

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**Netanyahu gets list of hostages to be freed today as truce extended by 2 days**



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## BRIEFLY

### Masjid damaged in midnight blaze in Srinagar's Saraf Kadal

SRINAGAR, Nov 28 (Agencies): A four-storeyed Masjid in Saraf Kadal area of downtown Srinagar was damaged in a fire incident in the intervening night of Monday-Tuesday, officials said.

An official told that the fire was reported at 1:04 AM and the fire tenders from Babademb, M R Gunj, and F&ES Headquarters were immediately dispatched to the spot. The fire was brought under control while no loss of life or casualties were reported in the incident.

The fire, however, damaged the attic of the Masjid, they said, adding that the cause of fire is being ascertained.

### Soheel Shah posted as additional secretary in H&ME department

JAMMU, Nov 28 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has posted Soheel Noor Shah as Additional Secretary in the Health and Medical Education (H&ME) Department.

According to an order, Mr. Soheel Noor Shah, JKAs, Additional Secretary in the office of Chief Secretary, is hereby transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Health and Medical Education Department.

He shall be relieved on 30th November, 2023 to join at his new place of posting, reads an order.

### J&K Govt attaches project officer, wage employment (ACD), Kupwara

JAMMU, Nov 28 (Agencies): Government of Jammu and Kashmir has attached Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD) Kupwara pending an enquiry into his conduct.

"Pending enquiry into his conduct, Mr. Hilal Ahmad Mir, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD) Kupwara, is hereby placed under suspension, with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956," reads the order further.

## Copper wires stolen, darkness descends on Jammu streets

JAMMU, Nov 28 (Agencies): The LED street lights that were placed throughout Jammu as part of the Smart City project are now non-operational, as the copper wires have been stolen by thieves forcing authorities to install new wires.

The matter came to light after the locals of the area, especially



from Gandhi Nagar complained about the non-

functional street lights that had been installed a

month ago, The Tribune reported.

Upon proper investigation it came to light that at most places in Gandhi Nagar locality, the copper wires were stolen soon after these poles were installed.

The wires are now being laid again in different sectors of the locality where

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## 7 students rightly booked under prevention of unlawful activities act: J&K Police

SRINAGAR, Nov 28 (Agencies): J&K Police on Tuesday said that the seven students of a local university indulging in anti-India sloganeering and intimidation of other students have been booked under relevant

Sections of law.

Rebutting reports that the seven students of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Kashmir, had been booked under a harsh law, the

police statement said, "A number of opinions and comments have been made on the legal cognisance taken of the happenings surrounding anti-India sloganeering and intimidation of others who did not agree

with them in a university after the conclusion of the World Cup cricket match.

"Two relevant aspects are brought to public knowledge. First, it is not merely about raising

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## Army steps up vigil along line of control in Kupwara

KUPWARA, Nov 28 (Agencies): Following the recovery of arms and ammunition in Kupwara district a day ago, the Indian Army on Tuesday stepped up vigilance along the Line of Control (LoC), 'striving' to thwart any attempts at infiltration, an army official said on Tuesday.

An official statement issued by the Army on Monday said that two people were apprehended on Monday after arms and ammunition were recovered in Kupwara district.

"The Indian Army remains highly vigilant on the Line of Control (LOC) in Kupwara district of North Kashmir,



constantly striving to thwart any attempts of infiltration from Pakistan," officials said.

The official added: "With an unwavering determination and a strong commitment to national security, the Indian Army stands firm

in its mission to protect the borders and ensure the safety of the nation."

Referring to the LOC as a critical barrier between India and Pakistan, which has witnessed numerous infiltrations and security threats in the past, the

official said that, "the Indian Army has consistently displayed its utmost readiness and perseverance in countering these attempts."

"With their extensive training, advanced surveillance systems, and meticulous planning, they employ a multi-layered defence mechanism to counter any potential infiltrations," the official added.

The official added that through a combination of regular patrols, state-of-the-art technologies, and intelligence gathering, "they are able to gather critical information on any suspicious activities near LOC."

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## Eco-Parks in Kupwara attract over one lakh tourists, 1,000 trekkers



SRINAGAR, Nov 28 (Agencies): With the increasing influx of tourists in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, the eco-parks developed

by Kamraj Forest Division have become a major attraction, drawing over one lakh visitors and hosting more than 1,000 offbeat destination

lovers who trekked on various routes this year. A view from the top of Sadhna Pass, 10,000 Ft above sea level in the Kupwara district of North Kashmir. (KL Image: Raashid Andrabi)

The Kamraj Forest Division launched successful initiatives last year to develop ecotourism parks to enhance the tourism potential of the district. Three ecotourism parks—Nagri Wari at Hatmulla, Kairwan at Dever Lolab, and Satbaran at Lastiyal Kalaroos—were developed and opened for tourists, contributing to the livelihood opportunities for local families.

An official told

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## Human trafficking network busted, Rohingya man among 5 arrested in Bandipora

BANDIPORA, Nov 28 (Agencies): Bandipora Police on Monday arrested five people, including a Rohingya national, in connection with a human trafficking network in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

"Five persons were arrested in connection with human trafficking. One Rohingya namely Manzoor Alam was among those arrested," Bandipora Police said.

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## Prosecuting officer dismissed for taking Rs 2 lakh bribe from an accused in murder case in Rajouri

SRINAGAR, Nov 28 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir government has dismissed a prosecuting officer for taking bribe of Rs 2 lakh from an accused for not getting him arraigned as an accused in a murder case in Rajouri.

According to an order, the government dismissed incharge senior prosecuting officer Aijaz-UI-Hassan for taking Rs 2 lakh bribe from the accused while he was posted as Senior Prosecuting Officer in the court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Thanamandi.

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## J&K Govt suspends Regional Director, Survey and Land Records Anantnag

# SUSPENDED

JAMMU, Nov 28 (Agencies): Government of Jammu and Kashmir has put on suspension Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Anantnag, pending enquiry into his conduct.

Abdul Hafiz Shah, JKAS, has been placed under suspension, with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956.

"Pending enquiry into

his conduct, Mr. Abdul Hafiz Shah, JKAS, Regional Director, Survey & Land Records (ex-officio Settlement Officer), Anantnag, is hereby placed under suspension, with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956," reads the order further.

## Impact of Western Disturbance, Min temp above 2 deg c at most places in Kashmir



SRINAGAR, Nov 28 (Agencies): The minimum temperature in most parts of the Kashmir Valley remained above the 2 degrees Celsius-mark for the second day on Tuesday due to the impact of a Western Disturbance, officials said.

The improvement in the temperature has brought relief to people in this region of Jammu and Kashmir, which otherwise was in the grip of intense cold. Thick fog was reported from several parts of the Valley.

The officials, however, said there is a possibil-

ity of light to moderate snowfall in the higher reaches over the next three days.

The ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir was the only weather station in the Valley where the minimum settled below the freezing point at minus 0.2 degrees Celsius in the night, they said.

However, the temperature was a degree up from the previous night, the officials said.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 3.9 degrees Celsius, while in Qazigund, the gateway town to the Valley in south

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9419143503

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh Vivek Chatta** Son of Sh Vinod Kumar Chatta presently at 53 A/1, Lane-3, Vivek Vihar, opposite Soap Factory, Paloura, Jammu on 20-11-2023.



Sh Vivek Chatta

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 29.11.2023 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education, Jammu in between 8 AM to 9.30 AM.

**Grief Stricken :**  
Smt Parmeshwari Chatta- **Grand Mother**  
Smt Rajni & Sh Vinod Chatta- **Mother /Father**  
Smt Shashi & Sh Subash Chatta- **Aunty/Uncle**  
Smt Promila & Sh Upinder Chatta- **Aunty/Uncle**  
Smt Kaki Trisal- **Bua**  
Smt Anjali Nehru- **Bua**  
Smt Sapna & Sh Sudeep Pandita- **Sister/Brother in law**  
Smt Achala & Sh Sakar Chatta- **Bhabhi/Brother**  
Vasundhara Chatta/ Upasna Chatta- **Sisters**  
Upkar Chatta - **Brother**

CHATTAS, RAINA'S, HASTU'S  
9469050071, 9149435621, 9419241971, 9419632372  
OM SHANTI OM !!!

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Shri B.P Sharma** S/o Late Shri B.B Sharma R/o 297 Mohalla Jullaka, Jammu on 20-11-2023.



SHRI B.P SHARMA

**10th Day** will be performed on Wednesday, 29 November at our residence from 11:00 AM-12:00 Noon. **Kriya** will be performed on Thursday, 30 November at our residence at 12 Noon.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
Smt Swam Lata Sharma (Wife)  
Smt Santosh Raina (Sister)  
(Sister-in-law and Brother)  
Smt Vijay Prabha Sharma W/o Lt Shri Netar Parkash Sharma (Daughter-in-law and Son)  
Mrs Preeti Sharma and Mr. Anil Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-Law)  
Mrs. Nandini and Mr. Sanjay Sharma Shashwat, Stuti, Achyut (Grand Children)  
M/S Computer Concepts  
Mob: 9419186851, 8825040696, 9596730555

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of revered Swami Makhan Lal Ji Koul (Swami Lala Ji) S/o Lt. Sh. Jia Lal Koul and husband of Lt. Smt. Lalita Koul R/o Bagh Jogi Lankar Rainawari Srinagar at present H.No. 939/A, Subash Nagar, Opp. Toph Quarters on 23 Nov, 2023.



Swami Makhan Lal Ji Koul, (Lala Ji)

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 02 Dec, 2023 at 10.00 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Ashtosh Koul & Sheela Koul (Lovely)  
**Daughters & Sons-in-law**  
Sunita & Shiban Krishen Bhat  
Chanderlekha & Sanjay Bhat  
**Brothers & Sisters-in-law**  
Roshan Lal Koul  
Suresh Koul & Girja Koul  
**Sisters & Brothers-in-law**  
Late Chuni Koul & Lt. Janki Nath Koul  
Ratni Watal & C.L. Watal  
Phoola Pattoo & V.K. Pattoo  
**Nephews:** Pinul & Renu Koul, Sandeep, Mohit & Ekant  
**Nieces:** Meenakshi, Ekta, Monika & Apoorva  
**Grand Children:** Satyam, Sudanshu, Vivek, Bhavya & Parth  
**Contact No:** 7006136052, 9419155504, 9818819970, 9711361481, 9873721950

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Th. Narendra Singh Jamwal** S/o Late Th. Ranaugh Singh Jamwal, Advocate, Ex-MLA/MLC R/o Jandrahia Mohalla, Pacca Danga, Jammu on 19/11/2023.



TH. NARENDRA SINGH JAMWAL

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on Tuesday, 28/11/2023 at our residence at 10.30 a.m. **KRIYA** will be performed on Friday, 01/12/2023 at our residence at 12 Noon.

**UTHALA** will be held at Nekk Chand Memorial Hall near Jain School, Rani Park, Jammu on 01/12/2023 from 4 to 5 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Madhu Jamwal - **Wife**  
**Daughters in Law & Sons**  
Smt. Promila & Bikram Singh Jamwal  
Smt. Neena & Gautam Jamwal  
**Brothers**  
Sh. Kuldeep Singh Jamwal  
Sh. Mohinder Singh Jamwal  
Sh. Ranjeet Singh (DIG SSB) - **Son - in - Law**  
**Grandsons:** Anirudh Jamwal, Aditya Jamwal, Aayush Jamwal, Kunwar Paarth & **JAMWAL FAMILY**  
M.NO. 9419195909, 9858915042

**FIFTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Aditya Sharma** S/o Ashok Sharma who expired on 25-11-2023.



Sh Aditya Sharma

**FIFTH DAY** will be performed on 29-11-2023 (Wednesday) at 11:00 AM at Brahman Sabha Prade Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
**Parents**  
Smt. Madhu Magotra & Sh Chander Mohan Magotra (Pujari Bawa Wali Mata Temple Bahu Fort)  
**Daughter & Son-in-law**  
Smt Pooja Sharma & Sh Vivek Sharma  
**Sons**  
Srikant Magotra & Kanav Sharma  
**Mob: 9419200900, 7006375359, 9469508999**

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Sub Major Harjit Singh Saini** (Rtrd) S/o Late Sh Ram Singh Saini.



Sh Sub Major Harjit Singh Saini (Rtrd)

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 29th Nov 2023 (Wednesday) at our residence Lane No. 27 Down Side, Greater Kailash, Jammu at 12:00 Noon.

**Deeply Remembered by:**  
Smt. Sarishta Devi (Wife)  
Shubham Singh & Ricky Saini (Sons)  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
Neha & Abhineet Pandita

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad demise of our beloved **Smt Kamani Gupta** W/o Sh Bhushan Kr Gupta H No. 217 Lower Mast Garh near Phalwan Di Hatti.



Smt Kamani Gupta

**Uthala** will be performed at Jain Hall near Rani Park on Wednesday 29 Nov. at 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**  
Bhushan Kr Gupta- **Husband**  
Ayushman Jandiyal- **Son**  
Ramesh Kr Gupta- **Jeth**  
Shashi Gupta- **Jethani**  
Daughter & Son in law  
Suhani Gupta & Vishal Gupta  
**Nephew**  
Akshil Jandiyal, Nikhil Jandiyal  
**Mobile Number 9858150766, 6005746315**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. RAMESH KUMAR BHAT, S/O LATE SH SOMNATH BHAT, R/O BUBEHARA, ANANTNAG, KASHMIR, AT PRESENT 19033, NEELSIDHI AMARANTE, PLOT NO.4, SEC-9E, ROADPALLI, KALAMBOLI, NAVI MUMBAI, WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 23-11-2023.



SH. RAMESH KUMAR BHAT

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 02-12-2023 AT 10 AM AT NAVI MUMBAI.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:-**  
SMT BASANTI (WIFE)  
BHABHI & BROTHER  
SMT PINKY BHAT AND SH. SATISH KUMAR BHAT  
SISTERS & BROTHER-IN-LAW INCLUDING THEIR SONSDAUGHTERS:  
SMT RAJNI BAMROO & SH. PAWAN KUMAR BAMROO (SWATI, SAHIL & BHAVNA)  
SMT. PRIYANKA BHAT & SH. SUBHASH BHAT (AVIT)  
DAUGHTER IN LAW & SONS:  
RAKHEE BHAT & ROMIL BHAT  
MONICA BHAT & AKSHAY BHAT  
DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW  
KAMAKSHI & RAJAT  
SHIVAM BHAT (SON)  
GRAND CHILDREN: RUDHR & ANANYA

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With a very heavy heart we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt Nancy Bali** W/o Late Shri Bansil Lal Bali (originally from Zaindar Mohalla Habba Kadal Srinagar) on 23rd of Nov. 2023 at Jammu.



Smt Nancy Bali

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Muradnagar Canal UP on 2nd of Dec, 2023 and **Assembly** will be at Smt Nancy Bali 304/40, Shalimar Garden, Extension 1, Sahibabad, UP at 1 pm.

**HEAVILY GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
**Son/ Daughter-in law:** Rajesh Bali and Rajni Bali  
**Daughter / Son-in-law:** Ashok Ganjoo & Sangeeta Ganjoo  
**Grand Daughters:** Shreya Ganjoo and Muskan Bali  
**Along with Samast Bali, Ganjoo and Mattoo Parivar.**  
**Mob No's: 8511811676 / 9810227078 / 8295903003**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SON BHANU PARTAP SINGH S/O LT. SMT NEELAM DEVI & SH NARESH SINGH SLATHIA R/O H.No. 880, PREM NAGAR, TALI MORH JANIPUR.



BHANU PARTAP SINGH

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 28-11-2023 (TUESDAY) AT OUR RESIDENCE AT 11.00 AM.  
**KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON FRIDAY THE 1ST OF DEC. 2023 AT 1 PM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
JANVI - **WIFE**  
SH NARESH SINGH SLATHIA - **FATHER**  
SMT SHAKUNTALA DEVI - **GRAND MOTHER**  
**CONTACT NO. 9419183611**

**OBITUARY - 10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Sheela Bhan** (fondly known as Paryari) W/o Late Sh. Omkar Nath Bhan R/o Najafgarh, New Delhi erstwhile from Shivpora, Broadway, Srinagar and Talab Tillo, Jammu on 26.11.2023.



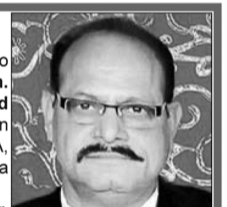
Smt. Sheela Bhan

**10th day Kriya** will be performed at Gauri Shankar Temple, T Block, Phase 1, New Palam Vihar, Gurgaon on 4th December 2023 (Monday) at 8:30 AM.

**Grief Stricken**  
Bhans, Kouls, Vakils & Rainas  
**Mobile Numbers**  
**6006837796, 9815752777**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Rakesh Kumar Sharma (Retd. PHE Head Draftsman)** S/o Late Sh. Shankar Dass on 19/11/2023 (Sunday) R/o H.No. 90 Sec A, Subhash Nagar (Near Water Tank, Rajpura Mangrotian) Jammu.



Sh. Rakesh Kumar Sharma (Retd. PHE Head Draftsman)

**Tenth Day** will be performed at Hari Mandir, Rehari on Nov 28, 2023 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

**Kriya** will be performed at own residence on Nov 29, 2023  
**GRIEF STRICKEN:**  
Smt. Shashi Sharma (Wife)  
**Brother and Bhabhi**  
Smt. Sonia & Sh. Rajinder Sharma  
**Son and Daughter-in-Law**  
Neha and Sushant Sharma  
Eshan Sharma (Son)  
Lakshit, Abhijot & Tushar Sharma (Sons)  
**(M) 9419132015, 9622110888, 9419285741**

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Suresh Kumari Sharma** W/o Lt Sh Kuldeep Mishra R/o H No. 105, Raghunath Pura, Shalimar Road. **Uthala** will be performed at Gita Bhawan Prade (Timing 4 PM - 5 PM) on 29-11-2023.

