TOP NEWS OF J&K



JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023 Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

Hailing from a filmy family, Saiyami Kher still did the hard yards...

|6



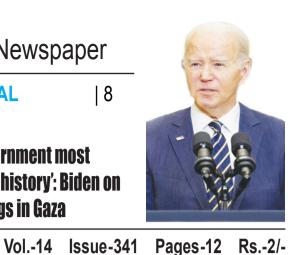
Will take call on listing of Mahua Moitra's plea, CJI tells her lawyer

Regd. No. JK-435

|7

'Israel government most conservative in history': Biden on bombings in Gaza

INTERNATIONAL



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

Security breach in Lok Sabha, two men jump into House from visitor's gallery

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Mohan Yadav sworn in as Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh

8

Kashmir turmoil rooted in rigged 1987 elections, not Article 370, says Omar Abdullah

BRIEFLY

SRINAGAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference Vice President, Omar Abdullah, in an exclusive interview with India Today rebuffed the BJP's claim linking ongoing violence in Kashmir to Article 370. Abdullah asserted that the turbulent episode in the region's history can be directly linked to the rigged elections of 1987, rather than the constitutional provision.

Responding to the BJP's argument that Article 370 was the primary cause of violence and separatism in Kashmir, Abdullah raised a pertinent question about the timing of the violence. He questioned why violence did not erupt immediately after the implementation of Article 370 in 1950 but surfaced in 1987.

"If Article 370 was the root cause of terrorism in J&K, then terrorism should have started in 1947, not in 1987. For 40 years before 1987 you still had no terrorism," he pointed out. This statement holds significant weight, especially as the National Conference (NC) faces repeated accusations of orchestrating electoral rigging in collaboration with Congress. The manipulated 1987 elections, orchestrated by the Congress-NC alliance, are highlighted as the pivotal trigger for the enduring violence that has afflicted Jammu and Kashmir for over three decades.

NEW DELHI. Dec 13 (Agencies): Two persons on Wednesday jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the public gallery, with Congress MP Adhir Ranian Chowdhury saying they were carrying tear gas canisters. The House was

adjourned soon after. One person was seen leaping over the benches of the Lok Sabha while another was seen dangling from the public gallery spraying some tear gas, when Zero Hour was in progress, Chowdhury said.

The two persons were overpowered by the Lok Sabha members and the watch and ward staff. **BJP** member Rajendra

LG Manoj Sinha pays tributes to 2001 parliament attack victims

JAMMU, Dec 13 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday paid trib-

Agrawal, who was in the chair, adjourned the proceedings till 2 pm. "This is certainly a security breach because today we observed the death anniversary of people who sacrificed their lives in the 2001 (Parliament attack)," Chowdhury said. In a post on X, Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said, "Saw two young men unleash foul

smelling yellow coloured gas from canisters inside Parliament gallery. MPs rushed to grab these men. One person was raising some slogans. This raises serious questions on another aspect of the new Parliament building- security."

BHOPAL, Dec 13 (Agencies): Mohan

the Lal Parade Ground in state capital Bhopal. **BJP** legislators Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla were sworn in as the deputy chief ministers by the governor. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP Turn to page 9

nor Mangubhai Patel at

Police seize Kashmir Willow clefts worth Rs 50 lakhs, one held

SRINAGAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): Police on Tuesday arrested a truck driver and confiscated 6,250 Kashmir willow clefts valued at Rs 50 Lakh from him in the Kathua area of Jammu

and Kashmir, media

reports said.

LG Manoj Sinha releases Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust's Panchang 2024



Terror funding case': SIA raids multiple locations in South Kashmir

mir.

SRINAGAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): The State Investigation Agency (SIA) wing of J&K Police is carrying out raids across various locations in south Kashmir as part of their investigation in terror funding case, offi-

cials said.

Yadav, the BJP legislature party leader and MLA from Ujjain South, was sworn in as the new chief minister of Madhya Pradesh here on Wednesday. The 58-year-old leader was administered the

oath of office by Gover-

Anantnag and Kulgam

districts of south Kash-

"The case is related

to terror funding already

been registered with the

They said the ongoing

raids are being conduct-

ed with the assistance

SIA," officials said.

Article 370 **SC verdict:** Leh, Kargil differ in responses

SRINAGAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): The Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) and the Leh Apex Body (LAB) responded differently to the Supreme Court's ruling upholding Article 370's abrogation. Pertinently, a 14-member delegation of the LAB and the KDA had recently met Nityanand Rai, Union Minister of State for Home, in New Delhi over their four-point agenda and had remained united over the issue of Ladakh's statehood, one of the key demands in their four-point agenda. The Leh Apex Body Turn to page 9

utes to those who alea in the terror attack on Parliament on this day in 2001.

Five heavily armed terrorists stormed the Parliament complex on this day 22 years ago, killing nine people. The terrorists were gunned down before they could enter the main building. Five Delhi Police personnel, a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) official, two Parliament watch and ward staff and a gardener lost

Turn to page 9

Top News Report vide information about religious rituals, auspi-JAMMU. Dec 13 : Lieucious occasions and

tenant Governor Shri festivals Manoj Sinha released Padam Shri Prof Jammu Yatri Bhawan Vishwa Murti Shastri: Pawan Kumar Shastri, President Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust; Gurdas Sharma, General Secrial team, members of retary of the Trust; Raj Jammu Yatri Bhawan Kumar and Koush-Trust and Vidwat Parial. Trustees: Sharat Sharma Member Jammu

miri cloak pheran, said.

The "Pathaan" star he

wants more people to

visit Kashmir and wit-

ness how beautiful the

"I want people to come

to Kashmir not only for

shoot but also for a holi-

day to see how beau-

tiful place this is. We

place is.

Yatri Bhawan and Dr Laxmi Dutt Shastri of Vidwat Parishad were present on the occasion. On the occasion, the members of the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust also sought the intervention of the Lt Governor for increasing the frequency of train from Jammu

to Dehradun from

Turn to page 9

weekly to daily basis.

Officials told that the raids are going on at nearly five locations in

of local police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Kashmir continues to reel under sub-zero temperatures, Srinagar experiences coldest night

SRINAGAR, Dec 13: Srinagar experienced the coldest night of the season as Kashmir continued to reel under cold wave-like conditions with the mercury staying several degrees below the freezing point across the valley last

night, officials said on Wednesday.

The city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degrees Celsius — down from the previous night's minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, officials said. Turn to page 9

The police team, led by SHO PS Lakhanpur Insp Sunil Kumar Sharma, stopped a truck traveling from Kathua to Punjab at a toll plaza in Lakhanpur. The truck was discovered to be loaded with what seemed to be willow clefts during inspection, while the driver, identified as Kuldeep Singh from Jalandhar was arrested.

The truck was laden with 5,000 full-size plain Turn to page 9

Elecon-Security-Software

Kashmir is beautiful and fantastic, please come: John Abraham after wrapping 'Vedaa' shoot

SRINAGAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): Please come to Kashmir, it is fantastic," said Bollywood star John Abraham after he concluded a shooting schedule of his upcoming movie "Vedaa" in the valley.

their lives in the attack.

Abraham arrived in the union territory last week for the shooting of the movie, which also features Sharvari Wagh. The film was shot in Srinagar and Anantnag district in south Kashmir. In a video released by Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department on microblogging site X on Tuesday evening, Abraham said his experience in Kashmir was fantastic. "We are shooting in Ashmuqam. It is



an absolutely fantastic place.

Trust's Panchang 2024,

The Lt Governor con-

gratulated the edito-

The Panchang will pro-

at Raj Bhawan today.

shad.

We have got 240 extras. You can see it is absolutely outstanding, where I am, in the outskirts of Anantnag. It is such a beautiful place, Kashmir," the actor, who was wearing the traditional Kashhere. Kashmiri people are absolutely fantastic. Everybody wants to work, they want to work and they just want to be happy working. They are always smiling," he said. At the same time, the 50-year-old actor encouraged people to keep the place clean. "When you come here, just do not dirty

the place or throw plastic because it is such a beautiful place, it has to be kept clean. That is my only advice to everyone. Please come to Kashmir, it is fantastic," he added. Also featuring Abhishek Banerjee and Tamanaah Bhatia, "Vedaa" is being directed by Nikkhil

Turn to page 9

CRYSTAL NEXA/SN SERIES had a great welcome 4Ports - 64 Ports Ports Trunks 4-10 Trunk's FND Tri-Color Small, ABS Body Schedula KTS Plugable Add or Paging Yes Hotel Fn Yes ммон Plugable Add on

CRYSTAL CLARITY, ELEVATING CONNECTIONS, INTERCOM REIMAGINED www.crystalpbx.com

CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

OBITUARIES

TENTH DAY KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW. WE INFORM THE

UNTIMELY DEMISE OF SH. ASHOK KUMAR KOUL, ON 5TH

10TH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 14TH

DECEMBER 2023, 9:00 AM AT MUTHI GHAAT (NEAR

WE WILL ALWAYS LOVE AND MISS YOU. YOU WILL STAY IN

DECEMBER 2023.

AUNTY & UNCLE

DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION).

MISSED BY YOUR FAMILY

SMT. SUSHMA KOUL -WIFE MOTHER- SMT. KAUSHALYA KOUL

DR. S.L KOUL & SMT. RAJNI KOUL

SMT. SAKSHI & SH. RAHIL CHADHA

SMT. SHEVETA & SH. ASHESH BHAT

SMT. NIDHI & SH. SUKSHM PANDITA

SMT. ASHA JI & SH. J.L KOUL

BROTHER & SISTER-IN-LAW

SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW

SMT. KHEMA & SH. R.L BHAT DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW

NIECES & NEPHEWS-IN-LAW SMT. MEHAK & SH. AYUSH DHAR

NEPHEW: SH. HARSH BHAT

OUR HEARTS FOREVER.

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 JANIPUR COLONY JAMMU LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE 06 DEC. 2023. THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON



15 DEC. 2023 AT MUTHI GHAT NEAR DIRECTORATE Lt. Smt Shanta OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AT 9:00 (FRIDAY). GRIFF STRICKEN

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. RITA SHAH & SH. M.L.SHAH (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW) SMT. CHAMPA KOUL & SH.ASHWANI KOUL (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW) PHONE NO. 9055457646, 9149827161, 9596981300, 7006331320





Girdhari Lal Kaul -**Husband** Kishni Trisal -**Sister in law**

Sons & Daughters in Law Ravi & Kalpana Kaul Kamlesh & Sunita Kaul

Grand Sons & Daughter in law Rohit & Garima Kaul

Vijay Kaul & Shweta Kau

Satyam Kaul

Krish Kaul

Ayushman Kaul

Smt. Shyama Kaul

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

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 GHAT AT 10 A.M. W/o Late Shri Jagan Nath Sha 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

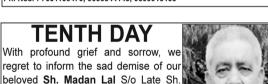
10TH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Promila Jasrotia W/o Sh. Krishan Singh Jasrotia, H.No.154, Sector-G,

13/12/2023 (Wednesday) at Shiv Mandir,

Smt. Promila Jasrotia on 16/12/2023 (Saturday) at our residence. **GRIEF STRICKEN**:

- Sh. Om Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Shivangi Jamwal (Son & Daughter-in-Law) Sh. Rajeshwar Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Tania (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
- Sh. Kuldeep Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Lalita Jasrotia (Devar & Devarani)
- Sh. Jagdish Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Srishta Jasrotia (Devar & Devarani)
- Ph. Nos. : 7051180470, 9086544143, 9599915153





OBITUARY

With profound grief we inform that our beloved. Makhan Lal Kaul of Shankerpora (proprietor of Makhan Silk Fabrics) departed for the heavenly abode on Saturday, 9-12-2023.

A cherished soul, touched the lives of many with kindness and warmth.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Srinagar or

Sunday, 17-12-2023. FONDLY REMEMBERED BY

Raj Dulari Kaul (Wife)

JDA Colony, Jammu

GRIEF STRICKEN

at Muthi Ghat near DSE at 9 am

Grand Daughters & Son in laws

Smt. Sony Raina & Sh. Sanju Verma

Smt. Meenu Raina & Sh. Sushil Khatri

Smt. Neha Raina & Sh. Pankaj Saproo

Smt. Retica Raina & Sh. Ranjan Dubey

Smt. Ronica Raina & Sh. Binny Dassi

Sh. Ram Krishan Raina (Son)

Rajinder (Son) and Ritu (Daughter-in-law) Anil (Son) and Bubbi (Daughter-in-law) Meenu (Daughter) and Pawan (Son-in-law) Renu (Daughter) and Sunil (Son-in-law) Kauls, Rainas, Guptas, Khans

M: 9971425444, 7006949373

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt Leela Devi W/o Late Sh Nahar Singh Manhas R/o 288-A Gandhi Nagar Jammu. TENTH DAY will be performed at Shree Ram Mandir Sec D Sainik Colony on Tuesday on 12th of Dec 2023. 13TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at our residence 642-D Sainik Colony on Friday the 15th of Dec 2023 at 10.00 AM UTHALA will be performed at Shree Ram Mandir Sec-D Sainik Colony on Friday 15th of Dec, 2023 at 4.00-4.30 PM. GRIEF STRICKEN GRIEF STRICKEN Son & Daughter in Law Smt Sudesh Devi W/o Late Sh. Bishan Singh Manhas Dr Rajinder Singh Manhas & Mrs Suresh Lt Col Pritam Singh Manhas (AMC) & Mrs Veena Manhas Mr Mohinder Singh Manhas & Mrs Prem Lata Daughter & Son in Law Smt Sudesh & Sh. Swaran Singh Chib Smt Suman & Sh. Rajinder Singh Pawar Smt Veena & Sh. Surinder Singh Jamwa

Smt Sushma & Dr. N.S Jaggi Smt Babita & Sh. Vijay Singh Jamwal MOBILE NO: 9419194663, 9622175666



Makhan Lal Kaul

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you that our beloved mother Smt Raj Kishori Trisal W/o Late Shri Moti Lal Trisal originally from 39 Dadikadal Tankipora Srinagar Kashmir, left for heavenly abode on 7th Dec 23, presently at Flat No. 407, Panchkula Heights Peermushalla, Zirakpur Mohali Punjab.

The 10th Day Kriva will be performed at 8 AM on 15th Dec 23 at Kashmiri Ghat near Shani Mandir, Gagar Nadi Sector 21 Panchkula (Chandigarh).

Prayer Meeting will be held at community hall at Panchkula Heights on 15th Dec 23 between 3:00 PM- Smt Raj Kishori Trisal 4:00 PM.

Grief Stricken : umar Trisal & Smt Nirmala Trisal (Son & Daughter in law) (+919417246038) Smt Mahalaxmi Trisal W/o Late Shri Ashok Trisal (Daughter in-law) Smt Nirmal Dhar and Shri B L Dhar (Daughter & Son in law) (+917006166742) Smt Usha Pandita and Shri R L Pandita (Daughter & Son in law) Sunny & Reema (Trisal), Amita & Milind (Dhar), Ashish & Renu (Dhar), Anjana & Col Praveen (Kaul) Deepak & Neha (Pandita), Dipti Pandita, Sonima & Ajit (Singh) Swati & Nalin (Swaroop), Rahul Selvam



BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sdrni. Mohinder Kour W/o Sdr. Shamber Singh R/o Simbal Camp, Ward No. 1, R S Pura, Jammu. Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 12/12/2023 at 10:00 a.m Bhog of Shri Akhand Path Sahib at

our residence Simbal Camp, Ward No.

Kirtan and Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Panchayati Takri Simbal Camp, Ward No. 1, near Boys High School at 02:00 pm to 04:00 pm on 14-12-2023 Thursday. FAMILY MEMBERS

S. Shamber Singh, SSE/TL/JAMMU (Indian Railways) - Husband S. Rasvinder Singh - Son

- S. Randeep Singh Son

BHOG/ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of





S. Jagandeep Singh **- Son** Contact: 8716028044, 9596771704, 8716004155

UTHALA will be performed at Shiv Mandir, Trikuta Nagar (Sec 3) on Friday, 15th Dec.2023 between 4:00 to 5:00 pm. **GRIEF STRICKEN** ulbhushan Raj Grover (Husband) (BJP State Executive Member Sr Citizen cell

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.Hari Om Grover (Retd.Sr. Mgr. J&K Bank) & Smt.Neeru Grover

Sister in Law & Brother in Law Smt.Kamlesh Arora & Lt.Sh.Des Raj Arora

Sh.Chaman Lal Arora (Retd.Distt.Agricultural officer) & Lt. Smt Joginder Kour (Laddi) Lt. Sh.Vinod Arora & Smt.Brij Sethi 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

Grand Children: Bhargav, Saanvi, Nirosha, Annika, Achyut and Bhavya GROVER & ARORA FAMILY

Sh. Ashok Kumar

Koul

ADDRESS- H.NO. 152-A, MAHAJAN MOHALLA,

UPPER BARNAI, JAMMU

CONTACT NO: 9906043071, 90116 68149,

9419196331, 9419133092, 6005358823

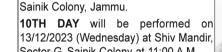
Mob: 6005056057; 7006825247: 9906297162



Sdrni. Mohinder Kour

Sainik Colony, Jammu.

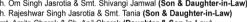




Sector-G, Sainik Colony at 11:00 A.M.

