe Plus' (AQI above 450).

Delhi's air quality plummeted to the 'severe plus' category on Friday morning, at which point all emergency measures, including a ban on polluting trucks, commercial four-wheelers, and all types of construction, are mandated to be initiated and enforced.

The city's AQI rose from 351 at 10 am on Thursday to 475 at 12 noon on Friday.

If Lord Krishna blesses me, I will contest next Lok Sabha elections, says Kangana Ranaut



DEVBHUMI DWARKA, Nov 3 (Agencies): Actor Kangana Ranaut on Friday hinted at entering electoral politics, saying if Lord Krishna blessed her, she would contest the next Lok Sabha election. She was here to offer prayers at the

Dwarkadhish temple of Lord Krishna. When reporters asked her whether she would contest the next Lok Sabha election, Ranaut said, "Shri Krishna ki kripa rahi to ladenge (If Lord Krishna blesses me, I will fight)."

She urged the government to create a facility to allow pilgrims to visit the remains of the lost city of Dwarka that was submerged under the sea.

"I always say that Dwarka is a divine city. Everything here is amazing. Dwarkadhish is present in every particle. I become blessed when we see Him. I always try to come here as much as possible to have darshan of the Lord. But whenever I get a moment from work, I come," she told reporters.

"The city of Dwarka which is submerged in water can also be seen from above. I would like the government to have such a facility that one can go underwater and see the remains. For me, the city of Krishna is like heaven," she said.

Israeli troops surround Gaza city; UN team talks of 'grave risk of genocide'

Hamas says Israel understating its casualties in Gaza

GAZA/JERUSALEM, Nov 3 (Agencies): Israeli forces encircled Gaza City - the Gaza Strip's main city - in their assault on Hamas, the military said, but the Palestinian militant group resisted their drive with hit-and-run attacks from underground tunnels.

The city in the north of the Gaza Strip has become the focus of attack for Israel, which has vowed to annihilate the Islamist group's command structure and has told civilians to flee to the south.

"We're at the height of the battle. We've had impressive successes and have passed the outskirts of Gaza City. We are advancing," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement. He gave no further details.

Amid heavy explosions in Gaza, Israeli military spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari told reporters his country's



"troops completed the encirclement of Gaza City, which is the focal point of the Hamas terror organisation."

Brigadier General Iddo Mizrahi, chief of Israel's military engineers, said troops were encountering mines and booby traps.

"Hamas has learned and prepared itself well," he said. Abu Ubaida, spokesperson

for the armed wing of Hamas, said in a televised speech that Israel's death toll in Gaza was much higher than the military had announced. "Your soldiers will return in black bags," he said.

Israel has said it has lost 18 soldiers and killed dozens of militants since ground operations expanded on Friday.

Hamas and allied Islamic Jihad fighters were emerging from tunnels to fire at tanks, then disappearing back into the network, residents said and videos from both groups showed.

In one Hamas military video, a fighter surfaces in a Gaza field and places an explosive device on a tank. An explosion is audible as the fighter, who appears to be wearing a body camera to document the incident, sprints back to the tunnel and fires an anti-tank missile towards the tank.

There was no let up in the suffering of Palestinian civilians, with UN experts saying they were at "grave risk of genocide".

Palestinian civilians have suffered shortages of food, fuel, drinking water and medicine.

"Water is being used as a weapon of war," said Juliette Touma, a spokesperson for the UN agency for Palestinian refugees UNRWA.

32 killed in Northern Iran as massive fire breaks out at rehabilitation centre

NORTHERN IRAN, Nov 3 (Agencies): A massive fire at a drug rehabilitation centre in northern Iran has killed at least 32 people and injured 16, Iranian media reported on Friday.

The judiciary was investigating the cause of the fire in an opium rehab camp in Langarud in the Caspian Sea province of Gilan, Iran's semi-official Mehr news said.

The judiciary's Mizan news agency said the centre's managers and officials were under investigation.

According to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime, Iran has one of the severest addiction problems in the world. It lies on the main trafficking route for poppy, the source of opium and heroin, from Afghanistan to Western Europe.

Pakistan, IMF commence negotiations for release of USD 710 million second tranche of USD 3 billion loan

ISLAMABAD, Nov 3 (Agencies): Cash-strapped Pakistan and the IMF have kicked off the much-awaited loan review talks for the release of the USD 710 million second tranche of a USD 3 billion bailout package on a generally positive note.

Caretaker Finance Minister Shamshad Akhtar and the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) mission chief for Pakistan, Nathan Porter, led their sides to the opening round of two-week-long negotiations to discuss the next tranche based on Pakistan's performance in the first quarter that started in July.

Porter "appreciated

the government's commitment" to meeting the first-quarter targets, the Ministry of Finance said in a statement after the meeting, which has set the stage for a deep dive into forward-looking reforms under a nine-month bailout package, slated to be completed in March next year.

He also "commended the government's efforts and measures taken in some critical areas" and underscored the importance of continuing these efforts to stay on track for ensuring the country's economic stability, the ministry said.

According to news agency, Porter enquired the Pakistani authorities about the next general

elections and the functioning of the Special Investment Facilitation Council - the two most crucial issues that affected the country's political and economic landscapes.

Hours after the IMF-Pakistan opening session, it was announced that Pakistan's general elections will be held on February 8, ending uncertainty over the much-awaited polls in the cash-strapped country.

The announcement came after the election commission officials met President Arif Alvi at the directives of the Supreme Court.

Following an Israeli airstrike, crowded Gaza hospital struggles to treat wounded children

BUREIJ REFUGEE CAMP (GAZA STRIP), Nov 3 (Agencies): The gray film covering the faces of children rushed to Al-Aqsa Hospital in central Gaza made it hard to distinguish between the living and the dead.

After two Israeli airstrikes flattened an entire block of apartment in the Bureij refugee camp and damaged two UN schools-turned-shelters, rubble-covered Palestinians big and small arrived at a hospital too packed to take them.

Tiny, motionless bodies lay flat against the hospital's hard floor. A small boy bled out onto the tiles as medics tried to staunch the flow from his head. A baby lay next to him with an oxygen mask strapped

on - covered in ash, his chest struggled to rise and fall. Their father sat beside them.

"Here they are, America! Here they are, Israel!" he screamed. "They are children. Our children die every day."

More than 3,700 Palestinian children and minors have been killed in just under a month of fighting, and bombings have driven more than half the territory's 2.3 million people from their homes, while food, water and fuel run low.

As Israeli troops encircle Gaza City and press ahead with a ground offensive, the death toll is expected to grow.

The war was triggered by the Hamas militant group's brutal cross-border attack on October 7, which killed 1,400 people in Israel

and took 240 others hostage. More than 9,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been killed since then, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza. It is the fifth and by far deadliest war between the two enemies.

It was not immediately clear why Israel targeted Bureij, which is located in central Gaza in an area where Israel has urged people to go to stay safe from fighting further north.

The army said that airstrikes across Gaza had targeted Hamas military command centres hidden in civilian areas. But its statement did not mention Bureij specifically. Israel accuses Hamas of using civilians as human shields.

The Bureij strikes on Thursday killed at least



15, Gaza's Civil Defense said. It said that dozens of others were believed to be buried in the rubble.

Paramedics and first-responders have struggled to evacuate the injured and the dead due to crippled infrastructure and fuel shortages. Instead, casualties flow into hospitals in the arms of relatives, neighbours or anyone

able to transport the wounded.

In Bureij, which is home to an estimated 46,000 people, Palestinians hacked at the rubble, searching for survivors. A young girl found under the deluge was carried into the emergency room. With her foot bloody and her face covered in ash, she insisted to medics she was fine.

Bomb Blast Targeting Police Kills 5, Injures 21 In Pakistan's Dera Ismail Khan



DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Nov 3 (Agencies): A

bomb blast targeting police killed five people

in northwest Pakistan on Friday, rescue and police officials said.

The bomb was exploded close to a police patrol in Dera Ismail Khan city, police official Mohammad Adnan said.

Rescue official Aizaz Mehmood said five people were killed and another 21 suffered wounds.

Antony Blinken Lands In Israel To Seek "Concrete Steps" To Spare Gaza Civilians

Prior to his departure, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said he would seek "concrete steps" from Israel to ensure that harm to Palestinian civilians is reduced.