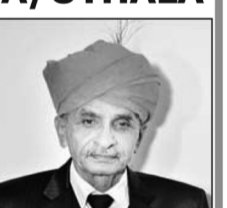


Smt Suresh Kumari Sharma

**In Grief :**  
**Son & Daughter-in-law**  
Sh Aditya Sharma & Parul Sharma  
**Jeth & Jethani**  
Smt Nirmita Devi W/o Late Sh Jagdish Chand  
Sh Rattan Lal Sharma & Smt Tripta Kumari Sharma  
**Devar & Devrani**  
Sh Ramesh Chander Sharma & Smt Sweety Sharma  
**Mob. 9796002498, 9419116328, 9149615911**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. PUSHP KAMAL SHARMA S/O LT SH VIDYA NAND SHARMA RESIDENT OF 134-A, GANDHI NAGAR, JAMMU. HE LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON MONDAY 20TH OF NOVEMBER 2023.



PUSHPAP KAMAL SHARMA (BABBU)

**TENTH DAY** WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29TH OF NOVEMBER 2023 AT SHIV MANDIR, NEAR GOVT QUARTERS GANDHI NAGAR, JAMMU AT 10.30 AM.  
**KRIYA** WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 30TH OF NOVEMBER 2023 AT 12 NOON AT OUR RESIDENCE 134-A GANDHI NAGAR, JAMMU.

**UTHALA** WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 1ST OF DECEMBER 2023 AT SHIV MANDIR, NEAR GOVT QUARTERS GANDHI NAGAR, JAMMU AT 4PM - 5PM.  
**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
SMT. CHANDER KALA SHARMA - **WIFE**  
PALVI & VARUN BASKOTRA - **DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON**  
ARUN BASKOTRA - **SON**  
SMT. PUSHP LATA & SH. KEWAL KRISHAN SHARMA - **SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHER**  
SMT. SWARN LATA & SH. BHARAT BHUSHAN SHARMA - **SISTER-IN-LAW & BROTHER**  
SMT. CHANDER MOHINI & LT SH. DHARAM PAL SHARMA - **SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW**  
SMT. NIRMAAL SHARMA & SH. KULDEEP SHARMA - **SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW**  
RUDHY BASKOTRA - **GRANDSON**  
**MOBILE NO:7006058197, 8825022384**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & sudden demise of **T.B Mirza** S/o Late J.N Mirza R/o C109, Rajhans apartment opp Aditya Mall Ahinsa Khand Indrapuram, Ghaziabad originally from Karan Nagar Srinagar on 26/11/2023. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 05-12-2023 at Muradnagar Ghat.



T.B Mirza

**GRIEF STRICKEN**  
Smt Khema Mirza - **Wife**  
**Daughter-in-law and Son**  
Mrs Neelu Mirza & Sunil Mirza  
Mrs Renu Kaul & Arun Kaul - **Daughter and Son-in-Law**  
**Sister and Brother-in-Law**  
Late Suman Watal & Mrs Jyoti Watal  
**Brothers and Sister-in-Laws:**  
Mr Vijay Mirza & Usha Mirza  
Late Surinder Mirza & Babli Mirza  
Mr Opender Mirza & Sushma Mirza  
**Daughters and Son in Laws:**  
Mrs Soni Gupta & Puneet Gupta  
Mrs Sukanya Sharma & Vikrant Sharma  
Mrs Neha Kher & Ankush Kher  
Mrs Nidhi Watal & Mr Rohit Watal - **Daughter-in-Law and Son**  
**Children & grandchildren:** Antra, Vanshika, Shukla, Vditi, Samarth, Vandit, Aman, Arvika, Maniya, Yesh, Addi, Amiya  
**Mob. Nos: 9810744903, 9990360520, 9958800553, 8899618932, 9419136396, 6006995010**

**BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS**

WITH HEAVY HEART AND PROFOUND GRIEF, WE REGRET TO INFORM UNTIMELY SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED S. PARMJIT SINGH (EX G.M TRANSPORT UNION) S/O LT. S.HARNAM SINGH R/O 251, REHARI MOHALLA, JAMMU.



S. PARMJIT SINGH (EX G.M TRANSPORT UNION)

**ARAMBH SHREE AKHAND PATH SAHIB** ON MONDAY, 27TH NOV, 2023 (10 AM) AT OUR RESIDENCE.  
**BHOG SHREE AKHAND PATH SAHIB /KIRTAN** - WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOV, 2023 (10 AM TO 11:30 AM) AT OUR RESIDENCE FOLLOWED BY GURU KA LANGAR.

**ANTIM ARDAS** WILL BE HELD AT GURUDWARA KALGDHAR, REHARI CHUNGI FROM 3:30 PM TO 5 PM WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOV, 2023.

**DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY:**  
**DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW**  
SDN. TANMEET KOUR & S. MITHBAIN SINGH  
SDN. RAVINDER KOUR W/O LT S. GURDYAL SINGH (SISTER IN LAW)  
**SISTER IN LAW & BROTHER**  
SDN. JOGINDER KAUR AND S. PRABDYAL SINGH  
SDN. TEJINDER KOUR W/O LT PROF TIRATH SINGH (SISTER)  
SDN. DALJEET KOUR W/O LT S. JATINDER SINGH (SISTER)  
DR. KANWALJIT KAUR (DAUGHTER IN LAW)  
SDN. TEJINDER KAUR AND S.DAVINDER PAL SINGH (SISTER IN LAW AND BROTHER IN LAW)  
SDN. BALBIR KAUR AND AJINDER PAL SINGH (SISTER IN LAW AND BROTHER IN LAW)  
**GRAND CHILDREN:** ARJIT SINGH, PARMEET KAUR, ISHPREET KAUR AND SEHAJ PREET SINGH  
**MOB: 8082166029, 9419836265, 7051166993**

**OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt.RUPA DEVI BHAT (TETHI Ji)** W/o Sh.MAHARAJ KRISHAN BHAT original residents of Kharpora - Bandipora Kashmir & at present House No 1153, 2nd Floor, Sector 10 A Gurgaon who left for heavenly abode on 21 Nov. 2023.



Smt. RUPA DEVI BHAT (TETHI Ji)

**TENTH DAY** will be performed on 30th Nov, 23 at Chotta Haridwar, Muradnagar Ghat at 7:30 am

**IN GRIEF:**  
**BHATS, DHARS, PANDITAS AND RELATIONS**  
**Contact No : 8130037471,9716937180,8130597296**

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## Gujjar Bakerwal community to hold Maha-Panchayat on Dec 3

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: All J&K Gujjar-Bakerwal Organisation's Coordination Committee invited the people of Gujjar Bakerwal Community to participate in the Maha-Panchayat being organised on December 3, 2023, 10:00 AM at the JDA ground opposite Director information Office near Railway Masjid Rail head complex, Jammu.

In the press conference here on Tuesday, representatives of various social organisations, social activists and speakers highlighted their demands and problems.

The speakers stressed upon the Central Government to allay the apprehensions of granting of ST status to the non-deserving people of J&K.

The Convenor of Co-ordination Committee, Advocate Anwar Choudhary said that by creating the issue of Grant of ST Status to Paharis, there is disenchantment among the ST people of not only in Jammu and Kashmir but in the entire country, particularly among the Gurjar Community from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

He said that move to grant ST Status to Paharis may have some bad consequences amongst the Gurjars samaj which can result in some sort



of social disturbance.

The co-convenor of Coordination Committee Bashir Ahmed Noon lamented that though the forest rights Act 2006 has been promised to be implemented in the J&K Union Territory vis-a-vis the ST people, the same has not been implemented on the ground, and people of the Gurjar Bakerwal committee are continuing to be harassed and thrown out of their homes and hearts.

The UT Government has been promising to allot Five Marlas of Land to the Landless people of Jammu and Kashmir but ignoring the fact that Gujjar Bakerwal having flocks of hundred and thousands of cattle and their needs cannot be catered to by a mere Five Marlas of Land.

The Govt of Jammu and Kashmir should make a suitable per-

manent settlement plan for the Nomads of the Gujjar Bakerwal Community.

The Speaker further alleged that instead of rehabilitating the Gujjar Bakerwals, the Authorities like the Forest Department, JDA, and other Agencies of Govt. are demolishing the houses of the ST people and uprooting them from their homes and hearts, leaving them in a lurch.

Jameel Choudhary and Sayeed Choudhary, the representatives of Dhodi Gujjar Community have expressed their grave concern for not allotting the land that is in their possession and rather or being deprived of their existing shelters.

The main thrust in the Press conference was to drop the idea of Granting ST status to

So-Called Paharis who do not deserve to be included in the list of ST as the Paharis do not carry any definition, and the same has been coined by some affluent people of Developed Communities just to dilute and make meaningless the ST status of Gujjar Bakerwal of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Speaker stressed upon the Central Govt. to reject the report of the G.D. Sharma Commission and disband the same which has worked with great partiality and biased against the Gujjar Bakerwals of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Speaker also demanded from the Central Government that the Gojri language be included in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution and also withdraw the JK Schedule Tribe Amendment Bill 2023.

The Other prominent social workers & speakers who were present in press conference were Choudhary Talib, Bashir Kohli, Mohd Yousaf Majnoo, Hussain Ali Wafan, Guftar Choudhary, Bilal Rashid, Shoukat Ali Corporation, ch. Razaq, Adv. Azam, Adv. Akram, Adv. Aslam Khan, Adv. Mushtaq, Shouqat Gujjar, Saleem Choudhary, Shabir Kohli, Bashir Khatana, Liaqat Ali Joda, Rahmat Ali BDC Chairman and many others.

## Anti-nationals must be brought to book: Chugh

Justifies registration of FIR against those who raised pro-Pakistan slogans

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh strongly condemned the elements which tried to invoke anti-national sentiments in the wake of the cricket world cup and said that due action must be taken forces that try to incite pro-Pakistan sentiments and cause a divide in the society.

At a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been undertaking numerous development and progressive steps for the prosperity of the J&K, such nefarious elements which play a disruptive role, must be checked, he said.

Condemning the stance of former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on the matter, Chugh justified the registration of the FIR against such elements, who not only tried to intimidate the locals but also



tried to glorify Pakistan, Chugh said exemplary punishment must be meted out to such forces so that the development of J&K continued for the welfare of the poor and deprived.

He said booking anti-national elements at SKUAST Ganderbal was a welcome step, saying "the dual speak of Mehbooba Mufti has always brought miseries to J&K and it's people."

"The words uttered by Mehbooba Mufti over booking of seven anti-national elements by police are highly

condemnable. The PDP chief has always brought misery and hardships to people of J&K, and pushed J&K into crisis situations from where the Prime Minister has salvaged the situation to a great extent," Chugh said.

Moreover, Chugh said, the forces that try to invoke anti-India sentiment by shouting pro-Pakistan slogans needed to be curbed decisively so that common man in J&K could peacefully enjoy the fruits of various development initiatives undertaken by the Modi government.

Chugh said in any sports any team can win or lose but to convert it all into an anti-national idiom surely calls for a firm action against the anti-national forces, particularly in border union territory, where the security forces have been fighting the anti-nationals tooth and nail.

## Necessity to develop Hindu cultural and religious places: Sat

Top News Report

JAMMU/AKHNOOR, Nov 28: Padyar Brahmin Biradari Bi-Annual congregation at Chowki-Chowra (Turgla) and Bral Brahman Biradari Biannual congregation at Basava Tehsil Chowki-chowra was held where thousands of devotees participated and offered their prayers to seek the blessings of Kul Dev Shree Baba Purab Sidh ji at Turgla and Kul Devi Bua Datti Ji at Basava.

Former State President BJP and Ex Cabinet Minister Sat Sharma (CA) was amongst the main dignitaries who offered their prayers at the Mail. Sharma was also accompanied by Harbans Lal Sharma President All India Padyar Brahmin Biradari, Mangal Sharma All India President Bral Brahmin Biradari, KL Sharma



Senior BJP Leader and several others.

Sat Sharma offered prayers at both places for peace and prosperity in the UT and the country. Sharma said that the UT Government must focus on developing such places which keeps alive the culture of Hinduism in every Indian. He said thousands of people visit such places every year to witness such an event and their development is must as such places hold cultural and religious importance in our society. He also stated that the Central Government under the leadership of PM Modi is committed to pro-

vide the best possible infrastructure to such places and he assured the people present that he will leave no stone unturned for the development of such places.

Presidents of Both Biradris thanked the BJP leader for sparing his time and visiting both the religious places on short notice.

Dr. Sanchit Sharma, Ravi Sharma, Baldev Sharma, Harbans Lal Sharma, Meena Devi, Ashok Kumar Sharma, Romesh Sharma and prominent citizens of Chowki Chowra and other areas were also present on the occasion.

4291 panchayats, 78 ULBs to be covered in J&K

## "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" aims to reach doorsteps of people: Dr. Manyal

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 29: Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, J&K BJP General Secretary, along with Naresh Singh, J&K BJP Incharge "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra", addressed a press conference at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, here.

Former Vice-Chairperson SC, ST, BC Corporation, Balbir Ram Rattan and J&K BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra were also present in the press conference.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, while addressing the media, said that the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was launched on 15th November on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

This yatra was launched by flagging off IEC (Information, Education and Communication) Vans, which will be initially visiting the districts having significant Scheduled Tribe population and in the remain-



ing districts from the third week of November onwards up to 26 January 2024.

"The Modi Government is actively engaged in the mission to provide basic amenities like sanitation facilities, essential financial services, and access to LPG connections, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare, clean drinking water, quality education etc. and making required services accessible to all targeted and

eligible beneficiaries. Another step in this direction would be to ensure awareness of benefits and various facilities available to citizens to facilitate the last mile delivery.

With this aim, a nationwide campaign to raise awareness through outreach activities to achieve saturation of schemes named "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra", is being planned.

Dr. Manyal said that BJP, on the national level has decided to contribute to the success of this

whole programme. He said that the BJP has framed its teams in Jammu & Kashmir as well to ensure the concerted efforts of active Jan Bhagidari to ensure that the last mile and the most vulnerable are reached effectively.

Naresh Singh, said that this Yatra, like other parts of the country, is being undertaken in the entire J&K in which the party cadre has been assigned the task to reach the people at their doorsteps and educate them about various welfare schemes of the Modi government. The vans in Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra are carrying details of all the schemes and have the facility for on the spot registration of left over/new beneficiaries.

Naresh Singh further shared that the vans of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra will be covering 4291 panchayats, 78 ULBs in Jammu and Kashmir. There will also be facilities for drone shows, quiz competitions and Health Check up camps.

## St. Joseph's School celebrates 20th Annual Day

Top News Report

NAGROTA, Nov 28: The students with their parents, staff and the management of St. Joseph's Convent High School, Nagrota, Jammu on Tuesday celebrated the 20th year of its existence with fabulous, eye-catching, colourful cultural events.

The function was held in the presence of the Chief Guest, Rt. Rev. Ivan Albert Pereira, the Bishop and President of the Diocese of Jammu Srinagar Education Society, Col. Shajan Thomas, Deputy Group Commander, NCC Group Headquarter Jammu, Advocate Raman Wazir, the Sarpanch, School Manager-Rev. Fr. Jose John, Principal Rev. Sr. Vinaya, parents and other dignitaries.

The celebrations commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries followed by an inspiring prayer dance by the students.



The event was marked with the main theme "Unity in Diversity".

"Indeed, Unity in Diversity is India's strength. There is simplicity in every Indian and unity in every corner. Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and test of our civilization," said Principal Rev. Sr. Vinaya.

The event included a series of thematic performances ranging from devotion to family values, patriotism, Unity in Diversity, social issues, in the form of dazzling dances, skit, and many more.

The event concluded with vote of thanks fol-

lowed by colourful grand finale and National Anthem.

Chief Guest, Rt. Rev. Ivan Albert Pereira honored and appreciated the academic topers with prizes. He also praised the excellent performance of the students on stage. He made a point to remind the parents about their role in the education of their wards.

He told the audience the contribution of the Catholic Church in the field of education and social work, especially in the remote areas of the Union Territories of J&K and Leh Ladakh.

The Guests of Honour,

Col. Shajan Thomas and Advocate Raman Wazir appreciated the students, staff and management.

They inspired the gathering with their message highlighting the importance of self-study, proper use of media (mobile), drug abuses and the need of parents accompaniment in the day-to-day lives of their wards.

The school Manager Rev. Fr. Jose John, formally welcomed the gathering and the school Principal, Rev. Sr. Vinaya Varghese, presented the report of this prestigious institution.

## BJP has real concern for peoples' welfare: Kavinder

Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Kavinder Gupta, former Dy. CM accompanied by RS Pathania, former MLA & BJP Spokesperson, Munish Sharma, Prabhari BJYM and Shailja Gupta, J&K BJP working committee member listened to the public grievances at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

While conducting grievance redressal at BJP headquarters, Jammu, Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister, said that with the responsiveness and commitment to the masses, senior party leaders are daily attending the public at the party headquarter.

