

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Firing on New Year's Eve: Three held in Jammu, two pistols seized

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): Three people were arrested in connection with a recent firing here, leading to the seizure of two pistols, police said. An information was received at Chinore police post about firing by two groups on the eve of New Year at Kamal Nagar in Bantlab area on the outskirts of Jammu. A case was registered after the incident, a police spokesman said. Three accused were rounded up after strenuous efforts and during questioning they confessed to their involvement in the firing, he said, adding two pistols and five rounds were recovered at their disclosure. The spokesman identified the arrested accused as Sandeep Khajuria and Akbar Ali of Bantlab and Suresh Kumar of Talab Tillo. Some more arrests are likely in the case as the investigation progresses, he said.

No relief in sight, intense dry cold unabated in J&K

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): With no relief in sight, intense dry cold tightened its grip on Valley as dense fog adversely affected life in Jammu on Wednesday. MeT department has forecast generally dry weather in J&K till January 26.

Minimum temperature was minus 5 degree Celsius in Srinagar and Gulmarg on Wednesday while it was minus 6.3 in Pahalgam.

In Ladakh region, Leh town recorded minus 15.2 and Kargil minus 13.9 as the minimum temperature.

Jammu city witnessed 4.8, Katra 5.7, Batote 2.2, Bhaderwah minus 0.2 and Banihal minus 1.4 as the night's lowest temperature.

The 40-day long period of harsh winter cold known as the 'Chillai Kalan' started on December 21 and will end on January 30.

Youth found dead in Pulwama

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): A youth was found dead at his home in the Puchhal area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on

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Gadkari Inaugurates, Lays Foundation Stones Of 29 Highway Projects Worth Rs 4,000 Crore In Punjab

HOSHIARPUR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday here inaugurated and laid foundation stones of 29 national highway projects worth Rs 4,000 crore in Punjab.

The projects included Ladhawal bypass in Ludhiana, six-lane fly-over and two-lane road over bridge in Ludhiana, four laning of Jalandhar-Kapurthala section, and



three bridges on the Jalandhar-Makhu road. Gadkari laid the foundation stones of several

projects, including four laning of Hoshiarpur-Phagwara road and four laning of Ferozepur

bypass.

Addressing a gathering here, Gadkari said the BJP-led government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is building expressways, including green expressways which are helping shortening distances between places.

The minister for road transport and highways further said five green-field expressways and

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BSF Director General reviews security situation, operational preparedness of troops

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF) Nitin Agrawal on Wednesday reviewed the security situation and operational preparedness of the troops guarding the border with Pakistan on the Jammu frontier, officials said.

Agrawal, who visited areas located close to the International Border (IB), also called on



Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha at the Raj Bhavan here and briefed him about the security situation along the border.

The DG reviewed the security situation and the operational preparedness of the troops with senior BSF officials. Agrawal is currently on a visit to the Jammu region.

D K Boora, Inspector General, BSF, Jammu

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Won't indulge in politics on Ram Temple consecration: Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday refused to comment on the consecration of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya, saying he does not want to indulge in politics on the issue.

"I will not comment on the Ram Mandir. This is neither the first inauguration nor the last. We have seen inaugurations in the past as well. If you want to bring politics into it, it is up to you, I am not indulging in politics over



the issue," Abdullah told reporters here.

Asked if he would attend the consecration ceremony of the temple if he gets an invitation, the former Jammu and

Kashmir chief minister said he was sure he will not be invited.

"Why are you asking me whether I will go or not? Who goes uninvited? I know I won't be invited. Those who were to be invited, they have already got an invitation. The industrialists, cricketers, film stars and others.

Everyone knows their names. Have you seen my name in the list? No. When they do not have an intention to invite me, why should we go into ifs and buts?" he said.

Kashmir awaits Snow, Rain

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Dry spell prevailed in Kashmir valley even as the minimum temperature fell by several degrees, intensifying bone chilling conditions, officials said on Wednesday.

The dry weather has resulted in freezing nights and warmer than usual days as Srinagar on Tuesday recorded a maximum temperature of 14.2 degrees Celsius which was 8.1 degrees higher than usual for this

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JK Panchayat, Assembly Elections likely post Lok Sabha Elections

SRINAGAR, Jan 10 (Agencies): Elections for panchayats, urban local bodies, and the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly are anticipated to take place after the upcoming general elections, scheduled in a few months this year, a report in The Indian Express reported.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the traditional grassroots-level elected representatives in rural areas, comprising 4,892 village panchayats with a five-year term, concluded on Tuesday. The governance structure introduced in 2020, District Development Councils elected directly by the people, remains in place.

The term of urban local bodies, including two municipal corporations, 19 municipal councils, and 57 municipal committees, concluded on November 14, 2023, following elections held on party symbols after a 13-year hiatus.

Government sources, as per a report in The Indian Express suggest that elections for urban local bodies and panchayats are unlikely before the Lok Sabha elections. Despite an amendment to the J&K Panchayati Raj Act on December 28, 2023, allowing OBC reservation, constitutional issues have delayed the polls. The recently passed Jammu and

Kashmir Reservation (Amendment Bill), 2023, now enables OBC reservation in J&K elections.

However, challenges hindering immediate local body and panchayat elections include the identification of reserved municipal constituencies and the transfer of the mandate for municipal electoral processes from the Chief Electoral Officer to the State Election Commission, as per Constitutional provisions.

Elections for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly need not coincide with the Lok Sabha polls, as indicated by the Supreme Court deadline of September 2024, set

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26/11 terror attacks mastermind Hafiz Saeed in Pakistan custody serving 78-year jail term, says UNSC



UNITED NATIONS, Jan 10 (Agencies): Mumbai terror attack mastermind and Lashkar-e-Taayyiba leader Hafiz Saeed is in the custody of the Pakistan government and is serving a 78-year imprisonment sentence following his conviction in terror

financing cases, the UN has said in updated information.

Saeed, 73, was designated as a global terrorist by the UN Security Council's Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee in December 2008.

He is in the "custody of the Government of Pakistan serving a 78-year imprisonment sentence since 12 February 2020 as a result of a conviction in seven terror financing cases," the Sanctions Committee said in an amended entry posted through a press release on the UN website.

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Police, Army recover 2.5kgs heroin in Poonch

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): Security forces on Wednesday seized narcotics weighing 2.5 kg from a forward village near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

They said the contraband, believed to be high-grade heroin worth crores of rupees in the international market, was smuggled from across the border, adding that it was found dumped in the Malti area ahead of the border fence.

A search operation is underway and further details are awaited, the officials said.

Govt orders reshuffle in Administration

JAMMU, Jan 10 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Wednesday ordered transfers and postings in the administration.

According to a government order, Reyaz Ahmad Bangroo, Private Secretary is transferred from the Public Works (R&B) Department and posted in the Agriculture Production Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

Latif Ahmad, Private Secretary, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department is transferred and posted in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary. Sajid Rashid Bhat, Pri-

ate Secretary is transferred from the ARI and Trainings Department and shall await in the General Administration Department for further posting.

Shabir Ahmad Mir, Private Secretary is transferred from the Housing & Urban Development Department and shall await in the General Administration Department for further posting.

