

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper



ENTERTAINMENT | 6

Beauty & brains:
Jennifer Lopez says women
get sexier as they age



NATIONAL | 7

Amid Mahadev Book link-up,
Bhupesh Baghel writes to PM
seeking ban on betting apps

INTERNATIONAL | 8

US senators ask Biden to
impose China travel ban after
respiratory illness cases



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-14 Issue-330 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Youth found dead in J&K's Rajouri

SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): A youth was found dead by the police in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said.

They said soon after the word spread the police arrived at the spot and recovered the body near river.

A senior police official said identity of the body is being ascertained and further proceedings have been initiated.

Sand extractor drowns in river in South Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): In a tragic incident on Saturday morning in South Kashmir's Pulwama district, a man tragically drowned in a river while extracting sand.

According to reports, the unfortunate incident occurred during the man's involvement in extracting sand from the Kakapora river.

The deceased has been identified as Showkat Ahmad Lone, son of Mohd Akber Lone from Lelhar Kakapora.

Further details are currently awaited.

Earthquake of magnitude 3.4 strikes Ladakh

LEH, Dec 2 (Agencies): An earthquake of magnitude 3.4 on the Richter scale struck Ladakh on Saturday.

The tremors were felt in the region at 8.25 am, according to the National Center for Seismology (NCS).

The epicentre was located at a latitude of 35.44 and a longitude of 77.36, with a depth of 10 km.

"Earthquake of Magnitude:3.4, Occurred on 02-12-2023, 08:25:38 IST, Lat: 35.44 & Long: 77.36, Depth: 10 Km, Location: Ladakh," the NCS said in a post on X.

Night temperature stays above freezing point at most places in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): The minimum temperature rose and stayed above the freezing point at most places in Kashmir owing to a cloud cover as the weather is expected to remain dry over the next

Turn to page 9

Lt Governor visits the home of Martyr Hav Abdul Majid in Poonch

Top News Report

POONCH, Dec 2: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha visited the family members of the martyr Havaladar Abdul Majid in Ajote, Poonch, today.

He offered his condolences to the bereaved family and assured all assistance and support to the family from the government.

Paying homage to Hav Abdul Majid, the Lt Governor said the entire nation is proud of his valour and courage.

The Lt Governor tweeted:

"Visited the home of Hav Abdul Majid in Poonch, who was martyred during an anti-terror operation in Rajouri and offered my condolences to the bereaved family. His family has a long history of service & sacrifices for motherland. Entire nation is proud of his valour & courage."



I commend our Army, J&K Police & CAPFs for well-planned counter-terrorism operations to wipe out terror ecosystem. We will intensify our operations against terror ecosystem & those

aiding and abetting terrorists & make sure they pay a very heavy price for their heinous actions."

At Ajote, the Lt Governor also met the ex-Servicemen from the village and nearby areas.

J&K Reservation Amendment Bill among 20 to be taken up for discussion in Parliament

SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): The Centre is highly likely to deliberate on Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023 besides four other bills related to J&K in a total of some twenty one during the upcoming sessions of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

According to a circular, the bills likely to go under hammer during the 14th Session of 17th Lok Sabha & 262nd Session of Rajya Sabha for Legislative Business include: 1. The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha; 2. The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by Rajya Sabha; 3. The Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023, as passed by Rajya Sabha; 4. The Constitution (Jammu and Kash-

mir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 5. The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 6. The Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 7. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 8. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023; 9. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023; 10. The Bhartiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023; 11. The Post Office Bill, 2023; 12. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions

of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023; 13. The Boilers Bill, 2023; 14. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023; 15. The Central

Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill 2023; 16. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 17. The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2023; 18. The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill and 19. The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

For the purpose of Financial Business, the two houses are likely to take up; 1. Presentation, Discussion and Voting on First Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2023-24 and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill and 2. Presentation, Discussion and Voting on

Turn to page 9

ED officer 'caught red-handed' while taking bribe in TN, arrested

TAMIL NADU, Dec 2: An Enforcement Directorate officer was arrested for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 20 lakh from a government employee, the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC), said on Friday.

After he was taken into custody in Dindigul, a team of the DVAC officials held "enquiries" at the sub-zone ED office in Madurai, with state policemen standing guard outside the central government office.

An official release from DVAC identified the arrested official as Ankit Tiwari, "serving as an Enforcement Officer in the Madurai Enforcement Department office of the Union

Turn to page 9

ED Raids 2 Ex-Punjab Ministers; Seizes Documents, Mobile Phones

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): "Incriminating" documents, mobile phones, and other electronic devices were seized by the ED after raids against two former Punjab forest ministers and Congress leaders Sadhu Singh Dharamsot and Sangat Singh Giljjan and others as part of an alleged forest scam-linked money laundering probe.

The federal probe agency issued a statement on Friday, saying its investigation pertains to charges of "bribery" in the state forest department against the issu-

ance of a permit for tree felling and for transfer/posting in the department, among some other allegations.

The raids were conducted on November 30 in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi at the residential premises of Dharamsot, Giljjan, their associates, forest officers and some private individuals, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said.

Dharamsot (63), has been a five-time MLA and he was arrested earlier this year by the Punjab Vigilance bureau as part of a case linked to alleged possession of

disproportionate assets. Giljjan has been an MLA from the Urmur seat in Hoshiarpur district.

The money laundering case was filed under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and stems from an FIR of the Punjab Vigilance Bureau, the agency said.

The first information report pertains to alleged irregularities in the forest department and allegations of taking bribes by the concerned ministers and officers of the department against

Turn to page 9

Police acting swiftly to combat challenge of drugs in J&K: DIG Sujit Kumar



SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Central Kashmir Sujit Kumar Saturday said that police is acting swiftly to combat the challenge of drugs in valley.

Speaking to reporters here, DIG Sujit Kumar said police is actively fighting against drug addiction in Kashmir. "Those involved in drug trade are being chased by police. Properties of drug peddlers are being seized, kingpins are being chased and drug deaddiction programs

being run for victims," DIG Kumar said.

He said that other than stringent action against offenders, police is actively conducting awareness and counselling sessions in schools and colleges.

"Through collaboration with religious leaders, awareness is being disseminated in social spaces and mosques," he said.

He urged media persons to come forward and play an active role in combating the menace for the larger interest of society.

Omar Abdullah targets ECI, BJP over delay in J&K assembly polls

SRINAGAR, Dec 2 (Agencies): National Conference Vice-President and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday hit out at the Election Commission of India and BJP for delay in holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"As far as ECI is concerned questions are being raised on its role. We have repeatedly asked them why elections are not being held in J&K," Omar Abdullah said while talking to media persons on the sidelines of a party convention held in Nowshera area of Rajouri.

Omar said that Election Commission (EC) is escaping from the

Turn to page 9

Crime Branch Files Charge Sheet Against Three Brothers In Land-Fraud Case



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2 : The Jammu and Kashmir Police's Crime Branch on Saturday filed a charge sheet against three brothers accused of duping a man of Rs 43 lakh after luring him to enter a deal for the sale of 2.5 kanal of their land in Samba district, an official said. The Economic Offences Wing of the

Crime Branch (Jammu) filed the 253-page charge sheet in court against Narayan Singh, Suram Singh and Chain Singh for defrauding Manmohan Singh, a resident of Gandhi Nagar in Jammu, an investigating agency spokesperson said.

The official said the victim alleged that the accused approached him with an offer to sell

their land measuring 51 marlas (2.5 kanal) at Birpur for Rs 51 lakh on the pretext that the land was coming under acquisition.

They allegedly told Manmohan Singh that if he paid each brother Rs 17 lakh, he would be authorised to receive the compensation amount at the end of the acquisition proceedings.

The brothers had

claimed that the compensation for acquisition of the land would be higher than what he would be paying them to buy their land, the official said.

A special power of attorney was executed by the three accused in December 2021. An agreement to sell was also executed in favour of the complainant that acknowledged the receipt of the "consideration amount" and his rights, the spokesperson said.

He said the accused's plan to defraud the complainant was exposed after they approached the collector for land acquisitions with a written communication

Turn to page 9

Crystal
Telecom - Security - Software

CRYSTAL NEXA/SN SERIES

CRYSTAL CLARITY, ELEVATING CONNECTIONS, INTERCOM REIMAGINED

Ports	4 Ports - 64 Ports
Trunks	4 - 10 Trunk's
FND	Tri-Color
Scheduler	Small, ABS Body
KTS	Pluggable Add on
Paging	Yes
Hotel Fn	Yes
MMOH	Pluggable Add on

www.crystalpbx.com

CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

TENTH DAY /KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Yash Paul Sharma** S/O Late Sh Hans Raj Padha, R/O Village Pattla, Near Railway Station, Chak Rakhwal (Udhampur) on Nov 23, 2023. **Tenth Day** will be observed on Dec 02 (Saturday) and **Kriya** on Dec 03, 2023 (Sunday) at our residence, village Pattla (Teh & Distt. Udhampur).

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Smt. Ashri Devi -Mother
Smt. Santosh Kumar -Wife
Smt. Raj Rani & Sh. O P Sharma -Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Madhu Balla & Sh. Ashok Sharma -Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Luxmi & Sh. Gopal Dutt -Bhabhi & Brother
Smt. Kanta & Sh Ram Kumar -Sister & Brother-in-law
Prashant Sharma & Rahul Sharma -Sons
Smt. Rohni & Sh. Rohit Sharma -Daughter in law & Nephew
Smt. Anjana & Sh. Ramneesh -Niece & Son in law
Smt. Ankit & Sh. Puneet -Niece & Son in law
Tushar & Kriti -Nephew & Niece
Hariansh Sharma -Grandson
AND ALL NEARS & DEARS
Mobile. 905588808, 9419270109, 7889629230



Yash Paul Sharma

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform about the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Narander Kumar Bhan** (Retd. C.A.O./F.A Finance Department) S/o Lt. Sh. Moti Lal Bhan original resident of Wanpoh (Anantnag), Kashmir at present H.No. 49 Lane Number 2/6 Roop Nagar Enclave B, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on Friday 24-11-2023. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** of noble soul will be performed as per Sanatan dharma on Sunday 03-12-2023 at Muthi Ghat at 9:00 AM. All nears and dears are requested to solicit their presence on given time and date and pray for the departed soul.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Arunduti Bhan -Mother
Smt. Raj Kumari Bhan -Wife
Smt. Shivani Bhan and Sh. Nilish Bhan- Daughter in Law and Son.
Ms. Neetika Bhan - Daughter
Bhabhis and Brothers
Smt. Fancy Bhan and Sh. Surinder Bhan
Smt. Sunita Bhan and Sh. Ramesh Chander Bhan
Smt. Sweety Bhan and Sh. Pawan Ji Bhan
Contact details: 9596645732, 9419288720
Deeply Missed by :- All family members, nears and dears.

Sh. Narander Kumar Bhan
(Retd. C.A.O./F.A Finance Department)

OBITUARY FROM MALYUN SIDE

We the Entire Amma Parivar deeply condole the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt Asha Raina (Behna)** W/o Late Sh Triloki Nath Raina original resident of Malapora, Habba Kadal Srinagar, presently at House No. 17 Adrash Nagar Bantalab Jammu, who left for her 'Heavenly Abode' on Saturday 25th November (Night). She will always remain a source of strength to our Entire Amma Parivar.

Smt Asha Raina
(Behna)

10th Day will be performed on Monday 4th December 2023.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Santosh Kaul W/o Late Ravi Ji Kaul
Mohini Kaul W/o Late Ashok Kumar Kaul
Bushman Lal Bhat and Vijay Bhat
Chand Ji Bhat and Renu Ji
R/o House No. 37 Adrash Nagar Lane No. 1 Bantalab Jammu (Previously at Gund-Al-Mar, Nai Sarak, Srinagar (Kmr)
Phone Nos 9810037744, 7780839564

OBITUARY/10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Pyari Raina (Sheela)** W/o Late Sh Bansi Lal Raina on 29-11-2023 at 3 AM.

Smt Pyari Raina
(Sheela)

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 7-12-2023 at Delhi.

Grief Stricken
Shri C L Raina -Brother-in-law
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Renu Saraf & Sunil Saraf
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh Ramesh Raina & Smt Kavita Raina
Sh Rakesh Raina & Smt Sanjogita Raina
Grand Children: Mainaki Saraf, Maanika Saraf
Tannishtha Raina & Lavitra Raina
Mob. 9540951816, 9818758740, 09906078144 & 9873661705

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Lalita Pandita / Wazir** W/o Bansi Lal Pandita / Wazir originally resident of Nazuk Mohalla Anantnag presently H. No. 9 Lane 1 Anant Vihar Lale da bagh Jammu on 28.11.2023.



Lalita Pandita / Wazir

Tenth Day will be performed on 06.12.2023 at 09:30 AM at Muthi Ghat near Director of School Education Jammu.

Grief Stricken:-
Shree Bansi Lal Pandita / Wazir (Husband) 9086012322
Smt. Anjali & Sh. Ramesh Wazir (Daughter-in-law & Son) 9419105122 JMC
Smt. Babita & Rakesh Wazir 7006801805
Dr. Mega Wazir, Dr. Rohan Wazir, Mehak Wazir (Grand Children)
Samast Wazir's, Bhat's, Razdan's and Dhar's

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA** S/O LATE SH. AMAR NATH SHARMA.

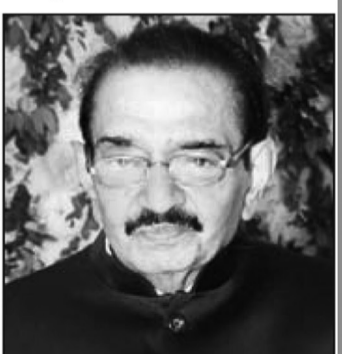
TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED ON 02 DEC. 2023 (SATURDAY) AT 11:00 AM AT HIS RESIDENCE IN LANE NO 2 RANI TALAB ROAD DIGIANA JAMMU.

KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 3RD DECEMBER 2023(SUNDAY) AT 12 NOON AT HIS RESIDENCE IN LANE NO 2 RANI TALAB ROAD DIGIANA JAMMU.

UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 4TH DECEMBER 2023 (MONDAY), AT HANUMAAN JI MANDIR DIGIANA PARK (3:00PM - 4:00PM)

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
SMT SHASHI SHARMA-WIFE
SONS AND DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW
SH VIKAS SHARMA & SMT SONIKA SHARMA
SH VISHAL SHARMA & SMT RIMPLE SHARMA
SH VIVEK SHARMA & RUCHI SHARMA

DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY GRAND CHILDRENS
KIRAN STATIONERY MART. GANDHI NAGAR SHARMA BOOK CENTRE. DIGIANA BOOK HUB. NAI BASTI SB UNIFORMS. SAINIK COLONY JAMMU
MOB NO: 9469012121 9419179002, 9797357355 9419185635, 9419153465



SH. VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA

10TH DAY KRIYA/OBITUARY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH PUSHKAR NATH BHAT** S/O LATE PRASAD RAM BHAT ORIGINALLY RESIDENT OF SHEIKHPORA SHANGUS KUTHAAR ANANTNAG KASHMIR A/P LANE NO. 23 BLOCK NO. 142 FLAT NO. 24 JAGTI MIGRANT CAMP NAGROTA JAMMU ON 29-11-2023 (WEDNESDAY)

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 08-12-2023 (FRIDAY) AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 8.30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN :
MANI BHAT - (WIFE)
RUPA WATI (PYARI)- BHABHI
SONS & DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW
SH SANTOSH BHAT & SMT USHA BHAT
SH VIJAY KUMAR BHAT & SMT LOPA BHAT
SH SURAJ BHAT & SMT SIMRAN BHAT
SANJAY & SHANU
DAUGHTERS : PRANA GANJOO, DOLLY AND JYOTI



SH PUSHKAR NATH BHAT

MOB NOS :
8527055477, 8447648272, 9622317980

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Leela Devi Sharma**, W/o Sh. Vidya Sagar Sharma.

Tenth Day will be performed on Sunday, 3rd December, 2023 at our residence 623/3 Channi Himmat Housing Colony, Jammu between 11:00 am to 11:30 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Sh. Vidya Sagar Sharma - HUSBAND
SONS & DAUGHTERS IN LAW
Rajesh Parashar & Renu Sharma
Virender Sharma & Mridula Sharma
DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW
Mrignaina & Lt. Sh Mohan Lal Sharma
Anju Sharma & Yash Pal Sharma
DEVAR & DEVRANI
Ashok Rasgotra & Ranjana Rasgotra
NEPHEW & NIECE IN LAW
Vikas Rasgotra & Moksha Rasgotra
GRAND CHILDREN
Gourav, Sourav, Apurvi, Gouri, Rajan, Mannu, Paru, Ansh, Dhruvika
Mob No:- 9469161227, 9419893004



Smt. Leela Devi Sharma

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER **SHRIMATI CHUNI DEVI** W/O LATE BRIJNATH KACHROO AT PRESENT ADDRESS E-411 GAMMA-1, GREATER NOIDA ON 27-11-2023.

TENTH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED AT GHAT ON CHOTA HARIDWAR, MURADNAGAR ON WEDNESDAY 6TH OF DECEMBER 2023 AT 10 AM.

IN GRIEF
SON'S AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
ABAY KACHROO & INDU KACHROO
BAL KRISHAN KACHROO & BUNTY KACHROO
SATISH KACHROO & SONIYA KACHROO
DAUGHTERS & SONS IN LAW
RAJKUMARI SADHU & SUNEEL SADHU
KIRAN SAPROO & KULDEEP SAPROO
GRAND CHILDREN
ANKITA, AMIT ANNKUSH, SHIVANI, SHWETA, MOHIT, SAGAR, MAHI, KRISHNA, KARTIK AND ANMOL
PHONE NUMBER - 9999551155, 7006780417



SHRIMATI CHUNI DEVI

TENTH DAY KRIYA UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you the sad demise of our beloved one **Smt Sushma Bhakhri** W/o Sh. Rakesh Bhakhri R/o 194- Mohalla Jullaka Expired on 23rd Nov 2023.

TENTH DAY will be performed at Rani Park on Saturday 2nd Dec 2023 at 11.00 AM

KRIYA will be performed at H. No 194 Mohalla Jullaka on 3rd Dec 2023 at 12.00 Noon.

