OPNEWSOFJ&K



BRIEFLY

Supreme Court verdict on abrogation of Article 370 is historic: PM Modi



NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday praised the Supreme Court's decision on Article 370, saying it supports what the Indian Parliament decided on August 5, 2019, bringing hope, progress, and unity to Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh.

PM Narendra Modi said, 'Today's Supreme Court verdict on the abrogation of Article 370 is historic and constitutionally upholds the decision taken by the Parliament of India on 5th August 2019; it is a resounding declaration of hope, progress and unity for our sisters and brothers in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.'

The Court, in its profound wisdom, has fortified the very essence of unity that we, as Indians, hold dear and cherish above all

SC upholds Abrogation of Art 370, Directs restoration of J&K Statehood, Polls by Sep 2024

to the Union of India in NEW DELHI, Dec 1947. 11 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on

Writing the judgement for himself and Justices B R Gavai and Surva Kant, the CJI said Article 370 was a temporary provision and the president was empowered to revoke it in the absence of the Constituent Assembly of the erstwhile state.

The Supreme Court verdict is a "resounding declaration of hope, progress, unity for our sisters and brothers in J&K, Ladakh", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said.

Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sanjiv Khanna penned separate and concurring verdicts on the issue.

The apex court also



upheld the validity of the decision to carve out the union territory of Ladakh from Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019. On that day, the government abrogated Article 370 and bifurcated the state into two union territories — Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Justice Chandrachud referred to Solicitor General Tushar Mehta's statement that Jammu and Kashmir's statehood will be restored, except for the carving out of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

"In view of the statement we do not find it

necessary to determine whether the reorganisation of the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir is permissible under Article 3.

"However, we uphold the validity of the decision to carve out the

Union Territory of said while pronouncing Ladakh in view of Article the verdict. 3(a) read with Expla-"We direct that steps shall be taken by the nation I which permits forming a Union Terri-

Election Commission of India to conduct elections to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir constituted under Section 14 of the Reorganisation Act by September 30, 2024. Restoration of statehood shall take place at the earliest and as soon as possible," the CJI said. He said the erstwhile state of J&K does not retain any "element of sovereignty" after the execution of the Instrument of Accession and the issuance of the proclamation dated November 25, 1949 by which the Constitution of India was adopted.

Turn to page 9

Reports of house arrest or arrest of anyone ahead of SC verdict on Article 370 totally baseless: LG Sinha

JAMMU, Dec 11 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said any report of the house arrest or arrest

Monday unanimously

upheld the Centre's

decision to abrogate

provisions of Article 370

bestowing special status

to the erstwhile state of

Jammu and Kashmir,

and directed restora-

tion of statehood "at the

earliest" as well as elec-

tions to the assembly by

September 30 next year.

debate, a five-judge

Constitution bench,

headed by Chief Justice

DY Chandrachud, deliv-

ered three concurring

judgements upholding

abrogation of the Con-

stitutional schemes that

provided special status

to Jammu and Kashmir

when it was annexed

Ending a decades long

RALPHAWANJAMMU



BJP welcomes SC verdict on Article 370: Nadda

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): BJP President Jagat Prakash Nadda Monday said the party welcomed the decision of Supreme Court on Article 370 and praised PM Narendra Modi for "merging Jammu & Kashmir into the Union of India." In his message on X, Nadda said: "BJP welcomes the decision of Supreme Court on Article 370. The fivemember constitutional bench of SC upholds the abrogation of Article 370 valid. It is Prime Minister Narendra Modi who took historic step by merging Jammu & Kashmir into **Turn to page 9** Security beefed up across Kashmir ahead of SC verdict on Article 370

tory by separation of a

territory from any State,"

In his verdict, the CJI

stated that the Constitu-

tion of India was a com-

plete code for constitu-

"The President had the

power to issue a notifi-

cation declaring that

Article 370(3) ceases

to operate without the

recommendation of the

Constituent Assembly.

The continuous exer-

cise of power under

Article 370(1) by the

President indicates that

the gradual process of

constitutional integration

was ongoing," the CJI

tional governance.

he said.



Checkpoints have also been set up at a few places in other districts of Kashmir.

However, there is no restriction on the movement of people anywhere in the valley, the

else", he said PM Modi said, "I want to

assure the resilient people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh that our commitment to fulfilling your dreams remains unwavering. We are determined to ensure that the fruits of progress not only reach you but also extend their benefits to the most vulnerable and marginalised sections of our society who suffered due to Article 370. '

"The verdict today is not just a legal judgment; it is a beacon of hope, a promise of a brighter future and a testament to our collective resolve to build a stronger, more united India", he added.

Home Minister **Amit Shah** welcomes **SC** verdict upholding abrogation of Article 370

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday welcomed the Supreme Court verdict to uphold the government's decision to abrogate Article 370, saying the ruling has proved that the August 5. 2019 decision was "completely constitutional". In a series of posts on X soon after the Supreme Court verdict, Shah, the architect of the entire move to abrogate Article 370, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a

Turn to page 9

of anyone ahead of the Supreme Court verdict on the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution is "totally baseless"

Sinha said this after the People's Democratic Party (PDP) claimed that its president Mehbooba Mufti was put under house arrest on Monday ahead of the Supreme Court verdict.

"This is totally baseless. In entire Jammu and Kashmir, no one has been put under house arrest or arrest. This is

an attempt to spread sealed the doors of the rumour," the LG told residence of PDP president @MehboobaMufti reporters here. Sinha said he is saying and put her under illegal it with full responsibilhouse arrest," the party ity that no one was put said in a post on X. under house arrest The Supreme Court is or arrest for political scheduled to pronounce reasons anywhere in its verdict on a batch of Jammu and Kashmir. petitions challenging the "Even before Supreme abrogation of the provi-

Turn to page 9

sions of Article 370 of

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Security was beefed up across Kashmir on Monday ahead of the Supreme Court's verdict on a batch of petitions challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution that gave a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and

Kashmir, officials said. Security forces have been deployed at many places in the valley to maintain law and order, they added.

Checkpoints have been set up in and around Srinagar city and random frisking and checking of vehicles and people are being done, the officials said.

officials said. "Life is going on normally. Shops and other business establishments opened in the morning

as usual. There are no restrictions anywhere. one of them said. The officials said the

security agencies are keeping a hawk's eye on the situation and attempts to disturb peace will be dealt with sternly.

The Cyber Police. Kashmir has advised social media users to

Turn to page 9

Disappointed, but struggle will continue: Omar Abdullah on SC verdict on Article 370

Court judgement is pro-

nounced, police has

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah on Monday said he is disappointed but not disheartened with the Supreme Court's verdict on pleas challenging the abrogation of the provi-

sions of Article 370 of the Constitution. "Disappointed but not disheartened. The struggle will continue," Abdullah said in a post on X. The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said it took the Bharatiya Janata Party

the long haul," he said.

(BJP) decades to abrogate the provisions of Article 370 and added that they are also prepared for the long haul. "It took the BJP decades to reach here. We are also prepared for

Turn to page 9

SC verdict on Article 370 disappointing, says Sajad Lone

said on Monday.

"The Supreme Court

verdict on Article 370 is

disappointing. Justice

yet again eludes the

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Supreme Court verdict on the pleas challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution is 'disappointing' and justice has yet again

'eluded' the people of people of J and K," Lone Jammu and Kashmir. said here. Peoples Conference He said Article 370 (PC) chief Sajad Lone

may have been legally obliterated, but will always remain a part of our political aspirations. The apex court on

Turn to page 9

SC verdict sad and unfortunate; But we have to accept it: Azad

SRINAGAR, Dec 11 (Agencies): Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday termed the Supreme Court's verdict on pleas challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution "sad and unfortunate", but said "we have to accept iť".

"It (the court verdict) is sad and unfortunate," Azad told reporters here. The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said the people of

Turn to page 9

Elecom - Security - Software **CRYSTAL NEXA/SN SERIES** CRYSTAL CLARITY, ELEVATING CONNECTIONS, INTERCOM REIMAGINED

4Ports - 64 Ports Ports Trunks 4 - 10 Trunk's Tri-Color FND Small, ABS Body Schedula KTS Plugable Add or Paging Yes Hotel Fn Yes www.crystalpbx.com ммон Plugable Add on

CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

OBITUARIES

Top News of J&K Jammu, Monday, December 11, 2023

TENTH DAY/RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

IT IS UNFORTUNATE TO INFORM YOU THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH. RATTAN LAL VERMA WHO LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ADOBE ON 3RD OF DECEMBER .

TENTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE GURHA BRAHMANA AKHNOOR ON 12TH DECEMBER (TUESDAY) AT 10 AM

RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA SHALL BE PERFORMED AT OUR RESIDENCE ON 15TH DECEMBER AT 1 PM

GRIEF STRICKEN SUDESH KUMARI -WIFE SONS AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAWS DR RAKESH VERMA DR SONIA VERMA SIKANDER VERMA RADHA VERMA PARVEEN VERMA RASHI VERMA **DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW** BABY VERMA AND SANDEEP MAHOTRA

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of SH. SHIV JI PANDITA S/o Lt. Gopal Pandita orginally resident of Arigam (Budgam) presently at H.No. 353, Sector 3, Gangyal Garden Jammu on 4th December 2023 (Monday). TENTH DAY will be performed on 13.12.2023.

Grief Stricken: Brother & Bhabhi Smt. Chuni & Sh. Brij Nath Pandita Son & Daughter-in-law Smt Asha & Sh. P. L. Pandita Smt. Geeta & Sh. Ramesh Pandita Daughter & Son-in-law Smt Sarla & Sh. Ram Ji Koul Smt. Guddi & Sh. Avtar Krishan Pandita Smt. Sushma & Sh. Ramesh Pandita Mob.No. 9149482517, 7006499497, 6005428465

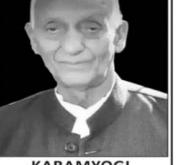
OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sac demise of our beloved Smt. Uma Shorie Raina W/o Late Omkar Nath Raina originally resident of Abalwona Herman Shopian, at present House no.227, Sec 2, Upper Roopnagar JDA Colony, Jammu THE TENTH DAY KRIYA will be held on 15-12-2023 Friday at Muthi Ghat near DSE at 9 am **GRIEF STRICKEN** Sh. Ram Krishan Raina (Son) Smt. Baby Raina & Rattan Raina (Daughter in law & Son) Grand Daughters & Son in laws Smt. Sony Raina & Sh. Sanju Verma Smt. Meenu Raina & Sh. Sushil Khatri Smt. Neha Raina & Sh. Pankaj Saproo Smt. Ronica Raina & Sh. Binny Dassi

Smt. Retica Raina & Sh. Ranjan Dubey Miss Tanishqa (Great Grand Daughter) Contact no: 7006836499, 9906603710, 9149806648

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved Sdn. Davinder Kour W/o Late S. Gurcharan Singh R/o Azad Nagar, Karanbagh Aarambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 10-12-23 at our residence at 9 am. Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 12-12-23 at our residence Kirtan and Antim Ardas from 10:30 to



SH. RATTAN LAL

VERMA

KARAMYOGI SH. SHIV JI PANDITA

TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Usha Hustoo W/o Late Sh. Girdhari Lal Hustoo on 04-12-2023 at her residence: 907/T-2, Parsvnath Majestic Floors, Vaibhav Khand, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad [originally from Chattabal/ Chanapora, Srinagar, Kashmir]. The 10th Day Kriya will be performed at Murad Nagar Ghat (Chota Haridwar) on 13-12-2023 from 9 am onwards. **GRIEF-STRICKEN**:

Rakesh Hustoo & Nishi (Son & Daughter-in-law) [9971396161/9818216174]

Sunil Hustoo & Ruppcy (Son & Daughter-in-law) [9891221696 / 7982540533] Sunita & Ashvani Kalpushu (Daughter & Son-in-law)

[9910604755/ 9650126238]

Gali, Udhampur on 3/12/2023.

10.00 am onwards

GRIEF STRICKEN

M/s Annapurna Bhandar

12/12/2023 (Tuesday) from 11.30 am onwards.

Aseem Hustoo & Sneha (Grandson & Grand Daughter-in-law)

Amit Hustoo & Diksha (Grandson & Grand Daughter-in-law) Shivam Kalpushu, Sakshym Hustoo, Ayush Kalpushu (Grandsons)

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved

Smt. Sheela Devi W/o Late Sh. Mast Ram Magotra R/o 9/59, Arya Samaj

Tenth Day will be performed at Arya Samaj School, Udhampur on

Kriya will be performed at Devika Ghat Udhampur on 13/12/2023 from

Smt. Kiran Magotra & Sh. Pawan Magotra (Mango) - Daughter-in-law & Son

Smt. Sheetal Magotra & Sh. Neeraj Magotra - Daughter-in-law & Son

Smt. Prem Lata & Sh. Madan Gopal - Daughter & Son-in-law

Smt. Darshana & Sh. Virender - Daughter & Son-in-law

Grand Children : Abhishek, Madhusudan, Vasu

Smt. Neelam & Sh. Ashok Kumar - Daughter & Son-in-law

M/s D M Traders (Neeluwala), Arya Samaj Gali Udhampur

Mob.: 9419896657, 9797401614, 7780817000

M/s Annapurna Enterprises (Old Industrial Estate, Udhampur)

Aarna Hustoo (Great Grand-Daughter)

Hustoo's, Pandita's, Mattoo's, Kaul's, Motta's, Bhat's



Smt. Usha Hustoo (Bengashi/Rani)

OBITUARY/ TENTH DAY KRIYA Vith profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad dem of our beloved Sh. Hari Krishan Nazar (Retd SSP JKP) S/o Late Sh. Raghu Nath Nazar on 5/12/23 Tuesday) originally resident of Sallar, Anantnag Cashmir presently residing at H.No 71, Sector-2,

DEC. 2023

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sharika Vihar, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu. The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be held on 13/12/23 (Wednesday) at Muthi Ghat near (Directorate of School Education) At 9:30 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Vijay Nazar D/o Late Sh. Niranjan Nath Raina

TENTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE

REGRET TO INFORM ALL OUR NEARS AND DEARS

THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHER LT. SMT SHANTA

W/O LT. SH. DINA NATH BHAT AT PRESENT 27/A

EXT NEAR RAMLEELA GROUND JANIPUF

COLONY JAMMU LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE 06

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED OF

15 DEC. 2023 AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE

MRS. MEENAKSHI BHAT & MR. SUMIT BHAT (GRAND SON)

MRS. NEENU TIKU & MR. AMIT TIKU (GRAND SON IN LAW)

SMT. ANJALI BHAT & SH. P.L. BHAT (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)

SMT. CHAMPA KOUL & SH.ASHWANI KOUL (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)

SMT. RITA SHAH & SH. M.L.SHAH (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)

PHONE NO. 9055457646, 9149827161, 9596981300, 7006331320

OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 9:00 (FRIDAY).



Lt. Smt Shanta

Batagund Krindi Gham, Bijbehara) - Wife Son & Daughter-in-Law Sunny Nazar & Priyanka Naza Rohit Nazar & Rohi Nazar

Sh. Hari Krishan Nazar (Retd SSP JKP)

Dr Saniu Nazar Brother & Sister-in-Law : SH. Bushan Lal Nazar & Smt Krishna Nazar Smt Kishni Bhat W/o Late J L Bhat -Sister and Brother-in-law Smt Ratni Bhat W/o Sh. C L Bhat - Sister and Brother-in-law Smt Phoola Pandita W/o Late A N Pandita - Sister and Brother-in-law Grand Children : Saanvi, Saphal, Bhavik Mob No.: 7889477519, 7006942522

TENTH DAY KRIYA



GRIEF STRICKEN

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt. Raj Karni (Wife) Daughters & Sons-in-law Sonika Mahajan & Manohar Gupta Monika & Brij Mohan Suri Dr. Sonalika & Dr. Gaurav Sharma Brothers & Sisters-in-law Dr. Arun Jandial & Prem Gupta Seniav Gurta & Picha Gurta

Sanjay Gupta & Richa Gupta

Sons & Daughters in Law

Kamlesh & Sunita Kaul Vijay Kaul & Shweta Kaul Grand Sons & Daughter in law

enth Day will be performed on 9th Dece

Ravi & Kalpana Kaul

Rohit & Garima Kaul

rinder Kumar Gupta (1946-2023)

Sisters & Brothers-in-law Lalita Gupta W/o Lt.Suraj Prakash Gupta Santosh Gupta W/o Lt. Satya Pal Malhotra Parveen Gupta W/o Sudesh Gupta

Nephews & Nieces Pranav Jandial, Ritwik Gupta, Pragya Mahajan, Falguni Gupta Grandchildren: nirudh, Anurag, Ankit, Aiyaan, Atharva ob.No: 9419101495, 9419211816 Sunila Gupta W/o Pawan Gupta **TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform sad demise of our beloved Smt. Shyama Kaul W/o Shri Girdhari Lal Kaul (Karwani), originally from Zaindar Mohalla, Habba Kadal, Srinagar, Kashmir, R/o House No. 30, Sector 2, Pamposh Colony, Janipur, Jammu. Currently at 7B, Golden Crest, CGHS Plot No 12 Sector 52, Gurgaon. The TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 1 December-2023 at 8.30 am at Gauri Shankar Temple. T Block, Phase - 1, Sector - 109, New Palam Viha Gurugram - 122017. GRIEF STRICKEN Girdhari Lal Kaul -Husband Kishni Trisal -Sister in law



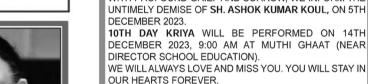
Smt. Shyama Kaul

Grand Daughters & Son in law Shivangi & Akshay Mugloo Isha Kaul In Grief Karwani's, Kaloo's,Trisals Phone No. 8800459977, 9953629366





Smt. Uma Shorie Raina



MISSED BY YOUR FAMILY SMT. SUSHMA KOUL -WIFE MOTHER- SMT. KAUSHALYA KOUL AUNTY & UNCLE SMT. ASHA JI & SH. J.L KOUL **BROTHER & SISTER-IN-LAW** DR. S.L KOUL & SMT. RAJNI KOUL SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW SMT. KHEMA & SH. R.L BHAT

DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW SMT. SAKSHI & SH. RAHIL CHADHA SMT. SHEVETA & SH. ASHESH BHAT NIECES & NEPHEWS-IN-LAW SMT. MEHAK & SH. AYUSH DHAR SMT. NIDHI & SH. SUKSHM PANDITA NEPHEW: SH. HARSH BHAT

GRAND CHILDREN: MASTER KABIR, BABY PRISHA, MASTER SUHAAN, BABY SHIVAKSHI

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound arief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved S. Jagjit Singh Raina (Retd. Dy. Director) S/o Late Sh. Darshan Singh Ji R/o H.No. 26-C, Sector-10, Nanak Nagar, Jammu left for heavenly abode on 6/12/2023.