Kavinder Gupta said that the BJP leaders have been holding public darbar on daily basis at party headquarter and a large number of people from across the UT is coming here to seek help in mitigation of their problems. He



said that the party cadre is always at the service of the people. Our activists are working on the ground, reaching at the doorsteps of the people to educate them about what the Narendra Modi government has done for the socio economic upliftment of the weaker and marginalized sections of the society and massive development of every region.

Kavinder Gupta further said that the people are well aware of the massive development and social schemes of the Modi government and they are convinced that it is only BJP, which has concern for the real welfare of the masses in the country.

Pathania said that the people visiting the party headquarter narrate their problems related to different departments and every problem is taken up with the higher officials and every effort is made that people get justice without any delay. He said that BJP is not only a political party to contact people for votes only but also works on the principle of remaining with them in every grief and sorrow. BJP is on a mission to serve the people and every activist of the party is seen on ground to be available on the call of any one, irrespective of region, faith or class, he said.

Munish Sharma said

that the BJP has designated the senior party leaders to listen to the issues of public daily at the party headquarter and many people visit the party leaders to present their issues.

Shailja Gupta, remained present and diazied the issues presented. She said that the senior party leaders solved most of the issues that were presented, on the spot.

Numerous individuals and deputations from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leaders.

Listening patiently to the various issues represented by the deputations, senior BJP leaders telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials for resolving the issues and also issued letters to many of them.

## EDITORIAL

## PROMOTE DOMESTIC INDUSTRIES

**H**ome industry is an industry where you make things in your home and sell them in the market. This type of industry involves very low costs. But our country gets huge profits because we buy most of the things we use in our daily life from domestic industry.

We cannot imagine any economy without domestic industry. This type of industry can be started at very low cost. Because of this, even those people in India who are short of money are able to become witnesses in this industry and if such an industry makes profits, then a large number of people join it.

Due to which a small industry which you started from home works to remove unemployment and poverty from the country on a large scale.

If you understand the domestic industry, then only from this you can understand that it is started at a much lower cost, due to which such people also start it. Apart from this, cottage industry has great importance in the Indian economy. Cottage industries account for more than 25% of the Indian economy and market system. It also contributes a lot to the country's income i.e. GDP and also every fifth part of all the goods received from the industry is received from the cottage industry. Today about 35% to 40% people are employed in cottage industries or household industries.

We can say that cottage industry is the sector that contributes the most to employment and production in the country.

If you understand that we can earn very good income from domestic industry and the country also gets a lot of profit from it. So we are going to tell you that this kind of industry can be started in your home at very low cost and very easily.

First of all, understand that very little money is required to start a domestic industry and the process of registration has also been made very easy because the government has taken steps to contribute to the people running domestic industries through various policies. have picked up.

You have to do a survey of your area so that you can get an idea of what is the need of the people there, which you can make at home and then make that item in your home on a very small scale. Go to the market and sell.

By doing this for the first time, you will know how much demand there is for this business and after that as per your convenience, you can gradually start this business on a large scale.

Many people think that considering the speed with which we are moving towards the digital age, it may be possible that domestic industry may not be a good business idea. If such thoughts come to your mind then let us tell you that you are thinking wrong. The demand for this business is never going to decrease.

As we told you that in domestic industry we produce those kinds of items which we need in everyday life which includes some small parts made of wood and some household food items. No matter how much modernity we adopt, we cannot reduce the use of household products because it plays a very essential role in our life.

Through domestic industries, many people are provided daily employment opportunities and they also contribute to the economic condition of the country. It is our duty to promote domestic industry.

## When will India conduct its next census? And then the delimitation?

By: Aakar Patel

**F**or 50 years, India has not changed the composition of the Lok Sabha (through what is called delimitation). Enormous power is in the hands of the individual who is chosen to increase or decrease a region's share of seats. The orders "have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court" and cannot be modified. Recent events have returned delimitation to prominence, and women's reservations in Parliament and the state Assemblies "shall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken".

It is unclear who this person is at the moment. The last chairperson, retired judge Ranjana Desai, left the job in 2022 and was given another sinecure (at the Press Council), but her name continues to be on the Election Commission's website.

Let us examine the key issue related to delimitation, which is the difference in population sizes in our states. Andhra Pradesh's total fertility rate, the average number of children born to a woman, is 1.7, while that of Bihar is 3. India is now at a replacement rate of around 2, and in a few decades our population will begin to contract. However, 29 states and Union territories are already below 2. It is the other seven that raise the national average.

Fifty years ago, the 85 MPs

from UP (plus Uttarakhand) represented 10 lakh citizens each, and so did Kerala's 20 MPs and Tamil Nadu's 40 MPs and Karnataka's 28 MPs and Rajasthan's 25 MPs.

In the 50 years since the last time the Lok Sabha's seats were increased, Kerala's population increased by 56 per cent but Rajasthan's by 166 per cent. Tamil Nadu's by 75 per cent but Haryana's by 157 per cent. That the southern populations should not be punished for their effective implementation of family planning by allocating more power to the north is a meaningful argument, but it is also a fact that the northern MP represents many more Indians than the southern one and that also seems unfair. Bihar's 40 and UP's 80 MPs each represent on an average 30 lakh Indians, while the average Kerala MP represents 17 lakh, the average Tamil Nadu MP 19 lakh.

The difference in Lok Sabha seats between states had existed because of a difference in population size, but each MP represented about the same number of Indians. Today, this is no longer the case.

There are meaningful and legitimate arguments on both sides and when the delimitation commission sits, it will be under pressure because whatever action or inaction is chosen, someone will remain dissatisfied and disgruntled.

Perhaps the exercise will be delayed indefinitely, especially because the census needs

to be conducted first and it has inexplicably been put off. Also, because the Women's Reservation Act giving women one-third of all Lok Sabha seats is now law, meaning that delimitation will have wider impact than merely geographical. That should not, however, deceive us and the problem will remain. What is to be done?

Not acting would seem in violation of the Constitution. Article 82 ("Readjustment after each census") reads: "Upon the completion of each census, the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the states and the division of each state into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may by law determine".

Note the words "each census", and the absence of movement on this for 50 years is a festering problem. Till 1972, the process was adhered to. The 494 Lok Sabha seats of the 1950s went up to 522 in the 1960s and then 543 in the 1970s. At this time, as our numbers above show, while the representation across states was even, there was a recognition that the South was doing much better and that there was a need for the State to promote family planning, especially for the North.

Readers will be familiar with the infamous actions taken by the Indira Gandhi government during the 1975-77 Emergency and many will also be familiar with the

widespread family planning advertisements that continued on Doordarshan and in print till the end of the 1980s.

One of the outcomes that long campaign sought to achieve was parity between the states with an eye on delimitation. The link between the census and delimitation was severed or, more accurately, suspended after that. In the 1980s and 1990s, while we conducted the census and the numbers showed the growing disparity in population sizes, there was no delimitation exercise.

The Atal Behari Vajpayee government in 2002 kicked the can down the road for a quarter century, to the census in 2031 (actually the "first census after 2026").

When will that be? We do not know. For the first time since 1880, no census was conducted as should have been the case in 2021. The reason given was the Covid-19 pandemic, but that is over and there is no sign of a census yet (or for that matter the CAA law, which was also to be implemented "after the pandemic").

Assuming the census is held soon, the government will have to do some deft management of perceptions. And it is not easy to see how, given the reality of the disparity and the enormous shift over the last 50 years, this can be done without an open and frank conversation with the people, something that has not begun and, knowing the style of our leader, is not expected to begin.

## Reduced NEET 2024 syllabus will not benefit aspirants much as competition will intensify while the number of aspirants remains the same

By: Vijay GarG

**T**he Undergraduate Medical Board, operating as an autonomous body under the National Medical Commission (NMC), has finalised the NEET UG 2024 syllabus, instead of the National Testing Agency (NTA) this year.

A significant aspect of this revision is the reduction in the number of chapters, which have been streamlined from 97 to 79. The changes encompass modifications, additions, and omissions across Physics, Chemistry, and Biology subjects. Specifically, nine chapters have been removed from the Chemistry section, and six chapters have been removed from Biology.

NEET UG 2024 will be conducted on May 5, 2024. In Chemistry, the NMC has deleted the following chapters — State of Matter, Hydrogen, The s-Block Elements, Environmental Chemistry, The Solid State, Surface Chemistry, General Principles & Processes of Isolation of Elements, Polymers, Chemistry in Everyday life. In Biology, NMC has deleted the following chapters — Transport in Plants, Mineral Nutrition, Digestion and Absorption, Reproduction in Organisms, Strategies for Enhancement in Food Production, Environmental Issues. The NMC has also added five sub-topics in Physics and Biology.

"Syllabus revisions, such as those seen in NEET 2024 by the NMC, aim to align content with current educational and medical practices. Reducing syllabi helps ease the burden on students, allowing them to focus on essential concepts. Syllabus reductions can be part of an effort to streamline the curriculum and make it more focused. This can help students develop a deeper understanding of core concepts

without being overwhelmed by an excessive amount of material," says Dr Somashekhar SP, chairman - Medical Advisory Board, Aster DM Healthcare - GCC & India.

In view of several suicide cases among young engineering and medical aspirants, the reduction in syllabus will help ease the burden on students, a senior health ministry official tells. "It is worth noting that this year's NEET syllabus, as formulated by the NMC, now aligns with the JEE Main 2024 syllabus. The move reflects a deliberate effort by the NMC to fine-tune the examination framework, potentially impacting how students prepare for these crucial medical entrance exams in the coming year," says Dr Somashekhar.

In previous years, the NTA was releasing the NEET syllabus. But, this year the NMC has revised and released the NEET 2024 syllabus. "As for why the NTA was not involved, this would depend on the specific decisions and arrangements made by the relevant authorities. Changes in examination conducting bodies could be due to various reasons, such as organisational restructuring, policy decisions, or changes in the regulatory framework."

Multiple factors are considered while revising the syllabus. "Once the concept of rationalised NCERT was introduced with effect from this year, the syllabus of NEET had to be in tune with the rationalised NCERT curriculum," adding that there is less of addition and more of reduction.

"Reducing the syllabus does not seem beneficial for the students as this may increase the level of competition,"

Advice for NEET aspirants

The revised syllabus brings both challenges and opportunities for

NEET aspirants. Here are some crucial pointers to guide your preparation.

Not a matter to celebrate: The overall bulk of the syllabus has been reduced. However, this should not be seen as a reason to celebrate, as the competition remains fierce.

Study materials: With no questions for the newly added topics available from the previous-year examinations, gather as many study materials, test papers, and guidebooks related to them as possible. But rely on trusted sources only and use NCERT books as a foundation for your studies. The modified syllabus incorporates elements from both the old and new NCERT books. To ensure comprehensive preparation, you should study both. Rigorous practice: Practise as many questions as possible to strengthen your understanding of the concepts and topics, including the newly added ones.

Embrace experiments: The revised syllabus reflects the principles of the new education policy, which stresses the importance of understanding over rote learning. As a result, candidates are encouraged to focus on gaining a profound comprehension of key concepts. This emphasis on understanding is further underscored by the new syllabus's substantial focus on experiment-based learning. As you prepare, it is essential to pay meticulous attention to your school laboratory experiments and to grasp the underlying theories thoroughly. This approach will undoubtedly enhance your readiness for the NEET UG 2024 examination.

Don't neglect omitted topics: While the syllabus has been trimmed, remember that the topics within a single chapter are inter-related. Don't completely abandon

or neglect the deleted topics, as they may still have relevance. But if a whole chapter has been deleted, there is no need to prepare for it.

Maintain your study routine: In the midst of syllabus revisions and adaptations, it's crucial for NEET UG 2024 aspirants to stay unwaveringly committed to their daily study sessions. Be in the present, and, after revising your daily schedule in accordance with the modified syllabus, continue your preparation with the same enthusiasm and dedication. However, do not underestimate the old portion of the syllabus which is still present in the revised one. It's important to remember that while the syllabus has evolved, the fundamental nature of the NEET exam remains unchanged. You still need to tackle 180 questions carrying 720 marks within a time frame of 200 minutes.

To excel in the NEET exam, maintain your diligence, regularly solve mock test papers, and build your personalised time management strategy, just as you have been doing previously. The reduced syllabus may create the illusion of decreased competition, but the number of aspirants remains the same. By striking a balance between old and new resources, deepening your understanding of concepts, and recognising the interrelations among the added and omitted topics, you will be better equipped to excel in this critical examination.

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

## Veterans rally conducted by Siachen Brigade at Pratappur



### Top News Report

NUBRA, Nov 28: A veterans rally was conducted by Siachen Brigade at Pratappur to showcase Indian Army's commitment towards its Veterans, Veer Naris, Widows and their families. The rally attracted more than 1200 veterans and their dependents from the Nubra Valley to include Shyok and Nubra axis.

Commander Siachen Brigade along with other civil dignitaries interacted with the veterans and their dependents during the rally.

A number of stalls

were also established including stalls for Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme, Resettlement avenues, Record Offices help lines, Defence Pension Disbursing Office etc.

A medical camp was also organised as part of the rally staffed by various specialists to provide advice and medicines.

While addressing the rally, Commander Siachen Brigade once again pledged Indian Army's solidarity with the retired fraternity and assured the gathering of all possible assistance

to ensure that the Veterans, Veer Naris and their families are provided quality health-care and earliest resolution of their issues. The rally concluded with felicitation of veterans and Veer Naris.

The rally provided a joint forum for the veterans and their families to interact with both military and civil agencies and resolve their pending issues and lived up to its motto of "Sampark - Swasthya - Sahuliyat" by reaching out to maximum veterans and families and resolving their issues.

## Chanjotra Biradari holds religious congregation at Kailash Pur



### Top News Report

SUJANPUR, Nov 28: A huge influx of innumerable Chanjo-

tra Biradari members along with their families, was seen paying obeisance to their tutelary deity at Kailash Pur

on Monday. The atmosphere remained devotional due to the chants of devotees seeking Darshan in long queues for hours.

Sewadar Ashwani Chanjotra told devotees that their deity is very powerful, people come here with their individual wishes, hoping they get fulfilled after the prayer and they visit the Devasation after their wishes get fulfilled.

# BJP is conspiring to destroy identity of J&K: Dimple

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Sunil Dimple, the President of Mission Statehood, while addressing a press conference, highlighted several issues related to Jammu and Kashmir.

Dimple announced that the verdict on the petitions filed regarding the abrogation of Article 370 and J&K statehood is expected on or before December 15.

He expressed confidence that Article 370 and special status for J&K would be reinstated based on the upcoming verdict.

Dimple accused the BJP of attempting to further divide Jammu and Kashmir into separate



states of Kashmir and Jammu with the introduction of Article 371.

He strongly rejected any such division, stating that neither a separate Kashmir nor a separate Jammu state would be acceptable.

Dimple claimed that

the BJP is conspiring to destroy the identity of J&K as the Dogra state. He mentioned alleged efforts by BJP-affiliated groups to raise their voices against the backdrop of BJP's defeat in the Supreme Court regarding the abrogation

of Article 370 and 35-A. Dimple emphasized the desire for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir state based on the conditions outlined in the Stand Still Agreement signed by Maharaja Hari Singh during the accession to India. These conditions include Article 370, 35-A, state subject, and special status for J&K.

Dimple warned that their struggle would persist until the implementation of the conditions of accession, including Article 370, 35-A, state subject, and the unification of J&K, Ladakh, PoK, Gilgit, and Baltistan.

Dimple claimed that,

upon the restoration of a popular government and Article 370, they would reverse the central laws imposed on Jammu and Kashmir by the BJP.

Dimple alleged that the Prime Minister, Home Minister, and BJP were not sincere in their commitments and accused them of withdrawing from commitments on the restoration of statehood and elections.

Dimple demanded the implementation of three conditions outlined in the Indian Constitution: Article 370, 35-A, and state subject. He insisted that J&K, Ladakh, PoK, Gilgit, and Baltistan be considered integral parts of India.

# CITU holds protest against anti-workers, anti-farmers policies of Govt

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Hundreds of workers and farmers assembled at Maharaja Hari Singh Park Jammu here today and held protest against anti-workers, anti-farmers and anti-people policies of both the governments at the centre and UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

While addressing the demonstration, CITU President Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami expressed serious concern over unending problems being faced by the farmers, workers and common people due to job losses, unemployment, spiraling prices of all essentials.

He said that due to the government policies the



indebtedness of farmers has increased, agrarian economy is continuing to face a crisis despite their contribution in enhanced production.

Further, he said that all the hard won rights of the workers are watered down through pro-employer labour codes for ease of doing business.

## PDD team conducts raid seizes heater, boiler appliances in Waltangoo



### Top News Report

KULGAM, Nov 28: To minimize the illegal power load, so that people can be given relief from unscheduled power curtailment, a team of PDD Quazigund today conducted raids in several parts of Kund villages including Waltangoo, Kanibal and

seized large number of power appliances in the area.

During inspection they found dozen of heaters and illegal hooks in this area.

The inspection team seized all the heaters and also disconnected the illegal hooks. The visiting team asked the people to get their con-

nections regularized within days otherwise they would be imposed fine or legal action will be taken against them.

The residents of the area cooperated well to stop the unscheduled power cuts. For those who are not cooperating with the team will face problems, said an officer.

## DPS Jammu students bag four gold medals in district level roll ball championship



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: The students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by clinching four gold and four silver medals in Roll Ball District Championship-2023 organized by Roll Ball

Association of Jammu & Kashmir held from 8-9 November, 2023 at M.A Stadium, Jammu.