UTHALA will be performed at Brahmin Sabha Parade on Monday 4th Dec 2023 at 3 to 4 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Rakesh Bhakhri -Husband
Rohit Bhakhri -Son
Shaveta & Mohit -Daughter & Son in Law
Rupali & Sunny -Daughter & Son in Law
Grand Children -Mridhul, Sarvagh, Parnika
All nears and Dears
Mobile No: 6005125722, 7889505501



Smt Sushma Bhakhri

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With a heavy heart; profound grief and sorrow we regretfully inform the sad and sudden demise of our beloved **Sh. Mohan Lal Gupta** S/O Late Sh. Mangat Ram Vakil R/O W.NO-9; H.No-38 Arya Smaj Gali Udhampur who left for heavenly abode on 24th November 2023.

Tenth Day will be performed on Sunday ; the 3rd of Dec 2023 at Arya Samaj Hall at 11:30A.M.

Kriya will be performed on Wednesday ; the 6th of Dec 2023 at Devika Ghat Udhampur.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Son and Daughter-in-law
Sh. Rajeev Gupta (A.E.E) and Smt. Ramni Gupta
Brother and Bhabhi
Sh. Govind Ram Gupta (Retd.Chief Engg) and Smt. Sarla Gupta
Smt. Sarla Gupta - Sister
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Suman Gupta and Sh. Dharam Pal Gupta (Rtd. Principal)
Sugandha Gupta and Sh. Vinod Kumar Gupta (Executive Engg.)
Grand Children: Rohan Mahajan; Rachit Mahajan; Vigyat Gupta; Anil Gupta; Vanshika Gupta and Rupali Gupta.
M/S ESS ESS Enterprises Udhampur
Pakhetra and Kalsotra Family
Mobile No: 9419158064; 9419183000



Sh. Mohan Lal Gupta

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of **S. Charan Singh** Son of Late S. Maan Singh resident of Ekta Vihar, Kunjwani Jammu on 25th November 2023.

Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib at residence 9.00 am on 3-12-2023 (Sunday).

Kirtan & Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Digiana Ashram 10.30 am to 12.30 pm on 3-12-2023 (Sunday) followed by Guru Ka Langar.

Grief Stricken
Sdn. Paramjit Kour - Wife
S. Gurdeep Singh & Sdn. Harpreet Kour Son & Daughter-in-law
Sdn. Balwinder Kour & S. Iqbal Singh - Daughter & Son-in-law
Nanke & Dadke
Mob: 9419197129, 941917114, 9419290917



S. Charan Singh

OBITUARY - 10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Smt. Sheela Bhan** (fondly known as Pyari) 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.

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



Smt. Sheela Bhan

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 29/11/2023.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 05-12-2023 at Muradnagar Ghat.

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 Wattal & Mrs Jyoti Wattal
Brothers and Sister-in-Laws:
Mr Vijay Mirza & Usha Mirza
Late Surinder Mirza & Babi 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 Nishi Wattal & Mr Rohit Wattal- Daughter-in-Law and Son
Children & grandchildren: Antra, Vanshika, Shulka, Vidit, Samarth, Vandit, Aman, Anvika, Maniya, Yesh, Addi, Amiya
Mob. Nos: 981744903, 9990360520, 9958800553, 8899618932, 9419136396, 6006995010



T.B Mirza

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Janki Nath Pandit** S/o Late Sh Kashi Nath Pandit R/o Hangal Gund Anantnag Kashmir A/p Lane No.20 Block No. 115 Flat No.20 Jagti Migrant Camp Nagrota Jammu on 27-11-2023 (Monday).

Mourning is observed at Lane No.9 backside near Ration Depo.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 5-12-2023 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu at 9.30 am.

Grief Stricken
Bimla Pandit -Wife
Sanjay Pandit -Son
Sunaana Pandit -Daughter
Nephew and Daughters
Sh Pardeep (Rakesh) & Smt Sunita
Sh Anil (Rinku) & Smt Mumta



Sh Janki Nath Pandit

And Samast Parivar
Mb: 9622028846, 9419615376

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **S. HARBANS SINGH BADAL** (Rtd. Principal) from Simbal Camp, Ward no 3, Near Metadodor Stand who left for heavenly abode on 24-11-2023 (Friday).

BHOG OF SHRI SEHAJ PATH shall take place on 03-12-2023 (Sunday) at 9:30 am at our residence Simbal Camp.

KIRTAN, KATHA & ANTIM ARDAS shall take place on 03-12-2023 (Sunday) at Central Gurudawara Singh Sabha, Ward no 2, Simbal Camp from 10:30 am to 12:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Ranjit Kaur (Wife)
Son & Daughter in law
Ravinder Singh & Rasleen Kaur
Shahbaz Singh & Gurbinder Kaur
Gursharan Singh & Paramjit Kaur
Grand Children: Hardeep Singh, Hargun Singh, Jaggun Singh, Haneet Singh, Praneet Singh, Prabhkirat Singh, Pavneet Kaur & Sagun Kaur
Phone- 9419106922, 9419835244.



S. HARBANS SINGH BADAL (Rtd. Principal)

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us for your eternal journey. Your memories are still fresh and we feel your presence everywhere, everytime.

Religious rituals of **BARKHI** of our beloved **Smt. Sushma Gupta** W/o Sh. Rajinder Prashad will be performed at 10:00 am on 3rd December 2023 (Sunday) at W.No 16, H. No 191, Venus Chowk, Udhampur.

DEEPLY MISSED BY:-
Smt. Surju Devi (Mother in Law)
Sh. Rajinder Prashad (Husband)
Mr. Nitin and Mrs.Neha (Son and Daughter in Law)
Naman (Son)
Mrs. Nidhi and Mr.Nipun Gupta (Daughter and Son in Law)
#9596698938



Smt. Sushma Gupta

BARKHI

Though a Year has passed, your memories will forever be entrenched in our hearts and will continuously inspire and bless us.

BARKHI of our beloved Late Sh. Suresh Kumar (Superintendent Engineer R&B Doda), S/o Smt. Shakuntla Devi and Lt. Sh. Prabh Dayal will be performed at our residence 74 Exchange Road Jammu on 3rd of December 2023 (Sunday) at 11 am.

KIRTAN from 12 Noon to 1:00 pm
LANGAR from 1:00 pm onwards
at Gurudwara Kalgidhar Sahib, Rehari Chungi, Jammu

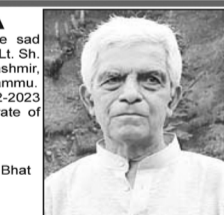
GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Shakuntla Devi (Mother)
Dr. Ranjini Bhat (Wife)
(Bhabis & Brothers)
Smt. Neelam & Jagdish Chander
Smt. Sonia & Amrish Kumar
Smt. Sonika & Arvind Panjgotra
Palak, Jhalak, Rudra (Children)

Sh. Suresh Kumar
(Superintendent Engineer
R&B Doda)

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Chaman Lal Bhat** S/o Lt. Sh. Mahadev Bhat R/o - Mansabal, Salapora, Kashmir, presently residing at Vinayak Nagar Ext. Muthi, Jammu. **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 05-12-2023 (Tuesday) 9:30 am at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Smt. Gija Bhat (Wife)
Smt. Jai Kishori Bhat (Bhabhi) - W/o - Lt. Sh. S.N. Bhat
Smt. Tulsi Bhan & Smt. Ratni Bhat (Sisters)
In-laws -
Smt. & Sh. Bal Krishan Bhat
Smt. & Sh. Brij Krishan Bhat
Smt. Roopawati Bhat & Smt. Oma Shori Bhat
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Sushma Koul & Sh. S.K. Koul
Sons & Daughters-in-law
Sh. Sushheel Bhat & Smt. Leena Bhat
Sh. Sandeep Bhat & Smt. Miraakshi Bhat
Sh. Sumeer Sudeesh Bhat & Smt. Bharti Bhat
Grand Children - Sahil, Ansh, Sanchita, Aadi, Avi, Ronak, Kritika



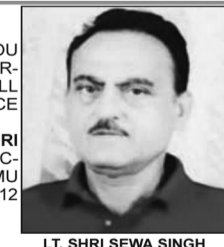
Sh. Chaman Lal Bhat

BARKHI

ONE YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE YOU LEFT US FOR YOUR ETERNAL JOURNEY. YOUR MEMORIES ARE STILL FRESH AND WE FEEL YOUR PRESENCE EVERYWHERE, EVERYTIME.

BARKHI OF OUR BELOVED **LT. SHRI SEWA SINGH SAMBYAL** R/O 190, SEC-TOR-2, UPPER FLOOR NAGAR, JAMMU ON 03 DECEMBER 2023 (SUNDAY) AT 12 NOON AT OUR RESIDENCE.

DEEPLY REMEMBERED AND MISSED BY
SUDERSHAN SAMBYAL - WIFE
BROTHER & BHABHI
SMT. RITA & SH. RAAGHUVIR SINGH SAMBYAL
DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW
JYOTI & DIWAKAR SINGH JAMWAL
POONAM & SURINDER SHARMA
GRAND SON & DAUGHTER
SHIVANKAR JAMWAL, MADHUKAR JAMWAL, PARINEETA SHARMA



LT. SHRI SEWA SINGH SAMBYAL

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

Vikar cautions people about divisive tactics of BJP-RSS

Party strong enough to defeat BJP: Bhalla

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Hundreds of workers from other political parties from Kathua district led by Robin Sharma, prominent social worker and AAP leader, Vinay Sharma from BJP, Rakesh Khajuria from Shiv Sena and Smt. Vindu Bala from AAP joined the congress party at Congress Office Jammu in the presence of PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani, Working Presidnet Raman Bhalla, Senior Vice President Ravinder Sharma and other senior leaders.

A large number of prominent persons including Sarpanchs and panchs under the leadership of Incharge PCC General Secretary Shashi Sharma and DCC President Pankaj Dogra visited the Congress HQ Jammu to join the Congress party in presence of PCC leadership.

They were welcomed in to the party by the PCC leadership led by Vikar Rasool Wani in presence of Shri Raman Bhalla, Ravinder Sharma and Vinod Sharma

Addressing the gathering PCC Chief Vikar Rasool Wani said that after the successful conduct of Bharat Jodo Ytra led by Rahul Gandhi large number of workers from other parties and people are joining Congress Party all over India and in Jammu and Kashmir.



Already congress has won Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh after the yatra, despite hectic campaign by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and entire Central Govt. of BJP. Again the Congress party will emerge victorious and stronger in five Assembly elections tomorrow.

Welcoming the new entrants he cautioned the party workers and people against the divisive tactics of BJP-RSS and said that people now realized he political tactics of ruling party and shall not fall in the trap of BJP which has not delivered on any single promise made to common people and unemployed youths. He asked them to reach out to the people in their respective areas and expose BJP's falsehood and failures.

He said that there is anger among people against BJP

who has played with the sentiments of the people who voted them to power. People are not happy with their policies and the government has proved to be a failure. We have taken to the streets against governance deficit, lack of development and failure of the government to deliver on the promises made to the people of the Jammu and Kashmir

PCC Working President Raman Bhalla said that after abrogation of special status, the lands of poor being snatched, the protection to jobs have gone and there are no jobs in government and private sector. In this situation the BJP government and UT administration is putting additional burden of all sorts of taxes on poor. When the people raise their voice, they are booked on frivolous charges

and crushed to suppress the voice of people.

He said that to divert the public attention from the failures on all the fronts, the BJP is trying to divide the people on communal lines. The atmosphere across the country has been vitiated with the patriotic Indians, due to attempt of the BJP to divide the common people on communal lines. He appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to teach lesson to BJP in elections as and when held.

Sr. Vice President & Chief Spokesperson Ravinder said that Congress party is fast emerging as the only choice of people because of its progressive policies, democratic and secular values being strengthened by the party. He said that secularism is the strength of Indian Nation and only Congress can lead the JKUT and the entire Nation to the path of peace, progress and prosperity by strengthening secular fabric of this country.

Other prominent present include Shashi Sharma, Narinder Gupta, Narinder Sharma, T. S. Tony, Th. Manmohan Singh, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Karan Bhagat, Akash Bharat, Nirdosh Sharma, Sanjeev Panda, Neeraj Gupta, Jatin K Raina, Michael Wazir, Ravinder Singh, Narinder Khajuria, Santosh Sharma, Dishu Andotra, Ramesh Kundal, Sohan Lal, Subash Chander, Kulbushan and others.

Chinar Primary School celebrates Annual Cultural Fest 2023



Top News Report

NAGROTA, Dec 2: Chinar Primary School, the primary wing of Sainik School Nagrota, celebrated its Annual Cultural Fest 2023 at Sainik School Auditorium on Saturday.

The event was graced by the presence of Dr Namita Singh, Zonal Vice President of the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) as the Chief Guest for the occasion.

Capt (IN) AK Desai, Principal of Sainik School Nagrota and Chairman of CPS, Lt Col Amit Selot, Vice Principal, the Academic Secretary of CPS also honored the event with their presence. The event witnessed the participation of parents, distinguished guests, and the school community.

The Fest commenced with a formal welcome extended to Chief Guest Dr (Mrs) Namita Singh, who illuminated the traditional lamp, marking the inauguration of the cultural extravaganza. Keeping in line with the G-20 theme of "One Earth One Family, One Future" inspired from

"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", the theme for this year's event was "Globe is our home," emphasizing global unity and cultural diversity.

Various captivating performances were presented by the talented students of CPS, including the 'Global Welcome' showcasing multi-ethnic cultures, the rhythmic 'Musical Ballot,' 'Ek Tareek, Ek Ghanta-Swachata Abhiyan' promoting cleanliness, and an enchanting 'Afghani Attan' performance.

Parveen Akhtar Desai, Headmistress of Chinar Primary School, then presented the School Annual Report, shedding light on the remarkable achievements of the institution during the Academic Session 2023-24.

The cultural program continued with vibrant presentations such as 'Shanzuiwu,' The Stone Soup Symphony, 'Musical Notes' by CPS Band, 'Cowboy Dance,' a mesmerizing 'Persian Sufi' performance, and a grand finale titled 'Ethnic India.'

The event reached its pinnacle with the Prize Distribution Ceremony,

where the Chief Guest Dr Namita Singh presented Trophies to the top three houses viz.

Tagore House (IC Meena Sharma, Sukanya Chib and Puja Chalotra), Gandhi House (IC Renu Devi, Ajay Shakti and Shalalu Sharma) and the Champions Nehru House (IC Sampati Mahajan, Rakesh Pandita and Sony Kumari) acknowledging their outstanding contributions.

Expressing her delight, Chief Guest Dr Namita Singh commended the energetic performances of the children and applauded the dedicated efforts of the school administration and staff in nurturing the talents of the students on every front.

The Chief Guest further emphasized on focusing on inculcating right virtues and values in our children. In appreciation of the dedication of staff, the school administration awarded certificates to the all the teachers, RS Dayal, Art Master, SSN and Ghendha Lal as well.

The program concluded on a high note with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Mrs Renu, Academic Coordinator, followed by a delightful high tea, fostering a sense of camaraderie among the attendees. Chinar Primary School takes pride in fostering a holistic educational environment that not only focuses on academic excellence but also recognizes the importance of cultural and artistic expression in shaping well-rounded individuals.

Vice President DGPC Jammu calls on Chairman NCM



Top News Report

JAMMU . NEW DELHI, Dec 2: Balvinder Singh renowned RTI Activist and Vice President District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Jammu met Iqbal Singh Lalpura Chairman National Commission For Minorities government of India, at Delhi office of NCM. He updated the chairman with the information received under RTI which reveals a concerning lethargy in the JKUT administration's approach in addressing the Sikh issues and solving the community's demand pending since long. Balvinder once again take up the issue of providing ex-gratia amount to the NOK's of

those killed in 1989 riots in Jammu and showed resentment that this issue is pending before the JK UT administration for the last two and half year.

Iqbal Singh Lalpura acknowledging the importance of the issues assured Balvinder Singh that he would take up the issues and send fresh reminders to the JKUT administration, urging them to expedite the resolution of issues affecting Sikh community.

It was emphasized that numerous representations had already been submitted at the highest levels, underlining the community's concern and aspiration.

Lalpura further stated that he has got list of

schools from one group of J&K where they have given list of number of student interested for studying Punjabi in different areas and I am trying with my best to write to the concerned department for providing Punjabi teachers in those schools at the earliest.

The Chairman expressed his dedication to ensuring that the concerns of the Sikh community are heard and addressed promptly. He underscored the importance of collaborative efforts between the National Commission For Minorities and regional authorities to create an environment that respects and fulfills the demands of minority communities.

Lalpura further stated that it is anticipated that the National Commission for Minorities will play a pivotal role in facilitating communication and expediting actions to address the challenges faced by the Sikh Community in Jammu & Kashmir.

RGCIRC cancer screening camp at Amritsar today

Top News Report

JAMMU / AMRITSAR, Dec 2: Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre (RGCIRC), New Delhi is organizing a free cancer care OPD and cancer screening camp at Nayyar Hospital, Amritsar tomorrow.

The initiative aims to raise awareness about cancer and provide accessible screening services to the community.

During the camp, Dr. Vaishali Zamre senior consultant & chief of breast surgical oncology, Dr. Narendra Agrawal unit head & senior consultant hemato-oncology, leukemia and BMT and Dr. Jaskaran Singh Sethi senior consultant & chief of GI, HPB & pediatric radiation oncology services from RGCIRC will be available for the consultation for cancer prevention detection and treatment options.

They will also provide expert advice and guidance on cancer prevention, detection, and treatment in various cancer specializations, including breast cancer, colon

cancer, lung cancer, rectal cancer, esophagus cancer, lymphoma, and leukemia.

The doctors will also brief the people about the latest advancements in cancer care technology and the associated benefits.

During the camp, comprehensive cancer screenings, including PAP smear test, clinical oral examination and clinical breast examination for breast cancer screening will also be provided.

RGCIRC Spokesperson said, "The incidence of various types of cancer is on the rise across the globe. While significant technological advancements have been made in recent years, timely detection of the disease remains a critical challenge. Early and timely screening is crucial for saving precious lives, and with this motto, we are organizing this special camp in Amritsar. A collective effort is needed to combat the menace of cancer, and we are grateful to Nayyar Hospital for collaborating with us in this important cause."

