TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

16

Suhana Khan didn't know that dad Shah Rukh Khan had.....



NATIONAL

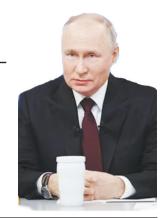
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Home minister mum in Parliament, but giving interview on TV: Kharge on security breach issue

INTERNATIONAL

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There will be no peace till targets met: Putin



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BRIEFLY

Rajya Sabha proceedings adjourned for day amid **Opposition** protest

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies):The Rajya Sabha proceedings on Friday were adjourned for the day as the Opposition parties continued with their protest demanding discussion on the security breach in Parliament. As soon as the House met at 2 PM after morning adjournments, Opposition members were up in arms again, demanding a discussion on the Wednesday security breach. Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar adjourned the proceedings for the day as his repeated request for order in the house did not yield result. The house will now reconvene on December 18. Earlier in the morning session, soon after the listed papers were laid on the table of the upper

that he had received 23 notices under Rule 267 of the Rajya Sabha procedures for suspension of the scheduled business of the day to discuss the "serious situation arising out of breach of security" in Parliament

house, the Chairman

informed the members

on December 13. The Chairman did not approve the notices, and proceeded with the Zero Hour.

At this point, the entire Opposition members erupted in protest.

Police arrests drug peddler in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Dec 15 (Agencies): Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested drug peddler in North Kashmir's Baramulla district and recovered contraband substances from his possession.

A Police spokesperson said that a police party of Police Station Pattan headed by SHO PS Pattan at a checkpoint established at Shirpora Pattan, intercepted a person who was carrying a bag on his shoulder. During search, 12 Kgs of Bhung Patri like contraband substance was recovered from his possession. He was identified as Gh Mohiuddin Ganie son of Late Ab Raheem resident of Shirpora Pattan. He has been arrested and shifted to PS Pattan where he remain in custody.

Accordingly, case under relevant sections of law have been registered at police Station Pattan & investigations have been initiated.

J&K JJM gets big boost; Centre approves new 102 **Water Supply Schemes worth Rs 476.71 cr**

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 15: As a major boost to Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in J&K, the Centre has approved new 102 Water Supply Schemes worth Rs 476.71 crore for coverage of additional 54752 rural households in the UT for which the provision for Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) had not been planned at the start of the mission.

The identification of these areas/ households was done, by the public, during various public outreach programmes like 'Back to village',



Block Divas, JJM Fortnight, Gram Sabhas and JJM awareness camps conducted by the Department, where the public had raised the demands for inclusion of these left out areas in the Jal Jeevan Mission.

With the approval of

these new 102 schemes by the Centre, it shall be ensured that no household is left without a tap connection within its premises.

The UT administration has thanked the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Union Min-

istry of Jal Shakti. for timely approval of the new schemes for coverage of additional 54752 households.

Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra, has impressed upon the engineers to expedite execution of these schemes to meet the agreed timelines for completion of the Mission. He further emphasized upon the field functionaries to maintain highest degree of transparency, accountability and accessibility to the general public for effective implementation of

the mission. **Turn to page 9**

Bhajan Lal Sharma sworn in as Rajasthan CM, Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa as Deputy CMs



JAIPUR, Dec 15 (Agencies): BJP leader Bhajan Lal Sharma was on Friday sworn in as the chief minister of Rajasthan at a ceremony held in front of the Albert Hall

here. Along with him, Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa were also sworn in as the deputy chief ministers.

Governor Kalraj Mishra

administered the oath in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP president JP Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and

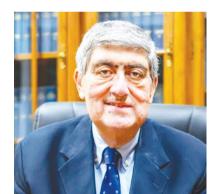
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People must have tolerance for each other's Two women cops charge-sheeted opinion: Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): People must have tolerance for each other's opinion at a time when the tolerance level has gone down internationally, Supreme Court judge Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul said on Friday.

On his last working day as an apex court judge, Justice Kaul said boldness of a judge was a very important factor and the Bar owes a duty to see that independence of judiciary was protected.

Justice Kaul, who is set to retire on December 25 after a tenure of over six years and 10 months as a judge of the top court, was part of a ceremonial bench which had assembled to bid him farewell



The Supre Court will be on winter break from December 18 and will re-open on January 2.

who was heading the ceremonial

bench, recalled his association with Justice Kaul.

"Justice Kaul and I go back to the mid 70s. We were college students together and I think it is a matter of great honour for me that we share this very dias together with each other, whether it was in Puttaswamy (right to privacy case), whether it was in the marriage equality case, recently in the Article 370 case ...," Justice Chandrachud said.

The CJI said his friendship with Justice Kaul was a source of "enormous strength" for him.

Justice Kaul said the Supreme Court has administered justice Turn tó page 9

for Rs 1.88 Cr Chit Fund fraud

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced 382 page charge-sheet against two accused Women Police S.G constables W/SgCt. Nirmal Kour Saini 15th Bn, wife of Mohinder Singh, resident of Kol Kalan Bishnah, Jammu and W/ SgCt Arti Sharma 4th Security, wife of Sunil Sharma, resident of Village Ghara Sotra Hiranagar in case FIR No. 23/2014 under Sections 420, 406, 120-B RPC P/S EOW, Crime Branch, Jammu in the Court of law for judicial determination for hatching criminal conspiracy and cheating the complainant along with other co-employees of IRP 15th Battalion of Rs 1,87,64,000 after luring them on the pretext of hefty returns for investing money and gold with them.

CBJ official said that the case is origin from an enquiry report forwarded by Commandant IRP 15th Bn. Jammu through IGP Armed/IRP. Jammu Zone, Jammu to Crime Branch, Jammu, which revealed that written complaints came to be filed by Women Constables of IRP 15th Battalion to the effect that accused W/SgCt.Nirmal Kour of IRP 15th Battalion had taken an amount of Rs. 1.00 Lakh each from them fraudulently on the pretext that she would repay an interest of Rs. 5000 per month Turn to page 9

Parliament Security Breach | 2 more detained, 6 teams of special cell constituted to lead investigation

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): The Special Cell of Delhi Police. conducting an investigation into the Parliament security breach case, has detained two more people following their suspected association with five arrested in the case.

The detained persons are identified as Mahesh and Kailash, both residents of Rajasthan and have an alleged association with a social media group called 'Justice for Azad Bhagat Singh'. During the interroga-

tion of the Counter Intelligence Unit of the Special Cell, it came to light that Mahesh was also going to be part of the attack team but for some reason he was stopped by his family members.

Apart from that, Mahesh has also helped Lalit Jha, the fifth accused and mastermind, burn the mobile phones of his associates after he reached Rajasthan's Kuchaman from

On the other hand. last night, senior police officials, including two Deputy Commissioners of Police (DCP) and Additional Commissioners of Police, interrogated Lalit Jha, during which he narrated the whole incident to officials.

According to sources, during interrogation, it came to light that preparations for the attack were being made

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years and now even

the term of elected rep-

Police attaches properties of 2 involved in drug peddling in **Poonch**

POONCH, Dec 15 (Agencies): Police have attached property of two persons allegedly involved in drug peddling in Poonch district, an officer said on Thursday.

Police attached the property of accused Shakar Din, including a house of his in Degwar-Terwan village, for his involvement in drug ped-

dling, they said. **Turn to page 9**

Freezing cold continue to grip Kashmir Valley

SRINAGAR, Dec 15 (Agencies): Freezing cold continues to grip Kashmir even as minimum temperature slightly improved at several places on Friday.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar predicted that the weather

is likely to remain clear at most places today.

A Western Disturbance (WD) is likely to hit on December 16 and can cause light snowfall over extremely higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir. it said.

Thereafter the weather

will mainly remain dry from December 17-24 with cold conditions to continue over most places of Jammu and

Kashmir.

Shallow to moderate fog will also hunt at many places of

■Turn to page 9

AJKPC demands Panchayat elections in J&K

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 15: All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) Friday urged the government to respect the aspirations of the people of J&K and announce election dates for holding elections at the earliest.

Addressing press conference in Srinagar, President AJKPC Anil Sharma said government should respect the aspirations of the people



of Jammu and Kashmir and must set a deadline for holding elections in

resentatives of Urban "The assembly elec-Local Bodies (ULB) has

also expired and soon the tenure of elected Panchs, Sarpanchs and BDCs would be over, thus it would be injustice with the people of J&K to deprive them of their right to choose their representative," Sharma told reporters.

He said in a democratic set up there can be no alternative to electoral riahts of people thus it becomes imperative that dates for holding elections be declared

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CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

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 kind-

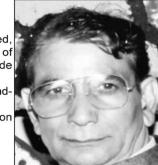
ness and warmth. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Srinagar or

Sunday, 17-12-2023.

FONDLY REMEMBERED BY Raj Dulari Kaul (Wife)

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



Makhan Lal Kaul

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Rajinder Singh Jamwal S/o Late Shri Angrez Singh Jamwal R/o 119/2 Shiv Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 15th of December 2023 (Friday) at our residence at 11:00 AM

KRIYA will be performed on 18th of December 2023 (Monday) at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Kiran Jamwal- Wife Risha Jamwal- Daughter Akhil Jamwal- Son

Brother/Bhabhi Ravinder Singh Jamwal & Neelam Jamwal

Sister's Lalita Devi Sunita Devi

Kanta Devi

Contact No: 9469552266, 9419188899, 9419694197

SH. RAJINDER SINGH

JAMWAL

FIFTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SMT CHANCHALA DEVI GUPTA (KATRA WALE) RESIDING NEAR DHUD-HADHARI MANDIR AKHNOOR WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 12-12-2023 (TUESDAY).

FIFTH DAY WILL BE PERFORMED AT KAMESH-WAR MANDIR AKHNOOR ON 16-12-2023 (SAT- SMT CHANCHALA DEVI URDAY) TIME 11.00 AM TO 12 NOON.

GRIEF STRICKEN GHAROTA PARIVAR

MOBILE NO. 9419283120, 9797579590



GUPTA (KATRA WALE)

TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Deep Raina S/o Lt. Sh. Madhov Lal Raina originally from Karan Nagar (Sgr.) presently residing at F-14 Buta Nagar Migrant Quarters Paloura Jammu on 12-12-2023 at New Delhi.

10TH DAY will be performed at Chota Haridwar (Murad Nagar) on 21-12-2023.

Grief Stricken Smt. Mohini Raina- **Mother**

Smt. Veena Raina- Wife

Ankita & Ajay Raina- Daughter-in-Law & Son Diksha & Anshul Raina- Daughter & Son-in-Law Nisha & Vijay Kumar Raina- Bhabhi & Brother

Saroj Raina- **Bhabhi**

Sarla & Moti Lal Dhar- Sister & Brother-in-Law Reeta & Chuni Lal Koul- Sister & Brother-in-Law

Mob.: 8800091264, 9582226156

SHADMOS & MASVAR

Six months have passed, since you left us for eternal journey, but your memories are still fresh, and we feel your presence everywhere. Always shower your blessings on us. We pray to almighty for eternal peace to your noble soul. Shadmos & Masvar will be performed on 17th & 18th December 2023 at our residence in Ghaziabad. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY: Mrs Champa [wife], Kanta ji & Pran Nath [Bhabi & Brother], Shyama ji Dhar[Sister], Bimla ji & Bhushan Lal [Bhabi & Brother], Reena & Sanjay Pandita [Daughter & Son-in-Law], Sunaina & Ankit [Daughter & Son-in-Law], Shalini & Sudhir [Daughter-in-Law & Son]. Samast Parivaar: 9818611686, 9910532261,



Sh. Deep Raina

Sh A.K Zutshi [Kher] [Dady Ji]

10TH DAY/KRIYA

9958664373, 6006609484, 9871755139.

It is with deep sorrow and heartfelt grief that we announce the unfortunate passing of our beloved Sh. Bansi Lal Thusoo, son of the Late Sh. Shyam Lal Thusoo. Originally hailing from Gotango, Kupwara, Kashmir, and presently residing at F-419, Phase 2, New Palam Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana, he left us on the 11th of December 2023.

The **10th-Day Kriya**, a solemn occasion to honor his memory, is scheduled to take place on the 20th of December 2023 at 9:00 am. The ceremony will be held at Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir, located in New Palam Vihar, T-block, Sector 109, Gurgaon-122017. Your presence and support during this difficult time would be deeply appreciated. **GRIEF STRICKÉN**



Bansi Lal Thusoo 1946-2023

Shmt. Ashaji Thusoo (Wife) Mr. Rajender Thusu & Mrs. Manisha Thusu +91 9999796871

Mr. Rakesh Thusu & Mrs. Seema Thusu +91 9868532919 Sh. Gawsh Lal Thusu & Shmt. Krishni Thusu +91 9871681331 Sh. Avatar Krishan Thusu & Shmt. Cecelia Thusu +91 9818569966

The Entire Thusu Family The Koul and Pandita Family

UTHALA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF SMT CHANCHAL GUPTA W/O DR. TILAK RAJ GUPTA (KATRA WALE), RESIDING NEAR DHUDHA DHARI MANDIR AKHNOOR, WHO LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON 12-12-2023.

UTHALA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON 16-12-2023 (SATURDAY) AT KAMESH-WAR MANDIR, AKHNOOR FROM 2.30 PM TO 3.30 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

SH TILAK RAJ GUPTA -HUSBAND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW & SON

MRS ANA & MR TAJESHWAR GUPTA (CHIKU) DAUGHTERS & SON-IN-LAWS

MRS NEERU PAWAR W/O LT. SH RAM PAL PAWAR

MRS MICKY MAHAJAN & DR. SAMEER MAHAJAN

ALL DARMANIA FAMILY TRIKUTA CLINIC AKHNOOR

MB. 9419122732, 9419605325

SMT CHANCHAL

SHADMOS & MASVAR

Six months have passed since you left for heavenly abode. We feel the sadness due to the void created by your passing. We hope that you are resting in a better place and that you are watching over us all time and always.

Shadmos & Masvar of our beloved Late Smt. Roopa Raina W/o Sh. Hriday Nath Raina will be performed on 15th & 16th December at our residence F-36/54 Ashok Nagar, Opposite Canal Power House, Canal Road, Jammu



Late Smt. Roopa Raina

Deeply Remembered By:-

Sh. Hriday Nath Raina (Husband) Sh. Sunil & Smt. Sunita Raina (Son and Daughter-in-Law) Nimmi & Sh. Rabinder N Kaul (Daughter and Son-in-law) Smt. Anjali & Sh. Vinay Nehru (Daughter and Son-in-law) Smt. Sunita & Late Sh. Vinod Wali (Daughter and Son-in-law) Reetika, Khushboo, Tanushree, Deepanshu, Vaibhav, Riya, Abhishek and Divya

10th Day/Kriya

With profound grief and sorrow , we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh. Om Parkash Gupta S/o Lt. Sh. Bhagat Ram R/o W. No. 1 Ramnagar who left for heavenly abode on 07-12-2023.

10th Day will be performed on 16-12-2023 (Saturday) at Brahman Sabha Ramnagar at 11:30am.

Kriya will be performed on 19-12-2023 (Tuesday) at our residence.

Grief Stricken Smt. Prabha Kumari (Wife)

Brothers and Bhabies Sh. Bodh Raj Gupta & Lt. Smt. Rani Devi Sh. Shiv Lal Gupta & Smt. Kamla Devi Lt. Sh. Ved Parkash Gupta & Smt.Reva Rani Sh. Ramesh Gupta & Smt. Geeta Devi

Sister and Brother-in-law Smt. Makhna Devi W/O Lt. Sh. Prem Nath Sons and Daughter-in -law

Sh. Rakesh Kr. Gupta & Smt. Savita Devi Sh. Rajesh Kr. Gupta & Smt. Kheema Gupta

Daughter and Son-in -law Smt. Bandana Gupta & Sh.Amit Gupta Grand Children Suvan, Krittika, Kaashvi, Vandit, Saanvi, Garvik Mob No: 7889681297, 9419335796

Sh. Om Parkash Gupta

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Professor Kailash Rajput (Retired Principal, **GCW** Gandhi Nagar) Wife of Thakur Randhir Singh Ji. She passed away on 13th December 2023.

The Uthala shall take place on Kailash Rajput Saturday, 16th December, (Retired Principal, 2023 from 4.00 - 5.00 pm at Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Jhinas, Charaks, Rathores Contact Number: 99326 42230

BARKHI

H No. 323, Shastri Nagar Jammu.

Sh B.D. Kalsi and Smt Bimla Kalsi

Sh Sudesh Kalsi and Kamlesh Kalsi

Smt Sushma and Sh Som Nath Verma

GRIEF STRICKEN:-

Smt Bimla Kalsi (Wife)

Sister & Brother-in-law

Neeraj Kalsi and Nisha

Retesh Kalsi and Madhu

Daughter & Son-in-law Sarika and Tirath Singh

Shwani and Sham Lal

Charanjeet Singh & Ranjeet Kour

Harjeet Singh & Manjeet Kour

Ravinder Kour & Gurdeep Singh

Ph. No. 9419166052

Sons & Daughters-in-law

Brothers & Bhabhis



GCW Gandhi Nagar)

Barkhi of our beloved Lt. Sh. Ajit Ram Kalsi shall be performed on 16-12-2023 Saturday at 12:00 Noon at our residence

LATE SH. AJIT RAM KALSI

(RETD ENG PDD)

BHOG & ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sdn Tej Kour** W/o Late S. Hakem Singh (Batote Wale) who left for heavenly abode on 09/12/2023. Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib ji shall take place o 16/12/2023 at 9:30 am at our residence Sector-D Extn Sainil Colony Jammu Near Foji Carwash Sainik Colony Jammu. Kirtan & Antim Ardas shall take place on 18/12/2023 Monday) from 10:30 am to 12:00 Noon at Gurudwara Singh Followed by Guru ka Langer GRIEF STRICKEN: Sons & Daughter-in-laws



Sdn Tej Kour

Gurmeet Singh (Ex Academic Officer DIET Banihal) & Parminder Kour (Govt Teacher)
Manjeet Singh & Manmeet Kour Daughters & Sons-in-Law Inderjeet Kour & Late Jagjit Singh Paramjeet Kour & Sachdev Singh

CONTACT NUMBER: 0191-2459134, 94191-95291, 94191-39268

TENTH DAY KRIYA

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

TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON SUNDAY, 17TH DEC, 2023. AT MUTHI
GHAT AT 10 A.M.