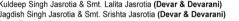
KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI will be performed

n. Krishan Singh Jasrotia **-Husband** (Vill. Satoora, Hiranagar)



Smt. Amita Charak & Sh. Anil Charak (Daughter & Son-in-Law)

Dr. Monika Bhadwal & Dr. Sandeep Singh Bhadwal (Daughter & Son-in-Law)



& All the Grandchildren





(Son & Daughter in Iaw) Gagan Grover (Manager J&K Bank) & Kirti Mahajan Magan Grover (Teacher) & Roopali Soni (Son & Daughter in Iaw) Sh.Shashi Pal Grover (Retd. AGM J & K Bank) & Smt. Neelam Grover Sh. Darshan Grover (Retd.AO CDA)& Smt. Anu Grover

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

SMT. MADHU GROVER

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

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, it is to inform the sad demise of Mrs. Vijay Bhat (Safava) W/o Mr. Ashok Kumar Bhat R/o 207 D Extension Bharat Nagar Talab Tillo, Jammu on 5th December 2023. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 14th December 2023 Thursday 9.00 am at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Rai Dulari Bhat W/o Late Sh. J.N. Bhat - Mother-in-law Sh. M.L. Bhat & Smt. Kishni - Father-in-law & Mother-in-law Mr. Ashok Kumar Bhat - Husband - 9419352587 Mr. Anil Bhat - Son - 9845785878 Mrs. Samita & Mr. Shiv Ashish Mattoo - Daughter & Son-in-law 7042319511 Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law Mrs. Asha & Er. Vinod Wali Mrs. Pushpa & Er. R.N. Bhat **Brothers & Sister-in-law** Mr. A.K. Safaya & Mrs Teja Safaya

Mrs. Sushma W/o Late Sh. B.K. Safaya Mr. Ramesh Safaya & Mrs. Lovely Safaya

10TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform about the sad demise of Sh Ravinder Raina S/o Late Amarnath Raina and Smt Raj Dulari Raina originally R/o Methan Road Chhanpora, Srinagar presently R/o D5, 1102, Tulip & petal ace, sector 89 Gurugram on 6th December 2023.

10th Day Kriya will be performed on Friday, 15th December 2023, 9:00 am at Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir New Palam Vihar, Block T, Sector 109 Gurugram, Pawala Khasrupur, Haryana 122017.

Grief Stricken

Veena Raina (Wife) Dilip & Shashi Raina (Brother & Sister-in-Law) Gunjan Raina & Abhishek Sharma (Daughter & Son-in-law) Khushboo Raina (Daughter) Surinder Kaw & Pushpa Kaw (Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-law) (Brothers-in-Law & Sisters-in-Law) (In-laws) Manmohan & Rajni Khashu Dilip & Usha Jan Khashu AND ALL NEAR & DEAR ONES 9899283501/9958377003



Mrs. Vijay Bhat (Safaya)

Sh Ravinder Raina

S. Joginder Singh (Retd SI Delhi Police) S/o Late Maan Singh R/o Main Chowk, Link Road, Makhanpur Gujran (Simbal), Jammu on 5-12-2023.

Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib on Tuesday 12-12-2023 9:30 AM at our

residence.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on (Retd SI Delhi Police) Thursday 14-12-2023, 9:30 AM at res-

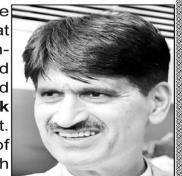
idence followed by Antim Ardas at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Railway Patri Talli Morh. Jammu at 12:30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN ENTIRE FAMILY, ALL NEAR & DEAR ONES MOB NO: 9599915637, 9818724422, 9810542540

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With deference and reverence we the deeply shocked Bhat Family with heavy heart condole and inform with profound grief and sorrow, the sad and sudden demise of Sh Ashok Kumar Koul Husband of Smt. Sushma Koul resident of Barnai, Bantalab on 5th December 2023.

May Almighty bestow peace,



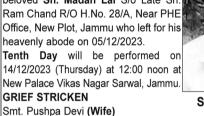
S. Joginder Singh

Sh Ashok **Kumar Koul**

heavenly abode and grant eter- (Ex. Registrar General J&K High Court) nal Moksha to the departed pious soul.

10th Day Kriya will be held on 14th December at Muthi Ghat at 9 A.M.

GRIEF STRICKEN (In laws) Samast Bhat Pariwar. Mob.: 7006542157, 7006927856, 9213986181, 80826 69923 & 9796063317, 7827314905



Sh. Madan Lal

Sons & Daughter-in-Law Sh. Rajinder Kumar Langeh and Smt. Sunita Devi Sh. Mohinder Kumar Langeh and Smt. Nirmal Kumari C/o (RAJ MEDICOS SARWAL) Sh. Tilak Raj Langeh and Smt. Anju Kumari C/o (ALPINE TECHNOLOGY NEW PLOT) Ph. No: 7006196035. 9419207977. 9419583231

OBITUARY

(from in-laws side)

With profound grief and sorrow we infor the sad demise of our beloved Jija J Prof. Autar Krishen Ogra on Saturday 9th December 2023 at Ahmedabad. He was a multifaceted personality from being a reputed educationist to an acknowledged expert of Sanatani traditions and above all a perfect spiritualist.



Prof. Autar Krishen Ogra His guidance and support will be missed by us all

The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday, 17th December 2023 at Narayan Ghat, Subhash Bridge, Ahmedabad at 9 A M IN GRIEF:

Mr. V. K. Bhat & Mrs. Bita Bhat (9419124180) Mr. Sunil Bhat & Mrs. Sunita Bhat (9723000969)

BARKHI

One year has passed since you left us alone for eavenly abode. A place is vacant in our heart a home which can never be filled. Barkhi of beloved Smt. Vandana Wadhera will b performed at our residence 494 Janipura Colony Jammu on Thursday 14/12/2023 at 12.00 Noon. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY Ashwani Wadhera - Husband Son & Daughter-in-law Er. Sandeep Wadhera & Dr. Prikrati Palk Aditya Wadhera (Son) Grand Son : Reyansh Wadher Mob.: 9419166987, 9906121143, 9070797777 /s Dayal Medicose, Janipura, Jammu

M/s Smile Dental Clinic, Janipura, Jammu



Smt. Vandana Wadhera

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."

LOCAL/ ADVT

Lt Governor Chairs meeting to review implementation of PM SHRI Schools scheme

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting to review the implementation of PM SHRI Schools (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme in the Union Territory

On the occasion of Teacher's Day in 2022 Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had announced PM-SHRI for the upgradation and development of around 14,500 schools across the country.

In Phase-I, a total of

233 Schools from J&K been trained at New have been approved for Delhi, one each for the PM SHRI Schools by the district. Ministry of Education. In "PM SHRI Schools the second phase, J&K will provide leadership to other schools in their UT has recommended



265 schools to the Minrespective areas by istry of Education, seekproviding mentorship. ing its approval. A total Focus will be on learning 20 Master Trainers have outcomes of every child



schools," the Lt Governor said. Sh Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary School **Education Department**

gave a detailed presen-

tation on the guiding principle for selection for the schools under the scheme. The Lt Governor also

directed to prepare a comprehensive fiveyear plan to reduce the distance of schools for children. He said new

tioned with a focus that children should not have to travel long distance. The Lt Governor directed the School Education

Department for inclusion of life history and contributions of inspirational icons like General Zorawar Singh, Brig

schools should be sanc-

Sherwani and other prominent personalities in schools' curriculum. The Lt Governor also directed the department to ensure Vocational training and Skill development programmes in schools as well as inclusion of Indian Philosophy in all the Universities

Sh Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sh RK Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Sh Shaleen Kabra, Financial Commissioner, Revenue; Dr Mandeep Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor and Administrative Secretaries attended the

	inder Singh, Maqbool			ion Ter	ritory.		neeting.	co atter	
	OFFICE OF THE I					ER, RE	W PO	ONCI	H
						TENDE			
	e-NIT No. 274 of REW F For & on behalf of the I								
	Division Poonch, as his repres	entative i	nvites te	nders by	e-tende	ring mode	from appro	oved and	
	contractors registered with J&I		Estt.	Cost of	Earnest	Time Time Allowed	Time and	Class of	
S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Cost (Rs in	document (in Rs)	Money (in Rs)	for complete-	date of opening of	Contracto	Position of Funds
1	2	3	lacs) 4	5	6	on 7	tender 8	9	10
	Under SBM							DEE	Partially Availabl e/ Deman ded
1	Construction of CSC Near Graveyard Moh. Haveli W.No.2 Pyt. Lassana Upper Block Lassana Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call	er Gh	3.00	200	6000	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 15-12- 2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch		
2	Construction of CSC Nr. Masjid Moh. Jabri Bhainch Pyt. Bhainch Block Poonch Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
3	Construction of CSC Near Madrasa Qasmiya Rajpura Panchayat Rajpura Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
4	Construction of CSC Near PS Khait Narian W. No 08 Markote Panchayat Brachar Block Loran Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
5	Construction of CSC Near Zayarat Moh. Sayeda H/o Khushnood Hussain Shah W.No.8 Pyt. Galhuta Central Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
3	Construction of CSC Unit Near Jamia Adar Pyt. Chungan Charoon Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2023-24 4 th call	/e Engine ision Poo	3.00	200	6000	30 days			
,	Construction of CSC at Draba Khetain W.No. 4 Moh. Darrian Pyt. Draba Khetain Block Buffliaz Under SBM Year 2023-24 2 nd call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	3.00	200	6000	30 days			
3	Construction of CSC at Draba Pyt. Draba Block Buffliaz Under SBM Year 2023-24 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
	Construction of CSC Near Eidgah Bair Pyt. Fazalabad Bhatair Block Buffliaz Under SBM Year 2023-24 2nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
0	Under UT Capex Budget Construction of Amrit Sarovar at Moh Phambran W. No. 7 Pyt. Shahpur Lower Block NSSB Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 3 rd call		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
1	Construction of Amrit Sarvar at Kayala Danna Tantraygam Pyt. Tantraygam Block Loran Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 4 th call		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
2	Construction of Amrit Sarovar W.No. 6 Kalas Pyt. Lohil Bella Block Loran Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023- 24 4 th call		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
3	Construction of Amrit Sarovar at Bleda W.No 4 Pyt. Chikhriban Block Loran Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 4 th call		2.00	200	4000	30 days	-		
4	Construction of Amrit Sarovar at Gallian Arai Peeran Pyt. Arai Peeran Block Mandi Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 4 th call		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
5	Construction of Amrit Sarovar at W.No. 3 Nr. Mohd Yousaf Pyt. Mangnar Upper Block Poonch Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 4 th call	-	2.00	200	4000	30 days			
6	Construction of Amrit Sarovar W.No. 3 at Goi Pyt. Goi Block Mendhar Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023- 24 4 th call		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
7	Construction of Amrit Sarovar W. No. 03 Araka Pyt. Sanai Middle Block Surankote Under UT Capex Budget Year 2023-24 4 th call		2.00	200	4000	30 days			
	Under PMAAGY]		
8	Upgradation of Road Moh. Mungawali Tandi Pyt. Salani Block Mankote Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call		2.00	200	4000	30 days	(1000	DEE	
9	Upgradation of Road Moh. Daal Pyt. Salani Block Mankote Under PMAAGY Year 2023-24 2 nd call	ive Engineer ivision Poonch	2.00	200	4000	30 days	Hrs) on or after 15-12-		Partially
20	Construction of R/Wall Community Hall W.No. 8 Pyt. Chhungan Choudhrian Block Mendhar Under	tive En	2.00	200	4000	30 days	2023 in the office of		Available/ Demande d

Constitution of India applies to J&K in letter & spirit: Panun Kashmir



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: The Supreme Court judgement holding the abrogation of Article 370 as constitutionally valid and proper has finally set to rest all the apprehensions and speculations.

"It has made it unambiguously clear to everyone that the Constitution of India applies to Jammu and Kashmir fully, totally and in letter as well as in spirit," said Panun Kashmir Chairman Dr. Ajay Chrungoo said in a press conference , here on Wednesday.

"The judgement has unambiguously debunked the concept of internal sovereignty of Jammu and Kashmir and validated the Constitutional powers of President of India to abrogate Article 370, extend all provisions of Constitution of India to Jammu and Kashmir as well as reorganise Jammu and Kashmir state into two Union Territories," Dr. Ajav Chrungoo said adding that the judgement has brought immense joy and happiness to all of

ment has underlined that 'there was a mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits Community threatened for their life and property changing the very cultural ethos of Kashmir...there was a troubled situation on the ground level which was apparently not redressed. It culminated in the migration of one part of the population of the state

in 1989-90... It was not a

voluntary migration.' These comments should suffice to persuade Gol not to call religious cleansing of Kashmiri Pandits as Migration and decisively move to recognise the Genocide inflicted on them.

Recently when scores of Hindus living in Kashmir were selectively targeted and killed forcing the remnants of a few thousand Hindus living in the valley again to flee, the Supreme Court ignored the developments. When the Government forced them to return to the same dangerous conditions by threatening to stop their livelihood, the Supreme Court again chose not to take any

SKUAST-K conducts awareness programmes on Soilless cultivation across Kashmir Valley

Top News Report SRINAGAR, Dec 13: Sher-i-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Kashmir, conducted five one day awareness programs across Kashmir Valley on "Soilless cultivation to secure the vegetable demand of urban and peri-urban

population". The programmes were conducted at Sopore, Anantnag, Pulwama, Tangmarg and Wadura in collaboration with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The awareness programs organised by the Division of Vegetable Science, Faculty of Horticulture, are an innovative and sustainable farming methods that can help secure the vegetable demand of urban and peri-urban populations. Progressive farmers and youth from rural areas and adjoining areas attended the awareness programmes. Every programme was targeted at fifty participants comprising rural youth and progressive farmers.

Experts threw light on soilless cultivation



methods which offered numerous advantages that contribute to maximizing yields and promoting sustainability in agriculture. By providing controlled, efficient, and environmentally friendly growing conditions, soilless cultivation has the potential to help meet the growing demand for fresh, nutritious vegetables while reducing the ecological impact of traditional farming, the participants were told. Addressing the programmes, Program coordinator and Associate Professor, Division of Vegetable Science

SKUAST-K, Dr Shahnaz

Mufti said that the rapid

urbanization and popula-

tion growth in urban and

peri-urban areas have

increased the demand

for fresh and nutritious

vegetables. She said

Students of GPWJ visit J&K

Soilless cultivation offers a viable solution to achieve these goals. By eliminating the need for traditional soil-based agriculture, soilless cultivation allows vegetables to be grown in controlled environments, making it possible to produce high-quality crops consistently, regardless of climate or space constraints, she added. The Program coor-

dinator acknowledged the efforts and support of the Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganaie, Nodal Officer, MSME, Prof. H. R. Naik and Dean Faculty of Horticulture Prof. Shabir Hussain Wani and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for having supported and sponsored the awareness programme.

PMAAGY Year

Tractor Road at Parat W.No. 02

Mendhar Unde 2023-24 3rd call

Tractor Road at

Near Panchayat Block Mendhar U Year 2023-24 3r

Tractor Road at

H/O Nazir to P Block Mendhar Year 2023-24 3r

Drain W.No. 03 others Pyt. Kalai Under PMAAGY

Construction of

Qazian Hasab N Pyt. Chhungan (

lendhar Unde

Under PF Toilet Complex 26 Pyt. Kotan Ka

2023-24 4th cal

21

22

23

24

25

"We have time and again said special status for Jammu and Kashmir through the aegis of Article 370 and 35-A had created a Muslim State of the territory of India. The Supreme Court's decision upholding the removal of Article 370 has dismantled for good the dejure edifice of this Muslim State." Dr. Aiav said The judgement of Supreme Court justice S K Koul which forms the part of the wider SC Judge-

notice

"We want that the suggestion of the honourable Justice to the Government to create a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to address the trouble has very little value for Hindus of Kashmir," he said. He also appealed to

Supreme Court of India to intervene to stop all policies pursued by Government of India that lead to Denial of Genocide being perpetrated on Hindus of Kashmir.

Bank Patel Nagar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: The 3rd-semester students of Office Management and Computer Application of Government Polytechnic for Women Jammu had the opportunity to visit J&K Bank in Patel Nagar Area, Jammu.

They gained valuable insights into banking services, including utility services, E-Banking, and various advanced schemes, through the staff's informative demonstration

Seema Pandita and Shiveta (Senior Faculty, OMCA Department) accompanied the students on this educational visit.

The students expressed gratitude for the efforts of the Principal, Suket Gupta, during this technical and educational visit.

2020 24 2 000	0 -					10-12-	DEE	
R/Wall Community /t. Chhungan ck Mendhar Under 2023-24 2 nd call	Executive Eng REW Division F	2.00	200	4000	30 days	2023 in the office of Executive		Partially Available/ Demande d
: Moh. Gali Upper Pyt. Parat Block · PMAAGY Year I	Exe REV	1.44	200	2880	30 days	Engineer REW Division Poonch		
: Moh. Paswalan t Ghar Pyt. Parat Under PMAAGY rd call		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
t Moh. Thurkallan Nr. Paswalan Pyt. Parat ır Under PMAAGY rd call		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
Near Zia Ud Din and ai Block Lassana Y Year 2023-24 4 th		1.50	200	3000	30 days			
Boundary Wall Nr. Ismail W.No. 4 Choudharian Block PMAAGY Year		1.00	200	2000	30 days			
RI Grant Nr. Masjid W.No. 03 andi Block Mendhar r 2023-24 5 th call		1.80	200	3600	30 days			
Multipurpose Hall at Mendhar Under PRI		17.00	800	34000	60 days		BEE/	

EOW-CBJ charge-sheeted proprietors of Sai Agro Food Industry for fraud

ing Namkeens, Snacks,

fryums etc. in Udhampur

for more than 30 years.

who is the sales rep-

resentative of M/s Sai

Agro Food industry – a

sole proprietorship firm

registered in Varanasi

in the name of accused

Babita but operated

and managed jointly by

Babita and her husband

Munish Verma, lured

M/S Mahajan Agency

on the pretext of placing

an order of 500 cases/

units of the product and

cheated it of an amount

"In 2020 Sunny Dogra

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu (EOW-CBJ) on Wednesday produced 224 page charge-sheet against accused husband-wife duo - Munish Verma, son of Batuk Nath and Babita, wife of Munish Verma both residents of D-45/24 Ramapura, Nai Basti. Luxa Varanasi U.P in case FIR No. 40/2023 under Sections 420, 120-B IPC P/S EOW, Crime Branch, Jammu before the Court of law for judicial determination for hatching criminal conspiracy and cheating the complainant M/S Mahajan Agency through Sunny Dogra, son of Dwarka Nath, resident of H.No. 160/6, Nanak Nagar Jammu of Rs 3.25 lakh



after luring them to place an order for supply food products.

CBJ official said that the case origin from a written complaint lodged by Sunny Dogra, son of Dwarka Nath, resident of H. No. 160/6 Nanak Nagar Jammu, sales representative of M/s Sai Agro Food industry, alleging therein that complainant - M/s Mahajan Agency trading firm deals in purchase and sale of FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Goods) products includ-

of more than Rs. 3, 25,000. Thus Munish and Babita jointly hatched this fraudulent scheme to lure innocent traders/Businessmen like complainant into placing orders for the products and extracting money," official said.