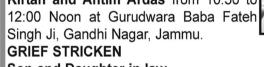
Arambh Shri Akhand Path at our residence on Sunday 10/12/2023 at 9:30 AM on Tuesday 12/12/2023 at 9:30 AM S. Jagjit Singh Raina Antim Ardas will be performed at (Retd. Dy. Director) Gurdwara Bala Pritham Trikuta Nagar on 12/12/2023 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar. **GRIEF STRICKEN** All family members and friends



Smt. Sheela Devi

Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul

ADDRESS- H.NO. 152-A, MAHAJAN MOHALLA, UPPER BARNAL JAMMU CONTACT NO: 9906043071, 90116 68149, 9419196331, 9419133092, 6005358823

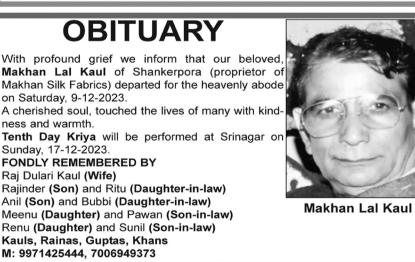


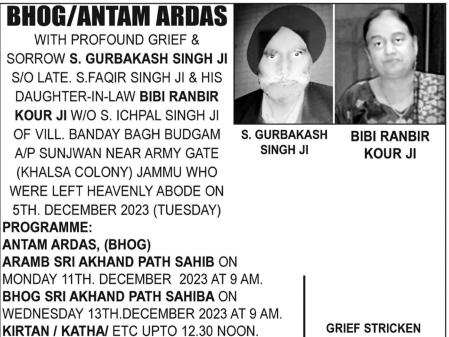
Sdn. Davinder Kour

Son and Daughter in law

FOLLOWED BY GURU KA LANGER.

Sdn. Gurjot Kour and S. Ranjeet Singh Bedi (Career Edge Institute) S. Ranvijay Singh Bedi- Grandson Mob.: 94191-90735, 94693-71435





WHOLE FAMILY

Mob.: 9419181008, 7006614553

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

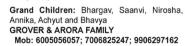
With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform sad demise of **Smt. Madhu Grover** W/o Sh.Kulbhushan Raj Grover R/o 577/3 Bhawani Vihar, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu The 10TH DAY will be performed at Shiv Mandir, Trikuta Nagar (Sec 3) on Tuesday, 12th Dec.2023 between 10:30 to 11:30 am.

13TH DAY / KIRYA will be performed at our residence of riday, 15th Dec.2023 at 10:00 am. (Sec 3) on Friday,15th Dec.2023 between 4:00 to 5:00 pm. **GRIEF STRICKEN** Kulbhushan Raj Grover (Husband) (BJP State Executive Member Sr.Citizen cell

(Son & Daughter in law) Gagan Grover (Manager J&K Bank) & Kirti Mahajan Magan Grover (Teacher) & Roopali Soni **(Son & Daughter in Iaw)**

Dharti Gupta & Pawan Kumar Gupta (Daughter and Son in law) Brother in Law and Sister in Law Lt Sh.D. D. Grover & Smt.Veena Grover Sh.Shashi Pal Grover (Retd. AGM J & K Bank) & Smt. Neelam Grover Sh. Darshan Grover (Retd.AC CDA)& Smt. Anu Grover Sh.Hari Om Grover (Retd.Sc. Mgr. J&K Bank) & Smt.Neeru Grover Sister in Law & Brother in Law Smt.Kamlesh Arora & Lt.Sh.Des Raj Arora Brother & Bhabi

Sh.Chaman Lal Arora (Retd.Distt.Agricultural officer) & Lt. Smt Joginder Kour (Laddi) Lt. Sh.Vinod Arora & Smt.Brij Seth Sister & Brother in Law Smt. Prem Lata Arora (Retd.Principal) & Lt.Sh M.L Manchanda Smt.Sudha Arora (Retd.Head Mistress) & Sh. Anil Kohli Smt. Nancy Arora (Retd.Principal KV) and Sh.Bharat Bhushan Arora



SMT. MADHU GROVER



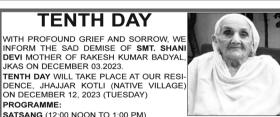
MRS VIJAY TIKOO

(BABY JI)

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 12th December, 202 uesday) at 12:00 Noon. Rasam Pagri/Uthala will be performed on 13th December 202 day) at 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Hari Mandir, Rehari Chowk Jamr Grief Stricken



Smt Makhnu Devi -Wife Sons And Daughter in laws Ashok Paul Gupta and Suman Gupta (Animal Husbandry) Kuldeep Paul Gupta and Sunian Gupta (K.S. Pharma, Raghunath Pura) Daughters and Sons in laws L1.Smt Shakti & L1.Sh Shambu Gupta Ji Smt Sushma & Sh Som Rai Kudvar (Kudvar Automobiles Smt Madhu Kohli And Sh Sanjeev Kohli (M/S Vasu Textiles Grand Sons And Daughters Smt Usha & Vikas Gupta (K.S Enterprises, Samba) Contact No: 7889560674, 7006675946, 9419121629, 9419216632. TENTH DAY



M.R. Dogra (Director Finance, JKAS Retd.) & Suman Dogra Parveen Kumar & Suman Devi Rakesh Kumar Badyal (JKAS, Registrar J&K Special Tribunal) & Mona Badyal Daughters and Sons-in-law Rani Devi & Jattu Ram Satya Devi & Dwarka Nath & Badyal Family.

Mob. No: 9419157934, 9419263040

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED MOTHER SMT KHEMA SHORI SHARMA W/O LATE SH JAGAN NATH ORIGINAL RESIDENT OF HANDWARA KASHMIR A/P H.NO 57-A SMALL PLOTS GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU ON 08-12-2023. TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED

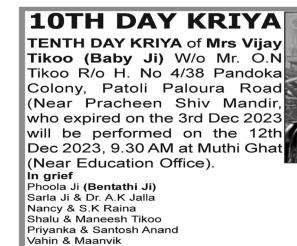


ON SUNDAY, 17TH DEC, 2023. AT MUTHI SMT KHEMA SHORI SHARMA GHAT AT 10 A.M. GRIEF STRICKEN: SH. AMAR NATH GURTU (BROTHER IN LAW) DAUGHTER'S AND SON IN LAW

SMT NIRMALA AND SURENDER RAINA SMT SUSHEELA SHARMA W/O LT KISHAN JI SHARMA SMT. SUMITA AND SURINDER ZADOO SMT SUNITA RAINA W/O LT M.K. RAINA SMT SARLA AND SANJAY SABNI SMT BASANTI RAINA W/O LT. AJAY RAINA Mob.: 9469010101, 9419185566, 8810238806, 6005930655, 7889603525

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.'



Aarti, Anamika, Aastha

Tikoo R/o H. No 4/38 Pandoka Colony, Patoli Paloura Road (Near Pracheen Shiv Mandir,

And Samast Pariwar of Bali's, Sharma's, Khazanchi's

Mobile No: 7006267446, 7006267682, 7006267726, 7718833432, 94191433330

DEVI MOTHER OF RAKESH KUMAR BADYAL JKAS ON DECEMBER 03.2023. TENTH DAY WILL TAKE PLACE AT OUR RESI DENCE, JHAJJAR KOTLI (NATIVE VILLAGE ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 (TUESDAY) SATSANG (12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM) FOLLOWED BY GURU KA LANGAR GRIEF STRICKEN: Sons and Daughters-in-law

SMT. SHANI DEVI

LOCAL

VBSY transformed into Jan Andolan by Modi-led Govt: Vinay Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is being undertaken across the country to attain the saturation of flagship schemes of the government by ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all beneficiaries. This was stated by BJP senior leader and Seh Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta during the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Jammu South.

On this occasion, Vinay Gupta said that this was a very ambitious plan and that the people would benefit from it. He said Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' is an important and comprehensive program of the Modi-led government.

Vinay claimed that the purpose of this yatra in Jammu South in all corners of urban and rural comprising Panchayats, wards, and Mandals is to spread awareness among people to join the movement and take a pledge to make India a



developed country. Secondly, those people who are yet to get the benefit of the schemes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be guaranteed that they receive the benefits of PM Modi's schemes, he

said. Vinay Gupta was accompanied by Gandhi Nagar Mandal President Bharat Bhushan, District Vice President and Parbhari BJP Gandhi Nagar Mandal Narinder Gupta Koki, Ex Councillor Rahul Kumar. District Secretary Rohiin Chandan, District Publicity Secretary Sandeep Gupta, Mandal General Secretary Rachit Khosla, Vijay Verma, Satbir Singh, Rikki Gupta, Vishal Gupta, Gurdayal Singh, Barun

Sharma, Arvind Gupta, Mohit Raina, Lovisha Gupta, Dr.Sunita Puri, society. Rajesh Bhau and others prominent persons were

present on the occasion. Vinay underscored that 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' started on November 15 and now moving to different parts of the union territory of J&K.

He highlighted that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is being undertaken across the country to attain the saturation of flagship schemes of the government by ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all targeted beneficiaries in a time-bound manner.

Vinay counted in the last victorious nine years of good governance PM Modi assured that his

clairvoyant leadership benefits all segments of

He said PM Modi is a "Messiah" for all common masses and works effectively to build the nation on top of the world as a superpower. Vinay further asserted that in futuristic endeavors under the predictor leadership of PM Modi Bharat is touching new heights and also setting an example to the world that now Modi is a "global leader" and playing a pivotal role in developing the country through his supernatural skills

Vinay Gupta emphasized that Viksit Bharat is the vision to make India a developed nation by 2047, the 100th year of its independence.

He added that the supreme, magnificent vision encompasses various aspects of development, including economic growth, social progress, environmental sustainability, and good governance, among others. BJP leader Modi has visualized, conceptualized, and imagined what can be achieved only when the youth and citizens of the country shun the colonial mindset and will work proficiently and efficiently toward nation-building. Vinay asked the youth to take up entrepreneurship and become job providers, rather than job seekers. He stressed the policies launched by the Government of India, including start-up India, A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industries and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE), and others have started to show excellent results with India fast becoming the hub of unicorns. He further said those planning to visit western countries for employment are staving back and working in the newly

established corporates.

Dogra Front welcomes SC's verdict on Article 370, calls it a historical decision

370 and bifurcation of

the erstwhile state of

Jammu and Kashmir

into two Union territo-

A five-judge constitu-

tion bench comprising

Chief Justice of India DY

Chandrachud, Justices

Sanjay Kishan Kaul,

Sanjiv Khanna, BR

Gavai, and Surya Kant

passed the judgment.

On September 5, the

apex court reserved the

judgement after hearing

the arguments for 16

"I am happy, it's a

historic day ... I see the

abrogation of Article

370 as an opportu-

nity for the people of

Jammu and Kashmir to

move forward towards

ries.

days.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena under the leadership of President Ashok Gupta took out a massive celebration in Jammu city after the final verdict of the Apex court regarding the abrogated Article 370.

There was a huge celebration drums were beaten, sweets were distributed and trumpets were blown as this is the last nail in the coffin of Article 370 & Article 35. The Constitution bench of the Supreme Court has pronounced its verdict on a batch a progressive, educated life. There has been an atmosphere of happiness for the last 4 years after its removal," said Ashok Gupta.

The people of Bharat are overwhelmed by the judgment of the Supreme Court upholding the decision of the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35 A of the Constitution, he said.

This is yet another victory and moment of celebration for all the nationalist people of the country who dreamt of complete integration of Jammu and Kashmir with Bharat for which they fought political and legal battles and even sacrificed their lives, Gutpa said adding that now the focus of the government should be to bring heavy industries and tourism in Jammu as during the phase of Article 370,

The party people present were Abhishek, Ram, Ashish, Bantu, Kalu, Prem, Rahul, Akshay, Kishore, Raju and Ganesh.

Shiv Sena welcomes decision, demands privileges, early restoration of statehood, democratic process

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K unit welcomed the decision of the Supreme Court to uphold the Central Government's decision to remove Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir and hope for early democratic process and restoration of statehood. In a press conference held at the party state office, Jammu, state chief Manish Sahni said that the Supreme



Court with its decision on Article 370 has put a complete end to all the speculations which he welcomes and demands

PTTI Vijaypur accords send off to DySP

from the Center that elections should be held in Jammu and Kashmir immediately, before the deadline set by the Court and the statehood should be returned immediately. Sahni also demanded

on the lines of border and north-eastern states, special privileges should be given to Jammu and Kashmir (which, being a border state, has been facing terrorism for the last 35

years) under Article 371.

2nd Dr Ritu Gupta lecture held at ASCOMS

of petitions challenging

the abrogation of Article

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Dr. Ritu Gupta Foundation in collaboration with Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital organized second Dr. Ritu Gupta Lecture which was attended by a large number of faculty, staff and students from various Medical and Dental Colleges of Jammu province.

The function was inaugurated by Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal/Dean, Govt. Medical College Jammu. Ms. Babila Rakwal Mission Director, National Health Mission, Jammu and Dr. Rajeev Sharma, Director Health Services, Jammu and D.K Batra Secretary ASCOMS & Dr. Gautam Mengi, Joint Secretary ASCOMS were the special guest on the occasion.

While delivering the welcome address, Dr. Pavan Malhotra, **Director Principal ASCOMS** highlighted the importance of academic activities in medical curriculum and also spoke on the organizational capabilities of Dr. Ritu Gupta and her love for academic activities. He described Dr. Ritu Gupta as epitome of humbleness and passionate towards Medical Teaching.



Medical College, Rajouri and Dr. Avneet Sharma, Senior consultant, Psychiatry, National Health Service, United Kingdom.

Dr. Bhatia while speaking on stress and power of positive attitude described the coordination between the two important factor i.e., stress and positive attitude. He advised the student to become positive thinker as lots of many stresses during the studies life would vanish once a student thinks positively. He also advised the student towards, use of cognitive and behavioral strategies to manage the demand of stress situation. Dr. Avneet Sharma gave a detailed overview of stresses and compared the two different situations in India and United Kingdom. While addressing the students he advised them to remain away from stressful conditions and also advised the students to keep evaluating their behavior and practice empathy. Dr. Ravinder K. Gupta, Prof &

HOD Paediatrics & Chairman, Dr. Ritu Gupta Foundation while speaking on the occasion explained about various activities to be initiated by the foundation for the benefit of common masses. A small presentation about the life of Dr. Ritu Gupta was presented by Urvi Gupta, Dr. Ritu Gupta's daughter.

On the occasion, toppers in the subject of Physiology to the different Medical colleges of Jammu province were felicitated namely Anadya Handa (GMC Rajouri), Humna Javed (GDC Jammu), Arnav Vivek Gupta (GMC Jammu), Meemansa (GMC Doda), Samarpreet

Physiology (GMC Kathua), Dr. Ravinder Kumar Malhotra, HOD Physiology (GMC Rajouri). Also on the occasion the Foundation felicitated the Principals of various Medical and Dental

Colleges of Jammu province. Speaking on the occasion, Babila Rakwal, Guest of Honor highlighted the importance of stress management in the student community. She also laid stress on the role of parents and councilors or managing stress in young children.

Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Chief Guest on the occasion appreciated the efforts of Dr. Ritu Gupta, foundation and ASCOMS.

He described that such type of academic activities are important for academic development of student and to keep the name alive in academic circle for which Dr. Ritu Gupta, was known for her academic bent of mind. He complimented both the speakers for their wonderful presentation and suggested that more such events where different Medical and Dental Colleges can participate should be organized. Suresh Jandial, former Executive Director (ONGC) and brother-in-law highlighted the importance of organ donation as the same has been done by Dr. Ritu Gupta and he presented the vote of thanks in the end.



(Telecom) Surrinder Paul

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Dec 11: Principal PTTI Vijaypur and staff organized a farewell function on the transfer/adjustment of Surrinder Paul Singh, DySP (Telecom) from PTTI Vijaypur to DySP Telecommunication Doda.

While speaking on the occasion Principal PTTI

Vijaypur, Shiv Kumar, SSP appreciated the services rendered by the transferee at PTTI Vijaypur and termed him as a dedicated, sincere and seasoned Police Officer. Dhushvant Sharma. SSP, Vice Principal PTTI Vijaypur, Zia-Ul-Haq, Dy.SP (Outdoor), Devinder Gupta, Dy.SP (R&D), Shri Kuldeep Raj, DySP (Indoor/Tech.),

Khushwant Singh, Dy.SP (Admn.), Asif Iqbal, Sr.PO PTTI Vijaypur and other staff hailed the efforts and professionalism skills of the outgoing DYSP and extended their best wishes to the transferee for his new assignments. On the occasion, DySP Surrinder Paul Singh expressed his gratitude to the Principal and all the ranks of PTTI Vijaypur for

organizing farewell. Among others Inspr. Javed Hussain (RI), Inspr. Pawan Kumar, Inspr. Anil Kumar, Inspr. Vivek Kalsotra, Inspr. Ram Lal (CLI), Inspr. Bhopinder Singh, Inspr. Kanwal Raina, Inspr. Mulkh Raj and others were present on the occasion.

The Guest Speakers on the occasion were Dr. Amarjeet Singh Bhatia, Principal, Govt.

Singh (IDS Sehora), Peerzada Shamas-ul-Wara (ASCOMS Jammu), Deepika Rehan (GMC Kathua), along with the HODs namely Dr. Vineeta Sharma, HOD Physiology (GMC Jammu), Dr. Neeru Gupta, HOD Physiology (IDS Sehora), Dr. Garima Charak, HOD Physiology (GMC Doda), Dr. Sabita Yograj, HOD

Amol Kailas Anasane conferred with Honorary Doctorate

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Amol Kailas Anasane, Youth Icon and Famous for one hand clapping, conferred with Honorary Doctorate by GHRT India in collaboration with AIU.

(GHRT India) Global Human Rights Trust (GHRT) is an international, not-for-profit organization working for implementing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



at local, regional, national and international levels

Global Human Rights Trust is one of the world's leading independent organizations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights. Amol Anasane won many National and International award including

world records India, geniuses world records holder, hope international world record , bravo international book of world record, Exclusive

world record, foundation of India record certificate, Kalam book of record, and many other national and international awards & record holder he achieve from his art and talent. Amol Anasane Conferred with India's highest Human Rights Nobel Award by GHRT India, Amol Anasane is youngest talent acquisition holder having unique art in his hands to clap faster with his single hands.

