

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Betrayal, says sacked UK Home Secy Braverman in no-holds-barred letter to PM Rishi Sunak

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BRIEFLY

LG Manoj Sinha expresses grief over Doda bus accident

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Assar, Doda today. "Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Assar, Doda. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families & wishing for a speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. Directed Div Com & Dist Admin to provide all necessary assistance to affected persons," the Lt Governor tweeted.

Woman among three drug peddlers arrested in Baramulla: Police

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Police arrest three drug peddlers, including a wanted woman, and recover contraband substances from their possession in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district. A police party of Police Station Baramulla at a checkpoint established at Dewanbagh near Grid Station intercepted one lady, police said on Wednesday.

During the search, 60 grams of a contraband brown sugar-like substance were recovered from her possession. She was identified as Afroza Begum, alias Afree, a resident of Ganie Hamam Baramulla, presently staying at Hygam Sopore. She had been arrested and shifted to PS Baramulla, where she remains in custody, police said.

Similarly, a police party of Police Station Tangmarg at a checkpoint established at Sharai Tangmarg intercepted two people. During their search, 65 grams of contraband Charas-like substances were recovered from their possession. The duo were identified as Bashir Ahmad Magray, a resident of Drooru, and Javid Ahmad Ganie of Shrai. They have been arrested and shifted to Police

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37 killed, 14 hurt as bus falls into gorge in Doda: Officials



DODA, Nov 15 (Agencies): At least 37 people were killed and 14 injured when a bus carrying passengers skidded off the road and rolled down into a 300-foot gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district

on Wednesday, officials said.

The bus bearing registration number JK02CN-6555 was reportedly carrying around 40 passengers, the officials said, adding that it skidded off the road near

Trungal-Assar on the Batote-Kishtwar national highway and fell 300 feet downhill.

A rescue operation has been launched and some bodies have been retrieved, they said.

"Saddened to share the

update from DC #Doda Sh Harvinder Singh from the spot of the accident. Unfortunately 36 persons have died and 19 injured, out of whom 6 injured are serious. The injured are

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President Murmu, political leaders express shock, sadness over loss of lives bus accident

NEW DELHI/SRI-NAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and political leaders on Wednesday expressed shock and sadness over a bus accident in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda that has killed at least 36 people.

"I am deeply saddened by the news of the unfortunate death of several passengers in a bus accident in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir. I express my condolences to the bereaved family members and pray for the speedy recovery of those injured," Murmu said in a post in Hindi on X, formerly Twitter.

At least 36 people were killed and 19 injured when the bus carrying passengers skidded off

the road and rolled down into a 300-foot deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the bus accident was distressing. "My condolences to the families who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest," Modi said on X. He announced that an ex gratia amount of Rs 2 lakh each would be given to the next of the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 each to the injured from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF).

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge expressed pain and anguish over the loss of lives in the bus accident and urged authorities to

speed up the relief and rescue work.

"Pained and anguished to hear about the terrible bus tragedy in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir which has resulted in loss of many precious lives. We urge the authorities to expedite the rescue and relief work," he said in a post on X.

"In this hour of grief, our deepest condolences to the families of the victims. May they get the strength to overcome their losses," he said.

Officials said the bus bearing registration number JK02CN-6555 was reportedly carrying around 40 passengers. They said it skidded off the road near Trungal-Assar on the Batote-Kishtwar national highway and fell 300 feet

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Pakistan National among two Charge-Sheeted by NIA

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a Chargesheet against two accused, including a Pakistan national, in a militancy-related conspiracy case involving plans to disturb the peace and communal harmony of Jammu & Kashmir through acts of violence and terror.

"The accused have been identified as Mohd. Ubaid Malik of Kupwara and Muhammad Dilaar Iqbal @ Maaz Khan Kashmiri @ Maaz Kashmiri @ Azad Kashmiri of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK)," NIA said in a statement.

The statement reads that the duo was involved in a criminal

conspiracy to carry out unlawful activities in Jammu and Kashmir by unleashing attacks on security forces and outsiders.

"Dilwar, a close associate of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) Chief Maulana Masood Azhar Alvi, was engaged in motivating Kashmiri youth as part of a larger conspiracy hatched by proscribed terrorist organisations and their affiliates to carry out terrorist acts and activities in the region," it reads.

It reads that according to NIA investigations, Dilwar was responsible for motivating Ubaid to join the JeM militant ranks.

"Dilwar would incite youth having a militancy background to

pursue Jihad by sharing with them inflammatory audio clips and videos as well as images of Maulana Masood Azhar Alvi, showing the latter preaching radical Islam. He would also send videos related to encounters in the Kashmir valley and would provoke the youth to pick up arms."

It added that the accused have been charged under sections 120B & 121A of the IPC, 1860 and Sections 18, 18B, 20 & 38 of the UA (P) Act, 1967.

The statement reads, "The terror conspiracy case (RC-05/2022/NIA/JMU) was registered by NIA suo motu on 21st June 2022. It relates to the

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Altaf Bukhari demands probe into Doda road accident

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari has expressed grief and sorrow over a tragic road accident at Assar in Doda district that has resulted into the death of at least 37 people.

In a press release, Bukhari has expressed deep shock over the road accident and demanded immediate airlifting of the critically injured persons to the Srinagar or Jammu Govt Hospital or out of J&K for specialized treatment.

"The critically injured

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Police attaches property of drug peddlers in Poonch



JAMMU, Nov 15 (Agencies): Police on Wednesday attached the property of drug peddlers in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police spokesman here said that, continuing its action against drug peddlers, Poonch Police attached one double-storied, residential house valuing in lakhs and motor vehi-

cles jointly belonging to notorious drug peddlers namely Mehmood Hussain, Zaffer Iqbal, Javid Iqbal, all sons of Talib Hussain, residents of Deri Dabsi, at present Kotian, Mendhar under section 68-F of NDPS Act 1985.

The residential house and vehicles was identified as illegally acquired

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Two unidentified terrorists killed as infiltration bid foiled at LoC in Uri Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Two unidentified terrorists have been killed as an Infiltration was foiled by Security forces in Uri Sector of North Kashmir's Baramulla district, on Wednesday.

An official said a group of militants were trying to sneak into this side of the LoC taking advantage of low visibility and bad weather.

He said that they were challenged by alert troops deployed on the LoC and during the exchange of fire two militants were killed.

Baramulla court seeks explanation from Tehsildar over 'wilful disobedience' of its order

SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): A local court has sought explanation from Tehsildar Baramulla over "wilful disobedience" of its order restraining him from interfering with a construction work.

In an order, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the sub-judge Baramulla has directed Tehsildar to explain what made him commit wilful

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Govt to introduce battery operated boats in Dal Lake, Jehlum river



SRINAGAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Government is all set to introduce battery powered boats in Dal Lake and Jehlum as an

alternative mode of public transport, a media report said.

Quoting an official, a media report said that the process of approving boat samples is in

its final stage and two types of boats — eight-seaters and 20-seaters — will cruise in the water bodies.

He added that thirty-two boats will serve the lake and river, criss-crossing even the old city, rich with its built heritage, and the shrines dotting the riverfront.

Reports said that official plan reveals that

boats will use the traditional causeways to cover the five basins of the lake —the Nehru Park basin, the Nishat Bagh basin, the Hazratbal basin, the Nigeen basin, and the Barari Nambal basin.

Officials added that for the first time since the 1960s the Dal lake's backwaters will be opened to visitors, especially the Dalgate-Rainawari-Hazratbal waterway.

Government has already made the water canal access to the Shalimar garden navigable so that travellers could use water way to reach Shalimar

Notably, public transport on the Dal lake is

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Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar 9419143503

TENTH DAY KRIYA

In loving memory of **SMT. SHIV KUMARI** W/o Sh. PRATHVI NATH RAINA of Lane-21, Block-116, Flat No.18, Jagti colony, Nagrota, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 08th November 2023.

Your memories will forever stay with us. We will miss you. May god give peace to your noble soul.

Tenth Day Kriya

Day & Date : Friday 17th November.

Venue : Muthi Ghat near Directorate Education Office.

Time : 9:00 a.m.

GRIEF STRICKEN :**Daughters and Sons-in-law**

Smt. Santosh Bhat W/o Lt. Sh. Pran Nath Bhat

Smt. Princy Raina Ghoshal W/o Sh. Soumendra K. Ghoshal

Grand Children:

Abijay Bhat & Pooja Bhat (Daughter-in-law)

Deepali Bhat, Riptika Ghoshal, Jyotika Ghoshal

Contact : 9622210700, 9149521469



SMT. SHIV KUMARI

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Chaman Lal Bhat** S/o Lt. Sh. Mahisher Nath Bhat of Raj Ghat Baramulla who left for heavenly abode on 07-11-2023 at present Lower Roop Nagar Muthi Sector 5/5.

The **10TH DAY** will be performed at Muthi Ghat Near Director School Education Office on 16-11-2023 Thursday at 8.30 AM

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Girija Bhat - Wife

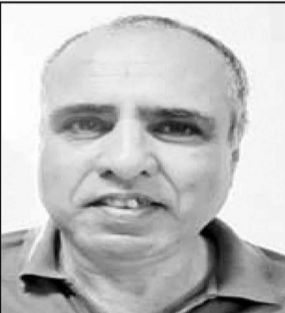
Sh. Ashok Kumar & Picha Bhat - Brother & Bhabhi

Sh. Naveen Bhat & Sneha Bhat - Son & Daughter in Law

Sh. Rahul Bhat & Neelam Bhat - Son & Daughter in Law

Saksham & Aratrika - Grand Children

CONTACT NO: 9469213465, 8424048202, 7830008692



SH. CHAMAN LAL BHAT

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Vijay Kumari Bhat** W/o Sh. Madan Lal Bhat originally resident of Lalshah, Sopore, Baramulla presently at Block 22, Flat 2, Lane 4, Jagti Township, Nagrota. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 17th of November, 2023 at 8.30 am and Mourning of 10th day will be observed in Community Hall (Back Side Lane 24, Behind Block 152).

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sh. Madan Lal Bhat (Husband)
Ajay & Kusum - Son & Daughter-in-law
Sanjay & Sangeeta - Son & Daughter-in-law
Bharat Bhushan & Bharti - Son & Daughter-in-law
Soni Lata & R.L. Dhar - Daughter & Son-in-law
Fame Lata & Vijay Raina - Daughter & Son-in-law
Jyoti Lata & Sunder Bhat - Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Phoola & Dr. Sudarshan - Sister & Brother-in-law

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY :

Alharu, Shivika, Akhij, Anavi, Komal, Vanish, Sonil & Jyoti

Contact : 9376842640, 9871290010, 9448828576



Smt. Vijay Kumari Bhat

TENTH DAY KRIYA

"No farewell words were spoken, no time to say goodbye, you were gone before we knew it and only God knows why."

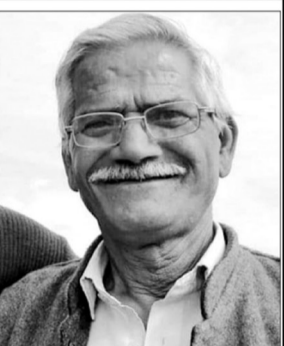
With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you that our beloved father **Sh Lok Raj Sangral** R/o H No. 219, Sarwal Colony, Jammu, left for heavenly abode on 8th November 2023.

Tenth Day will be performed at Sarwal Colony Gurudwara on Friday 17th November 2023, from 12 pm onwards.

Grief Stricken:**WHOLE SANGRAL FAMILY****Daughters & Sons-in-law**

Smt. Rachna Dogra & Sh. Rajeev Dogra

Smt. Sushma Rani & Sh. Vijay Kumar



Sh Lok Raj Sangral

TENTH DAY/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Veena Devi** W/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar R/o F-75 Chand Nagar Jammu. **Tenth Day/Antim Ardas** will be performed at Gurudwara Chand Kour, Chand Nagar, Jammu on 16-11-2023 at 11 am to 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Ramesh Kumar - Husband

Ruchi and Tarsem - Daughter & Son-in-Law

Abhi - Son

Toshi Devi - Mother-in-Law

Madan Lal & Veena Devi - Jeth & Jethani

Late Raj Kumar & Rani Devi - Jeth & Jethani

Shashi Kumar & Rajni Devi - Devar & Devrani

Asha Devi & Ajeet Raj - Nanand & Nandoi Ji

Rahul, Rohit, Boomi, Himanshu & Anmol

Mob. No.: 7006914979, 6006023477



Veena Devi

BHOG / ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. Gian Singh Ji Retired Tehsildar (KAS)** S/o Late S. Sunder Singh R/o Village Kosslian at present W.No. 17 Poonch who left for heavenly abode on 7th of Nov. 2023.

Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 14-11-2023 (Tuesday) 10.00 AM at our residence

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 16-11-2023 (Thursday) 10.00 AM at our residence.

Antim Ardas at Gurudawara Khalsa Chowk from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

Grief Stricken :

Sons & Daughters in law

S. Surjeet Singh & Sdn. Gurdeep Kour

Dr. Amarjeet Singh & Sdn. Gurpreet Kour

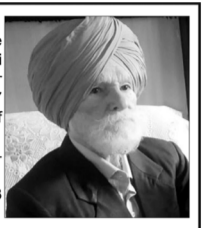
Daughters & Sons in law

Sdn. Ravinder Kour & S. Joginder Singh

Sdn. Jasbir Kour W/o Late S. Bikram Singh

Sdn. Harmeet Kour & S. Bhopinder Singh

Mob No. 9596863817



S. Gian Singh Ji Retired Tehsildar (KAS)

10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved father **Sh. Satpal Baboria AE Irrigation Department** S/o Sh. Bashiram Baboria Retired Headmaster & Smt. Puro Devi R/o Rehal Kalandian Bishnah.

10TH DAY will be performed on 16 November 2023 (Thursday) at 12 Hrs at BK Bhawan Rehal opp. Stadium.

Satsang at 12:00 PM

Langer at 02:00 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN

Father and Mother

Sh. Bashiram Baboria & Smt. Puro Devi

Son and Daughter in Law

Sh. Anush Baboria & Smt. Kavita Baboria

Brother and Sister in Law

Sh. Anan Sang & Smt. Anita Kumari

Sister and Brother in Law

Smt. Darshna Kumar & Late Sh. Madan Lal Kundal

Smt. Raman Kumar & Sh. Joginder Rana



SH. SATPAL BABORIA

AE IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

Grand Daughter

Zinnia Baboria

Contact No. 901533287 (Sh. Anan Sang)

9419293690 (Sh. Bashiram Baboria)

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

"Always in our Hearts"

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved (Mata Ji) **Smt. Shakuntala Devi** W/o Late Sub Shri Chhatar Singh Charak R/o House No. 14 (private), Sec. No. 2, Channi Himmat Jammu left for heavenly abode on 06.11.2023.

10th Day will be performed on 15th of November (Wednesday) 2023 at our residence at 11 am.

Kriya will be performed on 18th November (Saturday) 2023 at our residence at 12 Noon.

Uthala will also be performed on 18th of November (Saturday) at our residence at 2 pm.

GRIEF STRICKEN :

Late Subedar Shri Chhatar Singh Charak-Husband

Devars and Devarnis

Parth Singh Charak and Binla Charak

Kehar Singh Charak and Neelam Charak

Sons and Daughters-in-law

Janak Singh Charak and Sneema Charak

Charan Dev Singh Charak and Anuradha Charak

Dilawar Singh Charak and Anuradha Charak

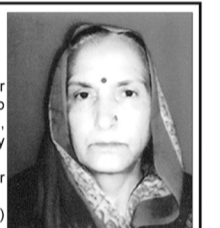
Balbir Singh Charak and Neha Charak

Ajunt Singh Charak and Priti Charak

Sons-in-law and Daughters

Vijay Singh Manhas and Kamlesh Kumari

Satish Singh Sumberia and Bandana Kumari



Smt. Shakuntala Devi

Grand Children

Ritesh Charak, Satyarn Charak,

Saksham Charak, Arvaveer Charak,

Rudransh Charak, Taniska, Swatika,

Deepali, Samyra

Contact No. 9419797224,

7780824231, 9796027108,

9419122089

ਗੁਰਮੁਖਿ ਜਨਮੁ ਸਵਾਰਿ ਦਰਗਹ ਚਲਿਆ ॥

ਸਚੀ ਦਰਗਹ ਜਾਇ ਸਚਾ ਪਿਤ ਮਲਿਆ ॥

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SARDARNI PEWETER KOUR BAKSHI** W/O SR. SHAM SINGH BAKSHI (JAWAHAR NAGAR SRINAGAR WALE) PRESENTLY RESIDING AT 92/A, PREET NAGAR, BEHIND GURUDWARA GURU ANGAD DEV JI (TENT WALA GURUDWARA) JAMMU, WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 9TH OF NOVEMBER 2023

ARAMBH SRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB JI AT RESIDENCE, ON 15TH OF NOVEMBER (WEDNESDAY) AT 10 A.M

KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS SHALL TAKE PLACE ON 17TH OF NOVEMBER (FRIDAY) AT 12 P.M TO 1:30 P.M AT GURUDWARA GURU ANGAD DEV JI (TENT WALA GURUDWARA SAHIB), PREET NAGAR, JAMMU

GRIEF STRICKEN:

SR. SHAM SINGH BAKSHI JI (HUSBAND)

DAUGHTERS AND SONS IN LAW:

SURINDER KAUR AND SR. HARVINDER SINGH DUA

RAVINDER KOUR AND SR. AMARDEEP SINGH OBEROI

HARMEET KOUR AND SR. JASBIR SINGH RAINA

CONTACT NUMBERS:

8825061249, 9419143342, 7009792806, 9596643869



SARDARNI PEWETER KOUR BAKSHI

10th DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sadness we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **SMT. KRISHNA PANDITA** W/o Late Sh. Arjan Nath Pandita (Akhon) of Gushi Kupwara presently residing at 61/2, Anand Nagar Bohri Jammu on 11th November 2023.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be observed at 9:30 AM on Monday the 20th November at MUTHI GHAT near Director School Education Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Smt. Ratni Pandita W/o Late Sh. Janki Nath Pandita (Sister-in-law)

Smt. Santush & Sh. Suresh Pandita (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Smt. Sangeeta & Sh. Vijay Pandita (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Smt. Sunita & Sh. Rajinder Pandita (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Smt. Saroj & Sh. Banerji Pandita (Daughter-in-law & Son)

Smt. Pinki & Sh. Bal Krishan Pandita (Daughter & Son-in-law)

Smt. Kauslawati Trakroo W/o Late Sh. RadhaKrishan Trakroo (Sister-in-Law)

Smt. Sumiksha W/o Sh. Badal Bhat (Grand Children)

Smt. Shiksha W/o Sh. Pamposh Mohan Koul (Grand Children)

Ms. Arushi, Chakshu, Tanvi, Shreya and Saksham Pandita (Grand Children)



SMT. KRISHNA PANDITA

TENTH DAY KRIYA

"No farewell words were spoken, no time to say goodbye, you were gone before we know it and only God knows why"

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you that our beloved father **Sri Mohan Prakash Sharma** S/o Late Sri Nathji Sharma resident of Handwara left for heavenly abode on 10th November 2023.