Anandin Sharma (XII-E) won 2 gold medals in U-17 senior age group; Aditya Kumar (XII-B) bagged 1 gold medal in senior category; Arianth Sharma (IX-G) secured

1 gold & 2 silver medals in U-17 senior age group; Astitva Choudhary (V-C) got 2 silver medals in U-11 & U-14 junior age group.

The Management DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC-Dr. Ritu Singh, Director- S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and faculty congratulated the winners, their parents and coaches Parth Slathia and Gulmeeth for their achievements.

They also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

Lakhs crores have been written off by the PSU banks during last 9 years but this government is not ready to write off debts of peasants.

Kishore Kumar, President J&K Kisan Tehrik said that struggle of Samyukta Kisan Morcha has no parallel in the world because of which government has to take back all three farm laws but even the written assurance given by the government on MSP and Electricity (Amendment) bill has not been honoured and all the promises made to the farmers to double their income have fallen flat.

He urged the government to give MSP on J&K Basmati and other crops.

He said that due to strong opposition of trade unions against privatization the government now came up with National Monetisation Pipeline project and handing over all public sector assets built with people's money to big corporates to make money without any investment.

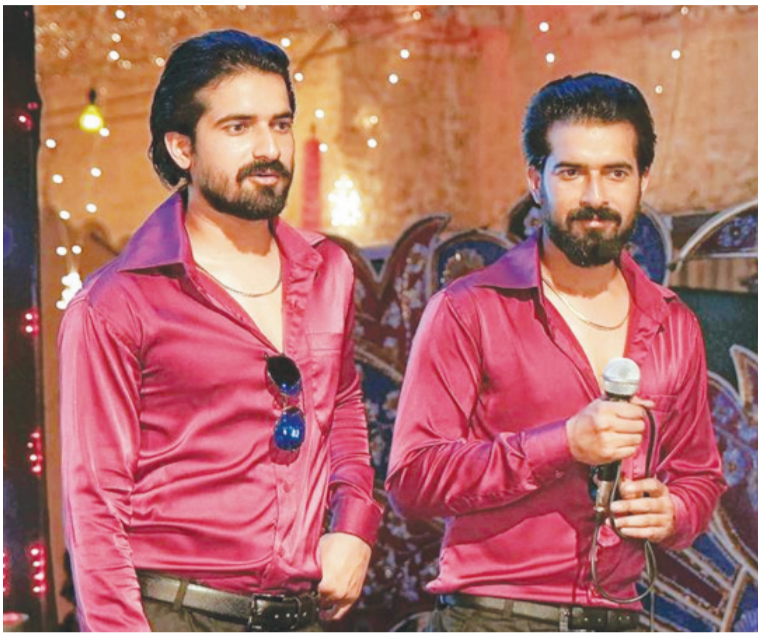
He said that Rs.15.32

## Mukerian-born twin brothers Gourav Sharma and Goutam Sharma have infused their millennial dose of endearing entertainment to various cinema and OTT outings

Move over Fred and George (Harry Potter's celebrated twins, played by real life brothers — actors James Andrew Eric Phelps and Oliver Martyn John Phelps)! Have you heard about the set of Indian twins who are turning heads, with amusing cinema at home and abroad?

Marking their Netflix debut with the acclaimed series *Guns & Gulaabs*, Mukerian-born twin brothers, Gourav Sharma and Goutam Sharma, have infused their millennial dose of endearing entertainment to various cinema and OTT outings in Bollywood and Hollywood, also appearing in a number of notable solo acts!

Starting their acting journey in 2016, between the two of them, the duo has celebrated projects as Abhishek Kapoor's Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui, Raj & DK's *Guns and Gulaabs* and Tarsem Singh's acclaimed TIFF 23's Platform Prize winning film *Dear Jassi* (based on the Jaswinder Kaur murder case). The duo also featured in Haryana's



first OTT web series *Camp Banaas* (2019).

Their solo projects include the films *Azaad* and *Amaanat*, which Goutam appeared in and Gourav's outings in the Punjabi web series *Yaar Jigree Kasooti Degree* (as well as an upcoming Bollywood project).

After graduation, push from

friends and comedian Jaswant Singh led the duo to apply for MA Theatre at Panjab University Chandigarh. Rs 2,000 they had for the first trip to Chandigarh was spent up buying plays (books) from the Punjab Book Centre. The ride back home was hitched for free! For an exam 30 days away, they read 35 plays

to prepare. But fate took them to Punjabi University, Patiala instead. There, a batch of seven like-minded youngsters worked magic together. By 2019 they had already landed *Camp Banaas* and spent the Covid pandemic working for Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui.

With several projects lined up, Goutam and Gourav say, "We are thankful and happy. At one time, we had been offered six films. But we are also being careful not to be typecast as twins acts, so we are choosing meaningful solo outings. We have enjoyed the ride so far and several projects are in the works."

Speaking about the experience of working with Tarsem Singh (who gave stellar films like *The Cell*, *The Fall*, *Immortals* and *Mirror Mirror*) Gourav says, "It was a magnificent experience as his attention to detail and endeavour to make his crew comfortable was outstanding. It was a great learning experience."

## Arushi on gender equality



Producer-actress Arushi Nishank says that while women need to be empowered in a country such as ours, we need to also ensure that men are not left

behind. "When we talk about equality, it begins with celebrating and cherishing moments equally," she says.

She adds, "It's not a matter of one gender

being superior to the other; rather, women tend to be more celebratory than men. As a woman, I too engage in preparations for any upcoming event. It's simply a matter of personal perspective and how we choose to approach and enjoy celebrations." Women express themselves and also talk about their emotions whereas men do not express them. She says, "From birth, we continually hear the phrase 'Men don't cry,' and, in an effort to adhere to this societal expectation, men often remain in the shadows, suppressing their emotions. Studies reveal that 86 per cent of men experience suicidal thoughts as they strive to conceal their feelings from those closest to them."

She adds, "It is crucial to remember that we are all human, and expressing emotions does not render anyone, be it a man or a woman, weak."

## Kim Kardashian's comedy 'The Fifth Wheel' to release on Netflix

*The story is under wraps but Kardashian stars alongside a female ensemble cast*

Netflix has bagged the rights to stream Kim Kardashian-starrer "The Fifth Wheel" after a bidding war.

According to Deadline, "The Fifth Wheel" is co-written by "Saturday Night Live" writer Paula Pell and Janine Brito and at least five companies were circling the comedy in the bidding war. Kardashian, Pell and Brito finally signed with Netflix.

The story is under wraps but Kardashian stars alongside a female ensemble cast.

Kardashian, who rose to prominence with the reality TV "Keeping Up With the Kardashians", has started venturing into scripted entertainment. She most recently featured in the "American Horror Story".



## Alia Bhatt is latest victim of deepfake video after Rashmika Mandanna, Katrina Kaif, Kajol

"Concerns Rise as Deepfake Videos Continue to Exploit Public Figures, Prompting Calls for Urgent Action"

In the latest wave of deepfake incidents, Bollywood star Alia Bhatt finds herself at the center of controversy, joining a growing list of celebrities, including Rashmika Mandanna, Kajol, Katrina Kaif, and Sara Tendulkar, who have fallen victim to this malicious use of artificial intelligence (AI). The alarming video, which surfaced on social media, has reignited concerns over the potential harm caused by AI manipulation.

The deepfake video featuring Alia Bhatt showcases her face seamlessly edited onto another woman's body, engaging in inappropriate gestures. This unsettling trend follows



similar incidents involving prominent personalities, sparking wide-

spread worry about the vulnerability of public figures to identity theft

through manipulated content.

Rashmika Mandanna recently spoke out about her own deepfake video, emphasising the genuine fear and harm caused by the misuse of technology. Notably, she highlighted the lack of protection, especially for those who may not have the support systems that she, as an established actor, enjoys.

The growing menace has caught the attention of authorities, with Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar addressing the issue and affirming the government's commitment to taking strict action against those responsible. Existing laws and rules, with penalties of up to Rs 1 lakh in fine and three years of imprisonment, are being invoked to curb the circulation of

deepfake content.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also expressed concern over the misuse of AI for creating deepfake videos, emphasising the need for responsible technology use. In response, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is set to establish a platform allowing users to report IT rule violations, reinforcing the government's commitment to tackling this pressing issue.

As celebrities like Alia Bhatt face the disturbing consequences of deepfake manipulation, the call for collective action and urgent legal safeguards becomes ever more crucial to protect individuals from identity theft and uphold the integrity of digital content.

## Gippy Grewal is still unable to process the firing incident outside his Vancouver house



Gunshots were allegedly fired outside Punjabi singer Gippy Grewal's residence in the White Rock neighbourhood of Vancouver, Canada on Saturday night. Taking to Facebook, an account named Lawrence Bishnoi claimed the group's involvement in the orchestrated attack.

"While you may regard Salman Khan as a brother, it is now imperative for your 'brother' to step in and rescue you. This message extends to Salman Khan as well

do not harbour the illusion that Dawood or anyone can save you from us. Your impassioned reaction on the demise of Sidhu Moose Wala did not escape our notice. We are well aware of the kind of person he was and the illicit connections he maintained," reads the post addressed to Grewal.

"You closely associated with Vicky during his time in Middukhera, and subsequently, you even expressed great sorrow for Sidhu. You are now

under our scrutiny. Consider this a teaser... Feel free to seek refuge in any country, but bear in mind, death does not require a visa..."

Singer-actor Gippy Grewal in an interview to a news channel denied 'any friendship with Salman Khan' claiming 'unable to process it since he has no enmity with anyone.'

Slain singer Sidhu Moosewala's father Balkaur Singh attacked the state government over the alleged firing. He accused the government of providing security to Lawrence Bishnoi. "Today's Punjabi Film/Music industry reminds me of late 80's and early 90's Bollywood. At that time extortion calls were made from Mumbai and later on from Dubai, whereas now the calls are made by from either jail cells in India or from Canada. #GippyGrewal," posted netizen Bobby Sidhu.

Meanwhile, reportedly the Delhi police foiled a plan to kill Punjabi singer Elly Mangat by arresting gangster Arsh Dalla's shooters.

## Fashion designer Rohit Bal critical, on ventilator support



Ace fashion designer Rohit Bal is reportedly in a critical condition and on ventilator support for a pre-existing cardiac condition.

Bal has been admitted to Medanta Hospital in Gurugram.

In 2010, when the designer was at the peak of his career, he suffered a heart attack for which he underwent an emergency angioplasty.

Earlier this year, a close confidant of the designer disclosed to a leading daily that Bal had been admitted to hospital last November to flush out alcohol from his system.

The designer's illustrious career spans over three decades. Bal being ahead of his time is one of the first designers to create couture collections.

The St Stephens College alumnus, who studied fashion at the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Delhi, has been honoured with numerous awards and is recognised as one of the leading names in the fashion industry.

## Selena Gomez is 'casually dating', not interested in relationship

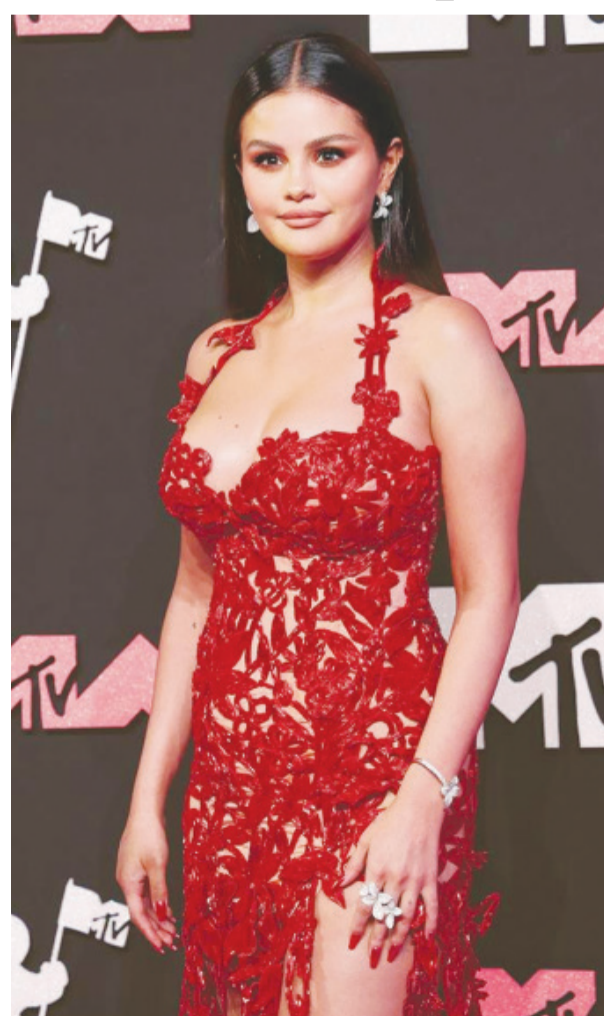
Selena Gomez is 'casually' dating but doesn't want a relationship. The 31-year-old actress, who has had relationships with the likes of pop star Justin Bieber and The Weeknd over the years, is reportedly 'doing well' dating on a laid-back basis but doesn't feel any 'pressure' for things to escalate.

A source said, "Selena is casually dating and doing well. She is doing her own thing and doesn't feel any sort of pressure to be in a relationship."

"She is just focusing on what's best for her right now and has been very in tune with maintaining her own boundaries. Her friends and family support her and just want her to be happy."

Earlier this year, the former Disney Channel actress was thought to have struck up a relationship with singer Andrew Taggart, but she took to social media in an apparent attempt to quash the rumours. In a now-deleted post, she wrote on Instagram: "I like being alone too much #iamsingle."

It was reported that the *Only Murders in the*



Building actress and Drew had recently started seeing each other, and their burgeoning romance is 'very casual and low-key' for the time being.

An insider spilled, "They aren't trying to

hide their romance by sneaking around at members only clubs." Sources claimed that the brunette and the *Chainsmokers* star "go bowling and to the movies" when they go on dates together.

## Ambulances ready, road being repaired to rush workers trapped in Silkyara tunnel to hospital

*A separate ward comprising 41 oxygen-supported beds has been readied at the community health centre in Chinyalisaur, about 30 km from Silkyara, for the workers*

UTTARKASHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): With just five metres left to achieve a breakthrough in digging through the rubble of the Silkyara tunnel, preparations got underway on Tuesday to rush the trapped workers to a hospital for immediate medical care following their rescue.

A separate ward comprising 41 oxygen-supported beds has been readied at the community health centre in Chinyalisaur, about 30 km from Silkyara, for the workers.

The road outside the tunnel, which became uneven due to regular movement of heavy vehicles over the past fortnight was being repaired and a fresh layer of soil was being laid for smooth movement of ambulances.

Senior police officers briefed the security personnel outside the tunnel to spring into action



the moment workers start coming out of the escape passage being prepared for them.

Pipes have been inserted up to 52 metres through the rubble at Silkyara tunnel, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said on Tuesday as efforts to rescue the 41 workers

trapped there continued for the 17th day.

The breakthrough point is 57 metres, he told reporters in Silkyara.

Rescuers need to dig through around 10 metres of rubble using rat-hole mining technique to bring out the workers. This

drilling was earlier carried out by a huge auger machine that got stuck in the rubble on Friday at around 47 metres.

A skilled team of workers began removing the muck by hand using the rat-hole mining technique on Monday while 800-mm diameter pipes were being pushed through the rubble by an auger machine.

"Pipe has gone in up to 52 metres. Earlier, it was at 51 metres. It was pushed one metre further in my presence. It will be pushed two metres more to 54 metres after which one more pipe will be laid," Dhama said.

When asked whether there were hurdles on the way, he said steel and iron girders were not being encountered. "Stones are coming in the way but they are being broken using cutters," the chief minister said.

## Supreme Court refuses to entertain DMK minister Balaji's plea seeking bail on health grounds

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to entertain the bail plea of DMK minister V Senthil Balaji, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in a money-laundering case.

Balaji had sought the bail on health grounds.

The top court was hearing an appeal against an order of the Madras High Court which dismissed his bail plea on October 19, saying he was likely to influence witnesses if enlarged on bail.

An apex court bench of Justices Bela M Trivedi and SC Sharma, after perusing the health reports, said there was



nothing serious in his health condition and granted liberty to Balaji to approach the trial court to seek regular bail.

"Any observation made in the interim order against the petitioner on merits shall not come in the way of the petitioner in filing regular bail application," the bench said.

As the bench expressed disinclination to entertain the matter, the plea was withdrawn and the matter dismissed as withdrawn.

The top court had earlier directed Balaji to place on record his medical reports.

While dismissing the bail plea, the high court had said from the health report of Balaji it did not appear to be a medical condition which could be taken care of only if he was released on bail.

Balaji was arrested on June 14 by the ED in a money-laundering case linked to a cash-for-jobs scam when he was the transport minister during the earlier AIADMK regime.

## 6-year-old girl charred to death, 4 seriously injured in major fire in Jharkhand's Hazaribag

HAZARIBAG, Nov 28 (Agencies): A six-year-old girl was charred to death and four others suffered grievous burn injuries in a major fire that broke out in Jharkhand's Hazaribag town, police said on Tuesday.

The incident took place in a busy market area on Malviya Marg where people had lit 'diyas' (earthen lamps) on the occasion of Kartik Purnima on Monday evening.

The fire broke out in a private residence in the market area and quickly spread to adjoining buildings, the district's SP Manoj Ratan Chouthi said, adding



the blaze was doused after five hours of fire-fight that continued well past midnight.

A six-year-old girl, identified as Annu, was killed and four others were seriously injured, he said.

The officer said the injured persons are

undergoing treatment at a private hospital and their condition is stated to be critical.