JERUSALEM, Nov 3 (Agencies): US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in Israel Friday, an AFP correspondent travelling with him said, in a trip focused on measures to minimise harm to civilians in the war in Gaza. Prior to his departure, Blinken said he would seek "concrete steps" from Israel to ensure that harm to Palestinian civilians is reduced, as US President Joe Biden also called for humanitarian pauses in the conflict.

This is Blinken's second trip to the Middle East since fighting erupted on October 7 after Palestinian group Hamas carried out a massive attack on southern Israel that left 1,400 people dead, mostly civilians, according to Israeli officials.

In retaliatory Israeli strikes against Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip, more than 9,000 people have died including more than 3,700 children, according to the Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza.

"We will be talking



about concrete steps that can and should be taken to minimise harm to men, women and children in Gaza," Blinken told reporters before departing for Israel.

"This is something that the United States is committed to."

"When I see a Palestinian child - a boy, a girl - pulled from the rubble of a collapsed building, that hits me in the gut as much as seeing a child in Israel or anywhere else," Blinken said.

"So this is something that we have an obligation to respond to, and we will."

Biden has promised full support and ramped-up

military aid to Israel for its campaign in Gaza, but in a visible shift of tone has also voiced empathy for Palestinian suffering which has stoked anger in parts of the world.

"I think we need a pause," Biden said on Thursday at a campaign event.

US National Security Council spokesman John Kirby later clarified what such a pause would entail.

"A humanitarian pause... is temporary, localised and focused, focused on a particular objective or objectives, humanitarian aid in, people out," Kirby told reporters.

Hong Kong Student Made Pro-Independence Posts From Japan, Jailed

HONG KONG, Nov 3 (Agencies): A Hong Kong court today sentenced a student to two months imprisonment for sedition over pro-independence social media posts she published while studying in Japan.

This is the first known Hong Konger convicted under the colonial-era sedition law over online speech in Japan.

Scholars and overseas activists say this case represents an alarming escalation of the chilling effect experienced by those who continue to engage with Hong Kong affairs.

Chief Magistrate Victor So sentenced the student to 2 months in jail after her guilty plea, saying deterrent sentencing was needed because "ignorant people would be incited subtly".

Mika Yuen, 23, pleaded guilty

to sedition in late October, for 13 pro-Hong Kong independence social media posts on Facebook and Instagram published between September 2018 and March 2023.

According to the prosecutor, most of the posts were published when she was studying in Japan, with messages like "I am a Hongkonger; I advocate for Hong Kong independence," and "Hong Kong independence, the only way out".

Among the 13 alleged social media posts, only two posts were published in Hong Kong.

She was arrested in March after returning to the city to renew her identity card.

The defense had earlier disputed whether the magistrate's court had extraterritorial jurisdiction over the posts she published aboard, but they aban-

doned the dispute as she didn't remove the content.

During mitigation, defence lawyer Steven Kwan argued that the number of friends and followers on the Yuen's social media account was relatively small.

Kwan said Yuen has become more open-minded after studying politics at a law school in Japan and that the chance of re-offending is low.

Sedition is punishable by a maximum jail term of two years upon conviction. It is not among the offences criminalised by the Beijing-imposed national security law, but it has been ruled by the Court of Final Appeal as an act that can endanger national security.

Tomoko Ako, a sociology and China studies professor at the University of Tokyo told Reuters

that the Japanese government, universities and society need to take this case seriously.

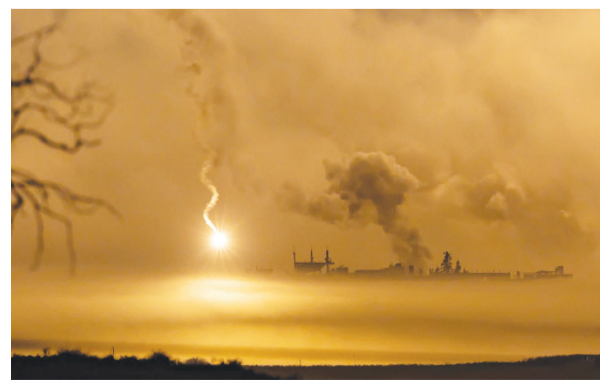
"I am concerned about the situation in Japan. This is because the freedoms that we have taken for granted are being slowly and steadily taken away, yet very few people see this as a serious problem," Ako said.

Athena Tong, a board member of the Japan Hong Kong Democracy Alliance told Reuters that this case "exemplifies the extent to which the government represses freedom of speech on a global scale".

"It has significantly influenced how members of the Hong Kong expatriates perceive the safety of traveling to Hong Kong for personal matters," Tong said, adding that a return to the city might entail political prosecution.

Risk Of Regional Spillover From Israel-Hamas War Is "Real", Warns UAE

ABU DHABI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Gulf Arab power the United Arab Emirates warned today that there was a real risk of a regional spillover from the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, adding that it was working "relentlessly" to secure a humanitarian ceasefire. The UAE was the most prominent Arab country to sign the 2020 Abraham Accords, a series of pacts with Israel, which the latter hoped would pave the way to



normalisation of ties with Muslim superpower Saudi Arabia, but the war dealt those plans a blow.

"As we continue working to stop this war we cannot ignore the wider context and the necessity to turn down the

regional temperature that is approaching a boiling point," Noura al-Kaabi, a minister of state for foreign affairs, told a policy conference in the capital, Abu Dhabi.

"The risk of regional spillover and further escalation is real, as well as the risk that extremist groups will take advantage of the situation to advance ideologies that will keep us locked in cycles of violence."

A leading oil power, the

UAE views groups such as Hamas, which was tied to Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, as an existential threat to the Middle East.

The UAE supported Egypt's current president, Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, when he toppled the Muslim Brotherhood president Mohamed Mursi in 2013.

"Every effort must be made to protect civilians and immediately put an end to this conflict," Kaabi added.

Dr Jitendra addresses IAS Trainees, points out 'democratisation' of Civil Services

Top News Report

KEVADIYA, Nov 3: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said here on Friday that in recent years there has been a sort of "democratisation" of Civil Services and other avenues due to technology driven accessibility to preparatory material which has, of late, enabled even the aspirants from remotest parts of India to make it to IAS and other All India Services.

This new trend will have a bearing on our future as well, said the Minister. Technology has been the biggest leveller, with mobile phone and internet penetrating the countryside and everybody gaining access to knowledge, he said.

"The demography of the entire Civil Services has changed, - you have now toppers from Punjab, Haryana, even three Civil Services Exam toppers were all girls this year, from different States of India, earlier it was confined to a handful of States," said Dr Jitendra.

The Union Minister was addressing the IAS Probationers at the 98th Foundation Course of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), bringing together 560 Officer Trainees from IAS including 16 Civil Services of India and 3 Civil Services of Bhutan, being conducted at Kevadiya, Gujarat.

Dr Jitendra said, in the last 9-10 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has "cautiously introduced" fundamental changes in Govern-



nance and the grooming of Civil Servants. Symbolically, "PM Modi has moved India out of Delhi" and many events are now being organised across the country, he said.

"So, this is a kind of a new dimension, and I think it's very much in keeping with the world order today... We have to live up to the global benchmarks and the global parameters," he said.

Dr Jitendra said that the focus of the Government, under the leadership of PM Modi, has been on transparency, accountability and timely delivery of services by the Government.

"PM Modi has stressed that the age of working in silos is over and today it is the 'Whole of Government' approach," he said.

India's Vaccine Success story and Covid management, Chandrayaan and Aditya-L1 solar missions or the Svamitva Land Mapping scheme are best examples of the Government, Scientific Laboratories, Academia, Startups and Industry, all pooling their resources to achieve success.

Dr Jitendra said, Civil Services officers have

to turn into instruments of public service delivery of the Government's citizen centric schemes.

The DoPT Minister said that the three-month mandatory stint of new IAS Officers with the Central Ministries / Departments was a visionary idea by PM Modi in 2015 to expose them to the top echelons of the Government at the commencement of their training.

"Assistant Secretaries are expected to give their inputs for improvement in various Flagship Programmes in different Ministries/Departments of Government of India. This not only gives them an opportunity to demonstrate their skill and talent but also an opportunity to make a presentation before the Prime Minister of India, which is an opportunity that might have eluded their senior batches," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the posting of Assistant Secretaries in Government of India had been introduced, primarily with two objectives. First, that the young officers could get an exposure of the working in Government of India instead of going straight to the State Government. Secondly,

it also helps in enabling the newly selected IAS officers to find their mentors and anchors among their seniors in the Union Government, to whom they can reach out at time of need.