Reyaz Ahmad Bangroo, Private Secretary is transferred from the Public Works (R&B) Department and posted in the Agriculture Production Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

Latif Ahmad, Private Secretary, awaiting orders of adjustment in

the General Administration Department is transferred and posted in the Cooperative Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

Sajid Rashid Bhat, Private Secretary is transferred from the ARI and Trainings Department and shall await in the General Administration Department for further posting.

Ashok Kumar, Private Secretary is transferred from the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and posted in the Housing & Urban Development Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

Zahoor Ahmad Dar, Private Secretary is

transferred from the Health and Medical Education Department and posted the Public Works (R&B) Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

Abid Ahmad Qureshi, Private Secretary is transferred from the Office of Commissioner of Enquiries, J&K and posted in the Agriculture Production Department to work in the personal section of the Secretary (Technical).

Sanjeev Sharma, Private Secretary is transferred from the Mining Department and posted in the Hospitality & Protocol Department to work in the personal section of the Administrative Secretary.

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LG participates in 'Block Diwas' programme at Bhalwal

Poor and underprivileged have the first right on government resources: Sinha



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha participated in Block Diwas, a public outreach programme of J&K UT Administration, at Bhalwal on Wednesday.

Congratulating people for overwhelming response on Block Diwas, the Lt Governor said the Jan-Bhagidari campaign to strengthen participatory governance is empowering citizens, generating awareness about responsibilities and ensuring accountability of officers in administration.

He called upon every section of the society to take initiative with dedication and determination to make their panchayat clean, liveable, achieve 100%

literacy rate, maintain green spaces and 100% saturation of all government schemes.

"The sense of commitment and duty among the citizens towards the society and their respective panchayats will improve quality of life and pave the way to prosperity," the Lt Governor said.

He said, the massive and historic participation of people in Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and 100% saturation of all schemes will remove developmental imbalances and give a tremendous boost to local economy.

The Lt Governor reiterated the resolve of the UT Administration towards equitable and inclusive development and to ensure empowerment of all.

Poor and underprivi-

leged have the first right on government resources. Efforts are being made towards promotion of Dogri and other regional languages, connecting remaining panchayats with road, boost industries, religious tourism and tapping the potential of Agriculture & Allied sector, he said.

"Besides central government schemes, the J&K UT administration is running more than a dozen self-employment schemes with an objective to provide resources and requisite training to youth to start their own business. This could be a game changer both in urban and rural areas," the Lt Governor further added.

At Block Diwas programme, the Lt Governor urged the people to assist Civil Administra-

tion and Police to intensify crackdown on drug supply chain to make their Panchayat Nasha-Mukt.

Responding to the issues put forth by former PRI members on the occasion, the Lt Governor assured them that their suggestions and genuine demands would be considered in the planning of District Capex Budget.

He also directed Deputy Commissioner Jammu to take a comprehensive review of the development of playfields in panchayats of the District and ensure that by the end of the month of April, every panchayat of Jammu District, where land is available, has a playfield.

The Lt Governor inspected the stalls put up various departments and enquired about the grievances received by the citizens. He handed over sanction letters to beneficiaries under different government schemes.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman, District Development Council Jammu; Anand Jain, ADGP, Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, senior officers, former PRI members, and people in large number were present.

Central University Jammu hosts workshop on "Spirituality and Education"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: The office of Dean Students Welfare, Central University of Jammu in collaboration with Ladakh Phanday Tsogspa organized a workshop on "Spirituality and Education". The chief guest of the event was His Eminence the 8th Choekyong Paiga Rinpoche.

The event was graced by the Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu.

Parshotam Kumar Dadhichi, President, Sanatan Dharam Sabha, J&K, Dr. Chhering Tandup, Ladakh Phanday Tsogspa Jammu were also present in the event.

The welcome address was given by Dr. Ritu Bakshi, Dean student's Welfare Central University of Jammu.

She welcomed all the dignitaries and stated that such events are the need of the hour and we should

continue to collaborate on such things in future also and after that Paramjeet ji gave introduction of Ladakh Phanday Tsogspa organization and stated that it is working on Seva, Sanskar and Ekta.

The NGOs is committed to providing health care centres in far flung areas, telepathy, mental health programmes and perseverance of our National Integration.

As a mandate of Viksit Bharat@2047, a video showcasing the road map of Viksit Bharat was played.

Parshotam Kumar Dadhichi, President, Sanatan Dharam Sabha, J&K, in his address talked about the role of spirituality in education.

His Eminence the 8th Choekyong Paiga Rinpoche, in his enlightened address emphasized that we need to balance our academic education and spirituality.

He further motivated the

audience to practice meditation and peaceful ways to make our life happy.

He also shared his deep concern towards increasing suicidal cases, drug abuse and depression. After that question and answers session was also done where the faculty and the students interacted with Guru Ji.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu thanked the chief guest His Eminence the 8th Choekyong Paiga Rinpoche for his valuable insights.

He further added that integration of science, education and spirituality is a road map for youth towards Viksit Bharat @2047. Dr. Chhering Tandup, Ladakh Phanday Tsogspa Convenor Jammu, presented a formal vote of thanks to all the dignitaries for making the event successful.

Many participants from different disciplines attended the mega event. The programme concluded with the National Anthem.

Sanskrit Bharati Jammu Kashmir conducts 10 days enlightenment class



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: The concluding program of the 10-day world ancient language learning and awareness class organized by Sanskrit Bharti Jammu Kashmir, running from 31st December 2023 to 9th January 2024, concluded with grandeur today at Shri Baba Kailakh Dev Temple, Bantabal.

The closing ceremony of the class was held under the chairmanship of Shakti Pathak, DIG of Jammu, Samba Kathua area.

He said that India and Indian culture cannot be imagined without Sanskrit language.

He said that modern education can give us many types of material facilities but reading Sanskrit gives us spiritual knowledge and real peace, and Sanskrit itself inspires us not to get distracted even in difficult situations in life.

Pathak made a special request for Sanskrit students that they should study technology along with Sanskrit.

As the chief guest, Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir School Education Board, Professor Dr. Parikshit Singh Manhas said in his speech that Sanskrit language gives the message of morality and humanity along with the golden history of India. Therefore every human being needs to learn Sanskrit.

As the main speaker

in the program, Pratap Singh, senior full-time preacher of Sanskrit Bharati, said that Sanskrit is not just a ritual or a language of a particular class, Sanskrit is the language of knowledge and science, it is because of Sanskrit language and Indian culture that India in ancient times Led the world.

In the present times, India can again guide the world only through the knowledge contained in Sanskrit. It is extremely important to include Indian knowledge tradition in the curriculum of children.

Parv as special guest in the program It is very important to include tradition in the curriculum of children.

Former IIS Bharti Vaidya, as the special guest in the program, in her address emphasized that culture should be taught compulsorily in schools right from the primary level so that children become cultured and a society free from drugs etc. can be created.

Saraswat, as the guest, Professor Shridhar Mishra, Director of Central Sanskrit University Shri Ranvir Campus, said that the coming era is the era of India and Sanskrit will play the biggest role in it.

Sanskrit Bharati worker Dr. Prabhakar Shastri concluded the program with a vote of thanks.