ASSOCHAM organizes J&K 'Access to Finance'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) J&K Council hosted a dynamic event, "ASSOCHAM J&K Access To Finance," in Jammu.

The event witnessed a compelling convergence of industry leaders, banking professionals and government officials who shared their expertise and insights on the financial landscape in Jammu and Kashmir.

Manik Batra, Chairman ASSOCHAM J&K Council & Director Batra Group, delivered a warm welcome address, setting the stage for the insightful discussions to follow.

"Access to finance aims to promote firm growth, productivity and employment in a region leading to overall socio-economic development. Easy availability of Finance helps businesses to develop and implement strategies, invest in new products or services, and expand into new markets," he said.



of J&K," he added. Chief Guest Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner/Secretary I&C J&K, delivered a keynote address emphasizing the government's commitment to fostering economic growth through financial inclusivity.

While appreciating ASSOCHAM for organising the event on Access to Finance, Vikramjit Singh said, "Many firms use to start and close down because of lack of financing, but in collaboration with the banks, government is providing financing to all MSMEs in very attractive rates." Khalid Jahangir, MD JKTPCO, shed light on the trade promotion organization's role in enhancing financial access.

Arun Manhas, Director Industries & Commerce, Jammu, shared his perspectives on the intersection of industries and

finance. "Bankers, Government and Industry members can jointly contribute a lot in the growth of industries in Jammu and Kashmir. Finance is the basic need of the industry and when they get finance in cheaper rates, they can contribute a lot in the growth of the region," Manhas said.

Khalid Majeed, Director Kashmir also attended the event as special guest and shared his views Access to Finance in Kashmir valley.

Rajesh Dubey, Zonal Head of J&K Bank, captivated the audience with his special address, providing valuable insights into the financial sector and its role in regional development.

"J&K Bank is providing finance to all Medium, small and Micro industries in each and every part of Jammu and Kashmir

on attractive interest rates," he said.


The event also included a lively Q&A session, allowing attendees to engage with the speakers and gain further clarity on financial matters in J&K.

Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, Co-Chairman ASSOCHAM J&K Council & Managing Partner Hotel Radisson Blu Jammu, expressed gratitude to the esteemed speakers, participants, and sponsors, concluding the event on a positive note.

The event was organised in Partnership with J&K Bank, Batra Group and TAX UPI.

Attendees applauded the event for its collaborative spirit, fostering dialogue among industry players, banking professionals, and government representatives. The comprehensive discussions highlighted the challenges and opportunities in the financial sector, paving the way for future initiatives aimed at enhancing access to finance in Jammu and Kashmir.

The success of the "ASSOCHAM J&K Access To Finance" event underscores ASSOCHAM J&K Council's commitment to facilitating meaningful conversations that contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of the region.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PW(R&B) DIVISION RAJOURI**

E-mail: pwddivisionrajouri@gmail.com

e-NIT No: 85 of 2023-24 Dated 28.11.2023 (e-tendering)

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, Expression of Interest are invited on percentage basis from the eligible consultant registered with Council of Architecture (CoA) India duly empanelled with Chief Engineer, PW (R&B) Department, Jammu

S.No	Name of Work	Advertised Cost of consultancy (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money / Bid Security (in Rs)	Time of completion	Type Consultancy	Class of Contractor
1	Preparation of DPR / Site plan conducting of detailed survey Rendering of service for Providing of Architectural / structural design of RCC as per Indian Standard codes of practice and service including BOQ supporting with detailed estimate for Upgradation of GNM Nursing School to Nursing College including vetting of drawings and structural design from Govt. institute any IIT / NIT/GCET/ institute IIT / NIT/ Design Directorate/ as per the directions of PWD (R&B) Department alongwith project authority i.e. Principal Govt. Medical College Rajouri	3.00	600	6000	20 days	Survey/Architectural Structural Consultancy/ Preparation of DPR drawings complete job.	Consultant Jammu/vidette #No.CEJ/TS/1413 7-64 Dated 17-11-2022 #3/15/14103-28 Dated: 17-11-2022 CATEGORY: A

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-11-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	06-12-2023 on or after 14:30 hrs in the office of Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Rajouri
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 29-11-2023, 11:00 AM
4	Bid Submission End Date	05-12-2023 upto 4:00 pm
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical evaluation is completed
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical evaluation is completed
- Cost of Tender Document:** Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 (Revenue) mentioning therein the name of work/ e-NIT No. pledged to Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Rajouri (Tender Inviting Authority) as the cost of the tender document. Any deviation in the specified amount, the bid shall be rejected outrightly. The cost of Tender Document is non-refundable.
- Earnest Money Deposit/ Bid Security:** At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload Earnest Money/Bid Security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost (Requisite amount only not above or below, strictly as tabulated above against work) in the shape of CDR/FDR(dated between bid submission start date and bid submission end date) pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e., Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Rajouri. Any deviation in the specified amount. The bid shall be rejected outrightly
 - Bid securities of the unsuccessful bidders shall be released only after the submission of Treasury Challan Bid securities of the unsuccessful bidders should be returned to them at the earliest after expiry of the final bid validity and latest on or before the 30th day after the award of the contract.
 - The Earnest Money/Bid Security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security.

DIP/J-11982/23
No :10606-16
Dated.28.11.2023

(Er. Sardar Khan)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Rajouri

EDITORIAL

AVOID BAD ADDICTION

When a person does the same work again and again he gets addicted to that thing. That is what is called a bad addiction. When a habit crosses its limits, it takes the form of addiction. People get addicted to drugs by consuming them. Many people get addicted to drugs and get addicted to bad things because of their friends' company.

For some people, company has a bad effect on them. The influence of a person's company has a deep impact on his personality. We live with our friends, there are some such friends too. Those who consume bad things, and we see them consuming bad things and our mind is also affected, that he is enjoying by consuming drugs, why don't we also try and we too can stop using drugs. Consume it once.

Then again and again our mind feels like consuming intoxicants. In such a situation, gradually the habit develops and we also get badly addicted to drugs.

In fact, if a person has a bad addiction despite having everything. Having a bad addiction has a deep impact on life. So despite having everything, he loses everything.

Due to bad addiction, a person loses his mental balance. Due to which he starts beating his family members, his wife and children because due to his bad habit he cannot see anything else.

A person who gets addicted to gambling that person mortgages everything in his house because it is such an addiction which ruins his life. If a person gets addicted to anything, it plays a major role in ruining his life. Getting addicted to anything is the same as ruining your life.

Many times a person becomes a victim of bad company due to his friends and that person gets addicted to it. So even in such a situation a person can spoil his life. Bad addiction has a major impact on life and any bad addiction causes a person to ruin his life because of that addiction instead of achieving his goal.

The ways to get rid of bad addiction: To get freedom from any kind of addiction, we have to maintain strong strength in our mind; We can get rid of drug addiction by taking help from de-addiction centers and other addiction treatment institutions; By taking the help of a psychologist, we can get rid of our drug addiction; Watching and listening to motivation interviews also provides courage to get rid of addiction. Sit with people who are older and wiser than you and talk to them about getting rid of addiction and get their advice, so that you can find a solution to this problem; Engage your mind in other interesting activities like - watching TV, listening to music, listening to bhajans, listening to film songs will change your mind and will help you in getting rid of the addiction.

Due to bad addiction, it completely ruins our life. Also, due to addiction to bad habits, we lose our mental balance, due to which we get separated from our family. We should keep distance from these intoxicants and especially keep distance from people who take drugs.

Addiction proves harmful for our life in every way because bad addiction turns our life into hell. If we want to secure our future, we have to stay away from every kind of addiction.

A not so grand goodbye to 2023... and here's to 2024

By: Shobhaa De

The party season is on big time. Of course, I am referring to the political parties bickering and haggling - hahaha! In Mumbai, our deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis ki biwi -- the high-profile, showbiz lady Amruta Fadnavis (she looks unrecognisable and completely altered in every new photo op), organised an event featuring all her Bollywood friends like SRK and others, to perform at a concert marking the terror attacks of 26/11 -- right in front of the iconic Taj Mahal Hotel -- the worst-hit target of the four-day dastardly, coordinated shooting and bombing attacks. Thirty-one lives were lost and 28 people were hurt at the Taj during the lethal siege, where the employees of the hotel put up a heroic fight against the terrorists. More than a decade and a half later, it is the horrifying visual of the famous dome of the magnificent hotel on fire that became the most recognised symbol of the attack. Mrs Fadnavis' glamorous, high-profile event was described as a "homage" to mark 15 years of 26/11 and salute the "Spirit of Mumbai". The mythical spirit of our great city has excused, condoned and forgiven too many sins over time. When all else fails, netas and sundry self-styled dogooders invoke this mysterious spirit and exonerate themselves of further responsibility. This time, our sweet Amruta not just chose the wrong venue to host an event billed as the Global Peace Honours under the auspices of the Divyaj Foundation, but unfortunately for her, the grand show got rained out by an

unseasonal shower. Clearly, the gods did not approve of such a skewered plan that was supposedly meant to remember those who had lost their lives. Despite the storm clouds, Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde was in attendance. Alas, SRK's performance got washed out.

Meanwhile, the Taj Mahal Hotel, as always, sensibly skipped the glam-sham and sho-sha, by marking the sad occasion in a far more dignified and appropriate manner. Visitors and regular guests at the hotel were touched to see the families of those who had died during the attacks (police personnel included) being warmly and courteously hosted for a four-day stay by the management. It was a somber and sentimental time for the families seeking comfort and solace over their loss. Surely, Amruta should have known better than to use such a tragic moment to stage an extravagant entertainment programme? What about the staggering costs involved in the elaborate production at the Gateway of India? The security forces and the police personnel on duty? The same amount of money could have been deployed towards assisting those directly affected. But then, that would not have generated photo-ops...

The real tragedy of the "mad-for-publicity" neta culture is precisely this. Any and everything is converted into a self-seeking image building activity. So many weeks after we watched the ICC World Cup go to the Australian team, we are still licking our wounds, consoling ourselves and passing the buck, unable to accept the basic truth that two

exceptionally talented teams battled for the cup: and one had to win, the other to lose. That's it. But our politicians are still stupefied and upset that THEY were robbed of their moment of glory and gloating. Reliable sources say that huge posters of our boys in blue with the Prime Minister had been printed well in advance and were to be extensively used, especially in Rajasthan, as election propaganda. The boys were going to be felicitated and given handsome rewards in the state, while being hugged by the chief minister. Elaborate victory parades had also been planned in New Delhi, speeches rehearsed and outfits readied for the grand moment... one more feather in the PM's cap. That was not to be. But so what... who says a great leader cannot convert a loss into a positive occasion? There he was, invading the private, sacrosanct space of the team, accompanied by a camera crew. Our cricketers were not given the much-needed privacy at a time they needed to bond with one another and accept the outcome of the match, outside the intrusive gaze of the cameras. "Yeh toh hota rehta hai..." said our Prime Minister, after putting away his prepared victory speech, as he grabbed the hands of the visibly uncomfortable players, and embraced an emotional Shami, shoving his head to rest on the broad prime ministerial shoulder. The intention must have been noble and good, as Virendra Sehwag commented when he said: "I have never seen a head of state offering this kind of moral support to a national team after a defeat..." Neither has the world!

India sure is flying high with

our Top Gun Prime Minister achieving another first -- getting into the cockpit of a Tejas fighter aircraft in cool gear that Tom Cruise would covet.

No matter. At the time of writing, star cricketers are being bought and sold like onions during the IPL auctions. And it would appear, it's back to business as usual. In India it is cricket mania that wipes all other news off the front pages. Yes, the miners were rescued in a mind-boggling mission that demonstrated Indian ingenuity and courage once again. Ironically, with all our engineering expertise and brilliance that successfully sends spaceships on daring missions to the moon, we were stumped. Finally, six "rat hole" miners achieved the impossible. Shockingly, it is these very "rat holes" through which kids in Meghalaya enter the mines to extract coal. This is a tragedy that should never have happened.

Cheer up, folks. It's Ho Ho Ho time across the world. Santa is on his way to Bharat with a bagful of goodies. Mumbai's social calendar is crammed with high-octane Xmas launches and parties galore. The freaky weather with thunderstorms and lightning has served a purpose after all -- the air quality has improved and children are breathing more easily. The skyline is visible after nearly a month. And as a Xmas bonus, we are told that the much-awaited Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), the 21.8-km-long Sea Bridge (the longest in India) is likely to open officially on December 25. That is, if Aaditya Thackeray doesn't sneak in and steal the thunder from the BJP once again by taking an unauthorised ride, accompanied by photographers of course.

Condition of women in rural society

By: Vijay Garg

Women are said to be the backbone of the rural economy. Their role is more important in developing countries. Rural women have an important contribution in the agricultural sector all over the world. They are meaningful parts of family, society and community. Which strongly influences the nature of the society. Because women have equal importance as men in the development of the nation. Seventy percent of our country's population still lives in rural areas. Most of them depend on agricultural activities. This is the reason why rural women, along with taking care of housework and children, also help in farming work. It is noteworthy that the contribution of women in India's GDP is only seventeen percent, which is less than half of the global average of thirty-seven percent. Yet, according to a World Bank report, if women's contribution to labor increases, India's growth rate will double. With this, poverty can be reduced rapidly. Rural women contribute sixty to eighty percent of the total labor in India's agricultural sector. Is of. While if we look at the data of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the contribution of rural women in the total labor in the agricultural sector is forty-three percent, whereas in some developed countries this figure is seventy to eighty percent. A research conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and DRAW in nine states shows that women's participation in the production of major crops has been up to seventy-five percent. Not only this, this figure is up to ninety-nine percent in horticulture and fifty-one percent in post-harvest operations. women in animal husbandry Participation is up to fifty-eight percent and ninety-five percent in fish production. That is, it can be said

that almost half of the farming work in developing countries is done by women and India is no exception in this matter. Yet strategies for agricultural development are mainly made keeping men at the center. Barely five percent of the resources are spent keeping women in mind and no efforts are made in this direction. This also causes huge loss to agricultural production. According to a study by the Food and Agriculture Organization And if women get equal resources like assets, raw materials and services as men, then agricultural production in all developing countries can increase by two and a half to four percent. With this, the number of hungry people can be reduced by twelve to seventeen percent. This would also increase the income of the people, which would also increase the standard of living and life security. According to the Economic Survey 2017-18, due to migration of men from villages to cities for employment, the role of women in agricultural work is increasing. Therefore, women's participation in agricultural work increased. At the same time, the contribution of women in preventing and managing today's current challenges such as climate change and degradation of natural resources cannot be denied. Women have been playing a multifaceted role in agriculture. They are involved in all the processes from sowing to transplanting, weeding, irrigation, applying fertilizers, plant protection, harvesting, storage etc. Apart from this, they are engaged in other agriculture related businesses like cattle rearing, fodder collection, dairy and agriculture related allied activities like beekeeping, mushroom production, pig rearing, goat rearing, poultry etc. She is also active in India. It is clear that if women get good opportunities and facilities, they can take the country's agriculture towards the second green revo-

lution and can also change the scenario of the country's development. On one hand, while urban women are engaged in the development of the country by working shoulder to shoulder with men in schools, colleges, offices, factories etc., on the other hand, rural women continue to make their invaluable contribution to the economic development of the country by working in the fields. Is. Despite this, women are considered inferior to men in the society. history of this This is a testimony to the fact that women have always been neglected in terms of their rights as compared to men, that is why there has been exploitation, injustice and oppression against women in every society. Women, especially in rural areas, are even more neglected. About seventy percent of the country's total population resides in rural areas, which suffer from extreme illiteracy, superstition and stereotypes. There is a need to ensure participation of women of rural India in the development of the country. If more than half of this population of women in India is not developed If this happens, then the country and society cannot develop. It is true that India's situation in terms of women empowerment is very unique in many ways. Here one third of the seats in Gram Panchayats are reserved for women. There are preparations to make similar arrangements in the Assemblies and Parliament also. Yet this political empowerment has generally not brought about substantial changes in the socio-economic structure of rural women. This is the reason that despite women's participation in agricultural enterprises, they do not get the respect they deserve from the society and the state. Are entitled. They are victims of neglect in every respect. In other words, men still dominate the rural socio-economic structure. Health and nutrition are the biggest concerns.

Women cook food for the entire household, but they usually remain hungry. The incidence of malnutrition among women in India is almost as high as the incidence of food crisis in some African countries. They are paid less wages than men for equal agricultural work. The ownership of land also generally belongs to men. This is the name. Most of the decisions related to farming are taken by men. It is worth noting that the entire social system is such that for every work done by a woman, she is told that her labor is not 'labour' but mere domestic help and this is the reason why most of the women who work in agriculture They are involved, even they themselves admit that they do not do any work. To save the villages of India, it is necessary to save farming, and to save farming it is equally necessary to empower women. According to government rules Currently, only those who have land in their name are considered farmers, hence many women are deprived of being recognized as farmers. Statistics also show that if women farmers get equal rights in agricultural work, then production can increase by up to forty percent. Besides, they will become financially self-reliant and will also be able to take the society forward. It is said that when you make a woman in the village socially and economically empowered and prosperous, that woman not only helps her family, her village, but soft strengthens our country. This becomes the basic reason for the country's development and improvement in the economy. In such a situation, strong political will is needed.

(Vijay Garg Retired
Principal Educational
Columnist Malout)

Dr Jitendra addresses BRIC meeting, calls for defining 'Bio-vision' for Bharat

Top News Report

JAMMU/NEW DELHI, Dec 2: Addressing the first-ever meeting of the BRIC Society after its registration on 10th November, 2023 after getting the Cabinet approval, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that time has come for defining "Bio-vision" for Bharat.

Dr Jitendra today said that the new Apex Autonomous Society called Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) will fulfil Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Vision for Atma Nirbhar Bharat in areas like healthcare, food and energy needs by scaling biotech research and innovation.

He said, in the last eight years, the biotech sector has grown eight-fold times.

The Minister quoted PM Modi as saying, "India is not too far from reaching the league of top-10 countries in Biotech's global ecosystem". He added that BRIC is going to be a testimony to this and again by inculcating the spirit of Sabka Prayas, the government is bringing together the best minds on a unified platform.