"These young officers are privileged because before beginning their posting, they get an opportunity of meeting the senior Secretaries and Ministers in the Government of India, whereas their seniors from earlier years would sometimes never get such an opportunity throughout their career and even if they got an opportunity like this, it would be much later in career during their term of deputation to the Centre," he said.

"With the change of times, with the change of priorities, the accountability having increased, transparency has gone up manifold, technology taking up many of what was not there earlier on, it has to be inevitably evolving all the time," he said.

"In order to give a work friendly environment, it is equally a responsibility of the government so that we can have the best of the potential of the officers," he said.

Th. Manmohan Singh welcome as DCC President

Cong will emerge strong force in J&K- JKPC Chief

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: JKPC Chief Vikar Rasool Wani has said that Congress will emerge a strong force in Jammu & Kashmir while BJP will be biggest loser for its failures on all fronts.

Address in a meeting of DCC Jammu Urban organised by the newly appointed District Congress Committee Jammu Urban (Urban). President Th. Manmohan Singh, at PCC HQ today, Wani lashed out at BJP for running away from holding election's out of the fear of humiliating defeat and said that people are being deprived of their basic democratic rights.

A large number of DCC and Block Congress workers at PCC HQ today welcomed the appointment of Th Manmohan Singh as DCC president and accorded rousing reception.

Wani, Secretary AICC Incharge Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Yadav, Working President PCC Raman Bhalla besides Senior leaders of PCC, DCC Block and Ward Presidents and large number of party workers welcomed the new DCC president and congratulated him on his new assignment.

Vikar Rasool further said that the Congress party is a strong force in the state and there is need to further activate the cadres and further strengthen the party at the grass root level.



He congratulated Th. Manmohan Singh as President of District congress Committee Jammu (Urban).

He said that Th. Manmohan Singh has a vast experience of organizational matters, as he has worked as General secretary Youth Congress & General secretary JKPC.

AICC Secretary Manoj Yadav said that BJP will badly loose the assembly election in five states and congress will emerge victorious. He lashed out BJP for depriving people of J&K their rights to have elected good.

Working President PCC Raman Bhalla said that people will teach BJP a lesson for anti people approach. He said that failure to restore statehood and hold assembly elections besides deferring ULB & panchayat elections are against the popular demand of the people of J&K.

Addressing the gathering Th. Manmohan Singh thanked the Party High Command for giving him a chance

to serve the people and congress party with more devotion and dedication.

He said that his loyalty and services towards the party have been recognized in the party and expressed his gratitude to the Central and State leadership of the Congress party.

Prominent among them present included Vice Presidents PCC T.S. Bajwa, Ved Mahajan, Hari Singh Chib, Rajnish Sharma (treasurer), Pranav Shagotra, PCC General Secretaries Shashi Sharma, Namrata Sharma, Narinder Gupta, Suresh Dogra, Amrit Bali, Narinder Sharma, Balbir Singh, Satish Sharma, Santosh Majotra, Thomas Khokhar, DCC President Jammu Rural Th. Shamsher Singh Chib, DCC President Kathua Shri Pankaj Dogra, Seva dal Chief Vijay Sharma, PYC President Akash Bahart, NSUI President Ajay Lakhotra, Chairman SC Dept PCC Karan Bhagat, OBC Working President Madan Lal

Chalotra, PCC Secretaries Bushan Dogra, Sanjeev Sharma Panda, Raj veer Singh, Michael Wazir, Manjeet Singh Jatt, Ritu Chowdhary, Dwarka Chowdhary, Jyoti Vaid, Vijay Shastri, Jatin Raina, DCC functionaries, Dr. Rama Kant Khajuria, Sat Pal Spolia, Jugal Sharma, R. P Magotra, Pawan Dev Singh, Vijay Malhotra, Latish Sharma, Vijay Singh Chib, Vijay Sharma, Parshotam Mehra, Camroo David Babloo, Farooq Ahmed, Dimpa, Sunil Sharma (Sonu), Jai Pal, Ravi Panotra, Pawan Sharma, Surinder Dogra, Parveen Singh, Suresh Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Asha Chandan, Rajni, Dewan Chand,, Mangat Ram, Janak Raj, Darshan Lal Verma,, P. R. Chouhan,, Balwinder Bali, Ashok Sharma, Nageshwar Jamwal,, Sushil Sharma, Nasir Masih, Mangal Sunny, Ricky Dalotra, Darvinder Bhardwaj, Rajesh Bhardwaj, Rakesh, Raman, A.P. Singh Lucky and Aman Bawa.

FROM PAGE 1

Don't want Supreme Court to become 'Tarikh-Pe-Tarikh' Court: CJI Chandrachud

significantly reduced. He, however, rued the fact that after their listing before the benches, lawyers seek adjournments and this gives a very bad signal to the outside world.

"I have been seeing that the period from filing to listing is reducing. We could not have achieved this without the support of the SCBA (Supreme Court Bar Association) and the SCAORA (Supreme Court Advocates-on Record Association)," the CJI said.

"For November 3, we have 178 adjournment slips. For each miscellaneous day, since October, 150 adjournment slips were there on each day and from September to October, 3,688 adjournment slips were circulated..," the CJI said, adding, "This defeats the very purpose of expediting the case".

India establishing Defence wings in new locations around World: Army Chief Gen Pande

concerns of the Global South". "India shares common interests and values such as democracy, human rights and rule of law with our partners and like-minded countries. This alignment of shared values creates a solid foundation for cooperative security efforts," Gen Pande said.

"The spin-offs of these collaborative efforts are not restricted to security but transcend into the economic realm, innovation and technology, capacity building, multilateral problem solving and diplomacy as well," he said, adding that "Our initiatives are bedrock in the Indian way."

The Chief of Army Staff also said that technology is driving geo-politics like never before transforming not only strategic competition but also war fighting.

"I felt very good after winning 3 medals": says

Sheetal Devi after reaching at her home in Jammu

At the Asian Para Games, Sheetal won three medals in total, which included a women's team silver, a mixed team gold, and gold in the women's singles compound open event.

In the women's singles event, Sheetal Devi showcased a scintillating performance and defeated Singapore's Alim Nur Syahidah.

It was a closely fought contest as Alim Nur with her precision took a point lead in the first three sets. She enjoyed a three-point lead after the conclusion of the first three sets with the final two sets remaining.

Sheetal produced back-to-back perfect scores to clinch the game with Alim Nur missing the mark in a couple of shots. In the end, she emerged victorious with an overall score of 144-142.

India ended their Para Asian Games campaign with a total of 111 medals, comprising 29 golds, 31 silvers and 51 bronzes.

India finished fifth in the medal tally, winning 55 medals in athletics itself, with 18 golds, 17 silver, and 20 bronze.

Weak, Shaky evidence, HC sets free teacher convicted of Minor's Rape

advocating for his innocence and maintaining faith in the justice system. "After proper assessment, evaluation and estimation of the evidence adduced by the prosecution, we find that the evidence appears to be weak, fragile, lacking in credibility, does not prove connecting link between the accused and commission of offences," reads a court order.

"It would be highly dangerous and hazardous to hold the appellant/convict guilty of offences alleged against him on the basis of weak, shaky and unacceptable evidence," court said.

It added, "The whole case of the prosecution, therefore, becomes doubtful. For the foregoing reasons and discussion, we are of the considered view, that prosecution

has miserably failed to prove the guilt of the appellant/convict beyond reasonable doubt for commission of offences Under Sections 376(2)(f)/342/506 RPC."

"Appellant/convict Mohd Maqbool Ganai S/O Mohd Anwar Ganai R/O D.K. Pora Harmain Shopian District Shopian, who is lying in Judicial custody in District Jail Pulwama (Kashmir), is therefore, acquitted of the charges leveled against him for the commission of offenses Under Sections 376(2)(f)/342/506 RPC shall forthwith be released from the custody if not required in any other case," court observed.

He shall stand discharged from his bail and personal bonds. Criminal conviction appeal is disposed of, and after due compilation under rules, shall be consigned to record.

Pertinently, in 2015, the convicted teacher had asked the student to come for tuition to his home where he allegedly assaulted her.