On receipt of the complaint a Preliminary Verification was conducted and during the course of enquiry the allegations were prima-facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case under the relevant sections of law for in-depth investigation, official said adding that during the course of investigation all material evidence in the form of documentary record was collected from concerned quarters besides statements of complainants & witnesses were

found that the accused persons deliberately and with criminal intention have cheated and duped the complainant (M/s Mahajan Agency) of their hard earned money on the pretext of providing material (Food Items) and offences U/S 420. 120-B IPC are established against the accused for cheating the complainant.

anticipatory bail from the Hon'ble Court but did not comply with the orders of the Court to cooperate in the investigation despite several notices, thus prompting Crime Branch to contest bail to which the Court ordered cancellation of their bail. Accordingly raids were conducted to arrest them and the final report has been presented before the Court, official said.

recorded and it was The accused managed

20	Under PRI Year 2023-24 5 th call										
27	Construction of Multipurpose Hall at Block Mankote Mendhar Under PRI Grant Year 2023-24 2 nd call		17.00	800	34000	60 days		BEE/ CEE			
									3		
	Under DDC Grant								_		
28	Construction of 02 Nos. of Toilet Complex in Mendhar A 1 Gursai Mohri, 1 Gursai Phambranar Block Mendhar Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24 4 th call		3.40	300	6800	45 days					
29	Water Tank Near Asif Zardari Choki Pyt. Gohlad Chowki Block Mendhar Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24 5th call	er Jch	1.00	200	2000	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 15-12- 2023 in the office of Executive Engineer REW	DEE	Partially Available/ Demande d		
30	Water Tank Near Imran Pyt. Gohlad Mustafa Nagar Lower Block Mendhar Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24 5th call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.00	200	2000	30 days					
31	Shed for Gurdawara Ghani Dharati Pyt. Ghani Dharati Block Mankote Under DDC Grant Year 2023-24 3rd call	Executiv REW Divis	4.00	300	8000	45 days					
Ur	der 0896-Infrastructure for	Ľ.					Division Poonch				
32	Welfare of Tribals Construction of Path-Cum-Drain at Government Middle School to Khul Dakhari W. No. 07 Nr. L/o Ateeq S/o Mohd Rafiq Panchayat Chandak Block NSSB Under 0896- Infrastructure for Welfare of Tribals Year 2023-24 4 th call		2.50	200	5000	30 days	Pooleir				
N	OTE: The Contractors registered	d with DDC,	, Poonch ir	referend	ce to GOVT	. Order No: 2	38-F of 2021,				
	Dated 07-09-2021 can pa										
1.		ractors a	ire not a	llowed	to partic	ipate in a	ny tenderii	ng work	of REW		
2.	Division Poonch. Subletting of allotted work is no	t allowed	and will a	attract st	rict leaal o	action, even	cancellatio	n of contro	act with		
	imposition of costs and penalty et	c, if any su	ccessful bi	dder is fa	und involve	ed in same a	t any stage.				
	NOTE: No PRI m	ember sł	nall be a	llowed			ering proc	ess			
		09-12-2023. From 09-12-2023 to 14-12-2023, 1855 Hrs									
2		From 09-12-2023 to 14-12-2023, 1855 Hrs 09-12-2023 from 1800 Hrs onwards									
		14-12-2023 up to 1855 Hrs									
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (in case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)				15-12-2023 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch						
e		To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed									
	1. Instruction to bidders	reaardi	na e-te	nderind	a proces	s.					
	2. Bidders are advised to dow						option as w	ell as from	"Bidders		
Manual Kit" on website <u>https://www.jktenders.gov.in/</u> to acquaint bid submission process. No:- XEN/REW/P/4059-74 Dated:-09-12-2023											
DIP/J-12471/23					Executive Engineer Rural Engineering Wing Poonch						

OP-ED

EDHORIAL

ADOPTS CARPOOLING

Fuel is a material that is used to burn or heat something to produce energy. Almost everything we use is dependent on fuel. From cooking to manufacturing and working of automobiles, fuel plays an essential role. It is almost impossible to imagine life without fuel. But, currently, we are facing a major fuel crisis.

Due to shortage of fuel it is being imported from other countries at very high prices. This could transform economic growth in India. Even in petrol pumps, we find that the cost of petrol is increasing gradually. The reason for this is the increasing demand for petroleum. Burning of fuel produces energy and harmful substances which go into the air. It affects our health in a bad way. They also harm plants and animals. It causes damage to the environment and creates the problem of global warming. Thus, there is a need to think seriously about fuel conservation.

Fuel can be conserved by proper use of vehicles. Fuel consuming vehicles should not be used for short distances. Cycling and walking should be encouraged. By choosing these methods, our body gets physical exercise and our health also remains good.

Carpooling should be widely encouraged. Unnecessary filling of petrol vehicles results in wastage of fuel. Petrol should be filled in vehicles only when necessary. Air conditioners should not be used every time, they should be used only during extreme heat. Unnecessary weight should be avoided in the car. Saving fuel is as important as fuel production. Saving fuel, also saves our money. Fuel conservation should be practiced as a daily habit. Fuel is needed almost everywhere. In cooking, vehicles and many more things. Sadly, nowadays the quantity of fuel is decreasing day by day and for that reason, fuel is imported into India at high prices which can really affect the economy of India and that too is not good., that we are buying products from other countries. Our India will develop only when we follow some important steps to protect the economy of our country. Like – tree plantation, car-pooling, etc. Nowadays, electric vehicles are also available, using them will also save a lot of fuel. Burning fuel is the most dangerous thing we are doing every day. It produces very harmful gases which are harmful for anyone. They destroy the balance of nature, affect the environmental beauty.

Has South Asia hobbled itself? Can we turn into Korea, Taiwan?

By: Aakar Patel

ast week, I wrote about South Asia remaining poor compared to many nations in Asia, which have done something different from us. The task is to figure out what we are doing wrong or differently and what is undeniably different about us and them. It cannot only be, as is argued, that it is the form of economic system that is to blame.

We have tried managing the economy through central planning (India in 1950s and 1960s), through "licence raj" (India till the 1980s), through "liberalisation" (Pakistan from the 1960s and India from 1991). We have returned to the same things we were doing before (import substitution in India in the 1970s and today). We had some success and created sectors where we are leaders (India for a quarter century or so in information technology-enabled services and

Bangladesh today in garments). It cannot be that we do not have, or have not tried to have,

hard power. We have developed nuclear weapons and we have spent large sums on our militaries. Pakistan sends 17 per cent of all government spending to the Army, India and Bangladesh send nine per cent. We have tried to be strong — the misguided word used here is "muscular", and run large parts of the subcontinent with the military (Kashmir and the Northeast in India, Balochistan in Pakistan). We have tried to remain defiant. We have joined Western alliances (Pakistan in 1960s), we have remained non-aligned (India in 1950s) and we have tried a patchwork of things in between.

But the end result is the numbers we looked at in the previous column. The world's GDP per capita per year is an average of \$12,262. China is slightly ahead of the world average, and Bangladesh, India and Pakistan are one-fifth. We were five times less than the global average in 1960 too, when the global figure was at \$459 and India at \$82. Note that this is per person income and of the world's 7.7 billion people, South Asia contributes a full 23 per cent. Meaning we are a drag on the world's economy and productivity and have been for 60 years, at more or less the same rate.

There must be something we are missing. What is it? The World Bank says that intra-regional trade between Bangladesh, India and Pakistan accounts for five per cent of our total trade, compared to Southeast Asia, where the number is five times higher. Trade annually here is \$23 billion though it should really be over \$100 billion. Why? The problem is purely man-made.

The World Bank says "border challenges mean it is about 20 per cent cheaper for a company in India to trade with Brazil instead of a neighbouring South Asian country", and that the main problem is "a broad trust deficit throughout the region". It adds that South Asia is "one of the least integrated regions in the world in terms of trade and people-to-people contact. Putting aside traditional concerns and taking joint action can develop cross-border solutions to shared issues, strengthen regional institutions, improve infrastructure and connectivity, and advance trade policy".

Why should it take outsiders to tell us what is obvious?

Unfortunately, it does. The World Bank adds that regional cooperation has the potential to produce significant gains across all countries of South Asia because the gap in trade is \$44 billion annually. We have the space to reduce the 50 per cent higher cost for container shipments in South Asia compared to developed nations. But it can happen only if we are less hostile and more open to each other than we are and have been.

This is the one thing we have not tried. We have not opened ourselves to each other and returned to the sort of geography and economy that we had before 1947. Indeed, we have not devolved internally power from the Union to the states and further along either.

In his book The 10 Rules of Successful Nations, Ruchir Sharma writes that "among the largest emerging nations, trade amounts to 60 per cent of GDP on average, and countries well above that average tend to be major export manufacturers, led by the Czech Republic (142), Vietnam (210), Malaysia (131), and Thailand (117)".

He adds something that won't surprise us: "South Asia remains fenced off. Isolation, lawlessness, and the lingering bitterness produced by regional wars have made it difficult for India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to open borders, and so far, no leader has stepped forward to ease hostilities."

India's trade to GDP has in fact fallen from 58 per cent of GDP in 2014 to 44 per cent today, with Pakistan at 30 per cent and Bangladesh at 28 per cent.

Is it possible that we can open ourselves to each other? If so, in what realistic way, given all the difficulties and ingrained historical resistance? And if achieved, what are the effects this can have on our societies? I do not know if by doing this we can repeat what Taiwan, Japan and South Korea did, but I do know that it removes the one restraint that we have deliberately put on ourselves and can eliminate ourselves. The fact that it is not even discussed widely today in the region, despite all three states being democracies, tells us something about how blind we have become to our condition. And how satisfied and unambitious our political parties are with the way things continue to remain in South Asia as we enter the second quarter of the 21st century. Let us make an attempt, however modest, to change that.

Morning v/s Night: Which is the Best Study Time?

By: Vijay GarG

tudying is an integral part of every student's

for learning a new theory or reviewing notes from the previous class session. Studying at this time is also good since they don't interfere with a student's sleep. It is also easier to create a study group during morning studies than at night. Importantly, it is an excellent time to study since it offers students a better ability to recollect. ferent timings when it comes to effective studying. Therefore, you should find the time of the day your child studies best; this can be either night or day based on the following factors. their chances of sleeping again.

Please encourage them to study from another room,

Ulife. It takes practice and patience to establish the best studying habits depending on their character and environment. For some students, morning hours are the best for studying, while for others studying during the night brings out the best results. According to science, the best hours to study are between 10 am and 2 pm, from 4 pm to 10 pm. This is a time when the human brain is in acquisition mode. Science also indicates that the most ineffective time to study is between 4 am and 7 am. While there may be no perfect time for studying, let's

analyze the benefits of studying both in the morning and at night. Benefits of Studying in the

Morning

Students that are more energized in the morning can be more productive if they study in the morning. Most people believe that morning is the best time to study since the brain is the sharpest. This is true since natural light available in the morning is good for the eyes and helps keep students alert. Morning study is incredibly best Benefits of Studying in the Night

Night studies are associated with a quieter and more peaceful environment. There are fewer distractions at night since most family members are asleep, and electronic devices such as the TV are not in use. Less distraction facilitates creativity and better concentration. Sleeping after a study session can also improve recall and consolidate information.

Note: You should ensure that your child still gets about 8 to 9 hours of sleep despite studying at night.

How do you determine the Best Time for Studying?

Now that we have seen many benefits associated with studying both in the morning and at night: The most crucial question remains: Which study time is the best for your child?

Different students have dif-

First and foremost, when is your child most alert? Remember that different children have different memories and alertness, qualities that tend to improve at other times for different people; For example, your child could have an excellent visual memory in the morning yet better critical thinking abilities at night. Secondly, consider when your child's study session is less prone to distractions such as TV, family conversations, and dinner time, which may disrupt their concentration. In such cases, choose a time with a list distraction. Lastly, consider a time that is easy to stick by since consistency improves the study routine and eventually leads to better outcomes.

Study Tips for Morning Studies.

Please encourage your child to drink water first after waking up to hydrate their body.

Avoid studying from bed: Getting out of bed and studying from the desk will reduce such as the living room, to avoid falling asleep.

Ensure your child takes regular breaks from the chair, stretches, and walks a bit to avoid feeling sluggish or tired.

Encourage them to find a study buddy.

Encourage them to use natural light over electricity if it's already daytime.

Study Tips for Night Studies.

Make sure your child has a specific time to condition their body clock.

Ensure that the night study does not limit their required night rest to about 8 hours.

Make sure that they have good lighting in the room. Without enough rest, it will be hard for them to retain information.

Ensure that there is enough lighting in the room to avoid hurting your child's eyes.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout Punjab)

LOCAL

SMVDU hosts Brainiac Challenge-2023 Quiz Competition



Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 13: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) held the Brainiac Challenge-2023, a quiz competition engaging 56 students.

The participants, organized into 14 teams representing diverse schools such as Business, Economics, English, Physics, Biotechnology, Mechanical Engineering, and Civil Engineering, demonstrated their intellectual prowess.

Dr. Deepak Jain, serving as the quiz master, presented a diverse range of questions encompassing General Knowledge, Science, History, Culture, Management, and Engi-

neering. The competition was not only a test of academic knowledge but also a platform for students to showcase their multidisciplinary

understanding. The team of Amook, Ishika, Mahi, and Deepali from the School of Biotechnology were the winners. The event witnessed active participation and enthusiasm

from all students, highlighting their passion for learning.

Dr. Arti Maini, the organising secretary, worked in collaboration with faculty members from various departments to ensure the smooth execution of the challenge. Expressing gratitude, Dr. Rashi Taggar acknowledged the support of Prof.

Pragati Kumar, the Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, for fostering initiatives that contribute to the holistic development of SMVDU students. The Brainiac Challenge-2023 stands as

a testament to the university's commitment to nurturing academic excellence and fostering a vibrant learning community.

GDC Thathri organises special session on Vision Viksit **Bharat** @2047

Top News Report

DODA, Dec 13: GDC Thathri organised a special session on the Vision Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

The programme started with the innovative ideas shared by the college students regarding the development of the great.

students The described that how developing a scientific outlook among the natives of the great Indian nation can fulfill the desires of the great architects of our Nation to make India a truly self sufficient nation on the global map and will



go a long way in bringing a new world order. The students suggested various valuable ideas that coul help strengthening our nation scientifically, technologically boosting and promoting the all round development of our nation to make it a model nation for the rest of the world to follow. The session was fol-

lowed by the enlight-

ening address of the Esteemed Prime Minister of our nation Narinder Modiji which inspired all the listeners leaving everybody spellbound and reminding all about our responsibilities towards Nation Building and leading our country to the desired goal of progress, prosperity in all sectors to become a model for other nations to follow.

JKBS hails appointment of **Batwal community's first** girl Jyoti Mandi as Patwari

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) at its meeting held in Surya Vihar here on Wednesday, hailed the appointment of Batwal community's first girl: Jyoti Mandi as Patwari (a most coveted job) in district Hoshiarpur.

While congratulating her parents who reside in district Hoshiarpur's Hardokhanpur, the JKBS' members said, May your daughter's

new job bring her plenty of happiness and fulfillment!

JKBS' General Secretary R.L.Kaith said, "We thank the Modi Government which has made determined efforts to boost the participation of women in government jobs and give them a work-life balance." Those who attended

the meeting included JKBS' Chairman Dilay Ram Kaith, Deputy Chairman Havildar Des Raj Kaith, President Rachhpal Kaith, Members: Hans Raj Loria, Sub Inspector (Retd) Darshan Kumar Bassa,

Master Naresh Kumar Kaith, Jagdish Raj Kaith

Medi-cities, medical colleges are transforming J&K's health infrastructure: Raman **Top News Report** Pravin Pawar, while answergovernment's resolve to provide The BJP leader said, five

JAMMU, Dec 13: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri on Wednesday said that enhanced healthcare facilities including new medical colleges, Medicities, and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), sanctioned for Jammu and Kashmir speaks of the progressing face of progressing Bharat, especially Jammu and Kashmir.

After this, the people of J&K will not have to travel distances to seek better healthcare facilities, which is a big achievement. Raman Suri said that the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Bharati

ing question of Rajya Sabha MP Gulam Ali Khatana in the Parliament, had shown a great picture of the developing healthcare facilities in Jammu and Kashmir. Establishment of five Medi-cities in J&K, seven medical colleges at Doda, Kathua, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla, Handwara and Udhampur, and AIIMS, speak of the Union Government's priorities viz-a-viz Jammu and Kashmir.

Those who question Prime Minister Narendra Modi's achievements must know that the establishment of two All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), one at Vijaypur in Jammu and another at Awantipora in Kashmir, testify the people with better medical facilities, which in fact were denied to them for over 75 years.

Today, when AIIMS Vijaypur is almost functional and patients from Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh are seeking treatments here in Jammu, better road network that is connecting these states is also playing a major role in providing better medical facilities to the people.

In addition, trauma care facilities have been approved for four hospitals including that for Anantnag, Ramban, Doda, Udhampur and Kupwara. This is the level of transforma-

tion that the Union Territory of J&K is experiencing.

Medi-cities including two at Jammu, two at Pulwama and one at Srinagar, once operational, will add more facilities to J&K's infrastructure. Ever since BJP has taken over the reins of government at the Centre, Jammu and Kashmir has become its priority and beginning from roads, bridges, tunnels, railway lines to medical facilities besides safety and security of people, every possible step is being initiated by the government to transform J&K, which was gripped in militancy and false & frivolous campaigns of leaders, who were averse to development and prosperity of common people, Raman Suri added.

GDC Kathua organizes interactive lecture on PCOD/PCOS

and Deepak Jyoti.

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 13: The Department of Zoology at Government Degree College (GDC), Kathua, in coordination with the Social Welfare Department of Kathua District, organized a highly informative and interactive seminar



present at this event and benefitted from the useful insights provided by Dr. Shakya. Prof. Seema Mir commended the efforts of the Department of Zoology and the Social Welfare Department for organizing such a relevant and insightful semi-

SSP Kishtwar enhances Cyber **Awareness at DIET Kishtwar**



In his address, Khalil Poswal urged the teachers' community to exercise caution while navigating the internet, emphasizing the importance of vigilance to avoid falling prey to cybercriminals.