J&K grapples with erosion of democracy and economic instability under BJP regime: Rattan Lal

Conduct ULB, Panchayat polls to reinstate democratic process in J&K: Jan



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Over the nine years of BJP's misrule at the Centre and its proxy government in J&K, the people of this historically rich and diverse state have borne the brunt of a governance model that has failed to deliver on its promises and safeguard the interests of the residents. Under the incumbent government, J&K has witnessed a troubling erosion of democratic values, economic instability, and a palpable decline in the overall quality of life.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President while addressing a meeting of Youth Wing of J&K National Conference from Chenab Valley and Jammu District at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan in Jammu. In the meeting, Ajaz Jan, Provincial President JKNC Youth and former Legislator was also present.

Rattan Lal expressed deep concern over the deteriorating situation in J&K under the present administration, citing a range of issues that have adversely impacted the lives of the people. From the erosion of democratic values to the economic downturn, he highlighted the multiple challenges faced by the people of J&K.

Addressing the gathering of youth party leaders,

and Kashmir have been enduring the brunt of the BJP's misrule for far too long. The promises made by the BJP during their campaigns have not translated into tangible improvements on the ground. Instead, we have witnessed a systematic erosion of the democratic fabric, economic instability, and an overall decline in the well-being of the people."

Rattan Lal Gupta asked the central government to revisit its policies and engage in meaningful discussions with all stakeholders to find lasting solutions to the complex issues affecting Jammu and Kashmir.

The Provincial President has called upon the youth brigade of the Party to gear up for the upcoming polls in Jammu and Kashmir. Emphasizing the significance of active participation in the democratic process, Gupta urged the party cadre to be prepared and enthusiastic in engaging with the electorate. Stressing the importance of grassroots efforts and community outreach, he expressed confidence that a united and dedicated JKNC's youth brigade would play a pivotal role in shaping the political landscape of J&K during the upcoming elections.

Addressing the gathering of youth party leaders,

Ajaz Jan, Provincial President of JKNC, expressed deep concern over the sufferings of the people in the absence of elected representatives. He highlighted that democracy in Jammu and Kashmir had come to a standstill with the completion of the tenures of elected Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members.

Urging the government to take prompt action, Jan called for the immediate conduct of Urban Local Body (ULB) and Panchayat polls. He emphasized the vital role of the youth cadre, urging them to actively engage with the public, listen to their concerns, and address issues affecting the community. He stressed that until the elections are held, it is crucial for the Party's youth leaders to remain connected with the people, ensuring their problems are heard and addressed effectively.

The former MLA demanded that the government should prioritize and expedite the conduct of ULB and Panchayat polls to reinstate the democratic process in the state.

Among those who were present in the meeting include Abid Magrey District Vice President Ramban, Sarshad Natnoo Zonal President Youth Chenab Zone, Adhayan Sharma, Rahil Choudhry, Jai Singh and others.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. 76/JM/F2023-24 Dated: 06-01-2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Udhampur, invite tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/Firms/Companies registered in DIC or any other state Government for below mentioned work at Water Supply scheme of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Udhampur, of Jammu Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr. No.	Particulars of the works	Estimated cost (lacs)	Tender fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money deposit	Bid Validity	Time completion of work (days)
1	Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical machinery along with allied works at WSS Lopara Tunder Lift (Refer to the scope of work)	As per ANNEXURE -I to this biddocument	Rs. 500/-	2% of the estimated cost (in case of non-registered firms) Or 1% of the estimated cost (in case of firms registered with DIC / SSI / MSME)	180 days	As per ANNEXURE -I to this biddocument.
2	Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical machinery along with allied works at WSS Palmar Lift (Refer to the scope of work)	As per ANNEXURE -I to this biddocument	Rs. 500/-	2% of the estimated cost (in case of non-registered firms) Or 1% of the estimated cost (in case of firms registered with DIC / SSI / MSME)	180 days	As per ANNEXURE -I to this biddocument.

Position of funds : Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Position of AAA : Accorded

Position of T.S : Sanctioned

The tendering authority is Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Udhampur.

CRITICAL DATES:

i	Publish Date	06-01-2024 (18:00Hrs.)
ii	Document Download Start Date	06-01-2024 (18:30Hrs.)
iii	Clarification Start date	08-01-2024
iv	Clarification End date	10-01-2024
iv	Bid submission Start date	06-01-2024
v	Bid submission End date	18-01-2024 (15:00 PM)
vi	Date of Bid opening	19-01-2024 (11:00 AM onwards)

- Bid documents can be accessed & downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Udhampur. Bids must be accompanied cost of Tender Document and EMD as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Jammu.

- The cost of tender documents should be inform of Treasury challan / e-Challan towards the cost of tender document to be deposited in MH-0215-WSS (Revenue head) or through RTGS in J&K Bank branch Udhampur bearing bank account No. 0028010200000091, IFSC code JAKA0UDMUR in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Udhampur

- Firms who will fulfill the following parameters are eligible to participate.
 - Average Annual financial turnover during the last 3 years, ending 31 March of the previous financial year, should be at least 30% of this estimated cost.
 - "Experience certificate of having successfully completed or substantially completed one similar work during last seven years ending last day of the month previous to the one in which tenders are invited". Definition of "similar work" should be clearly defined.
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
- The bidder shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the deadline, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- The details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any should be made at ee@phedudr@gmail.com.

No. JSPHEMUDHR/2023-24/6052-65
Dated: 06-01-2024

DIPJ-13648/23

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division
Udhampur

NORTHERN RAILWAY
INVITATION OF TENDERS THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

Tender Notice NO. 11/2023-2024 Dated: 08.01.2024
Dy. Chief Materials Manager, N. Rly. Store Depot Mech. Workshop, AMRITSAR for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Due Date
1	62245007	NARROW JAW ADAPTER FOR CTRB CLASS 'E' to Drg. NO. WD- 89067-S-9 ALT No. 9	3200	02.02.2024

Note: Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a Class III digital certificate from certifying agencies authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

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EDITORIAL

SELF-RELIANT
INDIA

Since independence, India has taken meaningful steps to make itself self-reliant in all fields. New possibilities have also been carved out by making proper use of modern technology and the resources available at our disposal. The Green Revolution that started in the sixties has made us very self-reliant in the field of food grains.

We have also achieved heights in the field of education through innovative training techniques and establishment of modern educational institutions. There has also been a lot of development in the field of science. Many types of government and private hospitals have been built. Dispensaries have been constructed. Free medical facilities have been provided to the lower and backward classes so that no one is deprived of these facilities.

Various types of laboratories have been built and many types of research have also been conducted. Industrialization is increasing rapidly in India and India is continuously developing in every field. By making good use of technology, every person in the village has been connected with communication facilities.

At present, if we talk about development, a wave of development is being seen in all the villages of India. Development work is also being done in the village. Many different types of campaigns are being run to develop the country. Education campaigns are being run. Campaigns are being run to eradicate poverty. Campaigns are being run to build permanent houses and construction of roads is going on. Wherever you look in the country, government work is continuously progressing everywhere.

India will be fully developed only when all classes are equally prosperous. There is a dire need for development in India. Even at present India is a developing country. Like other countries like Japan and America, it has not been possible to go abroad. Because till now the pace of development is going on in India. Development in India was very slow for many years after independence. However, at present the pace of development has increased considerably.

A lot of work still remains to be done for the overall development of India. There are many areas of India which are deprived of development. The backward and downtrodden classes are also yet to be brought into the mainstream of development. Rich people have control over most of the resources of India and the poor are deprived of all these. Due to which development of entire sections is not possible. Decentralization of resources is necessary for overall development.