Subsequently, following a complaint, Police registered a case FIR No 179/2015 under Sections 376/F (rape of minor below 12 years), 342 (wrongful confinement), and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC) at Police Station Shopian and after investigation filed the chargesheet against the teacher who was posted at Government High School D K Pora, Shopian.

SC asks AAP MP Raghav Chadha to tender unconditional apology to RS Chairperson

ruling BJP, accused him of adding their names to a motion without their consent. The motion sought constitution of a select committee to examine the contentious Delhi Services Bill.

It was alleged that the Rajya Sabha MP from Punjab had moved a motion to refer the Delhi Services Bill to the select committee.

He had allegedly named some lawmakers as members of the proposed committee and it was claimed that some of the MPs had not given their consent for it.

Taking note of the complaint, the chairman suspended Chadha, pending an inquiry by the Committee of Privileges.

Farmers in Border Areas of J&K in crisis as Non-Local Labourers leave following Cross-Border Firing

Arnia. Treva Sarpanch Balbir Kour said, "We have been provided harvesters by the administration for their use by farmers of border areas."

Kour said farmers can get themselves registered with the agriculture department for harvesting using the machine.

Non-availability of initial appointment orders on JKHRMS | J&K Govt asks admin secretaries to submit supportive documents within 15 days

page of service book indicating relevant entries regarding initial appointment; recommendation of SSB/PSC etc. (in case of direct recruitment); entries in muster roll or in allied record regarding payment of wages before regularization (in case of regularization of contractual or daily- wagger or ad-hoc etc.); reference of appointment in record. (e.g. DPC minutes or Quasi permanent order or notified seniority etc.); entries regarding initial appointment in Pay Acquaintance Roll or Allied record; reference of Archives Department or Government Gazette or any other document.

"The requisite information as per the format along with the connected (supporting) documents and recommendation of the Administrative Department regarding genuineness of the claims of the employees regarding regular appointment and continuous unblemished public service may be furnished to this department, within fortnight positively for placing the cases before the committee constituted vide Government Order No. 863-JK(GAD) of 2023 dated July 17, 2023 for consid-

eration," GAD directed the administrative secretaries.

Nearly 97,000 Indians held trying to enter illegally between Oct 2022 to Sept 2023: US Border Protection Agency

arrested people. The US federal government's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30.

Meanwhile, Senator James Lankford said on the Senate floor on Thursday that these people take about four flights including through countries like France to be able to get to Mexico, the closest airport, and then literally take a bus rented by the cartels up to the border to be dropped off for their last delivery. "So they can say, 'I have fear in my country,'" Lankford said. "So far this year we've had 45,000 people from India that have crossed our southern border, paid the cartels, crossed into our country, and said they have fear in their country from India," Lankford said. Lankford reiterated what he's said many times, that the criminal cartels in Mexico are coaching migrants from all over the world on what to say and where to go in order to "game" the asylum process and get into the country while they await an asylum hearing.

"Listen this doesn't make sense to just about everyone in the world. Just about everyone in the world has shifted on this except for us. We're literally inviting people from all over the world to exploit our system," he said in his remarks about America's broken asylum system and the areas that need to be addressed in policy.

Lankford said asylum is the same as refugee status. It's the same in international law. A refugee flees to a spot who is afraid and gets to a refugee centre and says to the UN, 'I have dramatic fear of persecution in my country,' and if they do, then they actually share them all over the world including here in the United States.

"We take refugees here from all over the world. Asylum seekers are on the same standard. They're supposed to go to the next safe place, get there, and request asylum. That is the international standard, but we don't do that here," he said.

Markets continue to rally on positive global trends

BSE jumps 414.06 points to 64,494.96; Nifty climbs 125.5 points to 19,258.75

MUMBAI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices jumped in early trade on Friday in line with positive trend in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 414.06 points to 64,494.96 in early trade, extending its previous day's rally. The Nifty climbed 125.5 points to 19,258.75.

Among the Sensex firms, Tata Motors traded over 2 per cent higher after the company on Thursday reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 3,783 crore for the September quarter, riding on robust performance by its British arm Jaguar Land Rover.

Tech Mahindra, ICICI Bank, Titan, Mahindra & Mahindra and Sun Pharma were the other major gainers.

Tata Steel, NTPC, Asian Paints and Kotak Mahindra Bank were



the major laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading with gains.

The US markets ended with significant gains on Thursday.

"The Fed decision to hold rates and refrain from making hawkish indications has emboldened the bulls to make a strong comeback in the mother market US with S&P rising 1.9 per cent yesterday," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Ser-

vices.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.14 per cent to USD 86.97 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) continued to be net sellers in the capital markets as they offloaded equities worth Rs 1,261.19 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data.

The BSE benchmark jumped 489.57 points or 0.77 per cent to settle at 64,080.90 on Thursday. The Nifty climbed 144.10 points or 0.76 per cent to 19,133.25.

Services sector activity in India hits 7-month low in Oct on softer increase in output, new business: PMI

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Services PMI Business Activity Index fell to 58.4 in October, from a 13-year high of 61 in September, signalling the slowest rate of expansion since March

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): The services sector growth in India fell to a seven-month low in October on softer increase in output and new business, amid competitive conditions and price pressures, a monthly survey said on Friday.

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Services PMI Business Activity Index fell to 58.4 in October, from a 13-year high of 61 in September, signalling the slowest rate of expansion since March.

In Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 denotes contraction.

The survey is compiled from responses to questionnaires sent to a panel of around 400 service sector companies.

"Several companies managed to secure new contracts, but some mentioned subdued demand for their services and competitive conditions," said Pollyanna De Lima, Econom-



ics Associate Director at S&P Global Market Intelligence.

The October data highlighted the second-fastest upturn in international orders placed with Indian services companies since the series started in September 2014. Survey members noted gains from clients in Asia, Europe and the US.

"Export was an area of particular strength in October, with new business gains from Asia, Europe and the US boosting

growth to its second-highest in the series over its nine-year history," Lima added.

On the price front, services companies in India reported an increase in their expenses in October, which they attributed to higher food, fuel and staff costs.

"Although survey participants passed these additional cost burdens on to clients, permitted by demand strength, the rise in charges could have been the trigger of the deceleration in

sales growth. Moreover, a pick-up in inflation expectations in October dampened business confidence," Lima added.

Going ahead, the Future Activity Index fell by more than five points in October, signalling some loss of confidence surrounding the outlook for services output, amid rising inflation expectations.

Meanwhile, the S&P Global India Composite PMI Output Index fell from 61 in September to 58.4 in October, indicating the weakest rate of expansion since March.

"Although India continued to post substantial growth of aggregate business activity, the upturn lost strength in October amid slower increases in manufacturing production and services activity," the survey said.

Prices charged for Indian goods and services rose further in October, thereby stretching the current sequence of inflation to nearly three years.

Apple has low share in a large market, lot of headroom there: Apple CEO Tim Cook on India

NEW YORK, Nov 3 (Agencies): Describing India as a "major focus" for Apple, CEO Tim Cook has said the tech giant has a "low share" in the country's large market and there is a "lot of headroom" and "positives" there for the company.

"We had an all-time revenue record in India. We grew very strong double-digits. It's an incredibly exciting market for us and a major focus of ours," Cook said Thursday during Apple's Q4 2023 earnings conference call.

He added that Apple has a "low share in a large market, and so it would seem there's a lot of headroom there."

Cook was responding to a question on momentum in India and

growth opportunity in hardware units.

Cook underscored that Apple sees "an extraordinary market" in India, "a lot of people moving into the middle class, distribution is getting better, lots of positives."

The company has set up two retail stores in Mumbai and Delhi and Cook said "they're doing better than we anticipated. It's still early going, but they're off to a good start and I couldn't be happier with how things are going at the moment."

Apple announced financial results for its fiscal 2023 fourth quarter ended September 30, 2023. The company posted quarterly revenue of USD 89.5 billion, down one per cent year over year from USD 90.1 billion.



Cook noted that Apple achieved "an all-time revenue record" in India, as well as September quarter records in several countries, including Brazil, Canada, France, Indonesia, Mexico, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the UAE and Vietnam among others.

The revenue from iPhone came in ahead of the company's expectations, setting a Septem-

ber quarter record, as well as quarterly records in many markets, including China mainland, Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia and an all-time record in India, he said.