Tenth Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 19th Nov 2023, 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Shama Raina (Wife)

Son & Daughter-in-law

Pankaj Mohan & Priyanka Kumari

Daughter & Son-in-law

Priya Sharma & Lakshya Sharma

Extended Family

Dr. Sharad Chandra Sharma & Dr. Neeta Sharma

Pankaj Kumar Singh & Anchala Singh

8904041148, 9663114123, 9149500944



Sri Mohan Prakash Sharma

SHADMOS AND MASVAR

Our lives have been quite painful since you left for your eternal journey too soon six months ago.

Shadmos and Masvar of our beloved **K K Koul (Bittu ji)** shall be performed on 15th and 16th Nov 2023 respectively at our residence 18,B/2, Enclave Roop Nagar Jammu.

Deeply missed by

SAMAST KOUL PARIVAR,

BHATS, BAKSHIS, KAWS, DHARS,

ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS



K K Koul (Bittu Ji)

BARKHI

"Not a day goes by when we don't think of you. Not a day passes by when we don't miss you. You will always stay alive in our hearts. Keep blessing us from wherever you are. Miss you Maa."

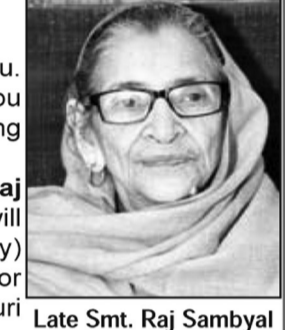
BARKHI of our beloved Mother **Late Smt. Raj Sambyal** W/o Late Sh. Nagar Singh Sambyal will be performed on 16 November 2023 (Thursday) from 10:30 AM onwards at our residence Sector 3, Ward no 41 Colonel's Colony, near Hazuri Bagh, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Narinder Singh Sambyal & Dolly Sambyal (Son & Daughter-in-law)

Vishesh Singh Sambyal (Grandson)

Contact- 9419151667



Late Smt. Raj Sambyal

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

Death is certain for one who has been born and rebirth is inevitable for one who has Died.

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the demise of a beloved husband, a supportive father and a loving brother **Mr. Dileep Kumar Shah** S/o Lt. Shri Shamboo Nath Shah from Rainawari (Reinwour).

Our hero, who was the anchor of our laughter, and the one who taught us to navigate life's journey with kindness.

In every cherished memory, he remains our king, guiding us even in his absence like an angel.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held on 18-11-2023 (Saturday) at Muthi Ghat at 9.00 AM

GRIEF STRICKEN

Manju Shah- Wife

Shah's, Raina's, Kaul's, Safayas & Bhats

Residence: H. No 4 Ajit Colony Talab Tillo Camp Gole Gujral Jammu

+919796622668



MR. DILEEP KUMAR SHAH

Radha Swami**"Tenth Day Kriya"**

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Krishna Devi** (87) W/o Late. Sh. Sardari Lal, R/o village Jhang, Teh Ramgarh, Distt Samba, expired on 10/11/2023.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 19-11-2023

Venue...Shri Guru Ravidass Temple, Canal Road, Swankha Morh.

Satsang ..12:30 to 1:30 PM

Guru Ka Langer...2:00 to 4:00 PM

G

Advisor Bhatnagar addresses 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' celebrations at Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Wednesday addressed the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas celebrations at Abhinav Theatre here to mark the birth anniversary of the iconic tribal leader Birsa Munda.

Addressing the large gathering of different tribal communities of J&K, Advisor Bhatnagar said the celebrations of this Diwas symbolizes profound recognition and respect for the contributions of India's tribal communities to the nation's freedom struggle and cultural richness.

He highlighted that this day reflects the spirit of bravery and resistance that tribal communities embodied in their fight against colonial rule.

The Advisor remarked that the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas aligns with the broader theme of 'Viksit Bharat' or 'Developed India', showcasing the integral role of tribal communities in every sphere of society, particularly in the ongoing developmental and economic progress.

Highlighting on some

of the initiatives of the government, Advisor Bhatnagar underlined that the present LG led Administration has started various schemes for the empowerment of tribal communities and the Tribal Affairs department has been pivotal in enhancing the welfare and development of tribal communities.

He highlighted that new tribal hostels, transforming schools into smart schools in tribal areas, and modernizing existing hostels as well as Eklavya Model Residential Schools are some significant steps aimed at enhancing quality education to tribal children, encompassing

not only academics but overall development.

The Advisor on the occasion commended the members of all tribal communities for presenting their unique culture and traditions through remarkable performances and bestowed mementos among them.

He also visited the stalls showcasing traditions and customs of different tribal communities of Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, the week-long Janjatiya Gaurav Saptah, being celebrated by Tribal Affairs department serves as a vibrant platform to exhibit the rich tapestry of tribal culture,

traditions, and lifestyles, particularly highlighting the diverse tribes of Jammu & Kashmir like Gujjars, Bakerwals, Gaddis, Sippis and others. These celebrations are not merely a reflection of the past but a conscious effort to keep the tribal heritage alive in today's digital and globalized world.

The observation of this day underscores the government's commitment to acknowledging and preserving the unique cultural heritage, traditions, and values of these communities, thereby reinforcing their role in building a more inclusive and diverse nation.

Advocate General Organization condoles demise of Justice Sanjeev Kumar's father



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: The Law Officers and staff members of Advocate General Organization, on Wednesday held a condolence meeting, presided over by Advocate General, D C Raina, to condole the demise of Uttam Chand Shukla, Father of Justice Sanjeev Kumar who passed away here yesterday.

Advocate General, expressed profound grief and sorrow over the demise of Uttam Chand Shukla.

Similar condolence meeting was held at Srinagar office which was presided over by Mohsin-ul-Showkat Qadri, Senior Additional Advocate General.

All the participants including Seniors Ad-

ditional Advocate Generals and other Government Counsels as well as Officers and employees paid rich tributes to the departed soul and prayed for his eternal peace besides forbearance to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss. They also observed two minute silence in honour of the departed soul.

DC reviews Health care scenario in Doda District

Top News Report

DODA, Nov 15: To review the health care scenario in the district, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh on Wednesday chaired a meeting of senior health functionaries here in the mini-meeting hall of DC office complex.

At the outset, Chief Medical Officer Dr Hamid Zargar presented a detailed report on the implementation and achievements under health care schemes and the healthcare facilities being extended to the patients in the district.

The CMO briefed the chair about the functioning of the health department and indicator wise achievements of the department. It was informed that the district has 211 health care institutions, including one GMC, 3 SDHs, 13 PHCs, and 29 NTPHCs. The meeting was also apprised about the staff position in the health care centers across the district.

plants remain functional and are maintained properly. He further inquired about the screening of Non communicable Diseases (NCD), ABHA registration, Awareness and Mega health Camps under Ayushman Bhava, Blood Donation Camps, RBSC screening of Children, Establishment of Maternity care huts at PHCs and CHCs, Positioning/ Stationing of Ambulances, National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), Anaemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, Immunization (IMI 5.0), Achievements under Developmental Deliverables and works taken up under Capex budget.

While reviewing the availability of Doctors at Associated Hospital and other health care centers in the District, the DC asked to send the roster of Consultants and Doctors to the Emergency Response cell of the DC office and give it wide publicity for the information of the general public. He emphasized the streamlining of the control rooms in AH, PHCs, and CHCs, with fully functional helpline numbers. He urged to share the roads leading to all PHCs, & CHCs with the PWD/ PMGSY authorities so that road opening plans for the ensuing winter may be prepared in advance for the better and timely health care to the patients, especially pregnant women. The DC also exhorted the health care officials to strive towards achieving 100% institutional deliveries by mobilizing ASHAs, Anganwadi Workers, and extensive awareness among the pregnant ladies. He called for having complete data of pregnant ladies with their expected date of delivery (EDD) to have a

proper health care plan for them. He said that the winter, snow, or any other natural or manmade barriers may not prevent the assured health care facilities to the pregnant ladies for their safe delivery.

The DC has instructed the CMO to share and publicize the roster of the RBSC teams for overall health care of the children. He stressed to ensure availability of essential medicines, equipment, and staff in all the health care centers across the district, especially in the rural area, so that the people don't suffer during the ensuing winter. He asked the CMO not to allow any laxity of the staff under him and sanction the leaves with utmost care and prior alternative arrangements so that the health care services of any of the centers don't suffer. He further instructed to relocate the ALS and BLS Ambulances under 108 services as per the needs of the area, as decided in the earlier meetings. He urged to have ALS Ambulances at Assar and Thathri, with the high risk of road mishaps as being the highway towns.

The DC directed the MS Medical College to ensure that the patients are given immediate attention and the referrals to GMC Jammu are minimized.

The DC has emphasized to get the civil works completed as per the set timeline and undergo purchases of the essential equipment etc. under Capex budget within a week's time.

The meeting was attended by ADC Doda Dr RK Bharti, CPO Doda Suresh Kumar, CMO Dr Hamid Zargar, DIO (Immunization), MS AH-GMC Doda, BMOs and other concerned staff of Health department.

Release of PM Kisan Installment by Prime Minister: Reasi admin organises Live streaming

Top News Report

REASI, Nov 15: Department of Agriculture Ramban, in collaboration with the District administration, on Wednesday organized the live streaming of the release of 15th installment of PM Kisan Saman Nidhi scheme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Abdul Star, Block Development Council Chairperson Parveen Begum, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Dr. Sarfraz Naseem, Tehsildar Reasi Suresh Singh, Tehsildar Pouni Naresh Kumar, Sub Division Agriculture Officer Reasi Vinod Khajuria, Sarpanches PRI members and farmers of adjoining villages.

Chief Agriculture Officer Reasi Harbans Singh, in his welcome address, informed that 29463 farmers of district Reasi will be benefited by transfer of Rs 5.89 crore through

DBT in their account for purchase of different agriculture inputs. More than 8 crore farmers will be benefited throughout India with transfer of more than Rs 18000 crore directly in their accounts.

He said the PM Kisan scheme has already provided significant benefits to the farmers across the country and the latest installment will boost their income and contribute to the growth of the agriculture sector in Reasi district.

The BDC Chairman stressed upon utilization of PM Kisan Saman Nidhi Scheme for purchase of fertilizer seed and other agriculture inputs. Kisan Morcha president Chain Singh also addressed the gathering. AGMO Horticulture planning and marketing, Agriculture Officer/ officials and about 50 farmers including women farmers from adjoining villages attended the programme.

Kathua Admin celebrates 3rd Janjatiya Gourav Diwas

Top News Report

KATHUA, Nov 15: District administration Kathua on Wednesday organised a programme in the premises Gujjar & Bakewal Hostel Kathua to commemorate 3rd Janjatiya Gourav Diwas.

Chief Planning Officer, Uttam Singh was the chief guest, while Ex President MC Lakhnampur Surmu Din was the guest of honour.

The event unfolded with the highlighting of achievements made with regard to the tribal welfare in the district during the current financial year.

The Students of Gujjar Bakewal community presented the folklores besides throwing light on the life of great tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda in India's freedom struggle and also highlighted the cause of tribal population.

Speaking on the occasion, the CPO said the commemoration of Janjatiya Gourav

Diwas is dedicated to appreciate the valued contributions made by the Tribal community in varied fields. He also threw light on the development initiatives undertaken in the district for the uplift of the Tribal community.

Later, the Chief Guest gave away prizes to the students of Gujjar & Bakewal Hostel who performed in the cultural programme.

Pertinently, the Government of India has decided to celebrate November 15 as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' to mark the birth anniversary of Tribal Freedom Fighter 'Birsa Munda' from year 2021 onwards, who was not only a freedom fighter but also social reformer and led tribal movement, namely Ulgulan (Revolt) against exploitative systems of British Colonial Govt. He is also known as Dharti Abba as he encouraged tribal people to understand their cultural roots & observe unity.

Accountant General Office plans series of activities to celebrate Audit Week from Nov 19 to Nov 24

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: To commemorate foundation day of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), Audit week is to be celebrated in the whole country from 19 November 2023 to 24th November 2023.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the office of Pr. Accountant General (Audit and A&E) is going to organize numerous programmes/activities

during the week which include Blood donation camp. Interaction with students, interface with PRIs, Environmental awareness, supports activities and cultural activities

The weeklong activities will culminate on 24th of Nov 2023 and the valedictory function would witness the participation of Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir as the Chief Guest.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH

TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 248 of REW POONCH 2023-24 Dated:- 11-11-2023 1st & 2nd Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/MES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	Under DDC Grant								
1	Construction of 02 Nos. of Toilet Complex in Mendhar A 1 Gursai Mohri, 1 Gursai Phambrnar Block Mendhar Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24 2 nd call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	3.40	300	6800	45 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 20-11-2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
2	Construction of Main Road to Bowali Pyt. Nangali Block NSSB Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
3	Under PMAAGY								
3	Drain /B/Path Near PHC Pyt. Bachianwali Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
4	Drain Moh. Gali Lower Pyt. Bachianwali Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
5	Drain Moh. Jattan Pyt. Bachianwali Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
6	Drain W.No. 03 Near Zia Ud Din and others Pyt. Kalai Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
7	Drain W.No. 04 Near Pervaiz and Others Pyt. Kalai Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
8	Tractor Road Allied Work H/S to Dhara Pyt. Bachianwali Block Lassana Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call		2.50	200	5000	30 days			
9	Under PRI Grant								
9	Upgradation of Road Jamaludin Shop to Hara Meelan W.No. 01 Pyt. Hari Lower Left Block Surankote Under PRI Grant Year 2023-24 1 st call	3.00	200	6000	30 days				

NOTE: The Contractors registered with DDC, Poonch in reference to GOVT. Order No: 238-F of 2021.

NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11-11-2023.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 11-11-2023 to 18-11-2023, 1855 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	11-11-2023 from 1500 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	18-11-2023 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (in case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	20-11-2023 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. **Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**

2. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website <https://www.jktenders.gov.in/> to acquaint bid submission process. **No.- XEN/REW/P/3667-79**

Dated:-11-11-2023

DIP/J-11120/23

Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Poonch

Back to Village-5 Last Round commences in 68 Panchayats of Doda District

Top News Report

DODA, Nov 15: The last and 3rd round of the flagship public outreach feedback programme-Back to Village-5(B2V5) commenced on Wednesday across 68 Panchayats of District Doda.

The Prabhari Officers visited the allotted panchayats to interact and obtain feedback from the locals so as to tailor Government efforts towards improving the delivery of village-specific services.

The B2V Programme is aimed at to involve the people and government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development in rural areas.

In district Doda, the outreach programme was

divided into three rounds covering all the 237 Gram Panchayats in 17 Blocks. The second round covered 78 Gram Panchayats, while the Prabhari Officers reached the remaining 68 Panchayats for the third and last round during which they would stay for 2-days and conduct the scheduled activities. It is pertinent to mention here that 92 Gram Panchayats have already been covered in the first round from 9th to 10th of November 2023.

Senior government functionaries including Pawan Singh Rathore, Special Secretary to Govt Hospitality and Protocol Department; Suraj Parkash Rakhwal, Special Secretary DMRR

Department; Kanta Devi, Special Secretary, School Education Department; Dr Khalid Hussain Malik, JD Employment; Sanjeev Rana, Addl Secretary, J&K AACL; Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar, Director Forensic laboratory; Dr Tahir Firdous, Addl. Secretary PDD; Sh Pankaj Katoch, Addl. Com. in the Div Com office; Bharat Bhushan CEO IWMP; Yasir Sharief, FA&CAO Skill Dev Deptt. and others held interaction with the PRIs, Public in their allotted Gram Panchayats, listened to their issues and imparted awareness about government schemes, initiatives, and policies.

The designated Visiting/ Prabhari Officers,

along with supporting staff and field functionaries of the line departments prepared Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) as per the wishes of people of the village. The Prabhari Officers also ensured the awareness and saturation of all the government schemes, and detailed reports in this regard have been submitted to the government containing aspirations and feedback of the people of their respective panchayats. The VOs have been exhorted to focus on the penetration of online services in the rural population to expedite the public services delivery in a transparent manner.

The mega outreach pro-

gramme in Doda, under the unique initiative of the UT Government, is supervised and managed by the District Administration Doda, under the leadership of District Development Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh.

Meanwhile, the Visiting Officers inspected government institutions viz schools, Anganwadi Centres, Ration depots, Health institutions, Patwar khans, Panchayat Ghars etc. They also visited the sites of ongoing and completed works under MGN-REGA, Capex Budget, PMAY, SBM, and other such schemes. Visiting officers also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of important public assets.

EDITORIAL

BE UNITED

No one can deny that 'power lies in organization'. Unity is the root of all powers. The progress of any family, nation, society or world depends on organization. With organization even a weak person becomes strong and can achieve happiness and success.

The importance of the organization is priceless and indescribable. A single thread is weak and breaks easily. But a rope made of many threads can subdue even big elephants. A single drop of water is priceless, but when the drops come together and become a river, their water becomes Ganga water.