MIER College organises Cultural Fest to commemorate International Disability Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: The Department of Special Education at MIER College, in collaboration with Inclusive School Model Academy, organized a vibrant cultural fest to commemorate International Disability Day.

The event, themed "United in Action to Rescue and Achieve the SDGs for, with, and by Persons with Disabilities," brought together a diverse audience, including esteemed guests, parents of children with special needs, faculty members, and students from MIER College and Inclusive School.

Dr. Renu Gupta, Chairperson of MIER, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest,

joined by Prof. Adit Gupta, Director MIER and Principal MIER College, Rupa Gupta, Jt. Director MIER, Pramod Kumar Srivastava, Principal Model Academy School, J.K. Dhiman, Vice-Principal, Dr. Rohnika Sharma, Head School of Education, Dr. Monika Bajaj, Head School of Social Science and Humanities, Prof. Nishta Rana, Deputy Head School of Education and C.L. Jangra, Incharge Inclusive School

The event commenced with a warm welcome extended by Shivani Chib, a student from B.Ed. Special Semester III.

A video showcasing various academic activities and developmental milestones



of students was narrated by Prof. Rohnika Sharma.

A motivational video highlighting the remarkable abilities of children with special needs filled the audience with pride and happiness. The Inclusive School stu-

dents captivated everyone with an ethnic dress walk, showcasing the diversity and

creativity within the inclusive community.

Nishant Bhagat, a student from Inclusive School, delivered a moving speech on World Disability Day, leaving a profound impact on the audience.

The cultural extravaganza continued with an entrancing instrumental song and

a group dance performance by the students of the Inclusive School. B.Ed. Special Education students took the stage with a skit emphasizing the crucial role of special educators in schools and raising awareness about special education.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Renu Gupta congratulat-

ed the special educators and Inclusive School students for their hard work in organizing an engaging event. She expressed gratitude to the parents for their encouragement, support, and faith in the management.

Dr. Gupta emphasized the need to prioritize the human being before considering their impairment, acknowledging the progress made in inclusive education while recognizing there is more work to be done.

The programme concluded with an enthralling pair dance performance, where B.Ed. Special Education students and students from Inclusive School danced in harmony, filling the air with excitement and joy.

Monika Bhau, a B.Ed. Special Semester III student, delivered a formal vote of thanks, expressing appreciation for the collaborative effort that made the event a success

Few students of Inclusive school also took part in sports and fun activities organised by Army Public School, Jammu Cantt under Jammu cluster and schools under the education hub of learning. They were honoured with trophies and certificates for their special performances.

Jyoti Sharma, Assistant Prof. at the School of Education. MIER College, efficiently conducted the program, ensuring a seamless and memorable celebration of International Disability Day.

OP-ED

EDITORIAL

HISTORIC VERDICT

The Supreme Court has

Will Cameron rush to Tories' rescue? Blyton's Famous 5 makes comeback

By: Kishwar Desai

of Christmas but we Lhave freezing temperatures all across England.

given its verdict on the petition against the removal of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. The court has justified the decision of the Central Government to remove Article 370. This decision will remain intact. Taking a historic decision, the Indian government abolished the controversial Article 370 from the country in the year 2019 which

started with Maharaja Hari Singh of Kashmir. In October 1947, the then Maharaja of Kashmir, Hari Singh, signed an instrument of accession stating that Jammu and Kashmir would transfer its power to the Government of India on the basis of three subjects i.e. foreign affairs, defense and communications.

In March 1948, the Maharaja appointed an interim government in the state with Sheikh Abdullah as Prime Minister. In July 1949, Sheikh Abdullah and three other associates joined the Indian Constituent Assembly and negotiated the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, leading to the adoption of Article 370. The controversial provision was drafted by Sheikh Abdullah.

What were the provisions of Section 370 before the law was repealed? Parliament needs the approval of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to enact laws in the state – except in matters of defence, foreign affairs, finance and communications. The law of citizenship, ownership of property and fundamental rights of residents of Jammu and Kashmir is different from that of residents living in the rest of India. Under Article 370, citizens of other states cannot buy property in Jammu and Kashmir. Under Article 370, the Center has no power to declare financial emergency in the state. It is important to note that Article 370 (1) (c) clearly mentions that Article 1 of the Indian Constitution applies to Kashmir through Article 370. Article 1 lists the states of the Union. This means that it is Article 370 that connects the state of Jammu and Kashmir to the Indian Union. The removal of Article 370, which can be done by presidential order, will make the state independent from India, unless new overriding laws are made. The Preamble and Article 3 of the then Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir stated that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is and will remain an integral part of the Union of India. Article 5 states that the executive and legislative power of the State extends to all matters with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws for the State under the provisions of the Constitution of India. The Constitution was adopted on 17 November 1956 and came into force on 26 January 1957. The Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir was made void by the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019 (CO 272) issued by the President of India on 5 August 2019.

t may be the jolly time

At the same time there are heated discussions in politics but mostly in the Conservative Party which has been in power since 2010. This week, just five days before breaking up for Christmas holidays, the Conservative Party is again tearing itself apart. This time it is what I call the almost "sibling rivalry" between the Rishi Sunak, the incumbent Prime Minister, and his freshly sacked home minister, Suella Braverman. Both of Indian origin, and both of whom want to rule over this once powerful country. They are more or less the same age (in their early forties) and fiercely ambitious. The fight – strangely enough — is over the need to curb immigration. Also equally oddly, the whole fracas started with former minister Priti Patel (also of Indian origin) who was the original architect of plans to curb immigration which are spectacularly blowing up now.

It is amusing that the Conservative Party which used to believe in free market and encouraging ambition and effort wants to discourage "foreigners" from coming to England. Suella Braverman was sacked by the Prime Minister for doubting his credentials as seriously interested in or being serious about reducing immigration. But that debate, unfortunately, has not ended with her exit. She – along with others – now



continues to raise questions about his competence from the sidelines.

To be fair, most people entering UK are there legally and made welcome. They are students who come with family (going to London attracts marriage offers!) or people with jobs in healthcare, etc. They are needed as the local population is ageing. But some get into boats from France, without visas and claim to be refugees. They arrive in small boats run by people smugglers and claim asylum.

To prove that these are not genuine refugees and not escaping persecution is difficult. Once they have landed in England they have to be housed in a hotel. Proving that they are not refugees takes a year or longer. It costs a lot of money. These illegals are just 10 per cent of total immigrants. But there are complications and there are human rights lawyers who fight their cases. The government wants to send them away, despite the adverse court ruling.

But where can they be sent? So Rwanda was thought to be a suitable place – even though courts have ruled that Rwanda is not safe and not likely to treat people according to human rights laws. Then a treaty was

signed with Rwanda asserting that notwithstanding the law Rwanda was to be the destination. The UK promised to pay millions to Rwanda. Recently, another minister in the home office quit his job when the treaty was published on Thursday. The bill detailing the law in immigration has to pass through Parliament and even the Tories are split on it.

Hopefully – all will be postponed till Easter as the Christmas recess approaches!

But of course, we may yet be rescued from this perpetual turmoil because we already have a former Prime Minister David Cameron in the House of Lords – will he jump in and take charge? It is rare for a former Prime Minister to come back to save his sinking party... But the Tories have tried everything to stay on in power. They might just try one more Prime Minister.

Another perennial story is of the minor royals, and the mystery of who in the palace speculated on the skin colour of Prince Harry's baby has just been "accidentally" revealed during the publication of yet another book about the great royal family break up. Titled "Endgame" by British journalist Omid Scobie, the author had apparently written that King Charles and the Princess of Wales had discussed what the skin colour of the expected first child of the Sussexes will be. Meghan had first mentioned this in a TV interview with Oprah Winfrey and it had meant to underscore the racism among the royals. And now that the names are revealed (by mistake of course) the tabloids are having a field day. It is a story the Netflix can base its next bumper series on the Crown .Royalty is a show that runs and runs. But now I propose that the infighting in the Tories can become a long running series too!

Those of us who loved Enid Blyton growing up were often disappointed that the present generation had more or less abandoned her for Harry Potter. But here come Julian, Dick, Anne, George and Timmy the dog – from the Famous Five series, re-invented by Nicolas Windin Refn, a Cannes award winning director. The series is set in the 1940s – and so it will not feature technology and mobile phones. It will also not (one imagines) have dialogues riddled with expletives – which may be odd for viewer today. Almost a foreign language and another world – a time of innocence recaptured. Will these work? I don't know – but I know I will watch the series, just to recapture those almost naive moments of childhood adventures – before violence and gore became a staple diet in the visual space.

The Double-Edged Sword Of artificial intelligence

By: Vijay GarG

ature of AI will be inherently changing the face of work and we have to understand the technology behind it and be careful in how we use it

Back in late 2022, few were surprised to learn that someone in Silicon Valley had finally managed to build a better chatbot. A chatbot that could actually raise the bar in terms of what consumers should expect? Many agreed that it was about time. What almost no one had prepared for, on the other hand, was a chatbot of the kind eventually unveiled. ChatGPT, it soon became clear, as hundreds of thousands of people gave the tool a try, was more than just the latest iteration of artificial intelligence (AI) -powered customer-assistance software. Many used the word "revolutionary" to describe what the system was capable of doing. Others said the technology seemed sentient like they were interacting with another human and not a machine.

And now, attention is turning to the technology's next phase: the one where businesses put it to work. Across industries and at companies of all types and sizes, there are already countless examples of ChatGPT deployments in actions

In nearly every case, business leaders acknowledge that it's still early days for ChatGPT. They're trailing the technology, "playing with the tool," getting a feel for what it can and cannot do. According to the Dell Technologies 2023 Innovation Index report, 59% of Indian businesses are currently investing or exploring the feasibility of investing in AI to advance innovation. Many say they've already seen enough to know that they could be onto something big. In a report on generative AI that McKinsey published

soon after ChatGPT was made available to the public, they pointed out that the technology is one of several recently released platforms that make up the "latest class" of deep learning systems.

Challenges and opportunities

Platforms like ChatGPT are trained on data from the internet, not on information held by individual businesses. This is getting underlined starkly with businesses not knowing how to fully extract value from data coming through AI channels employed across supply chains. The chatbots also come with their limitations. They will be vulnerable to inaccurate information and bias if the input is not tailored to these chatbots. The rampant use of ChatGPT might also open channels to security threats.

ChatGPT is exciting for Indian businesses but it is changing every day. The nature of AI will be inherently changing the face of work. We have to understand the technology behind it and be careful in how we are using it. ChatGPT might be very smart but it is far from perfect.

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



LOCAL

61st state level classical competition begins at Central Sanskrit University

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: The 61st state level classical competition is being organized at Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranveer Campus, Kot-Bhalwal, Jammu on December 11 and 12, 2023.

Today, as part of this classical competition program, the inaugural ceremony was organized in the Vani Vilas Auditorium of the University campus.

Various national level scholars were present in this inauguration ceremony, including eminent scholar of Jammu and Kashmir state and Padma Shri awardee Prof. Vishwamurthy Shastri, Jagguru Ramanandacharya from Rajasthan state, Prof. distinguished professor of Rajasthan Sanskrit University, Jaipur. Rajdhar Mishra, Professor of Sanskrit Department, Jammu University. Rambahadur Shukla, Astrology scholar Prof. Shyamdev Mishra from Lucknow campus and



Dr. Dhananjay Mishra, Principal of Gurukul Katra were also present. Director of Central Sanskrit University Shri Ranvir Campus, Prof. Shridhar Mishra under whose guardianship this program is being run. Manoj Kumar Mishra was present. Before the inauguration of this state level classical competition, the newly constructed main gate of the campus was inaugurated under the chairmanship of the Director of the University Campus, Prof. Vishwamurthy Shastri did it by cutting the ribbon. Apart from all the scholars mentioned above, all the teach-

ers and students of the campus were present at the inauguration of the main gate.

The inauguration ceremony of the 61st state level classical competition was presided over by Prof. Privatam Chandra Shastri did it.

This program was coordinated by Dr. Rajkumar Mishra. The program was conducted by Dr. Harishankar Pandey. This inaugural program was started with Vedic invocation by Acharya of Veda Department, Dr. Anavamani Tripathi. After that, secular invocation and welcome song was presented by the students. In the chief guest address of

the program, Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri said that Veda is the root of all branches and Veda is also the base text of all our scriptures. In the special guest address, Prof. Rajdhar Mishra said that scriptures are the basis of our culture.

In the special guest address, Prof. Manoj Kumar Mishra ji said that study and teaching of Vedas and other scriptures is very important in schools and universities across the country, only then our culture will remain intact.

In Saraswat guest address, Prof. Rambahadur Shukla said that reading and expression of various events should be done in such a way that everyone becomes emotional. The Honorable Director of the campus expressed his gratitude to all the scholars and encouraged all the participants. In the presidential address. Prof. Privatam Chandra Shastri said that such competitions will promote and promote Sanskrit in the state.

In this state level competition, students and teachers of Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Basohli, Udhampur and student teachers from Shrimata Vaishno Devi Gurukul, Katra were also present. The vote of thanks in this inaugural ceremony was given by Dr. Tejnath Paudel. In this program, professors of Central Sanskrit University. Shri Ranvir Campus, Dr. Ramdas Sharma, Dr. Pramod Kumar Shukla, Dr. Ghanshyam Mishra, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dixit, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Mishra, Dr. Pawan Kumar Singh, Dr. Sujit Pandey and Dr. Naveen Tiwari were present.

DDC member Suresh Sharma starts blacktopping of Sunail Sagani road ship of the country's

prove to be very ben-

eficial for the people

of villages like Sagani,

Sunail, Jayanti Jakhari,

etc. For the people

of these villages, the

means of transport will

become easier to move.

Addressing the gath-

ering, Suresh Sharma

said that efforts are on

to connect every vil-

lage and locality with a

pucca road. Construc-

tion work on many more

roads will be started in

Suresh Sharma said

that the Central Govern-

ment, under the leader-

the coming days.



Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Dec 11: BJP senior leader and District Development Council (DDC) member Pandit Suresh Sharma, fulfilling the long pending demand of the people, kick started the black topping work of the Sunail-Sagani road, which is to be built at a cost of Rs 2 crore 87 lakh under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, in Maira Mandrain block of Chhamb assembly constituency. This road route will

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has initiated many mega projects in Jammu and Kashmir like Express Way, Jammu Poonch National Highway, construction of new bridges etc. due to which roads are also being constructed to connect the villages. The villagers present there thanked Pandit Suresh Sharma and said that development work is being done keeping their demands in mind.

DDC Sharda Bhau, XEN NU Khan, AEE Ravi Sharma, Sarpanch Prashant Sharma, Sarpanch Rashpaul sharma, AE Munish Kumar, Sham Singh Panch Tilik Raj, Tarsem Kumar, Noor Jamal, Naveen Bakshi, Harbans Lal, Ganesh Mehta, Surjo Devi and other dignitaries of the village were present on the occasion.

GDC Udhampur participates in inaugural address by PM on Viksit Bharat @2047

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Dec 11: In the continuum of the league of programs in Azaadi ka Amrit Kaal during the year of G20 presidency of India, the institutions Innovation Council of the College (IIC) under the patronship of Principal Prof. (Dr). Romesh Kumar Gupta, the students and staff participated in the online session addressed by Prime minister of India Narendra Modi on "Viksit Bharat @2047".

The students and the staff participated in the live event with great enthusiasm

The students were excited to listen to the enriched lecture by our PM and applauded the message of our visionary PM.

The programme was supervised by the IIC team of the college headed by IIC president Dr. Jagjeet Singh.

After the inaugural online lecture of the honorable Prime Minister Narender

Bamba and President IIC Dr. Jagjeet Singh held a brain storming session on the title "Innovation and Ideation on Udhampur specific problems" in which a large number of students participated and came forward with very innovative ideas about the local problems encountered by the local residents of Udhampur District.

The students were ready with their ideas but also shared their limitations with the IIC members.

The female students were also equally prompt and eager to share their valuable ideas, these ideas included various aspects including economic growth, social progress, environmental sustainability, and good governance.

The other IIC members who were present were, Prof. Rajesh Singh Manhas along with Prof. Shobhna Sambyal, NSS POs Dr. Gurpreet Kour, Prof. Sanjeet Singh, Dr. Neena Sharma, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Dr. Anita Sharma, Prof. Jvoti Sharma. Prof. Samosh Kumar. The overall supervision of the program was carried out by Prof. B. L Thakur.

Rasna launches Rasna Himalayan Gulab Sharbat, Himalayan Gulkand, Himalayan Gulab Chywanprash

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Rasna announced the launch of their Rasna Himalayan Gulab Sharbat, Himalayan Gulkand and Himalayan Gulab Chywanprash.

In an effort to increase Rasna's presence in the state, the products will be manufactured using raw materials such as pure rose oil and rose water all sourced from the valleys of Uttarakhand.

Rasna through its extensive manufacturing and marketing outreach with 12 factories in India and 1.6 million

India and abroad simultaneously, especially in the Middle East where Indian rose products are already in demand.

With a global demand for the product, Rasna aims to grow its presence through increased sourcing of local produce from the state.

To further revenue generation for the state, Rasna also plans to launch Sandal Syrup and Turmeric Syrup based concentrate syrups, whose raw materials would also be sourced from the Valleys of Uttarakhand.

Uttarakhand, especially the valley of flowers in Chamoli, is known for its variety of rose flowers namely Damask. The Damask Rose is very distinctive, as

it provides a unique aroma and has been used extensively for centuries as an additive for various food, ayurvedic, nutraceutical

and related products. Rasna through its innovative R&D approach has made this rose syrup using natural ingredients from the state which will provide therapeutic benefits that stem from the antioxidant, antibacterial, antiinflammatory, and gut cooling properties of the flowers and not to forget the aroma and distinct taste of the product.

Commenting at the Uttarakhand Global Investor Summit, Group

Prime Minister's vision of food from India for the world. We fully support the call for Vocal for Local and are expanding it by making Local go Global. In interest of which and to showcase our commitment to the state of Uttarakhand, we have launched the Rasna Himalayan GulabSharbat, Himalavan Gulkand, Gulab-Chywanprash and aim to roll out additional products PAN India and globally, all of which will be manufactured using raw materials sourced from the state. This will immensely help the farmers of Uttamoving towards natural and ethnic products and according to a recent Euromonitor Report the Indian concentrate syrup market is expected to become a billion-dollar industry by 2024. As a market leader, Rasna expects immense growth in this product category which will significantly increase their presence into Uttarakhand over the coming years.