Wo Late Shri Jacan Nath Sharma

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 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. Sainik Colony, Jammu.

10TH DAY will be performed on 13/12/2023 (Wednesday) at Shiv Mandir,

Sector-G, Sainik Colony at 11:00 A.M. KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI will be performed

on 16/12/2023 (Saturday) at our residence. **GRIEF STRICKEN:** Sh. Krishan Singh Jasrotia **-Husband** (Vill. Satoora, Hiranagar)

Sh. Om Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Shivangi Jamwal (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
Sh. Rajeshwar Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Tania (Son & Daughter-in-Law) Smt. Amita Charak & Sh. Anil Charak (Daughter & Son-in-Law) Dr. Monika Bhadwal & Dr. Sandeep Singh Bhadwal (Daughter & Son-in-Law) Sh. Kuldeep Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Lalita Jasrotia (Devar & Devarani) Sh. Jagdish Singh Jasrotia & Smt. Srishta Jasrotia (Devar & Devarani)

& All the Grandchildren Ph. Nos. : 7051180470, 9086544143, 9599915153

OBITUARY

(from in-laws side)

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

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

The Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Sunday, 17th December 2023 at Narayan Ghat, Subhash Bridge, Ahmedabad

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

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA



Kailash Rajput

(Retired Principal,

GCW Gandhi

Nagar)

UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of Professor Kailash Rajput (Retired Principal, GCW Gandhi Nagar) Wife of Thakur Randhir Singh Ji. She passed away on 13th December 2023. The **Uthala** shall take place on

Saturday, 16th December, 2023 from 4.00 - 5.00 pm at Panch Mandir, Channi Himmat. TRICKEN

Jhinas, Charaks, Rathores Contact Number: 99326 42230

10TH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI-UTHALA With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sidemise of our beloved **Smt. Ratmati Devi** W Late Sh. Phool Singh R/o H.No. 798 Sec. 5, Wa

Gangyal, Jammu.

10th Day will be performed at 8 AM on 16/12/202

Kriya will be performed at 12 Noon on 16/12/202 at our residence.

Rasam Pagri/Uthala will be perfo 16/12/2023 (Saturday) at 4 PM at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Son & Daughter-in-law Mr. Ashok Kumar & Monika Kumari Daughters & Son-in-law Beera Devi, Sunita & Ram, Neeru & Raju and

Beerla Cov. All Family Members Mob.: 9419126129, 6006897461, 9682605360, 8825044703, 9796452067

Prof. Autar Krishen Ogra

10 DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Prof. Autar Krishen Ogra** S/o Late Dr. Jia Lal Ogra left for his heaver ly abode on 9th Dec 2023 at his residence Ahmedabad (103 Serendeep Mansions, N Ratna Lake, Ghuma, Ahmedabad 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 17

Dec 2023, 9 AM at Narayan Ghat, Subhas IN REVERENCE AND REMEMBRANCE Neelma Ogra - **Wife - (9824017292)** R.K. Ogra - Brother (9816092737) Vivek Ogra - Son (9824022997)

Aurobindo Ogra (S/o Late Dr. G.L.Ogra)

Wanchoo's and Kachru Parivars

Samasth Ogra Parivar Bhat's, Dhar's, Ticku's, Raina's, Bedi's, Trisal's,

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY "Kale aivayae Nanka sadhe uthae jae" Our beloved father Late. S. Sardar Singh (Reto Captain) had left for his heavenly abode about a year back on 16-12-2022. Even though, Pitaji has departed from this world, he has left his cherished

emories, guidance and enlightenment, refreshin memories, guidance and enlightenment, refreshing his presence every moment and every day within us We miss dearly our Pitaji.

On the occasion of the First Death Anniversary of ou beloved father, Akhand Path Sahib will be performed at our residence RAINA's VILLA 68/12, Guru Nanal Nagar, Jammu as per the following programme:

Arambh Shri Akhand Path Sahib at 10.30 AM or 14.12.2023.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib on 16.12.2023 at LATE. S. SARDAR SINGH (RETD CAPTAIN)

10.30 AM (RET Kirtan & Ardas from 10.30 AM to 12 30 PM Followed by Guru Ka Langar.
Sons & Daughters-in-law:
Adv Rupinder Singh & Sdn. Harpreet Kaur Reen
S. Sandeep Singh Senior Manager Brickwork Ratings
S. Sarbjeet Singh Dy. SP & Sdn Gagandeep Kaur
Daughters & Sons-in-Law:
Sdn. Simran Kaur Wo Late S. Gunwant Singh (Nepal wale)
Sdn. Juhar Kaur & S. Harbans Singh (Retd Principal)
Sdn. Jalinder Kaur & D. Joginder Singh (Retd. Senior Geologist (GSI))
Sdn. Tejinder Kaur & S. Daljit Singh (Retd. Lecturer Education Deptt)
7006464842, 9419140291, 9419132273, 9419149073

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Hospital Administrators' role critical as coordinators of medical management: Dr Jitendra

Top News Report

JAMMU / NEW DELHI, Dec 15: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also a Professor of Medicine and a renowned Daibetologist, said here that the role of Hospital Administrators is critical as coordinators of medical management among different specialities and different streams of healthcare practice.

India has moved from sectoral and segmented approach of health service delivery to a comprehensive need-based healthcare service, said Dr Jitendra Singh while handing over the national level Hospital Academy Excellence Awards to some of the country's distinguished doctors specialising in hospital administration.

The Minister said, "The age of working in silos is over and conscious effort needs to be made to integrate different organs of the Government including Ministries and departments with various associations, institutes of higher and specialized learning and the Industry, particularly in the Healthcare sector".

Dr Jitendra said, India is fast emerging as a protective healthcare leader, particularly after the world has started citing India model of Covid management and the Vaccine success story under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi

India is now seen as a role model in Crisis Management and Preventive Healthcare after the successful handling of the pandemic, he said.

Dr. Jitendra said that New



is working on the world's first

vaccines against four Zoonotic

more vaccines in trial stage,

which is being excitedly watched

by the world, one is related to

Anthrax, another on Brucellosis,

one on Swine Fever and one on

also emerged as the world's

most cost-effective healthcare

destination, with the latest tech-

nology tools deployed, across

healthcare delivery. More than

10 lakh medical visas were

issued to foreigners between

2019 and 2022 and the country

is fast emerging as the Medi-

cal Tourism Hub of the world,

despite the pandemic," he said.

Dwelling on the Vision@2047,

Dr Jitendra said, it is expected

that India becomes one of the

top markets in medical devices

grabbing 14-15% of the trade.

India has almost 600 globally

and nationally accredited hos-

"Under PM Modi, India has

Leptospirosis," he said.

"Besides Covid, we have four

diseases

India will become AtmaNirbhar in healthcare only by integrating various sciences and domains of medicine, going beyond Allopathy and synergising oriental alternatives like AYUSH, Yoga

etc as well. During the COVID even the West started looking up to India in search of immunity building techniques drawn from Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and other oriental alternatives and that is what calls for administrative skills to bring all together said Dr Jitendra Singh..

Dr Jitendra said, "India is today recognised as the vaccination hub of the world having produced DNA Covid Vaccine, world's first intra-nasal Covid Vaccine, India's first indigenously developed vaccine, 'CER-VAVAC' for the prevention of cervical cancer and many other vaccines for different diseases," he said.

The S&T Minister said, India

pitals that provide world-class treatment in cost-effective manner.

Dr Jitendra pointed out that at present there are over 4,000 Healthtech Startups in India. Telemedicine is expected to reach \$5.5 billion by 2025. eSanjeevani, a Ministry of Health & Family Welfare conceived technical intervention, has enabled virtual doctor consultations and connected thousands of people living in remote parts of the country with doctors in major cities while sitting in the comfort of their own homes, the Minister added.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is among the top five countries in the world manufacturing lifesaving high risk medical devices but the cost of our devices is about one-third of those manufactured by the other four countries. He underlined that this reflects the Atmanirbhar vision of PM Modi to become self-reliant in medical devices as well as medical management.

Asserting for promotion of PPP (Public-Private Partnership) model for healthcare services, Dr Jitendra Singh said, this is the need of the hour especially to put an end to the urban-rural dichotomy in healthcare services for which many unimaginable initiatives have been taken by this government.

He said, PM Modi's 9 years tenure has given India its vision for 2047 and laid the roadmap for the next 25 years of Amrit Kal which would witness the ascent of India as a front-rank nation in the world in terms of best healthcare system," he said.

SMVDU showcases cultural spectacle as a part of Viksit Bharat Utsav



Top News Report

KATRA, Dec 15: In a vibrant celebration of India's rich cultural tapestry, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages, brought forth the mesmerizing "Viksit Bharat Utsav."

This event served as a captivating platform to showcase the diverse cultural heritage of the region and was held with great fervor at the university premises. The proceedings of the evening were carried out by Dr. Rahul Sharma, cultural coordinator, Board of Cultural Activities (BCA). Dr. Ratna Chandra, coordinator of the event delivered the welcome address and deliberated upon the Viksit bharat@2047. Registrar SMVDU, Shri Ajay Kumar Sharma felicitated the artists and guests of the evening. The highlight of the evening was celebrity guest, Dr. Dee-

pali Wattal

Dr. Wattal speaking on the occasion emphasized the significance of such events in fostering cultural harmony and promoting the heritage of the country among the younger generation. Dr. Shafaq Rasool, Associate Dean Academics in her message deliberated upon the role of youth in leading India to Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The cultural extravaganza, reverberated with the soul-stirring melodies by Dr. Deepali Wattal, traditional dances, and artistic expressions by Mr. Sunny Muju and group from JKAACL representing various regions of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event aimed to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the regions' cultural mosaic while celebrating unity in diversity. Artists and performers showcased their talents, bringing alive the essence of

different regions. Ajay Sharma, Registrar, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, expressed his delight at the collaborative effort that culminated in such a splendid display of India's cultural rich-

Dr. Ankush Raina, Assistant Professor, SME and Cultural Coordinator, BCA proposed the vote of thanks.

ness.

The event was possible with the coordinated efforts of President BCA, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Thusoo and Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Balbir Singh and head SoBT Dr. Ratna Chandra.

The organisers acknowledgement the guidance and support of Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU and Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary JKAACL for the successful culmination of event.

The success of Viksit Bharat Utsav stands as a testament to the power of cultural amalgamation and the invaluable contributions of institutions like Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages in preserving and promoting the nation's rich cultural legacy.

Govt invites applications for appointment of Director SKIMS

Viksit Bharat Campaign

@2047 inaugurated at

GLDM GDC Hiranagar

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Dec 15: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has invited online applications for appointment of Director SKIMS Soura.

A notification, in this regard, has been issued by the Secretary Health and Medical Education Department, Bhupinder Kumar, which reads that "online applications on prescribed proforma are invited from Indian Nationals for the position of Director. Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, Srinagar, Jammu and

Top News Report

HIRANAGAR. Dec 15:

Pragya Khanna, Principal

Girdhari Lal Dogra Memo-

rial Govt. Degree College

Hiranagar formally inau-

gurated the Viksit Bharat

@ 2047 campaign of the

College by reciting the

Viksit Bharat oath with

staff and students of the

College. Viksit Bharat

Campaign is an ambitious

campaign of the Govt. of

India with a vision of social

and economic transfor-

mation by 2047. She

emphasised that educa-

tion is the cornerstone of

a progressive society, and

with the launch of Viksit

Bharat, we aim to con-

tribute to the creation of

a more empowered and

knowledgeable India. By

addressing the challenges

in education accessibility,

promoting skill develop-

ment, and fostering com-

munity engagement, she

said that the campaign

will play a pivotal role in

shaping the future of the

nation. She also enumer-

ated the progress of the

nation in different areas

Earlier the programme

started with the welcome

address by Prof. Rakesh

so far.

Kashmir. The notification is available on the official website www. skims.ac.in of SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar".

The date of submission of application form shall be with effect from 16-12-2023 to 15.01-2024, reads the notification.

The complete information with regard to the advertisement for the post of Director SKIMS Soura, Srinagar is available on the official website of Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, Srinagar, www.skims. ac.in the notification added.

Sharma, Head Depart-

ment of Hindi. He also

introduced the campaign

before the audience and .

He said that the campaign

is aligned with the vision of

building a progressive and

developed India by the

year 2047, marking the

centenary of the nation's

independence. He also

highlighted all the activi-

ties like seminars, com-

petitions and community

engagement that are to be

performed in the coming

days of the campaign. Dr.

Arun Kumar, Assistant

Professor Sociology pre-

sented the formal vote of

thanks at the end of the

programme and under-

lined again that the last

25 years i.e. amritkal has

to be employed by every

individual in the direction

of making India a devel-

oped nation by recog-

nizing the importance of

active participation from

various sectors, indus-

tries, and communities to

achieve the shared goal

of making India a global

leader.The programme

was also attended by Dr.

Vijay Chauhan, Assistant

Professor Department of

Hindi, Dr. Punam, Head

Department of History and

students of the College.

Dimple alleges unemployment is on the peak in J&K



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Sunil Dimple, President Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir talking to media persons in a press conference said the J&K youth are passing through a very difficult phase and are not getting Justices after 5 August 2019 after dismantling the J&K state into two union territories.

He alleged the unemployment is on the peak and the govt should solve the unemployment problems at the earliest.

Dimple said the J&K LG & BJP govt should understand the problems of the educated unemployed youths who are protesting on the roads, nobody is trying to listen & understand the educated youths problems.

He said unemployment has increased in j&k in the last ten years, unemployed youths & the youths are in a lot of stress and tensions.

MIER College empowers English Access Microscholarship Program with Public Speaking Workshop

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: MIER College of Education conducted a twoday workshop on the art of public speaking on the 14th and 15th of December 2023, specifically tailored for the teacher trainees enrolled in the English Access Microscholarship Program. This Program, which is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State, aims to equip participants with English language proficiency and communication skills to enhance their academic and professional opportunities. The workshop aimed to empower students with the skills and confidence needed to excel in public speaking. The workshop was

spearheaded by Neetu Dhar, Chairperson of Jammu Pariyatan Vikas Co. Ltd.

Dhar has an extensive experience of close to 18 years in training as a soft skills trainer. Her expertise and guidance provided invaluable insights and practical knowledge to the students throughout the workshop.

On the inaugural day,



menced with an insightful session introducing the fundamentals of public speaking, emphasizing its significance in various spheres of life. Engaging activities such as the 'Mad Scientist' exercise and a compelling one-minute speech on favourite public speaker were incorporated to stimulate creativity and build speaking prowess.

The second day expanded on refining techniques for enhancing public speaking abilities. Participants learned about common fears associated with public speaking and were equipped with effective strategies to overcome these obstacles. The day featured practical activities, including impromptu speech sessions designed to bolster confidence and spontaneous speaking skills

Expressing thoughts on the workshop, Neetu Dhar remarked, "It was an absolute pleasure to engage with such enthusiastic and motivated students. Witnessing their dedication to improving their public speaking skills was truly inspiring.

The initiative taken by MIER College of Education in organizing this workshop aimed to nurture and develop the public speaking skills of the participants, enabling them to become more confident, articulate, and effective communicators in their academic pursuits and future endeavours.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR $\textbf{e-mail} : \underline{xenpwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com}$ SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER Short e-NIT No. DGN/48 of 2023-24 Dated 12-12-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.	Name of Work	Name of	Advertised	Cost of	Earnest	Time	Time and	Class of
No		Division	Cost	document	Money	Allowed	date of	Contractor
			(`in Lacs)	(in `)	(in `)	for	opening of	
			, ,	, ,	, ,	complete-	tender	
						on		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Additional and Alternation in the	PWD (R&B)	10.60	600	21200	01	(1400 Hrs)	"A" , "B" "C"
	Office of Electric Central Workshop	Division Gandhi			(2% of the	Month	on or after	& "D"
	Division-Jammu (Under M.H-4801)	Nagar			Advertised		21-12-2023	Class
		Hugui			Cost)			
2	PVC Wall Paneling of Officers-	PWD (R&B)	4.05	600	8100	01 Month	(1400 Hrs)	"A", "B" "C"
	rooms/Cabins of Geology & Mining	Division			(2% of the		on or after	& "D"
	Department JLN Udhog Bhawan,	Gandhi Nagar			Advertised		21-12-2023	Class
	Jammu (Under M.H-2853)	ivagai			Cost)			
3	Up-gradation of Entry Gate of	PWD (R&B)	2.92	600	5840	01 Month	(1400 Hrs)	"A", "B" "C"
	Soil & Water Conservation,	Division			(2% of the		on or after	. % "D″
	Regional Office Complex Raika	Gandhi			Advertised		21-12-2023	Class
	Narwal (Under Capex Budget	Nagar			Cost)			
	2023-24)							

:- S.No. 1 accorded by Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu vide No. CEJ/TS-AA/36 of 2023 dated 20-11-2023, S.No. 2 accorded by Director Geology & Mining J&K vide No. DGM/Estate-III/22023/4036-39 dated 24-07-2023 and S.No. 3 accorded by Asstt. Soil Cons Officer (Plg) Soil & Water Conservation Department J&K Srinagar vide No. DSC/Tech./2023-24/373-75 dated 24-11-2023.