A big palace is built by combining small bricks. A single soldier runs away in fear of the enemies, but many soldiers together defeat the enemy. Many bees together prepare a big hive and give honey. Someone has rightly said, "A gram alone cannot tear."

Every person is aware of the power of organization, that is why having a big family does not help. If they are not organized then anyone can harm them. Often in big industries, workers are successful in getting their demands met on the strength of this organization.

If there were no labor organizations and workers had not come together, the capitalists would have made them their victims long ago. Organization is needed everywhere.

Whether the organization is small or big, the work cannot be completed without organization. The more organization there is in a family, caste or country, the more it progresses and others also fear it.

In the absence of organization there are only losses. History is witness to the fact that the biggest reason for India's subjugation was lack of organization. The British adopted the policy of 'divide and rule' and separated Hindus and Muslims and ruled the country.

But when we got organized, the British had to leave the country. In the present era, so many thefts, robberies and robberies are taking place, all of them are due to lack of organization. Today, elders do not live in families, that is why outsiders come and loot the families. Earlier all the brothers lived together, that is why outsiders were afraid of entering the house.

The most vivid example of this is Kannauj King Jaichand and Delhi Emperor Prithviraj. Due to mutual discord, both of them lost their kingdom and also died. If Hindus and Muslims were together in today's era, then who would be a terrorist? Probably nobody.

Only through the power of organization can we boldly confront our external and internal enemies. Therefore, it is our duty to remain united for our family, national and social interest.

Nowadays our country India is facing the challenge of many enemy nations. Apart from these, there are some internal enemies who are bent upon destroying our country. If we want to face these external and internal enemies, we will have to remain united.

Does single-minded Congress bode ill for INDIA allies?

By: Shikha Mukerjee

Elections are obviously a testing time for political competitors. The intensity increases when the possibility of dislodging the incumbent seems easier than ever before. Confined within the relatively smaller arena of states, Assembly elections tend to appear more ferocious as fights between desperate rivals.

Some outbursts by a few partners within the INDIA alliance, fortified by speculation that all is not well and the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance is a non-starter as a challenger to the BJP in the forthcoming mother of all Lok Sabha elections in 2024, could be one of two things. One possibility is that the INDIA bloc was a balloon that is now leaking air and will soon collapse, and the other is that all is well with the alliance, even if there is no seamless adjustment of seats between the parties within the INDIA bloc.

The first possibility would make the jittery BJP ecstatic; the second possibility will make it even more nervous as it faces the qualifying races for the 2024 final that have already started in the five states of Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Telangana. If the apparent stresses and cracks within the INDIA bloc grew to the point where mutual distrust between competing parties turned into a classic internecine war of annihilation, it would be reasonable that the BJP, as the principal beneficiary, would be relieved and rejoice.

Anything that hinders the consolidation of the INDIA bloc would rescue the BJP from its knee-jerk concessions necessitated by the

compulsion of political circumstances. In Chhattisgarh, the superstar campaigner of the BJP suddenly announced a five-year extension of the 5 kg per person Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for 800 million people who need free rations to stave off starvation, or as Narendra Modi put it, "went to bed hungry". The other revealing involuntary admission is by the BJP's election mastermind, Amit Shah, also in Chhattisgarh, on the caste census: "The BJP never opposed a caste census but decisions have to be taken after giving it a lot of thought."

After trashing the Bihar caste survey, this abrupt change of stand is indicative that "Kamandal" politics of the inauguration of the under-construction Ram Mandir at Ayodhya is under pressure from Mandal politics of the poor and civilisationally deprived. That the majority of Indians need the government to step in to keep them fed is a bitter moment of facing the truth; the economy, contrary to the dressed-up data released by the Modi government, is in dire straits, short term and in the medium term. However much the BJP may deplore "appeasement politics", the need to take control and perhaps even credit for a caste census in the future is another clue to how uneasy lies the head that wears the crown. The third initiative by the BJP to promise, albeit in the indefinite and distant future, increased representation for women by reserving one-third of seats in the Lok Sabha and in the state Assemblies, is a concession that garnering support from women voters could decide the fate of the party in this round of elections.

Two concessions during the

campaign and one before the election ball was set rolling adds up to a lot of pressure that the Modi government needs to handle to unseat Ashok Gehlot in Rajasthan, Bhupesh Baghel in Chhattisgarh, K. Chandrasekar Rao in Telangana and retain power in Madhya Pradesh as well as keep MNF's chief minister Zoramthanga in Mizoram glued to its side. The Congress is obviously the principal opponent everywhere.

The twist in this tale of binary politics, however, is the presence of regional parties seizing the opportunity to dig themselves into new territories, turning the electoral battle into multi-cornered fights. The assumption hitherto has been that all multi-cornered fights from within the ranks of the parties in opposition to the BJP hurts the Congress. Party boss Mallikarjun Kharge has named the Prime Minister, home minister and the investigative agencies as additional contestants in every constituency where the Congress, its friends and the BJP are engaged in combat. The BJP, it seems, needs every weapon in the government's arsenal to try sustain the myth of its invincibility.

It's true that when votes are fractured, outcomes are unpredictable. The prevailing wisdom is that divisions within the Congress and splits in the Opposition votes will work for the BJP. It is as likely that regional parties as an alternative to the BJP and the Congress can shave away support to the BJP, lowering its chances of getting past the winning post.

If, however, parties like the Aam Aadmi Party and Samajwadi Party team up with the Congress to back government formation in the poll-

bound states, it would jeopardise the BJP's post-poll result plans, if it has any, of inveigling susceptible winners from the other side. It would then strengthen the INDIA bloc and increase the BJP's uneasiness, as it would promote the idea of a united Opposition working to oust Narendra Modi and defeat the BJP.

Recent opinion polls, and these can be tricky in anticipating exactly how voters will decide, indicate there is no strong wind blowing in the BJP's favour. When votes are fractured, there the outcomes are unpredictable. The polls also suggest that even after Mr Modi firmly inserted himself into the regional battlefields, uncertainty has not declined for the BJP. The voters are also not definitely anti-Congress or anti-INDIA. On the contrary, voters polled by various surveys are fully aware of what the INDIA alliance is, even though they say they don't think it is working according to a well-defined and easily grasped plan.

From what Mr Kharge has said publicly, it is evident that he is working overtime to drive his party to victory and keep the INDIA bloc together; conversations are ongoing, including with the disgruntled Akhilesh Yadav and Nitish Kumar. The INDIA bloc, as he explains it, will reconvene after December 3 when the election results are out.

Any anticipation that the INDIA bloc is likely to fall apart, because the Congress, unusually, has concentrated its efforts on winning in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Telangana, is an ardently desired wish of the BJP. It implies that INDIA partners now regret the formation.

Common Mistakes students preparing for (CAT,GMAT,CLAT,etc)competitive exams should avoid



By: Vijay GarG

A wonderful method to assess your subject-matter understanding is through mock tests. Most high scorers take as many mock tests as possible.

Acing competitive exams is a challenging task in today's academic environment. The number of applicants for competitive tests, such as the CAT, GMAT, CLAT, etc., is consistently rising every year, increasing the competition level dramatically.

The number of applicants for competitive tests, such as the CAT, GMAT, CLAT, etc., is consistently rising every year, increasing the competition level dramatically.

However, it's undoubtedly attainable with the right kind of preparation strategy and guided mentorship. This is something that parents are aware of as well, which is why they inspire their children to start preparing from an early age.

Many students experience stress and anxiety when they hear the words 'competitive exams'. Students are under immense pressure to perform well as they believe that these tests will pave the way

for their ideal careers. They need focused preparation, suitable study material, and a myriad of other skills to make it to the top ranks in the exam.

But before their preparation gets underway, they must first be aware of the most common mistakes that can derail their exam aspirations. Avoiding these mistakes won't just make the preparation streamlined but also reduce the pressure, stress, and unnecessary tension weighing on their minds.

Here's common mistakes that students should steer clear of:

Failing to set a realistic score
Setting a realistic target score has a two-pronged advantage. First, it helps you identify topics that you can skip over. This will leave you with more time and energy to solidify the topics you choose to study.

Second, It will take off the pressure to perform. While it is great to aspire to top the exam, not everyone has the time or space to do so. Instead, look for an ideal range of scores that will help you reach your target college.

For instance, those aspiring for an NMIMS MBA can set a target score of 250 to clear the cutoffs instead of chasing the elusive 290+. Those looking to get into great UG courses abroad can aim for a 1400+ score on their SATs. Realistic targets based on an innate understanding of your own capabilities, time, and resources are a great way to start your prep on a positive note.

Neglecting Mock Tests
A wonderful method to assess your subject-matter understanding is through mock tests. Most high scorers take as many mock tests as possible to gain experience with actual exams.

Taking mock tests helps you not only become familiarised with the format of the exam but also evaluate your performance under stress. It will highlight your areas of weakness so that you can strengthen them.

Taking mock tests can assist you in becoming more adept at managing your time. It helps you to craft your test-taking strategy, especially when it is a speed test. As the exam date approaches, shift your focus to taking as many mocks as possible.

Leaving Your Errors Unreviewed
Make sure you carefully evaluate your performance after taking a mock test to identify your weak points. If you keep making the same mistakes, there is no benefit in practicing for mock exams. A targeted approach to address areas where you lack confidence is a wise way to boost your performance.

Focus on strengthening these areas through practice. To keep your learning curve expanding, track your development over time and evaluate your performance on succeeding mock tests.

Poor Time Management
Time management abilities are not only necessary during the planning phase but also when you are seated in the exam room writing your paper. Once you become accustomed to the exam format, schedule your mock tests.

Compare the amount of time you spend on each question to the recommended amount of time for each section. This will assist you in effectively managing your time, which is a productive strategy that will undoubtedly boost your sense of confidence.

Refusing to Revise
Most students begin studying for

exams at the last moment, leaving little time for revision and mock tests. It's critical to comprehend the importance of revision.

You review concepts when you revise, which improves your ability to remember them during crucial moments. Revision strengthens your memory's ability to retain essential information, which will help you work even harder to reach your objectives.

One way to review and get ready for an exam is through mock tests. To ensure that you have enough time to review before taking the exams, make sure to arrange your schedule backwards.

Strategic Preparation for Competitive Exams!

It takes more than just effort to succeed in competitive exams. It is essential to steer clear of issues, including having unrealistic expectations for scores, skipping mock tests, not reviewing mistakes, managing your time poorly, and not revising your work.

One can significantly increase their chances of cracking these demanding exams by creating a well-organised study strategy incorporating these components. It's advised to read about the strategies used by toppers and expert mentors so that you can adopt the best practices for yourself and avoid wasting too much time reinventing the wheel.

(Vijay GarG
Retired Principal
Educational
Columnist Malout)

GDC Udhampur concludes Weeklong Clean and Green Campus Swachchanjali Drive

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Nov 15: Under My College My Pride activities in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan during the Azadi Ka Amrut Kaal, in the year of G20 presidency of India and in order to sensitize the youth and society about the Swachhata Hi Sewa Campaign as part of Swachchanjali to the Nation and Mahatma Gandhi ji, the Coordination Cell of the College in Collaboration with NSS, NCC and the Staff of the College organised a weeklong clean and green campus Drive.

The entire drive was conducted under the patronage and supervision of Principal Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta.

Speaking on the occasion the Principal and Patron reiterated the commitment of the college for continuing



the green initiatives and green practices for which it has also got the Green Campus Award in the previous years from Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

He told all that these efforts have also been appreciated by the NAAC in the recent cycle of assessment in which the college got B++ Grade, a rare in third cycle in the Jammu

Division.

He applauded the efforts of the College Coordination Cell, NSS NCC Units, the staff and the students for their concern for cleanliness and green campus activities. He was very happy on the die-hard commitment of the Cleaning managers of the college nominated as Swachhata Mitras for maintaining high standards of clean and green campus. "Without them our all efforts for Clean and Green

Campus would be in vain. They always do the extra mile and consider cleanliness as worship. I have High regards for them," He added.

It's pertinent to mention that the green campus activities were started in the college on the 9th of October and throughout the week cleanliness drives, beautification of the campus, Clean and green Depawali social media campaigning of YSYB in collaboration with District administra-

tion and plantation drive remained the special features of the Swachchanjali done by different Swachhata Mitras. A Special Oath on Swachhata, Nashamukti and Integrity was also taken by the Students and the staff of the College.

Different parts of the Programs were coordinated by NSS, NCC, YSYB, in the supervision of Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Dr. Rippy Bawa, Prof. Shivani Sharma, and special coordination of Dr. Ashok Sharma, HOD Mathematics, Assistance of Sh. Rajinder Gupta, Sh. Rajneesh Mahajan and Mr. Sanjeet Singh.

In the valedictory today, there was felicitation program organised, in which the Principal along with the staff appreciated rewarded the best Swachhata Mitras.

JKBS makes payment of Rs 3,00,000 to Panch Sham Lal



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha at a meeting held in its office at Gopinath Vihar Udhewala, made payment of Rs 3,00,000 as first installment to Panch Sham Lal on account of purchasing a piece of five Marla land from

him for Guru Gyagi Ashram Shahzadpur. JKBS members assured to make the rest of payment of Rs 2,00,000 to him very soon. Among others present in the meeting were Messrs Corporator Rashpal Bhardwaj, Rachhpal Kaithi, R.L. Kaithi, Mohinder Singh Motan, Subedar Ram Paul Lakhotra and Havildar Ram Saran Lakhotra.

Vikramaditya Singh expresses grief over Doda accident

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Former MLC Vikramaditya Singh today expressed deep grief over the tragic accident in Doda district that claimed the lives of 38 people and left 17 others severely injured.

In a statement issued here today, the former MLC conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the

bereaved families and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed souls. He also urged the government to provide the best medical care to the injured and offer adequate compensation to the families of the victims.

Vikramaditya Singh, who contested the MP election from the Udhampur-Doda Parliamentary Constituency, said that the erstwhile Doda district is known as

an area prone to fatal road accidents. He emphasized the need for stricter enforcement of traffic regulations, ensuring that only roadworthy vehicles and qualified drivers operate commercial vehicles. He also stressed the importance of curbing vehicle overloading, a significant contributing factor to these accidents.

NC expresses deep sorrow over Doda Bus Accident

Rattan Lal calls for providing best medical treatment to injured, probe into Doda Bus Accident

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference expressed grief over the tragic bus accident in Doda, which has claimed the lives of 38 people.

Expressing grief over the accident, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of J&K NC said, "I am deeply saddened by the news of this horrific accident. My heart goes out to the bereaved families during this difficult time. I pray for

the speedy recovery of those who have been injured."

The senior NC leader urged the authorities sitting at the helm to provide best medical treatment to the injured and also conduct a thorough investigation into the cause of the accident and take all necessary steps to prevent such tragedies from happening in the future.

"The National Conference stands in solidarity with the bereaved families and urges the Govt to provide all possible

assistance to them," he said.

Gupta also called the government to streamline the traffic scenario in the region. "The government must take urgent steps to address the issue of over-speeding on our roads which is a major cause of accidents, and we must do everything we can to prevent it," he added.

The Provincial Body of J&K NC Jammu also expressed grief over the loss of lives and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

CS takes stock of the rescue & rehabilitation measures after Doda mishap



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 15: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, immediately after the unfortunate road accident at Assar, Doda in which 36 persons lost their lives and 19 got injured, took stock of the measures taken by the District and Divisional administration regard-

ing the rescue and relief activities to ensure that all necessary steps are taken.

Dr Mehta expressed his shock and anguish over the tragic accident. He called for looking into all the causes that could have resulted into the incident. He made out that the administration would make every effort for plugging the loopholes identified

by investigation. He stressed on intensifying measures that would ensure there is no loss of life in such a manner in future.

The Chief Secretary also enquired from the concerned Divisional and Deputy Commissioner about the status of rescue measures taken so far and removal of injured to the hospitals. He also asked the

health department to extend best possible medical care to the injured. He instructed them to make the treatment readily available to them so that they have speedy recovery.

The Chief Secretary also stated that the LG Administration is together with the affected families in this hour of pain and loss. He made out that all measures of rehabilitation would be taken for the bereaved families and those injured in this accident.

It was said that few severely injured persons were shifted to GMC Doda and GMC Jammu as per the requirement of their treatment. It was given out that all the possible help is being provided to them as per the directions of the LG.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary also offered his sincere condolences to the bereaved families. He also prayed for the full and quick recovery of those who were injured in the tragic accident.

Raman Suri expresses shock over Doda accident, seeks inquiry

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Expressing shock over the tragic bus accident near Trungal - Assar area on Batote-Kishtwar National Highway in Doda district that claimed more than thirty-six lives and left several injured, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri said that he is extremely pained and expressed his condolences to the bereaved families.

Seeking best treatment for the injured, Raman Suri said that PM Narendra Modi has announced ex-gratia of

Rs. 2 lakhs from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) to be given to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs. 50,000 to be given to the injured.

Suri also demanded an inquiry into the incident so that the guilty can be fixed and such accidents be prevented in the future. He said the Kishtwar roads have already claimed several lives over the years but despite that, adequate corrective measures are not being taken by those deployed to manage traffic, check overloading, or set the roads right especially at curves, from where

vehicles usually skid off the road.

Raman Suri urged the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administration to hold an in-depth inquiry into the incident and punish all those who did not perform their duties well, resulting in this tragic accident. The punishment, he added, should be exemplary so that in future, officers do their jobs well and people feel safe to travel on such hilly roads.

The BJP leader also prayed for strength to the bereaved families and wished for speedy recovery of those injured in the accident.

7th Bn SSB Jammu organizes Electrician Domestic Solution

Top News Report

DODA, Nov 15: 07 Battalion SSB Jammu has organized electrician domestic solution, an Skill Development course at ITI Bhallessa, Gandoh in District-Doda.

The business and industries around the world value and honor skill of people and realizing its importance and the interest shown by youths of the Bhatiyas and Gandoh far flung areas which are un-employed, the course was chosen to give exposure to these youths. The course will help them to build a carrier and start a profession by honoring their skill in a certain



field. The course will help them to earn their livelihood and also to financially assist their families.