Rasna Himalavan Gulab Sharbat would be available in two pack sizes 750 ml at Rs. 160 and 600 ml at Rs. 130, across Rasna's mammoth market of 1.6 million outlets through its 26 depots, 200 super stockists, 5000 stockists and 900 sales force.

diverse community of

over 700 microorgan-

isms, forming the sec-

ond-largest microbiome

in the body. Research

Modi the second session was held in the conference hall of the college in which the entire IIC team Under the supervision of IIC convener Dr. Rozy

outlets coverage in India and availability in more than 60 countries will launch the product in

Chairman of Rasna, Piruz Khambatta said "Rasna is dedicated to work in line with the Hon.

rakhand by improving their income and getting better value for their crop.' Consumers are

GDC Kishtwar engages in live interactive session with PM on ViksitBharat@2047

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 11: The faculty and students of GDC Kishtwar participated in a live interactive session with the Prime Minister of India as part of the ViksitBharat@2047 initiative.

During the session, the Prime Minister emphasized the importance of realizing India's potential through dedication, belief, and steadfast leadership. He called for a bold and transformative agenda to be

sion mode to achieve the vision of a developed India by 2047. Dr. Jyoti Parihar Prin-

cipal GDC Kishtwar also addressed the students, urging each one to fulfill their responsibilities as responsible citizens and work diligently in harmony with nature.

He emphasized the need for every individual to be a valuable resource for the country. As a symbol of their commitment, the faculty and students took a pledge to support

implemented in a misthe missions of Viksit Bharat.

The event was coordinated by Prof. Privthi Raj, who encouraged the students to register on the official government portal, Mygov.gov. in, and share their ideas and selfies. This initiative aims to harness the innovative ideas of the youth and invite them to contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. Through this outreach initiative, lakhs of youth across India have been provided with a platform to express their views



and ideas, enabling them to contribute to the goal of a developed India by 2047.

About 150 students attended the event. The presence of esteemed faculty members including Prof. Swam Raj, Prof. Falak, Prof. Prithvi Raj, Prof. Waseem, Dr. Esraar, Prof. Jaideep, Prof. Yasir, Dr. Sehrish Gazal, and Prof. Asma added to the success of the event.

CMO, Amway India ness. have Glister Multi-Action Toothpaste Herbals which comes with 11 natural ingredients. These toothpastes are not merely about brightening smiles; they empower individuals to adopt a holistic approach to their health by acknowledging the interconnectedness of oral hygiene with their overall well-being." With a legacy spanning over five decades, gateway, teems with a

microbiome for holistic well-being with Glister Multi-Action Toothpaste the Glister has consis-**Top News Report** tently evolved to meet the growing needs of JAMMU, Dec 11: Recconsumers. Our latest ognizing the deeper offering, Glister Multiconnection between Action Toothpaste, aims oral health and overall to nurture and support the delicate balance of your oral care microbiome while delivering multiple benefits increasing enamel whit-

The mouth, the body's

Amway India fosters healthy oral

indicates that 90% of all systemic diseases manifest orally, underscoring the paramount importance of oral care for holistic well-being. Towards this, the Glister Multi-Action toothening by 42%, freshens paste and Glister Multibreath for 12 hours, plaque reduction, its Action toothpaste herbflavour contains pepperals are enriched with mint essential oil which Plant-based goodness, including ingredients is Nutrilite sourced/ certified, that helps to like sorbitol and glycersupport freshening of in. They are meticulousbreath and is enriched ly formulated with No with plant-based goodanimal-derived ingredients, No sugar, No Furthermore, addressing the increasing preference for toothpaste with natural and herbal ingredients, we also

alcohol, No peroxides, or No Parabens The new Glister Multi-Action toothpaste increases enamel whitening by 42% [1] and helps fight cavities, thereby maintaining strong and healthy teeth.

The Glister Multi-Action Toothpaste and Glister Multi-Action Toothpaste Herbals are priced at Rs. 322 and Rs.333 per pack size of 200 g (inclusive of all taxes) respectively. The product packs are also available in 50 g pack to provide flexibility of purchase.

Shradhanjali Samaroh organised at Chohala to pay tributes to Sunita Devi

Top News Report

R S PURA, Dec 11: A Shradhanjali Samaroh was organised at Chohala here on Monday wherein all members of Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha and a large number of people from civil society paid tributes to Sunita Devi on her first death anniversary. "Whenever I was worried she would become restless until I shared my worries and helped me to solve my problems", said her husband Inspector Darshan Lal Motan. Also speaking, her children said, "Our mother was most kind, considerate and responsible.

Among those who paid tributes included JKBS' Chairman Dilay Ram Kaith, Deputy Chairman Havildar Des Raj Kaith, President TSO Rachhpal Kaith (Retd), General Secretary R L.Kaith, Members: Sub Inspector Darshan Kumar Bassa (Retd), Hans Raj Loria, Master Naresh Kumar Kaith and Jagdish Raj Kaith.

JKBS members felicitate Komal Motan



Top News Report

R S PURA, Dec 11: A felicitation program was organised at Village Chack Mohd Yar by the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members

in order to felicitate Ms Komal, who obtained position in 8th class, distinctions in 10th & 12th classes and is currently doing B. Pharmacy in the Government Polytechnic College Patiala.

JKBS' General Secretary R.L Kaith, while congratulating Komal, said that this excellent result is a great step towards a brighter future and towards her own personal goal. He hoped that she would keep her focus

in the positive direction and keep excelling in life. The JKBS members felicitated Komal by presenting to her a 'Trophy' as an encouragement, wished her all success in the future.

health, Amway India, one of the leading FMCG direct-selling companies, introduced the All-New Glister Multi-Action toothpaste with many benefits. Talking about the new launch, Ajay Khanna,

stated, "According to the World Health Organization, over 95% of Indian adults experience tooth decay, while more than 50% suffer from gum recession, tooth sensitivity, and bad breath. As we observe a growing shift towards holistic wellness, Glister, one of the best-selling brands from Amway that has won the trust of millions of consumers worldwide, proudly leads the way in integrating oral care into a broader paradigm. In the grand tapestry of health and wellness, oral care forms a thread that interweaves through every aspect of our lives, serving as an integral part of our holistic well-being.

ENTERTAINMENT

Kartiki Gonsalves, whose debut documentary The **Elephant Whisperers won an Oscar, wants to reconnect** people with nature's majestic biodiversity

"The moment you say documentary, people switch off." But Oscar-winning Kartiki Gonsalves' documentary The Elephant Whisperers made people sit up, pay attention and not only laud all the way, but also spare a thought or two about our relationship with nature.

Indeed, she agrees environment is not on the top of people's agenda. Often seen as something at cross purpose with development/modernisation she feels people fail to appreciate what we have; the vast natural beauty of our environment. In fact, one of the core ideas of her debut film was to reconnect people with nature's majestic biodiversity. However, as she is on the jury of All Living Things Environmental Film Festival, she thinks youngsters are assessing a lot of information and are playing a bigger part in protecting the environment. Still, as a rule, the way documentaries are perceived in India is rather lopsided if not outright erroneous. Most people do not associate it with entertainment and after a hard day's work, she feels, "They do not want to be educated.

Emotional journey

Her film undisputedly is much more than a bagful of information. Though it tells us a lot of things about the majestic elephant, at the heart of it, there is



It certainly helped that what she

had before her, the breathtaking

Mudumalai National Park in the

Nilgiri Mountains, was simply 'a

thing of beauty and joy forever,'

which the keen photographer

and cinematographer in her

was only too happy to capture.

Indeed, her language is largely

visual. Besides, she wanted

to impress upon the beauty of

what we have, "Often, people

tend to pull out negative parts."

As a documentary filmmaker

she thinks, "You have both the

power and the responsibility and

need to be mindful of what you

are putting out for the world to

see. What is the message you

want to convey." Indeed, Oscar

means greater responsibility

and one at 36, she smiles, is a

lot to process and do, like 'more

public appearances'. Fortunate-

ly, it also means better funding,

more opportunities to do the

an emotional journey, the bond between the caretaker couple and an infant elephant.

But whether it touches a chord for we come from the land where elephant God is the most iconic. revered and loved image, she is not quite sure. Rather her question is, "If there are so many festivals celebrating Lord Ganesha, why are we not paying attention to this beautiful social and emotional animal? Today their numbers are down to anything from 30,000 to 35,000." As a documentary-maker she does not look at herself as an activist, crusader or chronicler, only as a conservationist. Of course, when she began filming, it was an organic journey with no preconceived notions or ideology in her mind. Unlike fiction, where script comes first, in documentary filmmaking, she states, "You start with what you have."

kind of work she cares about. Up next

Her next documentary is on Orca whales, drawing a parallel between the very social and intelligent mammals and First Nations people on the Pacific Northwest of Canada, both of which are matriarchal beings. No, this time she won't be teaming with her Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga. Besides, the film will be feature length and the indigenous community will come on board as active participants. Be it India or Canada where her next film will be shot with some spectacular dive into underwater too, she reposes great faith in the knowledge of indigenous people. She nods most emphatically and agrees that they should certainly be part of policy-making.

Meanwhile, she is ready to devote any length of time to pursue her passion. If The Elephant Whisperers took her six years in the making, rest assured the next one won't come out in a hurry either. She savs, "Whatever I do, even if it takes many years of my life, it has to be with my heart and soul. I don't want to be another run-of-the-mill documentary filmmaker." Award-winning for sure, but she doesn't think Oscar up her sleeve will have any bearing on her next project. Only her passion would!

Rachi wishes her real-life partner would be as romantic as her reel one



In the recent episodes of Kumkum Bhagya, viewers were treated to the exciting preparations for Poorvi and

Ashutosh's (Arjun Singh Shekhawat) engagement. We've seen them have a gala time shopping for jeweller and clothes. Rachi is having the time of her life shooting for this sequence in Kumkum Bhagya.

The actress revealed that she also wishes her future real life partner to do romantic gestures similar to her reel-life partner Ashutosh. She believes in old school romance and wants a grand proposal from her man!

Rachi said, "Currently we are shooting for Poorvi-Ashutosh's engagement sequence and I feel the highlight of one of the major sequences is my dress and my ring, which are very beautiful. Poorvi herself chooses the dress and her jewellery as well as decorates her house in the show. And I want to plan my engagement in real life as well. What's more is that since I was a kid, I had thought about my dream proposal and I want my partner to select my ring and my dress.

While in reel life it was all dreamy, I just hope this dream will be fulfilled in my real life too."

Samantha Ruth Prabhu launches production house **Tralala Moving Pictures**

Actor Samantha Ruth Prabhu announced her foray into production with the launch of her banner Tralala Moving Pictures.

Samantha, the star of Telugu and Tamil films such as "Eega", "Mahanati", "Mersal", and "Super Deluxe", and "Prime Video series "The Family Man 2", shared the news on Instagram.

"Very excited to announce my production house, Tralala Moving Pictures @tralalamovingpictures," the 36-year-old actor said. Samantha said her production house will aim to produce "content representative of new age expression and thought". "A nurturing space which invites and encourages stories that speak to the strength and complexity of our social fabric. And a platform for filmmakers to tell stories that are meaningful, authentic and universal. (Inspired from one of my favourite songs growing up. Brown girl is in the ring now...)," she wrote. For her production venture, the actor has partnered with Hyderabad-based entertain-

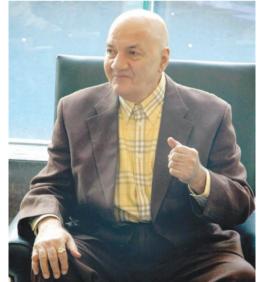


Villain characters make the narrative interesting, says veteran actor Prem Chopra

Villains make the narrative interesting but unlike the black and white portrayal of negative characters in the past, they are given a backstory in cinema today, says veteran actor Prem Chopra.

The 88-year-old actor, who embodied evil men of all shades in the films of the 70s and 80s, is being praised for his guest appearance in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's "Animal". Chopra said the negative characters were not iustified in movies earlier and gave the example of his 1973 hit "Bobby". Directed by Raj Kapoor, the film starred Rishi Kapoor and Dimple Kapadia in the lead.

"In those days, we were stamped as the bad guys... It was in a straight way, whether Prem Chopra, Amrish Puri, Pran sahab or anyone else, it was like, 'Yeh gadbad karne wale hain' (people knew that we were up to some mischief)," the veteran actor told agency in an interview.



after the 2009 comedy-drama "Rocket Singh: Salesman of the Year".

"Ranbir is a very hardworking actor and performed so well in 'Rocket Singh'. In this film ('Animal'), he is tremendous. He has done a great job. It is a very difficult and complicated role.

"It is action-oriented but even then, his character has a great background (story). People seem to love him very much. Not just him, even Bobby Deol is very good in a special appearance. All of them are very impactful." In movies, Chopra has worked with four

generations of the Kapoor family -- from Prithviraj Kapoor, Raj Kapoor, Randhir Kapoor and Rishi Kapoor, and Kareena Kapoor Khan and Ranbir Kapoor in recent years.

All his co-stars from the Kapoor clan are thorough professionals but his most-favourite was Rishi Kapoor, who passed away in April 2020 after a battle with leukemia.

Media Works.

"We are stoked to have partnered with someone with such immense experience in the world of entertainment and showbiz. We will be looking at content around film, web & TV, and various formats, both fiction and non fiction," said Himank Duvurru. Samantha's partner and founder of Mandoa Media Works.

ment company Mandoa

"What's really getting us excited about this

new beginning is to be able to bring forth concepts that are new, unique, thought provoking and entertaining. This partnership strives to bring an inclusive and efficient approach to filmmaking," he added. On the acting front, Samantha was most recently seen in Telugu movie "Kushi", opposite Vijav Deverakonda. She will next star alongside Varun Dhawan in the India chapter of Prime Video's global series "Citadel".

"Like, in 'Bobby', I just had one dialogue and that became very popular. Raj (Kapoor) didn't have to explain. People knew that he was going to do something," he said, recalling his most famous dialogue. "Prem naam hai mera, Prem Chopra".

But in "Animal", Chopra said a reason has been given for Ranbir's revenge in the film.

"The narrative was made interesting because of the negative characters (in the past). It is the same even now. They are a very important part of the film. Now-a-days, the difference is every negative character has a reason, how and why he has become a villain.

"In 'Animal', there's a reason why he (Ranbir) is like this and that's because his father was shot and he had to take revenge," the actor said.

Directed by Vanga of "Arjun Reddy" fame, "Animal" showcases a violent world set against the backdrop of a troubled relationship between Ranvijay and his father Balbir Singh, played by Anil Kapoor.

Chopra, whose career has spanned 60 years that saw him feature in many promi-

nent movies such as "Do Raaste". "Purab aur Paschim", "Teesri Manzil", "Kati Patang", "Souten" and "Trishul", plays the role of the elder brother of Ranbir Kapoor's grandfather.

The cinema veteran believes the audience has become more appreciative of a good performance, regardless of a positive or a negative role.

"People have become emancipated, they appreciate it if you give a good reason. Sometime back, people were not able to adjust to the actors who were playing the negative characters.

"When a person (who generally plays a) negative character is playing a positive character, they had doubts. In Hollywood, the actors are accepted in both (kinds of) roles, total negative or total positive, the performance matters. TV and all that (referring to OTT platforms) have made them (the audience) more literate about these things," he observed.

The actor also praised Ranbir for his performance in the action drama. "Animal" marks the second collaboration between the duo

"Some of them gave great performances, like, Prithviraj ji was known as the great actor, then Raj Kapoor was a known superstar and a genius director. Shammi Kapoor had his own style of working. But it was Rishi Kapoor I liked the most.

"He was very involved when he was working. He would fit into any character easily. He was a great asset to any film that he was working on," he added.

The actor said he has experienced his fair share of highs and lows, but has managed to survive in the film industry.

"I've been in the profession for more than the last 60 years. I'm grateful to God. I've never been unfair with my work. Every film for me was a test. I'm very hardworking, honest, and determined. There have been a lot of embarrassments and controversies but you have to continue doing your work," he said.

Going forward, Chopra said he is looking forward to doing selective work, something like American icon Marlon Brando's character in the Hollywood classic "Godfather".

"I'm open to good roles. It has to be very selective," he added.

Actress Somy Ali says rejection is huge part of the acting world

Actress Somy Ali, who is known for her work in movies like Aao Pyaar Karen, Chupp, Andolan, and many others, has said surviving in the industry is not easy and actors should be wary of the fact that 'rejection' is a huge part of the acting world.

Somy, who was last seen in the 1997 movie Chupp, said people need to be aware of the struggle required to survive here, before they decide to join the industry.

"I believe that if an individual is solely passionate about being in the entertainment industry, he or she is also hopefully prepared and comprehends that the chances of making it big are significantly low.



The person could have immense talent, but unfortunately politics and luck both play a huge role in

anyone succeeding or tasting the inevitable failure," shared Somy. The actress said she was not being pessimistic, as even Brad Pitt started out as an extra!

"Actors particularly should be wary of the fact that rejection is a huge part of the acting world," she said.

The Anth actress further said, "It doesn't mean you won't make it and must quit because I am all for never giving up, but I am also pragmatic enough to know when to bow down and look for an exit sign. Thus, my advice is to give oneself a deadline that I will try for so many years and if nothing good comes my way, I will go to plan B."

Aishwarya Khare draws inspiration from Sridevi and Priyanka Chopra

Aishwarya Khare is going the extra mile to portray her child-like character in Zee TV's Bhagya Lakshmi

To bring authenticity to the current track, Aishwarya is taking references from movies like Sadma and Barfi in order to learn and improve each day.

Aishwarya said, "When I was informed about this drastic change in my character, I was immediately reminded of Sridevi ma'am's movie Sadma, especially since our creative team had also given the same reference. I watched that movie again for renewed inspiration.



Although I was guite excited to try something new, doing it every day for a TV show is quite challenging. I decided to prepare well for this character and even watched Barfi where Priyanka Chopra's character Jhilmil also has the body language of a child." She added, "Even my director has been a great help, as he helps

me draw the line between acting like a child and going overboard with it.

This new ongoing track is like a breath of fresh air and I am truly blessed to have this opportunity to try something different on television."

NATIONAL

Invent machine that can count cash faster, vice president tells IIT Dhanbad students over Congress **MP's cash haul recovery**

'The country's ecosystem is clear that corruption has no place on it and it is no more a mean to seek favours'

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Referring to the exhaustive operation being undertaken by income tax and State Bank of India (SBI) officials of counting seized cash from premises of Congress MP Dheeraj Sahu in Ranchi, Vice-president Jagdeep Dhankhar on Monday urged students of IIT Dhanbad to invent a machine that can count cash faster.