Position of TS

:- S.No. 1 sanctioned by this office vide order No. 54/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2023-24 dated 07-12-2023, S.No. 2 sanctioned by this office vide order No. 55/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2023-24 dated 07-12-2023 and S.No. 3 sanctioned by this office vide order No. 52/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2023-24 dated 07-12-2023.

Project Authority

:- S.No. 1 Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu, S.No. 2 Director Geology & Mining J&K and S.No. 3 Asstt. Soil Cons Officer (Plg) Soil & Water Conservation Department

Major Head of Account :- S.No. 1 Under M.H-4801, S.No. 2 Under M.H-2853 and S.No. 3 Under Capex Budget

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12-12-2023		
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12-12-2023 to 20-12-2023, 1800 Hrs		
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	15-12-2023 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive		
		Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar		
4	Bid submission Start Date	12-12-2023		
5	Bid Submission End Date	20-12-2023 upto 1800 Hrs		
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	21-12-2023 on or after 1400 Hrs in the Office of Executive		

		Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar and upload the same i.e treasury challan/receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar at the time of allotment
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not to make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential-submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the ission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

DIP/J-12580/23

.. Sd .. (Er. Rahat Gupta) Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar

EDITORIAL

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

ndia is a fascinating country. Indian Constitution is famous all **A** over the world. The motherland here is greater than heaven. India is a country of diversity. People following different types of religions live together in harmony. Various types of festivals according to religions are celebrated with enthusiasm. The country of India was called the "golden bird" before independence. India is a country where even foreigners come and settle.

India is a country where even foreigners come and settle. Six seasons arrive here every year. All the seasons have their own different style. India is a country dominated by agriculture, religion and culture. The farmers here are hardworking and diligent. They are called food providers for the city residents. 'Atithi Devo Bhava' means that in India the guest has been given the status of God.

India is a religion based country. People following many religions live here. People of different sects like Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jains, etc. live here. That is why India is called a religion dominated country. All religions have their own major festivals which everyone celebrates with great joy every year. Despite the diverse languages and religions of India, people have love, belongingness and brotherhood in their hearts.

In India, people celebrate many types of festivals according to all religions. The main festivals of Hindu religion are Holi, the festival of colors, Diwali full of lights, Raksha Bandhan, the festival of unbreakable love between brother and sister, the victory of truth over untruth, the festival of Dussehra, apart from this, festivals like Eid, Christmas, Lohari etc. are celebrated with great pomp. . This is a beautiful example of unity in diversity.

The soul of India resides in the villages. Farmers, the embodiment of service and hard work, live in villages. Farmers are the providers of food to the city residents. The life of an Indian farmer is very easy and simple. They work hard day and night and grow food for us. Indian food is popular all over the world. Every state has its own special food which all of us countrymen enjoy.

India is a country where people consider themselves blessed by applying its soil on their heads. Here the ancient culture has been preserved harmoniously. After the end of slavery, our country India emerged as the strongest democracy in the world which is praised by the entire world. India is that great country where many types of warriors and patriots were born and kept fighting for the country till their last breath. Today those warriors are worshipped. India is a country where even foreigners come and settle here.

The depth of culture here attracts the whole world. India is a country that maintains its culture and traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation. Today, the golden land of this country is a topic of discussion in every corner of the world. Everyone loves their motherland India. Our beautiful country India is so blessed that even God wishes to live here.

Scope to bridge gaps that exists between the language spoken by the child and the medium of teaching

By: Vijay GarG

he educational bodies can support teachers ■ by creating bilingual dictionaries, textbooks, and language handbooks in local languages,

India is a land of colossal cultural and linguistic diversity with a rich history and a multilingual population at its heart. It is an amalgamation of different languages, lifestyles, customs, and traditions. And so, in India, most classrooms are multilingual, and students are frequently taught in a common language rather than their first language. It is also common for students to know one local or home language in addition to the language they are taught at school. With the knowledge of English and their multilingual skills, students can communicate across language barriers in formal situations as well as in their daily lives. Adding to this, students' awareness of local cultures, history and contexts, is likely to make them more effective communicators. Educators are increasingly realising that there is a significant opportunity to celebrate linguistic diversity in the school's environment. Using multilingual approaches when teaching English in the classroom could enable teachers to tap into this opportunity and ensure more meaningful learning takes place.

Upskilling of Teachers The National Education

Policy (NEP) 2020 highlights 'multilingualism and power of language' stating that all languages will be taught with high quality, to all students. To make the learning more effective, students need access to appropriate language learning resources opportunities to listen and use language in their day-to-day communication, and most importantly, receive timely feedback on their progress. The responsibility for creating a supportive environment, as a result, falls on the teachers, further translating into the need for teachers to be equipped with English language teaching skills. The NEP also emphasises that teachers use a bilingual approach, including bilingual teaching-learning materials, with students whose home language may be different from the medium of instruction.

Robust teacher professional development is key to enabling change in the classroom. It is important to equip teachers with new and innovative methods of teaching in language education. However, this can be relative to how well the teachers know the language and if they can teach it effectively. As a result of the pandemic, teachers have now been trained in more specialised professional areas, including managing huge classrooms, teaching online or remotely, and conducting competencybased assessments.

Improving learning outcomes

Recently, several state governments have introduced initiatives to improve learning outcomes through various skill-based workshops and language training programmes to help teachers. Over a period of 10 years, the Government of Maharashtra with partners such as Tata Trusts, introduced projects to develop teachers' capacity in using student-centred English teaching pedagogy to improve learning and increase student participation in the classroom. For example, the Tejas Project focussed on developing Communities of Practice for teachers' professional development. Since 2012, nearly 2,000 teacher educators and 146,000 teachers were trained, who in turn improved the English language proficiency of 4.38 million learners in the Maharashtra state schools.

In Delhi, Bihar, and Hyderabad, the University of Cambridge conducted the Multi-LiLa Research Project (2016-2022) to examine how multilingual students in India perform in school, particularly when taught in English versus their regional language. They assessed students' cognitive, literacy, and numeracy skills between 2017-2020, aiming to determine if learning in a different language affected outcome. The project recognized the importance of teachers being proficient in English and effective language teaching methods, especially in areas

with limited English exposure. This enabled the teachers to portray confidence in their language abilities, resulting in favourable outcomes for the students.

Necessary pedagogical changes

Schooling in a child's mother tongue can improve class attendance and learning, increase student participation, and reduce the number of dropouts. Given the multiplicity of languages and dialects in India, policy leaders and educators are harnessing the regional medium of instruction in schools in India. However, there is still scope to bridge gaps that exists between the language spoken by the child and the medium of teaching. Teaching in the mother tongue is a good first step in solving the low learning outcome problem. However, for multilingual education to be successful, it must be accompanied by pedagogical changes and trained teachers who can deal with technological advancements and are accustomed to students' languages in the classroom. The educational bodies can support teachers by creating bilingual dictionaries, textbooks, supplementary reading material and language handbooks in local languages.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

The stress on the students started to increase due to the announcement of CBSE, ICSE and state board exam Dates

By: Vijay Garg

he announcement of the dates of CBSE, examinations in December must have given sleepless nights to many candidates. Of course, many such efforts have been made by the government so that the stress level among the candidates remains minimal, but the fear of failure and the pressure of scoring more marks can trouble the children. Parents also see their children's exam results as linked to their social prestige, due to which the candidates are affected. There is additional burden. Stress in exams is normal, but it should be positive, i.e. 'eustress'. Negative stress, i.e. 'distress' always harms health. Therefore, both candidates and parents should happily learn how to prepare for the exam. The question is how can candidates avoid 'exam syndrome'? Some measures can be taken for this. First of all, we have to understand that mental stress is directly related to our stomach. Stomach health starts deteriorating due to

stress. intestine because ourIt is the 'second brain', so to keep it well, it is necessary to improve the daily routine along with intake of adequate nutrients. During times of stress, the secretion of 'adrenaline hormone' also increases, due to which our heart beat increases and the muscles become tense. An easy way to handle this is to control your breathing. For this, '4-7-8 technique' of pranayama can be practiced. This involves inhaling your breath for four counts, then holding it for seven counts and slowly releasing it for the next eight counts. Action should be taken. Due to this, the heartbeat becomes normal and the stress of the body starts reducing. The possibility of children having irregular eating habits also increases during examination time. But 'good bacteria' is necessary to maintain proper digestion. For this, many 'probiotics' are available in the market, but a good option at home is to consume sugar candy with fresh curd or fresh butter. Today, dependence on mobile and internet is also a factor in increasing

stress in children. Now that these things have become for children to limit 'screen time'.It is important to increase physical activities. To maintain the balance of a healthy body and a healthy mind, we should remember four pillars - First, exercise for at least 40 minutes. Due to this, 'happy hormone' is secreted. According to the children's daily routine, the exercises can be divided into two (20-20 minutes) or three (15-15 minutes) parts. Second, adequate sleep of six to seven hours. This can also be accomplished in bits and pieces, but sleep from 11 pm to 3 am is very important, because at this time our bodyIs doing the treatment himself. Third, positive thinking. For this, children can take help of interests like listening to music or reading good books. At this time, parents should also choose positive words while talking. Instead of talking about the things that you want to stop your children from doing, use them literally for the options that you want them to do. For example, instead of advising not to

watch TV, asking to read a certain topic. The fourth mandatory, it is important pillar is nutrients. For this a balanced diet is necessary. Eat on time and stay hungry Consuming it in small quantities is helpful in increasing concentration. During this period, liquids should also be given equal importance. It has to be understood that we are not only biological but also intellectual and spiritual units. Just one examination is not the ultimate goal of our life, hence our life does not depend on success or failure in it. The good thing is that CBSE Board has made many changes this time. Since the exam pattern has been made such that 70 percent of the questions will be from practical aspects, it is expected that the children will rise above the mentality of rote learning and study the subjects. Will try to understand the practical aspects of. This will also increase their skill and efficiency.

> (Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

Principal GDC Kathua felicitates women sportspersons

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 15: Principal Government Degree College (GDC) Kathua Prof. Seema Mir felicitated the elite sportspersons of the college in the felicitation ceremony organized on Friday by the Department of Physical Education GDC Kathua at Principal Chamber.

Prof. Seema felicitated the 12 outstanding players including Captain of the winner Kho-Kho (W) team of the college in the recently held Jammu University Intercollegiate Tournament 2023-2024 organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

The winner team was led by the Dr. Neerai Gupta, Associate Professor Physics, GDC



Principal Prof. Seema Mir was accompanied by the senior faculty members of the college Prof. Shivani Kotwal Convener College Sports Board, Dr Shub Kumar, Dr Neha Bandral, Lt.(Dr.) Rachana Devi, ANO and HOD Psychology, (Dr.) Amrik Singh ANO Naval Wing, Dr. Shamsher Singh, HOD Urdu Dr Kamaldeep Singh HOD Punjabi, Prof Kaurab Singh, Dr Wasim and Dr. Pinky

While addressing to the players, Prof. Seema Mir praised the students for keeping the winning morale of the College at all levels of Sports.

It is pertinent to mention that these Kho-Kho (W) Players have been trained in the 10 days training camp organized by Department of Physical Education

and Sports before the inter-collegiate competitions. Their marvelous achievements are highly appreciated by the college sports board and senior faculty members under the supervision of their Physical Director Dr J S Soodan.

Principal also congratulated the Physical Director for creating a sports culture in the college and for the participation of large number of students in sports activities in the college.

The Principal also enthused the winner squad to reach at National and International level competitions and asked them to train hard on scientific lines by using the principles of Sports Science along with Training.

She assured them all help and support for the development of Sports in the college. She also interacted with the players, who represented the college at National Level and All India Inter University Level.

Prof. Seema Mir congratulated the winner teams of College Later, the students thanked the worthy Principal for encouragement and for healthy interaction with

4 JCBs, 3 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized in Kulgam

Top News Report

KULGAM, Dec 15: Four JCB machines and three sieve tractors involved in illegal mining on Veshaw Nallah at Thokerpora Qaimoh area of Kulgam were seized by Geology and Mining Department Kulgam last night.

An official told that on

the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat a team of mining department led by District Mineral Officer (DMO) Kulgam Murtaza Bashir and Tehsildar Kulgam Bilal Ahmad carried out the operation on Veshaw Nallah at Thokerpora Qaimoh in Kulgam last night and seized four JCB's and three sieve tractors for



illegal extraction and transportation of miner-

Meanwhile, District Mineral Officer (DMO) Kulgam Murtaza Bashir said that "He would act tough against persons involved in illegal mining and nobody will be spared for such doings", adding that all the vehicles after seizure were handed over to police and shall remain in their custody till realization of penalty.

"We are having twenty minor mineral blocks operative in the district, those people involved to stop this illegal practice and urged people & stakeholders in requirement of construction material & minor miners to procure the same from legal sources only as illegal mining is threat to existence as its carried out of greed and self interest by violating all scientic norms and won't be tolerated at any cost", he said.

JU Holds Academic Council Meeting

AC endorses Tourism and Travel Management subject in Four Year Under Graduate Prog, adoption of Sports, new IT Policies of JU

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu on Friday chaired the academic council meeting.

At the outset, Prof Umesh Rai exuded that from this academic session, the University has started a new innovative programme "Design Your Degree", which received commendation from various quarters.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee of Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports endorsed the Design Your Degree initiative and recommended to the UGC to adopt a similar programme in other Universities of the Country.

He further said that

enrolment of University students in "Academic Bank of Credits" has been started and more than 30000 accounts of students have been created. University is ready

with e-governance initiatives which include an Employee Management System, Personal Information System, **Grievance Management** System, Leave Management System, Inventory Management System, Core Communication System, Guest House Management etc, said

the Vice-Chancellor. Prof Rai commended all those faculty members/officers involved in ensuring the successful completion of the historic "College on Wheels" journey that had more than 700 girls

on a unique learning adventure.

"The University of Jammu has excelled immensely in the fields of academics and research and this momentum has to be maintained with renewed vigour and in a team spirit".

Seeking continued and active participation of all the members during the deliberations on various issues related to academics, examinations and research, Prof. Rai said that these matters should be thoroughly examined in corroboration to the laid down statutes and procedures by the various academic bodies for further discus-

Earlier, Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, deliv-



ered a formal welcome address. Prof Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies also spoke on the occasion.

During the meeting, around 28 agenda items were presented by Prof Rahul Gupta, Registrar,

Threadbare discussions were held on each of the agenda items along with the Action Taken Report on the resolutions of the last

Academic Council. The introduction of Two Years Master's Degree Programme in Political Science in the Reasi Campus, University of Jammu from the Academic Session

2024-25 was in principle endorsed. Introduction of Tourism and Travel Management subject in the Four Year Under Graduate Programme (FYUGP) as per National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 from the Academic Session 2024-25 was endorsed by the academic council.

The proposal for initiating Ph.D programme in "Rural Studies" in the Department of Lifelong Learning was also endorsed.

Grant of additional credits to the students of the University of Jammu who participated in the Innovative Project "College on Wheels"- J&K Gyanodya Express 2023 organized by the University of Jammu with effect from November 19 to December 2, 2023 was endorsed.

The academic council endorsed the adoption of the Sports Policy of the University of Jammu.

The academic council also endorses the adoption of a new IT Policy for the University of Jammu in place of the existing IT Policy.

Dr Sumita Sharma,

Deputy Registrar conducted the proceeding and also presented a formal vote of thanks.

Various other important academic matters of the University related to admission, examination, research etc were also discussed in the Academic Council meeting, which was attended by Prof Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus, Prof Parkash Anathal, Dean Students Welfare, Prof S. K Pandey, Director. Reasi Campus, Sh Sanjeev Mahajan, Controller of Examinations, Dr. Ginny Dogra, I/C Director DIQA, Deans of various Faculties, Heads of the Departments, Conveners of Boards of Studies, College Princi-

Celebration of International Year of Millets commences with Inspiring Lecture in GDC RS Pura

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: 2 J&K Girls Bn. NCC, Jammu of GDC RS Pura celebrated International Year of Millets under patronage of worthy principal Prof Rajni Bhagat, Principal and supervision of Lt. Shaveta Chowdharv ANO. Girls NCC. The International Year of Millets gained momentum with an engaging lecture on "Why Millets?" delivered by esteemed speaker Dr. Sudesh Kumar from the Department of **Environmental Science** (EVS). The enlightening lecture kickstarted a series of events organized to commemorate the International Year of Millets at GDC RS Pura. On the first day of the festivities, students and

faculty members gathered to attend the lecture by Dr. Sudesh Kumar. Dr. Kumar addressed

the importance of millets in our daily diet and discussed their numerous health benefits. The lecture shed light on the nutritional value, climate resilience, and sustainability of millets, captivating the audience with its valuable insights.

Building on the enthusiasm generated by the lecture, the second day of the event witnessed the Millet Food Fest organized by the NCC girls unit of GDC, R.S. Pura. The talented cadets utilized their culinary skills to prepare a range of mouthwatering millet dishes, showcasing the versatility and delectable nature of these grains. The menu featured an array of delicacies such as Jowar Lollipop, Ragi Pancakes, Ragi Idli, Ragi Pakoda, Ragi Roti, Bajra Halwa, and Jowar Pakoda.

To recognize the exceptional efforts put in by the NCC cadets, dictionaries were awarded as prizes to all participants. The principal of the college expressed heartfelt appreciation for the efforts of the ANO and the dedicated cadets who organized the event. She emphasized the role of such events in creating awareness and promoting the consumption of millets for improved nutrition and better environmental sustainability.

The celebration of the International Year of Millets at GDC, R S Pura aims to inspire individuals, communities, and organizations to embrace the consumption of millets and explore their potential in addressing global challenges related to nutrition, agriculture, and the environment.