He further called upon students to spread

awareness about the

risks associated with

digital transactions and

the use of social media

on the theme 'Hormonal Associated Issues in Girls.'

Held under the leadership of Prof. Seema Mir, Principal of GDC Kathua, the event aimed to address and raise awareness about hormonal challenges faced by young girls, with a special focus on Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) and Polycystic Ovary Disease (PCOD). The seminar featured Dr. Disha Shakva, a distinguished Gynaecologist and obstetrician from Prevan Hospital, Kathua. Dr. Shakya, with extensive experience gained from some of the finest hospitals in New Delhi, served as the guest speaker and provided valuable insights into the complexities of hormonal issues faced by girls. Prof. RK Pandita, Head of the Department of Zoology, played a pivotal role as the main orga-

nizer for the event.

In his welcome address, Prof. Pandita expressed his gratitude to the Resource person, Dr. Disha Shakya for consenting to deliver an expert lecture on the said topic.

He further appreciated the efforts of the Mission Shakti Team headed by Itika Mahajan of the Social Welfare Departmentfor their collaboration.

He further highlighted the importance of addressing hormonal issues in girls for their overall well-being.

Dr. Disha Shakya delivered an engaging presentation, focusing on key aspects of PCOS and PCOD, shedding light on the nuances and distinctions

between the two conditions. She emphasized the importance of early detection, awareness, and timely intervention in managing these hormonal dis-

orders effectively. The seminar provided a platform for open discussions and interactive sessions, allowing participants to seek clarification on various aspects related to hormonal health.

Dr. Shakya's expertise and the participative nature of the seminar created an atmosphere conducive to learning and understanding the challenges faced by young girls in the context of hormonal health

A large number of students especially female students were

nar. She stressed the importance of education and awareness in empowering young girls to manage their health proactively.

The collaboration between academic institutions and healthcare experts in this seminar exemplifies the commitment to community welfare and education.

The event successfully bridged the gap between academia and practical healthcare, providing valuable information to both students and the community at large.

Heads of various Departments along with their faculty members graced the event thereby making it successful.

To conclude the event, a vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Shiv Kumar, Assistant Professor of Zoology.

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Dec 13: SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal led a comprehensive cyber awareness session at the District Institute of Education & Training (DIET) Kishtwar as part of the #CyberJagrooktaDivas initiative.

The primary goal was to disseminate knowledge about cybercrimes, providing participants with a profound understanding of safeguarding

Internet-connected systems, encompassing hardware, software, and data from potential cyber-attacks.

During the session, Poswal addressed the audience, exploring various cybercrimes such as cyber bullying, child pornography, cyber grooming, online sextortion, phishing, and provisions outlined in the IT Act.

A detailed presentation highlighted the nuances of cyber threats.

applications. The event was attended by the Principal of DIET Kishtwar, Romi Kumar, I/c SAMAGRA Raiz Ahmed Butt, and other staff from DIET and the Police department, showcasing the collaborative effort to enhance cyber awareness in the community. The Principal and staff of DIET Kishtwar expressed gratitude to the Kishtwar Police for organizing such a program, benefiting the staff of various institu-

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Zubair inaugurates Sports Tournament, witnesses Cultural events

Top News Report

BANDIPORA, Dec 13: As part of ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Zubair Ahmad, Wednesday inaugurated District Indoor Rowing Championship organized by **District Water Sports** Association in collaboration with District Administration Bandipora

On the occasion, Zubair Ahmad also witnessed a captivating

formances during the Yatra (VBSY) at Auditorium Kaloosa, Bandipora.

> On the occasion, District Development Council Chairperson Ab Gani Bhat, Vice Chairperson Kowsar Shafeeq, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Dr Owais Ahmad, ADDC Bandipora Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, CEO Mohammad Amin Beigh, besides BDCs, PRIs and locals were also present. The event was also attended by Padma Shree Faisal Ali Dar and other prominent

display of cultural persports enthusiasts. The ceremony kicked off with the inauguration of the sports tour-

nament, symbolizing the commitment to fostering a healthy and active community.

Zubair Ahmad emphasized the importance of sports in promoting physical fitness and building a robust society.

As part of the cultural festivities, attendees were treated to a diverse range of performances showcasing the rich heritage and traditions of the region. The cultural items,

including traditional dances, music, and artistic expressions, provided a colorful backdrop to the event, celebrating the cultural heritage of the region.

Commissioner Secretary expressed his delight at being part of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, highlighting the significance of such initiatives in promoting unity, cultural exchange, and overall development. He commended the district administration for their efforts in bringing together communities through sports and cultural activities.

GHSS Bhalra organises Educational Tour program at Bhadarwah



Top News Report

BHADARWAH, Dec 13: Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Bhalra, Bhaderwah organised Educational tour programme in different locations of Bhadarwah for students of class 11th and 12th

under PM Shri centrally sponsored scheme by the Government of India/UT Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The programme was flagged off by Pradeep Singh Billawria (Principal of the Institution).

The students of the institution along with

staff members visited Guldana, Botanical Garden in the premises of Yatri Bhawan (University Road Bhaderwah), Qilla (Old Fort) Bhaderwah and Drudu Park. On this occasion, Dr Sanjeev Kumar Koul briefed the students about the topography of Bhaderwah such as importance of Asha Pati Glacier (Soan Baien), Chattar Gallah, Kailash besides Flora and Fauna of temperate climatic conditions.

tions in Kishtwar.

Koul also aware passengers, vehicle drivers about the Road Safety measures to avert mishaps by avoiding overloading of passengers, music systems and use of mobile phones and cultivate habit of putting on seat belt while driving.

Principal of the Institution thanked the staff and students to make the event successful.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hailing from a filmy family, Saiyami Kher still did the hard yards. After the lukewarm response to Ghoomer, she is still looking forward to the future with much promise

Box-office success may have eluded her, but nothing can dent Saiyami Kher's indefatigable spirit and spunk to call a spade a spade. Ready to answer all queries from casting couch to 'N' word to unhealthy beauty standards the industry expects you to conform to, Saiyami is as refreshing as can be and as non-filmy as they come.

6

Last seen in R Balki's Ghoomer, currently streaming on Zee5, which won her plaudits for her portraval of an amputee cricketer, she feels that commercial success certainly matters. "That is what the media talks about and producers are looking at when casting you." Nevertheless, she has been fortunate enough to have topline directors backing her each time her film didn't fare well on the known parameters of hit and flop. If she made her debut with Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's Mirzya, directors like Neeraj Pandey and Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari have reposed faith in her talent. And Anurag Kashyap, who cast her in Choked, is no less than a mentor for her. Says she, "Each time your films don't work at the box-office and yet stalwarts cast you in their projects, you regain your confidence and find validation.' Not an easy ride

Essentially a director's actor, she has imbibed many acting and life lessons from the big names she has worked with. Today if she turns to Kashyap for advice, Mehra advised her to be on guard and understand who her friends are, and who are not in this fair-weather industry. Finding a place in Bollywood which is highly competitive, this granddaughter of yesteryear actress Usha Kiran may seem to have had it easy. But she insists, "People may think



I come from a filmy family and presume offers have come to me on a platter. But in reality this has been the biggest disadvantage for me. Just because my grandmother was a noted actress and I have relatives in powerhouse of talent, like Tanvi and Shabana Azmi, does not mean I have not gone through the grilling process of auditions and rejections." A firm no

And yes she has not escaped the ugly reality of casting couch either. Only when a female casting director from South threw her off balance with a loaded assertion, 'you will have to compromise,' her obvious response was 'no way'. In an industry that thrives on many 'isms', sexism very much included, she has been expected to follow strange beauty ideals too. Pray, who in his sane mind would want the light-eyed beauty to change? She smiles and adds, "Perhaps, they have this factorymade notion of beauty and how a woman should look a certain way; fuller lips, may be fuller body parts. I believe flaws are what make us beautiful and we should embrace them."

Power of mind And as she played this spirited sportsperson in Ghoomer who loses her arm in a freak accident yet manages to hit it out

of the park, she also learnt the power of mind. For someone who played cricket in her formative years getting the body language of cricketer wasn't difficult. But to ace the mental makeup of someone who has been through extreme pain, yet found strength in her adversity, was the real challenge.

Considering her act in R Balki's much-acclaimed film as the most arduous and fulfilling, she thinks it is unfortunate the film did not register at the box-office. She reasons, "Who knew Gadar 2 would be such big hit, which is a good thing for the industry which needs hits, but our film was washed away." Saiyami, however, is very much afloat, shooting for Neeraj Pandey's second season of Special Ops in Georgia and will also be seen in Rahul Dholakia's Agni too.

Second chances Five years from now, the actor who began her journey in 2016, does not see herself at any particular point or pinnacle of success for, "Didn't Covid which butchered people's five year and ten year plans teach us to take life as it comes." But yes, power of manifestation is one magic she truly believes in. It has led her to her dream role of a cricketer in Ghoomer and to 'die for parts' in other films with directors who are on everyone's 'my favourites' list.' Among the illustrious names, she has worked with, she does not have a favourite 'favourite', as all are super special to her. But yes, she, who was part of Raj and DK's short Glitch in the anthology Unpaused, would love to work with them in long form. With Ghoomer finding audienc-

es on OTT, she knows, "Both life and cinema gives you second chances."

Guru Randhawa's new album 'G Thing' is a tribute to his Punjabi roots

Singer-songwriter Guru Randhawa, who is known for 'Lahore', 'Suit Suit', 'Ishare Tere' and 'Morni Banke', released his new single album 'G Thing'.

The album features Guru col-

and 'Sunrise'. Guru Randhawa shared this clip to launch his album. By infusing traditional Punjabi folk melodies, instruments, and vocal styles into his pop compositions, Guru pays homage to his roots while pushing the boundaries of musical innovation. Tracks like 'G Class' and 'Chill Mode' resonate with the vibrant and rhythmic essence of Punjabi folk, creating a sonic experience that is



I always believe that I have to give more: Katrina Kaif



Actress Katrina Kaif has said her approach to work is that she always believes she has to give more. Katrina made her acting debut in 2005 with the Amitabh Bachchan-starrer Sarkar. In her 18-year-long give more. I always believe that I'm not giving enough in every moment. And I'm always checking and crosschecking myself that am I doing everything I can to be excellent, to be the best that I can be. You know, for me, my belief system is really - am I better than I was yesterday?" Katrina said.

The actress, whose latest release is Tiger 3, added that competition is healthy but her key focus was on improving herself. She said, "It's not about looking over my shoulder to see who's doing what around me. Of course, that's important. And, of course, competition is healthy. But really, am I improving myself? If I'm bettering myself and evolving as an artiste and as an actor, then I'm on the right path." The actress gives her heart to every film that she does. Katrina said: "I always say that if you don't have something to give, that is when you should pause as an actor."

Cardi B breaks-up with Offset

journey in Hindi cinema,

have there been

moments where the

actress felt she could

have given something

"I think my approach to

my work is that I always

believe that I have to

more?

Rapper Cardi B has confirmed her single status in the wake of rumours about her relationship with Offset. The rapper, 31, got candid on Instagram Live over the weekend as she admitted, "I've been single for a minute now," as per a recording of the livestream shared on X (formerly Twitter)

She continued, "But I have been afraid... Not afraid. I just don't know how to tell the world. But I feel like today has been, like, a sign," Cardi B said she wants to start the New Year 'fresh' and 'open', as she admitted, "I'm curious for a new life, for a new beginning. And yeah... I'm excited.' The relationship status update comes after the



laborating with artistes such as Bohemia, Shehnaaz Gill, Sukh-E, and Arjun. The album has nine tracks including 'Deja Vu', 'All Right', 'Love Prayer', 'G Class', 'Chill Mode', 'Da One', 'No News', 'Stuck on U'

both culturally rich and universally accessible.

The album has been released under the label of T-Series.

couple attended the same event on Sunday night - TikTok In the Mix music festival in Mesa, Arizona — but were not photographed together.

Priyanka Chopra is Christmas ready, gives sneak peek

Global icon Privanka Chopra is already in the Christmas mood.

She took to her Instagram and shared a glimpse of Christmas preparations at her residence.

The 'Don' actor shared a picture on her stories which she captioned, "Grateful."

She dropped a picture of the fireplace corner decorated with lights, baubles, holly and ivy along with Santa socks hung along.

Recently, Priyanka stunned everyone with her appearance at Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023

She exuded her 'Desi Girl' vibe at the event as she donned a white and blue floral saree. She kept her hair open and completed her look with red lipstick. Several pictures and videos of the 'Dostana' actor surfaced on social media in which she could be seen posing in front of the paps.

Priyanka has had a super busy year. She starred in Russo Brothers' Citadel and a Holly-



Again, in which she costarred with Sam Heughan and Celine Dion. The film also had a cameo by husband Nick Jonas. In the coming months, she will be seen in

'Heads of State', alongside John Cena and Idris Elba.

In the Bollywood front, she will be seen in Farhan Akhtar's next directorial 'Jee Le Zaraa' alongside Katrina Kaif and Alia Bhatt.

TV judge Frank Caprio, famous for 'Caught in Providence', diagnosed with cancer

Popular TV judge Frank Caprio, known for the show 'Caught in Providence', recently revealed that he had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Caprio took to Instagram to announce the heartbreaking news. Sharing an emotional video, Caprio said his birthday is one of the happiest days of the year for him. But his recent 87th birthday was a little different for him as he was not feeling well and underwent a medical examination.



The report from the medical examination revealed that he is suffering from pancreatic cancer, which he called an "insidious form of cancer".

In the video, Caprio said the he prays that God auides the thoughts and the hands of his doctors in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, in his treatment and that he is fully prepared to fight as hard as he can in this "long road".

He requested the netizens to pray for him and believed that the power

Amy Poehler and Tina

the medical treatment, would be a powerful weapon to help him survive the cancer. Reacting to the video,

of praver, along with

netizens shared their thoughts and prayers with Caprio during this difficult time. A user wrote, "We

adore you so much, you got this buddy."

Another user wrote, "God hear our prayers heal this good man."

"This got me tearing up, you are healed in Jesus name," read another comment.

Not worth it: Chris Rock refuses to host Golden Globes 2024

Chris Rock, among many other celebrities. has denied hosting the grand event of Golden Globes 2024. The show organisers are struggling to find a host for its 81st edition that is set to be held next month in January.

Several A-list actors turned down offers to host the ceremony. Two-time Oscar host Chris Rock is allegedly among those.

Rock last attended an award show in 2022, when he was slapped by Will Smith while presenting an award at the Oscars.

Ali Wong is reportedly another actress who has also turned down the offer to host the event. Besides those two names, Will Arnett, Sean Hayes and Jason Bateman, who co-host the podcast SmartLess, were reportedly invited



to host the show together, but they have passed Fey, who co-hosted the Globes four times, had previously said they were done with the gig. On why a number of celebrities are reluctant to take the job, a celebrity publicist said, "It's a thankless job." Another top publicist said, "It's not worth it.

There are a lot of politics. It's not easy and it's not fun anymore." The Golden Globes will air on January 7, 2024.

NATIONAL

PM Modi pays tributes to those killed in **2001 Parliament attack**

Modi was joined by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Home Minister Amit Shah and other dignitaries at a ceremony in the Parliament House where they paid tributes to them.

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid tributes to the security personnel who made the supreme sacrifice while fighting terrorists who attacked Parliament on this day in 2001.

He said on X, "Today, we remember and pay heartfelt tributes to the brave security personnel martyred in the Parliament attack in 2001. Their courage and sacrifice in the face of



danger will forever be etched in our nation's memory."

Modi was joined by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Home Minister Amit Shah and other dignitaries at a ceremony in the Parliament House where they paid tributes to them. Nine people, including

eight security personnel, had died in the attack in which all five Pakistansponsored terrorists were killed.

Kerala govt moves SC challenging UOI's alleged interference in state's finances

NEW DELHI. Dec 13 (Agencies): The Kerala Government on Wednesday knocked on the doors of the Supreme Court challenging the Union's alleged interference in the state's finances and sought appropriate directions or orders from it to the Centre on the issue.

In the petition, the Kerala govt referred to the executive power conferred to the State, under Article 293 of the Constitution of India, to borrow on the security or guarantee of the Consolidated Fund of the State in alignment with the fiscal autonomy of the State as guaranteed in the Constitution.

In the petition, a copy accessed by this Newspaper filed before the Top Court, Kerala Govt said that the Union of India (UOI), through the Ministry of Finance, issued Letters in March 2023 and by amendments made to Section 4 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act seeks to interfere with the finances of the State. Sources in the Supreme Court registry and lawyers connected to the case, although tight-lipped about the case, thought that the case would likely come up for hearing next year in January, as the SC's winter vacation starts on December 16 (Saturday) and the reopening would be on January 02 (Tuesday) next year.

The Centre did so, by imposing a net Borrowing Ceiling on the State in the manner deemed fit by the Union, which limits borrowings from all sources including open market borrowings, the Kerala govt alleged in its petition filed before the Apex Court.

It further said that the UOI reduced the Net Borrowing Ceiling by including aspects into the "borrowing" of the State which, otherwise, are not "borrowings" as contemplated under Article 293 of the Constitution".

Article 293 said that a State may not, without the consent of



the Government of India, raise any loan if there is still outstanding any part of a loan which has been made to the State by the Government of India.

The plea of Kerala govt sought urgent and immediate intervention from the Apex Court. It said that the Plaintiff (Kerala State) will incur financial loss that will cause severe damage to the economy of a small state like Kerala.

"If the damage is not pre-

vented, the Kerala state, with its meagre resources, will not be able to recover from this for decades," the plea of the Kerala govt said.

It also said that the State has an excellent prima facie case considering the unequivocal provisions in the Constitution. The balance of convenience is also in favour of the State in terms of the irreparable injury that has been demonstrated in the event.

KOLKATA, Dec 13 (Agencies): Several passengers were injured after a large overhead water tank fell on a platform at Bardhaman railway station in West Bengal on

Wednesday. The injured people were rushed to hospital. The large metal

water tank fell on waiting passengers on the combined platforms 2 and 3 at Bardhaman station, the ER official said. Rescue opera-

Will take call on listing of Mahua Moitra's plea, CJI tells her lawyer

gal gratification from a

businessman to further

A CJI-led bench took

note of the submis-

sions of senior advo-

cate Abhishek Sing-

hvi, counsel for Moitra,

and Chandrachud said

he would look into the

listing aspect at lunch

"This is a member

being expelled from the

Lok Sabha," Singhvi

"The matter may not

have been registered. If

an email was sent, then

I would look at it right

away. Please send it,"

during the day.

said.

his interests.