Addressing the convocation of the institution in Dhanbad, the vice president said, "I urge all of you to invent a machine that can count money at fast rate. After seeing the plight of the bank manager (involved in



the money counting operation), it occurred to me that I should urge all of you to catalyse such a mechanism."

Dhankhar went on to add that the country's ecosystem is clear that corruption has no place on it and it is no more a mean to

seek favours.

"Power corridors have been neutralised of corrupt elements. Earlier people thought that they are above law and therefore it will not reach them. Nobody can escape law now," he said.

The raids being carried out by the income tax department on properties linked to Jharkhand Rajya Sabha MP Dheeraj Sahu have been going on for a week now.

The income tax department has so far recovered cash worth over Rs 355 crore during a series of raids on an Odishabased distillery group on charges of tax evasion.

ED summons Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren for questioning in money-laundering case on Tuesday

RANCHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued a fresh summons to Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren for questioning in a moneylaundering case linked to an alleged land scam on Tuesday, official sources said.

Soren has been asked to depose at

the federal agency's office here and get his statement recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), sources said on Monday.

The summons for the chief minister is for December 12, they added. This is the sixth notice

filed a petition before the Supreme Court seeking protection from the ED action.

The probe pertains to the ED alleging that a "huge racket of illegal change of ownership of land by mafia was going on in Jharkhand".

The agency has arrested 14 people in the case.



25 years of 'Amrit Kaal' exam time for citizens, not a moment to waste: PM Modi

Says India has to create a generation of youngsters that will offer leadership and direction to the country

do not leave anything

to chance, and keep

preparing till the last

minute. They invest

each moment in exam

preparation. Entire fami-

lies also subject them-

selves to the discipline

of exam time. Likewise

for us as citizens also,

the date for exams has

been declared," said the

He said we have 25

years of exam time --

Amrit Kaal -- before us.

"We have to work 24

hours for developed

India. Our whole nation

has to transform into a

disciplined family and

create an atmosphere

of discipline. We cannot

lose even a moment,"

said the prime minister

urging youth participa-

tion in the national cam-

paign to build developed

PM.



NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday compared 25 years of India's Amrit Kaal, the period until the centenary of independence in 2047, with examinations and said citizens could not afford to waste even one moment in the pursuit of the result of Viksit (developed) Bharat.

Addressing the 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Voice of Youth' workshop to engage youngsters in the mission for developed India, the prime minister asked them to treat the 25 years of Amrit Kaal like a period of examinations.

"Amrit Kaal is the same as examination time when students are confident of their performance and yet

The PM said to youngsters that all their goals, the objective of all their pledges should be one -- "building a developed India". "You have to chan-

India.

nelise the youth's energy across educational institutes towards the goal of Viksit Bharat. The ideas of each youth, no matter how diverse, have to be aligned with the goal of developed India. For Vikshit Bharat @2047 vision you must think out of the box," the PM said.

He said India has to create a generation of youngsters that will offer leadership and direction to the country.

"We need a youth army which will keep national interest and duties on top. As a citizen, we have to augment our efforts to ensure we become alert citizens.

"We have to reach a level of awareness in society where people are so conscious of their duties that they honour red lights with or without cameras and reach offices in time," he added.

Former RSS mouthpiece editor dies after being run over by train

issued to Soren, but he

never deposed as he

CHENNAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Sundara Jothi, former editor of RSS Tamil magazine "Vijayabaratham" died after being run over by a train, the Saffron outfit said on Monday.

The 68-year old fulltime worker, who was suffering from low vision and hearing loss was hit by an express train on December 10 evening near Chetpet railway station.



RSS official organ pubheld various positions lished in Tamil for over in the organisation. a decade and also had Amiable in nature, he performed administrawas articulate and well**India Vietnam Joint Military Exercise kicks off** NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): An Indian Army contingent comprising personnel largely drawn from the Engineers will conduct a 10-day joint military exercise with Vietnam

Army at Hanoi. The India contingent reached Vietnam to take part in the fourth edition of Joint Military Exercise VINBAX-2023, the Ministry of Defence said on Monday.

The exercise will be conducted from Decem-



Engineer Group and six personnel of Army Medical Corps. The Vietnam People's Army contingent will also be represented by 45 personnel. Exercise VINBAX was instituted in 2018 and the first edition was

conducted at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. It is an annual training event conducted alternatively in India and Vietnam.

The exercise with focus on deployment and employment of an Engineer Company and a Medical Team. The joint exercise will jointly rehearse tactics, technique and procedures. Ideas will be

exchanged on modern methods to construct roads, culverts, helipads, ammunition shelter and observation posts in operational areas

In addition, rehearsals will be carried out for drills related to combat engineering and combat medical tasks, the MoD said.

The joint exercise will help in promoting understanding and interoperability between the two contingents and further strengthen the defence cooperation between the friendly armies, the MoD said.

Sundara Jothi, affectionately addressed as ' Jothi Ji' by Sangh workers, helmed the tive functions, a statement said. A 'pracharak' for over four decades, he has

versed in Tamil and English. The RSS state headquarters is located at Chetpet in the city.

ber 11-21. The Indian contingent comprises 39 personnel from Engineer Regiment of Bengal Last edition was conducted at Chandimandir Military Station in August 2022.

Karnataka woman stripped, thrashed as son elopes with girl, Chief Minister reacts

BELAGAVI, Dec 11 (Agencies): A woman was dragged out of her house, stripped naked, tied to a pole, and thrashed in Karnataka's Belagavi on Sunday night by the family of a girl with whom her son had eloped, police said. The incident evoked reaction from Chief Minister Siddaramiah and Home Minister G Parameshwara.

Police said that the woman's son was in a relationship with the girl for some time. On receiving the news of their daughter eloping with the woman's son, the girl's family rushed

to the boy's house. Police said the girl's family dragged the man's mother outside her house, stripped her naked, tied her to a pole, and physically assaulted her.

Responding to the incident, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, "Not just Belagavi, our government is strict everywhere. No matter what offence, we'll take stringent action against those who commit a crime." In a post on microb-

for any reason." logging site X (formerly Twitter), Chief Minister already been arrest-Siddaramaiah wrote, ed in connection with "A woman was stripped the case. It is our full



naked, tied to a pole and responsibility to provide assaulted in Belgaum is justice to the aggrieved extremely inhumane. family by taking action to This has made the ensure that the culprits whole society dizzy. Our are punished severely," government will not tolhe added. erate such heinous acts According to Karan-

taka Home Minister G "Many people have Parameshwara, seven people who were directly involved in the crime had been arrested by the police and would be produced in court soon. The minister also said he would be visiting the victim, who is undergoing treatment at a local hospital.

"We will take action against the accused. A young couple had eloped. The girl's family went to the man's house, dragged the mother out, stripped her naked, and tied her to a pole before thrashing her. As soon as we got to know about it, police reached the spot, rescued the woman, and took her to a nearby hospital. She's now in the hospital," he said.

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwani Vaishnaw on Monday said the Global Partnership in Artificial intelligence (GPAI), which opens Tuesday, will be looking to have a specific

"We are negotiating an outcome document. The world's thinking is converging on use of Al," the Minister said ahead of the three day summit that opens in Delhi with Prime Minister Narendra Modi inau-

AI summit looks for outcome document

'We need to have convergence on AI and how to regulate the AI'



gurating it. We will be aiming at statement that is common with what happened in the past such declarations, the Minister said.

All the 29 invited countries and the European Union are focused on what should be safeguards for AI. China is not part of the GPAI, Vaishnaw said.

India has suggested two issues one use of AI in Agriculture and if the countries can have a common AI usable platform.

We are talking to all stakeholders with how to use technology safely. "India is looking to have a balance between regulation and innovation," Vaishnaw said on being asked that EU proposes a law to regulate technology.

Thrust is how to make Al responsible at the summit, technical and policy discussions were expected.

Starts ups, policy makers and experts will be there.

"We need to have convergence on AI and how to regulate the AI," the Minister said adding that India was being seen as a partner for technology by several countries in the past nine and half years.

Today every major country wants to join hands for co-creation of technology.

Prime Minister Modi has democratised technology in way that it allows same technology to reach all population at varied economic levels.

Teenage girl shot dead by brother in UP for refusing to stop texting on phone

SAHARANPUR, Dec 11 (Agencies): A teenage girl was allegedly shot dead by her brother here after she refused to stop texting on her phone, police said on Monday.

The incident took place in in Shekhpura Kadeem village on Sunday night when Muskan (17) was alleg-



edly using her mobile phone and her brother Aditya asked her to stop texting, ASP (City) Abhi-

maniyu Manglik said. Muskan refused to listen to her brother and as the argument esca-

lated, Aditya allegedly shot her using a country-made pistol, the ASP said

Their mother Babita was in another room of the house when the incident took place, he said. Locals rushed the victim to a hospital, where she was declared brought dead, he added. The police said a manhunt has been launched to nab the absconding accused, who is in his early twenties.

Locals said Aditya was

opposed to his sister's

relationship with a youth

of another community in

The police are probing

the case from all pos-

sible angles, the ASP

the same village.

said.

INTERNATIONAL

Top News of J&K Jammu, Monday, December 11, 2023

Israel bombs south Gaza after Hamas hostage threat

JERUSALEM, Dec 11 (Agencies): Israel bombed southern Gaza's main city on Monday after Hamas warned no Israeli hostages would leave the territory alive unless its demands for prisoner releases were met.

8

Hamas triggered the conflict when it carried out the deadliestever attack on Israel on October 7, killing 1,200 people, according to Israeli figures, and taking about 240 hostages back to Gaza. Israel has responded with a military offensive

that has reduced much of Gaza to rubble and killed at least 17,997 people, mostly women and children, according to the Hamas-run health ministry.

The ministry said on Monday that dozens of people had been killed in Israeli strikes across the Gaza Strip, while Israel's army reported rocket fire from Gaza into Israel.

An agency correspondent reported that Israeli strikes on Monday hit the main southern city of Khan Yunis, while Palestinian militants Islamic Jihad said they had blown up a house where Israeli soldiers were searching for a tunnel shaft.

Hamas on Sunday warned that Israel would not receive "their prisoners alive without an exchange and negotiation and meeting the demands of the resistance"

Israel says there are still 137 hostages in Gaza, while activists say around 7,000 Palestinians are in Israeli jails.

Months of intense bombardment and clashes have left Gaza's health system on the brink of collapse, with most hospitals no longer functioning and nearly two mil-



infrastructure, food,

water, health care, or

hvgiene are 'safe zones'

does not mean they are

Only 14 of Gaza's 36

hospitals are function-

ing at any capacity,

according to the United

Nations' humanitarian

"Gaza's health system

is on its knees and col-

lapsing," said World

Health Organization

chief Tedros Adhanom

Ghebreyesus, as the

agency called for imme-

diate, unimpeded aid

Israel's army chief

Herzi Halevi said

Sunday his troops were

using "significant force"

in Gaza, hailing "signifi-

cant achievements" in

The army told AFP on

Monday that 101 sol-

diers have died in the

Gaza ground offensive,

and previously put the

number of wounded at

It said Sunday it had

struck more than 250

targets in 24 hours,

including "a Hamas

military communica-

tions site", "underground

tunnel shafts" in south-

ern Gaza, and a Hamas

military command centre

in Shejaiya in Gaza City.

committees, which

Some 7.000 "terror-

safe," she said.

agency OCHA.

deliveries.

the war.

around 600.

lion people displaced. Agency visited the bombed-out ruins of the Al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City and found at least 30,000 people taking refuge amid the rubble after Israeli forces raided the medical facility last month.

"Our life has become a living hell, there's no electricity, no water, no flour, no bread, no medicine for the children who are all sick," said Mohammed Daloul, 38, who fled there with his wife and three children. 'Collapsing' health

system The UN estimates 1.9 million of Gaza's 2.4 million people have been displaced from their homes -- roughly half of them children.

Israel had urged people to seek refuge in the south, but after expanding the war to include southern targets, there are few safe places for civilians to go. Humanitarian organisations continued to press Israel for greater protection of civilians in

the conflict. Mapping software deployed by Israel's army to try to reduce non-combatant deaths was condemned as inadequate Sunday by Lynn Hastings, UN humanitarian coordinator for the Palestinian territories.

"A unilateral declaraists" have been killed, tion by an occupying according to National power that patches of Security Adviser Tzachi land where there is no Hanegbi.

"Hamas should not exist, because they are not human beings, after what I saw they did," Menahem, a 22-yearold soldier wounded on October 7, told agency during a military-organised tour that did not allow him to give his surname.

UN credibility 'undermined'

The UN General Assembly will meet on Tuesday to discuss the situation in Gaza, its president said, after the United States vetoed a Security Council resolution for a ceasefire on Friday.

A draft of the text seen by agency closely follows the language of Friday's failed Security Council resolution, "expressing grave concern over the catastrophic humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip".

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told a leaders' gathering in Qatar on Sunday that the Security Council's "authority and credibility were severely undermined" by the US veto. Qatar, where Hamas's top leadership is based, said it was still working on a new truce like the week-long ceasefire

it helped mediate last month that saw 80 Israeli hostages exchanged for 240 Palestinian prisoners and humanitarian aid.

But Israel's relentless bombardment was "narrowing the window" for success, said Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday again rejected a ceasefire. "With Hamas still alive,

still intact and... with the stated intent of repeating October 7 again and again and again, that would simply perpetuate the problem." he told ABC News. But Blinken also said

the United States was "deeply, deeply aware of the terrible human toll that this conflict is taking on innocent men, women and children". There are fears of

regional escalation with frequent cross-border exchanges between Israel and Lebanese militants, and attacks by pro-Iran groups against US and allied forces in Iraq and Syria. Syria's state news

agency said Israel had carried out strikes near Damascus late Sunday, but air defence systems had prevented any significant damage.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor said the strikes had targeted Hezbollah sites in the Sayeda Zeinab district and near Damascus airport. Meanwhile, Yemen's Iran-backed Huthi rebels threatened to attack

any vessels heading to Israel unless more aid was allowed into Gaza. France said Sunday one of its frigates in the Red Sea had shot down two drones launched from Yemen.

Israel's Netanyahu calls on Hamas militants to 'surrender now'

hu said in a statement,

referring to the chief

of Hamas in the Gaza

"In the past few days,

dozens of Hamas ter-

rorists have surren-

dered to our forces,"

The military has, how-

ever, not released proof

of militants surrender-

ing, and Hamas has

Almost one month

ago, Israel's Defence

Minister Yoav Gallant

said Hamas had "lost

control" of Gaza.

rejected such claims.

Netanyahu said.

Strip.



JERUSALEM, Dec 11 (Agencies): Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for Hamas militants to lay down their arms, saying the Palestinian Islamist group's end was near, as the war in the Gaza Strip raged more than two months after it began.

"The war is still ongoing but it is the beginning of the end of Hamas. I say to the Hamas terrorists: It's over. Don't die for (Yahya) Sinwar. Surrender now," Netanya-

Sunday boasted of success in their fight with Israeli forces in Gaza. Izzat al-Rishq, a senior member of the Hamas political bureau, said history would "remember Gaza as the clearest of victories" for the Palestinian militants.

"The end of the occupation has begun in Gaza," Rishq said.

Hamas triggered the conflict with the deadliest-ever attack on Israel on October 7 in which it killed around 1,200 people, according to Israeli figures, and dragged around 240 hostages back to Gaza. Israel has responded with a relentless military offensive that has reduced much of Gaza to rubble and killed at least 17,997 people, mostly women and children, according to the Hamas-run health min-

The militants late on istry.

Explosions heard in Kyiv in possible air attack; no word on damage or casualties

KYIV, Dec 11 (Agencies): A series of loud explosions rang out in Ukraine's capital early Monday followed by air raid sirens.

There was no immediate word on the origin of the explosions, but they sounded like air defence units firing into the sky. Kyiv is routinely targeted by Russian drone and missile attacks.

Just over two weeks ago, Kyiv came under what Ukrainian officials said was the most intense drone attack since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022.



Russia launched 75 Iranian-made Shahed drones against the capital, of which 74 were destroyed by air defenses. The explosions

Monday occurred just after 4 a.m as the city was under its nightly curfew.

There was no immediate information on any damage or casualties.

Ukraine's air force said

Hong Kong's 1st "Patriots **Only" Elections Record Lowest-Ever Turnout**

HONG KONG, Dec 11 (Agencies): Hong Kong's first "patriots only" district council elections saw a turnout of 27.5 per cent, the government said Monday, a record-low number for a race that had shut out all opposition candidates.

The city last held district council elections at the peak of huge, sometimes violent, democracy protests in 2019, recording a historic-high 71 per cent turnout that delivered a landslide victory for the democracy camp.

But a clampdown on dissent -- aided by a sweeping national security law imposed by Beijing -- has included a drive by authorities to weed out from public office anyone deemed politically disloyal after the protests.

Sunday's voting day stretched to midnight after a rare 90-minute extension was granted following a failure in the digital system used to confirm voters' eligibility. Despite the extra time, the government's official website was updated on Monday morning to show a final turnout of 27.54 per cent, with just shy of 1.2 million out of 4.3 million registered the polls.

Previously, the lowest turnout rate since the city's handover to China was 35.82 per cent, recorded in 1999. City leader John Lee had thanked the "more than 1 million" voters at around 1:45 am Monday (1745 GMT Sunday) for

coming out. After voting Sunday, he said this year's election was "the last piece of the puzzle to implement the principle of patriots ruling Hong Kong".

"From now on, the district councils would no longer be what they were in the past -which was a platform to destruct and reject the government's administration, to promote Hong Kong independence and to endanger national security," Lee said after he cast his ballot on Sunday.

announced in May, the number of seats that could be directly elected was slashed from 462 to 88, with the other 382 seats controlled by the city leader, government loyalists and rural landlords. Candidates were also required to seek nominations from three government-appointed

electors having gone to

According to new rules

effectively shut out all pro-democracy parties. Over 70 per cent of the candidates picked to run for the election were members of the nominating committees.

Police also acted swiftly to clamp down on any sign of dissent on Sunday, arresting at least six people. Three were activists

from the League of Social Democrats -- one of the city's last remaining opposition groups -- which had planned to stage a protest.

Police first accused the trio of "attempting to incite others to disrupt district council elections" and later passed them to the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) over suspicion of "inciting others not to vote". The League called the arrest "extremely ironic

and ridiculous". On Friday, the national security police arrested a 77-year-old man for an "attempt to carry out seditious acts".

A 38-year-old man was charged on Tuesday for reposting a video of an overseas commentator that allegedly incited people to boycott the election.