The entire area was cordoned off during firefighting operations, he said, adding further investigation is underway to ascertain what triggered the blaze.

## Relief for Kerala: Six-year-old Abigail Sara found, twenty hours after she was kidnapped

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Nov 28 (Agencies): Kerala finally breathed a sigh of relief as Abigail Sara Reji, a six-year-old girl hailing from Oyoor, was found abandoned near an Ashramam ground in Kollam.

The child was reportedly dropped there by the gang that had kidnapped her when she was en route to a tuition class with her eight-year-old brother on Monday evening.

One of the local residents said the child was dropped off by a woman in the car. Abigail appeared healthy and was taken to the AR Police camp.

The police had initiated an extensive probe into the incident and extended their manhunt across the state.

Police had managed to release the sketch of the kidnapper, but no breakthrough has been achieved even 20 hours after the shocking incident, which has



sent ripples in the society.

On Tuesday morning, three men were picked up for questioning from Thiruvananthapuram. Though initial reports hinted that their detention could be in connection with the kidnapping case, the police later clarified that they were not involved in the incident.

The police raided a car washing centre at Sreekanthapuram by

around 6.30 am.

Three individuals, including the car washing centre owner Pratheesh and a Sreekaryam native, were taken into custody. Reports indicate that police found 19 bundles of Rs 500 in a bag at the centre, which comes to the tune of about Rs 7.5 lakh.

"As we intensified the search for the child, we came across these men, some of them having criminal antecedents. They are

not involved in this crime, but we took them in for some other cases," said a police officer.

Though the police are giving a pan-Kerala attention to the case, Kollam and neighbouring districts remain keenly watched by the police. In addition to Paripally and Pullikkal, which are in Kollam, the police have extended their investigation to inter-state border areas in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts as well.

South Zone IG Sparjan Kumar had earlier said that the investigation is being pursued from all angles. The police have identified a white Desire car in CCTV footage, though confirmation of its connection to the abduction is pending.

The proof revealed that a fake number plate was used by the kidnappers while committing the offence.

## 'Don't be so narrow-minded': SC dismisses plea seeking ban on Pakistan artists to work in India

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed a plea seeking a complete ban on artists from Pakistan to perform or work in India, and asked the petitioner not to be "so narrow-minded".

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti said it was not inclined to interfere with the Bombay High Court order which junked the plea filed by Faazil Anwar Qureshi, who claims to be a cine worker and artiste.

"You should not press this appeal. Do not be so narrow-minded," the bench said.

The top court also refused the submis-

sion to expunge certain remarks made by the high court against the petitioner.

The petition had sought the court's direction to the central government to impose a complete ban on Indian citizens, companies, firms and associations from employing or soliciting any work or performance, taking any services, or entering into any association and so on with any Pakistani artiste, including its cine workers, singers, musicians, lyricists and technicians.

The Bombay High Court had dismissed the petition, saying the relief it seeks is a retrograde step in promoting



cultural harmony, unity and peace, and has no merit in it.

"One must understand that in order to be a patriot, one need not be inimical to those from abroad especially, from the neighbouring country," the court had said.

"A true patriot is a person who is selfless, who is devoted to the

cause of his country, which he cannot be unless he is a person who is good at heart. A person who is good at heart would welcome in his country any activity which promotes peace, harmony, and tranquillity within the country and across the border," it had said.

Arts, music, sports,

culture, dance and so on are the activities that rise above nationalities, cultures and nations, and truly bring about peace, tranquillity, unity and harmony in the nation and between nations, the high court had said in its order.

It had noted that in the Cricket World Cup, Pakistan was a participant.

This happened only because of appreciable positive steps taken by the Indian government in the interest of overall peace and harmony in consonance with Article 51 of the Constitution of India which is about the promotion of international peace and security, the high court had said.

## 13-year-old girl kidnapped from UP village, raped in Hyderabad, accused arrested



BALLIA, Nov 28 (Agencies): A 13-year-old girl was allegedly kidnapped by a man from a village in Uttar Pradesh's Ballia district and taken to Hyderabad where she was raped for almost a week, police said on Tuesday.

The girl was rescued on November 25 from an area under the

Maniyar police station in Ballia, while the man (19) was arrested on November 27 from the local bus station, they said.

Police said the man used to live in the girl's neighbourhood.

He has been sent to jail, they said.

Maniyar Station House Officer (SHO) Mantosh

Singh said she was kidnapped on November 18, and a case under pertinent sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered on a complaint from her father.

In her statement, the girl said the man kidnapped her, took her to Hyderabad and raped her for almost a week, the SHO said.

Following the girl's statement, section 376 (rape) of the IPC as well as relevant provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act were added to the case.

## Delhi Man Arrested For Sending Obscene Texts To Random Women

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): The Delhi Police has arrested a 28-year-old man for allegedly sending sexually charged messages to several girls and solicit their intimate pictures, an officer said on Tuesday.

The arrest came following a complaint a woman had filed on November 30 last year alleging a man sent her "obscene" messages on WhatsApp and insisted she share her private images, said the officer.

After the complaint,

the man was booked under charges of sexual harassment, stalking, as well as for using words or gestures that may insult a woman.

"Further investigation was taken up. During investigation we got to know that the accused was operating from Croatia," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) Rohit Meena said.

On November 23, the man was traced in east Delhi's Pandav Nagar in Delhi.

"A raid was conduct-

ed and police arrested Rohit Kumar from Ganesh Nagar area. We have recovered mobile phone used for the crime from possession of accused.

"During investigation it was revealed that accused Rohit Kumar sent obscene messages to random girls and when any girl replied to the message, he through various means pressurised them for obscene acts on phone. We have also seized his passport," said the DCP.

## BJP slams Muslim body for objecting to burqa-clad women walking the ramp in college

LUCKNOW, Nov 28 (Agencies): The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday slammed the Jamiat-e-Ulema for objecting to a fashion show led by Muslim women at a college in Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar.

Party MLA, Sidharth Nath Singh, while speaking to news agency, said that Jamiat-e-Ulema should show if it is written in the Quran that burqa-clad women cannot walk on the ramp in a fashion show. He also advised



the Muslim organisation not to make an issue of it. "If it is written in the Quran, they should go and show it to the school authorities. If it is

not written in the Quran, they should not object to it," he said.

He said various types of attires get accepted in society through

ramp walks and fashion shows. "In today's society, through ramp walk, it (different types of attires) gets acceptance. If they have anything in

the Quran, they should go to school and show it to them. The school authorities will then decide accordingly," Singh said.

His response came after Maulana Mukarram Qasmi, the district convener of Jamiat-e-Ulema, on Monday expressed disapproval of the event, stating that the burqa is not an item for fashion display. He said such an act targets a specific religion, potentially hurting the sentiments of the Muslim community.

## Netanyahu gets list of hostages to be freed today as truce extended by 2 days

JERUSALEM/GAZA, Nov 28 (Agencies): As the truce between Israel and Hamas was extended for another two days, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office has received a list of hostages who are set to be released on Tuesday, The Times of Israel reported.

Qatar, which mediated the ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas, announced the extension of the four-day truce that was initially supposed to end on Monday night. Hamas members are now drawing up a new list of hostages held in Gaza after the truce extension.

Arab states and the European Union agreed on the need for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict during a meeting in Spain on Monday (local time). The two-state solution calls for establishing an independent nation of Palestine alongside that of Israel.

At the Union for the Mediterranean summit in Spain's Barcelona, EU foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell stressed that the Palestinian Authority should rule Gaza, asserting that it was the only "viable solution", news agency Reuters reported.

Meanwhile, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will again go on a whirlwind trip to the Middle East and Europe from Monday to Saturday, the State Department said. He will visit Belgium, North Macedonia, Israel, the West Bank and the UAE.



Here are the top developments so far:

Hamas released 11 more hostages, all of them being women and children who were abducted when the Palestinian terror group attacked Israel on October 7. The captives were handed over to the Red Cross and then to Israeli security agencies. In return, Israel released 33 Palestinians.

So far, Hamas has released 69 hostages, both Israelis and non-Israelis for the last three days, while Israel has freed around 150 Palestinians amid the two-day truce extension.

The US State Department said Blinken, during his visit to Israel and the West Bank, would discuss the ongoing efforts to secure the release of remaining captives held by Hamas in Gaza, humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian enclave and Israel's right to defend itself while protecting civilian lives.

This will be Blinken's third visit to the region since October 7, when Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel and killed around 1,200 people and took some 240 people as hostages. Israel, on the other hand, bombarded Gaza and initiated a ground assault in the north, killing nearly 15,000 Palestinians. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the extended truce between Israel and Hamas was a "glimpse of hope and humanity". But he expressed his concern that it may not be enough to meet aid need targets in Gaza.

All aid supplies have been going to the besieged enclave through the Rafah border crossing in Egypt and the UN wants the relief trucks to pass through the Kerem Shalom border crossing, controlled by Israel.

"I strongly hope that this will enable us to increase even more the humanitarian aid to the people in Gaza that (are) suffering so much - knowing that

even with that additional amount of time, it will be impossible to satisfy all the dramatic needs of the population," Guterres was quoted by Reuters as saying while speaking to reporters.

The White House welcomed the extended truce in fighting between Israeli forces and Hamas in Gaza and said President Joe Biden has been "deeply engaged" in the process, speaking to the Emir of Qatar and Netanyahu.

"The White House welcomes the extended pause in military operations in Gaza until Thursday morning that was just announced by Qatar. The extended pause will allow for the release of another twenty Israeli hostages held by Hamas and the flow of additional humanitarian aid into the war-torn region," White House spokesperson John Kirby said.

"As many as 200 trucks with humanitarian aid passed through the Rafah crossing this weekend and 137 UN trucks carrying aid arrived at the reception point in Gaza," he added.

Biden on Monday wrote on X and reiterated the need for a two-state solution to the conflict, asserting it was the only way to guarantee the long-term security of the Israeli and the Palestinian people.

"To make sure Israelis and Palestinians alike live in equal measure of freedom and dignity, we will not give up on working towards that goal," he said.

## South Korea delays its first military spy satellite, days after North's satellite launch

SEOUL, Nov 28 (Agencies): South Korea has postponed the planned launch of its first military spy satellite set for this Thursday, officials said, days after rival North Korea claimed to put its own spy satellite into orbit for the first time.

Under a contract with SpaceX, South Korea is to launch five spy satellites by 2025, and its first launch using SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket had been scheduled to take place at California's Vandenberg Air Force Base in the United States (US).

The South Korean Defence Ministry said in a brief statement on Tuesday that the launch was delayed due to weather conditions. Ministry officials said that the launch was tentatively rescheduled for this Saturday but it wasn't a fixed date.

South Korea currently has no military reconnaissance satellites of its own and partially resorts to US spy satellites to monitor moves by North Korea.

After two launch failures earlier this year, North Korea said it successfully placed its 'Mal-

ligyong-1' spy satellite into orbit on November 21. South Korea said it has confirmed that the satellite entered orbit, but said it needs more time to verify whether it is working properly.

North Korea said, on Tuesday, leader Kim Jong Un reviewed imagery taken by the Mallygyong-1 satellite of the White House and the Pentagon in Washington and US aircraft carriers at a navy base and a shipyard in Virginia. North Korea earlier said the satellite also transmitted photos of US military facilities in Guam and Hawaii and key sites in South Korea.

North Korea hasn't yet released those satellite photos. Outside experts remain sceptical about whether the North Korean satellite can send high-resolution imagery and perform proper military reconnaissance.

The North Korean launch invited strong condemnations from South Korea, the US, Japan, and others. It violated United Nations Security Council resolutions that ban any satellite lift-offs by North

Korea because they are considered disguised tests of the country's long-range missile technology.

Kim has said spy satellites would allow his country to better monitor its rivals and enhance the precision-strike capability of its nuclear-capable missiles.

The satellite launch flamed animosities between the rival Koreas, with both nations taking steps to breach their previous military agreement meant to ease frontline military tensions.

Spy satellites were among the high-tech weapon systems that Kim has publicly vowed to introduce. Since last year, North Korea has conducted about 100 ballistic missile tests in part of efforts to modernize its arsenal of weapons targeting South Korea and the US.

In response, South Korea and the US have expanded their military training and enhanced 'regular visibility' of US strategic assets such as aircraft carriers, nuclear-capable bombers, and a nuclear-armed submarine to the Korean Peninsula.

## Elevator drop at platinum mine in South Africa kills 11 workers, injures 75

*The country had 49 fatalities from all mining accidents in 2022, a decrease from 74 the year before.*

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 28 (Agencies): An elevator suddenly dropped while carrying workers to the surface in a platinum mine in South Africa, killing 11 and injuring 75, the mine operator said Tuesday.

It happened Monday evening at the end of the workers' shift at a mine in the northern city of Rustenburg. The injured workers were hospitalized.

Impala Platinum Holdings (Implats) CEO Nico Muller said in a statement it was "the darkest day in the history of Implats." Implats said



an investigation had already begun into what caused the elevator to drop.

South Africa is the world's largest producer of platinum.

The country had 49 fatalities from all mining accidents in 2022, a

decrease from 74 the year before. Deaths from South African mining accidents have steadily decreased in the last two decades from nearly 300 in the year 2000, according to South African government figures.

## 127 Malaysians, suspected to be victims of job scams, rescued from Myanmar fighting

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 28 (Agencies): More than 120 suspected victims of job scams have been rescued after being stranded by fighting in northern Myanmar between the military and armed ethnic groups, Malaysia's government said.

The number of Malaysians rescued surged from an initial 26 to 127 in the past few days, Foreign Minister Zambry Abd Kadir told local media late Monday before flying to New York.

He said they are in a safe location and the government hoped to fly them home by Thursday. The foreign ministry earlier said the group were stranded in Laukaing, a town known as a notorious hub for online scams, gambling and other major organized crimes.

Fighting has continued in northern Myanmar after an alliance of armed ethnic minority groups launched a surprise offensive last month. They have seized control of several border



crossings to China, in a major disruption to trade.

Zambry said the ministry was asked to help evacuate an Indonesian and a Hong Kong citizen from the area. He said the duo will be flown out with the Malaysians. He thanked China and Myanmar authorities for their help in the operation but didn't give further details.

A government official who declined to be named as he isn't authorized to speak to the media said Tuesday that based

on initial information, the 127 Malaysians were lured to the area by fraud job offers. He said details of the rescue operation and their evacuation couldn't be released yet due to the sensitivity of the case and the various parties involved.

Earlier this month, 266 Thai victims of human traffickers, several Filipinos and a Singaporean were also rescued from Laukaing and taken to China's Kunming city, where they boarded chartered flights to Bangkok.

Another group of 41 Thais were also reportedly repatriated across the land border.

Unrest in Myanmar's border region has been a constant irritant to China, despite its support for the country's military rulers who took power in a takeover in 2021.

Beijing earlier this week called for a cease-fire in Myanmar but said it will continue live-firing drills on its side of the frontier to prepare for any emergency. Chinese police have reportedly fired tear gas to drive away people who were sheltering close to the border fence.

China is highly wary of conflicts spilling over the border which is already rife with drug trafficking and people smuggling. Cyber-crime targeting Chinese victims has become a major concern, and China has pushed hard to eliminate the groups based in Myanmar and other countries and to send the perpetrators back to China for prosecution.

## "Children Are Addicted": Australia To Ban Disposable Vapes Imports

*The block on single-use vapes is aimed at reversing a "disturbing" increase in vaping among young people, Health Minister Mark Butler said.*

SYDNEY, Nov 28 (Agencies): Australia will ban imports of disposable vapes from January 1, the government said Tuesday, in a crackdown quickly welcomed by doctors.

The block on single-use vapes is aimed at reversing a "disturbing" increase in vaping among young people, Health Minister Mark Butler said.

Australia first revealed the import ban in May but had not given a start date until now.

Vaping had been sold to governments as a way to help long-term smokers quit, Butler said.

"It was not sold as a recreational product, especially not one targeted to our kids, but that is what it has become," the minister

said.

"The great majority of vapes contain nicotine, and children are becoming addicted."

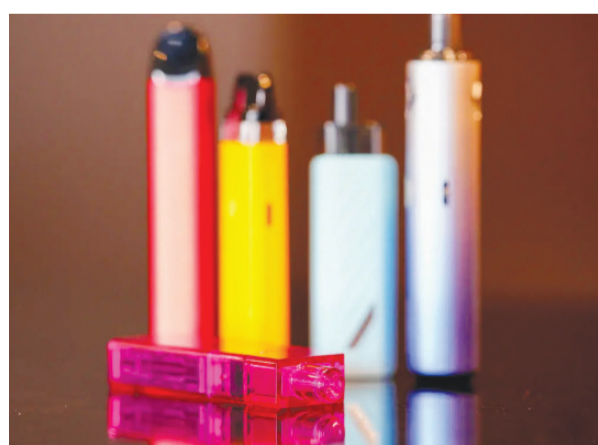
About one in seven children aged 14-17 uses vapes, the government said in a statement.

It cited "consistent evidence" that young Australians who vape are about three times more likely to take up tobacco smoking.

Legislation will also be introduced in 2024 to outlaw the manufacture, advertising or supply of disposable vapes in Australia, the government said.

The import ban was hailed by the Australian Medical Association.

"Australia has been a world leader in reducing smoking rates and the subsequent health



harms, so the government's decisive action to stop vaping in its tracks and prevent further harm is very welcome," said the association's president, Steve Robson.

"Dangerous gateway" The government said it was also introducing a scheme to enable doctors and nurses to prescribe vapes "where clinically appropriate" from January 1.