Dr Jitendra informed that the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology is function-



ing as the nodal agency for promotion of Biotechnology in the country. It was accorded the Cabinet approval for rationalization of its 14 Autonomous Institutions (AIs) by subsuming them under one Apex Autonomous Society viz. Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC), for centralization and unified governance to maximize impact of biotech research across the country.

Dr Singh described the BRIC meeting as a historical event in India's Biotech Ecosystem, where elite institutions are consolidating their efforts to impact the biotech R&D ecosystem. He expressed hope that BRIC will prospectively enrich India's progress in every front including economy and employment. The Minister said, as accomplished institution-builders, he would like to seek their views for defining the Bio-Vision for Bharat in this significant meeting, as they are supposed to bring in tremendous value to this noble mission.

Dr Jitendra also pointed out that this is one

of the first Departments in the Government of India to have successfully executed "Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies" for process and performance enhancement of its Autonomous bodies.

Dr Singh said, some of the significant changes that will be driven by BRIC include that each of the 14 subsumed BRIC Institutions will maintain their distinct research mandates, governed by one Governing Body, at BRIC. He said, Institutes would be allowed utilization of institutional lab space, not exceeding one third, for researchers from outside DBT institutes and their collaborators (from industry or other institutes) to carry out R&D for start-ups emerging out of institutional research.

Dr Jitendra also underlined that BRIC and its Institutes can engage in public-private research partnerships and receive endowments including funds from non-Governmental resources for research-related activities.

Dr Singh also added that new Ph.D programs across BRIC institutions

with a common course curriculum at RCB and immersion training for field or experimental studies for validating research hypotheses prior to thesis work. During the Immersion phase (for about 3 months) students will get additional fellowships from Grand Challenges India program. Additionally, to enhance the scientific character of the institutions, additional 120 scientific positions are being brought in. Parity across levels and cadres are also being pursued. Further improving service prospects for scientists are also being taken up, the Minister added.

The DBT initiated this restructuring activity as per the directives on "Rationalization of Autonomous Bodies" issued by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. However, they have used it as an opportunity to introspect and overhaul the way research is conducted across the DBT institutions. It is envisioned to improve governance, efficiency, encourage collaborations through greater interdisciplinary

interactions and democratize resources. The compliance to governmental processes and administrative issues will be centrally managed in a coordinated effort thereby achieving "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance".

The 14 institutes to be governed by the Society of the new Apex Body of BRIC are: i) National Institute of Immunology (NII, New Delhi); ii) National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS, Pune); iii) Institute of Life Sciences (ILS, Bhubaneswar); iv) Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram); v) Centre for DNA Fingerprinting & Diagnostics (CDFD, Hyderabad); vi) National Brain Research Centre (NBRC, Manesar); vii) National Institute for Plant Genome Research (NIPGR, New Delhi); viii) Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD, Imphal); ix) National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB, Hyderabad); x) Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (inStem, Bangalore); xi) National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG, Kalyani); xii) Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI, Faridabad); xiii) National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI, Mohali); xiv) Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing (CIAB, Mohali). NABI and CIAB have been merged into one administrative unit with one Director.

Pulse Hospital successfully completes 300 Joint Replacement Surgeries



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Pulse Hospital & Research Centre, a leading healthcare institution of Jammu, has successfully completed the 300 joint replacement surgeries, a significant milestone in the field of orthopaedic care.

Dr. Sumit Mahajan, joint replacement surgeon, explained about the advanced "Nova Technique with AI for Joint Replacement" employed during these surgeries.

The innovative

approach has played a pivotal role in ensuring successful outcomes and faster recovery for patients undergoing joint replacement procedures.

Dr. Bhupinder Singh, Executive Director of Pulse Hospital and Research Centre, outlined the hospital's future plans.

He stated, "This is just the beginning. In the near future, we aim to incorporate robotic surgeries into our repertoire, further enhancing precision and efficiency in orthopedic proce-

dures." Highlighting the commitment to providing the best healthcare facilities, Sohail Qasim, Managing Director of Pulse Hospital, emphasized, "We are dedicated to providing world-class facilities at affordable prices. Our goal is to build confidence among the people of Jammu, who often seek similar medical treatments in other parts of the country. We want to ensure that our community has access to the best medical care without the need to travel far."

J&K Bank shifts its Qalam Chakla Branch to new premises



Top News Report

HANDWARA, Dec 2: Upgrading its infrastructure for customer convenience, J&K Bank threw open its new premises of the Qalam Chakla Branch on Saturday for the public in Kupwara.

The Bank's Zonal Head Imtiyaz Ah Bhat inaugurated the new premises in presence of Cluster Head Shadab Mehboob along Branch Head Qalam Chakla Ab Majeed Najjar amid a gathering of valuable customers, senior citizens, residents and other bank offi-

cial. Pertinently, the new premises shall also house a hub, with an ATM and CRM, so that people not only withdraw but can deposit cash as well.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head said, "In line with the policy to upgrade our banking infrastructure to ensure customer comfort, I feel pleased to dedicate this centrally-heated and spacious new building equipped with state-of-the-art banking facilities for the public at par with all other branches across the bank.

The branch space has been organized carefully to take care of the different types of visitors, especially women and the elderly.

"Besides providing the best customer services in the branch, an ATM also been installed within the premises to extend easy and accessible banking services to the people of the catchment area even beyond office hours", he added.

Field office of Union Ministry sponsored units of J&K for 42nd IITF at Pragati Maidan

Top News Report

JAMMU / NEW DELHI, Dec 2: MSME DFO Jammu is implementing various schemes for the benefit of MSME Sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

MSME DFO Jammu invited online application under PMS Scheme of union Ministry and selected 11 units of Jammu Kashmir for participation in 42nd IITF at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14th to 27th November 2023.

The units were allotted free stalls for promotion of their products in national and international markets under procurement and marketing Support Scheme.

Indian International Trade Fair is one of the most prominent and prestigious Trade fairs not only in India but in the whole world which attracts overwhelming participation from Business leaders, industry experts, trade enthusiasts, innovators and potential partners, including collaboration and exploring new opportunities.

The IITF witnessed participation from more than 3500 exhibitors from various parts of the country and across the



Globe and more than 10 Lakh visitors visited the stalls and showcasing the products of our MSEs from Jammu & Kashmir.

The units after participating have informed that they have received good volume of orders in addition to the sales they had during the fair.

Participation in the fair has also boosted the morale of the MSEs which are determined to grow to the fullest utilising their advantages of high quality of raw material in carpet industry as an example.

Kaith Biradari members pay glowing tributes to Taro Devi



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: The Kaith Biradari members paid glowing tributes to Taro Devi at her residence in Kothay Sheikh

here on Saturday. Krishan Lal Kaith said, "My Mother had constantly supported me throughout my entire Life, whenever I was in a danger or in a situation where I was stuck, she had always been there for me, protected me, and guided me. She had been my Guru Maa who had taught me about life and the beauty of it. She was the essence of truthfulness, sincerity, and lots of love."

While others present on the occasion said, she was polite, respectful, compassionate and was always giving love and affection to everyone.

Among those who paid tributes included Messrs Havildar Des Raj, R.L.Kaith, Master Naresh Kumar, Jagdish Raj and Sumit Kumar.

Recruiting permanent, trained staff in ITIs: Prithpal

Top News Report

POONCH, Dec 2: District Poonch President Aam Aadmi Party Er. Prithpal Singh on Saturday questioned the Skill Development Department for not recruiting permanent and trained staff in various Industrial Training Institutes.

In the statement, Singh said in 2015, the government launched the Skill India Mission to create convergence across regions and states in terms of skill training activities and

achieve the vision of 'Skilled India' of creating an army of employable youth.

But, he said, till date most of the employees working in the Skill Development Department are associated with the academic arrangement.

Why not Department pursue the court cases, he questioned.

He said that Government should frame policy for Academic arrangement who are working in the department for more than ten



years or refer the post to recruitment agencies to recruit permanent staff.

He also emphasised on implementation of the transfer policy made by the J&K government in which an employee working on post should be transfer after completing the two years of

minimum tenure and up to a maximum of three years.

He also said that training imparted in institutions alone is not sufficient for acquisition of skills and needs to be supplemented by training at the workplace.

He also suggested that non popular trades should be replaced with popular ones and ITI's will be more beneficial to the trainees if based on apprenticeship schemes.

Singh said that courses like JCB operator,

welder, computer hardware and networking trades should be started because by acquiring skills youth will become self-reliant and earn good amount of money in short time.

He also suggested that instead of literal admission to Polytechnic after completing the course from ITI, Government should merge ITI's with Polytechnic and frame (3+1) structure in which three years for Diploma course and last one year for on the job training in various industries.

Army conducts computer classes to celebrate World Computer Literacy Day

Top News Report

KUPWARA, Dec 2: In an endeavour to bridge the digital divide and to empower children living in remote villages of Kupwara Indian Army organised Computer classes to Celebrate World Computer Literacy Day at Awoora Kupwara.

With the rising dependence on digital technology, learning computers is inevitable for all. Every year, World Computer Literacy Day is observed world-

wide on 02 Dec to boost digital literacy and to support the initiatives for offering computer training to those who can't afford it.

In this regard Computer classes were conducted by Indian Army for the students of a remote and far-flung village Awoora Kupwara on 02 Dec 23. The classes were conducted at a computer institute already established by Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers at Awoora Kupwara.

The classes included lectures

delivered by Army officials followed by practicals.

These computer classes were attended by over 40 children including boys and girls from Awoora and near by villages.

These classes benefited the children living in remote villages as the aim of conducting such class was to promote inclusivity by bridging the digital divide and ensuring that children from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to succeed.

Also computer literacy empow-

ers children to become digitally aware citizens, enabling them to access information, communicate effectively and leverage technology for personal and community development.

At last students and locals lauded the efforts of Indian Army for providing necessary exposure and guidance to the young talent and hope the number of these type of classes be increased by Army for the students of backward areas in future also.

Lawrance Public School celebrates 39th Founders' Day

Top News Report

JAMMU / MOHALI, Dec 2: Lawrance Public Senior Secondary School, Mohali celebrated its 39th Founders' Day on Saturday. Chandrajyoti Singh, SDM Mohali was Chief Guest during the occasion.

The event commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp and Ganesh Vandana. Veena Malhotra, school prin-



icipal presented an insightful annual report highlighting the

achievements of the students. The highlight of the culture

show was students highlighted the ill effects of deforestation and the urgent need to address the lack of clean drinking water through their enactment and dances.

The programme concluded with a futuristic perspective exploring scientist's consideration of the moon as an alternative habitat due to earth's environmental challenges.

Vicky Kaushal says his genuine regard for Indian Army translates into his performance

The National Award-winner feels lucky to have lived Manekshaw's life through the film

Be it 'Uri: The Surgical Strike', 'Raazi', 'Sardar Udham' or his latest release 'Sam Bahadur', something happens to Vicky Kaushal as he ends up upping his own success game when he dons the uniform on screen.

The actor stuns every time he dons the uniform for a performance onscreen.

Vicky says: "I think it comes from a point where there is genuine regard for the Indian Army and also inherently I get kicked about playing a real hero. I find that great."

"Whenever I get to interact with real army personnel, I am just speechless and inspired by them that whenever I get an opportunity to play them there is this subconscious sense of that isme jaan phookni hai... I can't take this lightly and out do myself."

"That plays subconsciously so much that it shows in my work. We put in work and effort in all our films and that sense of responsibility just brings out something out of me."



Asked if he agrees that there is something special about the uniform, the national crush says: "Of course."

Vicky's latest release is 'Sam Bahadur', a biographical war drama film based on the life of India's first field marshal, Sam Manekshaw. It is directed by Meghna Gulzar. Set against the backdrop of the 1971 Indo-Pakistan War, Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw led the Indian Army from the front leading to

Bangladesh's liberation.

Talking about playing Manekshaw in the film, Vicky agrees that there was something unique about his aura.

He said: "His aura was not limited to the uniform. It was not like when he would wear his uniform he would have this aura and otherwise he's not in that aura. He just had it and flamboyance spirit. His was the heart that would cut across a room full of people irrespective

of whether he is in a uniform or not. To crack that... the spirit, the focus was on that a lot more than just his body language."

Did he take back some learning from Manekshaw?

The 35-year-old star says: "What happens to me after the process of filming is that the body language takes time to leave... the way he sat, became my normal way of sitting, the way he stood up became my normal posture and that took time to come off because I was doing that for seven months... and literally shooting for 12 hours becoming that man... You just go home to sleep... That takes time to go off."

The National Award-winner feels lucky to have lived Manekshaw's life through the film.

"But apart from that I felt for the first time that in my personal life I would get into a situation and I would like 'what would Sam sir do'. I feel blessed to try and live his life and understand his way to look at life because I can think like that," added the actor.

'Animal': Ranbir Kapoor film sets new record, earns Rs 61 crore grand opening



Ranbir Kapoor and Rashmika Mandanna-starrer 'Animal' has set a new record at the box office on its release day. According to reports

by the industry tracker Sacnilk, 'Animal' earned Rs 61 crore on Friday in India across all languages.

The Sandeep Reddy

Vanga directorial collected Rs 50.50 crore in Hindi belts and Rs 10 crore in its Telugu version. With this, the film has become Ranbir's biggest opener.

'Brahmastra Part One: Shiva' had earned Rs 36 crore on its release day and 'Sanju' had collected Rs 34.75 crore.

The film has also crossed \$1 million in North America. With this, 'Animal' has become the first Hindi movie in North America to achieve such a big opening.

Actors Bobby Deol, Anil Kapoor and Tripti Dimri will also be seen in the film. The film shows Ranbir in a never seen before dark character. The Central Board of Film Certification has given 'Animal' an 'A' certificate. The duration of the film is 3 hours 23 minutes.

Crystal clear: Hollywood actress Eva Longoria values politics over her popularity

Hollywood actress Eva Longoria has been outspoken about various political and social issues over the years, but isn't worried about losing fans because of her views.

"There are things that are a lot more important than box-office and viewers. Women's rights are very important. The dismantling of human rights, of health care systems, of education systems. These are very dangerous things that need to be talked about, looked at, voted on, and advocated for. So it's not an 'Oooh, do I do it?' I have to do it. It is non-negotiable," she said. "I don't ever think, I'm going to alienate half an audience or I'm going to lose some Twitter fans. That doesn't matter to me if I'm saving democracy," she added.

Despite this, Longoria doesn't have any ambi-



tions to run for the White House.

The actress observed that individual citizens are actually the 'most powerful' people in a democracy.

Asked if she'd ever run for political office, Eva replied: "No, no, no. No, and I think that's the myth, that you have to be a politician to be political. That's not true. The most powerful person in democracy is the citizen. Once you become a politician, your hands get tied. You're beholden to special interests; you're beholden to certain industries."

She loves that she's able to speak her mind without having to worry about the potential consequences. The Desperate Housewives star, who has been outspoken on issues like immigration, said: "As a citizen, you can speak your mind as loudly as you want."

Sunny Deol's heartfelt applause: 'My little brother Bobby shakes the world' in 'Animal'

Bobby Deol's antagonist role earns praise from Sunny Deol and audiences alike



In a resounding display of brotherly pride, Bollywood icon Sunny Deol took to Instagram to applaud his "little brother" Bobby Deol for his standout performance in 'Animal,' also featuring Ranbir Kapoor. Sunny shared a series of emotional pictures with Bobby, expressing, "My little brother has shaken the world. All guns firing success to #Animal."

Responding with heartfelt emotion, Bobby Deol conveyed, "You are my life, love you the most,"

showcasing the deep bond between the brothers.

Directed by Sandeep Vanga Reddy, 'Animal' boasts a stellar cast, including Anil Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna, Shakti Kapoor, and Tripti Dimri. Notably, the film holds the distinction of being one of the longest Indian films, with a runtime of 201 minutes.

The narrative of 'Animal' intricately weaves a tale of the complex relationship between business magnate Balbir Singh and

his son Ranvijay Singh. Following a tragic event in Balbir's life, Ranvijay embarks on a journey of vengeance against his rival Abrar Haque, pledging unwavering loyalty to his family, setting the stage for a gripping gang war.

Bobby Deol, portraying the enigmatic antagonist, has garnered attention since the release of the film's teaser, with his powerful presence leaving a lasting impact on the audience. The film's intense trailer, showcasing a gripping fight sequence between Bobby and Ranbir Kapoor, further heightened anticipation for the movie.

Bobby Deol's career resurgence, marked by impactful roles in films like 'Race 3,' 'Class of '83,' 'Aashram,' and 'Love Hostel,' has solidified his position as a versatile and celebrated actor in the industry.

'Animal' adds another feather to his cap, affirming his prowess in delivering compelling performances. As audiences shower praise on Bobby's portrayal, the film continues to captivate viewers with its intense narrative and powerhouse performances.

Tribute to bravery: Nindiya from The Railway Men Is Ayushmann's ode to the human spirit

Critically acclaimed series The Railway Men has been the talk of town ever since its launch on November 18. The first from the partnership between Netflix and YRF Entertainment, The Railway Men is a thrilling tale of heroism, hope and humanity.

In a heartfelt tribute to the people who sacrificed their lives to protect others on the fateful night of the 1984 Bhopal

Gas Tragedy, National Award-winner Ayushmann Khurrana lent his voice for the recently released cover of Nindiya from the series.

Ayushmann says, "When I was watching the series, apart from the fact that it was brilliantly made, what stayed with me is how it instilled hope in me.

While we all are aware of the tragedy and its aftermath, the indomi-



table human spirit moved me. Nindiya, in the series, encapsulated the emotions through two young children at the railway platform.

This is my heartfelt tribute to the bravery, courage and the ability of people to face the darkest of hours and rebuild themselves from scratch.

This track Nindiya holds a special place in my heart."

Neetu Kapoor misses Rishi Kapoor on tale of father-son bond in Animal

As actor Ranbir Kapoor's movie 'Animal' released in theatres, his mother Neetu Kapoor posted a comment on how she wished that her late husband Rishi Kapoor could see their son's performance.

Ranbir's mother and veteran actor Neetu took to Instagram stories to share a picture of Ranbir and wrote, "Wish rishiji was here." Ranbir is seen sporting



long hair that he has tied up into a halfway bun.