At present the rate of development in India is also increasing rapidly and development is being seen everywhere in India. The rate of growth in India is expected to be higher in the coming times.

Hasina's victory: Time for caution, not complacency

By: K.C. Singh

The January 7 elections for the Jatiya Sangsad, Bangladesh's Parliament, has produced a huge win for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League, with 223 out of 300 seats in its kitty. It is a fourth consecutive term and a fifth one overall for Sheikh Hasina, who first assumed power in 1996. In one of her first remarks after the victory, she thanked India as a "trusted" partner. The Indian government would obviously be happy at her continuance in office.

But the victory has come at a considerable cost. The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, which since the restoration of democracy in 1991 has been the principal Opposition party, boycotted the election. While Begum Zia, serving her sentence for corruption, is under house arrest, her son and political heir Tarique Rahman is exiled in London. Consequently, the turnout was a poor 40 per cent, compared to 80 per cent in 2018. Although over 100 foreign poll observers were in Bangladesh, the problem was not so much the actual conduct of the election as what preceded it. In November, UN Special Rapporteurs had noted that "the weaponisation of the judicial system" had enabled the targeting of journalists, human rights defenders and civil society institutions. The Reporters Without Borders (RSF) rates Bangladesh 163 out of 180 nations on press freedom. Consequently, the United States has put restrictions on granting visas of select individuals to generate pressure on the government to improve its conduct.

However, there is no straightforward answer to the political conundrums confronting the government of Sheikh Hasina.

Because of the assassination of her family members, especially her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the then sitting Prime Minister, in a military coup in August 1975, there has always been high political polarisation.

Begum Khaleda Zia is the widow of a former Army Chief and President, who had a suspected role in the military coup against Sheikh Hasina's father. Even more problematic has been the electoral alliance of the BNP with the Jamaat-e-Islami, popularly addressed as the Jamaat, which sided with the Pakistani military in opposing the independence of Bangladesh. Its Islamist agenda includes the setting up of an Islamic state run according to the Sharia. India views it with suspicion due to its inevitable links to Pakistan's jihadi network.

Sheikh Hasina began the war crimes trials against the Pakistani collaborators, especially in the Jamaat, in 2010, during her second term as Prime Minister. Delaware Hossain Sayeedi, a preeminent leader of the Jamaat, died in jail last August. Many years of persecution of Jamaat's leadership and cadres has, at least on the surface, diminished its following. It had at best a five per cent vote share, which can expand quickly due to public sympathy, if the pressure on its membership and leadership eases. The Arab Spring, which overthrew military dictators of Egypt, Libya, etc demonstrated that authoritarian control may decimate the secular Opposition but Islamist forces survive and resurface quickly whenever an opportunity becomes available.

Thus, India has had no option but to back Sheikh Hasina, whatever her poor ratings may be as a democrat. The United States, while targeting her, ignores its own history of giving its allies a long rope on domestic political

management. There is the famous remark of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt on a dictator: "He may be an SOB, but he's our SOB". But the danger is like President Barack Obama having to contend with the Muslim Brotherhood's government once the US let Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak fall.

That is a danger that confronts India in Bangladesh, like after the defeat of a pro-India government in the Maldives. Sheikh Hasina has overseen rapid economic growth over her last three consecutive terms. Per capita income has tripled in the last decade and Bangladesh has become the second largest exporter of garments in the world after China. In 2021, garments constituted 85 per cent of Bangladesh's \$51.8 billion exports. The principal export markets are in the West, led by the US. But the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020-22 and resulting global economic slowdown has hurt the exports of Bangladesh. This has led to inflation and a drop in wages. Bangladesh was forced to obtain from the IMF a \$5 billion loan last year. Trade has constituted a quarter to a third of the GDP of Bangladesh over the last decade.

This combination of economic stress and democratic recession is a deadly combination that can trigger public protests. The huge drop in voting percentage indicates serious public disappointment with Awami League's running of domestic affairs. Although the incidents were limited, multiple fires on the eve of the elections also indicated public ire. The Indian government has invested heavily in Sheikh Hasina's rule. India has had a twofold objective: giving Sheikh Hasina some wins like the trans-Ganga bridge and containing Chinese influence by giving military assistance and refined oil products. The India-

Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP) has the capacity to transport one million metric tonnes per annum of high-speed diesel to Bangladesh.

The geostrategic importance of Bangladesh for India is self-evident. It provides the shortest route to the seven states in India's Northeast. It also becomes a vital link in any connectivity project linking South Asia to the 10 Asean nations. Moreover, it is central to India's sub-regional aspirations via the seven-member Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec). With good economic growth and an economy that has overtaken Pakistan, the pressure on illegal migration to India can diminish.

The real danger to India-Bangladesh relations is this country's over-dependence on one leader, who has turned 76, without a clear line of succession. India needs to help diminish the trust deficit between the ruling Awami League and Begum Khaleda Zia's BNP. Pakistan must be keeping lines of support open to the exiled son of Khaleda Zia. India must do so as well. However, the majoritarian orientation of the BJP's current leadership weakens India's ability to preach tolerance and consensus to a Muslim majority neighbour with a population of 168 million.

Bangladesh is seriously endangered by climate change and rising oceans. Myanmar faces a tussle for ascendancy between the ruling junta and some ethnic minorities and the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army. A stable and friendly Bangladesh is an absolute necessity for India. Sheikh Hasina's win should not create complacency in New Delhi. Political volcanoes have a tendency to burst when least expected.

How Will Artificial Intelligence Affect Jobs 2023-2030



By: Vijay GarG

You would have been living under a rock if you did not know how artificial intelligence is set to affect jobs in 2023-2030. AI like ChatGPT seems to be stealing all of the headlines at the moment, Google unveiled new AI software to build presentations, analyze and enter data, and write content, and there are so many more AI tools like Gamma and Numerous AI.

Those that are resisting, rather than riding the crest of the wave will not be making hey whilst the sun shines when it comes to landing in-demand jobs in the next 7 years and enjoying job growth. AI will be taking some jobs, but it will be creating new ones!

Here are the most likely jobs that artificial intelligence will affect from 2023-2030:

How artificial intelligence will change the world

Will AI help the world or hurt it?

Like any controversial subject, there will always be people

who are for it, and those that are against it. Artificial Intelligence is no different. In fact, as new ai tools are introduced, and the news around them grows, so the division between the two camps will grow with it. Many market research analysts say that AI has the potential to bring about numerous positive changes in society, including enhanced productivity, improved healthcare, and increased access to education. But we need to adapt right now. Others will say, mostly those working in human work types of jobs that are manually repetitive, that ai and robotics is a disruptive force and when it comes to the future of jobs it merely serves to steal jobs. But robots and ai technologies can and will create a great many new vocations and help solve complex problems and make our daily lives easier and more convenient. The jury is not yet out on this, but the leaning is more toward ai being a positive force rather than a negative one.

How will AI affect jobs and the economy?

McKinsey global institute says that at the global average level of adoption and absorption and advances in ai implied by their simulation, AI has the profound impact to deliver additional global economic activity of around \$13 trillion in the foreseeable future and by 2030, or about 16% higher cumulative GDP compared with today. This amounts to 1.2% additional GDP growth per year. If delivered, this impact would compare well with that of other general-

purpose technologies through history. This will mainly come from substitution of labor by automation and increased innovation in products and services.