Violation of agreement by **CVPPL** not be tolerated: Ajeet

Top News Report

KISHTWAR. Dec 15: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Senior leader Ajeet Bhagat demanded investigation of violation of agreement of Chenab Valley Power Projects Limited (CVPPL) in respect of large scale bungling into substandard material used in Hydroelectric Power Projects and backdoor appointments.

Bhagat said that he would highlight the increasing unemployment being faced by the youths of Kishtwar, Doda, and Ramban Districts of Chenab Valley Zone. The National Conference leader said it will not be out of place to mention here that at one point i.e upto 2014 a large number of youths were engaged in Dul-Hasti and Baglihar Hydroelectric Power Projects.

Now we have four major Hydroelectric Power Project Viz Pakal -Dool, Kiru, Kawar and Ratle where four reputed companies are executing these Projects but it is a matter of great concern that there is unrest among the unemployed youths because the companies involved have engaged less manpower in these

Projects, he added. Ajeet Bhagat said that the reason behind this is the Companies Management Chenab Valley Power Projects CVPPL want to get more and more profit by way of engaging less manpower. Similarly, the principal employer of these Projects i. e Chenab Valley Power Projects Limited (CVPPL) are getting huge commission from these Project managements in order to hide their misdeed.

Complete Surankote-Bafliaz-Thannamandi road at the earliest: Prithpal



Top News Report

POONCH, Dec 15: District Poonch Aam Aadmi Party President Er. Prithpal Singh said that the work on Rajouri-Thanna Mandi- Buffliaz- Surankote road has been started since long but the 11 Km road stretch from Surankote to Buffliaz is in shambles due to which more than 1 lakh people of many Panchavats and the commuters travelling on Mughal road are suffering badly. This is a stretch of 11 kms but it takes around 2 hours to

cover the stretch. Reason is there are potholes on entire stretch and almost no signs of road, many deaths have also happened because of this dilapidated road condition. Who is responsible for Dilapidated condition of Surankote-Bafliaz-Thanna Mandi road which connects Poonch district withKashmir via Mughal road, he said.

Singh said areas adjoining Bufliaz have great tourist potential

but unless and until the road is in good condition even locals won't come leave alone tourists.

pals and other officials of

the University.

He said, PM have always laid lot of emphasis on improving the economy of a particular place through tourism. There are many great tourist places like Noori Chamb waterfall near Bufliaz. Also we have those famous 7 lakes in this region which are waiting to be explored.

But none of that can happen till we have the basic infrastructure like proper roads. He urged Prime Minister and LG administration take note of this Investigate the matter and take strict action against those who have delaying this project for so long.

Hopefully the work on this road will get as soon as possible and people of this region will get some respite.

GDC Kathua organises HIV/AIDS awareness programme

Top News Report

KATHUA, Dec 15: The Red Ribbon Club at Government Degree College, Kathua (Boys) in collaboration with District Indian Red Cross Society, Kathua took a significant step towards spreading awareness about HIV/AIDS by organizing a comprehensive awareness program under the leadership of the principal of the college, Prof. Seema Mir.

The event aimed to educate the college community and the public at large about the importance of HIV prevention, treatment, and des-

tigmatization. In this connection, the Red Ribbon Club, a youth-led initiative supported by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), has been actively engaged in promoting awareness and preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS in the community.

The event commenced with lighting of traditional lamp by the chief guest Prof. R. K Pandita, Professors and officials from the District Red

Cross Society. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. R. K. Pandita welcomed the staff, students and officials from the District Red Cross Society (DRCS) and expressed his gratitude towards the Red Ribbon Club and DRCS for spearheading such an important initiative.



He emphasized the role of educational institutions in creating awareness and fostering a sense of responsibil-

ity among students. Dr. Shiv kumar, Nodal Officer, Red Ribbon Club spoke about the relevance as well

as significance of the day and briefly threw light on the event proceedings.

The awareness program

featured a series of informative lectures delivered by Dimpi Sharma, Prasmi Gupta, Rekha Gupta, and Divya Khullar, members of District Management committee in which they deliberated on HIV infection and its transmission as well as on various aspects related to HIV/AIDS awareness.

They stressed on the role of communities in the dissemination of information pertains to HIV/AIDS.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Manisha Sharma, Medical officer at SDH Nagri Parole, Kathua talked about the role of ICTC labs in the screening and testing of HIV infected people.

She delivered a compre-

hensive lecture on HIV/AIDS, discussing its causes, prevention, treatment and the available support services. A pledge was taken on the

event that embarks us on the journey of awareness and advocacy together in a fight against HIV/AIDS. The proceedings of the

event was conducted by Sakshi and Rupakshi of Sem-I and attended by lot of students.

Among others Dr. Jagdish Kumar, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Dr. Jasvinder Singh, Dr. Kulvir Singh and Prof. Anil Verma were present in

the program. The vote of thanks was presented by Om Parkash Sharma, Executive Secretary, District Red Cross Society.

Is Munawar Faruqui in trouble? Ex Ayesha Khan to enter 'Bigg Boss 17' as wild card

Ayesha Khan had recently made double-dating claims about Munawar Faruqui

There seems to be a new wild card entry soon in 'Bigg Boss 17' house. Rumour mill has it that stand-up comic and singer Munawar Faruqui's ex-girlfriend Ayesha Khan is all set to enter 'Bigg Boss 17'.

According to popular X handle Bigg Boss _Tak, Ayesha was recently spotted outside the sets of Salman Khan's controversial reality show in Mumbai. Salman Khan was also shooting for the upcoming Weekend Ka Vaar episode.

If the report is correct, Ayesha will be the fourth wild-card entrant after Manasvi Mamgai, Samarth Jurel and K-pop singer

In a recent interview, Ayesha Khan alleged that Munawar was 'double dating' her. This was before Munawar joined the 'Bigg Boss' show. Ayesha claimed that Munawar approached her on social media to feature in his music video. She said, "The video never happened, but the second time I met, he was like 'I love you'."

In the same podcast conver-



sation, Ayesha said that when she questioned Munawar about his relationship with Nazila, his girlfriend, he told her that they had broken up. "The first question I asked this man was if we start whatever we are doing, will anybody in your personal life be affected by it, to which he said 'no'," she claimed.

Ayesha, a social media influencer, claimed that she found out about Munawar double-dating her after he joined the reality show. "I saw a story of him and his girlfriend (Nazila) on the lat-

ter's account and realised that he was dating me while being in a relationship with her," she said.

Upset that she was being cheated upon, if Ayesha joins 'Bigg Boss 17', it is being said that she would confront Munawar.

Recently, Munawar's girlfriend Nazila wrote a cryptic note on her Instagram stories that read. "One thing I wish more people knew is that everything isn't how it seems online. nobody is as pure and morally correct as they pretend to be, in fact, the reality will take you by surprise. This is why they usually say 'never meet your idols' because in most cases the way you perceive them is very different from how they actually are so don't be fooled by what you see online or on TV."

Although there has been no confirmation yet on Ayesha's entry, but just like Samarth Jurel's entry added a shock value to the show, hers is going to be no less.

Suhana Khan didn't know that dad Shah Rukh Khan had received Padma Shri; star daughter has embarrassing moments at 'KBC 15'



Actor Shah Rukh Khan's daughter Suhana Khan, along with the star cast of the film 'The Archies' and its director Zoya Akhtar, was seen promoting her debut film on the latest episode of KBC 15.

However, during the show, Suhana

was left red-faced while answering questions as she got an answer about her father wrong.

With Suhana, Zoya Akhtar and actor Vedang Raina on the hot seat, host Amitabh Bachchan asked the question, "Shah Rukh Khan has not yet received which of these honours?" and gave the options: A) Padma Shri, B) Legion of Honour, C) L'Etoile d'Or, and D) Volpi Cun

While one would expect Suhana to instantly answer the correct option, this, however, was not the case.

Suhana chose Padma Shri as the answer, which turned out to be wrong, leaving everyone surprised. The correct answer was Volpi Cup, the principal award given to actors at the Venice Film Festival.

Following Suhana's fiasco, Amitabh says, "Beti ko pata nahi hai ki pita ko kya mila hai. Keval itna bataya gaya hai pita ne ki jo saamne baitha hai, wo hamaare baap ka role kiya hai, unse puch lena ki bhaiya thoda aaram se prashan puche. Itna aaram se prashan pucha, uska jawaab hi nahi de payi ye."

Hearing this, everyone starts laughing. Bachchan then tells Suhana that SRK was conferred the Padma Shri in 2005.

Tejasswi Prakash talks about her relationship with Karan Kundrra, what makes them a 'real couple'

Television actress Tejasswi Prakash has spoken about her relationship with her actor boyfriend Karan Kundrra and how they have set a bar for couple goals

Talking about her relationship with Karan and the fandom #TejRan have, she said, "Why do you think people love us? We weren't the most perfect couple inside the (Bigg Boss) house! We fought; we didn't speak to each other for a time period inside the house."

"Then we've patched up and been the most real couple, which is why people love us. We have never tried to portray ourselves as the most ideal couple'."

She added, "We have shown how real couples are, and real couple's fight in real world."

Tejasswi and Karan share pictures from their appearance on 'Temptation Island India'.

The actress said she and her beau are both "strong minded" people.

She added: "Especially when two strong people are together. Karan is a very strong-minded person, and I am too. And when two strong-headed people come together, fights are bound to happen."

Karan revealed the reason why he



believes in reality shows.

He said: "There's a reason I believe in reality shows like Temptation Island India: I met my partner in a reality show of this kind, and such shows test your true love. You come out stronger from the experience."

'Temptation Island India' airs on Jio

Arjun Kapoor makes confession about his relationship with Malaika Arora, navigating trolls

In a recent episode of Koffee With Karan Season 8, Arjun Kapoor, accompanied by actor Aditya Roy Kapur, delved into various aspects of his personal life, particularly addressing questions about his long-term relationship with Malaika Arora.

When asked by host Karan Johar about the next step with Malaika, Arjun Kapoor tactfully expressed his desire to let their relationship unfold organically. He stated, "I'm very happy where I am, and I think we make no bones about the fact that we survived through whatever we've had to be in this comfortable happy space."

Arjun emphasised that discussing the future without Malaika present wouldn't be fair, noting, "I think it's unfair to be sitting here without her



and talking about the future. I think that would be the most respectful thing. Once we reach that stage, we will come and talk about it together."

Addressing the frequent trolling he and Malaika endure, Arjun shared his perspective, acknowledging the impact while highlighting the importance of detachment from negative reactions.

Reflecting on online criticism, he remarked, "It also shows their upbringing and their culture, those people who are putting up random comments. You also know that they're trying to get your attention." Arjun further revealed his strategy for dealing with such situations, urging a deeper understanding of the motivations behind online comments

The couple, who reportedly started dating in 2018 and made their relationship public in 2019, has been subjected to occasional breakup rumours.

However, Arjun dispelled these speculations by posting a romantic photo on Instagram to celebrate Malaika's birthday. The two have been together for over five years, and Arjun affirmed their commitment, saying, "I'm very, very happy where I am."

As the episode unfolded, Arjun Kapoor's candid responses offered a glimpse into the complexities of navigating love in the public eye and addressing rumours with grace. The Bollywood duo seems to be embracing the journey of their relationship and focusing on their shared joy.

'If it's not difficult, it's not love'

Mouni Roy on challenges of relationship

Actress Mouni Roy, who is the host of Temptation Island India, has opened up on the challenges within relationships on the show, saying the "reality has proven once again to be stranger than fiction."

In the recent episode, viewers witnessed the emotional breakup of Arjun and Cheshta, juxtaposed with the united decision of Nidhi and Mohak to face the future together.

The upcoming episode promises to unravel the fate of Nishank and Chetna, and Gargee and Ronak, bringing clarity to the intricacies of their relationships.

Throughout the journey, the Queen of Hearts, Mouni, has been an integral part of the show, providing insights and guidance alongside host Karan Kundrra.

Mouni said, "The temptations that once resided in the villas have now evolved into meaningful connections.

Delivering the final verdict of love will not be an easy task. This show

has transformed mere attractions into profound realisations about relationships. Sahi hi kehte hai, jo mushkil nahi hai, wo pyaar nahi hai (if it's not difficult, it's not love)."

She further emphasised, "I've witnessed individuals undergo significant transformations on the show, evolving

assured personalities."
"Simultaneously, many explored the depths of their connections to their fullest potential. I am genuinely intrigued to witness the unfolding chapters in the lives of these couples."

into strong and self-

"Reflecting on Temptation Island India, I must say, reality has proven once again to be stranger than fiction! The dynamics of relationships presented a roller coaster ride is beyond my expectations. We take pride in breaking toxic patterns and fostering positive changes in relationships," added the actress. Temptation Island India airs on Jio-Cinema.



'Barbie' director Greta Gerwig is Cannes Film Festival 2024 jury president

Director Greta Gerwig, who set the box-office on fire with her film 'Barbie', will preside over the jury of the 2024 Cannes Film Festival.

'Barbie' grossed \$1.4 billion at the global box office this year and just picked up nine Golden Globe nominations, Gerwig has attended Cannes alongside her partner Noah Baumbach before, notably in 2017 when his 'The Meyerowitz Stories' premiered, but she's never presented a film there, reports Variety.

There were early talks to bring 'Barbie' to Cannes earlier this year but the timing didn't work. The Warner Bros. movie was released on July 19 and became an instant classic and the highest-grossing worldwide movie of the year. On top of leading the Golden Globe nominations, 'Barbie' is also expected to land numerous Oscar nominations.

"I love films – I love making them, I love going to them, I love talking about them. As a cinephile, Cannes has always been the pinnacle of what the universal language of movies



can be," Gerwig said in a statement, accessed by Variety.

"Being in the place of vulnerability, in a dark theatre filled with strangers, watching a brand-new film is my favourite place to be. I am stunned and thrilled and humbled to be serving as the president of the Cannes Film Festival Jury. I cannot wait to see what journeys are in store for all of us," she

added.

Two-time Palme d'Or winner Ruben Ostlund presided over the 2023 Cannes jury.

As per Variety, Gerwig will be the first American female director to take on the role of jury president at the Cannes Film Festival. At the age of 40, she's also the youngest person to take on the role since Sophia Loren, who was 31 when she presided over Cannes' jury in 1966.

Other notable female jury presidents include Jane Campion in 2014 and Olivia de Havilland, Cannes' first female jury president, in 1965.

Starting out as an actor, Greta Gerwig broke through as a solo director with 'Lady Bird' in 2017. She became the fifth woman to be nominated for best director and the movie earned a total of five Oscar nominations. Her next film, 'Little Women', was also a critical hit and was nominated for five Oscars, winning best costume design. With 'Barbie', Gerwig became the most bankable female director in history.

Gurpatwant Pannun murder plot accused Nikhil Gupta's family moves Supreme Court, seeks Indian govt's intervention to secure his release

A Bench led by Justice Sanjiv Khanna agrees to take up the petition on January 4

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): The family of Nikhil Gupta -- an Indian national accused of plotting to assassinate US-based Sikh separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun and currently detained in the Czech Republic -- has moved the Supreme Court seeking the Government of India's intervention to secure his release.

"We will have this on January 4 after vacations. We will decide on the next date. Serve a copy to the central agency (Central government)," a Bench led by Justice Sanjiv Khanna told senior counsel Aryama Sundaram after he pressed for a direction to the Central government on behalf of the petitioner.

During the brief hearing on the habeas corpus petition filed on behalf of Gupta by his family, the Bench said the petitioner would have to move a court in the Czech Republic where Gupta was detained.

"You have to go before the court which is outside India. Go over there. We are not going to



have an adjudication over here. The person detained has not given the affidavit. If there is violation of any law etc, you have to go to the court concerned over there," the Bench noted.

The US prosecutors have charged Gupta with working with an Indian government employee in the alleged foiled attempt to kill Pannun - who holds dual citizenship of the US and Canada -- in the US.

Sundaram said it was the second such indictment on behalf of the US and that Gupta had been caught in the cross-

Gupta – who was in the Czech Republic on a leisure/business exploration trip -- was illegally detained at the Prague Airport on June 30, the petition alleged. At the time of exiting the airport, Gupta was approached by certain individuals who identified themselves as law enforcement officials and detained him without assigning any reason, it added.

"The circumstances surrounding his arrest were marked by irregularities, with no formal arrest warrant presented, and the apprehension executed by self-claimed US agents rather than local Czech authorities," the petition submitted.

"The petitioner asserts that the subsequent events, spanning over 100 days of solitary confinement, have given rise to grave violations of his fundamental rights," the petition alleged.

It alleged that Gupta was not shown any arrest warrant during the initial detention. Instead, he found himself in the custody of individuals purporting to represent US interests.

"The petitioner, a devout

Hindu and vegetarian, claims that he was subjected to forced consumption of beef and pork during his detention in Czech custody, a direct violation of his religious beliefs. Moreover, he alleges that he was denied consular access, the right to contact his family in India, and the freedom to seek legal representation," the petition submitted.

Delhi airport expected to have full body scanners by May 2024: **BCAS** chief

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): Full body scanners are expected to be installed at the Delhi airport by May 2024, a senior official said on Friday.

Besides, Computed Tomography X-ray (CTX) machines whereby passengers will not be required to remove electronic items from their hand baggage during the security check are also anticipated to be installed by May next year.

The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) Director General Zulfiquar Hasan on Friday said the deadline for installing the full body scanners and CTX machines at certain airports is being extended.

The deadline for installing the full body scanners at airports with more than 10 million annual passenger traffic is December 31. The last date for installa-

tion of CTX machines at airports with more than

5 million passengers is also the same.

At a briefing in the national capital, Hasan said there have been some provisioning issues and BCAS is in discussions with airport operators on the installation of the scanners.

"We expect the full body scanners and X-ray machines to come in May...," he said and added that both are expected to be installed at the Delhi airport by May next year.