Australia has a long record of fighting smoking.

In 2012, it became the first country to introduce "plain packaging" laws for cigarettes - a policy since copied by France, Britain and others.

High taxes have pushed up the price of a packet to about Aus\$50 (US\$33).

Neighbouring New Zealand until recently

stood alongside Australia at the forefront of the battle.

But its new conservative coalition government, which took power this week, has now promised to scrap a so-called "generational smoking ban" that would have stopped sales of tobacco to anyone born after 2008.

For some people who would otherwise never have smoked, vaping is a "dangerous gateway" to tobacco smoking, said Kim Caudwell, senior lecturer in psychology at Australia's Charles Darwin University.

"So you can understand how at the population level, increased vaping and a resurgence of tobacco use will impact population health in the future."

## 10 Dead, 2,500 Rescued After Severe Storms Hit Ukraine

*Southern Ukraine was the worst affected, particularly the Black Sea region of Odesa. Cars and buses slid off frozen roads into fields and police battled high winds to tow the vehicles out.*



KYIV, Nov 28 (Agencies): Ten people have died in snowstorms in Ukraine, Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said on Tuesday, after icy winds and storms swept the country since Sunday, cutting power and blocking roads.

Southern Ukraine was the worst affected,

particularly the Black Sea region of Odesa. Cars and buses slid off frozen roads into fields and police battled high winds to tow the vehicles out.

"As a result of worsening weather conditions, 10 people died in Odesa, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv and Kyiv regions,"

Klymenko wrote on the Telegram app.

"Twenty-three people were injured, including two children," he added.

A total of 411 settlements in 11 regions had lost power, and more than 1,500 vehicles had to be rescued, Klymenko said.

Oleh Kiper, governor of the Odesa region where five people died due to the weather, said nearly 2,500 people had been rescued after becoming trapped by the snow.

"849 vehicles have been towed out, including 24 buses and 17 ambulances," Kiper wrote on the Telegram app, adding that over 300 settlements in his region were without power.



## Recognizing Punjabi Language as one of official languages in J&K on top agenda: Bukhari



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari on Tuesday said that recognizing Punjabi language as one of official languages in Jammu and Kashmir is on top agenda of his Party.

"It is on our agenda to recognize Punjabi language as one of the official languages in Jammu and Kashmir. The language has a huge contribution and it is spoken by people from all the communities in most regions of Jammu and Kashmir," said Altaf Bukhari, speaking at a joining program here at Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The program was organized by Women Wing, Provincial President, Jammu, Pavneet Kour.

In presence of the Apni Party President, prominent Sikh Community social activist Inderpal Singh with his supporters Surinder Singh, Ranjit Singh, Bila Pardan, Paramjit Singh, Bachan Kumar, Ajit Singh and others joined the Apni Party.

They were welcomed into the party folds by the Party President.

While welcoming the new entrants into the Party fold, Altaf Bukhari hoped that their joining would strengthen the Party at the ground level, and in future too, the people from all walks of life will continue to join the Party.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that the issues of the Sikh Community will be resolved by the Party and no one will be left to suffer with

no representation.

Referring to the demand of recognizing Punjabi language as official languages, he assured the new entrants and other leaders of Sikh Community that it is in their top priority to recognize Punjabi language as one of the official languages in Jammu and Kashmir.

He recalled the contribution of the language in Jammu and Kashmir in literature, and culture having historical traces.

He also appealed to the Govt to give representation to the Sikh Community members from each region in the Legislative Assembly.

"Apni Party is committed to work for all the communities for their social, economic, and political upliftment by providing them equal representation," he said.

He appealed to the parents that they shall teach their children Punjabi language so that it can be revived as per the wishes of the community, beside other languages.

Elaborating how the Apni Party was founded, he recalled that his Party was founded when the traditional political parties left the people of Jammu and Kashmir in the atmosphere of hopelessness following the abrogation of Art 370 and Art 35A.

He further stated that "At the time when other parties were not ready to represent the people, the Apni Party moved forward to keep J&K united and represented the people even after facing baseless allegations. Accordingly,

we went to Delhi and met the Prime Minister of India as well as the Union Home Minister to highlight the concerns of the general masses."

He further stated that his Party represented the people in Delhi so that the emerging issues could be resolved following the abrogation of Art 370 and Art 35A.

"Therefore, his Party was able to get protection of land and jobs for the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

As far as the concerns of the people regarding deepening electricity crisis, he said that his Party had raised the issue following which the Lt Governor of J&K Manoj Sinha took initiative to resolve the issue and accordingly, held a meeting to purchase electricity to resolve the issue of electricity shortage.

He said that there is a need to purchase more electricity for Jammu and Kashmir regions to meet the growing demand in the wake of the harsh winter season.

He further stated that the Apni Party is committed to continue the struggle for statehood and sought holding of Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, he said that "If we come to power, we will hold a fair recruitment process for various posts in Jammu and Kashmir and accordingly, the health and education sectors will be improved by deploying adequate staff to overcome shortage of staff and improving infrastructure in these institutions."

## Webinar on 'Career Guidance on Financial Wellness' held at Govt Women Polytechnic

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Government Polytechnic for Women, Jammu on Tuesday organized a webinar on "Career Guidance on Financial Wellness Enhancement, Educational and Motivational" in collaboration with Excellence Global Skill, training and Development Organization, New Delhi for the students.

The webinar was conducted under the guidance of Er. Suket Gupta, Principal, Government Polytechnic for Women, Jammu, while speaking on the occasion said that the

financial wellness is a state of being in which you can fully meet your current and future financial obligations while feeling secure in your financial future and making choices that allow you to enjoy life.

Jagdish Mane (Corporate Trainer) was the resource person of webinar and explained the main objective of financial management.

Er. Abdul Hamid Malik, Lecturer Grade-I Computer Engineering was the programme coordinator of this webinar. The webinar was attended by the staff and students of Govt. Polytechnic for women, Jammu.

## Symposium on 'The Constitution and Gender Equality' organized by The Law School, JU



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: To commemorate celebration of Constitution Day a Symposium on "Constitution and Gender Equality" was organized in The Law School, University of Jammu (JU) on Tuesday.

The symposium commenced with the pledge taken by the faculty and students of the department by reading the Preamble of the Constitution.

Dr Monika Bhardwaj, Assistant Professor welcomed the gathering and deliberated on the theme and highlighted on the essence of our collective endeavours and objective to achieve gender equality.

Prof. Manju Jamwal, Director The Law School delivered the Presidential Address. She highlighted the importance of goals of Equality of Status and Opportunity read with Justice to all as enshrined in the 'The Preamble of the Constitution of India' and spoke at length about many gender specific legislations and contribution of judiciary in maintaining

gender equality jurisprudence in India.

Stressing upon the need to follow fundamental duties enshrined in the Constitution, she emphasised the need to have gender sensitive society.

The programme was followed by participation from the students on the said theme of the Symposium.

The participants discussed in depth into the constitutional provisions on gender equality.

Dr. Seema Sharma, Associate professor gave an insight into the widening gender gap in India even after adoption of various provisions and schemes for women empowerment.

Dr Monica Narang, Associate Professor emphasised the need for the right kind of education to prevent the reinforcement of gender-stereo-types.

A formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Nitin Sharma, Assistant Professor. The programme was attended by around two hundred students and faculty members of the department.

## Army conducts Drugmulla Premier League 2023; Sultan Warrior lifts trophy



### Top News Report

KUPWARA, Nov 28: In a significant initiative to promote sports and community bonding, the Indian Army organised Drugmulla Premier League, which was held from November 22 to 28, 2023.

A total of eight teams participated with teams fielded from local areas of Anderhama, Muquamshah Wali, Gund and Chailpati. All the matches were held at Anderhama Middle School Cricket Ground. The finals was played

between Anderhama Cricket Club and Sultan Warriors Durgmullah.

DPL 2023 is a testament to the Army's commitment to fostering talent and strengthening ties with the local community.

The League provided a platform for local cricket enthusiasts, reinforcing the bond between Indian Army and the community.

The league showcased the cricketing prowess of talented players from the region, providing them with an opportunity to shine.

Beyond the cricketing field, this league aimed to build bridges and create lasting connections within the community.

The nail-biting final match made Sultan Warriors Drugmulla the winners and their triumph was a fitting conclusion to this outstanding sporting event. The league was a celebration of talent, sportsmanship and community spirit and it exemplified the Indian Army's dedication to empowering the youth and promoting unity and camaraderie.

## Divisional Level Inter District Cricket Competition for U-17 girls begins



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Nov 28: Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Udhampur on Tuesday organized a Divisional Level Inter District Cricket competition in Leather Ball for Girl's U-17 years which was held at Subash Stadium with the motive of inculcating sportsmanship and sports spirit among the participants.

The competition was held under the patronage of Director YSS J&K

UT Subash Chander Chibber and chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai and also under the supervision of DYSSO Udhampur Ramesh Chander Mishra.

Earlier, ZPEO Pushpinder Kour, DYSS Office Udhampur interacted with the participants and officials.

The officer encouraged the efforts put forth by the department officials and also motivated the participants to keep on participating in differ-

ent games and sports for holistic development.

About 75 girl participants drawn from five districts of Jammu division are participating in the competition.

All the matches were conducted by the technical experts from DYSS Department under the convenorship of Vinod Kumar Kahjuria (convenor), Raj Kumar Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Rakesh Kahjuria, Raman Kumar, Rakesh, Sourab Pandit, Deepak Sharma, Ishang Bandral and Ashok.

Others present on the occasion were Raj Kumar Gupta, Ajit Singh, Romesh Chander (Activity Incharge), Somdev Khajuria, Anita Goswami, Rajan (Head Assistant), Karun Magotra, Abdul Qadir and Munazim Asif Malik.

Today's results: Doda beat Samba by 73 runs; Udhampur beat Kathua by 137 runs and entered into the finals.

## FROM PAGE 1

## Copper wires stolen, darkness descends on Jammu streets

accommodation of high profile officers is located.

Meanwhile, the officials have lodged police complaints regarding theft of wires and other material installed under the Smart City Project.

## 7 students rightly booked under prevention of unlawful activities act: J&K Police

pro-Pakistan slogans. It is about the full context in which the sloganeering took place. These slogans, as has usually been the case with select few bullies, were aired to intimidate those who disagreed and also to identify and vilify those who choose to keep a distance.

"It is also about normalising the abnormal, that everyone hates India (as different from the government of the day and party in power) openly. This abnormal and false thing is practiced mostly on the back of separatist and terrorist networks.

"In other words, the aim is not airing personal preference of a particular sporting team. It is not about dissent or freedom of expression. It is about terrorising others who may be nourishing pro-India feelings or anti-Pakistan feelings or disagreeing. There were written complaints to evidence this.

"The second aspect is, application of the right law. Section 13 of UAPA is about inciting, advocating and encouraging separatist ideology. It is not about planning, aiding and executing actual terror acts.

"It classifies such actions as unlawful.

In contrast to other provisions of act it is a softer provision of act. Hence as per the content of the complaints, FIR No. 317/2023 stands registered and section 13 UAPA invoked for inciting and abetting the unlawful activities. Section 505 and 506 IPC too has been invoked for 'public mischief' and 'criminal intimidation' respectively.

"It is pertinent to mention that, the FIR is lodged on the basis of written complaint received and relevant Sections are invoked as per the contents of the complaint", police said.

## Prosecuting officer dismissed for taking Rs 2 lakh bribe from an accused in murder case in Rajouri

The order states that the officer failed in maintaining absolute integrity and acted in a manner unbecoming of a government employee, thereby violating the provisions contained in J&K Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971.

"The act on the part of the officer tantamount to a violation of Rule 3 of J&K Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971," it said.

It added that therefore, in terms of Rule 30(viii) of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956, Shri Aijaz-Ul-Hassan, in charge Senior Prosecuting Officer is dismissed from service, with immediate effect, which will also disqualify him from future employment.

## Army steps up vigil along line of control in Kupwara

The army official further added that this intelligence is promptly analysed and acted upon to neutralise any infiltrators before they can enter Indian territory.

"The soldiers put their lives on the line day in and day out to preserve the integrity of the nation," he added.

Their unwavering commitment and willingness to face any challenge in defence of their motherland deserve utmost respect and admiration, the official added.

The Indian Army said that under Operation GUSHI, a Mobile Vehicle Interception Post (MVIP) was established at Gushi Bridge in Kupwara on Monday.

In a post on X, the Chinara Corps of the Indian Army said, "In a Joint Operation launched by the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police on specific intelligence, a Mobile Vehicle Interception Post (MVIP) was established today at Gushi Bridge at Kupwara where two suspected individuals were apprehended."

"Four hand Grenades, one Pistol with ammunition along with other incriminating materials were recovered," it added.

## Impact of Western Disturbance, Min temp above 2 deg c at most places in Kashmir

Kashmir, it was 3.8 degrees Celsius. Kokernag town registered a low of 2.8 degrees Celsius, according to the officials. They said the tourist destination of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a low of 1.2 degrees Celsius, while it was 3 degrees Celsius in Kupwara town in north Kashmir.

The weather is generally cloudy at most places of Jammu and Kashmir and it will likely remain such with light rain or snow at isolated places on Tuesday, the officials said.

They said Jammu and Kashmir is set to be impacted by another Western Disturbance from Tuesday, bringing light to moderate rain or snow across the Union Territory.

From Wednesday, there are chances of light to moderate rain or snow at fairly widespread places with the possibility of thunderstorms or lightning at a few places over the next three days, they said.

While snowfall in the plains is unlikely, even if it does occur, the accumulation is expected to be minimal, they added.

## Eco-Parks in Kupwara attract over one lakh tourists, 1,000 trekkers

the news agency KNO that these parks have become the centre of attention for both locals and visitors from different states. He said that not only locals but tourists also have praised these eco-friendly parks.

During the summer, in addition to tourists and local visitors, several educational institutions and environmental enthusiasts visited the parks to experience the beauty and tranquility they offer, the official said.

He said the eco-parks have played a crucial role in providing livelihood opportunities, with makeshift stalls set up at these locations helping unemployed youth and families earn income as tourist footfall increases.

Developed under government schemes, including Green India Mission and CAMPA, these parks offer various experiences such as nature walks, bird watching, and photography. This year, a total of 1,09,500 tourists visited these parks.

In addition to the eco-parks, Kamraj Forest Division has developed seven trekking routes, including Kalaroose—Z Gali, Kuligam—Zaban, Harwan—Hilltop Zaloor, Watlab—Rajpura—Triumkhan—

Dever, Rampur—Marbal—Yemberzalwari—Harwan, and Affan—Kailwan.

These routes have been carefully developed to preserve the natural beauty, the official said, adding that over 1,100 trekking enthusiasts undertook these routes this year.

The official further said that Kamraj Forest Division plans to develop five more ecotourism parks at various locations to further enhance the region's appeal.

## Human trafficking network busted, Rohingya man among 5 arrested in Bandipora

A senior Police officer said that the accused were involved in trafficking Rohingya women through Bangladesh, arranging marriages with locals within the Union Territory (UT) in exchange for monetary gains.

"The accused trafficked Rohingya women via Bangladesh and got them married to locals in the UT in exchange for money," they added. Meanwhile, the police have taken cognizance of the matter and have started an investigation.

## J&K Govt attaches project officer, wage employment (ACD), Kupwara

Employment (ACD), Kupwara, is hereby attached in the General Administration Department, with immediate effect", reads the order. The attachment of the officer has come as Government has suspended another JKAS Officer currently serving as Regional Director, Survey & Land Records (ex-officio Settlement Officer), Anantnag.

## Markets quote flat in volatile trade

*However, later both the benchmark indices faced volatile trends and were quoting marginally higher.*

MUMBAI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Equity benchmark indices climbed in early trade on Tuesday helped by fresh foreign fund inflows but were later quoting flat due to emergence of volatile trends.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 128.76 points to 66,098.80 in early trade. The Nifty went up 53.35 points to 19,848.05.

However, later both the benchmark indices faced volatile trends and were quoting marginally higher.

Among the Sensex firms, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finserv, Tata Steel, Wipro, Tata Motors, Titan, Asian Paints and State Bank of India were the major



gainers.

HCL Technologies, Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, Infosys and IndusInd Bank were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul and Shanghai traded with gains while Tokyo and Hong Kong quoted lower.

The US markets ended marginally lower on Monday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.29 per cent to USD

80.21 a barrel.

Equity markets were closed on Monday for Guru Nanak Jayanti.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 2,625.21 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

The BSE benchmark declined 47.77 points or 0.07 per cent to settle at 65,970.04 on Friday.

The Nifty slipped 7.30 points or 0.04 per cent to 19,794.70.

## Raymond boss Gautam Singhania writes to board, employees amid messy divorce

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Gautam Singhania, Chairman and Managing Director of Raymond Group, has reached out to the company's board and employees in an internal communication to assure them that the messy divorce settlement proceedings and public fallout with his estranged wife Nawaz Modi will not have any impact on the company and its businesses.

As per the internal email cited in a CNBC-TV18 report, Singhania said he refrained from publicly commenting on the entire episode to uphold the dignity of his family.

"As the media is ripe with news about matters pertaining to my personal life, I am writing to you to say that I have chosen not to comment on the same as maintaining the dignity of my family is paramount to me," he wrote.

He also conveyed that despite facing a challenging personal period, Raymond's operations continue as usual, adding that he remains committed to the smooth functioning of the company and its businesses.

In his letter to employees on Monday, Gautam Singhania assured them that despite the personal challenges, the com-

pany is flourishing, citing its "best quarter in history."