The same report went on to say that By 2030, the average simulation shows that some 70% of companies will have embraced the ai revolution and adopted at least one type of AI technology but that less than half will have fully absorbed the five categories. Forbes say ai has the potential to be among the most disruptive technologies across global economies that we will ever develop.

How will artificial intelligence affect society and future?

Forbes says that the future of AI brings endless possibilities and applications that will help simplify our lives to a great extent. It will help shape the future and destiny of humanity positively, whilst Bernard Marr & Co says that the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on our society will have far-reaching economic, legal, political and regulatory implications on all types of jobs and industries that we need to be discussing and preparing for. Others in the know say that AI has the potential to bring about numerous positive changes in society both now and in the future, including enhanced productivity, improved healthcare, and increased access to education. AI-powered technologies can also help solve complex problems and make our daily lives easier and more convenient.

Will ai replace human jobs and

careers

How Will AI Affect Jobs - How many jobs will AI replace by 2030

Artificial intelligence (AI) could replace the equivalent of 300 million full-time jobs, a report by investment bank Goldman Sachs says. It could replace a quarter of work tasks in the US and Europe but may also mean new jobs and a productivity boom. And it could eventually increase the total annual value of goods and services produced globally by 7%. The report also predicts two-thirds of jobs in the U.S. and Europe "are exposed to some degree of AI automation," and around a quarter of all jobs could be performed by AI entirely.

Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania and OpenAI found some educated white-collar workers earning up to \$80,000 a year are the most likely to be affected by workforce automation.

Forbes also says that According to an MIT and Boston University report, AI will replace as many as two million manufacturing workers by 2025.

A study by the McKinsey Global Institute reports that by 2030, at least 14% of employees globally could need to change their careers due to digitization, robotics, and AI advancements.

(Vijay GarG Retired
Principal Educational
columnist Malout)

What makes 2024 a hit with Hollywood filmmakers? From 1975 film *A Boy and His Dog* to 2023 movie *Leo*, as many as 25 sci-fi, superhero and horror films have been set in this year

It seems the year 2024 holds a fascination for Hollywood filmmakers. So many films, mostly sci-fi, superhero and horror, have been set in the year that one can hail 2024 as a sub-genre. Last counted, there were at least 25 movies that fell in this category. Now, here's your chance to time-travel and see for yourself if these films, made years back, got the essence of the current year right.

World of superheroes
Spider-Man: Far From Home
This 2019 sequel to Spider-Man: Homecoming takes place about eight months after the events of Endgame, placing this film in the summer of 2024. It was the final film of the third phase of Marvel Cinematic Universe. Since many films of MCU are connected, Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, Thor: Love and Thunder all released in 2022 also follow events happening in the same timeline. In fact, the Far From Home sequel, which released in 2021, titled Spider-Man: No Way Home, is set in the late 2024. Another 2021 anti-hero MCU film, Venom: Let There Be Carnage based on the character Venom which first appeared in The Amazing Spiderman of Marvel Comics, is once again set in 2024. The events in another Marvel film Eternals (2021) take place in 2024 with a parallel story that explores the first time heroes landed on earth in 5000 BC. This year, Doctor



Strange is likely to return to continue the multiverse journey which he started in 2021. It is expected that the film will set in the same timeline of the year 2024.

The 2021 super-hero flick Black Widow is set in a non-linear pattern and follows the events of 1995, 2016 and 2024. Its titular character, Natasha Romanoff, is played by Scarlett Johansson.

Peep into monster-verse
Godzilla vs. Kong
Another 2021 film, which is set

in the future, is from the category of monster-verse. The franchise film narrates the events five years after the events of Godzilla: King of the Monsters and thus set in the year 2024. In 2015, Legendary Pictures announced to join Godzilla and Kong giving rise to MonsterVerse franchise. It couldn't be a coincidence that Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire, which takes the story forward, is releasing in April this year, which means it is set in the current timeline.

To save the earth

Highlander II: The Quickening (1991)

Set in 2024, this is directed by Russel Mulcahy. It's a sequel to sci-fi cult classic Highlander (1986). The plot revolves around Connor MacLeod, who must free the earth from the Shield, an artificial ozone that blocks solar radiations.

Futuristic war
Illang: The Wolf Brigade
The South-Korean film is adapted from live-action animated film Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade. In the wake of re-militarised Japan, North Korea and South Korea re-unites in 2024 to fight the common enemy.

Deadly mission
Songbird (2020)
Based on Covid-19 pandemic, it predicts the year 2024 wherein the virus has mutated into Covid-23. In this pandemic-ravaged world, a love story turns into a deadly rescue mission.

Virtually there
The Thirteenth Floor
The film depicts Los Angeles across three timelines, 1937, 1999 and 2024. This neo-noir sci-fi film is directed by Josef Rusnak, which is based on virtual reality (VR) simulation.

Finding the truth
Narcopolis
This 2014 sci-fi thriller revolves around an officer, Frank Grieves (Elliot Cowan), who discovers a new drug inside an unidentified corpse and tries to get to the bottom of it. Set in 2024, when all drugs have been legalised in the US.

Lindsay Lohan makes surprise appearance at *Mean Girls* premiere



Actress Lindsay Lohan made a surprise appearance at the *Mean Girls* premiere in New York City.

The original *Mean Girls* star on Monday night celebrated the premiere of the musical movie with writer-producer Tina Fey, who reprises her role as Ms Norbury from the 2004

comedy classic, and Angourie Rice, who takes on Lohan's role as Cady Heron.

Lohan and Fey were joined by original cast members Daniel Franzese, who starred as Damian Hubbard, and Rajiv Surrendra, who played rapping mathlete Kevin Gnapoor. Will any of them make

a cameo in the film? "I couldn't possibly say, but we do have some fun cameos," Fey said.

"Ashley Park is in the movie, Tim (Meadows) is in the movie - we have some fun influencer friends. But you'll just have to come see it this Friday."

Additional *Mean Girls* stars and creative team members in attendance included Renee Rapp, Christopher Briney, Aulii Cravalho, Jaquel Spivey, Avantika, Bebe Wood, Busy Philipps, Jon Hamm, Megan Thee Stallion, director of photography Bill Kirstein, choreographer Kyle Hanagami and co-directors Arturo Perez Jr and Samantha Payne.

Payne recalled the initial conversations she and Perez Jr had with Rapp, who played Regina George in the Broadway musical, about translating the iconic queen bee from stage to screen.

"We talked about how this is really a personalisation of the role. On Broadway, it's so different from the camera being right here," Payne said while waving her hand in front of her face.

Karuna Pandey says the journey of *Pushpa Impossible* is a rollercoaster of emotions

Karuna Pandey, who plays the titular role in the show *Pushpa Impossible*, has expressed gratitude as the show completes 500 episodes and said that the journey has been a roller coaster of emotions.

Karuna, who plays the role of Pushpa Patel, said, "I am humbled by the love and admiration my character Pushpa has received from the audience. This journey across 500 episodes has been a rollercoaster of emotions, and as we celebrate this milestone, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude."