The Delhi airport is the country's largest airport and passenger traffic is expected to cross 70 million in the current fiscal ending March 2024.

Once CTX (Computer Tomography X-ray) scanners are in place, passengers will not have to remove their electronic gadgets from baggage during security checks at airports.

BCAS will be deploying the full body scanners in a phased manner.

Last year, BCAS recommended installation of scanners based on computer tomography technology at airports whereby passengers will not be required to take out electronic devices from their hand baggage before going through the scanner.

At present, passengers have to remove and keep electronic items in a separate tray during security check at airports.

The scanners used at airports provide a two-dimensional view of the objects inside hand baggage. Installation of such scanners is also expected to help in speeding up the security check-in process at airports.

India is one of the fastest-growing civil aviation markets in the world.

Domestic airlines carried more than 13.82 crore passengers during the January- November 2023 period, as per the latest official data.

Tribal woman paraded naked in Belagavi: Nadda forms probe panel

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): BJP president Jagat Prakash Nadda on Friday strongly condemned the incident of parading naked of a tribal woman in Belgavi, Karnataka and said heinous crimes specially against women are on the rise since the Congress government has come to power in Karnataka. Nadda constituted a

probe panel of the BJP to investigate the crime in Belagavi.

He said the crimesex-



pose the irresponsible behaviour of Congress governments every wherein the country in tackling such crimes.

The five member fact finding committee which will visit the incident site will include MPsAprajita Sarangi,

Sunita Duggal,Locket Chatterjee, Ranjeeta Koli, and BJP national secretaryAsha Lakra.

Supreme Court defers hearing on Mahua Moitra's plea against expulsion till January 3

NEW DELHI. Dec 15 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday deferred the hearing on a plea by Trinamool Congress leader Mahua Moitra challenging her expulsion from the Lok Sabha

till January 3 next year. Moitra challenged her expulsion in the top court after the Lok Sabha adopted the report of its ethics committee that held her guilty of accepting gifts and illegal gratification from a businessman.

As soon as the matter was taken up for hearing, a bench of Justices



Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti told senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, who was appearing for Moitra, that the bench had not gone through the case files and it would like to hear it upon reopening of the court after the winter break, which ends on January 3.

On December 8, after a heated debate in the Lok Sabha over the panel report -- 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.

The ethics committee found Moitra guilty of "unethical conduct" and contempt of the House as she shared her Lok Sabha members' portal credentials -- user ID and password -- with unauthorised people, which had an irrepressible impact on national security, Joshi had said. The committee had

also recommended that in view of the "highly objectionable, unethical, heinous and criminal conduct" of Moitra, an intense legal and institutional inquiry be initiated by the government with a set deadline.

The motion moved by Joshi said Moitra's "conduct has further been found to be unbecoming as an MP for accepting gifts and illegal gratification from a businessman to further his interest, which is a serious misdemeanour and highly-deplorable conduct" on her part.

Home minister mum in Parliament, but giving interview on TV: Kharge on security breach issue

cies): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday asked Union Home Minister Amit Shah why he was not giving a statement in Parliament on the security breach issue but was giving interviews to TV channels.

He also asked if "illegally" suspending MPs who asked questions on the Parliament breach was justice.

"What kind of justice is it to illegally suspend opposition MPs over the huge lapse in security of Parliament and its MPs," Kharge asked.

He said that leaders of various parties had met in the morning to discuss their joint strategy in both houses. Several MPs suspended on

Thursday for disrupting the House with their protest on the security breach issue staged a silent protest in the Parliament



complex against the suspen-

Kharge said the Home Minister of the country can give interviews on TV but is averse to stating the floor of Parliament.

"INDIA parties demand that Shri Amit Shah should give a

statement in the Parliament and then it should be discussed in both the houses," the Congress chief said.

"It is our duty to raise our voice on this serious issue of national security, it is our parliamentary duty," Kharge also said in a post

AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh concurred with his colleague's demand for a statement from Shah on the "shocking" security breach.

"MPs of the INDIA parties are demanding that the Home Minister make a statement in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on the shocking incidents of December 13, 2023, involving intruders into the Lok Sabha whose entry was facilitated by a BJP MP Pratap Simha.

"The Home Minister is simply refusing to make such a statement on what is a very serious security issue.

His refusal has led both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha to get adjourned till 2 pm today," Ramesh said after both houses were adjourned amid opposition protests.

Telangana cop shoots self after killing wife, two children



HYDERABAD, Dec 15 (Agencies): A security guard of Siddipet District Collector shot dead his wife and two children before killing

The shocking incident occurred in Ramunipatta village of Chinnakodur mandal in Telangana's Siddipet district

on Friday.

According to police, police constable Akula Naresh (35), working as gunman of district Collector Prashant Jeevan Patil, killed his wife Chaitanya (30), son Revanth (6) and daughter Himashri (5) by opening fire from a pistol.

He later turned the gun on himself to die by suicide

Naresh had not gone for duty on Friday and stayed at home. On hearing the gunshots, neighbours rushed to see all the four lying dead.

The villagers alerted the police, who rushed to the scene and shifted the bodies for autopsy.

Police registered a case and took up investigation. Financial problems are suspected to have led to the incident.

According to locals, Naresh was addicted to online betting and had borrowed money from others. Police, however, said they were probing the case from all angles.

Tamil Nadu IPS officer gets 15 days' jail in contempt case filed by MS Dhoni

CHENNAI, Dec 15 (Agencies): The Madras High Court on Friday sentenced IPS officer G Sampath Kumar to 15 days' imprisonment in a contempt of court case filed by former Indian cricket captain MS Dhoni.

A division bench comprising Justices SS Sundar and Sunder Mohan, however, suspended the operation of the sentence for 30 days to enable Sampath Kumar to file an appeal against

The ace cricketer had filed the contempt of court case against the IPS officer for allegedly having made contumacious remarks against the Supreme Court and the High Court.



Dhoni sought to punish Sampath Kumar for the remarks made by him against the judiciary in his counter-affidavit filed in response to a defamation suit, seeking Rs 100 crore in damages, filed in 2014 for having named him in the IPL betting scam.

Mumbai crime branch summons actor Sahil Khan, 3 others in Mahadev betting app case state and the promot-MUMBAI, Dec 15

himself.

(Agencies): The Mumbai police's crime branch, which is probing the Mahadev betting app case, has summoned actor Sahil Khan and three others to record their statements on Friday, an official said.

A special investigation team (SIT) of Mumbai police has been formed to probe alleged illegal transactions between certain financial and real estate firms in the



ers of the controversial Mahadev betting app, the official said.

The size of the scam is about Rs 15,000 crore, as per the FIR.

An SIT official said an investigation is under way against Khan and 31 other individuals in connection with the Mahadev betting app case. The probe involves examining their bank accounts, mobile phones, laptops and all technical equipment. The crime branch

has summoned Sahil Khan, his brother Sam Khan, Hitesh Khushlani and one more accused person, he said. They have been asked to remain present before the officials of SIT at Mumbai crime branch, the senior police official

Sahil Khan, known for films like 'Style' and 'Excuse Me', has become a fitness expert.

Police headquarters comes under attack in Pakistan; 3 policemen killed

The attack occurred at the Police Lines in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Tank district

PESHAWAR, Dec 15 (Agencies): At least three policemen were killed and as many as injured after militants attacked a regional police headquarters in a former Taliban stronghold in northwest Pakistan on Friday, three days after terrorists killed 23 soldiers in the same region.

The attack occurred at the Police Lines in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Tank district.

A "terrorist blew himself up in a suicide bomb" and that the "huge attack was thwarted", the Dawn newspaper quoted Tank District Police Officer Iftikhar Shah as saying.

He said that all contingents present in the Police Lines were evacuated safely and that a search operation was underway after alerts of the presence of more militants in the area.

The attack was claimed by



a new militant group, Ansarul Jihad. The firing was continuing between the police and terrorists.

The attack comes days after at least 23 soldiers were killed and more than 30 others injured after militants belonging to the Tehreek-i-Jihad Pakistan (TJP), a newly formed militant group that is an affiliate of the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), stormed a compound used by the military in Dera Ismail Khan.

The TJP terror outfit has been

behind some major attacks in Pakistan.

On November 4, the TJP militants attacked the Pakistan Air Force's Mianwali Training Air Base, some 300 km from Lahore, damaging three grounded aircraft.

The terrorists have repeatedly attacked the security and military installations in Pakistan.

In September 2015, Taliban gunmen killed 29 people, including 16 worshippers in a mosque, when they stormed Badaber air base, close to the northwestern city of Peshawar.

In May 2011, 15 terrorists belonging to TTP and Al Qaeda attacked PNS Mehran, the headquarters of the Pakistan Navy's Naval Air Arm, located in Sindh and killed 18 military personnel and wounded 16. Two American-built surveillance aircraft were also destroyed.

515 injured in a Beijing rail collision as heavy snow hits the Chinese capital



BEIJING, Dec 15 (Agencies): Two subway trains collided in heavy snow in Beijing, sending 515 people to the hospital, including 102 with broken bones, authorities said Friday.

The accident occurred Thursday evening in Beijing's mountainous west on an aboveground portion of the sprawling subway sys-

tem's Changping line.
Slippery tracks
prompted automatic
braking on the leading
train. A train following
from behind was on a
descending section and
went into a skid and
was unable to brake
in time, the city transport authority said in a
statement Friday on its

social media account. Emergency medical personnel, police and transport authorities responded, and all passengers were evacuated by about 11 p.m., it said. Twenty-five passengers were under observation and 67 remained hospitalized on Friday morning, the authority said.

Unusually heavy snow that began falling on Wednesday has prompted the suspension of some train operations and school closures.

Alerts remain in place for icy roads, extreme cold and further snowfall. Temperatures were due to fall to minus 11 C (12 F) overnight. No fatalities have been reported from the winter storms that have struck a wide swath of northern China. Beijing's winters tend to be bitterly cold, but heavy snowfall is rare.

Gunmen kill 11 people, injure several others in an attack on a police station in Iran, state TV says

DUBAI, Dec 15 (Agencies): Suspected members of a separatist group killed 11 people and injured several others in a nighttime attack on a police station in southeastern Iran, state TV said Friday.

The deputy governor of Sistan and Baluchistan province, Ali Reza Marhemati, said senior police officers and soldiers were killed in the 2 a.m. attack in Rask town, about 1,400 kilometers (875 miles) southwest of Tehran.



He said police killed several of the attackers in a shootout.

State TV blamed the attack on Jaish al-Adl, a separatist group. In 2019, Jaish al-Adl claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on a bus that killed 27

members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard force. In recent months, mili-

In recent months, militants and small separatist groups in the predominantly Sunni region have attacked police stations as part of a low-level insurgency against the government.

Overseas migration to Australia hits record high

Of the migrant arrivals in 2022-23, 554,000 or 75 per cent were on temporary visas, including 283,000 international students

CANBERRA, Dec 15 (Agencies): Overseas migration to Australia hit a record high in the 2022-23 financial year due to a surge in temporary visa holders entering the country, official data revealed on Friday.

According to the data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), net overseas migration to Australia in the 12 months to the end of June was 518,000 -- the highest figure on record, reports Xinhua news agency.

Net overseas migration is calculated by subtract-



ing migrant departures from migrant arrivals.

In 2022-23, a recordhigh 737,000 migrants arrived in Australia -- up from 427,00 in the previous 12 months -- and 219,000 departed -- the lowest figure since 2006-07.

Jenny Dobak, head of migration statistics at the ABS, said the fall in departures could be attributed to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Due to the impact of travel restrictions during the pandemic, many temporary migrants currently living in Australia have only arrived relatively recently and are not yet required to leave. This has resulted in the smaller number of migrant departures in 2022-23," she said in a media release.

"Before the pandemic there was a constant flow of temporary migrants arriving and departing. This cycle hasn't returned to a regular pattern and has

had an upward impact on net overseas migration in 2022-23."

Of the migrant arrivals in 2022-23, 554,000 or 75 per cent were on temporary visas, including 283,000 international students.

India was the most prominent country of birth for arrivals in 2022-23, accounting for 14.3 per cent of the total, followed by China, the Philippines, Australia and the UK.

The median age of migrant arrivals was 27 years and for departures it was 33.

There will be no peace till targets met: Putin

MOSCOW, Dec 15 (Agencies): President Vladimir Putin vowed to fight on in Ukraine until Moscow secures the country's demilitarisation, "denazification" and neutrality, unless Kyiv accepts a deal that achieves those goals. Fielding questions from the public, media and at one point frontline soldiers, Putin took an uncompromising stance on Ukraine at a fourhour press conference held as he seeks another six-vear presidential term in March.

Putin, now 71, told Russians his initial goals in Ukraine had not changed and that Russian forces had taken the initiative on the battlefield in the "special military operation" he launched on February 24, 2022. "Practically along the entire line of contact, our armed forces are, shall we say, modestly improving their position. Virtually all are in an active stage of action," Putin said.

Since the start of the war, Kyiv has stepped up its pursuit of NATO



and European Union membership, steps that it regards as vital for its self-defence and independence from Russia but are opposed by Moscow.

Putin reiterated his view that the Western military alliance's eastward expansion was the main cause of the war a view dismissed by the West, which sees Putin

as the aggressor.

Hundreds of thou-

sands of people have been killed or wounded in Ukraine, and millions have been forced from their homes. Putin said he had detected signs that Western enthusiasm for providing Ukraine with military and financial aid was waning, but that he believed Kyiv would keep receiving help for

He said NATO's eastward expansion had forced Russia into war.

May this birthday be its last, says Israel on Hamas' 36th founding day



JERUSALEM, Dec 15 (Agencies): As Israel continues its war against Hamas, the Palestinian group marked its 36th foundation day on Friday. Israel took to microblogging site X and wrote "may this birthday be its last".

"Hamas was founded 36 years ago today. May this birthday be its last," Israel wrote.

In the ongoing war which entered Day

70 on Friday, more than 18,400 Palestinians have been killed, according to the Health Ministry in the Hamascontrolled territory.

Israel says 113 of its soldiers have died in its ground offensive after Hamas raided southern Israel on October 7, killing about 1,200 people and taking about 240 hostages.

More than 130 hostages remain in Gaza. Some have been declared dead in absentia by Israeli authorities.

Experts at odds over result of UN climate talks in Dubai; 'Historic,' 'pipsqueak' or something else?

DUBAI, Dec 15 (Agencies): The climate negotiations that just finished in Dubai hit upon the essence of compromise, finding common language that nearly 200 countries accepted, at times grudgingly.

For the first time in nearly three decades of such talks, the final agreement mentioned fossil fuels — coal, oil and natural gas — as the cause of climate change and said the world needs to be "transitioning away" from them. But it did not use the words "phase out," sought by advocates and more than 100 countries who argued it would provide sharper direction for the world to move quickly toward renewable energies that don't produce the greenhouse gas emissions that heat the planet.

For an agreement so steeped in compromise, what experts thought of it, including what impact it could have in the years to come, was as polarizing as can be.

The Associated Press asked 23 different delegates, analysts, scientists and activists where they would rank COP28 among all climate conferences. More than half said COP28 was the most significant climate talks ever. Yet a smaller but still large chunk dismissed it as awful. Even some who deemed it the most significant also highlighted what they characterized as big problems.

Thirteen of the 23 said they'd rank what COP28 president Sultan al-Jaber calls the UAE Consensus in the top five of negotiations and deals. Several called it the most significant since the 2015 Paris talks, which set specific goals to limit temperature

increases and was the nearly unanimous choice for the most meaningful climate meeting.

The two weeks of negotiations at COP28 also put into effect a new compensation fund for nations hit hard by the impacts of climate change, like cyclones, floods and drought. Called loss and damage, the fund drew nearly \$800 million in pledges during the talks. Nations also agreed to triple the use of renewable fuel, double energy efficiency and adopted stronger language and commitments to help poorer nations adapt to worsening extreme weather from climate change.

Leaders, mostly non-scientists, said Dubai kept alive the world's slim and fading hopes to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial temperatures, the goal adopted in Paris. The world has already warmed 1.2 degrees (2.2 degrees Fahrenheit). Many scientific calculations that look at policies and pledges project at least 2.5 to nearly 3 degrees of warming (4.3 to nearly 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit), which could lead to more extremes and make it harder for humans to adapt.

Negotiators, who spent late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning in special closed-door meetings with al-Jaber before the agreement was reached, were especially proud, using the word historic frequently in public pronouncements. When asked where COP28 fit in that history, they stayed on message.

"I think it ranks very high," said Zambia Green Economy and Environment Minister Collins Nzovu, who headed his nation's delegation. "Loss and damages is there. GGA (the adaptation agreement) is there. We talked about fossil fuels, as well. So I think we're going somewhere."

German climate special envoy Jennifer Morgan, who has attended all these talks either as an analyst, environmental activist and now negotiator, said it "is very significant" and not just for the list of actions agreed to.

"It shows that multilateralism works in a world where we are having trouble cooperating in a number of different areas," Morgan told the AP hours after the agreement was gaveled through.

Former U.S. special climate envoy Todd Stern, who helped craft the Paris deal, put the UAE agreement as number five in his list of significant climate meetings, with Paris first.

Stern's colleague at the RMI think-tank, CEO Jon Creyts, put this year's deal second only to Paris "precisely because the message is comprehensive, economywide. It also engaged the private sector and local communities at a scale that is unprecedented. The U.S. and China were once again united in leadership mode while voices of the most vulnerable were heard."

Power Shift Africa's Mohamed Adow also thought it ranked second only to Paris: "This COP saw the loss and damage fund established, it finally named the cause of

the climate crisis — fossil fuels — for the first time and it committed the world to transition away from them, with action required in this decade. That is a lot more than we get from most COPs."

Johan Rockstrom, a scientist who heads the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in Germany, praised what happened, but like so many others who ranked it high, also saw problems.