Responding to a question on a comparison between Apple's growth momentum in India and China over the years, Cook said "each country has its own journey" and he "wouldn't want to play

the comparison game." Apple CFO Luca Maestri noted that the company is "particularly pleased" with its performance in emerging markets with revenue reaching an all-time record in fiscal 2023 and double-digit growth in constant currency.

"We are expanding our direct presence in these markets from new Apple retail stores in India to online stores in Vietnam and Chile," Maestri said.

Cook was in India in April, his first trip to the country in seven years, to open Apple's first official retail store in the country in Mumbai, followed by the launch of a second store in New Delhi. The Apple CEO had termed the opening of Apple's first two stores in India as a "milestone" for the company.

InterGlobe Aviation Q2 results: IndiGo operator posts profit of Rs 188 crore



NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of low-cost carrier IndiGo, announced its second-quarter results on Friday.

The company reported a profit of Rs 188 crore, buoyed by consistent demand for air travel that managed to outshine a notable surge in expenses.

This turnaround stands in contrast to the preceding year when the airline grappled with a substantial loss

amounting to Rs 1,585 crore.

The company's revenue from operations in the quarter stood at Rs 14,944 crore, marking an uptick of 20 per cent. On the other hand, expenses during the quarter increased by 6 per cent.

The July-September quarter is typically a sluggish period for Indian airlines, marked by reduced passenger numbers and lower ticket prices, as per industry experts' observations.

However, the airline managed to capitalise on the challenges faced by its smaller competitors, Go First and SpiceJet.

IndiGo transported 23.3 million passengers during this quarter, marking a 33 per cent increase from the previous year and only a slight decline from the prior quarter, according to data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

The passenger load factor, which measures the extent to which passenger-carrying capacity is being utilized, witnessed a notable increase of 4.1 percentage points, reaching 83.3 per cent.

Shares of IndiGo closed 0.6 per cent higher ahead of its parent company's Q2 results announcement.

Modified lifestyle, herbal drugs can help manage diabetes within 14 days: Study

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Amid a surge in diabetes cases in the country, a recent study has suggested that a healthy lifestyle and diet coupled with anti-diabetic properties enriched herbal formulations like BGR-34 can help control blood sugar levels in diabetic patients within 14 days.

The study, conducted by a team of researchers from Patna-based Government Ayurvedic College and Hospital, on a patient suffering from high levels of blood sugar has been published in the International Ayurvedic Medical Journal.

The team, led by Assistant Professor Prabhas Chandra Pathak, prescribed the patient a combination of research-based traditional medicines, including herbal formulations like BGR-34, Arogyavardhani Vati, Chandraprabhavati, and cholesterol-reducing drugs. He also recommended lifestyle adjustments, including a specific diet and an hour's walk daily.

After 14 days, the

treatment was slightly altered. During this time, the patient showed significant improvement, for instance, the sugar level which was 254 mg/dl at the time of admission, came down to 124 mg/dl.

It was found that Daruharidra, Giloe, Vijaysar, Gudmar, Methi, and Majishtha in BGR-34 showed anti-diabetic properties, which helped cut down the sugar level in the blood.

This medicine is prepared by the country's premier research institute, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, after extensive research.

Ahead of World Diabetes Day on November 14, Dr. Sanchit Sharma, Executive Director of Aimil Pharmaceuticals, the manufacturer of BGR-34, pointed out that since diabetic patients have to depend on lifetime medicines, the outcome of the study holds significance.

"These herbal preparations also have elements to increase immunity as well as antioxidant levels," Sharma

said.

The patient's fasting sugar level, which was 254 mg/dl before the start of treatment, came down to 124 mg/dl. Similarly, the sugar level after breakfast decreased from 413 to 154 mg/dl. All these parameters indicate an effective reduction in blood sugar levels.

Encouraged by the positive results of the treatment plan, the researchers have suggested a comprehensive study for its further assessment. Earlier, a study by AIIMS Delhi found that BGR-34 is effective not only in reducing sugar but obesity as well.

Owing to a sedentary lifestyle and unhealthy dietary habits, diabetes is on the rise in India. As many as 31 million Indians became diabetic between 2019 and 2021, according to a study conducted by the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research and the Union Health Ministry.

UK govt cracks down on marketing, sale of vapes to kids; takes cue from India

Permanent lung damage to young children and teenagers

NEW DELHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Taking note of India's hard stance against vaping, the UK government has also come down heavily on vaping, e-cigarettes and new-age gateway products and has shared its proposal for public consultation to rein in on vaping by children.

The proposal in the UK comes at a time when Sarah Griffin (12) had to be placed in a medically induced coma after her lungs were severely weakened by vaping. Although she has recovered, but the ordeal has left her with permanent lung damage.

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Health issued a clarification to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, emphasising the imperative for rigorous enforcement of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019.

While PECA may not explicitly state the prohibition of individual e-cigarette or vaping device use, its overarching intention is to ban all aspects of these



products including its consumption. PECA enforces a sweeping ban that encompasses all categories of electronic nicotine delivery systems, heat-not-burn products, e-hookahs and similar devices.

Experts have commended the Indian government for its recent focus on the rigorous enforcement of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act. The lack of awareness surrounding the risks associated with vaping is a huge concern in many countries, including India. Many school-going children are taking up vaping under the false

assumption that it carries no risks or dangers. This alarming trend is troubling because young individuals may unknowingly become addicted," said Sushant Kalra, Parenting Coach and TEDx Speaker.

"Both children and their parents often remain unaware of the severe health consequences of vaping, as they perceive it as a harmless activity involving the inhalation of flavours like apple or strawberry. India's ban on e-cigarettes was primarily motivated by the aim to protect the health of our vulnerable youth and children.

"What the UK is currently striving to achieve, India had already accomplished earlier by banning vaping devices, and the Indian government deserves commendation for its proactive stance. The onus is now on the people at large to collaborate with the state to protect and create a safe space for our children. The only way to do that is by learning and education," Kalra added.

The PECA 2019 legislation effectively prohibits all aspects of these electronic cigarette products, spanning production, manufacturing, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage, and advertisement of e-cigarettes, rendering them illegal in the country. Recent developments show that the Indian government continues its efforts in this direction.

In July this year, the government issued takedown notices to 15 websites promoting e-cigarettes, and the Health Ministry is actively monitoring

e-cigarette advertisements and sales on social media platforms, with additional actions in the pipeline.

"Although India's efforts in implementing the ban on vaping is laudable, there is a need for more measures. While curtailing the availability of vapes through the grey market, both physically and online is crucial, demand side controls are also crucial. The addictive nature of vaping poses a growing threat to our children and youth in a post-Covid world," Dr Rajesh Gupta, Additional Director Pulmonology & Critical Care - Fortis Healthcare Noida.

"As we continue to grapple with understanding the full effects of vaping on the human body, cases like Sarah Griffin's serve as stark reminders of the very real dangers that vaping presents to children. It is imperative for all countries to take strict measures to ensure that vapes do not reach the hands of children."

World Cup not a stage to focus on individual milestones: Shreyas Iyer

India's 357/8 against Lanka did not feature a single century as Gill, Kohli and Iyer missed their personal milestones of getting hundreds

MUMBAI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Individual milestones don't take precedence in a stage like World cup, said Shreyas Iyer, hoping to get a hundred for India in the coming matches after smashing a 56-ball 82 against Sri Lanka here.

India's huge total of 357 for 8 against Sri Lanka did not feature a single century as three of the key batters -- Shubman Gill (92), Virat Kohli (88) and Iyer (82) -- missed their personal milestones of getting hundreds.

India's brilliant approach with the bat after being asked to bat first was overshadowed by a sensational bowling show by Mohammed Shami (5-1-18-5), Mohammed Siraj (7-2-16-3) and Jasprit Bumrah (5-1-8-1) during their 302-run win, the country's biggest win in the 50-overs format.

"This is the stage where you play for the team. You don't play for your individual performance," Iyer told the media after India



crushed Sri Lanka and qualified for the World Cup semifinals.

"We definitely discuss about missing out on centuries or half centuries, but going forward, say if we are put in the same situation, I would have to go against the bowlers, right?"

"Like if I'm batting in the 47th or 48th over, I won't be thinking. I was sighting the ball pretty well. It's just that I missed out on

that particular ball.

"...and a few balls here and there, I could have got to 100. But nonetheless, there are a few more matches to come and hopefully, I'll be able to get one," Iyer said.