This course for 25 un-

employed youths is sponsored by 07 Bn SSB Jammu for 20 working days under supervision of Vikas Kumar Singh (Officiating Commandant) Sumit Nain

(Deputy Commandant), Pawan Kumar (Asstt. Commandant) has inaugurated the above mentioned skill development programme at ITI Bhallessa, gandoh where 25 un-employed youth and Vice-Principal Wahid Saboor with other teachers of ITI were available in the opening ceremony.

The main motive of the programme/course is to make our youths well trained and deserved for professional works and to make them self-dependent and also to divert the youths of Gandoh and bhatiyas area to the main stream away from social evils which are prevailing in these areas.

GDC Kishtwar holds seminar, slogan writing competition

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Nov 15: The Science Club of Govt Degree College Kishtwar, in collaboration with the J&K Science, Technology & Innovation Council, successfully organized a seminar and Slogan Writing competition on the theme 'Biodiversity and its Importance'. The event, held today, aimed to raise awareness about the significance of biodiversity and promote measures to prevent biodiversity loss.

Under the guidance of Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar and convener Prof. Jai Deep Kumar, the event witnessed active



participation from 30 students. Dr. Sehrish Gazal, HOD of Environmental Sciences, efficiently conducted the proceedings of the event.

The Chief Guest, Prof. Umar Din, graced the occasion, and the panel of judges included Prof. Mohd. Yaseen Sirwal

from GDC Bhardwah, Dr. Arif Rashid, a consultant Physician, and Prof. Ashwani Kumar from GDC Kilotran. They evaluated both the seminar and the slogan writing competition.

Shruti Khanna, District Co-ordinator of J&K Science, Technology, and Innovative Coun-

cil, joined the event via hybrid mode and commended the College organizing committee for arranging such an important and successful event.

In the seminar category, Abroo Wajid, Hakeem Malik, and Anmol Koul secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

prizes, respectively. In the slogan writing competition, Mamta Kumari, Salma Layaqat, and Ruchi Sharma were awarded the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively.

All winners received cash prizes and mementos for their outstanding achievements. The judges and dignitaries were also honored with mementos as a token of appreciation.

Prof. Satish Kumar, Prof. Ajay Kumar, Prof. Jaideep, Dr. Kulbhushan, Prof. Randeep, Prof. Asma, and Prof. Vikram were among the notable attendees at the event.

Training Programme for Vermicomposting Technology concludes at SKUAST-K



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Nov 15: One Week Training Programme-cum-Exposure Visit of Vermicomposting technology sponsored by MSME organized by the Division Of Basic Science and Humanities at Faculty of Agriculture Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences

and Technology of Kashmir Wadura concluded today.

The chief Guest on this program was Director Planning and Monitoring and MSME Program Coordinator Dr Haroon Rashid Naik along Others.

Dr Malik Asif Course Coordinator extended greetings to the distinguished guests includ-

ing the Chief Guest, Heads of Departments, Professors, Trainers, and others.

Dr Haroon Rashid Naik Director planning SKUAST-K added grace to the event by Commending the Division of Basic science and Humanities at FOA Wadura SKUAST-K for hosting the MSME sponsored Program.

Dr Haroon Rashid Naik expressed gratitude to Prof.Nazir Ah Ganie Honble Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K for facilitating these training programs for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Arjun Kapoor secretly watches Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3' amid reports of feud

Bollywood actor Arjun Kapoor, surrounded by rumours of a cold war with Salman Khan, made a discreet appearance at a South Mumbai theatre to catch the latest release, 'Tiger 3.' The actor, who has been in the limelight for his speculated feud with Salman, was photographed in an IMAX theatre alongside director Siddharth Anand, known for his work on 'War' and 'Pathaan'.

In snapshots circulating on Instagram and Zoom, Arjun maintained a low profile, donning a black sweatshirt and matching pants, complemented by a black cap. Notably, the 'Tevar' actor attended the screening without his girlfriend, Malaika Arora.

'Tiger 3,' released on Diwali, features Salman Khan alongside Arjun's close friend Katrina Kaif and Emraan Hashmi.

The photos of Arjun at the screening have intensified ongoing speculations about the alleged strained relationship between him and Salman.

Reports suggest that the roots of this strained relationship



trace back to Arjun's past connections with Salman's family. Salman played a pivotal role in shaping Arjun's entry into the film industry, encouraging him to pursue acting. Although Arjun was once romantically involved with Salman's younger sister Arpita Khan, the relationship reportedly ended in 2005. Arpita

is now married to actor Aayush Sharma, while Arjun is currently in a long-term relationship with Malaika Arora, Salman's brother Arbaaz Khan's ex-wife.

While Arjun has remained tight-lipped about the feud in public, his father, producer Boney Kapoor, acknowledged the strained relationship in

a 2020 interview with news agency. Boney revealed that Salman was instrumental in guiding Arjun into the world of acting. "Arjun always wanted to become a film director and that is why I had no plan to launch him, like a new hero. That was not our plan at all. But one day, I got a call from Salman saying Arjun should try his hand in acting because he has all the elements to become one. So, Salman took Arjun under his wings and groomed him."

Despite the reported strain in their relationship, Boney expressed gratitude to Salman for his initial support in Arjun's career. "Unfortunately, my relationship with Salman is strained now, but initially Salman encouraged Arjun to get into acting. I owe this to Salman," Boney said.

As the speculations surrounding their relationship continue, Arjun Kapoor's unexpected presence at the 'Tiger 3' screening adds another layer to the ongoing saga between the two Bollywood figures.

When Salman Khan almost played Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's brother in a movie



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan have worked together in movie 'Josh' as siblings.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has starred oppo-

site Salman Khan as main heroine in a few movies, including the big hit 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam'.

Not many of us know that she was to play Salman Khan's sister in

a movie.

An old interview from 2018 featuring Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has gone viral where she shared that Salman Khan and Aamir Khan were in talks to star in the movie 'Josh'.

The film featured Aishwarya and Shah Rukh Khan as siblings.

She said that the cast of 'Josh' was changed, earlier, Salman Khan was to play the role of Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan was reportedly being considered for Chandrachur's role.

Rai said she had no apprehensions about playing Shah Rukh Khan's on-screen sister.

Shah Rukh and Aishwarya have worked together in 'Mohabbatein' which released sometime after 'Josh' in 2000 and was a success at the box office.

Actress Arushi Nishank turns producer with web series Kaphal

Producer-actress Arushi Nishank's web series Kaphal has gone on the floors in Nainital. She says that the film is very special to her.

"It's like a dream come true. It all began two years ago with a dream and an idea. Many have come and gone, but the enthusiasm remains unwavering. I've encountered numerous challenging phases where anyone could have easily given up, but by the grace of God and my unwavering belief, I stand tall in the face of adversity. Now, with Kaphal hitting the stage, being a producer marks a proud moment for me," she says.

She adds, "Kaphal is a pahadi native fruit and I am a proud pahadi. The show is an amalgamation of how India meets Bharat. Just like the fruit, we want to showcase in the show that in our day-to-day busy life, we fail to appreciate life and the small moments,



instead always looking for more. The show also captures the beautiful landscapes of Uttarakhand, the simple Uttarakhandi people, the traditions and the value exchange between the city people and the village people will also be a thing to look forward to."

In the acting space, many projects have been lined up, says Arushi, adding, "In the realm of acting, there are numerous projects in the pipeline. One of

which is called Tarini. It's a film based on six Indian women naval officers circumnavigating in a made-in-India boat, and I am playing a pivotal role. With each project, I feel what truly matters is the storyline, the story should be inspirational, connecting, and impactful to the people.

It should encourage them to live their life without any fear and make a mark that impacts other lives in good ways too."

The upcoming film Parinda Paar Geyaa is about a singer nursing a heartbreak but if the makers' words are anything to go by, this Punjabi outing is not modelled on Rockstar

On Monday the makers released the trailer of the Punjabi film Parinda Paar Geyaa and the star cast, comprising Gurnam Bhullar, Roopi Gill and Gurnazar Chattha, exuded festive vibe at the event. From title change to postponing its release date, this musical project has seen it all.

Director Ksshitij Chaudhary and Gurnam Bhullar worked together in Sohreyan Da Pind Aa Gaya. While addressing the media, the Uda Aida-fame director shared that the idea of making a film on a Punjabi singer dealing with heartbreak came from Gurnam Bhullar.

"It took us more than six months to build on this idea and transform it into a script. While Gurnam had already cast himself in the film, I liked Roopi's work even though her earlier film didn't work. I had immediately called her after seeing her work and told her that we would do a project together. So, that's how Roopi came in the picture for the film," adds Chaudhary.

While many draw parallel between Parinda Paar Geyaa's



trailer to that of Bollywood outings like Rockstar and Aashiqui 2, the director clarifies that it's just that the film falls in the same genre but the story is unique and its treatment is experimental for Punjabi cinema.

Initially the film was titled Superstar. Gurnam reveals, "We called this movie Superstar, but while making it we realised that the name wouldn't resonate with the Punjabi audience. It's not a word that's used in the daily life in general. At the same time,

we already had an exceptional song, Parinda Paar Geyaa, in the film which everybody loved. So, we thought why not give the film the same title as its poster song."

Gurnam's bleached hair look is appreciated, but the actor says that repeated bleaching for the role has turned his hair turn grey. But anything for acting and the love of the fans!

Roopi, who has many music videos and films under her name, is portraying the love interest of Gurnam in Parinda

Paar Geyaa. She says, "The character is similar to what I am in real life. She is a Punjabi kudi from abroad and she is committed to her work, and so am I. The only difference is that I do not express anger and heartbreak in the manner my character does in the film." Roopi plays a news anchor in the movie. The film is shot in London and Birmingham, UK. Ask Roopi to share some memories from the shoot days, all she can recall is the extreme cold weather and how her hands turned blue while shooting.

The actress finds it hard to manage her social media handles, especially during the promotions of films, as she is not that social media savvy. On the top of it, she does not plan her looks but likes to keep it simple. "Less is more," she says and hopes to grow along with Punjabi cinema. She awaits the day when characters like Alia Bhatt's Gangubai would be written in Punjabi cinema.

Besides Gurnam and Roopi, the film also has debutant Gurnazar in a negative role. It has another new face Isha Sharma.

Anjali Tatrari on intense sequence in Vanshaj



Anjali Tatrari, who plays the role of Yuvika in the show Vanshaj, recently had to go through a diverse range of emotions, all in a matter of a few minutes, and it was a challenging journey for her.

Portraying a character onscreen often requires actors to oscillate between intense emotions in the blink

of an eye. Anjali's character Yuvika, on one hand, cries tears of joy to have finally proven her father's innocence and exposed Shobhana's (Kavita Kapoor) crimes to the world. However, in the very next moment, her world is turned upside down as she grapples with the shocking news of Shobhana taking her own life.

This emotional rollercoaster was no easy feat for Anjali, as she had to navigate the extremes of joy, sorrow, and guilt, all within the same narrative. However, Anjali took the difficult task of moving from one emotion to the other head-on and delivered a moving performance.

Talking about the same, Anjali said, "Yuvika's journey has been a rollercoaster, full of various circumstances and emotions. As an actor, it's not easy to portray these extreme feelings all in a matter of a few minutes."

"It was definitely an intense process that tested my skills and pushed me to do better as a performer. The experience was exhausting, challenging and thrilling at the same time," shared the Mere Dad Ki Dulhan-fame actress.

She added, "Now, witnessing the audience's appreciation of those scenes is incredibly rewarding, and there's nothing more fulfilling for an actor."

Vanshaj airs on Sony SAB.

Pippa makers issue apology after AR Rahman's Karar Oi Louho Kopat rendition faces backlash



The makers of the recently released biographical war film Pippa on Monday issued an apology after facing backlash for AR Rahman's Karar Oi Louho Kopat rendition.

Rahman recently made a rendition of Bengali poet Nazrul Islam's patriotic song Karar Oi Louho Kopat for the war drama, which started a controversy. Production house Roy Kapur Films took to Instagram and issued an apology regarding the controversy of AR Rahman's rendition of Nazrul Islam's patriotic song. The statement reads, "In light of the current discourse surrounding the song Karar Oi Louho Kopat the producers, director, and music composer of the film Pippa wish to clarify that our rendition of the song is a sincere artistic interpretation, embarked upon only after securing the necessary adaptation rights from the estate of the Late Kazi Nazrul Islam."

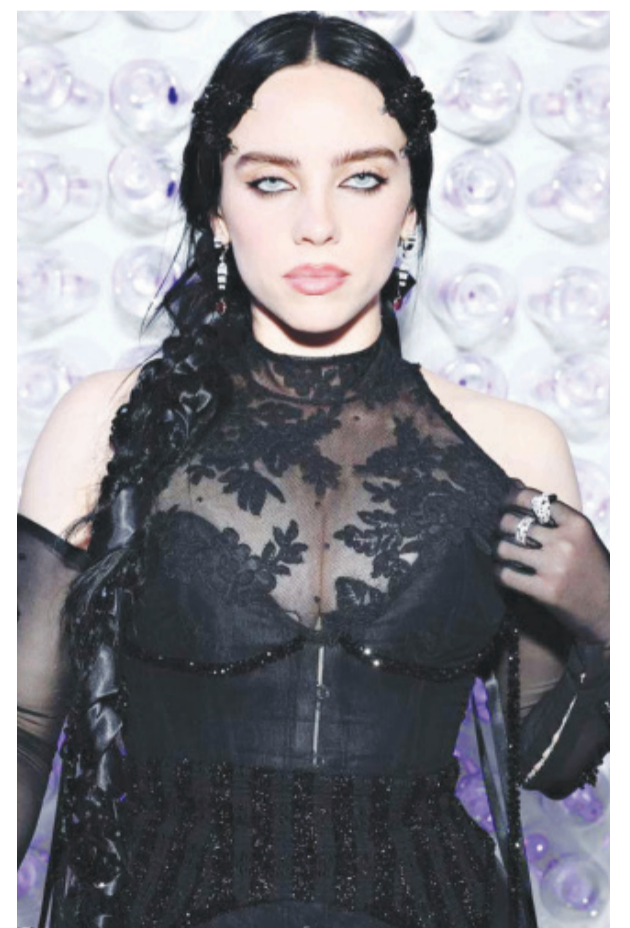
Billie Eilish says she is 'physically attracted' to women

Singer-songwriter Billie Eilish says she is physically attracted to women and also intimidated by their presence. The 21-year-old musician, known for chart-busters such as No Time To Die, When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go? and What Was I Made For?, said she shares "deep connections" with women in her life.

"I've never really felt like I could relate to girls very well. I love them so much. I love them as people. I'm attracted to them as people. I'm attracted to them for real. I have deep connections with women in my life, the friends in my life, the family in my life. I'm physically attracted to them. But I'm also so intimidated by them and their beauty and their presence," Eilish said.

While she identifies as a woman, the multiple award-winning singer also said she has never felt "desirable" or "feminine".

"I've never felt like a woman, to be honest with you. I've never felt desirable. I've never felt feminine. I have to convince myself that



I'm, like, a pretty girl. I identify as 'she/her' and things like that, but I've never really felt like a girl," she added.

Eilish has been in relationships with men, most recently with Jesse Rutherford of the alternative rock band

The Neighbourhood. They parted ways in May.

She was previously accused of "queerbaiting" (when someone acts queer without coming out), an allegation she addressed saying her sexuality was no one's business.

Jharkhand has been showered with schemes worth Rs 50,000 crore: PM Modi at Khunti

Modi is on a two-day Jharkhand visit

KHUNTI (JHARKHAND), Nov 15 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said Jharkhand has been showered with schemes worth Rs 50,000 crore and has become the country's first state with 100 per cent rail electrification.

He said tribals had contributed significantly for the country but did not get due recognition.

Paying tributes to the contribution of the tribals, the PM said the country will always remain indebted to tribal warriors.

He emphasised the need to augment four pillars — women, farmers, youth and middle class and poor — for the development of the nation.

The PM said 70 per cent of



the population has been covered under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 100 per cent have been immunised and there has been full LPG coverage since 2014, the PM said.

He said campaigns like the PVTG Mission and 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' will take the country to new heights.

Modi, who is on a two-day Jharkhand visit, held a 10-km

roadshow in Ranchi on Tuesday night and paid tributes to tribal icon Birsa Munda on his birth anniversary on Wednesday, which is celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas and also happens to be Jharkhand's Foundation Day.

At Khunti Football ground, the prime minister unveiled a Rs 24,000-crore scheme for the development of vulnerable tribal groups.

He also launched the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and released the 15th installment of Rs 18,000 crore under the PM-KISAN scheme besides inaugurating and laying foundations of projects worth Rs 7,200 crore in the state.

PM Modi pays floral tributes to Birsa Munda in Ranchi

Birsa Munda's birth anniversary is celebrated across the country as the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas



RANCHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid homage to tribal icon Birsa Munda in Ranchi on his birth anniversary.

He paid floral tributes to the 25-foot tall statue of the icon at the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Memorial Park-cum-Freedom Fighter Museum, situated at the Old Central Jail where he had breathed his last on June 9, 1900.

Birsa Munda's birth anniversary is celebrated across the country as the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.

"Respectful tribute to Bhagwan Birsa Munda on his birth anniversary. Many best wishes to my family members across the country on this special occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas," Modi posted on X.

During his visit to the museum, the PM was accompanied by Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Governor CP Radhakrishnan and Union Minister Arjun Munda.

He took a round of the museum that demonstrates the way tribals struggled to protect their forests, land rights and culture, besides their valour and sacrifices.

Along with Birsa Munda, the museum also showcases contributions of tribal freedom fighters such as Budhu Bhagat, Sidhu-Kanhu, Nilambar-Pitambar, Diwa-Kisun, Telanga Khadiya, Gaya Munda, Jatra Bhagat, Poto H, Bhagirath Manjhi and Ganga Narayan Singh.

The memorial park has been developed on adjacent 25 acre land, and it has a musical fountain, children's park, infinity pool, garden and other entertainment facilities.

The PM is on a two-day visit to Jharkhand. Later in the day, he will visit Birsa Munda's birthplace Ulihatu village in Khunti district.