Philippines says military chief was aboard ship Chinese vessels rammed, hit with water cannon

President Marcos says China's actions illegal, violate international law

MANILA, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Philippines on Monday called the actions of Chinese vessels against its boats -including one carrying a senior Philippine military official -carrying out South China Sea resupply missions over the weekend a "serious escalation". Manila has accused the Chinese coast guard and maritime militia of repeatedly firing water cannons at its resupply boats, causing "serious engine damage" to one, and "deliberately" ramming another. Philippine Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Romeo Brawner said he was on board a vessel that was both sprayed with a water cannon and rammed.

"This is a serious escalation on the part of the agents of the People's Republic of China," Jonathan Malaya, spokesperson of the National Security Council, said in a news conference where officials showed images and videos of both the water cannons and ramming. Brawner told Philippine radio

station DZBB that he was unhurt by the water cannon incident and that he does not believe China knew he was on board the boat.

The Philippines has filed diplomatic protests and has summoned China's ambassador over its "aggressive" actions in the South China Sea, which a foreign ministry official said were a "threat to peace, good order and security," China's use of water cannons against



Philippine vessels undertaking resupply missions for troops on features Manila occupies in the South China Sea was not the first time it has done so.

The maritime confrontation between the Philippines and China during the weekend comes less than a month after leaders of both nations met at the sidelines of an economic summit in San Francisco to formulate ways forward in the South China Sea.

"There is a dissonance between what is being said and promised with what's happening in the waters," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Teresita Daza said in the same briefing.

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has increasingly complained about China's "aggressive" behaviour, and he has sought closer ties with its treaty ally the United States. China claims sovereignty over nearly the entire South China Sea, pointing to a line on its maps that cuts into the exclusive economic zones of Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia,

Brunei and Indonesia. Taiwan. which China also claims as part of its territory, has said it does not accept Beijing's maps.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration in 2016 said the line on China's maps had no legal basis, a ruling the United States supports, but Beijing rejects.

The United States has called out China for interfering in the Philippines' maritime operations and undermining regional stability, and urged Beijing to stop "its dangerous and destabilising conduct" in the strategic waters. It reaffirmed its commitment to the mutual defence pact between the two countries, Mat-

thew Miller, State Department Spokesperson said in a Dec. 10 statement.

A commentary piece in China's official military newspaper urged the Philippines to immediately stop its violations, strictly control its provocative actions, and "refrain from shooting itself in the foot".

It added that "some hegemonic countries" have resorted to "instigating trouble, creating

division and inciting confrontation" in the South China Sea, and that those countries "openly endorsed" illegal infringement and provocation by the Philippines.

"It must be pointed out that the Philippines' actions are closely connected to the instigation and abetment of external forces," the PLA Daily said, without naming any country or government.

Malaya said China's claims that the United States is fuelling the Philippines' audacity for provocation have no basis and reiterated that the United States was not involved in resupply missions.

During the weekend, the Chinese coast guard said China would continue to carry out "law-enforcement activities" in its waters.

Marcos said that the presence of Chinese coast guard vessels and maritime militia in his country's waters is illegal and that their actions against Filipinos are outright violations of international law.

"The aggression and provocations perpetrated by the China Coast Guard and their Chinese Maritime Militia... have only further steeled our determination to defend and protect our nation's sovereignty, sovereign rights, and jurisdiction in the West Philippine Sea," Marcos said on platform X late Sunday. Manila refers to the part of

the South China Sea that it has exclusive economic rights as the West Philippine Sea.

LOCAL/CONTD....

Institute of Mountain Environment celebrates Int'l Mountain Day-2023 at Bhaderwah Campus



Top News Report

BHADERWAH, Dec 11: In keeping with the annual tradition, the Institute of Mountain Environment, Bhaderwah Campus, celebrated International Mountain Day on December 11, 2023 in Bhaderwah Campus. The theme for IMD-23 was 'Restoring Mountain Ecosystems'. In his welcome message, Prof. Rahul Gupta, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, commended the initiatives being taken by the Institute of Mountain Environment to meet academic excellence, research, and scientific outreach, fostering a holistic approach to education in this part of Himalayas. As we reflect on the significance of mountains, may this celebration serve as a catalyst for continued efforts in mountain conservation and sustainable development, he added.

While introducing the theme, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Convener

IMD-23 emphasized scales. He placed a the importance of strong emphasis on our mountains as they shared duty to maintain and safeguard the cover around 27% of the Earth's land surface mountains. and are home to almost

half of the world's bio-

diversity hotspots. Yet

mountains are suffer-

ing from the impacts

of climate change and

unsustainable devel-

opment, escalating

risks for people and

the planet. This day is

an opportunity to raise

awareness about the

importance of moun-

tain ecosystems and

to advocate for nature-

based solutions, best

practises, and invest-

ments that increase

resilience, reduce vul-

nerability, and increase

mountains' ability to

adapt to daily threats

and extreme weather

Dr. Chhering Tandup

in his remarks high-

lighted the importance

of the mountains, the

concerns and challeng-

es these ecosystems face, and the likely con-

sequences for mankind

and the local and global

events, he said.

This was followed by presentations by the researchers of IME, Bhaderwah Campus who shared key findings of their research with the audience. Dr. Dinesh Baloria deliberated on floristic diversity of the alpine areas, while Vandana Dutt and Asha Sohil talked about the aquatic resources of the mountains. Ajaz Ansari and Nitika Khullar discussed the mammalian diversity of higher elevations. The curated butterfly specimens, field equipment, and gadgets were put on display for the awareness of schoolchildren.

The event unfolded at Little Angels School Bhaderwah Campus, attracting students from various departments of the campus and the school. The active participation of students added a dynamic element to the celebrations, complimenting awareness and understanding of the crucial role mountains play in our environment.

The prizes were distributed among the winners, where Rajpratima Singh Thakur and Aria Arun of Little Angles School, Bhaderwah campus won the titles in poster-making and declamation contest. respectively. While Sundus and

Nakshatra claimed the second and first runner up positions in poster making, Muneef Ahmed and Kashif Hafiz were adjudged second and first runner up in declamation contest.

Chander Shekhar, **Divisional Forest Officer** Bhaderwah, and Guest of Honour on the occasion shared his valuable insights on the status of mountain biodiversity and urged upon the citizens to join hands with the department in the protection and conservation of depleting forest resources. Majad Bashir, Wildlife Warden, Chenab Circle, Kishtwar, and Guest of Honour of the event shared his perspectives on the importance of mountains viz-a-viz wildlife conservation and management in this part of the Himalayas. Dr. Pankaj Chandan, Director, NDF, Jammu and Guest of Honour of the Day, emphasised the importance of such programmes, especially those involving schoolchildren, as they are the future custodians of biodiversity and ambas-

scholars and students of different departments of Bhaderwah Campus including Little Angels School, Bhaderwah Campus

conducted by Asha Sohil and Vandana Dutt while the formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Dinesh Singh.

controversial Article.

sadors of conservation. Those present among others, included the assistant registrar, the heads of different departments, faculty members, research

The proceedings were

Ajatshatru hails SC verdict on Article 370

Says justice served, dream of 'One Nation One Constitution' fulfilled

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Senior BJP leader and former Minister, Ajatshatru Singh on Monday lauded the Supreme Court's verdict upholding the abrogation of Article 370, calling it a "historic moment" for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement issued here today, the former minister said more than seven decades, the people of Jammu region, especially several communities, were deprived of their fundamental rights due to this

"Several political parties like National Conference, PDP, and others misled the people and used Article 370 as a tool for their vested interests," he said. Aiatshatru Singh

lauded the bold decision of the Modi Government to abrogate Article 370

on August 5, 2019, calling it a courageous and decisive step that was long overdue.

He said, "The Modi government's commitment to national integration and the well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir is truly commendable. Under their leadership, J&K has witnessed unprecedented development across various sectors, including infrastructure, healthcare, education, and tourism. This clearly demonstrates the positive impact of removing Article 370 and the immense potential of Jammu and Kashmir to thrive within the framework of the Indian

"Today, the Supreme Court has delivered justice to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The dream of 'One Nation, One Constitution' has finally been fulfilled. This verdict paves the way for a brighter future for the region. free from discrimination and injustice," he said.

Constitution."

The senior BJP leader expressed his confidence that the abrogation of Article 370 will bring about positive changes in Jammu and Kashmir, leading to greater integration with the rest of India, social and economic development, and a more secure environment for all citizens. He urged all political parties to work together to ensure the full implementation of the Supreme Court's verdict and contribute to the progress and prosperity of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhagat urges Govt to stop backdoor employment of blue eyed persons in private sector

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 11: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Sr. leader Ajeet Bhagat urged the government stop backdoor employment of blue eyed persons and reserve employment quota for the SC, ST and OBC Youths in the private sector.

The National Conference Senior Leader who lashed out at the government and accused it of non functioning and creating tough circumstances for employees by not providing them with

employment. Stress was also laid on the issue of employment of educated youths who were unemployed and distressed. Ajeet Bhagat demanded reservation for SC, ST and OBC educated youths. Meanwhile it was unanimously urged upon the Chairman Cum Managing Director (CMD) NHPC New Delhi to fix the quota for SC, ST and OBC Community. He urged the Central Power Minister and Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir and Chief Secretary to look into matter and act at the earliest.

Gaza war must end, find permanent political solution to establishment of **Palestinian state: Er. Prithpal**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Aam Aadmi District Poonch President, Er. Prithpal Singh said in a statement on Sunday that the Gaza war must end, called for an international peace conference to immediately end the war in Gaza and find a permanent political solution to the establishment of a

Palestinian state. Singh said the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has generally reached a dangerous level that requires

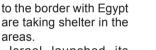
occupied West Bank and increased violence against Palestinian

cities. He reiterated his longstanding position in favor of negotiations

which will lead to a solution that will be protected by the world powers to establish a sovereign Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and the East Jeru-

to be displaced, more





Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war. It later Israel launched its annexed the entire city, campaign to eliminate declaring it its capital, a the Hamas movement move that was not recthat rules Gaza on Octoognized internationally.

its roads and mosques were destroyed. There is nothing left, Gaza needs reconstruction and rehabilitation." He also said that a team of UN observers should be

an international confe ence and guarantees by world powers.

He said that in the past year Israeli forces have intensified their attacks throughout the

rather than armed resis tance to end the prolonged occupation. Negotiations based on

an international peace conference and under international auspices,

salem," he said In the two-month war, it has killed more than 17,000, wounded 46,000 and forced nearly 1.9 million people



than half of them now in central Gaza or close

ber 7 after Hamas fight ers ransacked Israeli cities, killing 1,200 people and capturing 240 hostages, according to Israeli data. . He said that Israel

Singh Said "Gaza today is not the Gaza you know. Gaza was destroyed, its hospitals, its schools, its infrastructure, its buildings,

captured Arab East

sent to Gaza to ascertain the loss of civilian lives and Israel should compensate Palestinians for the loss of life and property.

SC upholds Abrogation of Art 370, Directs restoration of J&K Statehood. Polls by Sep 2024

"Article 370 was a feature of asymmetric federalism and not sovereignty," Justice Chandrachud said.

He said the exercise of power by the president under Article 370(1)(d) to issue CO 272 (by which Indian Constitution was put into effect in J&K) was not mala fide.

"The President in exercise of power under Article 370(3) can unilaterally issue a notification that Article 370 ceases to exist," he said

"The President did not have to secure the concurrence of the Government of the State or Union Government acting on behalf of the State Government under the second proviso to Article 370(1)(d) while applying all the provisions of the Constitution to Jammu and Kashmir because such an exercise of power has the same effect as an exercise of power under Article 370(3) for which the concurrence or collaboration with the State Government was not required," Justice Chandrachud said.

He said the petitioners did not challenge the issuance of the proclamations under Section 92 of the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution and Article 356 of the Indian Constitution until the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was abrogated.

"The challenge to the Proclamations does not merit adjudication because the principal challenge is to the actions which were taken after the Proclamation was issued," he said.

"The exercise of power by the President after the Proclamation under Article 356

is issued is subject to judicial review. The exercise of power by the President must have a reasonable nexus with the object of the Proclamation,"the CJI asserted.

He said those challenging the exercise of power must prima facie establish that it was a mala fide or extraneous exercise of power.

"Once a prima facie case is made, the onus shifts to the Union to justify the exercise of such power," the CJI said.

Pronouncing his verdict, Justice Kaul said the purpose of Article 370 was to slowly bring J&K at par with other Indian states. He directed the setting up of an "impartial truth-and-reconciliation commission" to probe human rights violations, both by state and non-state actors, at least since 1980

Justice Khanna, in his separate verdict. concurred with the CJI and Justice Kaul and gave his own reasons for the conclusion

As news of the verdict came in, National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah said in a post on X that he was disappointed but not disheartened.

"The struggle will continue," Abdullah said

Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairperson Ghulam Nabi Azad echoed him and said the verdict was "sad and unfortunate" but it had to be accepted.

Reports of house arrest or arrest of anyone ahead of SC verdict on Article **370 totally baseless: LG** Sinha

the Constitution that gave a special status

to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir

FROM PAGE 1

BJP welcomes SC verdict on Article 370: Nadda

the Union of India. I along with my crores of workers (karyekarta) are grateful to PM Modi for this endeavor.'

Security beefed up across Kashmir ahead of SC verdict on Article 370

use the platforms responsibly and refrain from sharing rumours, fake news, hate speeches or obscene, violent and defamatory content.

"Moreover, social media users are cautioned not to indulge in propagation of terrorist and secessionist ideology and false narrative," the Cyber Police said in an advisorv

It said the circulation of any incriminatory content received from other users without verifying the actual facts may be avoided and on noticing or receiving any such information, instead of sharing it with others, the social media users should immediately inform the Cyber Police about it.

The officials said no convoy movement will be allowed on Monday as a precautionarv measure

Movement of vehicles escorting or carrying VIPs and protected persons in "troublesome areas" should also be avoided, an advisory issued by the inspector general of police, Kashmir zone to all security forces and senior superintendents of police said. The Supreme Court is set to pronounce

its verdict on the petitions challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 on Monday.

The provisions of Article 370 were abrogated by the Centre on August 5, 2019 and the erstwhile state was bifurcated into the Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Disappointed, but struggle will continue: **Omar Abdullah on SC** verdict on Article 370

The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision to abrogate Article 370, which bestowed a special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, and said steps should be taken to conduct elections to the Assembly in the Union Territory by September 30 next year.

The apex court also directed that statehood to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir be restored at the earliest.

SC verdict on Article 370 disappointing, says **Saiad Lone**

Monday upheld the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision to abrogate Article 370, which bestowed a special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, and said steps should be taken to conduct elections to the Assembly in the Union Territory by September 30 next year.

The Supreme Court also directed that statehood to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir be restored at the earliest. In the case of statehood, Lone said, the

Supreme Court 'sidestepped even commenting on it, thus protecting the entire country from any future misuse, by citing precedence'

"Yet the same misuse was subtly endorsed in J&K. Let us hope at a future date, justice wakes up from its slumber of pretence," the PC president said.

SC verdict sad and unfortunate: But we have to accept it: Azad

the region are not happy with the verdict delivered by a five-judge bench of the apex court.

Home Minister Amit **Shah welcomes SC** verdict upholding abrogation of Article 370

visionary decision five years ago that brought peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I welcome the Honourable Supreme Court of India's verdict upholding the decision to abolish Article 370. On August 5, 2019, PM Narendra Modi took a visionary decision to abrogate Article 370. Since then peace and normalcy have returned to J&K," he said.

The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the government's decision to abrogate Article 370, which bestowed special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, and said steps should be taken to conduct elections in the assembly by September 30 next year. The apex court also directed that statehood to the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir be restored at the earliest.

BUSINESS / HEALTH

Bull run: Sensex scales 70,000-peak for first time in early trade; Nifty crosses 21,000-level

The key indices had touched their new lifetime highs on Friday after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the growth forecast for the current fiscal and kept policy rates unchanged.

MUMBAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Benchmark Sensex surged past the 70,000-level for the first time in early trade on Monday and the broader Nifty crossed the 21.000-mark as the equity market continued with its bullish momentum

10

The key indices had touched their new lifetime highs on Friday after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the growth forecast for the current fiscal and kept policy rates unchanged.

The 30-share Sensex touched its all-time high of 70,048.90 points soon after opening and later marginally shed its gains to 69,958.13 points, which is a rise of 132.53 points or 0.19 per cent compared to Friday's closing level.

Reflecting similar trends, the 50-share Nifty climbed to its high of 21,019.80 points.

Later, it was trading at 20,984.65 points, gaining 15.25



points or 0.07 per cent. In the Sensex pack, 20 scrips were trading in the green while 10 were in the negative territory. Among the Nifty constituents, 27 stocks gained while 22 declined in early trade.

V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said global and domestic cues favour continuation of the ongoing rally in the market despite high valuations.

"FIIs turning buyers, strong DII inflows, exuberant retail investors and a thriving IPO market supported by strong economic fundamentals can sustain the rally in the short run ignoring the high valuations," he said.

Foreign institutional investors are referred as FIIs and DII stands for domestic institutional investors.

On Friday, Sensex closed at 69,825.60 points and Nifty at 20,969.40 points. Nifty had gone past the

21,000-level in intra-day trade on Friday. Meanwhile, on Monday, Asian

markets witnessed mixed trends as Japan's Nikkei 225 gained while Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell more than 2 per cent.

US and European stocks had ended in the green on Friday. Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have turned bullish,

investing Rs 26,505 crore into the domestic equities in the first six trading sessions of December.

Vijayakumar said that a significant trend in the market is the outperformance of the Bank Nifty over the Nifty

"Last week while the Nifty appreciated by 3.5 per cent, Bank Nifty shot up by 5.5 per cent. This outperformance is likely to continue," he added.

BMW India to hike car prices up to 2 per cent from January 1

The decision comes to partially offset the adverse impacts of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and rising input costs

to implement a price

increase across model

range is a response to

a confluence of factors.

BMW Group India Presi-

dent Vikram Pawah said

"In the face of evolv-

ing dynamics, fluctua-

tions in exchange rates,

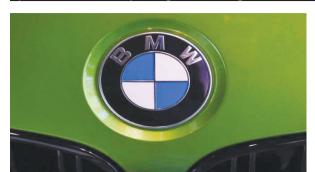
and rising input costs,

this price adjustment

will sustain the crucial

balance that allows us

in a statement.



NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): German luxury carmaker BMW on Monday said it will increase the prices of its vehicles by up to 2 per cent across the model range from January 1 to partially offset the adverse impacts of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and rising input costs. BMW India's decision to consistently deliver the high standards and power-packed experience our customers associate with BMW vehicles," he added.