The Mumbaikar termed India's bowling performance as "sur-real" after they bowled out Sri Lanka for a mere 55 in 19.4 overs, keeping them under 100

for the third time this year.

After bowling them out for 73 at Thiruvananthapuram in January, India shot out Sri Lanka for just 50 in the final of the Asia Cup.

Iyer was asked to compare which bowling performance -- in the Asia Cup final or in the World Cup clash -- was more 'dangerous'.

"I think (with) the current bowling attack, it's pretty hard to say because in (the) Asia Cup final, I was sitting out. From outside, it was a bit different," Iyer said.

"But now playing on the field, I felt that today's (Thursday's) performance was surreal, especially by the bowlers, the way they stood up to the occasion. And once we got that two-three wickets, we just capitalised on that."

"As a bowling unit, and also as a fielding unit, we supported our bowlers by taking a few catches here and there. (The) team is in a great space of mind."

Police complaint lodged against Cricket Association of Bengal, online ticket booking portal over alleged black marketing of World Cup tickets



KOLKATA, Nov 3 (Agencies): Kolkata Police has summoned officials of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and the online ticket booking portal following a complaint lodged alleging black marketing of tickets for Sunday's ICC World Cup match between India and South Africa, an officer said.

The police issued notices to CAB and the online ticket book-

ing portal asking them to appear before them on Thursday but none of the representatives of the CAB and the online ticket booking portal appeared before them, the officer said.

A case was registered at the Maidan Police Station on Wednesday following a complaint received from cricket lovers alleging black marketing of tickets "owing to the conniv-

ance of an online portal with officials of the CAB and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)" for the India-South Africa match on Sunday, he said.

The complainants alleged that certain BCCI and CAB officials, along with the online ticket booking portal intentionally reserved a good number of tickets meant for the general public, making them available to black-marketers.

A senior official of the CAB rubbished the allegations and said that they were only hosting the match and have no involvement in the selling of the tickets which was looked after by the online portal and the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Women's Asian Champions Trophy: Villagers given LED screens to see their girls play hockey for India

RANCHI, Nov 3 (Agencies): Even though, Salima Tete, Sangeeta Kumari and Nikkin Pradhan made it to the Indian women's hockey team, their parents and other villagers were not able to watch them play the ongoing Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy 2023, due to a lack of electricity, mobile connectivity and TV sets.

Thanks to the state government which has arranged huge LED screens in their villages to facilitate their friends, relatives and other co-villagers of the players taking part in the Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy 2023 to watch live matches played by India on huge LED screens.

Notably, the three players from Jharkhand playing hockey for team India come from remote villages where there is no electric or mobile connectivity. In such a situation their family members and other villagers were not able to watch the matches played by their daughters.

Now, the entire village cheers them together while they play for India at Marang Gonnek Jaijpal Singh Munda Astro-Turf Hockey Stadium in Ranchi.

Interestingly, most of the hockey players coming from Jharkhand come from deprived economic backgrounds and hockey is the only way of life for them.

Salima Tete hails from



Badkichapar village in Simdega, one of the worst Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts in Jharkhand and none of the 45 households here have a TV set. A day before the Olympic Hockey semifinals in Tokyo in 2021, the District Administration on the directions of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), had installed a new TV set at the house of Salima Tete, which also broke down recently, and hence, making the villagers deprived of watching their daughter play Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy.

The PMO had taken cognizance of the matter following reports published in 'The New Indian Express.' Taking all these aspects into consideration, the district administration decided to make LED vans available in their villages.

"Since the villages of Salima Tete and Sangeeta Kumari are located in remote areas there are network issues and there is also a problem of electricity, therefore, the state government has provided an LED Van in their villages so that their family mem-

bers and villagers could enjoy live matches on large screens," said District Public Relations Officer Asha Maxima Lakra.

All the matches played by India are screened on these huge LED screens so that they can cheer up their daughters while they play for India, she added.

Lakra also added that live screening of matches will also give exposure to budding hockey players and help them excel in the game. The LED van operator also informed us that they are getting good responses from the villagers and they are enjoying the matches played by India.

As soon as the match starts, people throng the LED vans to watch the village daughter play hockey. Salima's brother Anmol Tete also hailed the decision of the state government.

"We are really thankful to the state government which has provided LED screens for the villagers. Even if somehow we get into the network zone, it was not possible to watch the matches on our mobile phones as it is available only on the Sony Liv channel," said Anmol Tete.

Desperate New Zealand, Pakistan seek victory to remain in the race to semi-finals

BENGALURU, Nov 3 (Agencies): An injury-tormented New Zealand will seek resurgence while Pakistan need a continuation of their recent resurrection, and that subtlety of desperation could turn their crucial World Cup match into a classic here on Saturday.

The fortunes of New Zealand and Pakistan went through sharp curves after a bright beginning, leaving them in a tight spot in the race to the semifinals of the quadrennial big bash.

The Kiwis started the tournament with four wins on the bounce, and it looked a matter of time before they sealed a last-four berth.

Since that point, they have fallen to three defeats in a row against India, Australia and South Africa, and they are now stranded at eight points from seven matches.

On the other side, Pakistan are in an even dingier space with six points from seven matches.

Apart from the dwindling on-field returns, New Zealand will also have to deal with another obstacle ahead of their clash with Pakistan -- a growing injury list that has five names in it.

Matt Henry hurt his hamstring against South Africa and the pacer is set to miss the match against Pakistan, forcing the Kiwis to summon strapping fast bowler Kyle Jamieson as his cover.

James Neesham had suffered a hit on his wrist in the match against the Proteas and the Kiwis will keep a close eye on his recovery.

Other than them, Kane Williamson (thumb) and Mark Chapman (calf) are in various stages of their recuperation, and they are unlikely to take the field against Pakistan.



But they will have a crumb of comfort in the knowledge that pacer Lockie Ferguson has recovered sufficiently from his right Achilles niggle to play against Pakistan.

But that is just a part of the consolation as the New Zealand bowlers will have to regain their sense of target against Pakistan, something they sorely missed against Australia and South Africa while conceding 388 and 357 respectively.

It will not be easy for them though at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, an unforgiving cauldron to the bowlers with its true pitch and short, quick outfield.

The core of their bowling unit consisting of left-arm pacer Trent Boult and left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner, Kiwis' highest wicket-taker here with 14 scalps, will have to be at their thirfiest against Pakistan, who have the ability to hurt the opponents.

However, New Zealand might not have forgotten their shabby batting against South Africa when they were bundled out for 160, and they will want to treat it as an aberration, producing an impact effort against Pakistan.

Rachin Ravindra, Devon Conway, Daryl Mitchell and Glenn Phillips will have to shoulder the bulk of the scoring against Pakistan.

The 23-year-old Ravindra has amassed 415 runs from seven matches at an average of 69.16 and his strike-rate stands at 105.59.

The left-hander will also be keen for a memorable outing in a city where he traces the roots of his family.

The Black Caps will also need Tom Latham and Will Young to contribute heavier runs to take some pressure away from the aforementioned quartet.

So, the current standing of things might be tempting to place Pakistan as favourites even if by a slight margin.

But even a dominant eight-wicket win against Bangladesh, their first after four defeats in succession, was inadequate to wash away all their fragilities as it was just enough to keep their semifinal ambitions burning.

Babar Azam's form has been an elephant in the room as the captain is still searching for that daddy hundred despite making three fifties.

Perhaps, a stuttering New Zealand will offer him a chance to wipe that blemish.

Till that actually happens, Pakistan have to pin their hopes on Mohammad Rizwan and opener Abdullah Shafique to have a productive outing against the Black Caps.

With over 300 runs in their kits, Rizwan and Shafique have been their most bankable batters in this event.

Opener Fakhar Zaman made a rollicking 81 against Bangladesh on his return from an injury, and that might boost Pakistan's confidence going into this match.

That said, their middle-order batters Saud Shakeel and Iftikhar Ahmed are yet to find consistency barring the odd flashes and Pakistan will want them to up their effort as the tournament enters its final lap.

Left-arm fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi is showing signs of closing in on his best while the three-wicket haul of seamer Mohammad Wasim against Bangladesh might have eased Pakistan's worry over the extra option in the pace department.

But their spinners -- Shadab Khan and Usama Mir -- continue to be underwhelming, a deterrent to Pakistan's ability to dictate terms in the middle-overs.

New Zealand might target that soft underbelly of Pakistan bowling to set themselves up for a final flourish.