From there, he will launch the Rs 24,000-crore project aimed at the development of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). He will also launch the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', release the 15th installment of Rs 18,000 crore under the PM-KISAN scheme, and inaugurate and lay the foundation of projects worth Rs 7,200 crore in the state.

Bamnoli land acquisition: CM Kejriwal sends inquiry report on Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar to LG Saxena

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has sent to Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena the Vigilance Minister's report alleging "prima facie complicity" of Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar in the Bamnoli land acquisition matter, government sources said on Wednesday.

The Chief Secretary has denied any wrongdoing and termed the allegations against him as "mudslinging" by people with vested interests against whom vigilance action was taken in corruption cases.

The report, which was submitted to Kejriwal by Vigilance Minister Atishi on Tuesday, has recommended Naresh Kumar's removal from the post for alleged corruption in acquisition of 19 acre of land in South West Delhi's Bamnoli village.

Kejriwal has instructed the Vigilance Minister to send the report to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) as well, the sources said.

The compensation for land acquisition was allegedly raised from Rs 41 crore to Rs 353 crore but the report has

claimed that the "scale of undue benefits" in the deal was over Rs 897 crore.

The vigilance minister's report was an outcome of an inquiry to a complaint that alleged that the chief secretary's son was employed by a person who was relative of benefited landowners in Bamnoli.

The 670-page report by Atishi alleged that "the scale of the undue benefits is much larger than earlier made out to be in a vigilance report."

"The windfall gain for the Kathurias (landowners) would have been Rs 897.1 crore for the 19.081 acres of land in Bamnoli village based on the illegal and exorbitant arbitration award given by erstwhile DM Southwest, Hemant Kumar. This is much greater than the estimate of Rs 353.79 crore shown in the vigilance report," the report stated.

The report further alleged that the "connections and the chronology give the prima facie appearance of complicity of the chief secretary with Hemant Kumar and the landowners."

It was alleged by the complainant—a

lawyer—that the Delhi chief secretary's son worked in a realty firm, a director of which was the son-in-law of Subhash Chand Kathuria, one of the owners of the land acquired in Bamnoli village in southwest Delhi and who was awarded enhanced compensation for his land.

In a statement on Tuesday, Naresh Kumar had questioned "on what basis such allegations are made specially when the chief secretary has joined only last year that is 2022. Copy of the report is not shared. So on what basis one can respond or report."

According to the report, the minister has recommended removal of Chief Secretary Kumar and Divisional Commissioner Ashwani Kumar from their posts to pave the way for a fair probe.

The divisional commissioner in a press conference on Monday defended the chief secretary saying the complaint against him was part of "dirty politics" as he was actively pursuing corruption cases.

On Tuesday, the chief secretary in a statement said the matter came to light in May when the compensation for 19 acres of land to be



acquired by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for the Dwarka Expressway was hiked from Rs 41 crore to Rs 353 crore by the then district magistrate Hemant Kumar, who was later suspended and a CBI inquiry was initiated against him.

The vigilance inquiry into the excessive compensation hike by Hemant Kumar was not initiated suo motu by the chief secretary and the divisional commissioner. "It was done only after the matter was flagged by National Highways Authority (NHAI) that moved court in the matter on June 5 this year," claimed the report.

The chief secretary stated that the matter was already under investigation by the CBI and the minister's report could be sent to

the probe agency so that truth can come out.

The CBI may also probe if there was any "conspiracy" to malign his image by "vested interests including public authorities" against whom action was taken by him, the chief secretary said on Tuesday.

The vigilance minister, in her report, has also recommended that a reference be made to the ED for the likelihood of money laundering in the land purchase by its current owners in 2015 and subsequent "illegal compensation" awarded in 2023 for its acquisition.

Incidentally, the Delhi High Court recently set aside the award of Rs 353 crore for acquisition of land in Bamnoli that was declared by the then district magistrate (southwest) in May this year.

Five killed in two separate road accidents in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR, Nov 15 (Agencies): Five persons were killed in two separate road accidents in Odisha's Koraput and Sundergarh districts on Wednesday, police said.

The first incident was reported from Koraput district where three persons of a family from Chhattisgarh were killed and another injured as the car in which they were travelling plunged into a 100-metre-deep gorge.

The accident took place at Sunki Ghat near Jodimadeli, police said, adding that the injured person has been rushed to the district headquarters hospital in Koraput.

The car was on its way to Visakhapatnam



in Andhra Pradesh from Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh, they added. The deceased were identified as Nandalal Thakar, Gaurav Thakar and Naman Thakar.

The injured person was identified as Rachana Thakar. Police suspected that the accident could be due to fog or sleeplessness of the

driver. In Sundergarh district, two cyclists were killed after a speeding car hit them from behind at Jharmunda village.

The car fled the spot after hitting the bicycle. However, local people managed to chase the vehicle and stop it near Jagatgarh. Police have detained the driver.

Indian Navy monitoring movement of Chinese warships participating in exercise with Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): The Indian Navy has been keeping a close watch on the movement of a Chinese submarine and warships that are participating in a naval exercise with Pakistan, government sources said on Wednesday.

The Navy is monitoring the Chinese platforms from the moment they entered the Indian Ocean region through the Malacca strait, they added.

China's PLA Navy has deployed a number of platforms, including frontline warships and a submarine, for the Sea Guardian exercise with Pakistan.



As part of India's comprehensive maritime domain awareness, the Navy maintains a close watch on

all the movements in the Indian Ocean region, in line with national security interests, the sources said.

Uttarkashi tunnel collapse: Workers, family members hold protest over delay in rescuing trapped labourers

UTTARKASHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Workers, family members and others held a protest outside the under-construction tunnel at Silkyara on Wednesday over the delay in rescuing labourers trapped inside for the last three days.

The protesters vented their anger over the absence of an alternative plan when the machines deployed for drilling the rubble to prepare an escape passage for trapped labourers did not work on Tuesday evening.

Falling debris from a fresh landslide on Tuesday hampered efforts to insert steel pipes through the



collapsed part of the tunnel.

According to officials, all workers are reported safe, and communication has been established. They are also being provided ration and other essentials through pipes.

The arrival of a replacement machine from Delhi is being awaited by rescuers for the resumption of the drilling operation.

Nearly 40 workers have been trapped behind debris for over 72 hours since a portion of an under-construction tunnel between Silkyara and Dandalgaon on the Brahmakhal-Yamunotri National Highway caved in on Sunday following a landslide.

According to a list of the trapped workers issued by the emergency operation centre, 15 are from Jharkhand, eight from Uttar Pradesh, five from Odisha, four from Bihar, three from West Bengal, two each from Uttarakhand and Assam, and one from Himachal Pradesh.

NASA, ISRO gearing up to launch joint space mission to map globe every 12 days

BENGALURU, Nov 15 (Agencies): The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) is set to be launched in the first quarter of 2024 after a few tests, particularly those related to vibration, NASA officials have said.

"ISRO is projecting the first quarter of next year. So, I mean, that's ready," NASA NISAR Project Manager Phil Barela said during a media interaction here on Wednesday.

He is expecting the launch of NISAR (spelt as 'Naisar') "not earlier than January" from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota aboard the ISRO Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark-II.

The mission, which has three-year duration, aims to survey all of Earth's land and ice-covered surfaces every 12 days. This will start after a 90-day satellite commissioning period.

Regarding the key tests that are pending to be undertaken, Barela said, "The vibration testing that's underway, but there's a whole slew of performance tests that we need to do."

Battery and simulation tests have to be done to make sure that the system works fine, he said.

"We'll be doing performance testing on the radars and various spacecraft electronics. So, a lot of



testing remains but the big environments test, the only one remaining now, is vibration," Barela said.

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Director Dr Laurie Leshin said the NISAR project is "better than anything that was flown in the past".

"While there are datasets from past missions that can form sort of a baseline, this is a new level of capability that we will have with NISAR," she had told reporters on Tuesday.

"If it's working very well, we will almost certainly extend that mission to get that longer baseline. It is a very important thing to see the Earth change on multi-year timescales. This is what we are looking for," Leshin had said.

According to ISRO, NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory being jointly developed by it and NASA.

NISAR will map the entire globe in 12 days and provide spatially and temporally consistent data

for understanding changes in the Earth's ecosystems, ice mass, vegetation biomass, sea level rise, ground water and natural hazards, including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes and landslides.

In a handout, NASA said the project aims to understand the dynamics of carbon storage and uptake in wooded, agricultural, wetland and permafrost ecosystems and the response of ice sheets to climate change, the interaction of sea ice and climate, and impacts on sea level rise worldwide.

NISAR will have Synthetic Aperture Radar Instrument (SAR), L-band SAR, S-band SAR and Antenna reflector.

According to NASA, the onboard instruments can even see a minor change of even one centimetre from space.

The SUV-size satellite has a mass of roughly 2,800 kg, which will be powered by two solar arrays providing about four kilowatts of power.

The six feet tall 'spacecraft bus' will contain the command and communication systems for the instrument payload, which houses the two SAR instruments.

"The 'bus' will also support the radar antenna reflector and its boom. There is enough fuel aboard to support at least five years of operations," the handout said.

Israeli forces storm Gaza's largest hospital Shifa in 'targeted operation' against Hamas

Soldiers enter buildings, including the emergency and surgery departments, which house intensive care units

KHAN YOUNIS, Nov 15 (Agencies): Israeli forces raided Gaza's largest hospital early Wednesday, where hundreds of patients, including newborns, have been stranded with dwindling supplies and no electricity, as the army extended its control across Gaza City and the north.

Shifa Hospital has become a symbol of the widespread suffering of Palestinian civilians during the war between Israel and Hamas, which erupted after the militant group killed some 1,200 people and seized around 240 captives in a surprise October 7 attack into southern Israel.

The hospital is also at the heart of clashing narratives over who is to blame for the thousands of deaths and widespread destruction in the besieged territory. Israel accuses Hamas of using Palestinians as human shields, while Palestinians and rights groups say Israel has recklessly endangered civilians as it seeks to eradicate the group.

Mohammed Zaqout, the director of hospitals in Gaza, said Israeli tanks had entered the medical compound and that soldiers had entered buildings, including the emergency and surgery departments, which house intensive care units.

"The occupation forces stormed the buildings," he said angrily over the phone. He said the patients, including children, are terrified. "They are screaming. It's a very terrifying situation ... we can do nothing for the patients but pray."

The Israeli military said it was carrying out a "precise and targeted operation against Hamas in a specified area in the Shifa Hospital."

It said it warned "relevant authorities in Gaza" that all military activities within the hospital must cease. "Unfortunately, it did not."

Israel says Hamas has a massive command center inside and beneath Shifa, but has not provided visual evidence, while Hamas and the hospital staff have repeatedly denied the allegations. Hours before the raid, the United States said it had its own intelligence suggesting Hamas used Shifa and other hospitals, and tunnels beneath them, to support military operations and hold hostages.

The military said that the forces raiding Shifa have medical teams and are searching for hostages as part of the opera-



tion.

Israeli forces also claimed control of several key buildings and a downtown neighborhood in Gaza City.

A TRICKLE OF FUEL FOR AID WORKERS

Most of the hundreds of thousands of people living in Gaza City and surrounding areas have fled after weeks of Israeli bombardments. Hardly any aid has been delivered to the north, which has been without power or running water for weeks.

More than 11,200 people, two-thirds of them women and minors, have been killed in Gaza, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry in Ramallah, and two thirds of the territory's 2.3 million people have fled their homes. About 2,700 people have been reported missing. The ministry's count does not differentiate between civilian and militant deaths.

Almost the entire population of Gaza has squeezed into the southern two-thirds of the tiny territory, where conditions have been deteriorating as bombardment there continues.

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees said Tuesday that its fuel depot in Gaza was empty and that it would soon cease relief operations, including bringing limited supplies of food and medicine in from Egypt for the more than 6,00,000 people sheltering in severely overcrowded UN-run schools and other facilities in the south.

"Without fuel, the humanitarian operation in Gaza is coming to an end. Many more people will suffer and will likely die," said Philippe Lazzarini, the commissioner-general of UNRWA.

Israeli defense officials changed course early Wednesday to allow some 24,000 liters (6,340 gallons) of fuel in for

humanitarian efforts, officials said. Earlier, they repeatedly rejected allowing fuel into Gaza, saying Hamas would divert it for military use.

COGAT, the Israeli defense body responsible for Palestinian affairs, said it would allow UN trucks to refill at the Rafah crossing on the Egyptian border later Wednesday. It said the decision was made in response to a request from the US.

HOSPITALS NO LONGER FUNCTIONING

Thousands of displaced people who had been sheltering at Shifa, along with patients who were able to move, had fled the medical compound in Gaza City through a corridor established by Israeli forces in recent days as Israeli troops encircled the complex and battled Hamas militants outside its gates.

Shifa had stopped operations over the weekend, as its supplies dwindled and a lack of electricity left it no way to run incubators and other lifesaving equipment. After days without refrigeration, morgue stuff dug a mass grave Tuesday for 120 bodies in the yard.

The Health Ministry said 40 patients, including three babies, have died since Shifa's emergency generator ran out of fuel Saturday. Another 36 babies are at risk of dying because there is no power for incubators, according to the ministry.

The Israeli military said it started an effort to transfer incubators to Shifa. But they would be useless without electricity, said Christian Lindmeier, a World Health Organization spokesman.

The Health Ministry has proposed evacuating the hospital with the supervision of the International Committee of the Red Cross and transferring the

patients to hospitals in Egypt, but it has not received any response, ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qidra said.

While Israel says it is willing to allow staff and patients to evacuate, some Palestinians who have made it out say Israeli forces have fired at evacuees.

The White House's national security council spokesperson, John Kirby, said Tuesday that the US has unspecified intelligence that Hamas and other Palestinian militants use Shifa and other hospitals and tunnels underneath them to support military operations and hold hostages.

The intelligence is based on multiple sources, and the US independently collected the information, a US official said on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

Kirby said the US doesn't support airstrikes on hospitals and does not want to see "a firefight in a hospital where innocent people" are trying to get care.

BATTLE IN GAZA CITY

Israeli troops have extended their control across northern Gaza, capturing the territory's legislature building and police headquarters. But independent accounts of the fighting in Gaza City have been nearly impossible to gather, as communications with the north have largely collapsed.

Israeli military spokesman Daniel Hagari said Israeli forces have completed the takeover of Shati refugee camp, a densely built district bordering Gaza City's center, and are moving about freely in the city as a whole.

Inside some of the newly captured buildings, soldiers held up the Israeli flag and military flags in celebration. In a nationally televised news conference, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Hamas had "lost control" of northern Gaza and that Israel made significant gains in Gaza City.

But asked about the time frame for the war, Gallant said: "We're talking about long months, not a day or two."

The military says its forces have found weapons and eliminated fighters in government buildings, schools and residential buildings.

Israel says it has killed several thousand fighters, including important mid-level commanders, while 46 of its own soldiers have been killed in Gaza.

Betrayal, says sacked UK Home Secy Braverman in no-holds-barred letter to PM Rishi Sunak



LONDON, Nov 15

(Agencies): A day after being sacked as UK's Home Secretary, Suella Braverman burst out fiercely at Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, accusing him of "betrayal" by failing to keep his promises over controlling illegal immigration, or responding aptly to "extremism on the streets".

"Your plan is not working," she said in a searing letter to her fellow Indian-origin leader.

"Either your distinctive style of government means you are incapable of doing so.

"Or, as I must surely conclude now, you never had any intention of keeping your promises," the controversial right-wing leader said in the letter, the BBC

reported.

"Someone needs to be honest: your plan is not working, we have endured record election defeats, your resets have failed and we are running out of time. You need to change course urgently."

Braverman accused Sunak of betraying his pledge to do "whatever it takes" to stop small boats crossing the Channel - which, she said, was among her conditions to take the post in October last year.

Following her sacking on Monday, Foreign Secretary James Cleverly was moved to the Home Office, while former prime minister David Cameron, making a political comeback, stepped into his role.

A No 10 spokesman thanked Braverman for her service, but added: "The Prime Minister was proud to appoint a strong, united team yesterday focused on delivering for the British people."

The immediate trigger for her removal was accusations of her of stoking tensions ahead of pro-Palestinian marches in London, against the backdrop of the Israel-Hamas war.

Braverman claimed police had applied a "double standard" to protesters, in an article for the Times newspaper.

In her letter, she also accused Sunak of failing "to rise to the challenge posed by the increasingly vicious antisemitism and extremism displayed on our streets".

"I have become hoarse urging you to consider legislation to ban the hate marches and help stem the rising tide of racism, intimidation and terrorist glorification threatening community cohesion," she added, accusing the PM of putting off "tough decisions in order to minimise political risk to yourself".

'Not Israel, but...': Netanyahu vs Trudeau on strikes, civilian killings in Gaza

JERUSALEM, Nov

15 (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday defended the ground operation by Israeli forces in the Gaza Strip, and said that it wasn't Israel, but Hamas, that is deliberately targeting civilians.

Netanyahu's remarks came in response to Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressing concern over the mounting death toll in the battered enclave and urging the Israeli government to exercise restraint.

"It is not Israel that is deliberately targeting civilians but Hamas that is heeded, burned and massacred civilians in the worst horrors perpetrated on Jews since the Holocaust. While Israel is doing everything to keep civilians out of harm's way, Hamas is doing everything to keep them in harm's way," Netanyahu said in a tweet.

He also said that Israel has been providing humanitarian corri-



dors and safe zones to civilians in Gaza, while Hamas prevents them from leaving "at gunpoint".

"It is Hamas, not Israel, that should be held accountable for committing a double war crime - targeting civilians while hiding behind civilians. The forces of civilization must back Israel in defeating Hamas barbarism," Netanyahu added.

In his sharpest criticism of Israel since the war against Hamas, Trudeau said that the "killing of women, of children, of babies" in the besieged Gaza Strip must end.

"I urge the government of Israel to exercise maximum restraint. The world is watching,

on TV, on social media - we're hearing the testimonies of doctors, family members, survivors, kids who have lost their parents," news agency Reuters quoted him as saying.

Addressing a news conference in the western province of British Columbia, Trudeau said, "The world is witnessing this killing of women, of children, of babies. This has to stop."