KOLKATA, Dec 13 (Agencies): Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud Wednesday assured the counsel for Trinamool Congress leader Mahua Moitra that he would take a call on the urgent listing of her plea challenging her expulsion from the Lok Sabha

The TMC leader on Monday approached the top court against her expulsion after the Lower House of Parliament adopted a report by its ethics committee that held her guilty of accepting gifts and illethe CJI said.

Earlier in the day, Singhvi mentioned Moitra's plea before a bench headed by senior-most judge Justice S K Kaul as the CJI was heading a Constitution bench.

On December 8, after a heated debate in the Lok Sabha over the panel report during which Moitra was not allowed to speak, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi moved a motion to expel the TMC MP from the House for "unethical conduct" which was adopted by a voice vote.

Reacting sharply to her expulsion. Moitra had equated the action with hanging by a "kangaroo court" and alleged that a parliamentary panel was being weaponised by the government to force the opposition into

submission.

Overhead water tank falls on railway platform in Bengal, several injured



tions were initiated by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and police. Meanwhile, three railway employees were suspended, the official

said. The train movement through platforms 1, 2 and 3 at the station has been temporarily suspended, he added.

Couple, two children drown as car falls into water-filled pit after hitting wild boar in Gujarat

PATAN, Dec 13 (Agencies): A couple and their two minor children drowned when the car they were travelling in fell into a water-filled pit after hitting a wild boar crossing the road in Gujarat's Patan district on Wednesday, police said The incident occurred around 6.30 am near Fangli village in Santalpur taluka of Patan and the deceased were also from Fangli, Deputy Superintendent of Police Hardevsinh Vaghela said.

control after it hit a wild boar crossing the highway and fell into a water-filled pit on the roadside, he said.

30-year-old businessman dies after assault over road rage in Pune

PUNE, Dec 13 (Agencies): A 30-year-old man from Pune died after he was assaulted by a



along with some other people attacked him with sharp weapons and stones," said an official

who had followed him to Sakat's house, was also attacked, the official said.

The family was on its way to attend a marriage function in Kutch district when the person driving the car lost

Some local people informed the police about the mishap

The bodies of the deceased were later fished out and sent for post-mortem to a community health centre in Santalpur, he said.

The two children - a son and a daughter - were in the age group of 12 to 15 years, the police said, adding that the four victims died of drowning, but the exact cause will be known in the postmortem reports.

group of people over road rage, an official said on Wednesday. The police have registered a case against 11 people and arrested three of them, he said. Victim Abhishek Bhosale and the main accused Vilas Sakat got into an argument when the former's car brushed

against the latter, who was on foot, in the Phursungi area of the city on Tuesday. In a fit of rage, Sakat allegedly broke a rear-view mirror of the car, the official said.

"After the incident, Bhosale went to Vilas Sakat's house to end the dispute and seek compensation for the damage.

However, the accused

from Hadapsar police station All the accused and the

victim are from Phursun-

Bhosale, who ran a fur-

niture business, suffered

injuries in the attack

and was taken to a hos-

pital but he died of his

wounds, the official said.

Bhosale's nephew,

gi, he said.

The police have registered a case against 11 people under Section 302 (murder) of the IPC and the Arms Act. "Three of them have been arrested," the official said

> The police identified the arrested persons as Vilas Sakat, Kailas Sakat and Sachin Sakat

Heat of light bulb, thrown plastic bottle saved baby stuck inside Odisha bore well: officials

BHUBANESWAR, Dec 13 (Agencies): It was a simple 100-watt light bulb that provided much-needed heat to a newborn girl who was found stuck inside a cold bore well in Odisha, before she was rescued safely in an over five-hourlong operation on a winter night. Besides, the child who has no claimant fell on a stuck pet bottle thrown inside the bore well by someone and it acted as a cushion saving her from a hit by the inside wall of the bore well or the floor which was strewn with broken glass bottles, officials said on Wednes-

dav.

The child is now admitted to a Veer Surendra Sai Medical College and Hospital in Sambalpur town 60 km away, where she was taken in a green corridor after her rescue from the 20-foot abandoned bore well at Laripali in Rengali on Tuesday night.

"The baby is doing fine. There are a few minor bruises on her body. She was suffering from hypothermia (a condition that occurs when the body loses heat fast, causing a dangerously low body temperature)," said Dr Subham Singha, a paediatrician



attached to the hospital. The hospital formed a team for the treatment of the baby. Cries of a child from inside the bore well, actually a pipe made of iron, attracted the attention of villagers in the evening and they informed the police. That initiated a chain of coordinated efforts involving various agencies leading to the rescue of the child

The temperature near the village on Tuesday evening was around 12°C and the child, when brought out, had no clothes on.

"Oxygen was being supplied into the bore well. The baby had stopped crying for some time. Its cries were heard again after a 100-watt electric bulb was lowered into the bore well for light as well to keep the baby warm," said Singha who was also a part of the rescue team.

The light bulb functioned as an infant warmer, a key equipment in neonatal intensive care units used for providing newborns with a comfortable thermal area. Director General, Fire Service, Dr Sudhansu Sarangi, said that a victim location camera has been lowered into the bore well to trace the location of the baby. It was sent by the state government from Bhubaneswar to Jharsuguda airport on a special flight.

Sarangi also thanked the baby as its almost non-stop cries encouraged the rescuers to get

near her as quickly as possible, though it was not an easy task. "A lot of precaution was needed to cut the iron pipe. We could not use a gas cutter as it would generate heat which may not be tolerable to the baby. I thank all for rescuing the infant," Sarangi said.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik also thanked everyone involved in the operation.

"I wish a long life for the baby. May God bless her. Jai Jagannath," he said in a statement. It was not clear how the baby got into the 20-foot deep bore

well made of iron. Locals suspect that the infant might have been dumped there by someone.

Meanwhile, a police team visited Laripali and started an inquiry into the child's background, an official said.

"The villagers were asked to inform the police if they knew anything about the child. Several villagers said they had seen a woman coming out of the jungle alone. She was not from Laripali," the official said.

The bore well was near a forest

CAF jawan killed, another injured in Naxal attack in Chhattisgarh

"Naxalites triggered an IED blast and opened firing on the patrolling team that led to an encounter between the two sides," a senior police said.

Wednesday, police said.

around 11 am in the

Aamdai Ghati iron

ore mine area under

Chhote Dongar police

station limits when the

security personnel were

out on an area domina-

tion operation, a senior

"Naxalites triggered an

police official said.

The incident occurred



NARAYANPUR, Dec 13 (Agencies): A Chhattisgarh Armed Force (CAF) jawan was killed and another one injured after Naxalites attacked a team of security personnel and triggered a blast of an improvised explosive device (IED) in the Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh on

IED blast and opened firing on the patrolling team that led to an encounter between the two sides," he said.

Constable Kamlesh Sahu, belonging to the CAF's 9th battalion, was killed in the incident, while another constable Vinay Kumar Sahu sustained minor injuries, he said.

The deceased jawan was a native of the Janjgir-Champa district of the state, he said. The injured jawan was shifted to a local hospital, he said.

The search operation by a joint team of Indo-Tibetan Border Police and District Reserve Guard is underway in the area, he added.

INTERNATIONAL

At least 45 people injured in nighttime Russian missile attack on Ukrainian capital

KYIV, Dec 13 (Agencies): Ukraine's capital came under another missile attack early Wednesday, resulting in at least 45 injuries and several damaged buildings, the city's mayor said.

8

A series of loud explosions could be heard in Kyiv at 3 a.m. as the city's air defenses were activated for the second time this week.

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Kitschko said on Telegram that debris from intercepted missiles fell in the eastern Dniprovskyi district, injuring at least 45 people. Eighteen people including two children were hospitalized while 27 people received medical treatment on the

DUBAI, Dec 13

(Agencies): Repre-

sentatives from nearly

200 countries agreed

at the COP28 climate

summit on Wednes-

day to begin reducing

global consumption of

fossil fuels to avert the

worst impacts of climate

change, a first of its kind

deal signaling the even-

The deal struck in

Dubai after two weeks

of hard-fought nego-

tiations was meant to

send a powerful signal

to investors and policy-

makers that the world is

now united in its desire

to break with fossil

fuels, something scien-

tists say is the last best

hope to stave off climate

catastrophe.

tual end of the oil age.



spot. An apartment building, a private house and several cars caught fire, while the windows of a children's hospital were shattered, Klitschko said. Falling rocket debris also damaged the water supply system in the district.

Reducing Use Of Fossil Fuels

On Monday, a Russian missile attack destroyed several homes on the outskirts of Kviv and left more than 100 households temporarily without electricity. Wednesday's attack came as Ukrainian President Volodymyr

Zelenskyy visited Washington, where he made an impassioned plea to Congress to approve additional aid to fight Russia's invasion.

As winter sets in and hampers troop movements, allowing little change along the front

line, air bombardment plays a growing role in the war. Ukrainian officials have warned that Russia will target energy infrastructure to cause power outages and blackouts like it did last winter

Cyberattacks are also a busy battleground. Ukrainian telecom provider Kyivstar, which serves more than 24 million mobile customers across the country, said its services were disrupted Tuesday by a "powerful" attack by hackers. It also disrupted the air raid warning system in part of the Kviv region, according to the head of the Kyiv regional administration, Ruslan Kravchenko.

'Israel government most conservative in history': **Biden on bombings in Gaza**

right politician Itamar

Ben-Gvir, who is Isra-

el's national security

exposing a new rift in



WASHINGTON, Dec 13 (Agencies): US President Joe Biden, taking a tougher stance on Israel amid its war with the Hamas terrorists, has said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government is the most conservative one in the

Biden's remarks, made to donors to his 2024 re-election campaign, were his most critical to date of Netanyahu's handling of Israel's war in Gaza.

"This is the most conservative government in Israel's history. This government in Israel is making it very difficult," Biden said at the fundraiser, specifically starting to lose that support by indiscriminate bombing that takes place," Biden said.

Biden said, "We have an opportunity to begin to unite the region and they still want to do it. But we have to make sure that Bibi (Netanyahu) understands that he's got to make some moves.'

On several occasions, Biden has expressed strong support for Israel's military operation against Hamas terrorists in Gaza. However, he and his team have expressed growing concern about the death of Palestinian civilians.

On Wednesday, Biden plans to meet at the White House, the family members of Americans taken hostage by Hamas during its October 7 attack in which 1,200 people were killed, a White House official said.

The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas terrorists has so far killed 18,000 Palestinians, while more than 50,000 have been left injured.

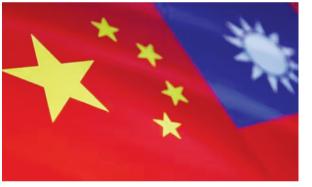
minister. Ultimately, Israel "can't say no" to a Palestinian state, which Israeli hardliners oppose, the US President remarked. Biden also said Israel was losing support over its "indiscriminate" bombing of Gaza and that Benjamin Netanyahu should change,

relations with the Israeli Prime Minister. "Israel's security can rest on the United States, but right now it has more than the United States. It has the European Union, it has Europe, it has most of mentioning Israel's farthe world ... But they're

Chinese forces came close to Taiwanese island to 'intimidate' voters: Report

TAIPEI, Dec 13 (Agencies): Taiwan's military drove away four attempts by Chinese forces to approach the island's sensitive contiguous zone last month, Taiwan security officials said, in what they see as a rampedup Chinese campaign to "intimidate" voters before key elections.

Taiwan's officials have repeatedly warned that China is trying to sway voters toward candi-



an intrusion and testing the response of our national military", said one of the officials, who requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter. Taiwan dispatched forces to drive the Chinese forces away, the source added. China's defence ministry and Taiwan Affairs Office did not respond to requests for comment. When commenting on the elections previously, the Taiwan Affairs Office has said it respects Taiwan's "social system". Chinese activities in November also included balloons that crossed the Taiwan Strait's sensitive median line for two days in a row, as well as marine research ships approaching close to its contiguous zone off Taiwan's eastern and westto wear Taiwan down with repeated drills and to "intimidate" voters. "They want to make it

the world unites around such a clear text on the need to transition away from fossil fuels," said Norway Minister of Foreign Affairs Espen Barth Eide of the agreement. "It has been the elephant in the room. At last we address it head on."

More than 100 countries had lobbied hard for strong language in the COP28 agreement to "phase out" oil, gas and coal use, but came up against powerful opposition from the Saudi Arabia-led oil producer group OPEC, which argued that the world can slash emissions without shunning specific fuels.

That battle pushed the

"It is the first time that



summit into overtime on Wednesday

Now that the deal is struck, countries are responsible for delivering on the agreements through national policies and investments. The proposed deal would specifically call for "transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner ... so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science." It also calls for a tri-

pling of renewable energy capacity globally by 2030, speeding up efforts to reduce coal, and accelerating technologies such as carbon capture and storage that can clean up hard-todecarbonize industries.

'I feel trapped': Scores of underage Rohingya girls forced into abusive marriages in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR. Dec 13 (Agencies): In a bedroom in Malaysia that has become a prison, the 14-year-old girl wipes away tears as she sits cross-legged on the concrete floor. It is here, she says, where her 35-year-old husband rapes her nearly every night. Last year, the Rohingya girl sacrificed herself to save her family, embarking on a terrifying journey from her homeland of Myanmar to a country she had never seen, to marry a man she had never met. It wasn't her choice. But her family, she says, was impoverished, hungry and terrified of Myanmar's military, which attacked the country's Rohingya Muslim minority in 2017. In desperation, a neighbour found a man in Malaysia who would pay the 18,000 ringgit (\$3,800) fee for the girl's passage and — after she married him - send money to her family for food. And so, the teenager - identified along with all the girls in this story by her first initial to protect her from retaliation — hugged her parents goodbye. Then M climbed into a trafficker's car packed with children. Deteriorating conditions in Myanmar and in neighboring Bangladesh's refugee camps are driving scores of underage Rohingya girls to Malaysia for arranged marriages with Rohing-

ya men who frequently abuse them, The Associated Press found in interviews with 12 young Rohingya brides who have arrived in Malaysia since 2022. The youngest was 13 All the girls interviewed by the AP said their controlling husbands rarely let them outside. Several said they were beaten and raped during the journey to Malaysia. and five said they were abused by their husbands. Half the girls are pregnant or have babies, despite most saying they were not prepared for mother-

lion stateless Rohingya languishing in its camps. And no country is offering large-scale resettlement opportunities.

director of the Rohingya Women Development Network, which has worked with hundreds of child brides in recent years. Malaysia is not a signatory to the United Nations' refugee convention, so the girls — most of whom are undocumented — are considered illegal immigrants. Reporting their assaults to authorities would put them at risk of being thrown into one of Malaysia's detention centers, which have long been plagued by reports of abuse.

over to another man who drove her to her

fiancé's apartment.

She didn't dare tell her

country's history. At COP28 Climate Summit, First-Ever Deal On

> hood. "This was my only way out," says 16-year-old F, who in 2017 watched as Myanmar's soldiers burned her house and killed her aunt. "I wasn't ready to be married, but I didn't have a choice."

These unwanted marriages are the latest atrocity bestowed upon Rohingya girls: from childhoods marred by violence to attacks where security forces systematically raped them to years of hunger in Bangladesh's squalid refugee camps.

Global apathy toward the Rohingya crisis and strict migration policies have left these girls with almost no options. The military that attacked the Rohingya overthrew Myanmar's government in 2021, making any return home a lifethreatening proposition. Bangladesh has refused to grant citizenship or

working rights to the mil-

And so the Rohingya are increasingly fleeing - and those who are fleeing are increasingly female. During the 2015 Andaman Sea boat crisis, in which thousands of Rohingya refugees were stranded at sea, the vast majority of passengers were men. This year, more than 60% of the Rohingya who have survived the Andaman crossing have been women and children, according to the United Nations' refugee

agency. In Bangladesh, Save the Children says child marriage is one of the agency's most reported worries among camp residents.

"We are seeing a rise in cases of child trafficking," says Shaheen Chughtai, Save the Children's Regional Advocacy and Campaigns Director for Asia. "Girls are more vulnerable to this, and often this is linked to being married off in different territories."

Accurate statistics on how many Rohingya child brides live in Malaysia don't exist. But local advocates who work with the girls say they have seen a spike in arrivals over the past two years.

"There are really a lot of Rohingyas coming in to get married," says Nasha Nik, executive

Malaysia's government did not respond to the AP's requests for comment.

M didn't even know her future husband's name when she climbed into the trafficker's car alongside several other girls headed to Malaysia for marriage.

For a week, they traveled through Myanmar and Thailand. After crossing into Malaysia, they stopped at a house. Four of the trafficker's friends arrived and each selected a girl.

The man who chose M — who looked to be around 50 - drove her to another house. When they got inside, she says, he raped her.

In the morning, he locked her in the bedroom and left her there all day with no water or food. The next night, he returned and raped her again. She was terrified he would kill her. M was then handed

fiancé she'd been raped, because then he would reject her. Her fiancé insisted they get married that day. In agony and bleeding from the rapes, M

told her husband she had her period, so he wouldn't touch her. A Rohingya women's advocate, who confirmed M's account to the AP, heard about the

situation and brought M

to the hospital for treatment. When M returned to her husband, she learned he was already married with two children. She had no power to object to the situation, or to the beatings, cruel taunts and rapes she regularly endures. She said nothing about the abuse to her parents, lest her husband stop sending them 300 ringgit (\$64) a month. She sits now in her bedroom, her thin frame cloaked in teddy bear pajamas. Dangling from the ceiling is a rope designed to hold a hammock for any babies her husband forces her to

She once dreamed of going to school and becoming a teacher or a doctor. But she has stopped thinking of her future. For now, she just tries to survive her present.

home, but I can't," she says. "I feel trapped."

dates seeking closer ties with Beijing, whose government has framed the January 13 presidential and parliamentary elections as a choice between "peace and war" and urged Taiwanese to make the "right choice".