Squads:
New Zealand: Kane Williamson (c), Trent Boult, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southey, Will Young, Kyle Jamieson (as cover for Matt Henry).

Pakistan: Babar Azam (c), Shadab Khan, Fakhar Zaman, Imam-ul-Haq, Abdullah Shafique, Mohammad Rizwan, Saud Shakeel, Iftikhar Ahmed, Salman Ali Agha, Mohammad Nawaz, Usama Mir, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Mohammad Wasim.

Spinners make Afghanistan favourites against Netherlands on tacky Ekana surface

LUCKNOW, Nov 3 (Agencies): They have outlived tags like 'minnows' and 'giant-killers' with their lion-hearted performances but spirited Afghanistan's quest to reach the next level starts in earnest against an equally inspirational Netherlands in a World Cup match between the two teams here on Friday.

Starting as favourites on a tricky Ekana Stadium surface, with a quality spin attack at its disposal, Afghanistan (6 points) will not only look to secure two points against the Dutch (4 points) but also aim to win big and improve the net run-rate in its bid to remain relevant in the race to the semi-final.

The manner in which Afghanistan's top-order batted to outclass sides like Pakistan and Sri Lanka showed that the victory against defending champions England wasn't a mere flash in the pan.

Ashes-winning English batter Jonathon Trott was a gritty customer during his playing days and he has instilled the same doggedness in his wards too, as they have made the heads with their methodical approach and praiseworthy resilience. Just like Kenya, with a bit of luck, made it to the semi-finals of the 2003 World Cup, Afghans will hope that the rub of the green goes

their way, beginning with the Dutch test.

After this game, they take on Australia (November 7) and South Africa (November 10) in what would determine whether they have it in them to go to the next level -- the World Cup semifinals.

One defeat and it all comes crashing down. The 'Orange Army', too has been a surprise package of this World Cup, securing upset wins over South Africa and Bangladesh.

It has put them ahead of Bangladesh and bottom-rung England in the 10-team standings to keep a slender semifinal qualification hopes alive although even their biggest supporters know that it would be miraculous if they happen to make it to final four.

On six points each, Pakistan and Afghanistan are two other teams outside top-four who are very much in the mix of a last-four berth. But Afghanistan with a much-inferior net run rate (-0.718) compared to Pakistan (-0.024) would mean that the Hashmatullah Shahidi-led side has a lot of catching up to do.

The bowling has always been their strength but their biggest turnaround this time has been their batting

which has clicked as a collective unit, something that came to fore in their clinical chases of 283 (vs Pakistan) and 242 (Sri Lanka) in their last two outings.

While skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi (226) and Azmatullah Omarzai (203) have the rock in the middle, the likes of Rahmanullah Gurbaz (224), Rahmat Shah (212), Ibrahim Zardari (212) and Ikram Akhli (77 in 2 games) have also shouldered a lot of responsibility. It's only a hundred that has eluded an Afghan batter as Jonathan Trott will hope that one among them go on to convert their starts. The likes of Rashid Khan and Mujeeb Ur Rahman will be tempted to bowl at the Ekana stadium that is known for its slow conditions.

Teams batting second have won nine of 12 ODI matches played at the Ekana, including two in the World Cup. The Edwards-led Netherlands bowled out Bangladesh for a lowly 142 to secure yet another upset in the World Cup during their last match at Eden Gardens in Kolkata. With two fifties to his name, the skipper Edwards will remain their batting mainstay alongside veteran Sybrand Engelbrecht, Colin Ackermann and Logan van Beek the designated finisher of the team. Van Beek's cameo of 23 not out from 16 balls took their

total past the 200 mark, something that proved handy against the struggling Bangladesh in Kolkata.

Van Beek is also known to be giving breakthroughs in the middle as he would look to dent Afghan's progress with his clever changes.

They now have the four points in the pocket, the same as Sri Lanka. But the Netherlands' NRR is much inferior and they face the improbable scenario to post wins over Afghanistan, England (November 8) and India (November 12) to keep their hopes alive.

Teams
Afghanistan: Hashmatullah Shahidi (c), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Ibrahim Zardari, Riaz Hassan, Rahmat Shah, Najibullah Zadran, Mohammad Nabi, Ikram Alikhil (wk), Azmatullah Omarzai, Rashid Khan, Mujeeb ur Rahman, Noor Ahmad, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Abdul Rahman and Naveen ul Haq.

Netherlands: Scott Edwards (c & wk), Colin Ackermann, Wesley Barresi (wk), Bas de Leede, Aryan Dutt, Sybrand Engelbrecht, Ryan Klein, Teja Nidamanuru, Max O'Dowd, Saqib Zulfiqar, Shariz Ahmad, Logan van Beek, Roelof van der Merwe, Paul van Meekeren and Vikramjit Singh.

Senior leader Apni Party, social activist C.D Sharma joined NC

NC victory in upcoming polls is only solution to all problems: Rattan Lal

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Senior Leader Apni Party and Social activist C.D Sharma Rtd Principal joined the National Conference in presence of Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhavan, Jammu on Friday.

Welcoming C.D Sharma into the party fold, Rattan Lal Gupta described the National Conference as a mass movement that has all along stood for the just cause of the people of Jammu and Kashmir strived for development and progress of the J&K with a sense of commitment.

Gupta emphasized the victory of the National Conference in the upcoming polls as the solution to every problem.



Rattan Lal Gupta urged the people to support the National Conference, as they believe it is the only party that can fulfill the aspirations of the people

of Jammu and Kashmir for a brighter future for the generation to come and work towards equitable development, progress, peace and brotherhood

in J&K.

C.D Sharma pledged to carry forward the mission of National Conference in transforming Jammu and Kashmir into a peaceful and progressive UT with devotion and dedication.

He joined the party because National Conference being a secular party and having great faith in the leadership of Dr Farooq Abdullah Former Chief Minister and President, JKNC and Omar Abdullah Former Chief Minister and Vice President JKNC. I will strengthen the party and work for the brotherhood, peace, social justice and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir.

Present on the occasion were Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Sardar Nirmal Singh Vice President Central Zone and Mohd Abbas.

Gov orders minor reshuffle in Police Department, Posts Rajeshwar Singh as SSP CID Headquarters

JAMMU, Nov 3 (Agencies): The Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday transferred and posted Rajeshwar Singh, IPS, as Senior Superintendent of Police, CID Headquarters, J&K.

The newly posted SSP, as per the order, will act vice to Dawood Ayoub, as per an order.

Dawood Ayoub, Superintendent of Police, CID Headquarters J&K is transferred and posted as Superintendent of Police, Handwara, relieving Shri Yougal Kumar, SP Kupwara of additional charge of the post.

Farooq, Omar convey condolences

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Mr Omar Abdullah expressed grief over the passing away of Amrit Kour, sister in Law of Harbans Singh, former Minister and former Provincial President Jammu Province JKNC and conveyed condolences to the bereaved family.

In their messages, Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with other members of the family.

In the condolence message, General Secretary Haji Ali Mohammed Sagar, Dr Sheikh Mustafa Kamaal, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra Additional General Secretaries, Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu Province, Ch. Liaqat Ali and Surinder Choudhary Central Secretaries have also expressed grief and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

Senior leaders of the National Conference have also conveyed their condolences to the bereaved family.

Those who prayed for peace to the departed soul, include Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu, Khalid Najeeb Suharwardy Vice President Jammu Province, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President, Javed Ahmed Rana Zone President Pir Panjal, Abdul Gani Malik Zone President Udhampur Reasi, Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo Zone President Chenab Valley, Ajaz Jan P.P Jammu, YNC Bimla Luthra Ex-MLA, Deepinder Kour Ex-MLC, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC Cell, Satwant Kour Dogra P.P Women Wing, Vijay Lakhshmi Datta, Jugal Mahajan Treasurer, Pardeep Bali, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretaries, Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary, Zeeshan Rana, Th. Yashvardhan Additional Spokespersons, Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Raghvir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural A, Naresh Bittu District President Jammu Rural B, Nar Singh President Labour Wing, Harshvardhan Singh President NCSU and D.S Chouhan President Legal Cell.

Traders delegation calls on Director I&C Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: A delegation of young industrialists and traders on Friday called on Dr. Arun Manhas, Director Industries and Commerce (I&C) Jammu.