Singhania highlighted recent achievements, including the expansion of the engineering business through the acquisition of MPPL, entry into sectors like aerospace, defense, and electric vehicle components, and securing two significant real estate projects in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

Singhania concluded the letter by reiterating his steadfast commitment to creating value for shareholders and ensuring the well-being of employees, customers, and other stakeholders.

Gautam Singhania publicly announced his separation from Nawaz Modi on November 13, subsequently followed by videos depicting Modi being excluded from a company Diwali party.

In the aftermath, Nawaz Modi publicly accused Gautam Singhania of physical assault, leading to her hospitalisation. The public fallout also led to a decline in Raymond's stock price, shedding over Rs 1,500 crore from its market capitalisation within two weeks.

This was after Nawaz Modi demanded a divorce settlement worth 75 per cent of Singhania's \$1.4 billion net worth. Shares

of Raymond are down over 4 per cent today and have fallen nearly 10 per cent in the past five trading sessions.

However, in an interview to India Today TV, Nawaz Modi indicated that Gautam Singhania had called off the settlement. It is worth noting that Nawaz Modi serves on the boards of several companies, including Raymond, prompting suggestions from experts for the Raymond Group's board to initiate an independent investigation. Some experts proposed that both Singhania and Nawaz temporarily step aside from the board. Meanwhile, in an interview with Business Today TV, former Raymond boss Vijaypat Singhania expressed disappointment regarding the ongoing dispute between his son Gautam Singhania and his wife Nawaz Modi. "It's difficult to describe what one goes through when you see your own family going to this kind of stress. I can only pray to God. He helps to solve these issues," Singhania said. "I hadn't hoped I'd have to see this in my own family," he added.

He also said that it breaks his heart to witness Gautam Singhania "breaking up" the compa-

ny. "He's (Gautam Singhania) breaking up Raymond. It breaks my heart. But I don't interfere. I don't tell him what he should do. He has to live. I have lived my life. I have maybe 2-3 years left," Vijaypat Singhania said.

Assessing the potential adverse effects of the discord on Raymond's reputation, Vijaypat Singhania commented that the outcome hinges on the perceptions of shareholders, bankers, and stakeholders. "Raymond has a very large number of mature, logical shareholders. They can think for themselves. If they see something bad, they react quickly," Singhania said.

"Raymond's name will ultimately depend on how a larger number of shareholders, bankers, buyers, sellers look at it. There are two things in it. One is how they see the issue itself and how it will affect them and they will also look at Raymond's performance and they are not necessarily the same. So, I think it's a very difficult question to answer whether it will affect the Raymond name. We took a long time to build it. It was a very small company making blankets when we bought and then I took over. Today, it has worldwide fame," he added.

## A 'chilly' slump: Mirchi farmers in Andhra Pradesh worry as prices go down amid global market shift

GUNTUR, Nov 28 (Agencies): Mirchi farmers are facing significant distress due to a sharp decline in the prices of various chili varieties over the past ten days.

Guntur marketyard, the largest mirchi yard in Asia, typically maintains its activity even during the off-season. However, a reduction in international demand and production has led to a sluggish business environment, resulting in a notable price drop.

Farmers travelling from distant places, such as Kurnool and Nandyal, with hopes of securing substantial profits, find themselves greatly disappointed.

Sudheer, a merchant at the mirchi yard, attributes the sudden price decline to the slow pace of international marketing during this period and the adverse impact of deficient rainfall on mirchi cultivation this season. Uncertainty looms over the total mirchi cultivation, affecting arrivals at the mirchi yard in the upcoming season from February to May.

Market experts anticipate that the decreased cultivation this season may lead to an increased demand in the subsequent mirchi season, potentially causing a price surge of 30 to 40 per cent. This optimistic



outlook could be beneficial for mirchi farmers and traders, countering the recent price drop. Local traders report over 40 lakh bags of mirchi stored in cold storage facilities in the area.

Meanwhile, farmers arriving from distant

locations to sell their produce express dejection over the abrupt price decline.

According to local merchants, prices for all mirchi varieties have decreased by Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000 in the past few days.

## Apple iPhone maker Foxconn to invest USD 1.5 billion in India

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Taiwanese contract manufacturer Foxconn plans to invest \$1.54 billion in India, as the country doubles down on local manufacturing.

In a stock exchange filing, Foxconn said that the investment will help it fulfil "operational needs." The company, however, did not provide further details.

Foxconn is the main assembler of Apple iPhones and both companies are keen to move away from China and create alternative supply chains.

Foxconn already has an iPhone factory in Tamil Nadu, which employs 40,000



people and has signed an agreement to invest Rs 1,600 crore in a new electronics components unit in the state that will create 6,000 jobs.

The company has also announced that it will be investing an additional Rs 3,300 crore in its manufacturing facility in Telangana. This will take the total investment of the company in the state to more than Rs 4,550 crore.

In September, Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government was "fully committed" to support Taiwanese electronics giant Foxconn's ambitious plans to double its manufacturing capacity in the country.

"Fully committed to support and facilitate," Vaishnaw said on X in response to Foxconn India representative V Lee's LinkedIn post to

mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 73rd birthday in which he said the company was "aiming for another doubling of employment, FDI (foreign direct investment), and business size in India" by this time next year.

Foxconn chairman Young Liu had visited India recently to attend the 'SemiconIndia 2023' event hosted for global semiconductor companies that was inaugurated by PM Modi in Gandhinagar.

Speaking at the event, the Foxconn chairman said, "I can feel the determination of the Indian government. I am very optimistic about where it's headed."

## First human case of swine flu A(H1N2)v has been detected in UK

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Health officials in the UK are closely examining the first confirmed case of a new strain of swine flu, identified as A(H1N2)v.

The infection surfaced during a routine flu screening test at a general practitioner in North Yorkshire complaining of breathing problems. The individual exhibited respiratory symptoms, experienced a mild illness and has fully recovered.

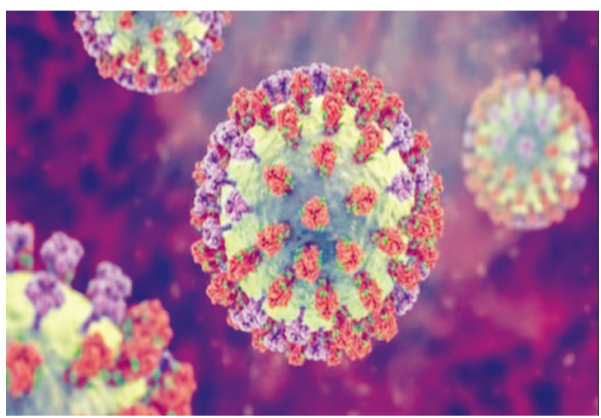
The affected person is not known to have had contact with pigs.

Ongoing investigations aim to determine the source of the infection and assess its potential risk to human health. Despite global reports of 50 cases of A(H1N2)v in the past two decades, this case in the UK is slightly different from recent global human swine flu cases but is similar to viruses found in UK pigs.

In response to the case, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) plans to enhance surveillance in the North Yorkshire region.

Dr Meera Chand, Incident Director at the UKHSA, said that routine flu surveillance and genome sequencing led to the early detection of the new virus strain.

"We are working rap-



idly to trace close contacts and reduce any potential spread. In accordance with established protocols, investigations are underway to learn how the individual acquired the infection and to assess whether there are any further associated cases," the Indian-origin microbiologist was quoted as saying by news agency.

All about the A(H1N2)v swine flu strain

Primarily affecting the respiratory system, symptoms of this illness necessitate individuals to take precautionary measures.

If someone exhibits symptoms, their initial action should be to minimise contact with others, particularly individuals who are elderly or have pre-existing medical conditions.

H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2 are major subtypes of swine flu A viruses in pigs and occasionally infect humans.

It's important to note

the distinction between the H1N1 strain, responsible for the 2009 swine flu pandemic, and the A(H1N2)v strain.

The latter, classified as an influenza A subtype, is prevalent in seven different species, including humans, birds and pigs. Typically, these strains tend to remain within their respective species.

More about swine flu

Swine flu is often transferred from pigs to humans via direct contact but only in rare cases does it spread between humans.

The UKHSA's advice for all respiratory symptoms remains - avoid contact with others while they persist, particularly if they are old or have existing medical conditions.

## Health digest: Don't sleep on it!

*While sleeping, one's body tends to our physical and mental health needs. It basically gets you ready for another day.*

KOCHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Sleep is vital to maintain proper brain functioning. Sleeping is as essential as breathing and eating. Sleep deprivation is dangerous to our mental and physical health, and can dramatically lower our quality of life. The quality of your sleep directly affects the quality of your awake life, including your mental sharpness, productivity, emotional balance, creativity, physical vitality, and body weight.

In fact, no other activity delivers so many benefits with so little effort! While sleeping, one's body tends to our physical and mental health needs. It basically gets you ready for another day. Even minimal sleep loss takes a toll on your mood, energy, and ability to handle stress.

A side effect of sleep deprivation is 'micro-sleep', during which one dozes off for some seconds or a few minutes, without realising it. Microsleep can be extremely dangerous - even fatal - if one is driving or engaged in high-risk activities.

Microsleep usually lasts under 30 seconds. One might have multiple microsleep episodes in a short span. However,



one does not realise this as a period of sleep needs to last at least a minute for the brain to register it.

Personal and public safety comes under threat when certain professionals experience microsleep. Such episodes are commonly seen among long-distance drivers, pilots, air traffic controllers, workers at processing plants or refineries, and in the medical field.

Sleep deprivation is the main cause. Poor quality of sleep may also result in microsleeping. It can stem from physical and mental conditions, including sleep apnea, narcolepsy, obesity, depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, etc. The use of alcohol and certain medications can also lead to episodes of microsleep. Antihistamines are one commonly used medicine that can cause sleepi-

ness.

Tips to prevent microsleep

Take short, periodic breaks from what you are doing. It only takes about half an hour for monotony to affect alertness

Take power naps of 20-30 minutes

Chat up; conversation wakes up the brain cells

Have moderate intake of caffeine

The sleep cycle

es. At night, the body produces melatonin in response to diminishing daylight, inducing sleepiness. Daylight inhibits melatonin production, promoting wakefulness.

Internal clock disruptions can occur due to factors like nightshift work, travel across time zones, or irregular sleep patterns, leading to grogginess and disorientation. Melatonin production can be affected by a lack of daytime sunlight or excess artificial light exposure, especially from electronic devices like TVs, computers, tablets, and phones.

The recommended sleep duration for adults aged 18-64 is 7-9 hours (National Sleep Foundation), yet the average adult sleeps less than seven hours, contributing to chronic sleep deprivation. In today's fast-paced society, six or six and a half hours of sleep may seem sufficient, but it leads to adverse effects.

During sleep, the brain rests on active neurons, forming new pathways for morning functions. Sleep deprivation exhausts the brain, impairs concentration, hinders learning, and adversely affects memory, decision-mak-

ing, creativity, and emotions. Prolonged sleep deprivation increases the risk of hallucinations, mania, impulsive behaviour, depression, paranoia, and suicidal thoughts.

"Sharp wave ripples" during deep sleep consolidate memory, transferring learned information from the hippocampus to the neocortex, where long-term memories reside.

Tips to improve sleep

Stick to a consistent sleep schedule

Create an ideal sleeping environment - cool, dark, and quiet. Quality mattresses and pillows enhance sleep

Establish a bedtime ritual, such as a warm bath, reading, or soothing music, preferably with dimmed lights. Relaxing activities like alpha meditation are beneficial

Avoid going to bed hungry or overly full

Avoid/moderate intake of nicotine, caffeine, and alcohol

Limit daytime naps to 10-30 minutes, preferably in the mid-afternoon

Engage in regular physical activity or aerobic exercises for improved sleep

Explore healthy stress management techniques

## THIRD T20I: India aim to seal series with another dominant victory over Aussies

GUWAHATI, Nov 28 (Agencies): With their batting firing on all cylinders, India aim to take an unassailable lead when they face Australia in the third T20 International here today.

After near-flawless batting performances in back-to-back wins, the new-look Indian team would like to keep its foot firmly on the pedal at the Barsapara Stadium, where the pitch has traditionally been a batting belt. And there is no reason to think that the 22-yard strip will be any different this time also.

The 40,000 spectators expected to fill up the stands would expect a run-fest from the talented Indian batting unit, which would want to add to the 36 fours and 24 sixes it has collectively hit across the two games.

For Australia, some of their senior players like Steve Smith, Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis and Adam Zampa have been in India for nine weeks and fatigue is showing. All the four will play in Big Bash League next month. For Smith,



the Pakistan Test series would be his next international assignment.

India's top-order has ticked all the boxes with Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad and skipper Suryakumar Yadav hitting a half-century each.

Ishan Kishan, showing no signs of rustiness even after spending nearly five and a half weeks on the bench during the World Cup, has got two half-centuries under his belt.

Rinku Singh, with two superb rear-guard knocks, has consolidated his status as the designated finisher in this format and is slowly ensuring a permanent

No. 6 slot for him in this batting order ahead of the T20 World Cup.

However, Tilak Varma, who has not missed any of India's last 12 T20 Internationals, is in a tricky place as he bats at No. 5 and he faced just 12 deliveries in the last two games.

In the first game, he scored 12 runs off 10 balls with two boundaries in a chase of 209. In the second game, he faced the final two deliveries of the Indian innings as Rinku was promoted ahead of him to give the final push.

It would be interesting to see if skipper Suryakumar himself

drops a place down in the batting order and gives his younger colleague a chance to play a few more balls and get some runs under his belt before Shreyas Iyer comes calling in the next game in Raipur.

Considering the nature of the tracks on offer, the Indian bowlers put up a far improved performance in the second game after conceding 208 runs in the series-opener.

While the dot ball count in the first two games remained nearly the same — 45 in the first and 44 in the second — what significantly improved was

the decrease in boundary percentage while defending in dew-laden conditions in Thiruvananthapuram.

From being hit for 24 fours in the first game, the same Indian attack cut it down to half in the next game.

Surya always there for us: Prasidh

Suryakumar Yadav's leadership philosophy is very similar to his T20 batsmanship — uncomplicated; and that's what is helping the young brigade perform well, said pacer Prasidh Krishna. Prasidh got the skipper's backing as he came back strongly in the second game with three wickets after being hit for 50 in the first. Asked about Suryakumar's captaincy style, Prasidh replied, "It shows in the way he bats — very similar in his captaincy as well. He trusts his players, backs all of us to do what we want to do and he's there right behind us to support if there's anything going wrong. We have freedom to go and execute our plans out there and everyone trusts each other in the team."

## India will be serious challenger for 2024 T20 World Cup title: Ravi Shastri



MUMBAI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Former head coach Ravi Shastri firmly believes that India will be a "serious challenger" in the next year's T20 World Cup due to a strong nucleus in the shortest format but reminded that rising to the occasion in knockout games is a must to emerge triumphant.

It has been more than a week since Australia trumped India, in what turned out to be a one-sided final in Ahmedabad, with the country's cricket fraternity still reeling with the outcome, given that the hosts had a 10-match unbeaten run going into the title clash.

Shastri said India have found a nucleus of young players ahead of next year's T20 World Cup, to be played in the Caribbean and the USA from June 4 next year.

"It was heartbreaking but a lot of our guys will learn, the game moves on, and I see India winning a World Cup very soon," Shastri said.

"It might not be a 50-overs (one) that easily because you have to rebuild the side but 20-overs cricket, the very next one India will be very serious challenger because you have got the nucleus. This is a shorter format of the game. Your focus should be on that."

With the presence of impact play-

ers such as Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Rinku Singh, India have a strong T20 core. Shastri admitted that it still hurts to recall that India, who were the strongest team in the competition, did not deliver in the final.

"To be honest, it still hurts from the outside, that we could not win the cup because we were the strongest team." "Nothing comes easy -- even the great man Sachin Tendulkar had to wait (for) six World Cups to win one. You don't win (a) World Cup (easily), to win a World Cup you have got to be damn good on that big day," Shastri said during the registration launch of the Indian Street Premier League here.

"What you do earlier does not count, on that big day, that is when you rise to the occasion. Even before the start of the tournament you knew that, what happens (in terms of the format).

"Early doors (are there), (and) once top four teams are there, in the semi-final and final, those two days if you perform, you win. And those were the two days when Australia performed when they came from nowhere," said the former India skipper.

"They lost the first two, but on the D-day, the two days, they did," Shastri said about Australia, who won the 50-over World Cup title for a record sixth time. With the Indian bowlers performing in unison led by Mohammed Shami, who claimed 24 wickets, Shastri said it gave India the 'best chance'.

"The way the bowling stood up towards the mid stage of the tournament you thought they had a great, great chance," he said.

## Shubman Gill as new Gujarat Titans captain was almost confirmed when Hardik Pandya left: Aakash Chopra

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Aakash Chopra feels that it was almost confirmed that Shubman Gill would become the new captain of Gujarat Titans after Hardik Pandya had moved on to join Mumbai Indians.

Gill was named the captain of the Gujarat Titans for the IPL 2024 season. This significant development comes after Hardik's departure to rejoin his former team, the Mumbai Indians.

Hardik rejoined MI on a blockbuster trade deal on November 27, as Cameron Green would head to Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Gill's ascendancy to leadership is a testament to his impressive performances and potential, having already made a mark in domestic and international cricket.

Gill's consistent run-scoring prowess and maturity beyond his years have earned him accolades, including leading the run charts in the 2023 IPL season with 890 runs. As the new skipper, Gill is expected to bring his batting finesse and strategic acumen to the fore, guiding the Titans in their quest for continued success in the IPL.