BMW India sells a range of luxury vehicles, starting from the BMW 220i M Sport to the BMW XM, priced between Rs 43.5 lakh and Rs 2.6 crore.

The company joins the likes of other passenger vehicle makers such as Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai Motor India, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Honda, and Audi, among others, which have also announced plans to increase vehicle prices in January.

RBI cautions public against unauthorised campaigns on loan waiver

MUMBAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Reserve Bank on Monday cautioned the public not to fall prey to misleading advertisements related to loan waiver offers in print media as well as on social media platforms. In a statement, the RBI said it has noticed certain misleading advertisements enticing borrowers by offering loan waivers. These entities, it said, seem to be actively promoting many such campaigns across the print media as well as social media platforms.

There are also reports of such entities charging a service/legal fee for issuing 'debt waiver



certificates' without any authority

The central bank further said that in certain locations, campaigns related to debt waiver offers are being run by a few persons, which undermines the efforts of banks to enforce their riahts.

"Such entities are misrepresenting that dues to financial institutions including banks need not be repaid. Such activities undermine the stability of financial institutions and, above all, the interest of the

depositors," the RBI said. RBI cautioned that associating with such entities can result in direct financial losses. Members of the public are cautioned not to fall prey to such false and misleading campaigns and report such incidents to law enforcement agencies, the central bank said.

TikTok announces \$1.5 bn deal to restart **Indonesia online shop**

JAKARTA, Dec 11 (Agencies): TikTok on Monday announced a \$1.5 billion investment in GoTo in a deal that would allow the Chinese-owned short video app to restart its online shop in Indonesia.

Indonesia in September banned sales on social media to protect small businesses that were losing out to e-commerce giants, forcing TikTok to close its online shopping business in October.

It was now set to resume that business in Indonesia -- one of TikTok's largest e-commerce markets -- under a deal with GoTo, which owns the popular local online shopping platform Tokopedia.

"As part of the agreement, Tokopedia and



TikTok Shop Indonesia's businesses will be combined under the existing PT Tokopedia entity," the firms said in a state-

ment. TikTok will have a controlling stake in this entity, which will operate the shopping features in its app.

"TikTok has committed to invest over US\$1.5 billion in the enlarged entity over time, to provide future funding required by the business, without additional dilution to GoTo," the statement added.

"TikTok, Tokopedia and GoTo will transform Indonesia's e-commerce sector, creating millions of new job opportunities over the next five years." GoTo said the partnership will roll out with a pilot under the supervision of regulators, and that it expects the deal to close in 2024.

They will launch the first campaign under

this partnership on both TikTok and Tokopedia on Tuesday, coinciding with Indonesia's national online shopping day.

Indonesia's e-commerce market has been dominated for years by platforms such as Tokopedia, Shopee and Lazada but TikTok Shop has gained a significant market share since launching in 2021

With 125 million users, Indonesia is TikTok's second-largest global market after the United States, according to company figures.

The Indonesian ban on social media sales came after calls grew for regulating e-commerce platforms. Offline sellers complained that their livelihoods were threatened by the cheaper products sold online.

Under the new rules, social media firms cannot conduct direct transactions but only promote products on their platforms in Indonesia, the first country in the region to act against TikTok's growing popularity as an e-commerce site

ban was yet another setback for TikTok, which has faced intense scrutiny in the United States and other nations in recent months over users' data security and the company's alleged ties to the Chinese government.

Owned by Beijingbased ByteDance, TikTok is one of the most popular social media platforms on the planet with more than one billion users.

5 minutes of physical activity can be valuable in late-stage lung cancer: Study

PERTH, Dec 11 (Agencies): Lung cancer affects more individuals each year than any other malignancy. Nonetheless, a new study led by Curtin University revealed that people with incurable forms of the condition may survive longer if they engage in less than five minutes of physical activity per day.

From the time of their diagnosis. 89 patients with incurable lung cancer had their daily activities monitored by a team from Curtin School of Allied Health, Curtin enAble Institute, and other research institutions. They then compared the mortality rates after 12 months

between those who engaged in more moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (such as walking) and those who were largely inactive—and saw significant results.

The people who completed more than 4.6 minutes per day

of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity had a 60 per cent lower risk of mortality after 12 months compared to the group who were less active.

Study lead and former Cancer Council WA postdoctoral Fellow Associate Professor Vin Cavalheri said this could be important in treating people with inoperable lung cancer, particularly early.

"We previously demonstrated people with inoperable lung cancer were highly sedentary and spent minimal time in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity before the commencement of treatment," he said.

"These new findings further indicate that healthcare providers should investigate a person's levels of physical activity in early management of inoperable lung cancer.

"We also need to evaluate what can be done to encourage people with inoperable lung cancer to exercise more, as 24 per cent of the study's participants engaged in less than one minute per day of moderate to vigorous physical activity." Associate Professor Cavalheri said it was important to tailor any physical activity or exercise regimes to each individual, rather than focus on a set of guidelines which some people may find unattainable.

"This approach respects the inherent complexity of the individual's experience and encourages the development of strategies that are both feasible and sustainable, thereby increasing the likelihood of the successful adoption of physical activity as an integral component of their lives." he said.

"We need a supportive framework that enables people who are newly diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer to participate in physical activity based on their unique circumstances and goals." While bedrest is often seen as the best option when sick, Associate Professor Cavalheri said the new study was part of growing evidence being active is beneficial even when dealing with serious diseases such as cancer.

"The association between higher physical activity levels and reduced mortality corroborates the findings from previous studies in the general adult population and people diagnosed with colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease," he said.

"If this association is confirmed, randomised controlled trials in people with inoperable lung cancer are warranted, with interventions designed to improve levels of physical activitv."

Cardiovascular disease remains leading cause of death globally: Study

Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East reported the highest burden of CVD mortality

of high CVD cases.

Asia, Europe, Africa

and the Middle East

reported the highest

burden of CVD mortality.

eases are a persistent

challenge that lead to

an enormous number

of premature and pre-

ventable deaths," said

Gregory A. Roth, Asso-

ciate Professor in the

Division of Cardiology at

the Institute for Health

Metrics and Evalua-

tion at the University of

"There are many inex-

pensive, effective treat-

ments. We know what

risk factors we need to

identify and treat. There

are simple healthy

choices that people can

make to improve their

health. This atlas pro-

vides detailed informa-

tion on where countries

stand in their efforts to

prevent and treat cardio-

Washington.

"Cardiovascular dis-



NEW YORK, Dec 11 (Agencies): Millions of lives are lost prematurely to cardiovascular disease (CVD) heart disease each year, according to a new report calling for an urgent action for a heart-healthy world.

The new Global Burden of Disease (GBD) special report published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology provides an update of health estimates for the global, regional and national burden and trends of CVD from 1990-2022 by analysing the impact of cardiovascular conditions and risk factors across 21 global regions.

The report showed high blood pressure, high cholesterol, dietary risks and air pollution are the leading causes vascular diseases." he added.

Further, the report showed that ischemic heart disease remains the leading cause of global CVD mortality with an agestandardised rate per 100,000 of 108.8 deaths, followed by intracerebral haemorrhage and ischemic stroke

High systolic blood pressure accounted for the largest contribution to attributable age-standardised CVD disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) at 2,564.9 per 100,000 globally.

Dietary risks were the leading contributor to age-standardised CVD DALYs among the behavioural risks, while ambient particulate matter pollution led the environmental risks.

Global death counts due to CVD increased from 12.4 million in 1990 to 19.8 million in 2022 reflecting global population growth and ageing and the contributions from preventable metabolic, environmental, and behavioural risks, revealed the study.

Owning a cat could increase schizophrenia risk nection between cat ownership and schizo-

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): If you own a cat, there's a plausible reason that you might be at a higher risk of developing the complex brain disorder called schizophrenia. A recent study by researchers at the University of Queensland in Australia unveiled this potential connection after a comprehensive analysis of 17 studies spanning the last 44 years and including data from 11 countries, like the United States and the United Kingdom.

Schizophrenia is a complex mental illness that affects the way a person behaves, feels and thinks. It involves a range of problems and is a result of several factors like the environment, genetics and altered brain structure.

In India, reportedly more than one million

people have this disorder.

This disorder often runs in the family and can cause troubling symptoms like hearing noises and problems with thinking clearly.

Other symptoms include having delusions or false beliefs based on reality, and hallucinations of seeing, hearing, smelling or feeling things which aren't real.

Published in the journal Schizophrenia Bulletin, the report said, "Our findings support an association between cat exposure and an increased risk of broadly defined schizophrenia-related disorders. We found that individuals exposed to cats had approximately twice the odds of developing schizophrenia."

Researchers proposed that a parasite could serve as the link between the two. Earlier studies have found a potential con-

phrenia, suggesting that exposure to the Toxoplasma gondii parasite might be the culprit. The parasite can enter the body through a

cat's bite, contact with bodily fluids, or ingestion through contaminated water or undercooked meat

Most people often don't show symptoms, despite the parasite's ability to infiltrate the nervous system and affect neurotransmitters. Typically emerging in early adulthood, schizophrenia has no cure, but its symptoms can be managed through medication and supportive therapy. This recent research opens new avenues for exploring the intricate relationship between pet ownership and mental health risks.

SPORTS

The Jadeja making a comeback into the Indian **T20I side for the first time since Aug 2022, it will be** interesting to see what role the all-rounder plays

NEW DELHI. Dec 11 (Agencies): When Ravindra Jadeja was named as the vice-captain of the T20I team for the South Africa tour, it did come as a surprise. For one, the left-handed all-rounder had not played for India in the shortest format since August 2022. The last time he took the field in a T20I was during the 2022 Asia Cup during which he got injured and missed the T20 World Cup.

Yet, more than a year on, Jadeja has found his way back to the T20I setup. And being a vice-captain makes it clear that he is likely to play every game available (the first T20I on Sunday was called off due to rain). In a squad that also has Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Washington Sundar, it is hard to make sense of what Jadeia's role would be. What makes it all the more interesting is the person Jadeja has replaced ---Axar Patel.

During the time Jadeja was out of the T20I side, Axar played 25 T20Is, taking 24 wickets at 23.95 while operating at an economy of 7.43. With the bat, he has struck 214 runs at 149.65. The batting numbers might not have been as impact-



that both Jadeja and Axar have

upped their striking with the bat

in recent years. However, as is

often the case, the devil lies in

Since the start of 2021, Jadeja

has hit pacers at a strike rate

of 154 in all T20s. Axar, mean-

while, has hit pacers at 146. The

difference, though, is how they

take on spinners. Jadeja faced a

massive slump in his SR, going

down to 94.07 against spinners

in the period. Axar, on the other

hand, hits spinners at 138.6.

Even in the recently concluded

ODI World Cup, Jadeja struck

at 125.39 against pace and

struggled against spin at 74.54.

to the quality fielder Jadeja is or

Now, there is no argument as

the details.

ful, but Axar has shown what he is capable of with the bat, time and again. Jadeja, meanwhile, has played only in the Indian Premier League during this time, and he had a stellar season with the Chennai Super Kings, helping them win the title in a thrilling final — 20 wickets and 190 runs at 142.86 SR.

If one were to compare the two all-rounders' numbers since 2021 in the shortest format, there is very little to differentiate them as a bowler. The numbers say as much. Averaging mid-20s with the ball and striking at mid-130s with the bat. In fact, if anything, Jadeja has been a tad bit more economical than Axar in T20Is. Now, it is no secret

slower side. However, given the obvious match-up, teams might not take long to bring on spinners against him on such pitches. Which brings the argument to one question — is Jadeja going to be a designated pacehitter in the T20I team? In a team that has the likes of

how impactful he can be with the

ball when the pitches are on a

Rinku Singh in the lower middleorder — Hardik Pandya is also expected to come back next year — does his role with the bat get minimal, making him a frontline bowler and gun fielder? If it is a stop-gap arrangement for just this tour, why would Axar - who played the T20I series against Australia after missing the ODI WC - be left out with just one more series (three T20Is against Afghanistan in January) left before the T20 World Cup?

There are a lot of questions, but not many answers at the moment. A lot could, once again, come down to how the two allrounders fare for their respective teams in next year's IPL. For now, Jadeja has a chance to make an impact and strengthen his case in the next two games in South Africa.

Guwahati masters: Ashwini, Tanisha win third title in first year



world No. 81 combina-

tion 21-13 21-19 in a

This was the third title

for the world No. 28

Indian pair, which had

clinched the Abu Dhabi

Masters Super 100 and

Nantes International

Challenge this year.

Ashwini, 34, and Tani-

sha. 20. started plaving

together only in January

"I am happy with how

we played," said Ash-

wini. "Very grateful to

this year.

40-minute final.

GUWAHATI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The women's doubles pair of Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa secured their second Super 100 title with a straight-game win over Chinese Taipei's Sung Shuo Yun and Yu Chien Hui at the Guwahati Masters.

The second seeds, who finished runnersup at the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament last week in Lucknow, beat the reach the final and win. We looked after our body and executed our plans.

Focus and determination the last two weeks have been great," she added.

"Both of us are explosive players and she is good at the net and I am known for my smashes from the back court. So, I think, we are complementing each other. We rotate well," she added.

"I Don't Want To...": Gautam Gambhir When Asked About 'Fixer' **Controversy With Sreesanth**

NEW DELHI, Dec 11 (Agencies): The Gautam Gambhir-S Sreesanth controversy has been the talk of the town in the cricketing spectrum ever since the two went head-to-head in a Legends League Cricket match. In a series of videos and social media posts, Sreesanth claimed that Gambhir called himself a 'fixer' during the match. While Gambhir has given a subtle little reaction on social media about the entire topic, when he was specifically asked to speak up on the matter, he refused. The former India opening batter is yet to share his side of the story, amid some serious allegations by Sreesanth. When asked on the heated argument with Sreesanth, he was quoted by India Today while speaking at a charity event in Delhi, as saying: "I don't have anything to comment on this I am here for a noble cause don't want to talk about that." Sreesanth hasn't budged from targeting Gambhir since claiming that he was called a 'fixer' by the left-handed batter on the field. The former India pacer even wrote a lengthy comment on one of Gambhir's Instagram posts, slamming him for his 'fixer' remarks. "You have exceeded the boundar-

ies of a sportsman and a brother, and above all, you represent the people. Yet, you continue to engage in conflicts with every cricketer. What is the matter with you? All I did was smile and observe, and you labelled me a fixer? Seriously? Are you above the Supreme Court? You have no authority to speak in such a manner and say whatever you please. You even verbally abused the umpires, and yet you speak of smiling? You are an arrogant and utterly classless individual who lacks any form of respect for those who supported you. Until yesterday, I always held respect for you and your family." Sreesanth wrote in the comments section.

"However, you used the derogatory term "fixer" not just once, but seven or eight times. You even resorted to using the F-word towards the umpires and myself, persistently trying to provoke me. Anyone who has experienced what I have endured would never forgive

A reason to smile: Rookie spinners Saika, Shreyanka set up five-wicket consolation win for India

MUMBAI, Dec 11 (Agencies): Spinners Saika Ishaque and Shreyanka Patil bowled brilliantly before another youngster Amanjot Kaur displayed lot of composure to earn India a respectable five-wicket consolation victory over England in the third and final WT20I here today. England, however took the big prize, winning the series 2-1

Chasing a target of 127, which got trickier, Smriti Mandhana anchored India's chase with a scratchy run-a-ball 48 but it was Amanjot's boundaries, including a streaky winning reverse sweep under pressure, that got the hosts over the line with an over to spare.

This was India's first T20I victory against England since September 2022. To be fair, England



Overall, it is only the eighth time that India have beaten England in 31 T20Is.

Mandhana cracked five fours and two sixes while the next best effort came from Jemimah Rodrigues, who chipped in with a vital 29 at No. 3. India lost Shafali Verma (6) in the

but England skipper Heather Knight's 52 took the visitors to 126 all out. Renuka Singh struck early for

ary too.

the third match in a row, removing both England openers inside the first three overs. Shreyanka and Ishaque then ran through England's middle-order as the visitors lost five wickets in the space of 21 balls, slipping from 67/3 to 76/8

two fours through cover and

hit the winning runs off Sophie

Ecclestone (2/40) with a bound-

Earlier, rookie spinners Saika

and Shreyanka made their first

real impression in top-flight

cricket with three wickets apiece

But Knight joined forces with No. 10 Charlie Dean (16) to put on 50 runs for the ninth wicket and give England's bowlers

you. Deep down, you know that what you said and did was wrong. I'm sure even God won't forgive you.

You didn't even come to the field after that... Come on, God is watching everything," he concluded.

it's also motivating me

to do stuff myself and

to show that I'm ready,

you know? I'm ready for

a battle, for a war," the

Nadal and Djokovic

have produced one of

the greatest rivalries in

tennis and, more often

than not, their match-

es are decided by the

barest of margins. As

Djokovic kept getting

better after a slow start

to his career, it was often

the mental aspect of the

game that determined

the winner when the two

gladiators of the sport

These two titans of

the sport have faced off

59 times, with Djokovic

holding a narrow lead

of 30-29 in their overall

met on the court.

Serb added.

did play a second-string team, resting four of their star performers. It was also India's first win at home against England since March 2018, after five straight defeats in the shortest format.

third over but Mandhana and Rodrigues joined forces to take the team ahead. Rodrigues and Mandhana added 57 runs for the second wicket from 55 balls. With India captain Harmanpre-

16th over, which brought Harmanpreet (6 not out) at the crease.

et Kaur twisting her foot during

the first half of the game which

forced her to leave the field in

the 16th over, Deepti Sharma

was promoted ahead of her at

Deepti hit two fours in her

11-ball 12 before being caught

behind off Freya Kemp in the

No. 4.

With 11 needed off the last two overs, Richa Ghosh (2) was dismissed but Amanjot smacked

something to defend. Brief scores: England 126 all out (Knight 52; Patil 3/19, Ishaque 3/22); India 130/5 in 19 overs (Mandhana 48, Rodrigues 29, Amanjot 13*; Kemp 2/24).

Novak Djokovic recalls how Rafael Nadal's locker room routine 'intimidated' and 'pis**d' him off

PARIS, Dec 11 (Agencies): Tennis great Novak Djokovic recalled an interesting episode from one of his matches against arch-rival Rafael Nadal, saying the Spaniard's high-octane prematch routines intimidated him. Djokovic recalled how Nadal's locker-room act threw him off the radar as the two players geared up to meet at the Roland Garros, the Spaniard's favourite surface.

Facing Nadal on the red dirt is one of the most intimidating aspects of the sport and Djokovic said the Spaniard's pre-match routines only made it that much more difficult early in his career. In fact, Djokovic's first meeting of Nadal on the tour came in the quarter-final of French Open 2006 and the Serb retired midway through the match due to injury concerns

While highlighting the impact of Nadal's pregame routine, Djokovic said he understood the importance of making that impression even before the contest begins on the court quite



early in his career.