Rishi Kapoor passed

away on April 30 in the year 2020 at the age of 67.

He was suffering from leukaemia. He was in New York for a considerable amount of time for his treatment. Neetu was there for him as a rock-solid partner through thick and thin.

Meanwhile, 'Animal' helmed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga also stars Anil Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna, Shakti Kapoor and Tripti Dimri. 'Animal' showcases a story about a father-son

relationship, played by Anil and Ranbir Kapoor.

Ranbir's character is protective and obsessive about his father's love and is seen threatening everybody who comes in the way of his love for his father.

The three hour-21 minute long film released in theatres on December 1 in five languages, including Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam.

Beauty & brains: Jennifer Lopez says women get sexier as they age



Jennifer Lopez believes that there are a growing number of onscreen roles for older women in Hollywood, and the singer-actress

is keen to continue working for many years to come.

"It has changed a lot, and I think it's appropriate. As you get older and

you have more experience, you become a richer human being and you have more to offer. The idea of, 'There's nothing really valuable about watching a woman over 30' is so ridiculous, it's the opposite of right. It just makes me laugh. People have realised that women just get sexier as they get older. They get more learned and richer with character. All of that is very beautiful and attractive, and not just physically, but on the inside, the beauty that you gain as you get older, the wisdom you gain," she said.

Lopez hasn't made any retirement plans and she doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon either.

The If You Had My Love hitmaker, who is married to actor Ben Affleck, explained: "I see myself working as long as I want to. I don't know what that age is. It might be 70, it might be 80, it might be 90, I don't know."

All-party meeting convenes ahead of Parliament's Winter Session

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): The Union government on Saturday convened an all-party meeting to deliberate on a host of issues related to Parliament's Winter session which will start on December 4 and will continue till December 22.

The all-party meeting, which was convened in Parliament's library building, saw the participation of Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Congress MP Jairam Ramesh and several other leaders from different political parties.

During the meeting, members of the Trin-



amool Congress (TMC) demanded a discussion in the Lok Sabha on the Ethics committee's report on the "cash-for-query" allegations against TMC MP Mahua Moitra.

In the meeting, they

also said that the report of the Ethics committee shouldn't have been made public.

"The (Ethics committee) report shouldn't have been made public so brazenly," a member of the TMC said in the

meeting.

The House will have to adopt the report before the expulsion recommended by the panel comes into effect.

During this session, three important bills aiming to replace the

Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Evidence Act are likely to be discussed.

Another key bill pending in Parliament relates to the appointment of chief election commissioner and election commissioners.

Introduced in Monsoon session, the government had not pushed for its passage in the special session of Parliament amid protests from the Opposition and former chief election commissioners as it seeks to bring on a par the status of the CEC and ECs with that of the cabinet secretary.

CLP leader urges Birla to have the Ethics Committee procedure re-examined



NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, leader of the Congress party in the Lok Sabha, has urged the Speaker Om Birla to have the process relating to the jurisdiction and procedures followed by the Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha to investigate the complaint of misdeemeanour by Trinamool Congress member Mahua Moitra "examined" and take remedial measures to "streamline" the committee's functioning.

ishment and has very wide ramifications", Chowdhury wrote.

Chowdhury, leader of the largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha, said the purported act of misdeemeanour on the part of Moitra (sharing her log-in credentials and passwords for the official portal of the Lok Sabha with Dubai based businessman Darshan Hiranandani to raise questions in Parliament in return for gifts/favours) should not be compared with the 2005 case when 10 members of Lok Sabha were expelled for receiving cash for posing questions in Parliament or the case of HD Muddgal that dated back to 1951.

by "Cobra Post" which showed the members cash accepting cash for posing questions.

All concerned in the 2005 case, including the media personnel who carried out the sting operation, and members accused of having indulged in acts of misdeemeanour were examined on oath, their evidence recorded and made part of the report of the panel, Chowdhury wrote.

The CLP leader wrote that on the contrary, the Dubai based businessman was not asked by the Vinod Sonkar-led Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha to depose before it.

Chowdhury added that accepting gifts and giving away gifts was a common social practice and should not be treated as a money trail for deriving favours.

Stating that it is not always possible for a member to operate the parliament portal oneself, Chowdhury wrote that it is on account of this factor that the staff attached to Members were imparted training on various aspects of the functions of the portal.

The CLP leader also pointed out that a question that is placed or given notice of by a member is subject to scrutiny and becomes admissible only if it meets the "conditionalities" laid down in the Rules of Procedure.

Amid Mahadev Book link-up, Bhupesh Baghel writes to PM seeking ban on betting apps

In his letter, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel pointed out that online betting is a nationwide business that is being run from abroad by certain individuals and interest groups.

RAIPUR, Dec 2 (Agencies): A day before the counting of votes in Chhattisgarh, state Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel wrote a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to ban the apps, web platforms, APKs, Telegram channels, Instagram accounts and URLs that are linked to the "illegal business of online betting".

In his two-page letter, CM Baghel also pointed out that illegal betting is a nationwide business now that is being run from abroad by certain

individuals and interest groups.

He also requested PM Modi to initiate steps to stop the illegal flow of money from the accounts of those who are running online betting apps.

Informing about his letter, CM Baghel, in a post on micro-blogging site X, said, "By writing a letter to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, I demanded a complete ban on the platforms, web, APK, Telegram, Instagram, URL related to the illegal business of online betting."

"In the past, illegal gambling and betting business has expanded nationwide through online betting and gaming and its operators and owners have been running the said illegal business from abroad," he added in his post.

In his letter, CM Baghel also mentioned the actions taken by the Chhattisgarh police in connection with online betting apps.

This letter comes days after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) claimed that it recorded



the statement of a 'cash courier' who alleged that Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel received Rs 508 crore from the Mahadev app promoters based in the UAE.

Later, the BJP also released a video of a man named Shubham Soni saying he was the owner of the Mahadev app and had the "proof" of paying Rs 508 crore to CM Baghel.

Nursing student killed at hotel in Chennai; boyfriend posts picture on WhatsApp status

CHANDIGARH, Dec 2 (Agencies): In a shocking turn of events, a lifeless body of a 20-year-old nursing student was found at a hotel in Chennai's Chromepet.

The incident came to light when an image of Fousia's lifeless body appeared as the WhatsApp status of her boyfriend, Ashiq, prompting mutual friends to alert the Chromepet police.

The police launched an investigation, ultimately locating her body at the aforementioned hotel.

Upon scrutinising CCTV footage in the vicinity, the police swiftly apprehended Ashiq at a nearby eatery, reports agency.

Preliminary investigations revealed a disturbing sequence of events – an argument ensued between the couple after checking into the hotel, sparked by Fousia questioning Ashiq about photos of him with another woman on his phone. In a fit of rage, Ashiq allegedly assaulted and strangled Fousia to death, subsequently uploading a photo of her lifeless body as his WhatsApp status.

The police disclosed that the couple had been in a relationship for five years and had secretly married. They even had a child, who was given up for adop-



tion in Chikamagalur.

However, the relationship took a tumultuous turn two years ago when Fousia discovered Ashiq's involvement with multiple other women. She lodged a complaint with the Kerala police, leading to Ashiq's arrest under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and subsequent imprisonment. Following his release, Ashiq apologised and the couple reconciled.

Fousia's body has been sent for post-mortem at the Chromepet government hospital, and a thorough investigation into the case is currently underway.

Fousia, who resided in a hostel at New Colony, was a second-year student at a college in Chromepet. She had not attended college for the past three days.

How two Class X students abducted, murdered 9-year-old in Andhra

VIJAYAWADA, Dec 2 (Agencies): The sensational midnight abduction and murder of a nine-year-old student of a tribal welfare residential school in Eluru district by two students of the same school shocked Andhra Pradesh recently.

The accused, both students of class 10, not only killed the boy studying in class 4, but also left a letter in his hand threatening more such murders.

"Whoever wants to live, go away from here because these kinds of things will keep happening from now on," one of the accused wrote in Telugu.

They kept the letter to divert the course of attention but the handwriting proved to be a vital clue for the police and ultimately led to their arrest.

The gruesome murder of nine-year-old Gogula

Akhil Vardhan Reddy had rocked Government ST Residential School in Puli Ramannagudem, a forest area in Buttayagudem 'mandal' (block) of Eluru district in July.

The boy was found murdered near the hostel on the school premises. The body of the victim had contusion marks around the neck and a small scratch near the right eye.

Son of daily wagers, he belonged to a village about 5 km from the school. His elder brother is also studying at the same school in class 6.

The family belonged to the Konda Reddi tribe, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) in Andhra Pradesh.

The student's murder and the letter warning of more such killings had sent terror among the school inmates and the school administration. Police had formed 10 teams to crack the case.

Deputy Chief Minister Peedika Rajanna Dora, who also holds the tribal welfare portfolio, visited the school.

He handed over a cheque for Rs 10 lakh as ex-gratia to the parents of the deceased and assured a job to the boy's father in a government department on outsourcing basis and a housing plot to the family.

The murder was initially suspected to be the handiwork of some outsider. The police also focused on the role of teachers and other employees. However, the police investigations revealed the shocking truth that two students of the same school committed the ghastly crime.

The accused, both aged 15, plotted and executed the abduction and murder of the victim. Wearing masks, they gained entry into the hostel around midnight.

One of the accused entered the room through the window, which had no grills, and opened the latch of the main door to facilitate the other boy to enter the room. Before entering the hostel, they switched off the power supply.

The accused carried the boy away and strangled him to death on the school campus located opposite the hostel block.

Police matched the handwriting in the letter found with the handwriting of students and began questioning the suspect. He tried to run away and finally confessed that he, along with another boy, committed the murder.

"The two juveniles in conflict with law confessed that they killed the hostel inmate due to personal dispute," said Eluru Superintendent of Police (SP) D. Mary

Prasanthi.

"They left a letter in the hands of the deceased to divert the course of investigation," she said.

The SP did not reveal what was personal about the dispute that had led to the murder.

However, it was learnt the prime accused had allegedly physically and sexually abused the deceased boy previously.

When the victim rejected his proposal for sexual favour, the prime accused with another classmate plotted the murder and executed it.

The case highlights that teenagers are committing murders not just in cities and towns but even in remote places.

Police officials say teenagers studying in residential schools away from their families need proper counselling to ensure that they don't develop bad habits.

Police arrest Mumbai DJ for repeatedly raping Mexican woman

MUMBAI, Dec 2 (Agencies): The Mumbai police have arrested a man for allegedly repeatedly raping a 31-year-old Mexican woman disc jockey (DJ), an official said on Saturday.

The 35-year-old accused, who also works as a DJ, was arrested on Friday after the victim lodged a complaint against him last week, the official of Bandra police station said.

As per the complaint, the accused raped the woman on several occasions since 2019.

The woman currently lives in Mumbai and the accused is her manager, he said.

"The woman said in her complaint that she met the accused



through social media in 2017.

He allegedly sexually assaulted her at his home in Bandra in July 2019, after which he raped her on multiple occasions," the police official said.

"The woman said that the accused used to force himself on her by threatening to kick her out of an assignment if she refused. He also allegedly blackmailed her

through some of her intimate pictures," he said.

The victim complained that the accused used to send inappropriate pictures to her.

Despite getting married to another woman in 2020, he kept on texting her sexually explicit things and making sexual demands from her, he added.

Based on her complaint, the police filed a case under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 376 (rape), 377 (unnatural sex), 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and 506 (criminal intimidation) against the accused, the official said, adding that further investigation is underway.

2 paramilitary jawans injured as bomb explodes in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada



RAIPUR, Dec 2 (Agencies): Two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel and one journalist were injured after an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted

by Naxalites exploded in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh on Saturday.

The incident occurred when the security personnel were removing the posters that were

put up by the Naxalites in the district's Balasur Palli Marg area amidst the ongoing People's Liberation Guerilla Army (PLGA) week.

Naxalites are observing the PLGA week in memory of 54 Naxalites who have lost their lives for several reasons in the past year.

Following the incident, the injured personnel were rushed to a nearby hospital for medical treatment, where their condition is out of danger.

Earlier, during the

second phase of Assembly elections in Chhattisgarh, one Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) jawan was killed as Naxalites targeted a polling party in the state's Bindranawagarh area by detonating an improvised explosive device (IED).

A day before the polls, they triggered two low-intensity IED blasts in Dhamtari region in Chhattisgarh. Though no one was hurt, the officials later recovered a 5 kg improvised explosive device from the area.

Heavy fighting continues in Gaza, Israel says Hamas command centres hit

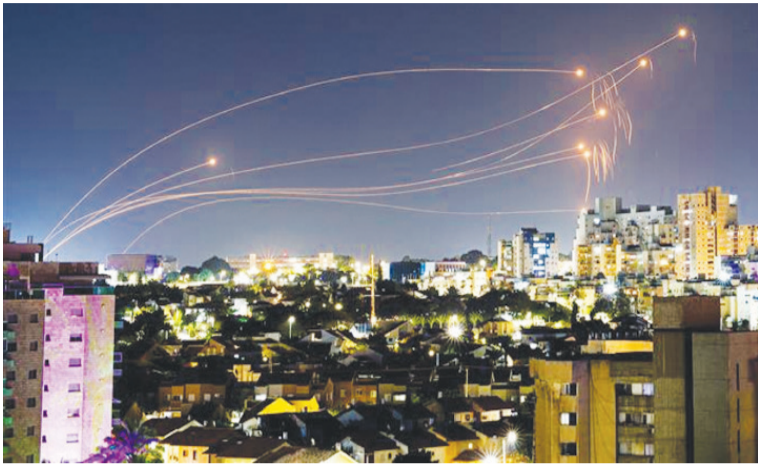
The temporary ceasefire, which was initially reached on November 24, expired at 7 am on Friday morning, with Israel and Hamas blaming each other for the collapse

TEL AVIV, Dec 2 (Agencies): Heavy fighting continued in Gaza on Saturday following a day after the temporary humanitarian truce collapsed in the besieged enclave, with the Israeli military claiming to have hit Hamas command centres.

In an update on X, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said on Saturday that it "struck operational command centers in Gaza, which Hamas terrorists were operating, as well as underground sites and a military compound from which anti-tank missiles were launched at soldiers" on Friday.

The IDF also said that it eliminated multiple terrorist cells throughout Gaza, including one with over 10 terrorists operating adjacent to ground troops.

It further claimed of thwarting two additional terrorist cells -- in joint IDF ground and aerial activities -- that launched mortar



shells toward IDF troops in Gaza.

The temporary ceasefire, which was initially reached on November 24, expired at 7 am on Friday morning, with Israel and Hamas blaming each other for the collapse.

According to the Hamas-controlled Health Ministry in Gaza, at least 178 people were

killed and 589 injured since the resumption of the hostilities.

Meanwhile, more than 260 Palestinians were detained by Israeli forces in the West Bank during the period of the now-expired truce, according to the Palestinian Prisoner Society.

Under the Israel-Hamas truce, a total of 104 hostages -- 80 Israelis, 24 foreign nationals

-- and 240 Palestinian prisoners were released in between November 24 to 30.

But the IDF has said that at least 136 hostages are still being held in Gaza, including 17 women and children.

The Israeli military has also said that a new interactive map showing Gaza divided up into numbered districts and "evacuation zones" is meant to reduce casualties when it carries out strikes in civilian areas.

Earlier on Friday, the IDF dropped leaflets in areas of southern Gaza which included a QR code that connects to the map.

But telecommunications and electrical infrastructure in Gaza suffered extensive damage over weeks of bombardment, leaving many residents with unreliable access to the internet and power.

South Korea successfully launches 1st spy satellite into orbit



SEOUL, Dec 2 (Agencies): South Korea successfully launched its first indigenous military spy satellite from a US military base in California, in a culmination of Seoul's quest for space-based intelligence capabilities amid growing North Korean threats, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday.

The launch of the satellite atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base on Friday came after Pyongyang claimed success in its own spy satellite launch last week -- a move that underscored a growing inter-Korean security rivalry, reports Yonhap News Agency.

The Ministry said the

satellite was placed in orbit approximately four minutes after launch at 10.19 a.m., and succeeded in communicating with a ground station at 11.37 a.m., which means it is operating normally.

Beginning with an electro-optical and infrared (EO/IR) satellite, South Korea plans to send four more synthetic aperture radar (SAR) satellites into space by 2025 to better monitor North Korea.

The plan is expected to heat up a space arms race between the two Koreas as North Korea sent its first spy satellite in orbit on November 21 following two failed attempts earlier this year and vowed to launch more in a short span of time.

US senators ask Biden to impose China travel ban after respiratory illness cases

WASHINGTON, Dec 2 (Agencies): Five Republican senators led by Marco Rubio on Saturday asked President Joe Biden's administration to ban travel between the United States and China after a spike in Chinese respiratory illness cases.

"We should immediately restrict travel between the United States and (China) until we know more about the dangers posed by this new illness," said the letter signed by Rubio, the top Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee, along with Senators JD Vance, Rick Scott, Tommy Tuberville and Mike Braun.

The rise in cases became a global issue last week when the World Health Organization asked China for more information, citing a report on clusters of undiagnosed pneumonia in children by the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases.

A Biden administration official said the United States was closely monitoring the uptick in respiratory illnesses in China, but added, "We are seeing seasonal trends. Nothing is appearing out of the ordinary. ... At this time, there is no indication that there is a link



between the people who are seeking care in US emergency departments and the outbreak of respiratory illness in China."

The spokesperson for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, Liu Pengyu, said in response to the Rubio letter, "The relevant claims are purely ill-intentioned fabrications. China firmly opposes them." Maria Van Kerkhove, acting director of the WHO's department of epidemic and pandemic preparedness and prevention, said earlier this week the increase appeared to be driven by a rise in the number of children contracting pathogens that they had avoided during two years of Covid-19 restrictions.

In recent months, the United States and China have been steadily increasing flights between the countries, though they remain far below 2019 levels. The

number approved rose on November 9 to 35 per week for each country, up from 12 per week in August.

In January 2020, then-President Donald Trump barred most non-US citizens who had recently been in China from entering the United States over Covid concerns, but did not restrict flights between the two countries.