Taiwan has complained during the past four years of regular Chinese military incursions as Beijing increases pressure to try to force the democratically governed island to accept its sovereignty.

China has stepped up such missions before Taiwan's election as campaigning has kicked into high gear, Taiwan security officials and Taipei-based diplomats say.

China's air and naval forces staged four coordinated manoeuvres approaching Taiwan's contiguous zone, which is 24 nautical miles (44 km) off its coast, in November, according to multiple Taiwan security officials who discussed the matter with reporters and an internal Taiwanese memo summing up

the Chinese activities. The Chinese military moves were part of a "multi-front campaign of voting interference," the memo wrote, saying that it also included exchange activities with Taiwan politicians and spreading misinformation to sway public opinion.

The contiguous zone drills were "simulating ern shores, the officials said. In November, a Chinese commercial tugboat entered Taiwan's southern territorial waters, which are defined as 12 nautical miles from its coast, according to the sourc-

"Through these military and non-military forces, they were making a statement that they can do something to Taiwan anytime while keeping the tensions up," the official said. "It is evident psychological warfare. They are spreading the message of 'peace and war' every day.' A second Taiwan offi-

cial described the Chinese manoeuvres as part of Beijing's escalating campaign of "grey zone" warfare seeking

look like their prophecy might come true," the person said, pointing to the narrative that if the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) stays in power, a war with China is likely.

Vice President Lai Ching-te and running mate Hsiao Bi-khim from the DPP are leading in the polls. China views them as separatists and has rebuffed Lai's offers of talks.

In a ratcheting up of tensions about a month before the elections, Taiwan's defence ministry said 12 Chinese fighter jets and a suspected weather balloon last week crossed the median line.

Taiwan on Monday sent forces to watch a Chinese naval formation, led by the aircraft carrier Shandong, sailing through the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan's government is on high alert for what they see as China's attempts to interfere in the elections by illicitly funding Beijing-friendly candidates using communications apps, group tours or misinformation campaigns, internal security reports reviewed by Reuters show.

Beijing has also sponsored cut-price trips to China for hundreds of local Taiwanese politicians ahead of the elections, Reuters has reported, citing sources and documents.

bear.

"I want to go back

LOCAL/CONTD....

India can become hub for global financial services market: Pradhan

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: AICTE, (under the aegis of the Ministry of Higher Education) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), (under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship), the principal architect of the skill ecosystem in the country forged partnerships today with Bajaj Finserv Ltd., one of India's leading and most diversified financial services groups, to prepare young graduates for employment opportunities in the financial services sector.

Two MoUs were exchanged today between NSDC and Bajaj Finserv, and AICTE and Bajaj Finserv in the presence of Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entre-



preneurship; Prof. Rajive Kumar, Member Secretary, AICTE; Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, NSDC and MD, NSDC International and Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman & MD of Bajaj Finserv.

attended by Kurush Irani, and Pallavi Gandhalikar, Bajaj Finserv. ny, Dharmendra Pradhan,

Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, said, he is glad to witness the signing of MoUs of NSDC and AICTE with Bajaj Finserv to prepare

The ceremony was also President Group - CSR National Head - CSR of Speaking at the ceremo-

young graduates for employment opportunities in the financial services

sector and the launch of a Certificate Program in Banking, Finance, and Insurance The partnerships forged

today will build competen-

cies at scale in the financial sector and empower our youth to participate in the transformation happening in the financial and digital space

The Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat, the Voice of Youth program launched yesterday elicits the ideas of youth for a developed India, the role of skill development, and the financial sector in the making of a developed India. As PM has said, we are living in a world in which just having a degree is not enough and under his leadership, we are building a superhighway of knowledge and competencies. Our youth will play a key role in making of a Viksit Bharat driven by knowledge, competencies, skills, and the right attitude. Prof. T.G. Sitharam,

AICTE Chairman, expressed, the signing of MoU with Bajaj Finserv will further usher to new collaboration in education and industry-academia linkages. It will strengthen AICTE 's vision to bridge a gap between Industry and Academia. This partnership will roll out immense opportunities of education, internships and job trainings for students in finance, banking and insurance sector. Under the partnership, Bajaj Finserv will take forward skilling initiatives to build the capabilities of 20,000 candidates

through its Certificate Program in Banking, Finance & Insurance (CPBFI), a 100-hour programme developed in collaboration with industry experts, training partners, educational institutions and psychological health institutes.

DIG DKR Range visits Reasi, conducts formal inspection

Top News Report

REASI, Dec 13: DIG of Police DKR Range Dr. Sunil Gupta, on Wednesday visited Reasi and conducted the Formal Inspection for the year 2021-22 of district Reasi. DIG of Police was received at DPO Reasi by SSP Reasi Amit Gupta and other officers where he conducted the inspection of records of various branches and was briefed about working of different units of DPO by concerned Incharge.

DIG visited District Police Lines Reasi where he was presented by the Guard of

During inspection,

CII Calls on Commissioner of State Taxes Department, J&K

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: Ravnish Gulati, Past Chairman, CII J&K UT Council, and the mem-63 Claims due to nonbers of CII J&K UT functionality of the site Council met Dr Rashmi and cases of expired Singh, Commissioner of e-way bills. State Taxes Department Singh Assured that and Namrita Dogra, Addl. Commissioner of

DIG inspected different units in DPL including Kot, Stores, Barracks, Mess, Welfare Centre etc. The officer also inspected MT fleet of District Police Reasi at DPL.

The officer interacted with the officers of District Police Reasi and reviewed their working and ascertained their requirements with respect to manpower, equipments and mobility.

The officers who were also present during the inspection includes Master Popsy ASP Reasi, Neeraj Padyar DySP Hgrs. Reasi and Ajaz Ahmed DySP DAR Reasi.

ment of adjournment functionality on the GST portal, expedited disposal of cases at DC appeals level, SRO

Govt Women Polytechnic conducts industrial visit at Weaver's Service Centre Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU. Dec 13: One day industrial visit at Weaver's Service Centre, Jammu was organised by Govt. Polytechnic for Women Jammu for the students of Textile Designing Department under the Supervision of Er. Suket Gupta, Principal, Govt. Polytechnic for women, Jammu.

Kamal Kumar (HOD, Textile Designing) accompanied students of Textile Designing Department on this Visit. Joginder Mangol, Assistant Director, Handicrafts/ Handlooms were also present and encourage the students to take maximum benefits of their Visit. Students interacted with Mohammad Altaf Mir

(Senior Weaver) and learned about weaving of various designs of Shawl besides practical mechanisms of different parts of loom.

Students also visited Jammu Handicrafts Emporium and get insights about the various designs/ motifs of Shawls and Suits which were show cased at the showroom

HDFC Bank and Indian Dental Association signs a MoU to boost oral healthcare infrastructure in the country

officials from HDFC

According to a report

by World Health Organ-

isation (WHO), there are

two dentists per 10,000

population in India. This

partnership was the

Nilesh Samant, former

Zonal Head, HDFC Bank

and his efforts were

instrumental in bringing

the three organisations

together on a common

platform. This uniquely

curated initiative will

further aim at enhanc-

ing the oral healthcare

infrastructure and boost-

ing healthcare finance

in the country. This is

in line with the National

Oral Health Policy of the

Ministry of Health and

brainchild of Late

Bank and IDA.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank and Indian Dental Association (IDA) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to offer seamless and hasslefree funding to freshly graduated dentists for setting up their dental practices. This will help to boost the oral healthcare infrastructure in the country.

The loans extended under this initiative will be guaranteed by Credit **Guarantee Fund Trust** for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), a joint initiative by the Ministry of Micro, Small

India and Small Indus-

tries Development Bank

The MoU was signed

of India (SIDBI).

emony, Gayatri Rao Korde – Zonal Head & Senior Vice President, HDFC Bank said, "We are happy to join hands with IDA and CGTMSE in what we believe can be a transformative collaboration. A nation of our size needs more dentists and easier access to oral healthcare infrastructure. Through this initiative we are helping to bridge the gap by encouraging dental practitioners especially fresh graduates to set up clinics across the country including rural locations.'

Dr Ashok Dhoble -Hon. Sec General, IDA Said, "In a profession like ours, which requires high initial capital to set up a dental clinic, this collaboration with HDFC Bank will go a long way in encouraging young dentists to start their own practice. We are delighted to collaborate with HDFC Bank and CGTMSE to help the profession grow and expand its reach across the length and breadth of our country and thus contribute to our vision of 'Optimal oral health for all'.' Sandeep Varma, CEO CGTMSE & the Chief Guest said, "We are happy to be associated with HDFC Bank and IDA and back this arrangement with a guarantee mechanism. This collaboration will fund even those dentists who are new to credit. We are also confident about the scalability of the initiative by leveraging technology and use of digital channels. This will help complete the process seamlessly and also make it accessible to a greater number of dentists resulting in creation of further opportunities in the dental and allied sectors."

Social Welfare Deptt organizes seminar on BBBP at Guridraman



Top News Report

ANANTNAG, Dec 13: Under the banner of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) campaign, Social Welfare Department in collaboration with district hub for empowerment of women Anantnag organised an awareness camp cum seminar at Govt. Hr.Sec.School Guridraman Larnoo in Anantnag here on Wednesday.

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao is a campaign of the Government of

Muzaffar Ahmad Malik, District social welfare

work.

tion, sports, etc.

officer Anantnag on the occasion said that females compete with, and are ahead of their male counterparts in various fields of educa-While highlighting the

aim of organizing such camps launched in 2016 as Beti Bachao Beti Padao Campaign He also said that females should be made aware about various Central/ state sponsored social

ers shared their views on the occasion with all of them emphasizing on spreading awareness regarding the importance of education for

change in the society. Various other speak-Honour. females and taking

India aimed to generate awareness and improve the efficiency of welfare services intended for girls in India.

Speaking on the occasion, Career Counselling Officer District Employment and Counselling centre Shazia Qureshi said that every step must be taken to encourage the girl child. She said that the recent results of 10th and 12th class are evidence that girls are capable and can outshine boys when given the right encouragement.

She said that the Social welfare department has been instrumental in spreading awareness among the masses and urged them to continue the good welfare and financial assistance schemes and avail their benefits. He stressed on eradicating all types of crime against women to empower them.

He highlighted various issues regarding women and assured that far reaching initiatives have been taken to reduce the gap between male and female sex ratio. He said true empowerment not only means education and economic empowerment but also the fact that women are able to move fearlessly. He said the various social rituals that impose unnecessary burden on parents of the girl child must be discarded by the society as a whole and the department is committed to spread

awareness and drive

added that sustained efforts are necessary to drive social change.

steps to encourage girls

Speakers on the occa-

sion shed light on the

issues that the girl child

is facing and the social

discrimination, though

much less than before

but still witnessed in

some guarters and

in various spheres.

At the conclusion of the programme Chief Guest felicitated the girl students and distributed Napkin machine for Hr.Sec.School Guridraman, baby kits for new born girls and educational kits for meritorious girls.

The programme was attended by Tehsildar,Larnoo Syed Muiz Qadr, Assistant professor Kashmir University Dr. Maliha, District programme officer, Youth Services & Sports, Women Development Corporation, KVIB. PRIs, ICDS officials, Anganwadi workers, students of various institutes, Media persons besides a large number of participants.

State Taxes was also present in the meeting here on Wednesday. Gulati raised issues concerning the opening of One Time Window for Sending E- Invoices to Invoice Registration Portal (IRP) for Generation of Invoice Registration Number (IRN) and on Issues related to mass show cause notices on Goods and service tax issued for the Financial Year 2017-18 & 2018-19 in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Gulati also expressed his concern regarding the late processing of GST refunds, develop-

all the issues would be considered on a merit basis and assured CII that many issues are on the verge of closure and that the department will soon provide relief to industries facing problems in different segments of GST. Dr Rashmi Singh also assured that the department looked forward to healthy ties between the business community as they have to play a significant role in the region's development and added that she would pass on required instructions so

holders is made.

by Gayatri Rao Korde - Zonal Head & Senior Vice President, HDFC Bank along with Sumit Yagnick – Senior Vice President, Business loans, HDFC Bank and Dr. Ashok Dhoble - Hon. Secretary General, IDA in the presence of the Chief Guest Sandeep Varma - CEO, CGTMSE, Rajeev Kumar, Executive Vice President – HDFC Bank. Faisal Sara, Executive Vice President – HDFC Bank, Raghavendraswamy Mynampati that speedy resolution Zonal Head, HDFC of grievances of Indus-Bank, Dr. Kashmira trialists and other stake-Hadkar - Project Head,

Family Welfare, Govern-& Medium Enterprises ment of India. (MSME), Government of

IDA has over 75,000 registered dentists and close to 25,000 new dentists graduate every year. With this MoU, HDFC Bank and IDA along with CGTMSE will work together to facilitate easy access to finance to empower freshly graduated dentists to set up their dental practice. Eligible dentists can avail a loan amount up to Rs 10 lakhs with a repayment tenure of 1-5 years. Under this scheme, dentists will have the benefit of the finance being made available basis minimum documentation and without any collateral/security and previous

financial track record.

Speaking at the cer-

Mohan Yadav sworn in as **Chief Minister of Madhva Pradesh**

president J P Nadda and Yadav's predecessor Shivraj Singh Chouhan were present at the event.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Union ministers Jyotiraditya Scindia were also present on the occasion.

LG Manoj Sinha releases Jammu Yatri Bhawan **Trust's Panchang 2024**

The Lt Governor assured the members of the Trust that the matter would be taken up with the concerned authorities for appropriate action.

Kashmir continues to reel under sub-zero temperatures, Srinagar experiences coldest night

They said last night was the coldest night of the season so far in Srinagar - the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir – lower than the previous low of minus 4.8 degrees Celsius recorded on Sunday night. Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degrees Celsius, while Gul-

FROM PAGE 1

marg in Baramulla district recorded a low of minus 5.5 degrees Celsius, they said. Qazigund recorded a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius, Kokernag town minus 2.1 degrees Celsius and Kupwara minus 3.7 degrees Celsius.

The meteorological office said the weather would remain mainly dry till December 15 but mild precipitation is expected over the weekend.

Police seize Kashmir **Willow clefts worth Rs** 50 lakhs. one held

STR Kashmir willow clefts, reports suggest.

The vehicle along with the confiscated material was handed over to the Forest Department for further verification.

Kashmir is beautiful and fantastic. please come: **John Abraham after** wrapping 'Vedaa' shoot

IDA and other senior

Advani.

The movie, which will feature highoctane sequences and gripping action, is produced by Zee Studios, Advani's Emmay Entertainment and Abraham's JA Entertainment.

Article 370 SC verdict: Leh, Kargil differ in responses

stated the judgment raised hope that the Central Government would reassess

the situation and give Ladakh its due by elevating it as a full-fledged state. "Its large area, highly patriotic population waiting for due recognition, need for faster development, strategic location, distinct ethnic and cultural identity eminently entitles Ladakh to be made a state. The Leh Apex Body has always opposed Article 370 and expressed satisfaction that the SC's judgment has confirmed the wisdom and maturity of its approach," it stated.

On the other hand, Sajjad Kargili, a member of the KDA, said the decision of the SC was disappointing. "It is even more disappointing that there is nothing for Ladakh beyond one-line judgment which deprives Ladakhis of an elected representation," he said. Terming the move as a challenge to the federal structure of the country, Kargili said that the precedence has been set by Central Government to bifurcate any state without the consideration of legislative assembly.

BUSINESS / HEALTH

Sensex, Nifty end marginally higher amid cautious trade; IT stocks hit

The S&P BSE Sensex rose 33.57 points to 69,584.60 at the closing bell, while the NSE *Nifty 50 gained 19.95 points to 20,926.35.*

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (Agencies): Benchmark stock market indices ended the trading session marginally higher on Wednesday amid weakness in information technology (IT) stocks.

10

The S&P BSE Sensex rose 33.57 points to 69,584.60 at the closing bell, while the NSE Nifty 50 gained 19.95 points to 20,926.35. Broader market indices performed better than the benchmark indices, registering gains across the board.

Nifty Auto, Nifty Pharma and Nifty Realty were the top gainers, all gaining above 1 per cent. However, Nifty IT fell 1.28 per cent and was the top loser among sectoral indices.

The top five gainers on the Nifty 50 were NTPC, Adani Ports, Hero MotoCorp, Power



Grid and Eicher Motors. On the other hand, the top losers were TCS, Infosys, HDFC Life, Axis Bank and Ultratech Cement. Rising retail inflation and reduced optimism over US Federal Reserve's policy decision has impacted Dalal Street's winning run as IT stocks fell sharply. Aditya Gaggar, Director of Progressive Shares, said, "Bulls have shown their presence with a sharp recovery from the lower levels to end the session at 20,926.35 with a gain of 19.95 points.'

"The power stocks were the outperformers of the day and almost all of them showed notable growth. With gains of over 1 per cent, realty, pharma and auto sectors also performed well while beating in the frontline tech stocks dragged the sector lower," he noted.

"A strong recuperation was seen in the broader markets as well with Mid and Smallcaps ending the session with gains of 0.88 per cent and 0.87 per cent, respectively and outperforming the benchmark Index," Gagger added.

Gaggar went on to say that the Nifty50 has formed a Dragonfly DOJI candlestick pattern on its daily chart, featuring a prominent lower shadow. He added that this pattern signals a potential trend reversal.

"Now the new range for the Index is 20,780-21,020," Gaggar said.

Mercedes-Benz India to hike prices from January 1

NEW DELHI. Dec 13 (Agencies): German luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz on Wednesday said it will hike prices of select models in India by up to 2 per cent from January 1 next year to partially offset rising input, commodity, and logistics costs.