"Finally, we have a plan the world can work with towards a phase-out of oil, coal and gas. It is not perfect, by far, and not entirely aligned with science, but it is something we can work with," Rockstrom said in an email. "Will it deliver 1.5°C (even if implemented)? The answer is no."

The problem is the agreement has too many loopholes that allow countries to continue producing and even expand use of fossil fuels, said Center for Biological Diversity's Jean Su. She also cited a portion of the text that allows for "transitional" fuels — a term the industry often uses for natural gas that isn't as polluting as coal but still contributes to warming.

"Politically it broke a major barrier, but it also contained poison pills that could lead to the expansion of fossil fuels and climate injustice." she said.

Joanna Depledge, a climate negotiations historian at Cambridge University in England, said the idea that the weak language is "somehow seen as a triumph" shows the

world is in trouble, Depledge said.

"The yawning chasm between science

and policy, between intention and action, barely shifted in Dubai," she added.

Scientists were among those who ranked the UAE deal low.

"In the context of these previous, truly significant COPs, Dubai is a pipsqueak," said Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer, who is also a professor of international affairs.

The agreement language was "like promising your doctor that you will 'transition away from doughnuts' after being diagnosed with diabetes," said University of Pennsylvania climate scientist Michael Mann. "The lack of an agreement to phase out fossil fuels was devastating."

Mann, like former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, called for a dramatic reform of the COP process. For his part, Gore said it's too early to judge this COP's significance, but he's unhappy with the slow progress.

"It's been 31 years since Rio, and eight since the Paris Agreement," Gore said. "Only now are we even summoning the political will to name the core problem, which has otherwise been blocked by fossil fuel companies and petrostates."

Gore and others still have hope, though. "I think 1.5 is achievable," said Thibyan Ibrahim, who led negotiations on adaptation on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States. "You need to ensure that people are going to do the things that they have said they'll do, that the pledges will be actually reached and that commitments will be followed through."

JU women basketball team wins opening tie in North Zone Tournament

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: The University of Jammu Basketball (W) Team won their first match and strengthen their positions in the ongoing North Zone Inter-University Basketball (W) Tournament 2023-24 organized by Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Rohilkhand University, Bareilly, UP.

In the first match, Jammu University team beat CSJM University, Kanpur by 46-7 points. The University of Jammu team



is accompanied by Hritik Khullar as Coach.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu lauded the efforts of the team specially Hritik Khullar who is accompany as Coach.

He also congratulated the players of Jammu University Basketball (W) team for showing tremendous performance and wished them to give their best performance in the next match.

All Party Meet under campaign "Unity is Strength" to be held on Dec18



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Shiv Sena (UBT) and Sanik Samaj Party are going to organize all party meet under the "Unity is strength" on December 18, 2023 at the Press Club of Jammu.

While briefing the media jointly Shiv Sena President Manish Sahni and SSP President Colonel SS Pathania, said that under the "Unity is

Strength" campaign, an all-party meeting will be held on December 18, 2024 at the Press Club Jammu.

The objective of this meeting is to raise issues related to the development of Jammu in the context of people's welfare including restoration of statehood and privileges under Article 371 which are being continuously ignored.

Kridhey, Shivansh of DPS Jammu wins gold medals in UT level traditional karate cup-2023

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Kridhey Sethi (II-G) and Shivansh Mahajan (II-I), both students of Delhi Public School Jammu brought laurels to the school and their parents by winning gold medals in U.T Level Traditional Karate Cup-2023 organized by Traditional Karate-Do Association of Jammu and Kashmir held at Indoor Stadium, Bhagwati Nagar from 7-8 December, 2023. Both the students participated in Sub-Junior category.

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agement DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC- Dr. Ritu Singh Ji, Director-S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff

congratulated Kridhey, Shivansh and their parents for their brilliant achievements. They also extended their best wishes to them for all their future endeavours.

BMW Group introduces Retail.Next experience in India Top News Report floorplan layout that creRetail.Next Dealership dealership in Agra herexperience. The

JAMMU, Dec 15: BMW Group has introduced the innovative Retail. Next concept for its dealership in India.

Retail. Next is a holistic and progressive approach focused on customer-centricity. flexibility, sustainability, and best in class premium experience. The holistic approach is not only based on new design but also focussed on new processes, digital tools and roles. The foundation is based on a seamless phygital (physical and digital) engagement which puts customers and products at the center stage. The retail experience reflects the iconic status of BMW in a renewed design and

floorplan layout that creates an easy, warm and welcoming premium atmosphere at dealerships. Sales and Service has premium overall appearance including one entrance, one floor

under one ceiling. The first Retail.Next dealership is now open in Agra. The Speed Motorwagen dealership is located at 607, Mauja Artoni, NH2, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. Vikram Pawah, President, BMW Group India said, "At BMW we are always elevating the luxury experience for our customers. Each time they step into a BMW dealership, they step into a unique world with which they have an instant connection. It is modern, progressive and luxurious in the true sense. With

Retail.Next Dealership concepts we have reimagined our customercentric approach blending phygital innovation with modern aesthetics and engaging environment. We are delighted to bring the first Retail. Next dealership in the country to Agra with our trusted partner - Speed Motorwagen and will continue to introduce more Retail.Next dealerships across the country." Divij Narain, Dealer Principal, Speed Motorwagen said, "Speed Motorwagen's partnership with BMW Group India has flourished over years and we are very proud of the growth we have achieved. With thriving

business operations in

Uttar Pradesh, launch-

ing the first Retail. Next

dealership in Agra heralds a new chapter of success to our story. We thank BMW Group India for this opportunity and are excited to offer unrivaled services and luxurious experiences to BMW customers in the region."

The dealership is headed by Divij Narain, Dealer Principal, Speed Motorwagen. Speed Motorwagen also represents BMW Group India with sales and service facilities in Uttar Pradesh (Lucknow, Kanpur) . The Retail. Next dealership facility delivers extremely highquality standards in all processes of Service, Spare-parts and Business Systems to ensure that customers receive best-in-class pre and

post sales ownership

experience. The dealership has a three-car display zone, lifestyle and accessories and workshop with three service bays. The dealership also offers attractive financial solutions through BMW Financial Services India. Customers can avail attractive finance and insurance options for the products of their choice.

NOTICE

I, Mohamad Nasar Khan S/o Mohamad Afzal Khan R/o 146 Sec-6, Channi Himmat, Jammu, J&K UT, am applying for renewal of the lease deed of my flat. Objections if any may be conveyed to J&K Housing Board Office Jammu within 7 days of the publication of this notice.

J&K JJM gets big boost; Centre approves new 102

Water Supply Schemes
worth Rs 476.71 cr
It may be recalled that like other States/
UTs of the country, Jal Jeevan Mission is
being implemented in J&K with the involve-

UTs of the country, Jal Jeevan Mission is being implemented in J&K with the involvement of various stakeholders like Central Government's Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Jal Shakti Department, J&K, District Administrations and the local communities for providing access to safe and adequate drinking water supply facility through tap connections within the premises of rural households. Pani Samitis representing the local communities are playing a very critical role in the implementation of the Mission by partnering with the Department in planning, implementation and monitoring of the Mission activities.

The Department has been continuously reviewing its planning and implementation for achieving the 100% coverage with FHTCs in the most economic, transparent and technically feasible manner. As on date, J&K has achieved more than 75% coverage of tap water connections, thereby entering into the 'High Achievers' category at the National Level. The FHTCs being provided are reported on the IMIS portal of JJM with Aadhar linkage of the beneficiaries.

So far, about 3300 schemes have been planned under Jal Jeevan Mission at an estimated cost of Rs. 12975.00 crore which are at different stages of execution. The contracts of more than 98% works under these schemes have been awarded through e-tendering in a transparent manner and out of which around 87% works have been started on ground. The allotments orders issued have been placed on the websites of the respective PHE Directorates in both the provinces.

In this regard, the UT has already covered more than 1000 villages, among which are some of the remotest areas like Batlan, Taraiyan and Chanbra villages in Sub Division Tangdar of District Kupwara which are located near the LoC and received piped water for the first time. In these villages people would fetch water from springs and nearby streams by travelling long distances. Similarly, Nilfan village with about 285 households got 100% tap water connectivity for the first time and the women and children of the area got relieved of the drudgery of fetching water by travelling long distances on hill slopes.

By completing and commissioning of Water Supply schemes Rampura and Sujwan at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.67 crore, in district Samba, about 1100 households have been benefited by getting Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) within the premises. The people of these villages were mostly using the water from shallow hand pumps which were quality affected and through the newly

commissioned schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission, deep tube wells have been drilled and required storages created for supplying the water of adequate quantity and prescribed quality as per BIS 10500, regularly.

In order to ensure the transparency in work done and households covered, the process of Har Ghar Jal Certification by the Gram Panachayats has been put in place where the villages reported as Har Ghar Jal by the PHE Department are subsequently certified through a Special Gram Sabha resolution. This not only creates the awareness about provision of tap water connectivity in the village but also promotes community ownership.

Bhajan Lal Sharma sworn in as Rajasthan CM, Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa as Deputy CMs

several other Union ministers, chief ministers of various states and other leaders.

People must have tolerance for each other's opinion: Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul

fear or favour and he feels the institution, a temple of justice, must remain open.

"It is my belief that boldness of a judge is a very important factor. If with the constitutional protection which we have, we are not able to exhibit this, we can't expect other parts of administration to do so," he said. Justice Kaul said there is no method by which the judiciary can stand up for itself and "I think it is the duty of the bar to support" and also correct the judiciary.

He said he was going out as a "satisfied man." "... I go with a full sense of satisfaction. I have tried to do my best whatever I could, sometimes it may be the best, sometimes it may not be. But the whole society works in a system where people must have tolerance for each other's opinion," he said, adding, "I think that is the greatest message I would like to give. We are at time in the world, where the tolerance levels have gone very low, internationally..." "It is time the human species learns to live with each other and live with other species of this world, to be able to adjust to it so that the world remains a large place and does not become a small place," Justice Kaul said while thanking the members of the Bar, who had gathered in the court to bid farewell to him.

During his tenure as an apex court judge, Justice Kaul was part of several landmark verdicts, including the one by a nine-judge constitution bench which had held that right to privacy was a fundamental right.

He was part of a five-judge constitution

bench which had unanimously upheld the Centre's decision to abrogate provisions of Article 370 bestowing special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his verdict in the matter, Justice Kaul recommended setting up of an "impartial truth and reconciliation commission" to probe and report on human rights violations by both state and non-state actors in Jammu and Kashmir since the 1980s, saying the "wounds need healing." He was also part of a five-judge constitution bench which refused to accord legal recognition to same-sex marriage, saying there was "no unqualified right" to marriage with the exception of those that are recognised by law

A five-judge constitution bench headed by Justice Kaul had dismissed the Centre's curative plea seeking an additional Rs 7,844 crore from the Union Carbide Corporation's successor firms to extend higher compensation to the victims of the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy that left over 3,000 people dead and caused environmental

He was also heading a five-judge constitution bench which had held the apex court has the discretion of exercising the plenary power it commands under Article 142 of the Constitution to dissolve a marriage on the ground of "irretrievable breakdown," and the authority to dispense with the 6-month waiting period mandated under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 while granting divorce with mutual consent.

Born on December 26, 1958, he obtained his LL.B degree from the Campus Law Centre, Delhi University, in 1982 and enrolled as an advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi on July 15, 1982.

He was designated as a senior advocate in December 1999.

Justice Kaul was elevated as an addition-

Justice Kaul was elevated as an additional judge of the Delhi High Court on May 3, 2001, and was appointed as a permanent judge on May 2, 2003.

He was elevated as the chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court with effect from June 1, 2013 and later, assumed charge as the chief justice of the Madras High Court on July 26, 2014.

Justice Kaul was appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court on February 17, 2017.

Two women cops chargesheeted for Rs 1.88 Cr Chit Fund fraud

on the invested money but neither such interest nor the principle amount was paid back by the accused to the complainants and thus the accused had cheated them and misappropriated their money.

On this, official said. a discreet enquiry was conducted by Commandant IRP 15th Bn. During the course of enquiry it was found that the accused W/Sgct. Nirmal Kour in connivance with her husband Mohinder Singh Saini presently posted in JKAP 14th Bn. had collected a huge amount of cash and gold not only from the

complainants but from other women officials of the 15th Bn. and security wing too illegally after alluring them with high rate of interest besides arranging gold loan facilities but had deposited the cash with some finance company and gold with Manappuraam Bank- Satwari, Karan Market Jammu for their personal use, thereby cheated and duped the fellow officials and misappropriated the collected amount to the tune of Rs. 1.50 crores and gold about 300 grams approx.

On receipt of the enquiry report, official said, a formal case was registered in Crime Branch Jammu under the relevant sections of law.

During the course of investigation, official said, it was also found that accused also started business of electronic gadgets and furniture items at Battalion headquarters against monitory benefits to win over the confidence of innocent investors.

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 recorded and the offences U/S 420, 404, 120-B RPC P/S Crime Branch, Jammu were established against both the accused for cheating and duping the complainants and other coemployees of the Battalion of their hard earned money, official said adding that a preliminary charge-sheet has been produced against the accused Nirmal Kour Saini and Arti Sharma & further investiga-

Freezing cold continue to grip Kashmir Valley

Kashmir division during the period, the MeT office said.

There was no let up in freezing cold conditions in Srinagar despite night temperature improving and recorded at -3.5°C after experiencing the season's coldest night at -5.4°C a day ago.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar said that Konibal in South Kashmir was the coldest place in Kashmir recording -5.5°C last night.

Pahalgam remained the coldest place and had a low of -5.0°C against the -5.8°C recorded the previous night. It was 1.2°C below normal for south Kashmir's tourist hot spot.

The minimum temperature at Gulmarg improved slightly and recorded at -4.2°C against the -5.0°C on Thursday. It was 0.8°C above normal for the famous ski resort of north Kashmir.

The mercury at Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu national highway also witnessed an improvement and recorded at -2.8°C against the -3.8°C recorded the previous night while Kokernag dipped to -1.9° against the -1.6°C recorded a day ago.

The minimum temperature at Kupwara settled at -4.2°C for the second consecutive day on Friday and it was 2.5°C below normal for the frontier north Kashmir district, the MeT office said.

Parliament Security Breach | 2 more detained, 6 teams of special cell constituted to lead investigation

months ago. An entry pass was necessary for entry into Parliament; hence, it was not available. Lalit had asked everyone who could arrange the pass so that they could easily enter Parliament.

From hotel in Rajasthan Lalit was continuously keeping an eye on ongoing developments and police movements through news channels.

According to sources, to unearth more details in the case, the Special Cell of Delhi Police has formed six teams that will go to the locations linked with the accused in Lucknow, Mysore, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Harvana.

Apart from that, the accused will also be taken separately to different locations for cross-verification and identification of evidence, as the Special Cell has had custody of the accused for 7 days. The investigation also revealed that two pairs of shoes were made on special order in Lucknow, as the accused discovered that shoes do not get checked in Parliament and this can be an easy way to carry the smoke canister inside the parliament. Meanwhile, Special Cell of the Delhi Police will recreate the scene of Wednesday's Parliament security breach by taking the accused to the Parliament complex on Saturday or Sunday, sources said. According to sources, the accused will be taken to Parliament to recreate the scene of the crime. This will help the police find out how the accused entered the Parliament building with colour spray and how they executed their plan, sources from the Special Cell said.

Police attaches properties of 2 involved in drug peddling in Poonch

A JCB excavator and tractor belonging to Mohd Yaseen, the other accused, were also seized in drug peddling, UAPA, and Explosive Substance Act, they said.

AJKPC demands Panchayat elections in

without any further delay. Sharma appreciated J&K Police and other security agencies for ensuring peace and also credited people for their wholehearted cooperation. He urged the youth of Kashmir to ensure fullest presence in electoral battle and choose their best representatives in Panchayat, Assembly and LS polls.

Markets fire on all cylinders: Sensex breaches 71k-mark; Nifty surges to fresh record

Besides, heavy buying in IT, tech and metal counters amid sustained buying by foreign investors help the domestic equities

MUMBAI, Dec 15 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices surged more than 1 per cent to hit their new all-time highs on Friday, with the Sensex breaching the 71,000 mark, as domestic macroeconomic data and easing concerns over the US economic growth bolstered market sentiment.

Besides, heavy buying in IT, tech and metal counters amid sustained buying by foreign investors helped the domestic equities, traders said.

Rising for the third day running, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 969.55 points or 1.37 per cent to settle at its record closing high of 71,483.75. During the



day, it surged 1,091.56 points or 1.54 per cent to 71,605.76, its all-time intra-day high level.

The Nifty climbed 273.95 points or 1.29 per cent to settle at its new closing high of 21,456.65. During the day, it zoomed 309.6 points or 1.46 per cent to hit its record intra-day peak of 21,492.30.

HCL Technologies was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, rising 5.58 per cent, followed by Tata Consultancy Services and Infosys, State Bank of India, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel, NTPC and Wipro.

In contrast, Nestle, Bharti Airtel, Maruti and ITC were among the laggards.

record high in 2023: IEA

PARIS, Dec 15 (Agencies): World coal consumption should start declining next year after peaking in 2023, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on

Friday.

The IEA's latest forecast came after nearly 200 countries at the COP28 UN climate talks adopted a deal stating that the world will be "transitioning away from fossil fuels" to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and limit global warming.

Coal is the largest energy-related source of the CO2 emissions responsible along with other greenhouse gases for global warming.

Scientists say the planet has already warmed by 1.2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels and expect 2023 to be the hottest year on record as storms, droughts and

lethal wildfires expand around the world.

World coal consumption to decline next year after

Consumption of the dirtiest fossil fuel rose by 1.4 per cent in 2023 to a record 8.5 billion tonnes, as increases in China, India and Indonesia outweighed sharply falling demand in Europe and the United States, the IEA said.