"A character that is highly relatable, Pushpa stands as a symbol of strength, resilience, and the triumph of the human spirit. Each episode is a shared victory with our audience, and I am excited to continue portraying Pushpa's story, exploring new challenges, and inspiring everyone to face life's obstacles with determination and courage," she added.

Pushpa's character has been synonymous with resilience, portraying an unwavering determination and bold



spirit as she confronts life's challenges with a 'never give up' attitude.

Reflecting on the challenges she has conquered and the victories she has achieved, Push-

pa's journey is a testament to the strength that lies within individuals, inspiring audiences to face adversity with courage. It airs on Sony SAB.

Here's the binge-guide of films, series that won big at the Golden Globes 2024

The award season of the year was kicked off with the Golden Globes on Sunday night. As celebrities lifted trophies for best direction and performances, here's your cue to binge upon the best content from across the world. Entertainment guaranteed, says the Globes jury!

The Bear
America comedy drama series is created by Christopher Storer. Starring Jeremy Allen White as Carmen 'Carmy' Berzatto, an award-winning chef, it's revolves around his return to hometown Chicago to manage the chaotic kitchen of his deceased brother.

Available on Disney+Hotstar
Killers of the Flower Moon

This is another gem from celebrated filmmaker Martin Scorsese and stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Lily Gladstone in the lead roles. It is based on a true story, Mollie Burkhart (Lily), a member of the Osage Nation, fights to survive and save her community from a spree of killings in 1920's Oklahoma.

Available on Apple TV+
Succession
One of the most popu-



lar shows of HBO, it's fourth and final season aired in 2023. It's about Roy family, the owners of global media and entertainment conglomerate Waystar RoyCo, and their fight for control of the company.

Available on JioCinema

Barbie
Fantasy comedy film directed by Greta Gerwig starring Margot Robbie is first live-action Barbie movie. It follows the lead pair Barbie and Ken, played by Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling, on a journey of self-discovery following an existential crisis.

Available on Prime Video on rent
Oppenheimer

Christopher Nolan-directorial with Cillian Murphy in the titular role, *Oppenheimer* is one of the most talked about films of 2023. It traces the life of father of Atomic Bomb, Oppenheimer.

Available to rent on Prime Video, Apple TV+ and YouTube
Poor Things

A feminist reimagining of the Frankenstein tale, it's based on the 1992 novel by Alasdair Gray. The plot focuses on Bella Baxter, played by Emma Stone, a young woman living in Victorian era London who after being crudely resurrected by a scientist following her suicide, embarks on an odyssey

of self-discovery and sexual liberation.

Expected to release on OTT by February

The Boy and the Heron
Japanese Animation legend Hayao Miyazaki revolves around Mahito, a young 12-year-old boy, who struggles to settle in a new town after his mother's death.

Currently not available in India

Anatomy of a Fall
The suspense drama is directed by Justine Triet and is available in French, English and German. The courtroom drama revolves around Sandra Voyter (Sandra Hüller), who is trying to prove her innocence in her husband's death.

Currently not available

in India
The Holdovers

This period comedy film is set in 1970's is directed by Alexander Payne. A Christmas movie, it offers a tale of a bad-tempered history teacher at a New England boarding school.

To be released in theatres on February 9

Beef

Korean director Lee Sung Jin has created this comedy-drama series. It revolves around two strangers whose involvement in a road rage escalates into a feud.

Available on Netflix.
The Crown

The Royal drama offered its sixth instalment recently. Revolving around the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, it has been a constant favourite of binge-watchers. It is created by Peter Morgan.

Available on Netflix.
Ricky Gervais: Armageddon

Another Christmas release, this stand-up special has comedian Ricky Gervais dishing out controversial takes on political correctness and oversensitivity in a comedy special. Available on Netflix.

Adah Sharma to star in Sunil Grover-starrer *Sunflower 2*

Adah Sharma is all set to play an exciting role opposite Sunil Grover in the web show *Sunflower Season 2*.

The show is a crime comedy and revolves around a middle-class housing society in Mumbai called *Sunflower* featuring an array of quirky characters.

Expressing her excitement about the web show Adah Sharma said, "I did drama in Kerala Story, action

in *Commando*. So, I thought it would be nice to do comedy and this is a role to die for! I can't reveal too much but she's very unique and creepy.

This season revolves around her and she moves into *Sunflower* society and turns everyone's lives upside down."

Created by show-runner Vikas Bahl and directed by Navin Gujral, the show also



features Sunil Grover in the lead role alongside Ashish Vidyarthi, Ranvir Shorey, Mukul Chaddha and Girish Kulkarni in other prominent roles.

The release date of the second season has not been announced yet.

Meanwhile, Adah will also be seen in *Bastar*. *Bastar: The Naxal Story* is produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah, co-produced by Aashin A Shah, and directed by Sudipto Sen.

Sunny Leone's *Teri Laal Chunariya* surges to #1 in just two days



Sunny Leone's newest track *Teri Laal Chunariya* has been creating a buzz on YouTube since its debut.

Featuring Pawan Singh alongside Sunny Leone, the song has garnered over an impressive 7 million views.

The song has been trending at #1 within just two days of its release on January 7.

The song is receiving acclaim for its infectious melody and lively rhythm.

Sung by Jyotika Tangri, created by the musical duo Javed-Mohsin, and choreographed by Adil Shaikh, the video is also admired for its stunning visuals and dance moves.

At Vibrant Gujarat Summit, PM Narendra Modi lists 10 key areas; asks global majors to invest in 'pillar of stability' India

Modi says that in a world surrounded by uncertainties, India's priorities are very clear

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday called upon global companies to invest in India which the world sees as a "pillar of stability" in an increasingly uncertain world.

Describing India as a friend "who can be trusted as a partner, a voice that believes in global good", Modi told a large number of global and domestic industry CEOs, and foreign dignitaries at the Tenth Vibrant Gujarat Summit in Ahmedabad on Wednesday that in a world surrounded by uncertainties, India's priorities are very clear.

India was focusing on sustainable industry, infrastructure and manufacturing. Its other priorities are new age skills, futuristic technology, AI and innovation. India was also keen on green hydrogen, renewable energy and the full ecosystem of the semiconductor sector.



Pointing out that the industry was aware of the global economic scene, he said the world looks at India as an important pillar of stability. The Indian economy is also showing resilience because of the decade-long focus on structural reforms which in turn have increased the Indian economy's capacity and competitiveness. The govern-

ment has aided this process by massive structural reforms that have made India an attractive destination for investment. The banking system today is the strongest in the world, 40,000 compliances have ended, GST introduced, and three FTAs signed along with an improved supply chain.

The priorities of 1.4 billion Indi-

ans towards development are human-centric, inclusive and equitable. This approach will be a major basis for world prosperity and development, making India in the process of becoming the world's top three economies in a few years from its position as the eleventh largest economy a decade back. "It is my guarantee that this will happen," the PM declared to applause.

The Prime Minister also drew attention to the fact that this was the first Vibrant Gujarat Summit since the Centre declared an era of Amrit Kaal for the next 25 years till 2047. The PM also spoke on the contributions by the foreign dignitaries at the Summit including chief guest Sheikh Mohamed bin-Zayed, Mozambique President Filipe Nyusi and Timor Leste President Ramos-Horta who also spoke on the occasion.