The price hike will range from Rs 60,000 for the C-Class to Rs 2.6 lakh for a GLS SUV and up to Rs 3.4 lakh for the top-end imported Mercedes-Maybach S 680

"High-cost pressures driven primarily by rising input. commodity, and logistics costs, combined with inflationary pressures have been exerting cost pressure on our overall operations."

the price positioning,"

Mercedes-Benz India

Managing Director and

CEO Santosh Iyer said

He further said, "While

we continue to absorb

the majority of this

increase, a small por-

tion must be passed on

to the market to offset

in a statement.

mal impact". Mercedes-Benz India "As we rein in higher sells a range of luxury vehicles starting from efficiencies to offset these rising costs, a the A-Class sedan to SUV G63 AMG priced slight price adjustment between Rs 46 lakh to for select models is Rs 3.4 crore. necessitated to sustain Most of the passenger our profitable business operations and retain

vehicle makers Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai Motor India, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Honda, Volkswagen, Škoda Auto,, Audi and BMW, have announced plans to increase the prices of their vehicles in January to offset the adverse impact of rising input and material costs.

these cost increases.

Our tailored financing

solutions from Mer-

cedes-Benz Financial

Services will, however,

ensure an optimum cost

of ownership for cus-

tomers, having a mini-

India's industrial production rises to 16-month high of 11.7%

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (Agencies): India's industrial production in October rose to 16-month high of 11.7%, marking a recovery from last year's contraction of 4.1%, according to the data released by Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MOSPI).

In September, output had grown 5.8%. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which measures factory output, stood at 144.7 for October 2023 based on Quick Estimates of IIP using 2011-12 index. Data from the National Statistical Office (NSO) revealed that the manufacturing sector's output growth recorded in the

grew by 10.4% in October 2023, a significant improvement from the contraction of 5.8% in the same month last year. In September, manufacturing output had grown by 4.5%.

The mining sector exhibited notable growth, with output rising 13.1% in October, surpassing the 2.6%



In September, mining output had grown by 11.5% Additionally, the electricity sector experi-

enced a substantial growth, with a 20.4% jump in October as against a modest 1.2% growth in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Nov retail inflation rises to 5.6% on high food prices

Pulses prices up 20.23%, vegetables get costlier by 17.7%, fruit prices rise about 11%

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (Agencies): The retail inflation or consumer price-based inflation (CPI) in November surged to 5.6% from 4.9% in October on account of high food prices, especially vegetable and pulses prices. Pulses prices surged to 20.23%, vegetables inflation reached 17.7%, and fruit prices rose by about 11% year-on-year during November.

Cereals inflation remained stubborn at 10.3% in November as against 10.7% in October, while meat and fish inflation fell to 2.15% from 3.3% in previous month. Milk inflation dropped to 5.75%, and egg prices grew 5.9%. Sugar and confectionary prices accelerated to 6.55%, while spices inflation slightly eased to 21.6%. Edible oil prices recorded a drop of 15%



year-on-year in November. As per the data released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the consumer food price inflation (CFPI) rose to 8.7% in November as against 6.6% in the previous month and 4.6% in November last year.

The latest surge in inflation justifies the RBI's cautious

stance towards inflation. After the recently concluded monetary policy meet, RBI governor Shaktikanta Das had warned that intermittent vegetable price shocks could once again push up headline inflation in November and December Meanwhile, non-food prices rose at a slower pace, including clothing and footwear, education, healthcare,

household goods and services, and housing. Fuel and light prices were below last year's levels, while transport and communication prices increased slightly.

The core inflation (non-food, non-oil inflation), however, moderated to 4.1% in November compared to 4.3% in October. Dharmakirti Joshi, Chief Economist, CRISIL on the CPI and IIP data released today CPI Inflation said "The moderation in core inflation reflects lower input cost pressures on producers, which has reduced the need to raise retail prices."

"December CPI inflation estimate is tracking at 6.2% to 6.4%, as base-effect turns adverse,' says Gaura Sen Gupta, economist at IDFC First Bank.

What happens to teeth as you age? And how can you extend the life of your smile?

BRISBANE, Dec 13 (Agencies): A healthy smile helps us live long, well and happy lives. But just like our bodies,

teeth become brittle, and prone to fracture as dentine loses its spring. This is more common in teeth with existing crack teeth from cracking or breaking. 2. Share the load If you are missing molars or premolars,

sion and high blood pressure. Speak to your doctor

about other medication

Smoking likely leads to permanent brain shrinkage: Study between the history

NEW YORK, Dec 13 (Agencies): Smoking does not only affect your heart and lungs, but it can also shrink vour brain permanently. and the damage done is irreversible, according to a new study. Although quitting smoking can prevent further loss of brain tissue, stopping smoking will not restore the brain to its original size, revealed the findings, published in the journal **Biological Psychiatry:** Global Open Science. The study also explains why smokers are at high risk of agerelated cognitive decline and Alzheimer's disease. Since people's brains naturally lose volume with age, smoking effectively causes the brain

to age prematurely, said researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

of smoking and brain volume; genetic risk for smoking and history of smoking; and genetic risk for smoking and brain volume. Further, the association between smoking and brain volume depended on dose: The more packs a person smoked per day, the smaller his or her brain volume. Using a statistical approach known as mediation analysis, the researchers determined the sequence of events: genetic predisposition leads to smoking, which leads to decreased brain volume. "It sounds bad, and it is bad," Bierut said. "A reduction in brain

volume is consistent

with increased ageing.

This is important as our population gets older because ageing and smoking are both risk factors for dementia.

And unfortunately, the

our teeth succumb to age-related changes.

So what happens to teeth as you age? And what can you do to ensure your smile lasts the distance?

First, what are teeth made of?

The tooth crown is covered by a hard enamel coat that surrounds softer, brown dentine, which protects a centrally located pulp.

Enamel is a complex weave of brittle, honeycomb-clustered strands that interact with light to make teeth appear opalescent (a pearly, milky iridescence).

Dentine under enamel forms most of the tooth crown and root, and is made of collagen, mineral, water and proteins. Collagen strands are woven to stretch and spring back, to prevent teeth from cracking and breaking when we grind and chew.

The pulp has blood vessels and nerves that communicate with the rest of your body. Enmeshed in the den-

tine mineral and collagen are small, interconnected tubules formed by specialised cells called odontoblasts that settle around the pulp, once our teeth completely form.

Each tooth contains a finite number of odontoblasts, unlike the constantly replenished special bone cells that renew

How do our teeth change as we age? Unable to renew, our

lines, large fillings or root canal treatments. With time, the outer

surface of enamel thins to reveal the relatively opaque dentine that darkens as we age.

The dentine darkens because the collagen weave stiffens and shrinks, and the fluid in the tubules fills with mineral.

The odontoblasts continue to form dentine inside the tooth to reduce the translucent pulp space. The increase in dentine makes our teeth appear opaque and insulates from hot and cold sensations. This is why X-rays are useful to detect cavities we may not feel. Food and drink particles fill micro-gaps and age-related fine crack lines that run up and down enamel to discolour and stain. These stains are easily managed by tooth whitening. How else can you

extend the life of your teeth and brighten your smile? Here are seven tips to avoid dental decline:

1. Avoid unnecessary forces Avoid using your teeth

to hold things such as working tools or to open packaging.

Take measures to avoid forces such as grinding or clenching by wearing a night guard. If you have large fillings or root canal-treated teeth, speak to your dentist about specific filling materials or crowns that can protect your distribute chewing forces evenly to prevent overloading your

> remaining teeth. Replace missing teeth with bridges, implants or well-fitted dentures to support your bite. Get your dentures checked regularly to ensure they fit and support adequately, and replace them at least every ten years.

3. Preserve your enamel

Reduce further enamel and dentine loss by selecting soft-bristled tooth brushes and nonabrasive toothpastes. Certain whitening

toothpastes can be abrasive, which can roughen and wear the tooth surfaces. If you are unsure, stick with toothpastes that are labelled "sensitive"

Reduce your exposure to acid in food (think lemons or apple cider vinegar) or illness (reflux or vomiting) where possible to maintain enamel and prevent erosion.

4. Enhance your saliva Saliva protects against acid attacks, flushes our teeth, and has anti-

bacterial properties to reduce erosion and decay (holes forming). Saliva is also important

to help us chew, swallow and speak. But our saliva quality and quantity reduces

because of age-related changes to our salivary glands as well as certain medications prescribed to manage chronic illnesses such as depresoptions to improve your saliva or manage reflux disease to prevent erosion.

5. Treat gum disease Aesthetically, treating gum disease (periodontitis) reduces gum shrinkage (recession) that typically exposes the relatively darker tooth roots that are more prone to developing holes.

6. Manage and prevent senescence

Cellular senescence is the process that changes DNA in our cells to reduce our ability to withstand physical, chemical or biological damage.

Cellular senescence enhances new cancer formation, the spread of existing cancers and the onset of chronic illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and heart disease.

You can prevent cell damage by managing lifestyle factors such as smoking, uncontrolled diabetes and chronic infections such as gum disease

7. Adapt and ask for help

Ageing can affect our cognition, hand dexterity and eyesight to prevent us from cleaning our teeth and gums as effectively as we once could.

If this describes you, talk to your dental care team. They can help clean your teeth, and recommend products and tools to fit your situation and abilities.

"Up until recently, scientists have overlooked the effects of smoking on the brain, in part because we were focused on all the terrible effects of smoking on the lungs and the heart," said Laura J. Bierut, Professor of Psychiatry at the varsity. "But as we've started looking at the brain more closely, it's become apparent that

smoking is also really bad for your brain." For the study, the team analysed de-identified data on brain volume, smoking history and genetic risk for smoking

They found a link

for 32,094 people.

shrinkage seems to be irreversible. By analysing data on people who had quit smoking years before, the researchers found that their brains remained permanently smaller than those of people who had never smoked. "You can't undo the

damage that has already been done, but you can avoid causing further damage," Chang said. "Smoking is a modifiable risk factor. There's one thing you can change to stop ageing your brain and putting yourself at increased risk of dementia, and that's to quit smoking."

Arthritis pain in winter: Five ways to get rid of it

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (Agencies): In the winter months, people with arthritis often face increased discomfort due to the cold weather that exacerbates their symptoms. Arthritis is a disease that includes pain, swelling and stiffness in the joints.

Arthritis is of two types. The first relates to inflammation like rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, and lupus, which are degenerative.

The second type is osteoarthritis, which is a common type of arthritis, affecting millions of people across the world.

As the temperature gets low, this condition intensifies with increased pain and stiffness and needs to be managed.

Speaking to IndiaToday.In earlier, Dr Naval Mendiratta, a rheumatologist at Fortis Memorial Research

Institute, Gurugram, said that people often have morning sickness because their hands don't work immediately after waking up. Here are some ways to manage

arthritis pain in winter: Stay warm: Staying warm is crucial. Dressing in layers with hats, gloves, and scarves can provide much-needed warmth. Using electric heating pads or blankets indoors can keep the body cosy, especially during rest periods. Soaking in a hot bath can also relieve stiff joints.

Exercise: Physical activity should not be neglected. Regular exercise maintains flexibility and supports heart health, which is beneficial for managing arthritis. Indoor workouts can raise body temperature, helping to alleviate joint inflammation and pain.

Hydration: Proper hydration is

essential as it aids in producing synovial fluid, a natural lubricant that prevents bones from rubbing together. Carrying a reusable water bottle ensures that one stays hydrated throughout the day.

No painkillers: Although overthe-counter medications like acetaminophen or ibuprofen can offer relief, consulting with a healthcare provider for personalised advice is advisable. Additionally, maintaining a healthy diet with anti-inflammatory foods can support overall well-being.

No Ayurvedic practices: Dr Mendirratta had also suggested not indulging in any Ayurvedic solutions for joint pain.

Self-management education workshops and physical therapy are also valuable resources for learning how to manage arthritis pain effectively.

SPORTS

Still standing: India overcome two-goal deficit to beat Netherlands and enter semis | Germany next

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 13 (Agencies): India produced a spectacular display of grit and character to advance to the semifinals with a thrilling 4-3 win over Netherlands in the hockey men's Junior World Cup. Trailing 0-2 at halftime and 2-3 in the third quarter, India exhibited immense resilience to beat the Dutch in the quarterfinal and set up a last-four clash against Germany.

Netherlands set the ball rolling early in the first quarter with a penalty corner conversion from Timo Boers (5th minute). Despite the Indian side playing a solid defence, Pepijn van der Heijden (16th) scored for Netherlands in the second quarter through another penalty corner conversion taking their lead to 2-0 at halftime.

India came back strongly in

the third guarter with a goal from Aditya Lalage (34th), who was assisted by Araijeet Singh Hundal. Two minutes later, Araijeet scored the equaliser for India with a penalty stroke. India kept the pressure on the Dutch but the European side managed yet another penalty corner that was converted by Olivier Hortensius (44th).

With less than 10 minutes remaining, the Indians raised the tempo of their game and it proved fruitful as Sourabh Kushwaha (52nd) found the back of the net off a rebound following a brilliant attack to get the score reading 3-3. Another opportunity for a penalty corner conversion was created and India made full use of it with captain Uttam Singh (57th) scoring with a deflection to put India ahead with just three minutes left.



India's victory was backed by a grand show of character to hold off pressure from the Dutch side, and the cynosure of India's defence was Rohit who was hard to breach — as he blocked away six successive penalty corners in the final quarter. Netherlands had 24 shots on target and 12 penalty corners compared to India's 14 shots and five penalty corners.

Germany oust defending champs Argentina

India will face six-time champions Germany on Thursday. Germany edged out defending champions Argentina 2-1 in a thriller to avenge their loss in last edition's final. "It was a crazy emotional game," Player of the match Matteo Poljaric said. "We kept on fighting. They had many PCs, we had incredible defence and I think we are just happy to win this really tough fight against Argentina," he added.

In the other quarterfinals, France held on in a thrilling finish to beat Australia 3-2, while Spain maintained their momentum in a 4-2 win against Pakistan.

England may get blown away in India: Michael Vaughan



LONDON, Dec 13 (Agencies): Former skipper Michael Vaughan has issued a warning to England against the lethal spin attack of the hosts. England's aggressive approach has created a lot of buzz in the cricketing world, with the team winning 13 of their last 18 red-ball games.

But Vaughan pointed out how England struggled against Australian spinner Nathan Lyon during the Ashes. "Ultimately the hardest place to play in the world is India and if you actually go back to the Ashes when Nathan Lyon was fit and bowling nicely, Australia were 2-0 up in the series," Vaughan said. "...on spinning wickets in India, they may get blown away, they may get absolutely destroyed."

Champions League: Dortmund eye PSG weakness in away games for group win

BERLIN, Dec 13 (Agencies): Borussia Dortmund have identified Pars St Germain's away form in the Champions League as one of their opponents' weaknesses ahead of their final Group F game on Wednesday that will determine the group winner, coach Edin Terzic said.

Dortmund are already through to the last-16, having booked their spot by beating AC Milan 3-1 at the San Siro late last month. A draw or a win will be enough to secure the group win and avoid some of the big teams in the next round

Dortmund are top on 10 points with PSG three behind in second place. Newcastle United, in third and fourthplaced AC Milan, who face each other, are both on five.

The French need a win to be guaranteed a place in the knockout stage while a win would also see them clinch top spot in the group. A draw or a loss



would leave them relying on a favourable result from the other group match.

"We play against PSG in front of a sold-out stadium. That is all the motivation we need to go for a win," Terzic said. "We know what qualities they have as a team but we have also seen their defensive issues in away games. If we are courageous and have a level of intensity in our game we can cause any opponent problems."

PSG lost both group matches on the road this season.

Smriti Mandhana bats for Women's World **Test Championship**

NAVI MUMBAI. Dec 13 (Agencies): India vicecaptain Smriti Mandhana welcomed the idea of organising a World Test Championship in women's cricket, but England veteran Tammy Beaumont said it would be unfair to have such a competition when only three countries are playing regularly.

In men's Test cricket, the ICC's World Test Championship began with 2019-2021 as the first two-year cycle. It is currently in its third edition. The women's game, however, does not have any such competition.

There is a huge disparity among women's



England, Australia and India have played in the longest format regularly even though there is a long gap.

"I would love to be a part of the World Test Championship but that

is for the boards and the ICC to decide," Mandhana said ahead of India's training session.

"Having watched a lot of men's Test cricket and championships, it would be really exciting to be a part of something of that sort. But as I said, that would be their (administrators') decision," she added.

ing five-Test series in

India, saying their Baz-

ball approach may get "absolutely destroyed"

India and England will face off in a one-off Test at the DY Patil Stadium here starting on Thursday. It will be after two years that the hosts will be playing a Test.

For England, the gap has been of about six months since they last played Tests, taking on Australia in the opening game of the Women's Ashes which they lost by 89 runs.

The 32-year-old Beaumont, who has featured in eight Tests since her debut 10 years ago, says it is still not the right time for a women's WTC given the existthree or four nations that are playing Test match cricket regularly and potentially (there are) only three or four governing bodies that can afford to host women's Test cricket," Beaumont said. The England batter

ing disparity in terms of

the number of matches

"I do not think it is

quite the right time,

if I am honest. At the

moment there are only

played.

said she does not expect ICC to be investing into any such tournament. "That will have to be a very big investment from the ICC, I do not think they are probably willing to put into," she said.

Recalled Andre Russell Shines As West Indies Beat England In First T20I

BRIDGETOWN, Dec 13 (Agencies): Veteran all-rounder Andre Russell made a dazzling return to international cricket to help West Indies cruise to a fourwicket victory over England in the opening Twenty20 international in Barbados on Tuesday. Handed a shock recall after a two-year absence, Russell shone with bat and ball at Kensington Oval as the home side reached the victory target with ease to finish on 172-6 from 18.1 overs. The 35-yearold Russell was the pick of the West Indies bowlers with three wickets for 19 runs off four overs as world champions England were all out for 171.

skipper Rovman Powell, who was unbeaten on 31, then produced a guick-fire 29 not out to see West Indies home



and trying to be as positive as we can.

"But it's about finding ways to keep scoring

South Africa breathe fire to win rain-hit game

GQEBERHA, Dec 13 (Agencies): South Africa shred a pedestrian looking Indian bowing attack to pieces to script a fivewicket win in the second T20I of the three-match series here today. Rinku Singh (68 not out off 39) enhanced his credentials as a finisher with a maiden half-century while skipper Suryakumar Yadav (56 off 36) played in his inimitable way to take India to 180/7 after being put in to bat.

conceded as many as 24 runs in his opening over in which Reeza Hendricks (49 off 27) smashed him out of the ground with a massive strike over mid-wicket. Spin was introduced as early as in the third over but to no avail against the rampaging batters of the home team. After Matthew Breezke (16 off 7) departed, Hendricks and Aiden Markram (30 off 17) went on a leather hunt. The Proteas were cruising but loss of three quick wickets gave India an opening. However, South Africa had too much firepower up their sleeve and eventually got home comfortably.