"We expect to see a trend emerging of declining worldwide coal demand, starting in 2024," the Paris-based agency said, as renewable power generation from solar and wind continues to expand.

According to the IEA, consumption in China alone grew by 220 million tonnes or 4.9 per cent in 2023, while in India it grew by eight per cent and in Indonesia by 11 per cent.

Elsewhere, consumption fell 23 per cent or 107 million tonnes in

Europe, while in the United States, it dropped 95 million tonnes or 21 per cent, largely due to weakening industrial activity and an ongoing shift away from coalfired generation towards renewables.

The IEA said it was difficult to forecast demand in Russia, currently the fourth-largest coal consumer, because of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

Domestic air passenger traffic rise nine percent in November

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencies): Domestic air passenger traffic rose 9 per cent to more than 1.27 crore in November, according to official data released on Friday.

Last month also saw daily air traffic touching new highs multiple times.

IndiGo remained the country's largest domestic carrier but its market share declined to 61.8 per cent in November from 62.6 per cent in October.

However, none of the scheduled carriers had an On-Time Performance (OTP) score of more than 80 per cent in November.

Official data released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday showed that airlines flew 1.27 crore passengers in November compared to 1.17 crore in the year-ago period.

This marks a growth of 9.06 per cent on an annual basis.

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-November 2023 were 1,382.34 lakhs as against 1,105.10 lakhs during the corresponding period of previous year thereby regis-

tering annual growth of 25.09 per cent and monthly growth of 9.06 per cent," DGCA said.

The domestic market share of SpiceJet rose to 6.2 per cent in November from 5 per cent in October.

Its OTP stood at 41.8 per cent last month.

Air India's domestic market share remained unchanged at 10.5 per cent in November while that of Vistara fell marginally to 9.4 per cent last month.

In November, the share of Akasa Air and AIX Connect remained unchanged at 4.2 per cent and 6.6 per cent, respec-

As per the data, Akasa Air topped the OTP chart at 78.2 per cent, followed by IndiGo at 77.5 per cent and Vistara at 72.8 per cent.

Air India's OTP was at 62.5 per cent while that of AIX Connect and Alliance Air were at 69.7 per cent and 66.1 per cent, respectively

On-Time Performance (OTP) of scheduled domestic airlines is computed for four metro airports -- Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai.

Quantum cybersecurity startup raises USD 6.5 mn in Pre-Series A1 funding round

CHENNAI, Dec 15 (Agencies): A quantum computing-based cybersecurity startup QNu Labs has raised USD 6.5 million in a Pre-Series A1 funding round. This investment was led by Ashish Kacholia of Lucky Investments, Speciale Invest and an unnamed family fund.

QNu Labs was founded in 2016, and incubated at IIT Madras Research Park.

The startup said it has developed technology that holds multiple patents and has demonstrated India's first commercially ready quantum-safe security products and solutions that offer unconditional and forward security of data on the internet, cloud and edge.

Quantum computing, under development by various players, where information is stored in quantum bits or qubits contrasts to the existing classical



computer based on binary units of 1 and 0.

Considered as critical technology for national security and strategic interest among other things, quantum computers are believed to have capabilities to break current cybersecurity security systems and data encryptions.

QNu Labs said it has also built an ecosystem of academia and technology partners, professional services partners, vendors and suppliers to develop fully indigenized products.

The startup plans to complete its product development refine its existing quantum solution and focus on global markets.

This capital infusion will also bolster QNu Labs' leadership team, with hires in senior sales, marketing, and engineering roles, the company said in a statement. This will accelerate the deployment of their solutions, in line with the increasing demand, it added.

"With these funds, we're poised to accelerate the completion of our state-of-the-art quantum technology solutions, further enhancing our product suite that's already leading the market.

Our goal is to solidify India's position as a hub of quantum technological excellence and to emerge as a key player on the global stage, pushing the boundaries of what's possible in quantum-safe cybersecurity," said Sunil Gupta, Co-founder and CEO, of QNu Labs.

"Our initial investment in QNu Labs back in 2021 was driven by our belief in their potential to revolutionize the quantum technology sector," said Vishesh Rajaram, Managing Partner of Speciale Invest.

Third Wave Coffee fires 120 employees after \$35 million funding boost: Report

BENGALURU, Dec 15 (Agencies): Third Wave Coffee, a specialty coffee and food brand backed by Zerodha cofounder Nikhil Kamath, has laid off 120 employees in a restructuring exercise, according to the business news website Moneycontrol.

The Bengaluru-based company cited a "strategic review" and the need to consolidate teams for efficiency as reasons for dismissing employees across various departments, including tech, finance, marketing, business development, and app development.

development. The firm said the affected employees are being offered two months' salary in case they wish to leave immediately or the option to work until mid-February 2024.

The decision to trim around 10 percent of the total workforce of the company, also backed by Gaurav Munjal and Roman Saini of Unacademy, was made months after the startup raised \$35 million (approximately Rs 270 crore) in its latest funding round.

Employees alleged that there was no written communication informing them about the staff reduction, and it was done in-person.

"The head of HR and

the founder have come to each of us, speaking for 10–15 minutes and informing people that their roles are no longer needed in the restructured organisation," an employee was quoted by Moneycontrol.

According to the employees, there might be another round of layoffs today (December 15).

The company, meanwhile, said, "As an organisation, we are in a strong position post the recent fund raise. We will continue to scale and build TWC as India's most loved coffee brand."

'Long flu': Study finds influenza symptoms can linger like long Covid

NEW YORK, Dec 15 (Agencies): People hospitalised with seasonal influenza also can suffer long-term, negative health effects, especially involving their lungs and airways, much like the effects of long Covid, according to a study.

The findings, published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases, showed that Long flu, which was ignored for a considerable time, is for real and is a health risk.

The new study by Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis compared the viruses that cause Covid-19 and the flu also revealed that in the 18 months after infection, patients hospitalised for either Covid-19 or seasonal influenza faced an increased risk of death, hospital readmission, and health problems in many organ systems.

Further, the time of highest risk was 30 days or later after initial infection.

"The study illustrates the high toll of death and loss of health following hospitalisation with either Covid-19 or seasonal influenza," said Ziyad Al-Aly, MD, a clinical epidemiologist at Washington University.

"It's critical to note that



the health risks were higher after the first 30 days of infection. Many people think they're over Covid-19 or the flu after being discharged from the hospital. That may be true for some people. But our research shows that both viruses can cause long-haul illness," he added.

Al-Aly, an assistant professor of medicine at Washington University said that a review of past studies on Covid versus the flu focused on a short-term and narrow set of health outcomes.

They found that the overall risk and occurrence of death, hospital admissions, and loss of health in many organ systems are substantial-

ly higher among Covid patients than among those who have had seasonal influenza, he said.

"The one notable exception is that the flu poses higher risks to the pulmonary system than Covid-19," Al-Aly said.
The researchers evaluated health information

uated health information involving 81,280 patients hospitalised for Covid from March 2020 to June 2022, as well as 10,985 patients hospitalised for seasonal influenza from October 2015 to February 2019.

During the overall 18-month study period, patients who had Covid faced a 50 per cent higher risk of death than those with seasonal sponded to about eight more deaths per 100 persons in the Covid group than among those with the flu.

Although Covid showed a greater risk of health loss than seasonal influenza, infection with either virus carried significant risk of disability and disease.

The researchers found Covid exhibited an increased risk of 68 per cent of health conditions examined across all organ systems (64 of the 94 adverse health outcomes studied), while the flu was associated with elevated risk of 6 per cent of health conditions (six of the 94) -- mostly in the respiratory system.

Also, over 18 months, Covid-19 patients experienced an increased risk of hospital readmission as well as admission to an intensive care unit (ICU). For every 100 persons in each group, there were 20 more hospital admissions and nine more ICU admissions in Covid-19 than flu.

"For both Covid-19 and seasonal influenza, vaccinations can help prevent severe disease and reduce the risk of hospitalizations and death," Al-Aly said.

Scientists find hormone behind severe morning sickness

About 2 per cent of women suffer the most severe form Hyperemesis Gravidarum (HG), leading to weight loss, dehydration and hospitalisation

LONDON, Dec 15 (Agencies): A team of scientists have identified a hormone, produced by the foetus that triggers severe morning sickness characterised by nausea and vomiting in the first trimester of pregnancy.

The team from the University of Cambridge found GDF15 hormone acting on the brain stem causing nausea and vomiting of pregnancy (NVP) in about seven in ten women.

However, about 2 per cent of women suffer the most severe form Hyperemesis Gravidarum (HG), leading to weight loss, dehydration and hospitalisation.

The new findings may help develop treatments for the pregnancy sickness, the underlying cause of which had, until now, been unclear.

The study, published in the journal Nature, found that the severity of the morning sickness in pregnant women depends on a combination of how much of GDF15 is produced by the foetus and how much exposure the



mother had to this hormone before becoming pregnant.

"The baby growing in the womb is producing a hormone at levels the mother is not used to. The more sensitive she is to this hormone, the sicker she will become," Stephen O'Rahilly, from Wellcome-MRC Institute of Metabolic Science at the University of Cambridge

"Knowing this gives us a clue as to how we might prevent this from happening. It also makes us more confident that preventing GDF15 from accessing its highly specific receptor in the mother's brain will ultimately form the basis for an effective and safe way of treating this disorder," O'Rahilly added.

The team found that a rare genetic variant that puts women at a much greater risk of HG was associated with lower levels of the hormone in the blood and tissues outside of pregnancy.

Similarly, women with the inherited blood disorder beta thalassemia, which causes them to have naturally very high levels of GDF15 prior to pregnancy, experience little or no nausea or vomiting.

Mice exposed to acute, high levels of GDF15 showed signs of loss of appetite, suggesting that they were experiencing nausea, but mice treated with a long-acting form of GDF15 did not show similar behaviour when exposed to acute levels of the hormone.

The researchers believe that building up a woman's tolerance to the hormone prior to pregnancy could hold the key to preventing sickness.

"Hopefully, now that we understand the cause of hyperemesis gravidarum, we're a step closer to developing effective treatments to stop other mothers going through what I and many other women have experienced," said coauthor Dr Marlena Fejzo from the Department of Population and Public Health Sciences at the University of Southern California.

Suryakumar's hundred, Kuldeep's fifer fashion India's series-levelling win over South Africa

Suryakumar in the company of Jaiswal made 112 runs for an entertaining fourth-wicket alliance and trusted the true nature of the Wanderers' pitch to unfurl shots of the highest quality.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec 15 (Agencies): Captain Suryakumar Yadav produced a hundred of rare brilliance and Kuldeep Yadav worked his inimitable sorcery with a fifer as India registered a comprehensive 106-run series-levelling win over South Africa in the third and final T201.

Suryakumar's 100 off 56 balls contained seven fours and eight sixes and Yashasvi Jaiswal's fluent 60 off 41 balls carried India to 201 for 7 after the visitors were asked to bat first.

Indian bowlers, especially left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep (5/17), who turned 29 on Thursday, managed to hit better lengths to bundle out SA for 95 in 13.5 overs.

But for that India need to profusely thank Suryakumar.

The 33-year-old exploited the opportunity to bat on a bone-dry surface making his fourth T20I century, joining team-mate Rohit Sharma and Australian Glenn Maxwell as batters with that many three-figure scores in the shortest format.

Suryakumar in the company of Jaiswal made 112 runs for an entertaining fourth-wicket alliance and trusted the true nature of the Wanderers' pitch to unfurl shots of the highest quality.

Their partnership also allowed India to wriggle out of a bit of a tight space after losing Shubman Gill (8) and Tilak Varma (0) off successive balls in the third over to left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj.

India were 29 for 2 at that point.

point.
But the Suryakumar-Jaiswal



moments like a magical pull-off

pacer Lizaad Williams that gave

But the left-hander's effort to

clear long-off off left-arm wrist

spinner Tabraiz Shamsi ended

in the hands of Reeza Hen-

However, there was no stop-

ping Suryakumar, who contin-

ued to cart the Proteas bowlers

around using nimble feet and

those highly manipulative wrists.

The 33-year-old soon fetched

a well-deserved hundred in

a surprisingly sedate manner

-- with a two off Williams -- off

55 balls. He could not last till

the end giving a catch to Mat-

thew Breetzke at the edge of

the ropes off Williams. But by

then, he had done enough to

take India to a competitive total.

The Indians needed to come

up with a better effort with the

ball than they did in the second

match, and they did precisely

The Johannesburg deck that

changed the character drasti-

cally under the light too helped

their cause.

him six runs over mid-wicket.

stand was not all about flaunting a gun.

They made a rather sturdy beginning, adding 33 runs in the final four overs of the Power Play and then another 25 runs in the overs between seven and 10

But once the 10th over mark passed, the pair, especially Suryakumar, shifted into overdrive as 114 runs came cascading in the back-10.

Suryakumar, who gave all the space to his junior partner in the early part of the partnership, soon took over the role of chief aggressor.

He took those '360' shots out of the shelf to punish the SA bowlers who did not have much variety to tame Suryakumar on a benign pitch.

Pacer Andile Phehlukwayo bore the brunt of Suryakumar's awesome skill sets in this format.

The Indian skipper hammered Phehlukwayo for 22 runs in the 13th over through a sequence of 6, 4, 6, 6, an over in which he also brought up his fifty along with that last maximum.

In the second half, the pitch offered some assistance to spinners in the form of turn, which Jadeja and Kuldeep used gleefully.

Birthday boy Kuldeep's delivery that came from outside of the off-stump to rattle the stumps of Dononvan Ferreira was quite exceptional and also exposed SA batters' weakness against high-quality spin.

But in reality, South Africa's chase never really took off.

Pacer Mohammed Siraj set the perfect platform for India's defence, bowling a maiden in the first over, and they never let the Proteas off the hook from that point.

Once captain Aiden Markram and big-hitting Heinrich Klaasen were dismissed inside the first seven overs to reduce SA to 42 for four, their fate was sealed.

The rest of the line-up did not have the ability to read Kuldeep either off the hand or off the pitch as they crumbled like a whole-meal cookie.

The only jarring point for India was the absence of Suryakumar who had to walk out of the field in the third over of SA innings with a hurt ankle while trying to stop a shot from Reeza Hendricks.

Jadeja stood in for Suryakumar for the rest of the SA innings. Brief Scores:

India: 201 for 7 in 20 overs (Suryakumar Yadav 100, Yashasvi Jaiswal 60; Keshav Maharaj 2/26, Lizaad Williams 2/46).

South Africa: 95 all out in 13.5 overs (David Miller 35; Kuldeep Yadav 5/17, Ravindra Jadeja 2/25).

South African pitches are suiting spinners in ongoing tour, says Kuldeep after picking fifer



JOHANNESBURG, Dec 15 (Agencie): Surprised by the spin on offer during the third T20I at The Wanderers here, Kuldeep Yadav said the South African wickets, generally known for their pace and bounce, are also suiting spinners in the ongoing tour.

Kuldeep had a perfect 29th birthday on Thursday as he became only the second Indian bowler to pick up multiple five-wicket hauls in T20Is after Bhuvneshwar Kumar. He became the first Indian spinner

to reach the landmark.

Both Kuldeep and
Bhuvneshwar have two
fifers in T20Is.

"It turned out to be a special day. I have never thought about taking five wickets. I just wanted the team to win which is more important," Kuldeep said.

"I was concerned about my bowling because I was playing after sometime, so wanted to get my rhythm. It was perfect today. The ball was coming out well from the

In a tribute to MS Dhoni, no Indian will ever

hand and the conditions too suited the spinners a bit."

Kuldeep returned with figures of 5/17 from 2.5 overs as India beat South Africa by 106 runs to level the finish the three-match T20 series tied at 1-1.

"To be very honest, the wickets are very good for the spinners. The good thing about these wickets are that the ball comes very quickly after pitching. So sometimes, you have to vary your variations and if you get it right then it is very difficult to pick," he added.

Kuldeep last played in South Africa in 2018 but a knee injury in 2021, for which he underwent surgery, halted his career for 6-7 months.

However, he successfully returned back to the field with a new technique.

"In 2018, I was very new and after that, couple of years I struggled with my injury and post-surgery I came back and made a few changes in my bowling, especially in my run-up. Trying to be more aggressive and just trying to bowl much straighter and focussing on length," Kuldeep said.

Just like his teammates, it took some time for Kuldeep to overcome the loss in the ODI World Cup final to Australia.

"Starting was really difficult. First 7 to 10 days were really tough. Whenever I was waking up, the thought of losing the World Cup final was haunting me. But life changes and moves on. I got an opportunity to play in South Africa, I last played here in 2018 so I knew the conditions well." he said.

"In cricket what you want never happens and you have to learn from them and implement those in future matches."

Captain Suryakumar Yadav's fiery 56-ball 100 laid the platform for India's 201 for 7 in the third T20I, which the Proteas failed to chase down after being dismissed for 95 in 13.5 overs.

"Surya bhai batted brilliantly. The way he was batting was great to watch because the pitch was not that easy for batting. It was really a treat to watch him bat," Kuldeep said.

The tour will now shift to three-match ODI series starting Sunday in Johannesburg.

First day, India steal show

Batters make merry as hosts post 410 on Day 1

NAVI MUMBAI, Dec 15 (Agencie): Debutants Shubha Satheesh and Jemimah Rodrigues made fine half-centuries as India's ultra-aggressive approach with the bat took them to a massive 410/7 at stumps on Day 1 of their one-off Test against England.

Playing their first Test in nearly two years, and their maiden red-ball game on home soil in nine years, India rarely took their foot off the pedal on a batting-friendly surface at the DY Patil Stadium, garnering nearly five runs per over

The 24-year-old Shubha stood tall with a 76-ball 69 studded with 13 boundaries, displaying immaculate footwork and impeccable reading of the line and length to score her runs at a strike-rate of nearly 91.