Admirers pay last respect to Ustad Rashid Khan

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her cabinet colleagues were present at Rabindra Sadan



KOLKATA, Jan 10 (Agencies): Thousands of admirers of Ustad Rashid Khan paid their last respects to the classical vocalist, whose body was kept for public view at the state-run cultural complex Rabindra Sadan on Wednesday.

A gun salute was given to the versatile classical vocalist whose body was kept in a casket decked with white flowers.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her cabinet colleagues were present at Rabindra Sadan.

Singer Usha Uthup, vocalist Pt Ajoy Chakraborty, his daughter and vocal-

ist Kaushiki Chakraborty were among those who came to the venue to pay floral tributes.

Uthup said, "Rashid Bhai is like my younger brother who left so soon." Khan, who made Hindustani classical music accessible to countless listeners, died at a Kolkata hospital on Tuesday after a four-year battle with prostate cancer. He was 55.

Khan's body was brought to Ranindra Sada from his Naktala home in the morning after being taken from a private hospital.

Malayalam filmmaker Vinu passes away after brief illness in Coimbatore

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Jan 10 (Agencies): Popular Malayalam filmmaker Vinu, who helmed a handful of hit movies in collaboration with director Suresh, died in a hospital in Coimbatore following a brief illness, industry sources said on Wednesday.

The 73-year-old filmmaker was admitted to the hospital recently for some abdomen-related ailments, the sources said.

He is survived by his wife and two children.

The Suresh-Vinu pair gave several success-



ful Malayalam movies including 'Mangalam Veetil Manaseshwari Gupta', 'Kusruthi Kattu' and 'Ayushman Bhava' among others.

Their last collaborative effort was the 2008 movie 'Kanichukulangarayil CBI'.

FEFKA Directors'

Union, an organisation of Malayalam filmmakers, condoled his demise.

Vinu was working on a new psychological thriller film, it said in a Facebook post.

Vinu would be cremated in Coimbatore on Thursday, it added.

Woman shot by man in hotel room in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district

PATNA, Jan 10 (Agencies): A woman working in an orchestra was shot at in a hotel room in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, an official said on Wednesday.

Awadesh Saroj Dixit, the Additional Superintendent of Police (SP) of Muzaffarpur City said the accused and the victim had booked a room as husband and wife. The woman was shot inside the hotel room and the accused fled from the spot.

The incident occurred on Tuesday night when a person named Imran



Ali booked the room in the LV International hotel at Mithanpura Chowk.

"We have found a pistol and two live cartridges on the bed. The blood stains were found in the room. We have called the FSL team to collect the samples of

evidence followed by sealing the room," Dixit said.

During preliminary investigation, it was revealed the two were not husband and wife. The woman is a native of Silliguri in West Bengal and was living in Muzaffarpur and work-

ing for an orchestra party. After checking-in room number 205, they spent some time and the accused shot the girl and fled. The victim managed to open the door of the room and reach the reception area on the ground floor before falling unconscious.

"The victim was admitted to SKMCH and is not in a position to give a statement," Dixit said.

"We have also found serious lapses on the part of the hotel administration. The hotel has no CCTV camera installed

on the floor where the crime was committed.

There was no staff at the reception and the floor when the incident took place. The accused has revealed his name in a register but not mentioned the name of the woman. As she is having a gunshot wound on her cheek, she is unable to reveal her name. We are waiting for the recovery of the woman to find out the identification of the accused and the reason for the actual incident," Dixit said.

Bengaluru start-up CEO son's murder appears pre-planned, empty cough syrup bottles found in her room: Police

The postmortem has revealed the child was smothered to death either with a cloth or a pillow

PANAJI, Jan 10 (Agencies): The Goa police have found two empty bottles of a cough syrup in a room where the CEO of a start-up allegedly killed her four-year-old son, indicating she might have given a heavy dose of the medicine to him and that it was pre-planned murder, an official said on Wednesday.

The postmortem has revealed the child was smothered to death either with a cloth or a pillow, as per officials.

The accused woman, Suchana Seth, allegedly killed her son in the apartment at Candolim in Goa and stuffed the body in a bag before taking it to neighbouring Karnataka in a taxi, police said.

She was arrested from Chitradurga in Karnataka on Monday night and brought to Goa on

Tuesday.

A senior police officer told PTI that during the inspection of the service apartment room where the woman stayed, they found two empty bottles (one big and another small) of a cough syrup.

"The post-mortem conducted on the body has indicated the possibility that the child might have been smothered to death and there were no signs of struggle," he said.

"We are examining the possibility if the woman gave a heavy dose of cough syrup to the child before putting him to death," the official said.

Enquiries with the service apartment staff revealed the woman had asked them to buy a small bottle of a cough syrup claiming she was having cough, he said, adding the bigger bottle might have been carried



by her.

"It looks like a pre-planned murder," the official said.

According to police sources, the accused has denied her involvement in the crime during the interrogation and claimed the child was already dead when she got up from sleep.

"We don't buy her theory. Further investigation will reveal the motive behind killing the child. As of now, we know that she and her husband were estranged because of

which she might have done this," a senior police official said.

Seth checked in the service apartment on January 6 and stayed there till January 8 before leaving for Bengaluru in a taxi. Following her arrest, a court in Mapusa town of Goa on Tuesday remanded her in police custody for six days. The child's father, Venkat Raman, who was in Jakarta (Indonesia), reached Hiriyr in Chitradurga on Tuesday night and took possession of his son's body after postmortem.

"He was strangled to death or what we call smothering. Either a cloth or a pillow was used. The child died due to strangulation. It doesn't look like the child was strangled using hands. It looks like a pillow or some other material was used. The rigor mortis (postmortem muscle stiffness) had resolved in the child," Hiriyr Taluk Hospital's administrative officer Dr Kumar Naik told reporters.

Seth is the CEO of 'The Mindful AI Lab', and according to her LinkedIn profile, she is an AI ethics expert and data scientist with over 12 years of experience in mentoring data science teams, and scaling machine learning solutions at startups and industry research labs.

Bengal Governor seeks report on ration scam probe; calls senior state officials to brief him



KOLKATA, Jan 10 (Agencies): West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose has asked senior state government officers including Chief Secretary BP Gopalika to brief him about the ration scam, an official said on Wednesday.

Besides, Gopalika, Home Secretary Nandini Chakraborty, and DGP Rajiv Kumar have been called by the Governor for the meeting.

"The governor has asked the chief secretary, home secretary, and DGP

to brief him about the proceedings on the ration scam. He will also ask them to give them details about the development in arresting the accused TMC leader Shahjahan Sheikh," he told agency.

The ED director on Tuesday met the governor. "The meeting lasted for nearly 40 minutes and the ED chief briefed the governor," he said.

An ED team was attacked on Friday when they went to TMC leader Shahjahan Sheikh's house in Sandeshkhali to conduct a raid in connection with alleged irregularities in the ration scam.

The ED has already lodged a complaint at the Nazat police station in connection with the assault.

The family of the accused TMC leader and the state police have also registered separate complaints against the central probe agency.

3 coaches of Charminar Express derail at Nampally station in Telangana, at least 5 injured

HYDERABAD, Jan 10 (Agencies): Three coaches of the Charminar Express derailed at Nampally railway station in Telangana's Hyderabad on Wednesday morning, the railway officials said.