The first T20I in Durban was washed out. Put in to bat, India lost Yashasvi Jaiswal (0) and Shubman Gill (0) for six runs before

Suryakumar led from

the front and forged fine

partnerships with Tilak

Varma (29 off 20) and

Rain arrived at St

George's Park with three

balls left in the innings

and Gerald Coetzee on

a hat-trick. having got rid

of Ravindra Jadeja and

then Rinku

11

Russell, alongside

after a mid-innings wobble threatened to allow England back into the contest.

Russell's innings off just 14 balls included two fours and two sixes, including a monstrous six out of the ground over midwicket off Adil Rashid.

West Indies blasted 14 sixes throughout the innings, including two huge swipes from opener Kyle Mayers early on which also flew out of the ground.

Russell later slashed a sublime shot over backward point off Sam Curran for four runs to seal victory and a superb individual performance. "Life is so funny," man-

of-the-match Russell said.

"Since when I got selected for the West Indies team I've been dreaming for two weeks now -- and I was dreaming of being man of the match."

England skipper Jos Buttler was left to rue the tourists' inability to

cash in on a strong start to their innings which included a 77-run opening partnership.

"From the position we were in, we were looking for a score of 200," said Buttler, who scored 39 while fellow opener Phil Salt put on a stylish 40 off 20 balls.

"We want to keep pushing the boundaries

in that manner, getting those extra 20, 25 runs in an unfashionable way." The second game of

the series takes place in Grenada on Thursday. Brief scores: England: 171 all out in 19.3 overs (P. Salt 40. J. Buttler 39, L. Livingstone 27; A. Russell 3-19, A. Joseph 3-54). West Indies 172-6: (K. Mayers 35, S. Hope 36, R. Powell 31 not out, A. Russell 29 not out; R. Ahmed 3-39, A. Rashid 2-25). Result: West Indies

win by four wickets. Series: West Indies lead five-match series 1-0

Set a revised a target of 152 in 15 overs due to rain, South Africa rocketed to 67/1 in five overs. They eventually cantered to victory in 13.5 overs. Both Mohammad Siraj

and Arshdeep Singh were taken to the cleaners upfront. The left-arm pacer

The third and final T20I will be played in JohanArshdeep. The innings did not resume thereafter. Brief scores: India: 180/7 (Rinku 68*, Suryakumar 56; Coetzee 3/32. Shamsi 1/18): South Africa: 154/5 in 13.5 overs (Hendricks 49; Mukesh 2/34)

nesburg on Thursday.

(Revised target: 152 runs from 15 overs).

Exhausted Kyrgios says 'I don't want to play anymore'

SYDNEY, Dec 13 (Agencies): Nick Kyrgios says that "I don't want to play anymore" but will give his tennis career another one or two years, days after pulling out of his home Australian Open.

The talented but temperamental 28-year-old had knee surgery in January and then aborted plans to return at Wimbledon after tearing a ligament in his wrist.

The 2022 Wimbledon finalist has spoken previously of his struggles with his mental health and has now told the On Purpose with Jay

Shetty podcast about his fitness problems. "If it was up to me, I don't really want to play anymore, to be honest," Kyrgios said.

"But I have to almost (keep playing). I've got so much more to give, but for me, I don't want

to play anymore. "I'm exhausted, I'm tired. I have had three

surgeries now. "I always wanted to be able to have a family and not be in pain.

"When I get up, I can't walk without pain." Kyrgios, who reached a career-high 13 in the world in 2016, said he

was "heartbroken" last week when he withdrew from January's Australian Open.

His long injury absence has sparked renewed speculation about his tennis future.

"I only want to play for about another one to two years and be at the top and go out (on) my own terms," Kyrgios told the podcast, which was released this week.

"I would hate to have another surgery or anything like that. So I think I've still got the ability to have a good one to two years."

AUS vs PAK: Travis Head named vice-captain as Australia announce starting XI for 1st Test in Perth

PERTH, Dec 13 (Agencies): Opening batter Travis Head has been reappointed as Australia's vice-captain for their upcoming Test series against Pakistan as they announced their starting XI for the opening match set to be played at the Optus Stadium in Perth starting Thursday, December 14.

Head, who was the hero for Australia in this year's World Test Champions Final and the ODI World Cup Final, has been named the co-vice-captain of the team, alongside Steve Smith. However, Smith will be taking over the captaincy in Pat Cummins' absence. Head had previously played the role of the Test vice-captain when Tim Paine was the skipper.

The Australians did not make many changes to their side for the opening Test against Pakistan. The experienced Nathan Lyon made a return to the starting XI, replacing the young and upcoming Todd Murphy.

David Warner, who announced that he'd be playing his final Test series, will open the batting alongside Usman Khawaja. Marnus



Labuschange will come in at number three, with Smith at four. Head, Mitchell Marsh and Alex Carey will complete Australia's batting contingent with Carey holding onto the gloves.

The trio of Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood will reunite, after leading Australia to their record-extending sixth ODI World Cup triumph last month in India. They will be joined by Lyon as the four front-line bowlers for the Aussies.

Australia will first face Pakistan in Perth, before taking them on at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on December 26 in the Boxing Day Test. The final match of the series will be played at Warner's hometown in Sydney with the famous Sydney Cricket Ground playing the host starting January 3, 2024.

Australia's starting XI for 1st Test

David Warner, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Steve Smith, Travis Head, Mitch Marsh, Alex Carey, Mitchell Starc, Pat Cummins (c), Nathan Lyon, Josh Hazlewood. Pakistan squad

Shan Masood (c), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Hasan Ali, Imam-ul-Haq, Khurram Shahzad, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Rizwan (wk), Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Noman Ali, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed (wk), Saud Shakeel and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

LOCAL

Vote BJP to see Modi as PM for third term: Munish Sharma



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: Jammu and Kashmir BJP senior leader and former General Secretary, Munish Sharma, in a statement said that every citizen in Jammu and Kashmir is treated equal in programmes and policies of the BJP government under PM Narendra Modi.

He said that the days of miseries and uncertainly for many sections of the society in J&K are over and a large population of them are living dignified lives. Munish Sharma said that the previous governments of Congress, NC and PDP had different yardsticks for dif-

some were given preferential treatment, others were discriminated. He said that the

refugees from West Pakistan, the SCs, the Valmiki Samaj, women, were deprived of genuine rights.

"Narendra Modi, after assuming the chair of the Prime Minister of India, took one decision after the other to give relief to the discriminated sections in Jammu and Kashmir," Munish Sharma said and added the decisions of the union government has brought smiles on the faces of those who genuine rights.

Munish expressed hope that the people will appreciate the decisions of the Modi government and support BJP in 2014 general elections to see Narendra Modi as PM for the third consecutive term.

'National Conference of ABVP provides vision, mission for upcoming year'

Top News Report JAMMU, Dec 13: The National Conference of ABVP is an annual program, which provides the vision and mission for the working of ABVP in the bakam"

upcoming year. "In this year National Conference about 10,000 students from across length and breadth of India and delegates from neighboring countries and 190 delegates from Jammu and Kashmir also participated in the National Conference and took part in discussion on various current social, security and educational issues," Akshi Billowria, ABVP State Secretary for J&K said in a press conference here on Wednesday. In this National Conference, Akshi said, in the inaugural session Home

Minister Amit Shah shared their insights, providing valuable guidance to the students. Shah aimed to empower student leaders, equip them with skills, and encourage their active involvement in shaping the future of the

nation, Akshi said adding that every year Yashwant Rao Yuva Puraskar announced and ABVP acknowledges the organization's tireless efforts in nurturing leadership, fostering academic excellence and advocating for the rights and holistic development of students across the nation.

This year this prestigious award, she said, is honoured to Lehari Bai Millet Queen of India, Sharadh Vivek and Dr Vaibhav Bhandari in this Journalist Rajat Sharma is mainly present and share his experience of

Akshi informed that four resolutions were passed in the conference on Firm measures to be taken for Quality Education and Vibrant Campus, Global welfare oriented Bhartiya Diplomacy, Youth must adopt a Healthy Lifestyle and Need of conscientious development for environmental Balance

In the first resolution. she said, ABVP demand that firm measures to be taken for guality education and vibrant campus, ABVP has a clear opinion that along with making education affordable, accessible and qualitative, it is also necessary to make it skilloriented and practical. Serious efforts should be made to make the courses and campus contemporary and world class by incorporating

Conference encourages vouth to explore international relations, deepen their understanding, and actively engage in global forums while upholding the spirit of "VasudhalvaKutum-In third resolution ABVP

demand that challenging lifestyle is posing various kinds of health challenges for youth.. This 69th National Conference urges the youth of the country to abstain from imbalanced routine, indiscipline diet and substance abuse and adop a balanced routine, a balanced diet to lead a stressfree life with balanced nutrition, exercise, sports, yoga, and meditation as its integral parts. By embracing a healthy lifestyle, it calls upon the youth to contribute to the development of the nation and society. In fourth resolution ABVP demand need for conscientious development for

environmental balance The 69th National Conference of the ABVP strongly advocates large-scale tree plantation, conservation of forests, plastic management, safe disposal of medical waste, encouragement of natural farming, urban forest development, and measures to reduce pollution.. Awareness campaigns should be undertaken to educate people about the potential adverse effects of the exploitation of natural resources and to instil a commitment to con-

servation In today's times, if we talk about students registering their attendance in their college campuses, ABVP will keep this in mind and will start "Parisarchalo Abhi yan"

In this National Conference Ghulam Mustafa Ali is elected as National Secretary and Muskaan Anand is elected as National Convener of Students For Sewa While Aabida War, Ritambhara Vashisht, Chahat Anand, Akhil Wazir got place in National Executive Council and Dr Parminder Singh was invited as a special invitee to the National Executive Council meeting from the Jammu Kashmir. Akshi Billowria, ABVP State secretary for J&K, said that ABVP reaffirmed its commitment to its core principles of integrity, inclusivity, and nation-building. The organization remains dedicated to advocating for the welfare and empowerment of students, continuing its efforts toward creating an environment conducive to holistic learning and development and all the

Shiv Sena advises to stop harping on Article 370, condemned Dr. Abdullah statement



National Conference

Chief. MP and former

Chief Minister of Jammu

and Kashmir Farooq

Abdullah's statement of

"go to hell" is the result

of this shock, although

he has also clarified his

statement after some

Sahni has advised

those who continue to

raise the slogan of Arti-

cle 370 to leave their

stubbornness and move

ahead. Sahni said that

Dr. Farooq Abdullah is

the most senior leader

active in the politics of

Jammu and Kashmir,

under his leadership all

the opposition parties

of Jammu and Kashmir

are raising their voice

on public issues with

time.

Top News Report JAMMU, Dec 13: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit, while reacting strongly to Dr. Farooq Abdullah's "go to hell" statement, said that Section 370 has become history but the needle of some politicians is still stuck on Section 370, which can prove to be a big hurdle in the path of opposition unity, it would be better to raise voice on public issues

Talking to media at the party state office today, state chief Manish Sahni said that the decision of the Supreme Court has dealt a blow to the parties and leaders who earn their political mileunity. We will have to move forward with the demands of full statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of the democratic process and rights of the local people.

The youth of Jammu and Kashmir is becoming a victim of drug addiction, we are reaching the top on unemployment and inflation. On this occasion, President Women Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, President Kamgar Sena Raj Singh, Secretary Rajesh Handa, Mahindra Singh, Rajinder Kumar were present.

APS Samba organizes Annual Sports Day



students of the school.

The event started with

a synchronized march

past by all the four

houses and thereafter,

students participated

in various games and

Winners of various

competitions were

awarded medals &

certificates for their

sports activities.

Top News Report

SAMBA, Dec 13: APS Samba celebrated its Annual Sports Day with great pomp & show in the school premises.

The opening ceremony was graced by Chairman APS Samba as the Chief Guest on the occasion. Many parents, students & officers of Samba Military appreciated the efforts of all participants.

He added that sports are very important alongwith academics as they help us imbibe discipline and acquire competitive spirit while accepting challenges. He also complimented the staff and wished them good luck for more such events to be con-

CUJ organizes event on 'Significance **Collaborative Research in Social Sciences'**

ferent sections. While



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: The Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu organized the second session of Shiksha Shastrarth, a distinguished platform dedicated to fostering intellectual discourse in the field of education.

On this occasion, Dr. Pawan Kumar Burman, Associate Dean of Research at Central University of Jammu (CUJ), delivered a lecture on 'Research, Publication, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)'

The event commenced with the welcome address ead of the ment Prof. Asit Mantry where he commended the historic role of the ancient Indian practice of scholarly debates and dialogues known as Shastrath in the field of intellectual pursuits and social progress and its role as an inspiration for



courses) connecting stu-

dents, scholars and the faculty members alike. During his interaction with the research scholars and faculty members, Dr. Pawan Kumar delved into various significant areas crucial for cultivating a culture of healthy research within academic circles. Some of the notable high-

lights include the emphasis

on the role of collaborative

efforts, academic auton-

omy, and integrity, inter-

disciplinary partnerships,

etc. He also stressed the

role of the innovative con-

perspective

The session was very productive and finally concluded with questionanswers focused on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Scholars engaged in a meaningful dialogue with Dr Pawan, gaining valuable insights into the nuances of IPR in the context of academic research

The event included the gracious presence of the Dean of Students Welfare. Prof. Ritu Bakshi, and faculty members Prof. J. N. Baliya, Dr. Aman, Dr. Ravi Vanguri, Dr. Mohan, Dr. Aarushi, and Dr Anil along with the research scholars. The organizational effort

his student life journey.

technological innovations.

cept of Ph.D. Sandwich Programmes, emphasizing their value in providing scholars with diverse research experiences. This approach involves periods of study at different institutions, contributing to a well-rounded and globally informed research

behind the success of the event was provided by the Co-curricular Committee of the Department consisting of Dr. Kiran, Dr. Yadram, Arvind Kumar, and Shivali Khajuria. The program concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr Yad Ram.

second resolution ABVP demand Bharat has remained resolute in its fight against terrorism on all fronts from the outset. Today, the countries which are harbouring or using terrorism are becoming isolated on the world stage ABVP's 69th National

state with positive renewed energy and work with new enthusiasm Chahat Anand NEC member, State Joint Secretary Sanak Shrivats and Arman Khajuria Jammu Mahanagar Secretary were also present in the press

conference.

students have come to their

Station graced the occasion.

The meet was declared open by the Chief Guest by releasing balloons followed by a beautiful welcome

achievements Further, Best Athlete and Student of the Year were awarded by the Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest congratu-

ducted in future. More than 1500 students took part in this mega event & it culminated with the awards ceremony followed by National Anthem.

Three-day Women's training program on fruit and vegetable processing concludes

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: A transformative threeday Women's Training Program on Fruit and Vegetable Processing, organized by the department of horticulture in collaboration with NRLM under the directions of Director Horticulture Jammu, Ram Savak, concluded on Wednesday at Panchayat Troti of block Khour.

The program witnessed an overwhelming participation of nearly 200 enthusiastic women trainees from the region which is remote area on borderline of Akhnoor zone along with Sarpanch Troti and other PRI members.

The initiative, aimed at empowering women through skill enhance-

ment in fruit and vegetable processing, received remarkable support and was graced by the presence of Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu Ashwani Sharma, alongside the esteemed SDM Khour Anil Thakur, DLSMS Sandeep Gupta, Tehsildar

Khour, Monika Sharma,

HDO Khour, Amit Saraf

HDO Akhnoor Virender Sharma and BPM Khour, Namneet Kour. Speaking on the occasion, CHO Jammu highlighted that the program was meticulously crafted to equip participants with essential skills and knowledge in processing fruits and vegetables to a value added products, fostering

entrepreneurship opportunities, and promoting self-reliance among the participants. Throughout the three days, attendees engaged in handson sessions, interactive workshops, and insightful lectures delivered by the experts.

Expressing satisfaction over the enthusiastic participation and the

impact of the program SDM Khour highlighted the importance of such initiatives in enabling women to become selfreliant and contributing members of society. Tehsildar Khour also commended the dedication of the participants and reiterated the department's commitment to supporting such empowering endeavors in the future and emphasized the importance of skill development initiatives in empowering

women Later in the program, the Sarpanch Panchayat Troti highlighted that the successful conclusion of the program marks a significant step towards empowering women through skill development and fostering entrepreneurship in the domain of fruit and vegetable processing.



were patiently addressed

Post their visit, Dr. Riya

Bhowmik and Jeyoti

Kaul interacted with the

students and received a

briefing about the aca-

demic and overall envi-

Later, Dr. Karan Nath-

wani conducted an inter-

active session with the

students, discussing

the role of Artificial Intel-

ligence and Machine

Learning in our daily lives.

The final session before

their departure was

hosted by Dr. Badri N

Following this event, the

Outreach team, compris-

ing Prof. Rakesh Singhai,

Dr. Riya Bhowmik, and

Subudhi.

ronment of the institute.

by the staff

lated the winners and



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 13: The Department of Continuing Education & Outreach at IIT Jammu, in collaboration with its Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell, welcomed 95 students from High School Dharamkot of Billawar, Kathua, UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The students engaged in laboratory demonstrations at the Tinkerer's Lab, Central Workshop, and Physics lab, led by respective staff members Israil and Gautam, Dr. Krishan Kumar and Aurl, and Sumit and Arjun.

During the sessions, students posed numerous questions, all of which lage of Panjgrain to felicitate five higher secondary students from local schools who successfully completed the Computer Literacy Program at IIT Jammu's Computer labs. This program was organized by the social club (Kritash) and UBA

The felicitation ceremony also acknowledged ten trainees, primarily homemakers, who completed the Skill Training Program in Screen Printing and are on the path to self-sufficiency.

The ceremony took place in the presence of Thoru Ram, Sarpanch Panjgrain, and Akash, Branch Program Manager NRLM Nagrota.

Discussions on improving livelihoods led to suggestions, and the Sarpanch promised to provide them with a new computer desktop set, including a printer, from his unspent Sarpanch fund.

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

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