However, Trudeau also said Hamas needed to stop using Palestinians as human shields and should release all its hostages.

He had earlier called for the release of all hostages in Gaza and the delivery of enough aid to address civilian needs.

Cash-strapped Pak sold Ukraine weapons worth \$364 mn: Report

ISLAMABAD, Nov 15 (Agencies): Cash-strapped Pakistan reportedly earned USD 364 million in an arms deal with two private US companies last year to supply ammunition to Ukraine in its war with Russia, according to a media report.

A British military cargo plane flew from the Pakistan Air Force Base Nur Khan in Rawalpindi to the British military base in Cyprus, Akrotiri, and then to Romania a total of five times to supply arms to the war-torn country, a news channel reported.

Islamabad has, however, consistently denied that it has provided any ammunition to Ukraine, a neighbouring country to Romania. Citing details of the contract from the American Federal Procurement Data System, the report claimed that Pakistan signed two contracts with American companies named "Global Military" and "Northrop Grumman" for the sale of 155mm shells.

These agreements to provide weapons to Ukraine were signed on August

17, 2022, and were specifically linked to the purchase of 155mm shells.

The Foreign Office in Islamabad has denied any sale of arms and ammunition to Ukraine, saying Pakistan maintained a policy of "strict neutrality" in the dispute between the two countries and did not provide them with any arms or ammunition in that context. These alleged agreements took place during the rule of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) - a multi-party coalition that ousted Imran Khan-led government through a no-trust vote in April last year. Then Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who had pledged to take Pakistan-UK relations to a "new height", retired in November 2022.

In August 2022, when these alleged contracts were signed, the Ukraine crisis was very much a part of the political discourse in Pakistan, particularly in the wake of the cricketer-turned-politician Khan's visit to Russia on February 24, when Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an invasion of Ukraine.

Australia Flags Threat From State-Backed Hackers, Singles Out 2 Countries

Australian Signals Directorate singled out Moscow and Beijing as among the country's greatest cyber threats in its latest report.

SYDNEY, Nov 15 (Agencies): Australia faces a "persistent threat" from state-backed hackers, the country's signals intelligence agency said Wednesday, highlighting the particular danger of Russian and Chinese cyberattacks on critical infrastructure.

Australia has been hit by a string of high-profile hacks in the past 12 months, including one late last week that crippled major ports for three days.

Without laying blame for specific hacks or intrusions, the Australian Signals Directorate singled out Moscow and Beijing as among the country's greatest cyber threats in its latest report.

State-backed hackers would probably continue targeting water supplies and electricity grids, the directorate said, and would likely ramp up efforts to steal military secrets from Australia and its allies.

Australia's AUKUS defence pact with the United Kingdom and the United States could be a prime target, the report warned.

Under the AUKUS deal, Australia is set to acquire nucle-

ar-powered submarines and develop advanced technology such as artificial intelligence and hypersonic missiles.

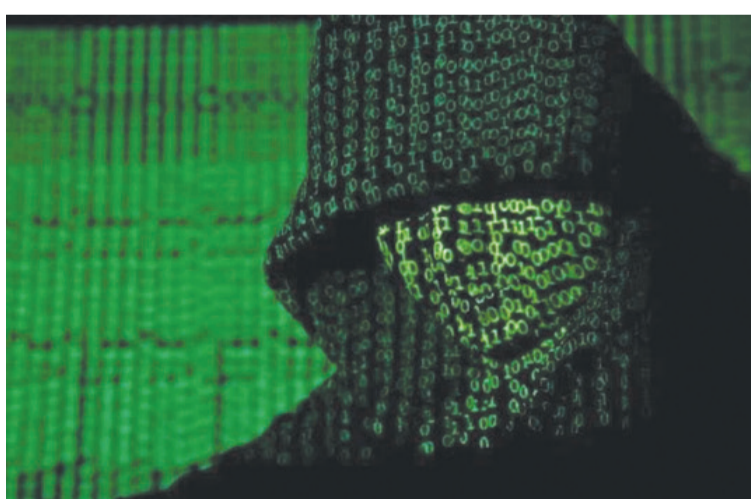
"The AUKUS partnership, with its focus on nuclear submarines and other advanced military capabilities, is likely a target for state actors looking to steal intellectual property for their own military programs," the report said.

It highlighted an incident in May in which Beijing-backed hackers briefly infiltrated "critical infrastructure sectors" in the United States, warning that China could deploy similar techniques to gain access to Australian systems.

State-backed hackers are also creating "bespoke tools" to infiltrate government networks, the report warned, pointing to the Russian "Snake" malware network dismantled by the United States this year.

In that case, Russian spies used sophisticated malware to infect government networks and research facilities across some 50 countries.

Asked about the report's find-



ings on Wednesday, Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles said key trade partner China has also been "a source of security anxiety for our country".

Cybersecurity experts have said that inadequate safeguards and company stockpiling of sensitive customer information have made Australia a target for hackers.

Major ports handling 40 percent of Australia's freight trade ground to a halt late last week after hackers infiltrated comput-

ers belonging to operator DP World.

Medibank, Australia's largest private health insurer, said last November that hackers had accessed the data of 9.7 million current and former customers, including medical records related to drug abuse and pregnancy terminations.

In September 2022, telecom company Optus fell prey to a data breach of similar magnitude in which the personal details of up to 9.8 million people were accessed.

Rich tributes paid to Tribal leader Birsa Munda as Samba admin celebrates Janjatiya Gourav Diwas

Top News Report

SAMBA, Nov 15: The Gujjar and Bakarwal Hostel in Samba witnessed a jubilant congregation organised to commemorate the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda celebrated as Janjatiya Gourav Diwas.

The event was presided over by the District Development Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma and attended by district officers, including XEN, Vijay Kumar Attri, Chief Education Officer, Kewal Krishan, Warden Gujjar & Bakarwal Hostel, Rashid Alam, Local Tribal Officer Samba Saleem Alam and



Member DISHA Mukhtiyar Choudhary. Birsa Munda, revered as a freedom fighter and social reformer, dedicated his life towards spreading awareness among tribal communities in remote areas. The event com-

menced with a patriotic spirit as students from Gujjar & Bakarwal Hostel inaugurated the celebration with the singing of the National Anthem. The vibrant program showcased a myriad of talents, including singing, Gojri speech, dance, and a painting competition.

The winners of these competitions were duly recognized and honored with prizes, presented by the District Development Commissioner, Samba. The celebration not only paid homage to Birsa Munda's enduring legacy but also emphasized the significance of nurturing and acknowledging the talents of the youth.

J&K BJP expresses grief over loss of lives in tragic bus accident in Doda

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, expressed deep shock and agony over the tragic accident in which dozens of people lost their precious lives and many others injured, when a bus they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into a gorge in Assar Doda.

Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP, said that the loss of lives in such an unforeseen tragedy is deeply sad-

dening. He said that the BJP stands in solidarity with the affected people and offers the party's support during this difficult time. He urged the authorities to provide all necessary assistance to those affected by this tragedy.

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org.), J&K BJP, conveyed sympathies to the bereaved families. He said that the accident in Kishtwar is heart-wrenching. We mourn all those who lost their precious lives and express condolences to

the bereaved families, he said. He also prayed to the Almighty for the recovery of the injured at the earliest.

Similarly, the party's senior leaders, MPs, former ministers, former MLAs and MLCs, state office bearers, morcha presidents, Cells Convenors, also expressed their sympathies with the families who lost their dear ones and urged upon the administration to provide medical facilities to the injured ones for their recovery at the earliest.

BSP pays floral tributes to Som Raj Majotra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) organised condolence meeting on uncertain demise of president BSP JKUT Late Som Raj Majotra at state Head office Satwari and paid floral tributes to Late Som Raj Majotra who promoted

and spread the mission in his entire life started by various Sant Mahatmas and particularly Baba Sahib Bhim Rao Ambedkar for the upliftment of down trodden community who were ignored years together from education religious social and economical over all development & gave a new direction to the down trodden people and aware them to fight against the atrocities inflicted by the other rich peoples and various organisation.

While addressing the gathering Ex M.P & Coordinator Raja Ram requested the participant to work with dedication and reach the door steps of the poor masses to aware them about the evil designs



of the presents Govt. at the Centre and State who are exploiting the poor people by raising all falls propaganda and misleading the public about the policies introduced but never implemented on grounds. The poor people are ignored from the benefit of the policies.

While paying tributes to Majotra BSP J&K UT General Secretary Rajesh Gupta said he was leader of masses and very popular among the people of Kathua. Gupta assured that we will leave no stone unturned to bring BSP to new heights.

The other prominent speakers are Vice President Charanjeet Chargoitra, & State General Secretary Shashi Bhushan Thappa,

State Coordinator Gurbaksh Gourav spoken on behalf of party that whole party stands at this time with family of Late Majotra and will work on the foot print of our beloved president to fulfill all his dreams.

The prominent persons present on the occasion were Coordinator Badri Nath, General Secretary Baldev Raj, Cashier Raja Singh, Coordinator Darshan Rana, Coordinator Bishan Dass, Coordinator Tilak Raj, Coordinator Abdul Gani Aftab, District President Jammu Koushal Targotra, District President Jammu Aswani Karloopia Senior leader Jagdish Verma District President Udhampur Mangal Dass, District President Samba Sardari Lal.

BJP stands for equality and justice to OBCs: Koul

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: BJP OBC Morcha Udhampur team led by district president Sagar Verma, called on Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (organization) in presence of Sunil Prajapati, J&K BJP OBC Morcha president and discussed in detail the issues of OBC community in Jammu and Kashmir.

Ashok Koul gave a patient hearing to the district team and said that the BJP is of the view that this community has been discriminated against and ill treated



for long and that the political parties in the past were never serious for the welfare and political empowerment. He said that the BJP has repeatedly stood for equality and justice to all the communities of the society. As far as OBCs, the BJP stands

for socio-economic and political empowerment and the Narendra Modi government at the centre, is committed to deliver justice to this community at all levels.

Ashok Koul asked the district team to intensify their political activities in the ongoing Booth Jan

Samvad Abhiyaan programmes and educate the people to strengthen BJP and vote overwhelmingly in its favour in 2024 general elections to see Narendra Modi as Prime Minister of the country for the third term.

He also assures the

members that OBC's of Jammu Kashmir will get all their pending constitutional rights in coming times.

Ashok Bandral, Sub. Om Parkash District Vice presidents, Rakesh kumar, Mulkh Raj, Sub. Subash Chander, Gurdoyal Dhiman Mandal Presidents Krimchi, Majalta, khoon, Tikrialah, captain Nand Lal, Charan Dass Sumbria, Kuldeep Kumar Pathania District General secretaries and Babu Ram vice President Malhad Mandal and others the team members who called on Ashok Koul.

Smoking responsible for 46% of COPD cases- experts

Top News Report

JAMMU / CHANDIGARH, Nov 15: "Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the third biggest killer after heart disease and cancer worldwide. Many people consider increasing shortness of breath and coughing a normal part of aging. In the early stages of the disease, you may not notice symptoms. COPD can develop for years without even causing shortness of breath."

Sharing various facts and myths about lung-related diseases on World COPD Day Wednesday, a team of doctors from IVY Hospital, Mohali said that one start seeing symptoms in the more advanced stages of the disease. COPD is a progressive form of lung disease ranging from mild to severe. It is characterized

by a restriction on the flow of air in and out of the lungs that makes breathing difficult.

Dr Suresh Kumar Goyal senior pulmonologist said, "COPD often occurs in people aged 40 years and above who have a history of smoking. These may be individuals who are current or former smokers. Not everyone, but most (about 90%) people suffering from COPD have smoked. COPD can also occur in people who have long-term exposure to harmful lung irritants such as workplace chemicals, dust or fumes from organic cooking fuels."

Dr Sonal pulmonologist said that the prevalence of COPD in India is around 5.5% to 7.55%. Recent studies show that the prevalence rate of COPD is 22% in men and 19% in women.

Dr Ranjit Kumar Gone from internal medicine

said that COPD is an incurable and progressive condition, which inflames the airways in the lungs and destroys the air sacs. Patients often cough, wheeze and have trouble breathing. Many sufferers have trouble walking short distances and are particularly vulnerable to disease and pneumonia. Often victims require oxygen support 24 hours a day.

India's COPD mortality rate is the highest in the world at 98 deaths per 1 lakh population, which is 3 times the US rate of 33 deaths per 1 lakh population, said Dr Jagpal Pandher from internal medicine adding smoking is responsible for 46% of COPD cases, followed by outdoor and indoor pollution which is responsible for 21% of COPD cases and occupational exposure to gases and smoke is responsible for 16% of COPD cases.

FROM PAGE 1

37 killed, 14 hurt as bus falls into gorge in Doda: Officials

being shifted to GMC Doda and GMC #Jammu as per requirement. All possible help being provided. Sincere condolences to the bereaved families," Union minister Jitendra Singh, who is the member of Parliament from Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag, said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed grief over the incident.

"The bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir is distressing. My condolences to the families who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest," Modi said on X.

He announced that an ex-gratia amount of Rs 2 lakh each would be given to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 each would be given to the injured from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF).

"Deeply anguished to learn about the loss of precious lives due to a tragic bus accident at Doda, Jammu and Kashmir. The local administration is conducting the rescue operation in the gorge where the bus had the accident. My heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," Shah said on X.

"Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Assar, Doda. My heartfelt condolences to bereaved families and wishing for a speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. Directed Div Com and Dist Admin to provide all necessary assistance to affected persons," Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on the microblogging website.

Due to the fall from a considerable height, the bus has got badly damaged, sources said.

Police and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel, besides locals, are involved in the rescue operation, they said, adding that some of the injured passengers have been shifted to hospitals.

President Murmu, political leaders express shock, sadness over loss of lives bus accident

downhill.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and three former chief ministers of the erstwhile state expressed condolences over the loss of lives.

"Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Assar, Doda. My heartfelt condolences to bereaved families & wishing for a speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. Directed Div Com & Dist Admin to provide all necessary assistance to affected persons," Sinha posted on X.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti also expressed grief over the loss of lives. "Deeply shocked & saddened about the tragic road accident at Assar in Doda. Deepest condolences to the families of those feared dead & hope the administration expedites rescue operations," she posted on X.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah also expressed sadness over the loss of lives.

"JKNC President Dr Farooq Abdullah and VP @OmarAbdullah are extremely shocked and saddened to hear about the road accident at Assar near Trungal in Doda district in which several are feared dead. They have implored the administration to provide all possible help to the injured. In this moment of immense grief, their thoughts and prayers lie with the families of the deceased," the National Conference posted on X.

Pakistan National among two Charge-Sheeted by NIA

conspiracy hatched by terrorist organisations to unleash violent terrorist attacks in J&K with sticky bombs, IEDs and small arms, etc. as part of the Pakistan-backed

terror groups' conspiracy to carry out acts of terror and violence in J&K. It involves radicalization of local youth and mobilization of overground workers of newly floated terrorist groups, such as The Resistance Front (TRF), United Liberation Front Jammu & Kashmir (ULFJ&K), Mujahideen Gazwat-ul-Hind (MGH), Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Fighters (JKFF), Kashmir Tigers, PAAF and others. These outfits are affiliated to proscribed terrorist outfits like Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al-Badr, Al-Qaeda, etc."

Police attaches property of drug peddlers in Poonch

property during the course of investigation and enquiry conducted by Poonch Police, he said.

"The property was prima facie accused from illicit trafficking in Narcotic drug and Psychotropic Substances by the owners," said the spokesman.

He said that the operation reaffirms the commitment of Mendhar Police to combat the drug menace.

Local people of the area hailed the initiative of Poonch Police with regard to the attachment of immovable property, which has been raised/ used from illicit trafficking of narcotics by the drug peddlers in the poonch district.

Altat Bukhari demands probe into Doda road accident

should be provided specialized treatment on priority basis," said Bukhari while demanding adequate compensation for the next of kins who lost their lives in the road accident at Assar.

He expressed sympathy with the bereaved family members who lost their loved ones in the road mishap and demanded compensation to all the victims of the road accident.

He said that the Govt should order a

detailed investigation into the road accident at Assar and accused persons should be brought to book. The roads in Chenab Valley have become a death trap and the authorities concerned have failed to fix problems on the road that connects Jammu - Doda - Ramban - Kishtwar.

"The traffic police should act against the overloading and speedy vehicles on the hilly roads that often lead to fatal road accidents and loss of lives. The transport department and traffic police should work in coordination so that the traffic rule violators can be identified, and action can be taken accordingly," he said.

He said that the roads are in shabby condition across Chenab Valley and the commuters often complain of road mishaps because of the bad roads that require immediate attention of the Govt.

"A safety audit of the roads across Chenab Valley should be conducted regarding its safety for the commuters, and corrective measures should also be taken. There is a need to fix accountability both on the public transport, traffic police and civil administration to ensure such road accidents can be avoided in future," he suggested.

Senior Vice President, Ghulam Hassan Mir; Vice President Choudhary Zulfkar Ali; Vice President, Aijaz Ahmed Khan; General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya; General Secretary, Syed Asgar Ali; Provincial President, Jammu, S. Manjit Singh; State Secretary, Mohinder Parihar; Provincial President Legal Cell, Jammu, Vikram Rathore; District President, Doda, Saleem Magray; District President Doda-Rural, Anil Kumar; Provincial Joint Secretary, Adil Wani; District President Youth Wing, Basharat Sheikh and District Office Bearers of Apni Party in the region also expressed their concern over the road accident and demanded a through probe into the road accident that has led to the loss of many lives.

Baramulla court seeks explanation from Tehsildar over 'wilful disobedience' of its

order

disobedience of the order passed by the court on November 10.

"It is therefore, to direct and require you explain your position as to what has made you to commit wilful disobedience and disrespect of the order of this court and so also to show cause that as to why the action under law be not taken against," the court said.

The court sought explanation from Tehsildar after a contempt petition was filed against him by owner of the property. The petitioner Imran Khan through his lawyer Zubair Showkat had sought action against the Tehsildar for violating the court directions.

The applicant has alleged that the Tehsildar committed trespass in the suit property in violation of the court order.