Deepak Gupta, Manav Chopra, Ratik Gupta, Nalin Jain, Manik Rohmetra, Rajat Aggarwal were amongst the group of Budding Industrialists and Traders who went to congratulate Manhas on his new task as Director of Industries and Commerce.

Deepak said that as far as new investments are concerned the government is flourishing but when it comes to

investments that are already made is that sector which needs serious attention. Also, he focussed on the ancillary services that can be given for suffering units like the small Warehousing policy, banking services, IT Services, Hospitality services, etc on lease basis to the third party by ways of tri-party agreements between IDC- Lesser- Third Party.

Manav and Ratik took up the issues pertaining to the issues pertaining to red tapism in speedy redressal of the pending files for Subsidies, NOC's and other services to which they expect shall be taken care of under

his regime. Nalin, Manik and Rajat also took several issues pertaining to Hotel Industry, Traders grievances and also lack of purchasing preference for the local manufactured products by Government departments as they only stick to certain brands for the purpose of procurement for the department.

Deepak further said that the budding entrepreneurs, industrialists and traders have high hope from Dr. Manhas's office as he has always served in the interest of people of J&K alongwith with the national policies in the interest of the government.

Reliance Jio launches True 5G Service at GCW Parade



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: As the fast roll-out of True 5G services continues across Jammu, Reliance Jio has commenced the Jio True 5G transformative journey in major educational campuses, harnessing the immense transformative potential of True 5G in the field of education.

In this series, Jio launched true 5G services in Government College for Women (GCW), Parade.

Event was attended by the Prof. Mamta, Prof. Alpana along with other senior faculty members under the mentorship of College Principal Dr.S.P. Saraswat and had participation of over 150 students.

Dr. S.P Saraswat, Principal appreciated the initiative taken by Jio in the digital revolution of the country and the event on True 5G Services and expressed his sincere gratitude to Reliance Jio for providing Jio True 5G services at Govt Degree college -Women Parade.

He said that the emerging 5G network features lower latency, higher capacity and increased band-width as compared to 4G.

Prof Mamta informed the audience gathering that Reliance Jio has

decided to showcase its true 5G services to the students and teachers at GDC women Parade from today, thereby signalling a significant stride in transforming education through true 5G.

She said that Jio True 5G enables enhanced learning experiences for students and empowers the faculty to deliver their best.

She congratulated Reliance Jio Team for its commitment to digitalize the educational campuses pan India and reaffirm its dedication to bolstering education and shaping a brighter future for the next generation.

Commencing this initiative, Jio representative showcased its True 5G services through a presentation to the students and teachers, signalling a significant stride in transforming education through True 5G.

Keeping in view the high data requirements and usage of students in campus, Jio has put special focus on ensuring seamless 5G connectivity and the best 5G experience for users. Reliance Jio has deployed multiple 5G network sites at major centre of education.

In an interactive session with students at GDC women Parade,

Jio Jammu team presented multi-faceted benefits and potential of True 5G and elaborated on the transformational possibilities of True 5G with emphasis on the immense scope to revolutionize digital learning, fostering an environment of innovation, collaboration and knowledge sharing. Various use cases of 5G in the various fields were showcased to the students through video presentations outlining the infinite growth opportunities in the areas of e-governance, education, automation, Artificial Intelligence, gaming, agriculture, IT and healthcare.

Jio representative said that Reliance Jio, the No.1 digital service provider in Jammu, has been rapidly expanding its True 5G network across Jammu and is the only telecom operator having 5G network presence in all districts of Jammu.

Jio is also the only service provider to have spectrum in the premium 700 MHz band, considered more suitable for 5G network deployment.

He further said Jio True 5G has a three-fold advantage that makes it the only TRUE 5G network in India which includes Stand-alone 5G architecture with advanced 5G network with Zero dependency on 4G network; the largest and best mix of 5G spectrum across 700 MHz, 3500 MHz, and 26 GHz bands; Carrier Aggregation that seamlessly combines these 5G frequencies into a single robust "data highway" using an advanced technology called Carrier Aggregation.

NSSO Jammu organizes Refresher Training Camp for ASUSE 2023-24

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) (Field Operations Division), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Regional office, Jammu organized Refresher Training Camp for Annual Survey on Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) 2023-24 on Friday in the Conference hall of Hotel Country Inn, near Bahu Plaza, here.

The training was attended by the officers and the field staff of NSSO (FOD) Regional office Jammu, Sub-Regional Office, Udhampur.

This survey will be devoted exclusively to economic and operational characteristics of unincorporated non-agricultural enterprises in manufacturing, trade and other services sectors to supplement the corporate sector data.

This will help National Accounts Division (NAD) of National Statistics Office (NSO) to compute important components of national accounts.

The data to be collected during ASUSE 2023-24 will help in meeting the requirements of different Ministries, Organizations and users in general.

The training programme was inaugurated by Kishore Kumar Deputy Director General National Statistical Office, (Field Operations Division) under Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the role of National Sample Survey Office in developing a sound Statistical database for the use by planners and policy makers.

ASUSE survey is devoted exclusively to an integrated survey on



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ASUSE survey is devoted exclusively to an integrated survey on

other agencies at the National and International level and outlined in detail the significance of present Survey.

Kumar requested the people of the State to give full cooperation to the field Officers/ Officials of the NSSO, (FOD), Government of India and provide correct & reliable information.

The training Camp will provide an insight of various terms, concepts, procedures and definitions used in various schedule of ASUSE Survey.

Training camp will be devoted to the discussions of concepts and definitions, various technical terms and contents of schedules to be canvassed in the survey.

The training was imparted by P. S Jamwal, Senior Statistical Officers of NSSO (FOD), Government of India, Regional Office, Jammu.

Overall Comparing/ Coordination of the RTC was done by Sunil K. Khar, Sr. Statistical Officer, Regional Office Jammu.

Shiv Sena demands local level appointments in e-buses

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 3: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has raised the demand for appointment of drivers and co-drivers at the local level in the electric buses operated by Tata Motors in Jammu and Srinagar under the Smart City in Jammu and Kashmir, which is struggling with unemployment.

In a press conference organized at the party state office Jammu today, state chief Manish Sahni said that under the Smart City Project, Tata Motors has been entrusted with



the responsibility of supplying and operating 100-100 electric buses for 12 years in Jammu and Srinagar.

It is a welcome step to prevent the increasing deadly pollution in Jammu and Kashmir, but the operation of these buses

is causing financial loss to the owners of mini buses running on the roads of Jammu for decades and clouds of unemployment are looming over the drivers and co-drivers.

Sahni said that we are not against development and tech-

nology but does not accept sacrificing the interests and rights of the local people for this.

Sahni has demanded from the Jammu and Kashmir administration to impose a condition on Tata Motors to appoint local people in these buses. Along with this, he has also appealed to Tata Motors for the same.

Sahni said that if this does not happen, they will be forced to come to the streets to protest against these buses.

On this occasion president Mehila wing Meenakshi Chibber, Gen Secretary Vikas Bakshi were present.

Notorious narcotics smuggler apprehended, 312 capsules recovered

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Nov 3: Kishtwar Police apprehended a notorious narcotics smuggler hailing from the Sangrambatta area, marking a significant achievement in the ongoing battle against the illegal drug trade in Kishtwar.

The Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar,

Sh. Khalil Poswal-JKPS, provided details said that a police party from Police Station Kishtwar, led by Inspector Parvaiz Ahmed Khanday, (SHO) PS Kishtwar assisted by PSI Happy Chaudhary under the supervision of (DySP) Hqrs Kishtwar, Dr. Ishan Gupta was on routine patrolling at Sangrambatta area.** During patrolling, the

patrolling party apprehended one suspicious person. A search was carried out 13 strips of Proxy-band Spas capsules, with each strip containing 24 capsules, totalling 312 capsules recovered from his possession.

The individual disclosed his identity as Saqib Shabir, son of Shabir Ahmed, a resident of Sangrambatta Kishtwar.

Subsequently, a case has been registered under FIR No. 254/2023, under Section 08/21/22(NDPS) Act.

An investigation into the matter has been initiated to uncover any potential backward and forward links to the illegal narcotics trade.

Khalil Poswal issued a stern warning to all those involved in the narcotics

syndicate, emphasizing that Kishtwar Police will continue their relentless efforts to combat drug-related crimes in the region.

Poswal also urged the community to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities or information related to drug trafficking, as public cooperation is vital in the fight against this menace.