The United States lifted the unprecedented travel restrictions for fully vaccinated international visitors starting in November 2021, including from China.

The U.S. rescinded a separate requirement that air travelers test negative before arriving in June 2022.

The United States in January had started requiring air passengers to get negative Covid tests after Beijing's decision to lift its stringent zero-Covid policies, but lifted the requirements in March.

What is posthumous sperm retrieval? And how it offers solace to families whose men have died in Gaza war?

Posthumous sperm retrieval (PSR) is a procedure that involves collecting sperm from deceased person and can be used later to attempt pregnancy

TEL AVIV, Dec 2 (Agencies): In the wake of a devastating Hamas attack in Israel, a poignant ray of hope emerges as families grieving the loss of their loved ones find solace through an unexpected avenue--posthumous sperm retrieval (PSR), CNN reported.

Posthumous sperm retrieval (PSR) is a procedure that involves collecting sperm from a deceased person. The sperm can be used later to attempt pregnancy.

At Kaplan Hospital in Israel, Professor Shir Daphna-Tekoah, a medical social worker, found herself grappling with an unprecedented crisis on October 7, the day of Hamas attack on Israeli farms, villages, and a music festival. Tasked with addressing the aftermath, she faced the immense challenge of supporting victims and their families.

Daphna-Tekoah, also head of the hospital's rape crisis centre, was initially called in due to reports of sexual assaults, but the emergency room quickly became overwhelmed with the injured.

"I've seen dozens of



people killed in accidents or shootings, but this was the hardest thing I've done in my life," Daphna-Tekoah recounted. The horror and grief were palpable as she assisted families bidding farewell to their young loved ones, some no older than 23 or 24, according to CNN.

In the midst of such tragedy, Daphna-Tekoah found a glimmer of hope when she posed an unconventional question to one grieving family: "Would you like me to find out about sperm preservation?" The suggestion aimed at exploring the possibility of PSR, a process that involves extracting sperm from the deceased.

The urgency and gravity of the situa-

tion prompted Daphna-Tekoah to swiftly approach hospital management. Within hours, legal approvals were obtained, and by the following morning, the sperm of several victims from the Neva festival had been successfully retrieved. Over seven weeks later, Israeli hospitals have been inundated with requests for cryogenically freezing the sperm of those who lost their lives in the conflict.

The Ministry of Health has played a pivotal role in facilitating this process by cutting through red tape. The ministry's recent directive instructs hospitals to approve requests for PSR from the deceased's parents during the ongoing conflict, bypassing the need

for family court intervention. Posthumous sperm retrieval involves retrieving live sperm from testicular tissue within a limited timeframe, typically 44 to 45 hours after death. Dr Noga Fuchs Weizman, the medical director of the sperm bank and male infertility unit at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, noted a surge in demand for the service since October 7. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) actively propose this option to bereaved families when informing them of their loss, as reported by CNN.

The case of Israeli singer Shaylee Atary garnered attention after her husband was killed during the attacks. Atary, in her efforts to retrieve her husband's sperm, highlighted the emotional complexities surrounding such decisions. The initiative for sperm retrieval is meticulously overseen by the Ministry of Health, which allocates cases to four hospitals. Timing is critical, with live sperm detection most likely within the first 24 hours after death. The pro-

cess involves freezing any viable sperm cells in liquid nitrogen for potential future use.

While science and technology offer a glimmer of hope for grieving families, ethical considerations loom large. Gil Siegal, head of the Centre for Health Law and Bioethics at Kiryat Ono College in Israel, acknowledged the country's pioneering role in reproductive medicine. However, he cautioned against hasty policy decisions and emphasised the need for thoughtful deliberation on the implications of posthumous parenthood.

As Israel navigates this uncharted territory, balancing grief, science, and ethics, the legacy of those lost in the conflict takes on new dimensions.

For Daphna-Tekoah, the imperative is clear, "If, as a country, we encourage people to donate organs after death, why aren't we giving people the right to donate sperm? It's their human right. It was a catastrophe, and we owe it to them," CNN reported.

North Korea Threatens To "Destroy" US Spy Satellites If It Tries "Any Attack"

SEOUL, Dec 2 (Agencies): North Korea warned Saturday it would "destroy" US spy satellites if Washington tries "any attack" on its space asset, after Pyongyang launched its first military eye in the sky last week.

A spokesman for the North's defence ministry said it would consider such a move a "declaration of war", according to a statement carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency.

The statement came after a US official's remark that Washington "could deny an adversary's space and counterspace capabilities... using a variety of reversible and irreversible means", referring to the North's successful spy satellite launch in late November.

The US military could undermine the "effectiveness and lethality of adversary forces across all domains", Sheryll Klinkel, a spokesperson at



the US Space Command, told Radio Free Asia this week.

On Saturday, Pyongyang threatened to "destroy" US spy satellites if Washington "tries to violate the legitimate territory" of North Korea, referring to its satellite programme.

If the United States attempts to breach its space rights, the North's defence ministry spokesman said his country

"will consider taking responsive action measures for self-defence to undermine or destroy the viability of the US spy satellites".

North Korea is barred by successive rounds of UN resolutions from tests using ballistic technology, and analysts say there is significant technological overlap between space launch capabilities and the develop-

ment of ballistic missiles.

Experts have said putting a working reconnaissance satellite into orbit would improve North Korea's intelligence-gathering capabilities, particularly over South Korea, and provide crucial data in any military conflict.

Since last week's launch, the North has claimed its satellite has already provided images of major US and South Korean military sites.

It has not yet disclosed any of the satellite imagery it claims to possess.

The North's launch of "Malligyong-1" was Pyongyang's third attempt at putting such a satellite in orbit, after two earlier failures.

Seoul has said the North received technical help from Moscow, in return for supplying weapons for use in Russia's war with Ukraine.

At least 12 people are missing after heavy rain triggers a landslide and flash floods in Indonesia

MEDAN, Dec 2 (Agencies): Torrential rain triggered flash floods and a landslide on Indonesia's Sumatra island, leaving at least 12 people missing, officials said Saturday.

Tons of mud, rocks and trees rolled down from a mountain late Friday, reaching a river that burst its banks and tore through mountainside villages, said Budiono, who heads the local search and rescue agency.

Worst hit was Simangulampe, a village near the popular Lake Toba in North Sumatra province, where several people were buried under tons of mud and houses were damaged, said Budiono, who goes by a single name like many Indonesians.

He said relief efforts were hampered by blocked roads covered with thick mud, debris and giant rocks, and rescuers were still searching for the 12 missing people Saturday.

National Disaster Management Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari said a villager was rushed to a nearby hospital with serious injuries after the

landslide hit his house.

He said at least 12 houses, a church, a school and a hotel were damaged by the disaster, forcing about 50 families in the village to flee to a temporary government shelter.

Photos released by the agency showed damaged homes, along with a church, a school and a hotel covered by tons of rocks.

Authorities were still collecting information about damage and possible casualties, Muhari said.

Seasonal rain from about October to March frequently causes flooding and landslides in Indonesia, an archipelago of 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or near fertile flood plains.

The 1,145-square-kilometre Lake Toba, formed out of an ancient super volcano, is a popular sightseeing destination on the island of Sumatra and one of 10 stunning natural attractions in Indonesia that the government aims to develop as magnets for international tourists.

Drivers, shopkeepers, vendors occupy roads, footpaths in Quazigund town

'Municipal Committee Quazigund watching as mute spectators'

Top News Report

KULGAM, Dec 2: The footpath in Quazigund market in south Kashmir's Anantnag District which is supposed for pedestrians to walk is occupied by shopkeepers and other street vendors.

Despite the tall claims of the authorities in taking strict action against encroachers, the footpath in Quazigund market has been allegedly being illegally occupied by the Drivers, shopkeepers and

Vendors.

The street vendors, Drivers and shopkeepers are seen occupying footpaths in Main Town Quazigund.

Pedestrians expressed frustration and Resentment over the sufferings and blamed Administration and Municipal Committee Quazigund for their indifference and Failure to the situation. Drivers, Shopkeepers and vendors selling garments, fruits, Goods, vegetables, and footwear occupy a major chunk on footpaths,



Municipal Committee Quazigund has failed to remove encroachment from the footpaths and roads.

A local resident Zahid Ahmad told that there is no space to walk on the road as all the shop-

keepers have displayed their goods on footpaths and the rest of the space was captured by vendors in whole Quazigund Market.

The shopkeepers in every nook and corner of Town display most

of their Goods on front portion of the shops occupying the footpath. Another local said wishing Anonymity, added that Neither

Pedestrians said that not administration nor Municipal Committee Quazigund take cognizance in this Regard.

The administration seem to be in deep slumber, as no action has been taken against the Shopkeepers who had occupied Whole Footpaths, which causing great inconvenience to the commuters.

People eagerly waiting for polls to teach lesson to BJP: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Bahu-jan Samaj Party (BSP) J&K UT General Secretary Rajesh Gupta on Saturday slammed the BJP run UT government for allegedly failing on all fronts and claimed that people were waiting for the polls to teach them a lesson.

BSP leader said people of J&K remember BJP for unleashing countless miseries on the State and its people. People still recount the numerous instances of BJP and its leaders committed from time to time. "The treacherous role played by the



BJP and its leadership is an open secret," he said, adding, now the responsibility rests on people to choose between forces inimical to State's integrity. "Now, it is up to people to discern between the ones who stand for their rights and who trampled them. However, people have made it a point to show such forces as are inimical to State they're the right to place. In

the end, it is the people whose resolve will prevail," he said.

"The BJP government only made false poll promises to the people and did event management in the last nine years. No development was undertaken during past decade. Now, people are waiting eagerly for the polls to teach them a lesson," he told reporters here.

Gupta said that people should elect those who will ensure that their voice is heard.

"People of J&K want a credible voice to represent their aspirations and BSP has credible voice of all the regions of J&K," he added.

GDC Doda in collaboration with J&K AIDS Control Society observe World AIDS Day

Top News Report

DODA, Dec 2: The Red Ribbon Club of GDC Doda in association with Jammu and Kashmir AIDS Control Society has organised a gracious extempore session along with a detailed lecture on the eve of World AIDS Day.

The whole event was organised under overall patronage of the college Principal Dr. Attar Singh Kotwal.

The theme of the event for this year was "Let Communities Lead".

The resource person for the event was Dr. Wahied Khawar Balwan, Assistant professor at GDC Doda.

Dr. Balwan in his lecture presented various causes, myths and preventive measures in a demonstrative way.

Dr. Balwan also in his



interactive session with the students emphasized the need of the youth to aware the ignorant and uneducated masses about various misconceptions regarding this menace.

In the extempore sessions students from different semesters shared their views and thoughts in the one minute time limit.

The whole event was compered by Prof. Satish Kumar, Nodal Officer Red Ribbon Club & HOD Urdu.

Faculty Members from

different departments viz., Dr. Jamsheed Ahmed (HoD English), Dr. Mir Masood (HoD Chemistry), Prof. Zain ul Abdeen Bandy (HoD Pol. Science), Dr. Akhtar Hussain, Dr. Jagmohan Sharma, Prof. Amit Kumar (Economics), Prof. Vijay Kumar (HoD Computer Application), Prof. Anuj and others were present.

The formal vote of thanks were given by the Dr. Jamsheed Ahmed.

GDC Boys Kathua, JKACS jointly commemorate World AIDS Day

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 2: Red Ribbon Club and Department of Zoology, GDC Kathua in collaboration with JKACS organised poster presentation and symposia on the occasion of World AIDS Day under theme "Let Communities Lead" The event organised under the supervision and able guidance of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal of the college and convened by Dr. R. K. Pandita, Head of Deptt. Zoology.

The event commenced with the lighting of traditional lamp by the Chief guest on the event, Prof. Seema Mir along with Prof. Ravinder Kaur, Prof. Sanjeev Gupta, Prof. Jagdish Kumar, Prof. R.K Pandita, Dr. R. K. Manhas and Dr. Shiv Kumar.

In his welcome address, Dr. Pandita



welcomed the Chief Guest, faculty members, jury members and students.

He emphasised on the harsh realities faced by the people living with HIV/AIDS as the victims bear the burden of societal discrimination and prejudices hindering their healthcare, employment and social acceptance.

The chief guest of the event, Prof. Seema Mir in her message said that Worlds AIDS Day is dedicated to solidarity

with people living with AIDS and sensitizing the community as there is recurring need of awareness campaigns against the spread of AIDS and other communicable diseases.

Prof. Mir motivated the students to continue their efforts for such noble causes.

Further, the event proceeded for its scheduled activities in which 13 students participated in symposia and poster presentation respectively.

Prof Ravinder Kour, Dr Eva Sharma and Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta adjudged the posters in which Khushboo Rajput of Sem-I grabbed the 1st position, whereas, Kamalgeet of Sem-I and Manan Rajput of Sem-I stood at second and third position. In the second event, Prof. Jagdish Kumar, Dr Shubb Kumar and Dr. R. K. Manhas adjudged the Symposia in which Nandini Sharma of Sem-I secured 1st position, whereas, Kamalgeet

of Sem-I and Heena Sharma of Sem-I stood at second and third position.

A human chain was made by the participants, students and staff members as a resolve to fight against the HIV/AIDS. All the participants were felicitated with merit and participation certificates.

The proceedings of the event were attended by Dr. Shivani Kotwal, Dr. Rahul Sharma, Dr. Mateen Hafiz, Dr. Kaurav Singh, Dr. Mohd. Tariq, Dr. Meraju Din, Dr. Sartaj Aziz, Dr. Rashmi Sangotra, Dr. Yogeshwar Dutt and students.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Shiv Kumar, Incharge, Red Ribbon Club and the proceedings of the event was conducted by Sakshi and Rupakshi of semester-I.

KPDCL to frame criminal charges against consumers for power theft

Over 10K inspections in last 10 days of Nov, 11K disconnections; Rs. 85.24 cr revenue also collected in same period

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 2: In an attempt to combat large-scale power pilferage and improve bill deposits by defaulting consumers, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) conducted a whopping 10,465 inspections and disconnected over 11,000 consumers in the last 10 days of November 2023.

KPDCL also realized a revenue of Rs.85.24 crore, including power receipts, in the same period, with highest

remittances of Rs.16.42 crore recorded on November 28 alone.

Sharing details, a KPDCL spokesperson on Saturday confirmed rampant hooking of lines on bare conductor in metered areas and exceeding energy use beyond agreed load by flat-rated consumers across Kashmir Division. "During inspection overdrive, penalty of Rs.1.03 crore was imposed on consumers found involved in power theft across all 6 O&M Circles in last 10 days of November. As many as 995 connections were

regularised and 2120 KW load added," the spokesman said.

O&M Circle Ganderbal conducted the highest number of 2,945 inspections, followed by Circle Spore with 2,048, Circle II Srinagar 1,950, Pulwama 1,528, Bijbehara 1,004 and Circle I Srinagar 990.

Crediting KPDCL patrolling teams for moving out in sub-zero temperature to expose power pilferage, the spokesman shared details of 11,238 consumers disconnected in the last 10 days of November, who

had pending energy dues exceeding three months. This included 7,828 domestic, 2,979 commercial and 346 industrial consumers.

The spokesperson assured the consumers of strict adherence to power curtailment schedule following additional allocation of power to UT of Jammu & Kashmir by the Central Government.

Emphasizing judicious use of power, KPDCL spokesperson also warned consumers to avoid hooking, bypassing of meters and exceeding overload,

failing which KPDCL will file criminal charges under relevant provisions of the Electricity Act. "We will soon start sharing details of consumers who have pending energy dues in lakhs towards the organisation. We will also expose hookers who have the temerity to openly use power unauthorisedly," he said, adding that FIRs will be lodged against those persons who physically assault KPDCL staff for performing official duties.

The spokesman also warned commercial consumers includ-

ing hotels, malls and other business outlets who have been found involved in tampering with meters and have been caught red-handed by the Central Inspection Squad of KPDCL. "We have taken cognizance under law and penalised them. These penalties for power theft have been confirmed by the First Appellate Authority under Sections 126 & 127 of the Electricity Act. KPDCL will ensure the fines are deposited, otherwise we will act tough and initiate legal proceedings against them," he said,

adding the lists of all such defaulters is lying with KPDCL and will be made public soon.

Confirming positive outcomes of accelerated inspection and disconnection drives, KPDCL spokesman said such drives will continue which are aimed at preventing energy losses and enhancing revenue collection from defaulting consumers. "There have been many positive takeaways from such drives. This will help us in adhering to power curtailment schedule and extending comfort to the genuine consum-

ers," he assured.

Reiterating concern over the rate of damage to Domestic Transformers (DTs), the spokesperson urged the consumers to prevent overloading of DTs which puts entire habitations to great hardships during peak winter times. "We have maintained steady rate of replacing damaged transformers. Our teams at Central Workshop Pampore and divisional-level workshops are working 24X7 to repair damaged DTs and ensuring time-bound replacement," he added.

FROM PAGE 1

ED Raids 2 Ex-Punjab Ministers; Seizes Documents, Mobile Phones

the issuance of permits for felling of Khair trees, transfer/posting in the department, issuance of NOC from the department and purchase of tree guards, it said.

During the search operations, various incriminating documents, mobile phones/digital devices have been seized which, prima facie, reveal "suspicious transactions" involving persons who are under investigation, the ED said.

J&K Reservation Amendment Bill among 20 to be taken up for discussion in Parliament

Demands for Excess Grants for the year 2020-21 and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill.

ED officer 'caught red-handed' while taking bribe in TN, arrested

Government." In October, he contacted a Government employee from Dindigul and mentioned about a Vigilance case registered against him in that district which was "already disposed off." Tiwari "informed the employee that instructions had been received from the Prime Minister's Office to conduct an enquiry" and asked the government employee to appear before the ED office at Madurai on October 30, it said.

When the man went to Madurai, Tiwari asked him to pay Rs 3 crore to avoid legal action in the case, DVAC alleged. "Later, he said that he had spoken to his superiors and as per their directions, he agreed to collect Rs 51 lakh as bribe.

Omar Abdullah targets ECI, BJP over delay in J&K assembly polls

situation and putting the ball in the court of

Centre and J&K government while saying that final call on holding polls will be taken after discussions with Home Ministry and J&K administration.