"Whereas your alleged act committed in gross violation of court order is a matter of serious concern which amounts to wilful contempt of the court by misusing of your power and position," the court said.

The court has also sent a copy of the order to DC Baramulla for information and with a direction to submit permission order given to contemnners or intimation given if any by contemnners to visit the suit land.

Govt to introduce battery operated boats in Dal Lake, Jehlum river

a part of the Rs 980 crore Srinagar Smart City project, which has already added pedestrian markets and walkways on the Jhelum riverfront to the landscape.

Woman among three drug peddlers arrested in Baramulla: Police

Station Tangmarg, where they remain in custody.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at police stations Baramulla and Tangmarg, and investigations have been initiated.

Sensex, Nifty end over 1% higher on easing inflation; IT, realty stocks soar

At the closing bell, Sensex was up 742.06 points at 65,675.93, while the Nifty 50 settled 231.90 points higher at 19,675.45.

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices ended the trading session on a positive note, with both the S&P BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty 50 rising over 1 per cent.

At the closing bell, the Sensex was up 742.06 points at 65,675.93, while the Nifty 50 settled 231.90 points higher at 19,675.45. Broader market indices also witnessed a sharp rally, in line with the benchmarks.

Nifty Realty and Nifty IT were the top gainers among sectoral indices, ending the session with gains of 2.95 per cent and 2.59 per cent, respectively. Nifty Auto, Nifty Metal, Nifty Oil & Gas and Nifty Financial Services were among the other prominent gainers.

The top five stocks on the Nifty 50 were Eicher Motors, Tech Mahindra, Hindalco, Infosys and Tata Motors.



On the other hand, Bajaj Finance lost nearly 2 per cent, and was the top drag on the 50-share index. Power Grid, IndusInd Bank, Dr Reddy's Laboratories and Cipla were the other four companies that ended in negative territory.

The rally in the domestic markets was supported by healthy Q2 results and easing October inflation, both in India and the US.

Aditya Gaggar, Director of Progressive Shares, said, "Following strong domestic as well as global cues, Nifty 50 commenced the day on

a firm note and gradually compounded its gains to settle at 19,675.45, advanced by 231.90 points."

"On a daily chart, the Index has made a long-legged DOJI candlestick pattern and not only breached its falling trendline but also gave a convincing close above its 50DMA (19,580) which shows bullishness in the markets," he noted.

"Now the next critical hurdle for the Index stands at 19,840 while the downside is protected at a strong support zone of 19,550-19,580," Gaggar concluded.

Subrata Roy dies: Undistributed Funds worth Rs 25,000 crore with Sebi in focus

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Sahara Group chairman Subrata Roy's death has put the spotlight on undistributed funds with over Rs 25,000 crore currently held by the capital markets regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), reported news agency.

Following his death, the undistributed funds have revived discussions about the regulatory and legal battles faced by the Sahara Group's chief and his group firms, which were accused of employing Ponzi schemes to circumvent regulations—a charge consistently denied by the group.

In 2011, Sebi directed two Sahara Group entities, Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd (SIREL) and Sahara Housing Investment Corporation Ltd (SHICL), to refund funds raised from approximately 3 crore investors through Optionally Fully Convertible Bonds (OFCDs).

Sebi deemed that the funds were garnered in violation of its rules and regulations. After a prolonged legal process, the Supreme Court on August 31, 2012, upheld Sebi's directive for the two firms to refund the



collected money with a 15 per cent interest.

As a result, Sahara was asked to deposit an estimated Rs 24,000 crore with Sebi for further investor refunds, despite the group asserting it had already directly refunded over 95 per cent of the investors.

Details of Sebi's latest annual report, quoted in the agency report, suggested that the regulator issued refunds totaling Rs 138.07 crore over 11 years to investors of the two Sahara Group firms.

Meanwhile, the funds deposited in dedicated bank accounts for repayment have exceeded Rs 25,000 crore.

With a majority of bondholders from the two Sahara companies not claiming, Sebi's total refunded amount increased by only about Rs 7 lakh in the last financial year, while the balance in Sebi-Sahara refund accounts rose by Rs 1,087 crore.

According to Sebi's annual report, as of March 31, 2023, it received 19,650 applications involving 53,687 accounts. Refunds have been processed for 17,526 applications, involving 48,326 accounts, amounting to Rs 138.07 crore, including an interest amount of Rs 67.98 crore.

However, the remaining applications were closed as their

records were untraceable in the data provided by the two Sahara Group firms.

Under Supreme Court orders and Sebi's attachment orders, an aggregate amount of Rs 15,646.68 crore has been recovered as of March 31, 2023. This sum, along with accrued interest after eligible bondholder refunds, was deposited in nationalised banks, totaling around Rs 25,163 crore as of March 31, 2023.

Meanwhile, in August, the government initiated the refund process for Rs 5,000 crore for depositors whose funds were stuck in four cooperative societies of the Sahara Group.

Union Minister Amit Shah launched the 'CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal' in July, registering around 18 lakh depositors.

The government aims to return the funds to 10 crore investors of the four cooperative societies within 9 months, following a Supreme Court order directing the transfer of Rs 5,000 crore from the Sahara-Sebi refund account to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS).

Aggrieved by incessant notices, industry asks for reining in of tax officers

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Aggrieved by incessant tax demands and disallowance of expenses, a representative of auto and IT industries has written to the tax department in order to bring to its notice specific difficulties that taxpayers encounter during assessment processes, and also suggested reining in tax officers.

In a letter written to Pragya Sahay Saxena, member, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), industry representatives have pointed out that the income tax department has been arbitrarily disallowing certain expenses and giving very short time for explaining difference between turnover reported in GST returns and statutory financial statements.

The letter, a copy of which is with the New Indian Express, also pointed out that often



tax officers are making adjustments based on information provided by other taxpayers.

In the representation made, the industry has given a detailed account of issues faced while complying with the tax rules and made several suggestions to ease the situation.

Elaborating on the difference between turnover reported in GST returns and statutory financial statements, the letter says the difference could be 'on account of the nature and framework of GST provisions

and not necessarily because of income not being disclosed in financial statements'.

It cited inter-branch stock transfers, transactions with related parties without consideration, and deferred revenues at the end of the financial year, which are included as part of GST returns but will not be considered for financial statements.

The industry, therefore, requested the tax department to consider making the GST turnover reconciliation with financial statements part

of the tax audit report. "This would provide tax authorities with additional confidence in the reconciliation, allowing them to focus on other critical items during assessments," it said.

The letter also raised the issue of disallowance of legitimate business expenses, balance sheet items, or disallowance of expenses by alleging non-withholding of taxes on transactions where tax deductions are not required, or expenses are misunderstood by tax officers.

The industry has requested the tax department to issue guidelines advising tax officers to accept the genuineness of expenses in specific situations, such as when the taxpayer has no history of non-compliance or when sufficient supporting documents (e.g., 85-90% samples) are provided.

It also suggested setting materiality thresh-

olds, accounting for the overall tax consequences of non-submitted immaterial details.

"Insignificant values with minimal tax liability impact but requiring significant extraction efforts may be deemed immaterial, avoiding exhaustive scrutiny," read the letter.

The industry also suggested that field officers must obtain approval from higher authorities, especially in cases where the quantum of addition proposed exceeds a specified threshold.

The industry is also of the opinion that voluminous information requests by the tax department should be made early on, rather than as part of show-cause notices.

It was also suggested that the recording of the assessment process should be easily accessible on the taxpayers' income tax portal.

West Asia war not to impact oil supply: IEA



NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): The war between Israel and Hamas that began in early October will not have major impact on oil supply, said the International Energy Agency (IEA) in its monthly report. As per its November 2023 oil report, concerns about

the conflict escalating into a broader regional crisis, disrupting oil supply, have not materialised.

"Barring large unforeseen outages, world oil supply is firmly on an upward trajectory, with October output up 320 kb/d MoM (thousand barrels per day

month-on-month). Record output from the United States, Brazil and Guyana underpin this year's 1.7 mb/d (million barrels per day) increase in global oil supplies, to a record 101.8 mb/d. In 2024, non-OPEC+ producers will continue to lead global growth, projected at 1.6 mb/d, to an unprecedented 103.4 mb/d," reads the report.

Crude oil prices saw a significant volatility in the past two months due to production cuts by major oil producers, Saudi Arabia and Russia, as well as the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine.

Quitting smoking can lower diabetes risk by 30-40 per cent: WHO

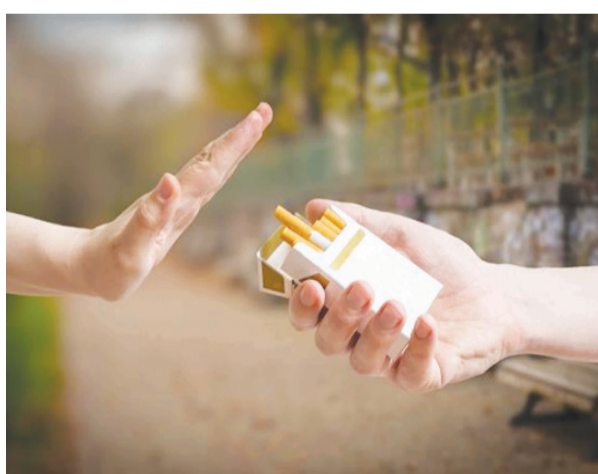
Type-2 diabetes is one of the most prevalent chronic diseases worldwide

NEW DELHI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Quitting smoking can lower the risk of developing type-2 diabetes by 30-40 per cent, according to a new brief jointly developed by the WHO, the International Diabetes Federation and the University of Newcastle.

Evidence suggests that smoking influences the body's ability to regulate blood sugar levels, which can cause type-2 diabetes, the WHO said in a statement.

Type-2 diabetes is one of the most prevalent chronic diseases worldwide, accounting for over 95 per cent of all diabetes cases, the UN agency said.

However, it is often preventable, and factors that contribute to developing type-2 diabetes include being overweight, not getting enough exercise, and genetics, according to the WHO.



The IDF estimates that 537 million people have diabetes, a number that continues to rise making diabetes the ninth highest cause of death globally, the statement said. The IDF is a non-profit umbrella organisation of more than 240 national diabetes associations in 161 countries and territories.

Smoking also increases the risk of diabetes-related complications such as cardiovascular disease, kidney failure

and blindness, in addition to delaying healing of wound and enhancing the risk of lower limb amputations, WHO's statement said.

"The International Diabetes Federation strongly encourages people to stop smoking to reduce their risk of diabetes and, if they have diabetes, help avoid complications.

"We call on governments to introduce policy measures that will discourage people from

smoking and remove tobacco smoke from all public spaces," said Akhtar Hussain, president of the IDF.

Quitting smoking also reduces the risk of diabetes complications, the UN agency said in its statement.

"Health professionals play a vital role in motivating and guiding individuals with type-2 diabetes in their journey to quit tobacco.

"Simultaneously, governments must take the crucial step of ensuring all indoor public places, workplaces and public transport is completely smoke-free.

"These interventions are essential safeguards against the onset and progression of this and many other chronic diseases," said Ruediger Krech, WHO's Director of Health Promotion. November 14 is observed as the World Diabetes Day.

Short sleep, shift work may raise risk of high BP: Study

SYDNEY, Nov 15 (Agencies): Short sleep lengths, daytime napping, shift work and even long sleep lengths have been linked to an increased risk of elevated blood pressure and cardiovascular disease, according to a new study.

The study, published in Nature Communications, is the first study to demonstrate that independent of other factors including age, sex and Body Mass Index (BMI), circadian rhythm-disrupting behaviours, including shift work, have an adverse effect on blood pressure regulation.

"We found that compromised sleep health or night shift work are associated with elevated blood pressure in both males and females and across all age groups," said lead author Morag Young, Associate Professor from the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne.

"What we've found is that having circadian



rhythms out of sync even slightly has an adverse impact on blood pressure," Young added.

The study found that permanent night shift workers who slept less than five or six hours were most at risk, but those working mixed shifts also showed elevated blood pressure. Interestingly, sleeping for too long a period also had a disruptive effect on circadian rhythms, Young said.

"Seven hours of sleep was found to be the optimal length of sleep for maintaining healthy blood pressure," Young

said. "We found that too little sleep (less than seven hours) and too much sleep (anything more than seven hours) for adults also had a negative impact.

"Permanent night shift workers showed the greatest elevation in blood pressure, but those people working rotating shifts also showed elevated levels, although not as significant as permanent night shift workers.

"Our data also show that short sleep plus shift work has an additive negative effect on blood pressure."

The body's circadian clock governs almost all processes in the human body, including metabolic function, cognition, heart rate and sleep-wake behaviour.

Disruptions to the body's normal biological rhythms can leave the body out of sync, creating circadian strain, and thus negative consequences.

"Challenges that disrupt anticipation to daily light-dark cycles, food intake, and activity cues that are induced by non-traditional behavioural and lifestyle factors, like shift work, can adversely impact maintenance of normal biological rhythms at the systemic and cellular level, thereby compromising organ function," Young said.

"Blood pressure follows a well-characterised circadian rhythm, so disruption of this rhythm has significant implications for cardiovascular health outcomes," he noted.

Box office showdown: Sparks set to fly as Indian juggernaut faces tricky New Zealand in repeat of 2019 semifinal

MUMBAI, Nov 15 (Agencies): India have smashed every opponent over the past six weeks, but now comes the moment of truth — and moment of luck, too, says Rohit Sharma, the Indian captain.

"The time has come that you need a little bit of luck to go your way," said Rohit on the eve of their semifinal against New Zealand. "Obviously, we're going to be brave enough. And hopefully, fortune favours the brave."

Rohit's assertion of positivity seemed to reflect a mind coach's words; his comment about luck, the need for luck, however, reflected the underlying fear of the unknown that preys on the mind of a sportsman.

In any game, there are uncontrollable factors that sportspeople are wary of; at the Wankhede, which side the coin lands on at the toss could be a decisive uncontrollable — teams batting first enjoy a massive advantage at this ground, right from the first game in 1987, when India batted first against Sri Lanka and piled up 299 in those days of relatively conservative batting.

During this tournament, batting first, South Africa made 399/7 against England and 382/5 against Bangladesh and won with ease; India then smashed 357/8 against Sri Lanka and routed them by 302 runs; Afghanistan made 291/5 against Australia and lost — but that was only due to a freakish innings of 201 by Glenn Maxwell, and the inexperience of the Afghan bowlers.

When the stadium was redeveloped before the 2011 World Cup, the ground became smaller, playing right into the hands of the batsmen. The dice is loaded in favour of the batsmen — in 12 ODIs played at the ground since the stadium's diminution, the team batting first has topped 300 four times, once exceeding 400. The clincher? The average first-innings total here since then is 308, the average for the second innings is 218 — a clear difference of 90 runs.

If that doesn't make the toss — perhaps the 'luck' Rohit talked about — critical, nothing would. The mantra would be — bat first, pile up a huge score when the conditions favour the batters, then rock the opposition with movement in the air and off the pitch, as India did against Sri Lanka.



What India did to Sri Lanka, New Zealand can do to India under the lights — they do have the resources in Trent Boult, the tall left-handed pacer who can make the ball angle across and then suddenly bend it back into the right-hander. Under the lights at the Wankhede, the ball has swung prodigiously — Boult could be quite a handful here, as he was in Manchester on July 9-10, 2019, when New Zealand beat India at the same stage of the World Cup.

India have struck fear into the hearts of the opposition, especially their pace bowlers — and their spin bowlers, and their batsmen! The pace trio of Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj has taken 45 wickets; spin twins Ravindra Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav have another 30; Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Shreyas Iyer have accumulated 1,518 runs, average 72.28; KL Rahul and Shubman Gill have 347 and 270 runs, respectively. Really, it seems India have all their bases covered, as Rohit said.

"The first (part) of the tournament, we chased the first five games, then the next four games we batted first," said Rohit. "So, in terms of the areas that we wanted to cover, I think we've covered almost every bit. We do understand the importance of this week, but I don't think we need to do anything different from what we've been doing in this tournament."

Yes, but a bit of luck would be most welcome.

Everybody wants a piece of Rachin

Rachin Ravindra, 24 in four days, is a bald man's envy — he seems to have such a full head of hair as could be enough for three men. But he's also the

envy of batsmen of all sorts, hairy or bald — the Wellington-born young man, son of migrants from India, has scored 565 runs in nine innings, average 70.62, with three hundreds and two 50s.

He's inspired myths, too, with the internet buzzing with the news that his name is a combination of the names of two legends, Rahul Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar. In fact, he himself seemed to have bought into this, having said: "Back in the day when Mum and Dad were deciding the names, they both liked Rahul and Sachin, so 'Ra' from Rahul and 'chin' from Sachin, but that was a long time ago. We don't talk about it much anymore."

That's a pleasing and plausible story, but his father now says the son got his facts wrong. He was named Rachin because it "sounded good, was easy to spell, and short", says the dad, Ravi Krishnamurthy, who obviously possesses accurate information. He added that Rachin wasn't named "with the intention to make our child a cricketer". But he's turned out to be quite a useful cricketer, as Kane Williamson acknowledged with his native effusiveness. "Yeah, good player, right?"

Kane and Everest
Kane Williamson is still cool. He was the losing captain in the 2019 World Cup final, and shrugged off the defeat that July 14 with remarkable stoicism, saying: "Yeah, obviously, just gutted."

Today, before the biggest game of the World Cup so far, Williamson put up a comedic performance, raising laughter loud and often. The first question to him started with: "Kane, just going back in history a bit, 29th of May 1953, about 70

years back..."

Williamson interrupted him: "I remember, yeah!" Williamson had been some 30 minutes late for the press conference. His tardiness was punished just as the first question was asked, as the sound failed. Williamson kept the restive reporters in good humour with wisecracks. There was another interruption — the public address system of the ground was being tested, and a male voice boomed through the room: "Mic check, mic check, mic check..." Williamson responded: "The mic's working, the mic's working!"

The press conference stops, and when it was time to resume it, Williamson sought to know if all's well with: "Mic check, mic check, mic check," mimicking the invisible voice that had caused the interruption.