Speaking on his YouTube channel, as quoted by Sportskeeda, Chopra said that a lot of fascinating and fantastic has been happening to Gill and it was almost confirmed that the star batter would takeover the captaincy reins



once Hardik had left. "Shubman Gill is the new Gujarat Titans captain. A lot of things have happened to him at 23 years of age, which is fascinating and fantastic. It was almost confirmed that Shubman would become the captain as soon as Hardik left," said Chopra.

Chopra also said that Kane Williamson wouldn't have been the ideal choice to lead as he had dropped himself a couple of times during his tenure with Sunrisers Hyderabad.

"There was a school of thought about whether Kane Williamson should be made the captain. You have an example of Hyderabad already. Kane is such a good person, he drops himself if he is not doing well," said Chopra.

## Complete focus is on next year's Paris Paralympics: Shooter Avani Lekhara

Avani becomes the first Indian woman Paralympian to win two medals in Tokyo Paralympics

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): After her heroics in Tokyo Paralympics, Avani Lekhara knows that expectations would be high in the Paris Games next year but pressure to perform works as a motivational force for this 'golden girl' of Indian para shooting.

"I would not say there is no pressure. After winning gold in Tokyo, I have seen a lot of people knowing me and cheering for me.

There are also high expectations but it gives me motivation to do better," Avani, who won a gold and a bronze in Tokyo Paralympics in 2021," said in an interview.

"I feel that if a lot of people are looking up to me, it is my duty to give my best whenever I go to the field," she added.

Born in Jaipur on November 2001, Avani met with a road accident in 2012 that made her



wheelchair-bound ever since.

Her shooting career took off in 2015, inspired by Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra. She began her career with junior world records but she became a household name after Tokyo Paralympics where she became the first Indian woman Paralympian to win two medals (gold in 10m air rifle SH1 and bronze in 50m rifle 3 positions SH1).

"I take one day at a time. I just want to give my best and stay in the present. I do not like to

sit on the past glory or think far ahead. For this year, major competitions are done. So the focus is on Paris Paralympics and winning more medals for the country," said the recipient of Padma Shri and Khel Ratna awards.

"I am participating in multiple events in Paris Paralympics. I can't predict the medal but I just want that when I come out, I am able to say that I have done my best," said the 22-year-old.

Avani also won a gold in 10m air rifle SH1 event in the recent Hangzhou

Asian Para Games. SH1 classification in rifle events is meant for para athletes with lower limb impairment.

She does not want to tinker with her training schedule. But, her focus would be learning from her mistakes.

"Training is the same as I believe that you should not change the tried and tested formula. I am focusing on my strength and learning from my mistakes. Hopefully, I will overcome those mistakes and perform even better in Paris," she said.

Currently training in her hometown Jaipur, Avani is not averse to training abroad prior to Paris Paralympics.

"I am training in Jaipur and we have camps in Delhi too. I don't know about training abroad but the federation is planning something," she said.

She is happy with the

recognition para sports and para athletes are getting in India and hopes for a better medal haul in Paris.

"I have seen a lot of difference in the overall scenario as far as para sports is concerned in India. Earlier it was not so inclusive, awareness was not there but now people talk about us and we are getting recognition. If everyone keeps supporting us, we will see a lot of milestones achieved in the next major competition," said Avani.

Asked if she considers herself to be in the peak of her career, she said, "I don't want to say that. I am just enjoying my game. I started in 2015 and it's already a journey of eight years. I just want to keep doing my best. Shooting is a sport where age doesn't matter. I want to keep competing with the best in the world," she said.

## India vs Australia, T20I: Australia make wholesale changes to squad as 6 World Cup stars return home

NEW DELHI, Nov 28 (Agencies): Australia on Tuesday confirmed wholesale changes to their T20I squad with 6 of their World Cup stars heading home from India midway through the 5-match series. Travis Head, who hit a match-winning hundred in the World Cup 2023 final, is the only batter who was part of the World Cup squad to continue in the T20I series.

Australia confirmed the changes to their squad hours ahead of the 3rd T20I of the series at the Barsapara Stadium in Guwahati on Tuesday, November 28.

Steve Smith, who recently confirmed his availability for the Big Bash League opener with Sydney Sixers on December 8, has already flown home ahead of the 3rd T20I in Guwahati along with leg-spinner Adam Zampa. On the other hand, Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis, Sean Abbott and Josh Inglis will leave the side after the third T20I in Guwahati.

Raipur will host the 4th T20I on



December 1 and the final T20I will be played in Bengaluru on December 3.

Notably, Josh Inglis hit a hundred against India in the first T20I in Visakhapatnam which Australia lost despite posting 208 on the board. Travis Head has not played so far in the T20I series but he is expected to make the XI on Tuesday in Guwahati.

Wicketkeeper-batter Josh Philippe and big-hitter Ben McDermott have already joined the squad in Guwahati and are available for selection for the 3rd T20I, Cricket Australia said.

Left-arm fast bowler Ben Dwarshuis and spinner Chris Green will join the squad after the 3rd T20I, it added.

Australia did not confirm the reason for the return of their star players midway during the series, but it is understood that the World Cup stars were fatigued after the long tournament.

Australia defeated India in the World Cup final in Ahmedabad on November 19, ending a stunning run from Rohit Sharma's men. The ongoing T20I series began just 4 days after the World Cup final.

Updated Australia T20 squad Matthew Wade (c), Jason Behrendorff, Tim David, Ben Dwarshuis, Nathan Ellis, Chris Green, Aaron Hardie, Travis Head, Ben McDermott, Josh Philippe, Tanveer Sangha, Matt Short, Kane Richardson.

Australia are trialing 2-0 in the 5-match series and they face a must-win situation against Suryakumar Yadav's India in the 3rd T20I.

## Aryna Sabalenka To Play Brisbane International In Warm-Up For Australian Open Defence

CANBERRA, Nov 28 (Agencies): Aryna Sabalenka will launch preparations for the defence of her Australian Open crown by playing at the Brisbane International, organisers said on Tuesday. Elena Rybakina -- beaten by Sabalenka in the final in Melbourne at the start of this year -- will also play at the December 31-January 7 Brisbane event. Four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka was already named in the field as she returns to tennis. "I'm excited about starting my 2024 Australian season in Brisbane," world number two Sabalenka said in a statement released by organisers.

"Australia holds a special place in my heart



after winning my first Grand Slam there."

Tournament director Cam Pearson said he was looking forward to welcoming the Belarusian Sabalenka and Moscow-born Kazakh Rybakina, who is fourth

in the world.

"We all remember the exciting Australian Open final the girls played at the start of the year," he told a news conference.

"That has really kicked off what is a pretty exciting rivalry between the

two players."

On the men's side, fast-rising number 17 Ben Shelton of the United States will join a draw that also includes three-time Grand Slam winner Andy Murray.

Pearson said he would welcome Australian Nick Kyrgios to the tournament if he recovers from injury in time.

"We would love to have him here, he's a past champion and a fan favourite but he needs to do what's best for him and his recovery," he said.

"If that means he's playing in January, fantastic."

Kyrgios had knee surgery in January and then aborted comeback plans at Wimbledon after tearing a ligament in his wrist.

## JMC's veterinary section holds awareness-cum-interaction programme



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: An awareness-cum-interaction programme was organized on Tuesday by veterinary section of JMC in collaboration with Government Girls Higher Secondary School Rehari, Jammu.

The main motive of the programme was to aware the school students regarding the importance of Animal Birth Control Program being implemented by JMC in all the 75 wards of Municipal Corporation, Jammu and its impact on society.

Joint Commissioner (H&S), JMC Kulbhushan Khajuria graced the event as a chief guest. Other dignitaries including Principal of the School, Jyoti Prakash Sharma, Vice Principal, Pooja Rani, Health Officer JMC, Dr. Vinod Kumar Sharma, MVO,

JMC Dr. Divya Sharma, other officials of MVO section, JMC & faculty members of the school were also present.

MVO, JMC, Dr. Divya Sharma introduced the faculty and students about the Animal Birth Control Program and its progress in Jammu. She depicted the fact that in an overall stray dog population of about 43,000 in Jammu city, approximately 36000 no. of stray dogs have already been sterilized & vaccinated under the ABC programme being run by JMC.

She laid emphasis on the fact that as per ABC (Dog) Rules, 2023, stray dogs are not being dislocated from one locality to other, they are only being captured for sterilization & vaccination and are released back in the same area with a permanent identification mark i.e. "Right

Ear-notch".

Health Officer, JMC Dr. Vinod Kumar Sharma further guided the faculty and students about rabies prevention, control and immediate steps to be taken in case of dog bite.

MVO, JMC Dr. Divya Sharma also presented a power point presentation on implementation, objectives, various Animal Welfare activities & success of ABC/ARV programme run by Jammu Municipal Corporation in accordance with the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2023 within JMC limits. She also demonstrated how the stray dog population can be controlled in a time bound manner via effective ABC programme implementation that will also curb the spread of rabies both in human as well as animals.

Joint Commissioner (H&S)

JMC in his address appreciated the role of Veterinary services wing of JMC for organizing such type of mass awareness extension programs in educational institutions of Jammu city as it envisages to propagate the awareness upto the grass root level which is very important for the successful implementation of ABC program within JMC limits.

He thanked the Principal & all the faculty members of the School for their support in organizing such awareness programs for the students. He further requested the general public/ Resident Welfare Associations/ AWOs/ Local animal activists for their cooperation to effectively implement the ABC/ARV programme in Jammu city.

He also advised the Veterinary wing to organize such kind of awareness cum interaction programs with students in future also.

Jyoti Prakash Sharma presented his perspective about the ABC/ARV programme being implemented by JMC to control the menace of stray dog in Jammu city and its importance to curb the spread of rabies in both human as well as animal population.

He also extended his gratitude towards the JMC authorities for organizing such extensive & informative session on ABC/ARV programme for students of his school.

## Handicrafts Service Centre Jammu launches 'Craft Demonstration Awareness Programme' at IMFA



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: The Handicrafts Service Centre, Jammu, on Tuesday inaugurated a three-day workshop on 'Craft Demonstration Awareness Programme' at the Institute of Music and Fine Arts (IMFA), Jammu.

This workshop is a part of the District Level Gandhi Crafts and Weaves Mahotsav and aims to raise awareness among budding artists in Jammu and Kashmir about the rich crafts and traditions of the region.

Several artisans from different parts of Jammu were present on the occasion, who showcased their exceptional works and provided insights into the origin and cultural significance of their crafts.

Shalu Dogra, an artisan, displayed her intricate Phulkari works on various media,

enlightening students about the heritage of Jammu's Phulkari and highlighting its unique characteristics compared to Punjab's Phulkari.

The event also featured Nisha Nagar, showcasing her vibrant embroidery and crochet works, Suresh Kumar exhibiting his expertise in Bamboo craft, Sona Padha explaining the origin, process, and techniques of Basohli Miniatures, and Priya Jain presenting her captivating Resin Art.

The artisans not only displayed their creations but also engaged with students, fostering an environment of learning and appreciation for traditional crafts.

Pawan Raina (Assistant Director) and Anirudh Kapil (Assistant Director) spearheaded the entire programme, encouraging students to connect

with these crafts and revive them through their creativity and skills.

They emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage embedded in the traditional crafts of Jammu and Kashmir.

As a token of appreciation, Rakesh Sharma, Head of the Department of Fine Arts, was honored as the Chief Guest for his continuous support and involvement in such initiatives, consistently boosting the morale of students and promoting cultural heritage preservation.

Dr. Amarjeet Singh, Vaneeka Gupta, Palak Gandotra, Rohit Verma, Rachita Dutta, Simran Dogra, Parveen Mahajan, Sukhjeet Singh, Jasleen Singh, Trishla Kumari, Anish Tikoo, Nidhi Bhu and other faculty members were also present on the occasion.

## APS Dhar Road bags 4 medals in State Level Speed Ball event

### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Nov 28: Students of APS Dhar Road Udhampur excelled in the 14th State level Speedball Championship-2023 organized by J&K Sports Speed Ball Association.

Five students of the school participated in the championship and bagged four medals.

The medals winners include gold Hndyansh Tripathi 6th, (Silver) Manvik Sharma 7th and Praguni Kesar 7th and (Bronze) Samraagi Kesar 5th.

The principal of the school, Dr. Jyoti Bedyal and lauded the afford the students and their trainer Jagdeep Janjua & Sunil Kumar (PTI) for this achievement.

## DLL organizes career counselling workshop



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Employment Information-cum-Advisory Bureau, Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL), University of Jammu on Tuesday organized workshop for Arts students of Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Satwari.

The workshop was held under the overall supervision of Dr. Jeevan Jyoti, Director Department of Lifelong Learning, University of

Jammu.

The workshop started with the welcome address by Puja Abrol, Coordinator of the workshop. She appreciated the efforts of career counselling cell for organizing career counselling programmes for outgoing students of the school every year.

From the last seven years, DLL has been organizing these career counselling programmes for the students of 12th class. Neetu Dhar was the

resource person and Dr. Rewa Khajuria was the coordinator.

Neetu Dhar spoke about new and emerging areas in languages with special reference to English. She also apprised about body language and right body postures.

Dr. Rewa Khajuria explained the different stages of career selection.

About 82 students of 12th class interacted with the resource person and appreciated the information provided to them.

## Students, Staff of GDC Udhampur read preamble of Indian Constitution



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Nov 28: Constitutional Day celebration under the theme "My Constitution My Pride" concluded at GDC Udhampur under a range of activities

were organized by different departments and cells under the overall supervision of Principal of the College, Prof (Dr). Romesh Kumar Gupta.

On 6th November, an awareness lecture on Women Rights under the theme was organized by the Department of Political Science along with Sociology.

The lecture was delivered by Prof. Sanjay Kumar a large number of faculty members participated in this programme.

On 7th November, an awareness programme on Protection of Childs from sexual offence was organized by Department of Political Science along with NSS and Sociology addressed the students on this occasion.

On 14th November, Prof. Rayees Ahmed gave a detailed lecture on fundamental duties organized by Department of Political Science along with Sociology.

On 15th November, a seminar was organized on Life of Dr. B.R Ambedkar by Department of Sociology, Prof. Anoksha Sharma, HoD Sociology presented a detailed description on the life and legacy of Dr. B.R Ambedkar.

On 24th November, NSS Unit of GDC Udhampur organize awareness programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act-2015, Dr. Rippy Bawa remained the special guest of this function.

Finally on 25th November, the celebrations were concluded. A pledge regarding the Preamble of the Constitution was administered by Principal of the College, Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta among the staff and students. The proceedings were managed by Dr. Rupali Sharma (Lecturer) Department of English.

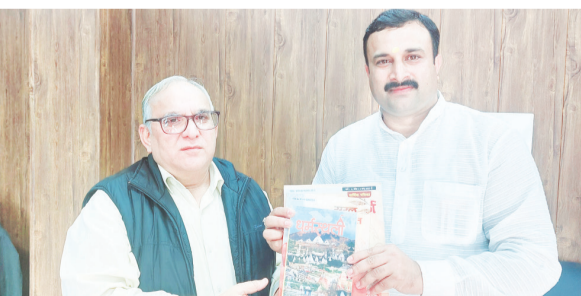
## Mahant Rohit Shastri meets State Election Commissioner, B R Sharma

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: Mahant Rohit Shastri, the President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish Evam Vedic Sansthan Trust, had a meeting with B R Sharma, the State Election Commissioner of Jammu Kashmir (Union Territory) in Jammu.

During the meeting, they discussed various issues related to the promotion, propagation, and preservation of the Sanskrit language in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mahant Rohit Shastri emphasized the significance of Sanskrit, men-



tioning that it embodies the idea of Akhand Bharat (undivided India) and serves as a thread that unites the diverse Indian civilization and culture.

He expressed the trust's commitment to preserving and promoting the rich legacy of

Ancient Indian wisdom and knowledge embedded in the Sanskrit language and literature.

B R Sharma, the State Election Commissioner, appreciated the efforts and work undertaken by the Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust.

## Keshav Chopra organises Aadhaar Camp at DIC Jammu



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Nov 28: To provide Aadhaar Services at one place, Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organised an Aadhaar enrollment Camp for the employees and their dependents of District Industries Centre Jammu.

The camp was inaugurated by General Manager DIC Jammu Virender Kumar Manyal.

Through this Aadhaar Camp Samvedna Society provided the services such as (New Enrollment, Biometric Updation, Correction of Aadhaar, Mobile Number Updation, Photograph Change, unlock the Biometric lock in Aadhaar Etc). The camp was

organised in collaboration with Aadhaar Sewa Kendra Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Virender Kumar Manyal said that due to their busy schedule in their office employees could not spare time to visit the camps to get Aadhaar Services it's a very good initiative of Samvedna Society for providing doorstep services of Aadhaar card related services to the employees and their dependents of DIC Jammu, Manyal also appreciated the work of Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra for organizing the Camp.

Keshav Chopra said that the aim of organizing this camp was to help the employees to

easily get the Aadhaar Services at their office, Samvedna will continue conducting these camps in future also so that Government Employees can also take advantage of these camps, Keshav further added.

Sandeep Dubey Functional Manager, Manoj Gandotra Head Assistant, Rakesh Dutta Junior Assistant, Saksham Mahajan Industrial Promotion Officer, Tarun Gupta Industrial Promotion Officer, Viney Partap Singh Block Investigator, Narinder Singh Pa to General Manager, Operator Rahul Lalotra, Manoj Tandon, Divyansh Gupta, Sushil, Sourav and others were also present during the camp.