"If this is a fact it means BJP does not want elections to be held in Jammu & Kashmir," Omar said and added, "We hold Election Commission and BJP equally responsible for not holding elections in J&K as they are duty bound to hold democratic exercise in the region," he added.

Quoting former Prime Minister of India Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Omar said, "Friends can be changed but neighbours can't. So Pakistan is equally duty bound to make atmosphere cordial for talks. He said what is wrong in it if we are invoking Vajpayee's Insaniyat, Jamhooriyat and Kashmiriyat".

Crime Branch Files Charge Sheet Against Three Brothers In Land-Fraud Case

that they had cancelled the special power of attorney granted to the complainant.

They also demanded that the collector make the payment into their account.

After a complaint was lodged, a preliminary verification was initiated. It was found during the probe that the allegations were substantiated, leading to the registration of a formal case for an in-depth investigation, the spokesperson said.

The investigators seized relevant records, recorded witness statements, gathered scientific, circumstantial and other material evidence and offences under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code were established against the accused for luring the complainant in a deceitful manner with criminal intent and duping him of Rs 43 lakh, the official added.

Night temperature stays above freezing point at most places in Kashmir

week, officials said here on Saturday. The night temperature rose at several places in the Valley with Gulmarg and Pahalgam being the only weather stations

where the mercury settled below the freezing point on Friday night, they said.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, was 4.8 degrees Celsius, marginally up from the previous night's 4.5 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Quazigund recorded a low of 3.4 degrees Celsius, up from 2.2 degrees Celsius the previous night, they said. Kokernag town in south Kashmir registered a minimum of 2.2 degrees Celsius, while Kupwara, in the north, recorded a low of 2.3 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a low of minus 0.4 degrees Celsius, while the mercury in Gulmarg settled at minus 3.0 degrees Celsius, the officials added.

The three-week dry spell in Kashmir ended on Thursday with snowfall in the middle and higher reaches of the Valley and rains in the plains.

The intermittent snowfall continued at some places, like Sonamarg in central Kashmir, on Friday morning as well.

The Met office said the weather would remain partly to generally cloudy, but mainly dry till December 10.

Adani Group to take call on Wilmar JV stake divestment in 3 months: Report

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): The Adani Group is set to decide on the divestment of its stake in the Adani Wilmar joint venture within the next three months, according to Jugsheer Singh, the group's Chief Financial Officer.

"We are currently studying the whether to keep or divest Wilmar stake," Singh was quoted as saying by news agency Reuters on the sidelines of an event in Mumbai.

A report last month indicated that the Adani Group is in talks with various multinational consumer goods companies to divest its entire 43.97 per cent stake in Adani Wilmar Ltd.

The joint venture is well-known for its ownership of the Fortune brand, particularly recognized for its edible oils and packaged



grocery products. Sources suggest that a deal could be finalized within a month.

The conglomerate, operating across diverse sectors from ports to renewable energy, is anticipating a sale price ranging between \$2.5 billion to \$3

billion for its stake in the joint venture with Singapore-based Wilmar International, which also holds an equivalent 43.97 per cent share in Adani Wilmar Ltd.

This is a part of Adani Group's broader plan to exit certain businesses to make more sub-

stantial investments in core focus areas, primarily centered around infrastructure.

Adani Wilmar is a significant player in the edible oil sector with a strong market presence. In the previous fiscal year, the company reported a net profit of Rs 607 crore and revenues of Rs 55,262 crore.

However, it faced challenges in the second quarter of FY24, reporting a net loss of Rs 131 crore. The company had also posted a loss in the first quarter of the ongoing financial year.

This development occurs as promoters within the Adani Group consider selling stakes in non-core assets to establish a liquidity cushion, following a valuation dip triggered by a critical report from US short seller Hindenburg Research.

Gold prices soar to lifetime high in India



MUMBAI, Dec 2 (Agencies): Gold prices rose to a lifetime high in India amid the peak wedding season and rising international rates of the precious metal.

Chennai led the charge with the price soaring to Rs 64,530 per 10 gm for 24 carat gold in morning trade.

The price of the precious metal in Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru and Kolkata was hovering at Rs 63,760 per 10 gm, which was Rs 810 higher than the previous day.

Gold prices in the international market have also shot up to a seven-month high as spot prices gained 1.6 per cent to \$2,069.10 per ounce on Friday.

India imports a large quantity of gold and rising global prices have a direct impact on the domestic market.

Gold prices have been rising in the global market as the dollar has continued to depreciate against a basket of major currencies and is currently close to a three-month low which makes gold cheaper to buy in other foreign currencies.

There are also growing expectations that the Federal Reserve is likely to cut rates in the coming months.

Expectations of low interest rates makes financial instruments less attractive for investors compared to gold which is considered a safe investment.

The demand for gold in the domestic market remains firm amid the marriage season as the precious metal is gifted to brides and grooms in large quantities.

Car sales see a sequential decline in November

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): There was a dip in passenger vehicle (PV) sales (dispatches by manufacturers) in the festive heavy month of November 2023 when compared with October 2023 sales. As the festive season ended in the first half of last month, automakers reduced filling up dealer showrooms amidst a drop in buying interest from consumers.

As per data shared by industry executives, PV wholesales in November came down to 3.35 lakh units as against 3.91 lakh units sold in October. On annual basis, however, November 2023 sales were up nearly 4% from 3.22 lakh units in November 2022. Maruti Suzuki (MSIL), India's largest carmaker, wholesales fell from nearly 2 lakh vehicles (domestic plus exports) in October 2023 to 1.64 lakh units in November 2023. Its domestic PV

sales came down from 168,047 units in October 2023 to 134,158 units in November 2023. It registered a drop in every segment, be it mini, compact or the fast growth SUVs.

Shashank Srivastava, executive director, sales & marketing at MSIL, said there has been a drop in retail and bookings, particularly after the festive season that ended mid-November, but bookings for MSIL rose by 7% last month. He said companies need to be careful and plan production accordingly in December to balance the situation.

Srivastava expects inventory level at dealer showrooms to come down in December due to aggressive schemes and offers by carmakers. Currently, stock levels in PV industry are pegged at 30-35 days inventory with a cumulative estimate of 330,000 units. Hyundai Motor India COO Tarun

Garg said the growth momentum continued but as industry players undertake stock correction ahead of the year-end, wholesales are expected to taper down. "Hyundai have three weeks of inventory at the moment and it will go down to two weeks by the end of December," he added.

Garg stated Hyundai's SUV contribution to total sales was the highest at 68% in November. Garg also said that the company is considering a price hike in near future. Hyundai's November 2023 sales stood at 49,451 units as against 55,128 units sold in October 2023. Tata Motors' November 2023 dispatches stood at 46,068 units as against 48,337 units in October 2023 while Mahindra & Mahindra's November sales came down to 39,981 units in November from 43,708 units in October.

Satyam case: SEBI asks Raju, 5 others to disgorge unlawful gains of Rs 624 cr

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): In the 14-year-old Satyam Computer Services case, markets watchdog SEBI has directed the erstwhile company's founder B Ramalinga Raju, four individuals and an entity to disgorge unlawful gains worth over Rs 624 crore.

SEBI has also barred Ramalinga Raju and Rama Raju from the securities markets for nearly five years but the directions will be subject to the Supreme Court's decision on the pending appeals filed by the two individuals.

The scam at Satyam Computer Services came to light on January 7, 2009, when Ramalinga Raju, then the company's chairman, admit-



ted to manipulating the company's accounts. SEBI's probe also revealed that the individuals traded in the company's shares during the period from January 2001 to December 2008 when in possession of unpublished price-sen-

sitive information about the firm's adverse financial position.

In a 96-page order, dated November 30, SEBI directed Ramalinga Raju, Rama Raju, B Suryanarayan Raju, V Srinivas, G Ramakrishna and SRSR Holdings

to disgorge the unlawful gains totalling Rs 624.09 crore.

The amount has to be paid along with an annual interest of 12% from January 7, 2009 till the date of payment, according to the SEBI. SEBI's latest order came after the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT), in June this year, asked the regulator to pass a fresh order on or before November 30.

In February this year, SAT set aside two orders by SEBI in October and November 2018 in the case with respect to calculation of the unlawful gains and certain other aspects.

"I find that imposition of simple interest on illegal gains at the rate of 12% from January 7, 2009 till

date of payment, is neither arbitrary nor excessive by any standard.

"On the contrary it is imposed judiciously in the facts and circumstances of this case and is consistent with past precedents," SEBI whole-time member Ananth Narayan G said in the order on November 30.

According to the latest order, Ramalinga Raju, Rama Raju, V Srinivas and G Ramakrishna shall continue to remain under restraint as directed by the Supreme Court till appeals in the case are decided.

Ramalinga Raju and Rama Raju have been barred from the securities market till July 14, 2028, as per the latest order.

Marengo CIMS Hospital is positioned as prominent center for Heart Transplants in Western India

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmedabad is positioned today as an advanced center for heart transplants with a clinical excellence team well recognized globally. The team of doctors performs double-digit numbers annually to gain the reputation they have today. The team of doctors is led by Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program.

Heart transplantation has emerged as a well-established treatment for advanced heart failure over the past four to five decades. The last decade has witnessed a remarkable global surge in the number of heart transplant procedures, seeing an increase of more than 300% worldwide and surpassing a 400% increase in the United States alone. The Western world, particularly North America, experienced a significant uptick in heart transplant num-

bers, particularly since the 1980s, with annual procedures ranging from 3000 to 4000. However, the growth has plateaued, primarily due to limitations in the availability of organs for donation.

Despite the heart transplant procedure having started in 1994 in India, the high-end surgery did not become a preferred option for patients with end-stage heart failure until 2010. In fact, it was only by 2019 that India performed 1000 heart transplants, after almost 25 years after the Transplantation of Human Organs Act was passed by the Government of India. India is now in an enviable position to offer affordable and accessible quality healthcare to patients globally and we are fast emerging as a preferred destination for medical treatment solutions.

Dr Dhiren Shah, Director - Heart Transplant Program says, "There are several compelling reasons for heart transplantation to become

a preferred option for patients with end-stage heart failure. A heart transplant is often the only life-saving intervention for patients who have exhausted other medical treatments and interventions. This surgical procedure significantly improves the quality of life for patients by restoring normal heart function and allowing them to engage in activities they were previously unable to perform. Heart transplantation also offers a potential long-term survival and improved prognosis, especially when the transplant surgery is successful. Symptoms such as fatigue, breathlessness, and shortness of breath are overcome with a new heart, opening a realm of quality life for the patient."

The state of Gujarat has emerged to position itself as a leader in heart transplants. With organ donation improving steadily in the past few years, Gujarat stands as a leader in the realm of organ transplants. Statistics revealed that



organ donation was highest in the southern parts of India and consequently, the hospitals in the South ruled the space of organ donation and transplant. With the increasing awareness, myths and doubts are dispelled and people are coming forward to embrace one of the highest forms of humanity and donate organs of their deceased family member.

Dr Dhiren Shah adds, "In 2016, the Marengo CIMS Hospital in Ahmedabad received its heart transplantation license and the first heart transplantation in Gujarat was performed on 19th December 2016. With the heart transplant, which is undoubtedly the most celebrated and glorified transplant procedure, awareness about

organ donation has rapidly increased reaching every corner of the state. Between 2017 and 2019, there was an almost 20% increase in deceased organ donations in Gujarat. Marengo CIMS Hospital was still the only hospital performing heart transplants in Gujarat and the numbers were steadily growing. When COVID-19 struck in 2020 the spirit of organ donation was high. Even during the lockdown, Gujarat did India's first deceased organ donation during the pandemic where heart, liver, and kidneys were retrieved. Deceased donation has doubled in Gujarat compared to 36 donations in 2020 to 70 donations in 2021 and the number of organs donated increased from 110 to 223 organs in 2020 and 2021 respectively."

The Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad marked its 100 deceased organ donations within a period of two years with 77 livers, 152 kidneys, 23 hearts, and 18 lungs donated.

Fasting for 14 hours increases sleep, hunger: Study

LONDON, Dec 2 (Agencies): According to new data from the largest UK community research study, eating within a 10-hour window gives health benefits regarding mood, energy, and hunger.

Researchers from King's College London presented the trial's findings at the European Nutrition Conference.

Intermittent fasting (IF), or restricting your food consumption to a set time frame, is a popular approach for losing weight. You limit your daily eating schedule to 10 hours and fast for the remaining 14 hours with a ten-hour window. For example, if you start eating at 9 a.m., you must finish by 7 p.m.

Those who maintained a regular eating window outperformed those who altered their eating habits.

Despite the fact, a certain intermittent fasting advocates frequently promote restrictive eating windows as short as six hours, data presented in the abstract suggest that eating within a less restrictive window of ten hours has beneficial health effects such as changes in mood, energy, and appetite.

Dr Sarah Berry from King's College London and chief scientist at



ZOE said, "This is the largest study outside of a tightly controlled clinic to show that intermittent fasting can improve your health in a real-world setting. What's really exciting is that the findings show that you don't have to be very restrictive to see positive results. A ten-hour eating window, which was manageable for most people, improved mood, energy levels and hunger. We found for the first time that those who practised time-restricted eating, but were not consistent day to day, did not have the same positive health effects as those who were dedicated every day." 37,545 people on the ZOE Health app completed the core intervention period of three weeks. Participants were asked to eat as normal for the first week and then a ten-hour eating window for two weeks.

More than 36,231 par-

ticipants opted for additional weeks and 27,371 users were classified as highly engaged. Highly engaged participants were 78 per cent female, with a mean age of 60 and a BMI of 25.6. Participants with a longer eating window before the intervention saw an even greater benefit to their health.

Kate Bermingham PhD, from King's College London and ZOE, said, "This study adds to the growing body of evidence showing the importance of how you eat. The health impact of food is not just what you eat but the time at which you choose to consume your meals, and eating window is an important dietary behaviour that can be beneficial for health. Findings show that we don't need to be eating all the time. Many people will feel satiated and even lose weight if they restrict their food to a ten-hour window."

Vitamin D pills do not prevent bone fractures in kids: Study

LONDON, Dec 2 (Agencies): Vitamin D supplements do not increase bone strength or prevent bone fractures in children with the vitamin deficiency, claims a major clinical trial of over 8,000 kids.

Around one-third of children have at least one fracture before the age of 18. This is a major global health issue, as childhood fractures can lead to life years of disability or poor quality of life.

The findings, published in The

Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, challenges widely held perceptions relating to the effects of vitamin D on bone health.

"The absence of any effect of sustained, generous vitamin D supplementation on fracture risk or bone strength in vitamin D deficient children is striking," said Dr Ganmaa Davaasambuu, Associate Professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Researchers from Queen Mary University of London and

the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health conducted the trial on children from Mongolia, a setting with a particularly high fracture burden and where vitamin D deficiency is highly prevalent.

Over the course of three years, 8,851 school children aged 6-13 living in Mongolia received a weekly oral dose of vitamin D supplementation.

About 95.5 per cent of participants had vitamin D deficiency

at baseline, and study supplements were highly effective in boosting vitamin D levels into the normal range.

However, they had no effect on fracture risk or on bone strength, measured in a subset of 1,438 participants using quantitative ultrasound.

The findings are likely to prompt scientists, doctors and public health specialists to reconsider the effects of vitamin D supplements on bone health.

Axar Patel shines as India beat Australia by 20 runs to claim series

Spinners Axar Patel (3/16) and Ravi Bishnoi (1/17) were magnificent, bowling eight overs for only 33 runs with four scalps to their credit

RAIPUR, Dec 2 (Agencies): Ignored for the upcoming assignment in South Africa, left-arm spinner Axar Patel responded with excellent figures of 3/16 as India got the better of Australia by 20 runs in the fourth T20I to win the five-match series.

This was India's fifth consecutive T20I series on trot.

Rinku Singh blazed away to a 29-ball 46 while Jitesh Sharma smashed 35 in 19 balls before Australia pulled things back to stop India at 174 for nine after the visitors opted to bowl first.

Cruising at 167 for four in 18.3 overs, India lost five wickets for only seven runs in the last two overs, thanks to Ben Dwarshuis (3/40) and Jason Behrendorff (2/32).

In reply, Australia were restricted to 154 for seven in 20 overs as India took an unassailable 3-1 lead with a match to go. Matthew Wade remained not out on 36 off 23 balls.

Axar Patel (3/16) and Ravi Bishnoi (1/17) were magnificent, bowling eight overs for only 33 runs with four scalps to their credit. There was no dew and hence the target of 175 became defendable unlike Guwahati. Both spinners hit immaculate lengths and mostly bowled stump to stump which became Australia's undoing.

Set a target of 175, Australia were off to a flyer with Travis Head (31 off 16 balls) collecting a flurry of boundaries to lift his team to 42 for one in four overs, including picking 22 runs off seamer Deepak Chahar.

Seasoned spinner Axar how-



ever had the hero of Australia's World Cup final caught after the batter got a leading edge while attempting a slog-sweep.

It was a huge breakthrough for India, coming 10 balls after leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi knocked over Josh Philippe's off-stump with one that straightened.

Playing across the line, Aaron Hardie's middle stump was disturbed by Axar as he put India in a position of strength by leaving Australia at 55 for three at the end of seventh over.

Skipper Suryakumar Yadav introduced Avesh Khan into the attack and the seamer started on a good note, conceding six runs in his first over.

Ben McDermott (19) and Tim David (19) steadied the Australian innings with a 35-run partnership before Axar picked up his third wicket to leave the visitors in a very difficult situation at 87 for four in the 12th over and with the run rate pressure increasing.

Axar hit McDermott's off stump as the batter went for a big shot. Taken to the cleaners by Head

earlier in the innings, Chahar came back strongly to dismiss David and reduce Australia to 107 for five in the 15th over and the match tilted decisively in favour of India.

Earlier, Aaron Hardie started the match with a maiden over before Yashasvi Jaiswal (37 off 28 balls) got off the mark with a lovely cover drive Jason Behrendorff.

The 21-year-old Jaiswal launched into Ben Dwarshuis in the third over, hitting the left-arm seamer for three boundaries to set the tone for the hosts.