This is my property!

Some cricket-lovers were spotted at the Marine Drive today. It was easy to spot them, for they were dressed in identical blue shirts and ICC World Cup caps. They're an excited lot, the few who seem excited about the cricket. They're discussing their exclusive properties, their "licensed cricket digital collectibles".

What are these? "They are digitally signed properties, such as videos, which are released in limited numbers," says Vijay Kumar, an engineer from Bengaluru. He then displays a video of Virat Kohli that, he says, is valued at \$700. But how can a video that can be watched by everyone on the internet be valued so much, one wonders.

"It's not just the video, one gets privileges if one possesses these properties," says Vijay. "So, those who have certain properties can take part in contests where one can win a sizeable prize money. Today we met Shane Watson, who was in the commentary box, just because we have these collectibles!"

In impressive tones, the talks about a limited edition Sachin Tendulkar digital property — a digitally signed video — which he says is worth \$25,000. "Only five of these have been released so far!" he says. All this sounds a bit fishy to those used to the idea of brick and mortar companies, but Vijay Kumar and his friends are sure they've got a good thing going.

ICC Cricket World Cup 2023: On song, India look to tame Kiwis



MUMBAI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Kane Williamson and Rohit Sharma, most laidback and coolest of men, cultivate forgetfulness. Williamson doesn't wish to remember that his team lost four matches in a row before qualifying for the semifinals of the World Cup. Rohit doesn't wish to dwell on the fact that India have regularly suffered losses to New Zealand in knockout matches of ICC events, including the 2019 World Cup semifinals and the 2021 World Test Championship final.

When they clash in the semifinals of the World Cup here today, the two captains and their teams would wish to banish unpleasant memories — go in with a clean slate, as it were. Williamson has forgotten the four losses which had left the team staring at the

abyss. "Come finals time, everything starts again," Williamson said. "When you get to finals, things start again." This effort at effacing the past wipes away the memory of his own team's struggles, and that of India's fearsome form with both bat and ball.

And Rohit, what of the memories of the past, the defeat to New Zealand in the semis in 2019? "I think it's in the back of your mind, you know what has happened in the past," Rohit said. "But what has happened in the past is the past. What you can do today, what you can do tomorrow is what we usually talk about. I don't think there's much debate, much talk about what happened 10 years ago or five years ago or the last World Cup."

In this tournament, India have won nine matches in a row;

they've been frighteningly good — the pace attack, led by Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami, is probably the best-ever for India in ODIs; the batters have been in the form of their lives, and Ravindra Jadeja as the all-rounder has been priceless.

More on forgetfulness: Rohit knows teams batting first at the ground tend to put up unbeatable totals — the average first-innings total here since 2011 is 308, 90 runs higher than the average second-innings total — but he wishes to dismiss the thought of the toss being decisive. "I've played a lot of cricket here. These four or five games are not going to tell a lot about what Wankhede is," Rohit said. "I don't want to talk too much about what Wankhede is, but I certainly believe that toss is not the factor."

One memory of this ground that might inspire the Indians dates back to April 2, 2011 — when India won the World Cup. Rohit, not in the team then, is driven by that World Cup sized hole in his resume, and wishes to create magical memories today — and the final.

Pakistan ex-cricketer Abdul Razzaq apologises to Aishwarya Rai following widespread backlash

ISLAMABAD, Nov 15 (Agencies): After facing backlash from various quarters for his controversial statement, veteran Pakistani cricketer Abdul Razzaq has apologised to Hindi film actress Aishwarya Rai.

In a video, Razzaq cited his remark as a 'slip of tongue'.

In a recent media interaction, Razzaq was discussing about the Pakistan cricket team's forgettable World Cup 2023 campaign when he made the controversial remark.

Questioning the team's neeyat (intent), Razzaq said, "If you marry Aishwarya Rai with the intention of having a good



kid, then it will not happen." His comment did not go down well with cricketers and netizens, who blasted him for such a remark.

On This Day: Sachin Tendulkar Made His International Debut Against Pakistan In Karachi

MUMBAI, Nov 15 (Agencies): Legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar made his debut on November 15, 1989, at the age of 16 against Pakistan in Karachi and went on a remarkable journey of 24 years which saw him standing at the summit. On this day, Sachin walked out on the field against a fierce Pakistan bowling line-up which included the likes of Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis. He was completely bamboozled by Younis's pace and walked back to the pavilion after scoring 15 runs.



international cricket. He has scored 100 centuries and 164 half-centuries, most in international cricket. He is the only player to have a century of centuries.

With 18,426 runs in ODIs and 15,921 runs in Tests, Sachin also has the highest runs in both formats. He is the first player to hit an ODI double hundred and to have played 200 Test matches.

He also has 201 international wickets to his name, making him a very useful part-time spin bowling option. With a total of 664 international appearances, he is the most-capped player of all time. He is part of the Indian Team which won the ICC Cricket World Cup in

2011. Sachin has played six IPL seasons from 2008-2013, all for Mumbai Indians, where he has scored a total of 2334 runs in 78 matches at an average of 34.84. Sachin has 13 fifties and one hundred under his belt, hitting 29 sixes and 295 fours with a strike rate of 119.82. He won the 2013 edition of the tournament with the franchise as a player. Sachin's best performance came in IPL 2010. He scored 618 runs in 15 matches at an average of 47.53 at a strike rate of 132.61. He scored five fifties that season and his best individual score was 89*. He won the 'Orange Cap' that season. MI finished as runners-up that season.

Harbhajan Singh was close to converting to Islam, claims Pakistan cricketer Inzamam; Bhajji fumes 'kon sa nasha...'

Harbhajan completely denied the story and said that he is a 'proud Sikh'

CHANDIGARH, Nov 15 (Agencies): Former Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh took to social media to express his anger after an old video of Pakistan cricket veteran Inzamam-ul-Haq went viral in which he claimed that Harbhajan was close to converting to Islam.

Harbhajan reacted to the statement made by

the veteran Pakistani player and slammed him for "lying".

"Yeh kon sa nasha pee kar baat kar raha hai? I am a proud Indian and proud Sikh..yeh Bak-waas log kuch bi bakte hai," he wrote.

Inzamam said, "We had a room where prayers were conducted. Maulana Tariq Jameel used to visit us



in the evening and lead us into a namaz. After a

few days, Irfan Pathan, Mohammad Kaif and

Zaheer Khan also started coming. Four other Indian cricketers sat and watched us."

"Harbhajan, who was unaware that Tariq Jameel was a maulana, said 'I am impressed with this man and want to follow his words'," he added. In his social media post, Harbhajan denied the story and said he is a "proud Sikh".

Kuldeep Yadav on Kane Williamson's radar: Sunil Gavaskar

MUMBAI, Nov 15 (Agencies): On the rare occasions when India's menacing pace attack could not scythe through opposition line-ups in this World Cup, their spinners did the job.

However, that may not be the case when Kane Williamson leads New Zealand in the first semifinal against the in-form hosts here today, according to batting great Sunil Gavaskar.

Highlighting Williamson's adept footwork



and strategic approach, Gavaskar reckoned the Kiwis' skipper will have no trouble negotiating the Indian spinners, especially the

unorthodox Kuldeep Yadav. "He's such a great player; it doesn't matter if he's come out from a big break and he's scored runs. So, I

don't think it's going to make much of a difference," Gavaskar told a TV channel. "He uses his feet really well to go down the pitch to smother the turn if needed; he then goes and uses the crease as well. So, he's a very good player. I don't think he is going to be fussed about playing Kuldeep; he will know how to tackle him."

Gavaskar said Williamson's game in this World Cup has not just been about technical nous and cultured stroke-play,

as the affable Kiwi has also shown a propensity to take the aerial route, a far cry from his 2019 avatar.

"If needed, you don't want to hit him for boundaries; just work it away for six singles if that is required. Then, six runs an over is a good scoring rate by any standard, so he will look to do that. When the boundary ball comes along, he will hit the boundary ball, so we've seen his willingness to take more risks," he said.

Manjit Singh demands release of pending economic package for DPs

Seeks on spot recruitment for unemployed youth in Army, paramilitary, J&K Police

Top News Report

RAMGARH, Nov 15: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has demanded release of the pending economic package for the Displaced Persons that was sanctioned by the previous Govt of India.

"The DPs have suffered for decades after their displacement from different places of Jammu region following hostility between two countries in 1947, 1965 and 1971. These unexpected situations forced them out of their homes and fertile agricultural fields," said Manjit Singh while addressing a worker's meeting in Ramgarh that was organized by District President Legal Cell, Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti and other leader



of Apni Party to discuss the issues of DPs, and border residents in Ramgarh.

In his address, he said that the DPs who were displaced from their own lands were settled in the border belt of Jammu in different locations in hostile conditions. However, these DPs managed to survive for all these tough years with no reservation in education, jobs and other sectors.

"These people lived a life under poverty while agriculture and labour work was their main source of earning. It was due to the years of suffering that the then Govt of India sanctioned Rs 25 lakhs in favour of each DP family in J&K. But this amount was not released completely," he reminded.

He said that around Rs 5.5 lakhs was released and many DP families complained that the rev-

enue department and other related departments were asking them for formalities that were not possible for them to fulfill.

In the backdrop of the development and pending package, he said that it becomes imperative for the Govt of India to release the pending amount of economic package in favour of the DPs in Jammu and Kashmir so that it could help them for their uplift-

ment.

He also demanded reservation in jobs, professional education and educational institutes. He also demanded that the Govt should hold on to spot recruitment drives for the unemployed youth of DPs in defence, paramilitary and J&K Police.

Meanwhile, he said that the DPs of 1965 and 1971 should be provided proprietary rights on the land they were given by the Govt and accordingly, the land deficiency should be fulfilled as per the promises made by the Govt in the past.

"The DPs are holding insufficient land in many areas, and they should be provided prescribed land at par with other DPs to end the land deficiency among the DPs," he added.

Abhay Bakaya calls on Director Industries Jammu

Appreciates Dr Arun Manhas for his positive approach to boost industrial sector



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Apni Party General Secretary, Youth Wing and Spokesperson, Abhay Bakaya called on Director Industries, Jammu, Dr Arun Manhas here in Jammu and discussed various issues confronted by the unemployed youth.

As per a press release, Abhay met the

newly posted Director Industries Jammu Dr Arun Manhas where he held threadbare discussion with him regarding policy of helping the unemployed youth in opening industrial small-scale units.

During the meeting, he was conveyed about easing the formalities and support that is being provided by the Industries Department

to the aspirants.

On the other hand, Abhay expressed his gratitude to Director Industries, Jammu for his innovative initiatives for empowering youth and providing possible support for establishing small-scale units in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the growing unemployment has posed a challenge to the unemployed youth and therefore, it becomes important to provide a source of employment or self-employment.

He also appreciated Dr Arun Manhas for his positive and dynamic approach towards the industrial sector that is the economic backbone for Jammu and Kashmir and requires special attention to boost the industrial units/small-scale units in an innovative manner.

JKNPP President expresses grief over Doda accident

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Vilakshan Singh State President of J&K National Panthers Party has expressed grief over the tragic road accident that took place in Doda District when a bus carrying 55 passengers skidded off the road near Trungal-Assar on Batote Kishtwar National Highway and in which 36 persons lost their lives and 19 persons received severe injuries.

He expressed condolences to those who have lost their loved ones.

He also wished speedy recovery for those who got injured in the said accident.

Singh said that road

accidents are frequently claiming precious lives and no amount of money can compensate for the loss suffered by those who have lost their loved ones.

He said that the road traffic accident is the area which is of the least concern for the government.

He said that the government mainly focuses on collection of fines but is least concerned about taking the measures to minimize road traffic accidents leading to loss of precious lives.

He said that traffic laws should be implemented strictly and security audits of the vulnerable roads should be carried out by the government at regular intervals.

He said that besides strict implementation of traffic laws, regular counseling of the drivers of the public transport vehicles should be done so that they may understand the responsibility which they carry while driving public transport vehicles.

Singh said that the government is boasting of unprecedented growth in J&K but the frequent tragic road accidents in hilly areas have exposed the false claims of the UT administration.

Singh urged the government to wake up from the deep slumber and take concrete actions for ensuring the safety of passengers particularly in hilly areas.

AAP appeals LG to look seriously over increasing road accidents in Chenab Region

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: While expressing grief & anguish over the tragic Bus accident in District Doda at Assar area in which 36 persons were killed and many others were injured.

Kuldeep Kumar Rao, State Organization Building & Manifesto drafting committee Member, AAP J&K-UT, Jammu in a press statement issued here have expressed grief over the loss of precious lives and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family & also prayed for speedy recovery of the injured persons.

Rao has appealed to the Lt. Governor of J&K-UT, Manoj Sinha to immediately release Rs. 10 Lakh as ex-gratia relief in favour of Kins of poor deceased & also

Rs.2 lakh to the seriously injured ones in the Bus accident at Assar in Doda District.

He also expressed concern over the increasing road accidents in Chenab Region due to overloading of the vehicles / bad conditions of roads. He wondered as to how, heavy toll of lives occurred in the road accidents have failed to wake up the concerned Department particularly the state government from deep slumber over the years and miserably failed to formulate concrete policy aimed to the safety of the commuters ? Is it that the concerned traffic authorities have no concern for the lives lost or that they take the things as a matter of routine happening? What the huge deployment of traffic sleuths



are doing on the roads? Passengers often see them negotiating with transport operators at different points on the road and simply share with themselves the unholy nexus between them desperately.

The government in general and the concerned departments in particular owes an explanation to the public at large as to who is responsible for the loss of lives in road accidents, Rao said

and expressed great astonishment that the public has never come to know about punishment handed to any traffic constabulary ever since inception of traffic department ?

Is it a simple game of state managed money extortion on the road to share the booty from bottom to top? Why the outdated & overloaded busses & Tata Sumo are plying on these roads and there is no check on these outdated Mini-buses & Tata Sumos. Why the enquires are not conducted by special technical experts in all types of irregularities in construction of roads, including wrong Surveys of roads & wrong constructions of roads by PWD department?

He fervently appealed to the Lt. Governor of J&K-UT, Manoj Sinha

to look seriously in to all these irregularities which have not so far been controlled sternly.

Rao has appealed to initiate enquiries into all types of irregularities including wrong Surveys of roads, wrong constructions etc in the construction of all roads in Chenab Region and stern action taken against the defaulters. All the outdated vehicles should be immediately banned from plying on the roads & The traffic sleuths should be strictly watched so that they do not compromise with the drivers regarding speed & overloading. The concerned authorities, public representatives & administration remain pre occupied with their own commissions and throw all other norms including safety angle to winds.

Agriculture Department organizes live streaming programme on releasing 15th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare, Jammu, organized live streaming programme on the occasion of releasing the 15th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme at Khunti, Jharkhand by Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman DDC, Jammu presided over the function organized at Baba Jitto, Kissan Kendra, Talab Tillo, Jammu. T.K. Bhat, Special Secretary to the Govt Agriculture Production Department graced the occasion as Special Guest.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is one of the world's largest Direct Benefit Transfer schemes. A flagship scheme of the Government of India, it exemplifies the continued commitment of the Government of India to initiate policy actions for an inclusive and productive agricultural sector. It is a central sector scheme launched on 24th February



2019 to supplement the financial needs of all land-holding farmers subject to certain exclusion criteria of higher income status. Financial benefit of Rs 6,000/- per year in three equal installments, every four months, is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT Mode)

During the main event at Khunti, Jharkhand Prime minister, Narendra Modi released 15th installment to over 8 crore farmers an amount of around

Rs. 18,000 crores by click of a button. The total amount transferred to the beneficiaries since the inception of the scheme cross well over Rs 2.80 lakh crore. This financial assistance will support farmers in meeting their agricultural and other incidental needs besides contributing to their overall well-being

Ram Savak, Director Agriculture Jammu in his welcome address emphasized upon Board Members for JK Advisory for development of Kisans, PRIS & farmers to

extend cooperation in 100% implementation of PMFBY in all districts to save farmers from vagaries of weather besides activation of inactive Kisan Credit Cards for welfare of farming Community.

He informed that e KYC has been made mandatory for receiving benefits under PM-KISAN, and which is currently being done with assistance of field staff of department through mobile app with face recognition feature, which has been started recently to facilitate Farmers

Speaking on the occasion, Bharat Bhushan, Chairman DDC, Jammu said that the purpose of PM KISAN Samman Nidhi scheme is to give respect to 'Annadata' of the nation in the shape of financial assistance. He emphasized upon farmers to adopt Innovative agricultural practices under guidance of Agriculture & allied departments to raise their income level & farm profitability. He appealed educated youth to adopt farming sector as full

time profession.

Director Command Area Development, Jammu Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Abdul Hamid Wani, Secretary and Members, Smt Balbir Kour & Basant Singh Saini of J&K Board of Advisory for development of Kisans, Joint Director of Agriculture (Input), Joint Director of Agriculture (Ext), Joint Director of Agriculture (SLUB) and senior officers besides more than 150 farmers of Jammu division participated in the Programme.

It was informed that about B lakh farmers of JK UT have been benefitted today under the 15th installment. Similar programmes were organized in all districts, Sub divisions, Blocks and Panchayats in Jammu Province.

The release of the 15th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme underlines the Government of India's commitment to promoting agriculture, empowering farmers, and ensuring the sustainable development of the agricultural sector.

Aryans organizes Legal Aid Awareness Camp



Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 15: As per the directives of the National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi, Legal Services Day was celebrated by Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh. A legal aid awareness camp was organized by Aryans LLB & BA LLB students along with the faculty members in nearby villages.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group said that the aim to organize this free legal awareness camp was to empower the disadvantaged sections of society to seek and demand justice services. Also, Legal literacy helps the weaker section to stay aware & updated of their various legal & constitutional rights, he asserted.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Singla, Principal, Aryans College of Law said that such awareness camp always impart practical knowledge about the basic legal rights and remedies provided under various women related laws & various machineries of the Justice delivery system available for redressal of their grievances, he added. On the occasion Navneet Kaur, HoD, Dr. Pritika & Jyoti, Dr. Baldeep Faculty, Aryans College of Law were present.