"I am playing Nadal in Roland Garros, and I have his locker next to my locker, right? So, we are so close. And we're tryin' to give each other space. But then the locker room is also not that big. And, the way you jump around like Nadal does before we go out on the court. In the locker room, he's doing sprints next to you. I can even hear the music he's listening to, you know, in his headphones. So, you know, it's pi**ing me off," Djokovic told Jon Wertheim on 60 Minutes. "Absolutely. Early in my career, I didn't realise all

that was part of the scenario, right? "So, I was getting head-to-head record. Their encounters are not just numerous but also significant, as they have clashed in all four major finals, marking a historic dimension to their competition.

Djokovic has the edge in finals of all levels with a 15-13 lead, while Nadal has proven more dominant at the majors, leading 11-7, including a 5-4 advantage in major finals. The breakdown of their matches across different surfaces reveals the nuances of their rivalry: Djokovic leads 20-7 on hard courts, Nadal leads 20-8 on clay, and they are tied 2-2 on grass.

It was in 2023 that Djokovic went past Rafael Nadal's tally of 22 Grand Slam titles. The Serb won the Australian Open, the French Open, and the US Open after finishing runner-up in the Wimbledon final where he lost to Carlos Alcaraz.

Djokovic finished the season as the No. 1 for the eighth time in his career after winning the season-ending ATP Finals in Turin.

Junior World Cup: India win another thrilling shootout to finish ninth



SANTIAGO, Dec 11 (Agencies): Goalkeeper Madhuri Kindo shone under the bar as India displayed remarkable resilience to eke out a shootout win against USA and finish ninth at the Junior Women's Hockey World Cup here. In an exhilarating classification match, both India and USA displayed tremendous grit as the match ended 2-2 in regulation time. Kindo then produced an amazing save in the sudden death, while Rutuja Pisal calmly converted her shot to seal a 3-2 victory.

During the allocated 60 minutes, India's Manju Chorsiya and Sunelita Toppo (57th) scored a goal each, while Kiersten Thomassey netted a brace for USA.

The tense penalty shootout wit-

nessed Mumtaz Khan and Rutuja successfully converting their chances for India, while the latter also scored in sudden death. On the opposing side, Katie Dixon and Olivia Bent-Cole managed to score for USA.

India dominated the start, pressing USA relentlessly and penetrating their defence multiple times.

Chorsiya's perfectly placed goal from the first penalty corner gave India a well-deserved lead in the 11th minute. Buoyed by this advantage, India maintained aggressive play, keeping USA under constant pressure.

However, USA still managed to win a penalty corner in the very last minute of the quarter but failed to capitalise. Aiming to retain their

lead in the second quarter, India focused on ball possession while consistently penetrating USA's circle. USA, though, defended solidly, thwarting India's attempts to widen the gap while launching counterattacks themselves.

This tactic proved effective when Thomassey's precise strike levelled the score in the 27th minute, showcasing USA's resilience.

India launched a barrage of attacks in the third quarter but couldn't convert their opportunities into goals - they had several near-misses, including from a penalty corner.

At the start of the fourth quarter, India earned a penalty corner, yet their efforts to convert it fell short. It was USA who seized the opportunity against the run of play, as Thomassey netted her second goal to put her team ahead in the 53rd minute.

With time slipping away, India escalated their offensive efforts. Their determination paid off when Sunelita levelled the score in the 57th minute with a brilliantly placed shot from a penalty corner.

"We had seen videos of USA's matches and had analysed their game," Rutuja said. "We structured our game accordingly and played with full focus. We are happy to finish on a high at the end of the tournament," she added.

LOCAL

SC upholds Abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A; **Justice Delivered to J&K: Vibodh**

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Dec 11: BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta on Monday said that Justice has been delivered to the People of Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh as the Supreme Court upholds the abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35A in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh as constitutionally valid.

He said this while addressing a public gathering in Nagoon Block, Doongi and asserted that the nullification of Articles 370 and 35A of the Constitution five years ago has transformed Jammu and Kashmir, bringing about a substantial and far-reaching change in the lives of its people.

Vibodh said that the government's focus on infrastructure development has been evident through numerous projects launched in the region such as the construction of highways, tunnels, expansion of railways etc.

"This has not only improved connectivity but has also resulted in record surge in tourism in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and has made it a preferred destination for tourists" he added.

Vibodh strongly asserted that since 2019 there has been no shutdowns in the



Kashmir Valley, and with the situation getting better, the Union Territory has hosted national and international events which have further contributed towards making J&K as the tourism

capital of the world Vibodh also highlighted the benefits that abrogation of articles 370 and 35A bestowed on different sections of society whether STs, women, OBCs, PoJK displaced people, Valmiki Samaj, Gorkha Samaj,

West Pakistan Refugees etc. in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and said that the Modi government has renewed hope of peace and prosperity among the people of J&K. He maintained that the ST's of J&K are the prominent beneficiary of abrogation of Article 370 and 35A and has been empowered by the Modi government through political reservation

"Since 5 Aug 2019 more than one lakh people, who

migrated from West Pakistan to Jammu in 1947, are being granted full citizenship and domicile rights, including ownership rights for property, the right to vote, and eligibility for government jobs," Vibodh said. Vibodh also emphasised that the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A has brought a Pandora of opportunities for the youth of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh in the fields of startups, industries, tourism, sports, agriculture and its allied sectors. He said that at present some of the country's leading startups are based in J&K while thousands of jobs have been opened up in the private sector The youth of the Union Territory have become Job

Creator rather than Job seekers with the magical revolution that the people of J&K witnessed post abrogation of article 370 and 35A

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Urban commences in Udhampur during the period. During

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Dec 11: The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) Urban, a nationwide campaign to spread awareness about the various developmental Schemes and initiatives of the Government of India, reached Udhampur on Monday.

A grand welcome was organised to receive the VBSY Van with garlands, by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Ghan Sham Singh along with officers and officials from various departments.

Singh, while addressing the gathering, highlighted the achievements and benefits of the various flagship schemes of the Government of India towards the ultimate goal of Vikshit Bharat.

On the opening day of the Yatra in the city, camps were held in Dabber Chowk (Mini

Stadium) and Rewayath Hall. A large number the programmes at varipeople joined the Yatra ous locations, participants took the Viksit Bharat which focused on attaining saturation of govern-Sankalp pledge to make India a developed and ment's flagship schemes. self-reliant nation by the The focus of the Yatra was also to reach out to year 2047. people, create awareness Vedios of beneficiaries and provide benefits of of various departmenwelfare schemes like santal schemes under Meri itation facilities, essen-Kahani Meri Zubani were tial financial services, also played and cultural electricity connections, programmes organised along with Quiz access to LPG cylinders. housing for the poor, food

Viksit Bharat Sankalp security, proper nutrition, Yatra was launched by reliable healthcare, clean Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 15, As part of the Yatra, 2023 from Jharkhand. The yatra will cover over various government departments set up stalls 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayat each location to proats and over 3,600 urban local bodies by January vide citizens on the spot 25. 2024. touching every services like free health check-ups , facility to district of the country. get new aadhaar cards issued or the existing

Among others, Khursheed Yousuf, District Nodal I&B, Amit Sharma, Nodal officer ULB , along with officers from various departments attended the daylong event.

Stanzin Puzang from Ladakh wins national award of India's biggest hygiene Olympiad

award of the second edi-

tion of Dettol Hygiene

Olympiad, India's biggest

hygiene Olympiad. DHO

2.0 was conducted in the

10 Schools of Leh UT

Out of 500+ partici-

pants, Stanzin Puzang a

student of Class V at The

Monastery Spituk, Leh

got selected as a winner

for the Dettol Hygiene

Olympiad 2.0. He belongs

to Leh Ladakh, which is

a hard to reach area with

Dettol Hygiene Olym-

piad 2.0 successfully

reached over 30 million

Ladakh



Top News Report

LADAKH, Dec 11: Reckitt, world's leading consumer health and hygiene company, announced winners of the second edition of Dettol Hygiene Olympiad, the biggest hygiene Olympiad in India under Reckitt's flagship campaign Dettol Banega Swasth India

The Olympiad was organized with the aim to raise awareness about the role that hygiene plays in preventing childhood illnesses

The 15 Olympiad winners, accompanied by and best practices around hand washing hygiene.

Students in 2500 gurukuls and other religious education schools also participated, with exam papers available to them in Sanskrit language to ensure accessibility to a diverse audience.

A total of 15 students (three in each level) across the country were awarded cash prizes, with the first position winning Rs 50,000, second position winning INR 35,000 and third position winning Rs 15,000.

Ravi Bhatnagar, Director, External Affairs & Partnerships, SOA, Reckitt, said, "Reckitt's commitment to hygiene, health and sanitation has motivated India's young minds to champion the domains associated with positive sanitation. We are delighted to witness the astounding results of the second edition of Dettol Hygiene Olympiad (DHO) that took on the formidable task of reaching the farthest corners of India. It gave us immense pleasure to celebrate the success of children from

Panthers welcome Supreme **Court decision on Article 370**

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Vilakshan Singh President J&K National Panthers Party has welcomed the decision of the Supreme Court whereby the abrogation of the special status of erstwhile State of J&K was upheld.

Singh said that the Article 370 of the Constitution of India was misused by Kashmir based parties who on the basis of Art 370 tried to project J&K as a country within a country

Singh said that these parties used Article 370 not for the welfare of the state but for the welfare of their own families. He said that the matter has now been finally settled by the Supreme Court and now everyone should accept the decision and should contribute towards the growth and prosperity of J&K

Singh also welcomed the directions passed by the Supreme Court whereby the Court has directed the Election Commission of India to

JAMMU, Dec 11:

Former MLC Vikrama-

ditya Singh on Monday

wholeheartedly wel-

comed the decision of

Supreme Court uphold-

ing the constitutional

validity of the abrogation

of Article 370 in Jammu &

In a statement issued

here today, the former

MLC said "This land-

mark judgement marks a

significant step towards

the complete integration

of J&K into the Indian

Union. It paves the way

for a brighter future for

the Union Territory, free

from the shackles of a

discriminatory and divi-

Vikramaditya Singh

further stated that the

Supreme Court's deci-

sion reflects the culmina-

tion of a long-held aspira-

tion of the people of J&K.

erstwhile state has been

"For over 70 years, the

Kashmir

sive law.'

hold assembly elections in J&K by September 2024 Singh said that the dem-

ocratic process in J&K was held hostage and the residents of J&K were deprived of their constitutional right to elect their representatives to the assembly

Singh further said that provisions of unamended Article 370 were being misused and the residents of J&K were deprived of many welfare measures that were taken in the rest of the country

Singh said that the union government has made a statement before the Supreme Court that the Statehood of J&K would be restored at the earliest.

Singh demanded that statehood of J&K should be restored before holding assembly elections in J&K. Since the Supreme Court has passed directions to hold the assembly elections in J&K by September 2024, the Statehood of J&K should be restored before September 2024

SC's decision on Article 370 is historic, welcome: Amit Kapoor

ones updated, and loans

under PM SVANidhi

Scores of people ben-

efitted from these camps

Yojana

drinking water, etc.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: Noted social activist Amit Kapoor on Monday termed the Supreme Court's decision on Article 370 as historic and said that the Apex Court upheld the decision taken by the Parliament of India on August 5, 2019. Amit Kapoor, while addressing a press conference in Jammu. said that this is a great announcement of hope, progress and unity for the people of Jammu, Kash-

mir and Ladakh. He has also welcomed the Supreme Court's decision to quickly restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and hold elections by September 2024. Amit Kapoor said that today's decision is not just a legal decision but it is a ray of hope

He said that he had been demanding restoration of statehood and holding of assembly elections for a long time. But the decision of the Supreme Court in this regard is historic and it is expected that the government will soon restore the statehood and also conduct assembly elections.

Breaking Taboos, empowering lives to transform J&K by J&K Bank

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: J&K Bank, is proud to announce a significant milestone in their joint initiative with Live for Others - Being Helpful Foundation, "Mission

ness Apply Pads)."

This is a Corporate

Social Responsibility

(CSR) project by J&K

Bank which is imple-

mented by Live For

Others-Being Helpful

Foundation (LFO-BHF)

aims to provide access

to menstrual hygiene

by distributing 5,00,000

sanitary napkins and

conducting 100 aware-

ness seminars, ben-

efiting 50,000 people

The 6th district to successfully complete this mission is Kishtwar, the progress of 'Mission where more than 25,000 sanitary napkins were R-SAP' and the posidistributed, completive impact it's having mented by 7 impactful on women's health and awareness lectures tarhygiene and currently

Pride High School, Kishtwar. "We are thrilled with

their teachers, were felicitated at the launch of Dettol Banega Swasth India Season 10 in Mumbai

Stanzin Puzang from

children across 28 states and 8 union territories in the country, empowering children even in the most remote corners of India with essential knowledge

limited resources.

different corners of India and are confident that their enthusiasm and knowledge will contribute to the country's health progress."

GDC Chatroo, Agriculture Deptt organise lecture on Yuva Vani under HADP

Top News Report

CHATROO, Dec 11: GDC Chatroo in collaboration with agriculture Department and other allied departments organised one day orientation program on the theme Yuva Vani under Holistic Agriculture Development Program, this initiative aimed at fostering agricultural awareness and education.

The program was organised under the Patronage and able guidance of Principal GDC Chatroo Prof(Dr)Ved Kumar and Chief Agriculture officer, Kishtwar Dr Amjad Hussain Malik

The event started with lamp lighting ceremony by Principal GDC Chatroo Prof (Dr) Ved Kumar and Dr Amjad Hussain Malik Chief Agriculture officer Kishtwar followed by National Anthem.

The technical session started with a welcome address by Prof Ajeet Kumar, Head Department of Environmental Sciences GDC Chatroo.

The awareness program

brought together farmers, agricultural experts, and students to share knowledge, experiences, and innovations in the agricultural sector.

The event served as a platform to discuss sustainable farming practices, modern technologies, and the future of agriculture in the region.

While Dr Rakesh Padha guest speaker highlighted recent advancements in farming, mechanical farming, hybrid seeds, saffron cultivation and Mushroom cultivation and Highlighted multiple opportunities for unemployed youths and gain valuable insights into optimizing farming processes for increased productivity and environmental sustainability.

Later on Chief Agriculture Officer Dr Amjad Hussain Malik gave detailed overview of current scenario adopted all over the district and employment generation schemes. He also stressed on various eco friendly and sustainable farming practices and procedures for availing dif-

ferent online services pro-

vided by the department. GDC Chatroo, as a key collaborator, played a pivotal role in providing a platform for the exchange of knowledge and foster-

ing a sense of community among farmers, students, and agricultural enthusiasts

The college's commitment to education and community development aligns seamlessly with the goals of the Yuva Vani programme.

The success of this celebration underscores the importance of collaborative efforts in promoting sustainable agriculture and ensuring a prosperous future for our farming communities. The vote of thanks

was presented by Prof M.M.Matoo HoD Education.

Faculty members present on the occasion includes Dr Ather Hussain, Prof M.M Matoo, Prof Chander Prakash, Prof Ajeet Kumar, Prof Gazenfur Malik, Lecturer Inam ul Haq, Lecturer Nawaz Hussain



plagued by instability and underdevelopment due to the special status granted by Article 370. With its abrogation, we can finally look forward to a period of peace, progress, and prosperity," he said. Expressing his optimism for the future, the senior political leader anticipated the restora-**Top News Report** tion of J&K's statehood and the holding of free and fair Assembly elections

"This will allow the people of J&K to choose their own representatives and have their voices heard in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding that it will mark a new era of democracy and self-determination for the union territory.' Vikramaditya Singh

called upon all stakeholders to work together towards building a peaceful and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir. "The Supreme Court's decision presents a golden opportunity to usher in a new era of peace, development, and harmony for the union territory. Let us seize this moment and

brighter future for all," he

across all 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir and remove the taboo regarding menstruation from the society.

work together to build a

The core team of Aryans which has been working for 16 years in Aryans Group

R-SAP (Remove Shypeople.

The resource persons for these seminars were Kashvii and Kashish Katoch

geted more than 2500

These activities were carried out in government as well as private schools located in peripheral areas, namely Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School Kishtwar ; Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Mughal Maidan, Kishtwar ; Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Chattroo, Kishtwar : Govt. High School Puchhal, Kishtwar; Sir Iqbal Academy, Kishtwar; Furgan Academy, Kishtwar ; Mother's to others districts and our team is simultaneously working on it," said Vivek Parihar, CEO & Founder of LFO-BHF.

we are looking forward

LFO-BHF extends their gratitude to the Director School Education Jammu, C.E.O Kishtwar, principals of all the schools of Kishtwar and also thanks J&K Bank for organising this activity with their CSR fund, said Vishal Singh, COO & CO-Founder. Members present in this activity were Abhishek Raina. Shubam Verma and Sahil Kumar.

Aryans Overseas celebrates 1st Foundation Day

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 11: "Aryans Overseas" celebrated its first Foundation day on the 75th birthday of Prof. Roshan Lal Kataria, founder of Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, near Chandigarh.

On the occasion, Lord Ganapati Idol was also inaugurated at Aryans Overseas. A visit to blind school was also organized where the Cake Cutting Ceremony with the students was done. Woolen wears, fruits, sweets etc were also distributed to the students



of Colleges also present on this occasion.

While thanking the students, parents, stakeholders for their cooperation for the last 16 years Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Arvans Group said that from Aryans Overseas office students are taking study abroad options in various countries like Canada. Australia, UK, USA, New Zealand etc. It is to be mentioned that Aryans Overseas has developed a series of international study programs with 1500+ partner colleges & universities across globe with the driving vision to rapidly evolve into a centre of international education excellence. Pathways, Credit Transfer & Direct Programs are available for Undergraduate & Postgraduate programs at Aryans with paid Co-Op & PGWP.

Edited, Printed, Published and Owned by: Rajiv Mahajan, Office : 17- New Rehari Jammu, Published from 17- New Rehari Jammu, and Printed from GK Offset Printing Press situated at Shivalik Puram Janipur, Jammu on behalf of Rajiv Mahajan. Senior Editor : M. K Bangroo, Executive Editor : Anita Gupta, Photo Journalist: Aman Sharma (9906198186), Head Office Jammu. Mobile No : (9906300707, 9086072548), Fax No: 0191-2561688.

added.

e-mail: topnewsjk@gmail.com, editortopnewsjk@gmail.com

(All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Jammu City).