Ruturaj Gaikwad (32 off 28 balls) watched the action from the other end as Jaiswal went after the bowling and when the former did get strike for the first time in the fourth over, he employed the cut shot off a Behrendorff delivery to open his account with a boundary.

Jaiswal continued with his aggressive ways and played debutant spinner Chris Green through the off-side for a four before smashing him over the

midwicket fence for a six.

Recalled into the attack to stem the flow of runs, Hardie was hit straight down the ground for a four by Jaiswal, but the decision to bring him back ended in a success as Australia got their first breakthrough in the left-handed opener.

Going for one too many, Jaiswal could not connect well enough and Ben McDermott completed a good catch running from mid-on, as India reached 50 for one at the end of powerplay.

Joining the side after a small break following the World Cup, vice-captain Shreyas Iyer (8), looking to hit leg-spinner Tanveer Sangha out of the ground, could not get enough power or elevation and Green took the catch at long-on.

Skipper Suryakumar Yadav (1) casually edged Dwarshuis to the keeper, leaving India at 63 for three in the beginning of the ninth over and the crowd at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium silent.

The partisan spectators were however not required to keep quiet for long as Rinku Singh got going straightaway, his customary powerful strokes aiding him.

Rinku and Ruturaj added 48 runs for the fourth wicket before the latter was dismissed by Sangha. But that did not deter Rinku from playing his natural game and he found an able ally in Jitesh, the two adding 50 runs in just 29 balls to lift India's run rate.

Jitesh, however, fell when he was looking good to add a few more runs to his total.

Virat Kohli's T20I future to be discussed by BCCI and selectors, 2024 T20 World Cup participation in doubt



NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): In a sensational development, superstar India batter Virat Kohli's participation in next year's T20 World Cup has been thrown into turmoil as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and selectors will discuss his future in the shortest format of the game.

The source in the know of the development told Sports Tak that as of now there is no certainty whether Virat Kohli will feature in T20 World Cup or not.

"As of now it looks very difficult for him to make the cut but the management will speak to him and then a final call will

be taken as the management doesn't want to jump the gun, which is why a meeting with him is important before reaching any conclusion on his T20 format and World Cup slot," the source quoted.

"See we have informed Rohit that if he will play he will lead the team and you players will be there in the squad so he (Rohit) and the coach needs to take care of it. I don't see him play Afghanistan T20 as well but let's wait and see how things developing," the source added.

Kohli has a remarkable record in the shortest format of the game as is the leading run-scor-

er in the history of T20I cricket, amassing 4,008 runs in 115 matches for India.

His batting prowess is reflected in his average of 52.74 and a strike rate of 137.97, showcasing his ability to score quickly and consistently. Kohli has hit 37 fifties and one century in the format, with a top score of an unbeaten 122.

He has also been a reliable fielder, taking 50 catches. His contributions have often been crucial, as indicated by his 15 'Man of the Match' awards in T20Is. Despite being a part-time bowler, he has taken 4 wickets in T20Is.

In the Indian Premier League, he has played 237 matches and amassed a staggering 7,263 runs at an average of 37.25. His prowess with the bat is highlighted by his seven centuries and 50 half-centuries, with a top score of 113.

In the 2023 season alone, Kohli scored 639 runs in 14 innings, boasting an impressive average of 53.25 and striking at 139.82. Kohli's consistent performances have made him a cornerstone of RCB's batting lineup and a formidable force in the league.

Harmanpreet to captain India in upcoming Tests

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): Harmanpreet Kaur will lead the Indian squad in two Tests against England and Australia respectively, starting from December 14. BCCI has also announced the squad for the three-match T20I series against England.

The squad for the T20I series against Australia will be announced later. After a hiatus of nine years, India will play two Tests on home soil. Saika Ishaque, one of the breakout performers from the Women's Premier League and U19 T20 World Cup winner, Titas Sadhu, have found a place in the Test squad.

After consistent per-



formances, Shreyanka Patil has received a senior call-up for the first time.

India's T20Is squad vs England: Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana (VC), Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma, Yastika Bhatia (wk), Richa Ghosh (wk), Amanjot Kaur, Shreyanka Patil, Mannat Kashyap, Saika Ishaque, Renuka Singh Thakur,

Titans Sadhu, Pooja Vastrakar, Kanika Ahuja, Minnu Mani.

For Tests vs England & Australia: H Kaur (C), S Mandhana (VC), J Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma, Y Bhatia (wk), Richa Ghosh (wk), Sneha Rana, Shubha Sathiesh, Harleen Deol, Saika Ishaque, Renuka Thakur, Titas Sadhu, Meghna Singh, R Gayakwad, P Vastrakar.

BAN vs NZ, 1st Test: Bangladesh secure historic win as New Zealand fail trial by spin in Sylhet

SYLHET, Dec 2 (Agencies): Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam picked up a six-wicket haul to rip through New Zealand's batting lineup as Bangladesh registered their first-ever Test win over the Blackcaps at home in the series-opening Test on Saturday. Najmul Hossain Shanto starts his captaincy stint in fine fashion, leading by example as well. Taijul Islam absolutely loves bowling at this ground and it was him once again who proved to be lethal with eleven wickets in the match and took down the Kiwis.

New Zealand had a daunting task coming into bat on Day 5 with only three wickets in hand and well behind the target. Daryl Mitchell and Ish Sodhi looked solid from the start and were going good but an attempted sweep shot from the former cost him his wicket as Nayeem



Hasan got the breakthrough for the hosts.

Southee joined Sodhi and started counter-attacking with some big shots as they added 46 runs together, which was also the highest partnership in this innings, which says it all. Southee was dismissed for 34

and then Ajaz Patel and Sodhi were able to delay the inevitable for a bit, but Taijul Islam finished the job for the hosts, ending up with a six-wicket haul and helping his side to a famous win.

Bangladesh showcased an exemplary batting performance on Day 4, led by their skipper

Najmul Hossain Shanto, who marked his captaincy debut with a splendid century. The experienced Mushfiqur Rahim and the resilient Mehidy Hasan contributed with valuable half-centuries, propelling Bangladesh to a second-innings total of 338.

In response, the Bangladesh spinners, supported by the lone fast bowler, Shoriful Islam, exerted immense pressure on the Kiwi batters, claiming 7 wickets. Taijul Islam, in particular, was the architect of New Zealand's downfall, securing 4 crucial wickets, including the prized scalp of Kane Williamson who fell for Taijul's arm ball for the second time in this Test match. As we head into the final day, Bangladesh is poised to wrap up the series 1-0, a significant achievement for their new Test skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto.

WPL Auction 2024: 165 players to go under the hammer on December 9

NEW DELHI, Dec 2 (Agencies): The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Saturday announced that 165 players have registered for the Women's Premier League (WPL) auction, scheduled to take place in Mumbai on December 9.

The auction list includes 104 Indians and 61 overseas players, 15 of whom are from associate nations. There are 30 slots available across the five teams, with nine reserved for international players. Only two players, West Indies star Deandra Dottin and Australia's Kim Garth, have established a base price of INR 50 lakh.

60 players were retained across five teams, including 21 overseas cricketers, while 29 players were released from their current squads. The 2023 WPL runners-up, Delhi Capitals, will enter the 2024 WPL auction with a purse of Rs 2.25 crore and hope to fill up to three spots. Gujarat Giants, who have dismissed more than half of their roster, have the greatest purse of



all five teams to fill ten vacancies, with Rs 5.95 crores.

Defending champions Mumbai Indians have up to five seats to fill in the auction, with a price of Rs 2.1 crore, while Royal Challengers Bangalore have seven unfilled slots and a purse of Rs 3.35 crore. At the auction, UP Warriorz will have a Rs 4 crore prize to fill five spots.

Dottin was purchased by Gujarat Giants in the WPL 2023 auction for Rs 60 lakh but was controver-

sially withdrawn from the competition before the season began. She was replaced in the Gujarat squad by Kim, although the 27-year-old Australian was one of 11 players released by the Gujarat franchise during the off-season.

Only four players, including Australian all-rounders Annabel Sutherland and Georgia Wareham, English wicket-keeper Amy Jones, and veteran South African pacer Shabnim Ismail, have set a base price of Rs 40 lakh.

Grandmasters R Praggnanandhaa, Sister Vaishali Create Unique Record

Indian chess player Vaishali Rameshbabu earned her grandmaster title by crossing 2,500 International Chess Federation (FIDE) ranking points

CHENNAI, Dec 2 (Agencies): Indian chess player Vaishali Rameshbabu, sister of chess prodigy R Praggnanandhaa, on Saturday became India's third female Grandmaster by surpassing 2500 rating during the 2023 IV Eillobregat Open on Saturday. With this achievement, Vaishali and her younger brother have become the first-ever Grandmaster siblings pair in history. She has also joined the likes of legendary Vishwanathan Anand, Koneru Humpy, Harika Dronavalli, Dibyendu Barua, R Praggnanandhaa etc. To celebrate this joyous moment, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin



congratulated the duo on their achievement.

"Huge congrats, @chessvaishali, on becoming the third female Grandmaster from India and the first from Tamil Nadu! 2023 has been splendid for

master siblings. We're immensely proud of your achievements, and your remarkable journey is an inspiration to aspiring chess enthusiasts and a testament to women's empowerment in our state! #TamilNaduPride@Udhaystalin@ChessbaseIndia@FIDE_chess," tweeted Stalin from his official X (formerly Twitter) handle.

Earlier having fulfilled three GM norms, Vaishali completed the one final requirement on Friday by attaining the required number of rating points. She is the third female player to attain the grandmaster title, besides Humpy and Dronavalli.

Principal Prof Maj. Dr Karan Singh superannuated

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: A farewell function was organised in the honour of Principal Prof Major Dr Karan Singh on his superannuation.

The function was attended by a large number of prominent people representing Civil Society, Ex-servicemen, and Academicians from Jammu. A good number of local businessmen, elders, Ex-students of the college were also present on the occasion. Officials representing civil administration, Police, ITI also graced the occasion.



Prof. Sanjay Singh from MAM College Jammu narrated the services rendered by Dr. Karan Singh in academics and as an

NSS officer.

Multiple speakers on the occasion enlightened the audience regarding the hard struggle and remarkable achievements of Dr. Maj. Karan Singh, hailing from a far off place of Akhnour Chamb, appointed as teacher then an Assistant Professor, bestowed by the rank of Major in NCC and finally the Principal of this College.

The staff members emotively reflected upon the time and experiences they shared with the outgoing Principal. Students passionately described the bond they had developed in a short

span of time.

Dr. Karan Singh was applauded and showered with humorous praises for the endless efforts he initiated to raise the academic standard and infrastructure of the College.

Dr. Karan Singh advised the staff and the students to work harder, pursue noble values and stay focussed in their life. Prof. Shah-E-Jahan Ahmed presented vote of thanks and reminded the audience about the about the leadership of Dr. Karan Singh. Dr. Zafar Hayat conducted the proceedings of the event.

Shiv Sena raises questions on poor traffic system

Traffic personnel remain busy in taking photos and completing challan targets: Sahni



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Expressing concern over the deteriorating traffic system of Jammu, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has appealed to the traffic personnel deployed on the roads to focus on traffic improvement instead of completing the challan target.

In a press conference organized at the party state office today, state

chief Manish Sahni said that jams are seen throughout the day on every main road and inter-section of Jammu city.

The traffic personnel posted on the roads are disrespectful to the roads and are busy in completing the Challan target only, he said adding that they are definitely seen in action for some time on VIP movement.

Sahni said that he has

no objection to issuing Challan to those who violate the rules, but there should be a provision for fine and action against the traffic personnel deployed on the roads where there is jam.

Sahni said that overloading of Matadors is continuing without any action, the scheduled bus stops of Jammu city have become showpieces.

Shiv Sena appealed to the top traffic officials to increase the deployment of traffic personnel on the roads and improve the traffic system.

Along with this, Sahni said that his Shiv Sainik volunteers are ready to provide their services to improve the traffic system during peak hours.

Dr Sonia Kotwal of Bhadarwah earns coveted spot in Forbes Magazine

Top News Report

BHADARWAH, Dec 2: Earning for her a coveted spot in Forbes magazine, Dr. Sonia Kotwal, a native of Bhadarwah of Jammu and Kashmir, has not only made a name for herself as an Ayurveda doctor but has also emerged as a prominent influencer in her field due her resilient approach.

Dr. Sonia's journey has been nothing short of remarkable struggle and hard work. Born and raised in the close-knit communities of the far flung area of Jammu and Kashmir, she encountered numerous challenges, the moment she embarked on her path of self-discovery.

However, it was her unwavering spirit and dedication that guided her through the hardships propelling her



towards success.

The key ingredient to Dr. Sonia's success lies in her unwavering work ethic. As she advises the public, she advocates living without regrets and giving one's best effort in every situation.

In her eyes, destina-

tions are not solely achieved by those who possess natural talent or opportunities, but rather by individuals who breathe life into their dreams and summon the courage to persevere. It is this mantra that resonates with

anyone seeking motivation to approach life with determination.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Dr. Sonia exemplifies the true essence of altruism by extending a helping hand to those in need.

Collaborating with the schemes of the Government of India, she is tirelessly providing free medical aid and essential medicines to the less fortunate and underdogs. This compassionate endeavor serves as a testament to her genuine desire to bring about positive change in the lives of the marginalized and underserved.

Through her remarkable journey, Dr. Sonia Kotwal teaches everyone a valuable lesson that is the reservoir of strength that resides within each and every

one of us.

Her story serves as a guiding light for those who have experienced loss, uncertainty or are simply searching for their own purpose in life. Driven by her sheer determination and unyielding spirit, she has emerged as a beacon of hope, inspiring others to overcome obstacles and embrace their true potential.

In the pages of Forbes magazine, the story of Dr. Sonia Kotwal's self-discovery and unwavering commitment to helping others stands as a testament to the power of resilience, hard work and compassion.

As her influence continues to grow, her journey serves as a reminder that our own paths to success and fulfillment are as unique as the beautiful landscapes that surround us.

Govt Polytechnic Jammu organises expert lecture on artificial intelligence and machine learning

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Department of Computer Engineering, Government Polytechnic Jammu organized an Expert Lecture/workshop on the topic "A deep dive into Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning- Applications, Challenges and Future Trends".

The resource person for the event was Dr. Palak Mahajan, Assistant Professor at the Department of Computer Sciences and Engineering, Central University Jammu.

The programme was



started with the welcome address by Er. Arun Bangotra, Principal who in his welcome address highlighted the need of understanding the concepts in AI and

Machine Learning. The resource person, Dr. Palak Mahajan laid emphasis on the concepts used in AI and Machine Learning and discussed various appli-

cations and challenges of AI in today's world.

She explained about the virtual assistant tools Siri, its working and the different frameworks used in Machine Learning.

ing.

She also discussed how to visualize data by using Phase I-Learning and Phase-II Prediction. She also enlightened the students with the concept of Deep Learning.

The students were given live examples of the concepts and their various queries related to Machine Learning were answered.

The Event was coordinated by Er. Heena Gupta. Others present on the occasion were Er. Sanjay Koul, HoD (Computer Engg.), Er.Rani Devi, HoD (IT), Snehot Kour and Er.Kanav Gupta.

TAPPS Miran Sahib celebrates Annual Day



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Tiger Army Pre-Primary School (TAPPS), Miran Sahib, celebrated its 9th Annual Day function "Save Trees, Save Earth" in the school premises. Chairman TAPPS, Brig 162 Inf Bde was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

The function was inaugurated by lighting of the ceremonial lamp

by the Chief Guest and the Principal followed by the presentation of Ganesh Vandana by the little stars of UKG class. The children played a wide array of colourful and reverberant performances. The entire program was highly entertaining and the parents were spellbound by the performance of the tiny toddlers.

The programme stuck to its theme reflecting

the Importance of trees. The whole event included various funny and emotional moments.

The Chief Guest in his address congratulated the school faculty for such a flawless presentation and motivated the children and the staff with his words of wisdom.

Principal of the School, Mamta Saroch Chahotra presented the vote of thanks and thanked Chief Guest, management, staff and the parents for their support and cooperation.

The celebration came to an end with the distribution of prizes to the meritorious students by the Chief Guest and Principal and singing of the National Anthem by one and all.

Deepak Jyoti wins silver medal in National Power lifting Championship



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Deepak Jyoti Senior Sports Assistant of BSNL J&K Circle has won silver medal 66 Kg category in the National (Men & Women) Classic & Equipped Power lifting Championship held at Bangalore from November 22 to 26, 2023.

On winning the medal, he was felicitated by

Saurabh Tyagi, Chief General Manager, BSNL, J&K Circle for his success and bringing laurels to BSNL. Md Shahkar Bari GM/Vice President J&K Circle Sports & Cultural Board (CSCB), S.K Sudan DGM (Admn) Secretary CSCB and J.K Nagar JTO (Admn), Joint Secretary CSCB were also present on the occasion.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra camps organised in Satwari Peer Baba, Wave Mall



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 2: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra camps were on Saturday organised in Satwari Peer Baba and opposite Wave Mall in Jammu.

A large number of people took part in the yatra. It aims to reach out to public to create awareness and provide benefits of welfare schemes on sanitation, essential financial services, electricity, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition and reliable healthcare.

Under the campaign, the specially designed IEC (Information, Edu-

cation, Communication) van reached Satwari Peer Baba area in the morning. In the afternoon, the van stationed opposite Wave Mall in Narwal.

Apart from receiving information about various schemes and initiatives of Government of India for the Union Territory of J&K through the multimedia van, scores of people visited free health camps to get themselves screened for diseases, such as Diabetes, Tuberculosis and high blood pressure free of cost.

Dozens of citizens availed of the facility to either get new Aadhaar cards issued or the

existing one updated at both events. Others got loans sanctioned under PM SVANidhi scheme.

On the occasion, free of cost calendars and other publicity material was distributed among the participants.

As part of the yatra, a pledge - Viksit Bharat Sankalp — to make India a developed and self-reliant nation by the year 2047; Remove any trace of colonial mindset; Celebrate our heritage; Strengthen unity and respect those who protect the country and Perform the duties of a citizen — was administered to members of the public.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was launched by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on November 15, 2023.

The Viksit Bharat Campaign aims to cover over 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats and over 3,600 urban local bodies by January 25, 2024, touching every district of the country.