Shubha became the 12th India batter to score a fifty on debut. If she had converted it into a century, she would have become the first from the country to make a ton in her maiden appearance. Instead, she departed when Sophie Ecclestone (1/85) had her caught by Nat Sciver-Brunt.

Jemimah also produced a knock befitting her calibre, smacking 11 fours during her 99-ball 68. The young batter looked good for a three-figure score but played one onto her wickets off Lauren Bell (2/64).

Shubha and Jemimah were instrumental in setting the tone for the hosts' domination after the team appeared to be stuttering following a brisk start, adding 115 runs for the third wicket to enter the record books.

The partnership between the duo is now the second-highest in Test cricket for the third wicket.

It was a day when the Indians were within touching distance of resetting several records but fell short.

India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur began with a sweep shot and looked in rich vein of form, but her bat got stuck in the ground while completing a run and Dani Wyatt's throw ended her stay. Harmanpreet walked back to the

Harmanpreet walked back to the dressing room having scored an 81-ball 49 with six fours, but more importantly, she and Yastika Bhatia (66) put on 116 runs for the fifth wicket, which is the second-highest stand for India in the format.

Yastika was brisk in getting runs, with the wicketkeeper-batter being fluent on both sides of the wicket, cracking 10 fours and the only six of the innings.

fours and the only six of the innings. Lauren dropped a regulation catch at mid-on off Charlie Dean (1/62) when



Yastika, on 15 then, mistimed a sweep and the ball went high up in the air.

Yastika had to contend with a maiden half-century in her second Test outing as Lauren did not err while taking a catch for the second time at the same spot, off the same bowler. India were far from done as Deepti Sharma (60) and Sneh Rana (30) joined forces to pile more misery on England on a hot and humid day, adding 92 runs for the seventh wicket, which took the hosts past the 400-run mark.

For England opportunities were few and far between. Luck also did not favour them, with a few edges flying past their fielders.

Scoreboard India 1st innings

S Mandhana b Bell 17 S Verma b Cross 19

S Shubha c Sciver-Brunt b Ecclestone

J Rodrigues b Bell 68 H Kaur run out (Wyatt) 49 Y Bhatia c Bell b Dean 66 D Sharma not out 60 S Rana b Sciver-Brunt 30 P Vastrakar not out 4 Extras: (b 19, lb 7, nb 2) 28 Total: (7 wickets, 94 overs) 410 FOW: 1-25, 2-47, 3-162, 4-190, 5-306,

6-313, 7-405
Bowling O M R W
Kate Cross 14 0 64 1
Lauren Bell 15 1 64 2
Nat Sciver-Brunt 11 4 25 1
Lauren Filer 15 1 84 0
Charlie Dean 17 1 62 1
Sophie Ecclestone 22 4 85 1
Highest totals in single day in women's

431/4 England vs New Zealand, Christchurch 1935. 410/7 India vs England, Navi Mumbai

2023. 362/5 New Zealand vs England, Guildford 1996.

351/6 England vs South Africa, Johannesburg 1960. 332/7 England vs India, Worcester

don number 7 jersey NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencie): The PCCI

NEW DELHI, Dec 15 (Agencie): The BCCI has decided to retire former Indian skipper MS Dhoni's iconic number 7 jersey in a tribute to the cricketer to honour his glorious career and contribution to Indian cricket.

Reportedly, the BCCI has informed the Indian players, especially debutants, that jersey number 7 can no longer



be chosen.

According to a BCCI official, "At present 60 numbers are designated to the regulars in the Indian team and those in contention. So even if a player is out of the team for about a year or so, we don't give away his number to a new player. That means a recent debutant has just 30-odd numbers to

choose from."

The retirement of jersey number 7 comes years after Sachin Tendulkar's jersey number 10 was retired in a similar tribute by the BCCI in 2017.

Dhoni, who has had the most successful record as an Indian captain in ICC events, retired from international cricket in August 2020.

Candidates on line, Gukesh seeks salvation

From Friday, Gukesh will be featuring at the Chennai Masters 2023, the country's strongest Classical meet of all time (average ELO of 2711).

CHENNAI, Dec 15 (Agencie): A stone's throw away from the Leela Palace, the sound of a relatively calm Bay of Bengal was unmistakable. The genteel waves grabbed the attention of a few of the guests who were milling about in the lobby. Then, it was no wonder that they missed the arrival of D Gukesh, one of the country's myriad chess prodigies. He may only be 17 but he already has enough achievements in a very short career. Becoming a Grandmaster as a child, an Olympiad gold, overtaking Viswanathan Anand's ELO mark... you get the drift.

Over the last few months, Gukesh has crisscrossed the world in the hope of qualifying for the Candidates. He may have booked his spot had he beaten Magnus Carlsen in the quarterfinals of the World Cup in August but the Norwegian halted his progress. It was during that tournament when the 17-year-old became the top-ranked Indian in the Classical

format, a mark that had previously belonged to Viswanathan Anand for 36 years.

Since then, though,

Gukesh has been on a slightly downward trajectory. If the ascent till August had been on an escalator, he has had to walk on beach sand since then. Unsure footing here, a slip there. From a high of 2758, his rating is now 2715.5. It's why Gukesh calls the last few months 'very tough'. But there's no time to rest. No time even for a power nap. It's why hours after landing from London (he was taking part in the London Classic), the 17-year-old, whose eyes very clearly needed some sleep, was checking into the hotel. From Friday, he will be featuring at the Chennai Masters 2023, the country's strongest Classical meet of all time (average ELO of 2711). On the couch waiting to be checked in, it seemed like somebody had forcibly woken him up and splashed some water on his face.



At the Opening Ceremony a few hours later, the twinkle in his eyes was back. It was also not hard to miss the punishing schedule the teen has willingly endured to try and qualify for the Candidates (at some level, this tournament itself has been willed into existence over the last few weeks to help Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi, the other Indian with a chance of advancing to the Candidates this late in the season, garner crucial points in

the FIDE circuit leader-board).

Since Baku, Gukesh has played events in Dusseldorf, Kolkata, Berlin, Hangzhou, Doha, Douglas and London. In December alone, Gukesh is in line to play at least one competitive Classical match in 16 of the first 21 days. Then, he is likely to feature at the World Rapid and

Blitz in Uzbekistan.
His mind, though, is only thinking about the next seven days. If he can win this tournament,

he will be in first place in the leaderboard. "There are a lot of thoughts going on in my mind (what did you tell yourself when you saw other Indian players qualify for the Candidates?)." he said after the Opening Ceremony. "You learn to handle it (pressure) and put yourself on the board and give your best. "The last few months has obviously been tough but it was a great learning experience. To play now in Chennai is going to be something special."

You normally don't associate pressure with a 17-year-old but it's fair to say Gukesh has felt it within handshaking distance this year. "It's surely a new challenge to me, trying my best. Hopefully this time I will be able to bring my best. Different people have different ways in handling pressure. I have a very supporting family and friends. They are with me no matter what. Their company is something I look forward to... I also like watching some tennis."

DIG Range Jammu flags off students to attend attend 24th Rashtra Katha Shivir

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Shri Vedic Mission Trust is organizing the 24th Rashtra Katha Camp at Rajkot Gujarat from December 17 to 24, 2023 in which 25 students each from Government High School Greater Kailash Lower Chowadi, Jammu, Government High School Kalideh Sunderbani, Government High School Kandoli Nagrota and Govt. Higher Secondary School Utter Behani, Samba are participating.

The program started with the welcome speech of Mahendra Singh, 2 In- Command,



who described the glorious history, various social & welfare activities undertaken by the CRPF.

Chief Guest Ramesh Kumar DIG Range Jammu, addressed the children and briefed them regarding the importance of the camp for awakening national

reserving one legis-

lative assembly seat

each in Jammu as well

demanded that Paki-

stan occupied Jammu

Kashmir (PoJK) Dis-

placed Persons (DPs)

should also be given

reservation of legisla-

tive assembly up to

"The reservation of

one legislative assem-

bly seat for the PoJK

DPs is insufficient and

therefore, the seats for

the PoJK DPs should

be enhanced up to

eight seats," he said.

He stated that the

Govt should seriously

look into the demands

of the DPs and resolve

He said that the

people in both the

regions of Jammu and

Kashmir have been

waiting with despera-

tion for the assembly

elections because the

present form of Govt is

incompetent to resolve

the problems of the

suitable for holding

assembly elections

in Jammu and Kash-

mir. Hence, the Elec-

tion Commission of

India should take the

demand of the people

into consideration and

announce the assem-

bly polls," he added.

Earlier, the develop-

mental issues were

also discussed in the

The District Presi-

dent, Legal Cell,

Samba, Advocate

Sahil Bharti also

spoke on the occa-

sion and highlighted

various issues con-

fronted by the people

in Ramgarh.

meeting.

"The situation is

people.

them accordingly.

eight seats.

as in Kashmir.

Meanwhile,

spirit, apprise the rich history and culture of India, sense of national integration, social harmony, overall personality development and the programs/activities to be held in the camp.

He told that during the Katha Shivir, the Constitution of India, national integration, cultural

and personal development, nationalism and patriotism, national security issues, environment, water, digital India, climate change & conservation, human rights, use of science & technology, Spirituality, disaster management, first aid & rules of the

road are taught. Apart

passage of Women Reservation Bill

Women's power is the power of nation: Sanjita Dogra

BJP Mahila Morcha celebrates

from Martial arts, judo, karate, basketball, tug of war, yoga pranayama and meditation will also be conducted in the Camp.

During the camp Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, BSF, CRPF, NDRF SSB, ITBP will present/show-case various activities through exhibition and educate the students about various types of innovations and modern equipment for future progress.

At the end of the program, Chief Guest Ramesh Kumar DIG Range Jammu flagged off the buses for their onward journey to attend 24th Rashtra Katha.

Parmodh Kapahi pays obeisance at Tirupati Temple participates in Abhishek ceremony



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Parmodh Kapahi BJP Distt President Jammu along with former Corporator Pritam Singh on Friday paid obeisance at Tirupati Balaji Temple Jammu and participated in the special Abhishek of Tirupati.

He prayed for the welfare of the country. Every Friday the ceremony of Abhishek of Lord Venkateshwar is performed.

Parmodh Kapahi expressed happiness over the temple said that it is a feeling of pleasure and proud that the Tirupati Balaji temple is established here for the people of Jammu.

With this temple we are able to witness the culture of south India and this feeling is heavenly.

He appealed people to visit the temple and pay obesicance here. He said that he is ready for any kind of help to the

temple and devotees.

Pritam Singh said the dedication of Lord Ven-kateswara temple would give a boost to spiritual tourism and a major fillip to the economic development and employment opportunities in the Union Territory.

On this occasion Subramanyam the Superintendent of Temple also appealed Transport Commissioner to start the bus service for the temple so that devotees can come easily to the temple.

He also emphasized to start the Bharat Darshan bus service here so that tourists also came to know about the temple.

Other dignitaries present were Sai Krishna, Temple Inspector, Subramanyam, Superintendent Raviteja, Pradhana Pandit, Amit Shukla and Veda Pandit.

Manjit Singh demands political reservation for Sikhs, Jatts in J&K

Seeks reservation of eight assembly seats for PoJK DPs



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Dec 15: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh on Friday demanded political reservation for Jatts and Sikh Communities in Jammu and Kashmir in the legislative assembly.

The Former Minister was speaking at a meeting here at Ramgarh that was organized by Apni Party District President, Legal Cell, Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti.

The meeting was also attended by District President, Samba, Raman Thappa, Block President, Ramgarh, Bachan Choudhary, and others.

The meeting was organized to discuss the emerging political situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the demands of the people that would help them to overcome the difficulties they are facing for the last many decades.

In his address, Manjit Singh expressed concern over the plight of the marginalized section of society especially the Sikhs and Jatts who have a huge population, but they were not given political representation.

To upgrade their living standard, political and economic status, he said that it becomes imperative for the Govt to grant political reservation to both Sikhs and Jatts in Jammu as well as

Kashmir Provinces.

He said that the Sikhs should be given political representation by

JAMMU, Dec 15: Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party

Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Mahila Morcha unit led by its President Sanjita Dogra, celebrated the passing of historic women reservation bill in both the houses of the Parliament and especially for Jammu and Kashmir, by dancing on drum beats and distributing sweets.

Top News Report

J&K BJP vice-president Anuradha Charak, Veenu Khanna, secretary, spokesperson Rajni Sethi, Ex Dy. Mayor Purnima Sharma, Neha Mahajan, Reema Padha, Neeru Anand, Anita Gandotra, Prerna Nanda, Suman Raina, Usha Rajput, Poonam Gupta and others were amongst the prominent present to celebrate the occasion.

Sanjita Dogra, while speaking on the occasion, said that the introduction of the bill to provide 33 per cent quota for women's representation for the women of



Jammu and Kashmir is a "significant step" towards 'Nari Shakti' which is also 'Rashtra Shakti', the power of nation. It will go in the annals of India's 75-year history in golden letters as the day when half of the nation's population will get adequate representation in the highest law-making body of the country, she said.

She thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the introduction of the bill and its passage in both the houses, saying, "Women's power is the nation's power, and both women and the nation are set to attain greater heights in Amrit Kaal till 2047".

Congratulating all the women, Dogra said,

"Our Nari Shakti is excelling in every field. India's vision of womenled development is both acknowledged and adopted by the global community." "The world today recognizes that true progress of humanity can only be achieved when women are placed at the forefront."

After celebrations, Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (Organization), chaired organizational meeting of State Mahila Morcha, wherein he appreciated the working of the Morcha and stressed on to strengthen their teams in the build-up of 2024 elections, which are just around the corner next year.

Retd ZEO Rashmi Wazir with her supporters joins BJP

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Rashmi Wazir (Retired ZEO) and daughter of Daya Krishan Kotwal, former BJP State President and tall leader of Jammu & Kashmir hailing from Bhaderwah, accompanied by a large number of supporters joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here on Friday.

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), J&K BJP, Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, former minister & General Secretary, Anuradha Charak, Vice-President, Sanjita Dogra, President, Mahila Morcha, Baldev Singh Billawaria, former Dy. Mayor welcomed the new entrants in the party fold.

Ashok Koul, while welcoming the new entrants into the party fold, recalled the contribution of late Daya Krishan Kotwal towards the nation, society and the party. He said that living an exemplary life, Kotwal inspired everyone who came in contact with him and added



that the party is sure that Rashmi would serve the nation and the party with the same zeal.

Kavinder Gupta, while welcoming Rashmi Kotwal and her supporters, appreciated them for the decision. He said that Rashmi Kotwal, during her service, served the society as a social worker also and is willing to contribute to society after her retirement.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal said that the family of Daya Krishan Kotwal has gone through all the struggles in Bhaderwah along with him and the party has faith in her that her sincere efforts will further the mission of the party. Sanjita Dogra wel-

her presence will reinforce the BJP as well as Mahila Morcha. Rashmi Wazir said

that it was only a matter of time after her retirement that she made her mind to officially join the BJP. She said that patriotism runs through her veins and she felt so alive after joining the party as all the earlier remembrances with her father (Day Krishan Kotwal) refreshed in her mind. She said that inspired by her father's struggles she always remained connected to the emotions of societal service and nationalism throughout her life until

Mahila Morcha General Secretaries Neha Mahajan and Reema Padha managed the proceedings of the joining programme.

Sahil Mahajan releases Punjabi Song 'Gang Sign'



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: Sahil Mahajan (BJP JK UT Co-Convenor Sanskriti, Art Culture Cell), Rinku Chouhan (BJP JK UT Spokeperson), Baba Khandeshwari and Baba Divyansha released Punjabi song 'Gang Sign' in Press Club, here on Friday. Program was organised by KK Malhotra (Video Director).

The song was released under banner Vishal Jakria and Sung by Vishal Jakria Ft Kuldeep Jakria, music by Wazir X Music, directed by KK Malhotra, lyrics

by Vishal Jakria, Asstt Director Prena Sharma. Speaking on the occasion, Sahil Mahajan said that in Jammu and Kashmir, the Punjabi songs of Gods and Goddesses are played everywhere during every religious ritual or function whether it is

Jagrata, Langar, Seva,

Pooja or other religious

He said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir should also support and encourage the local artists of Jammu and Kashmir so that they can also grow and reach new heights in their respective industries as

it will make every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir proud.

Sahil Mahajan further added that the youth of J&K should also participate more in the religious activities and rituals as it will guide them towards an enlightened future and prevent them from going on the wrong track in life and doing illegal activities like drugs and ruining their own lives.

Sahil Mahajan said that the Cell is always there to support every artist of Jammu and Kashmir and if they need any help they can approach party for the assistance.

Samvedna committed to work for unreached sections: Keshav Chopra

comed her into the

party fold and said that



Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 15: To provide Aadhaar services at one place, Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra organised an Aadhaar enrollment Camp for the children rescued by the Child Protection team during the drive launched by the District Task Force Jammu.

The Aadhaar Camp

was inaugurated by District Child Protection officer Mamta Rajput.

Mamta Rajput said that the purpose of organising Aadhaar enrollment camp is to ensure proper rehabilitation of these children, out of school children's shall be enrolled in schools for further studies and for that Aadhaar card is necessary. Mamta also appreciated the work of

Chairman Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra for organizing the camp. Keshav Chopra said that the aim of Samvedna Society is to reach the unreached sections of the Society and aim of organizing this camp was to provide Aadhaar related services to these rescued children so that they can also get benefits of government sponsored schemes and get proper education.

"We will continue conducting these camps in future also so that everyone can take advantage of these camps," Keshav further added.

Yogita Thakur Superintendent of the Shelter Home, Operator Love Jyot Singh and others were also present during the camp.

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