As per the officials, at least five persons sustained minor injuries in the incident.

The injured are undergoing treatment at the railway hospital, the official added.

According to Rakesh, Chief Public Relations Officer of South Central Railway, the incident occurred at around 9.15 am on Wednesday.

"The incident happened at around 9.15



am. This railway station is a terminal station where tracks end, as it is a dead end. The train should have stopped before the end; however, the train overshot and hit it. Three coaches of the train derailed in the incident," CPRO

Rakesh said while speaking to agency.

"Around five people who stood near the doors of the train suffered minor injuries in the incident. They are being treated at the Railway Hospital," he added.

Woman, husband, daughter killed by family in Bihar's Bhagalpur

BHAGALPUR, Jan 10 (Agencies): A woman, her husband, and their daughter were allegedly killed by her father and brother in Bihar's Bhagalpur district, police said on Wednesday.

The deceased have been identified as Chandni Kumari (23), Chandan Kumar (40), and Roshni Kumari (2).

The accused have been identified as Pappu Singh and his son Dheeraj Kumar Singh.

According to villagers Chandan Kumar and Chandani Kumari had a love marriage



three years ago. Chandani's father was unhappy over the marriage.

"The incident took place at around 4.25 pm on Tuesday when the trio were returning to

their home in Navtolia village. When Pappu Singh noticed them, he first stopped them and started hitting them with an iron rod. They fell unconscious. According to family members of the deceased, Pappu's son-Dheeraj Singh then shot them from point-blank range. All three died on the spot", the police said in a statement on Tuesday night.

However, the accused managed to flee.

Immediately after the incident, senior police officers along with forensic experts, reached the

spot. Bodies were sent for post-mortem examination.

Talking to agency on Wednesday Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) of Naugachia Om Prakash Arun said, "According to villagers the deceased Chandan Kumar and Chandani Kumari had a love marriage three years ago. Chandani's family was not happy with her marriage. The matter is being further investigated. We have launched a manhunt to nab the accused".

Markets decline in early trade on fresh foreign fund outflows, weak global trends

BSE declines 81.35 points to 71,304.86; Nifty dips 27 points to 21,517.85

MUMBAI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices declined in early trade on Wednesday amid fresh foreign fund outflows and a largely weak trend from global markets.

Investors preferred to stay on the sidelines ahead of the start of corporate earnings season and macroeconomic data announcements later this week, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 81.35 points to 71,304.86. The Nifty dipped 27 points to 21,517.85.

Among the Sensex firms, NTPC, Power Grid, Bajaj Finserv, State Bank of India, JSW Steel, Tata Steel, Larsen & Toubro and Axis Bank were the



major laggards. HCL Tech, Titan, Nestle, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank and Tata Consultancy Services were among the gainers.

In Asian markets, Tokyo traded in the green while Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong were quoting lower.

The US markets ended mostly lower on Tuesday.

Foreign Institutional

Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 990.90 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.22 per cent to USD 77.76 a barrel.

The BSE benchmark ended marginally higher by 30.99 points or 0.04 per cent at 71,386.21 on Tuesday. The Nifty ended 31.85 points or 0.15 per cent up at 21,544.85.

Tata Group to build semiconductor fab in Gujarat: Tata Sons Chairman



NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Tata Group announced on Wednesday its plans to build a new semiconductor fabrication plant in Gujarat this year. Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran, while speaking at the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, said that the company is on the verge of completing negotiations, and the fab is set to commence operations in 2024.

"We are about to complete negotiations for the semiconductor fab in Dholera and will start

operations in 2024," said Chandrasekaran.

With this announcement, Tata Group becomes the second Indian conglomerate to express interest in India's semiconductor industry. Anil Agarwal-led Vedanta Group has also shown interest in chip manufacturing, having applied for \$10 billion in PLI (Production Linked Scheme) incentives.

At the summit, South Korea's Simmtech announced its plans to open a chip component plant in Gujarat,

alongside the upcoming semiconductor testing and packaging facility of U.S. chipmaker Micron.

Tata Group will additionally commence construction of a 20-gigawatt battery storage factory in Gujarat in the next couple of months, he added.

According to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, which oversees the semiconductor program, a total of 45 applications were received under the Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India. This includes six applications for setting up semiconductor fabs, three for setting up Display fabs, and ten for setting up compound and ATMP facilities. While one application has been approved under the ATMP scheme, nine have been approved under the Design Linked Incentive Scheme.

Chandigarh's GMCH-32 begins minimally invasive heart surgeries, to train medicos

CHANDIGARH, Jan 10 (Agencies): Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 32, has started minimally invasive surgeries for heart patients with 15 successful operations conducted so far.

Spearheaded by cardiologist Dr Siddharth, this cutting-edge technique is an alternative to open-heart surgery and involves making small cuts, called incisions, in the chest to reach the heart for the required procedure, resulting in shorter hospital stay and quicker recovery. Notably, the GMCH is the exclusive facility in the city adopting this innovative approach, surpassing even the PGI in this regard.

In response to the overwhelming response, the GMCH is set to extend the application of this technique to bypass surgeries, following positive outcomes in initial trials. Plans are underway to conduct workshops and continuing medical education (CME) sessions to enhance understanding among medical professionals. With this, there is a reduction in the waiting time for heart patients at the GMCH's Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery (CTVS), now standing at two to three months. The department has expanded its services from one or two days to 4-5 days a week, aiming at alleviating the



backlog. The outpatient department (OPD) handles 50 patients, including both new and old cases.

The minimally invasive approach not only mitigates the risk of infections, but also minimises blood loss during surgery. However, the patient's eligibility for this procedure is contingent upon individual conditions, with traditional techniques still being employed when deemed suitable. The GMCH has also decided to create 25 faculty and staff positions for the CTVS department, recently approved by the Centre, signalling a significant expansion in healthcare services. Recognised as a crucial department catering not only to the tricity, but also to neighbouring states,

these positions encompass various roles supporting both patient care and academic advancement.

Hi-tech procedure This cutting-edge technique is an alternative to open-heart surgery. It involves making small cuts, called incisions, in the chest to reach the heart for the required procedure, resulting in shorter hospital stay and quicker recovery.

Expanding service With GMCH adopting this technique, there is dip in waiting time for heart patients, which is currently two-three months.

The hospital has expanded its services from one or two days to 4-5 days a week, aiming at clearing the backlog.

Nothing can stop India from becoming \$35 trillion economy, says Mukesh Ambani

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) chairman Mukesh Ambani said nothing can stop India from becoming a \$35 trillion economy by 2047 and that he is confident that Gujarat alone will become a \$3 trillion economy.

The 66-year-old billionaire industrialist was speaking at the Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024.

"No power on earth can stop India from becoming a 35 trillion-dollar economy by 2047. And as I see Gujarat alone will become a 3-trillion dollar economy," Ambani said.

He went on to highlight Reliance's contribution towards the growth of Gujarat. He said one-third of the conglomerate's

Rs 12 lakh crore investment in creating world-class assets and capacities across India has been in Gujarat.

The Reliance chief also outlined several commitments concerning Gujarat, adding that the conglomerate will "continue to play a leading role in Gujarat's growth story with significant investments in the next ten years".

He went on to say that Reliance will contribute to making Gujarat a global leader in green energy-led growth. "We will help Gujarat's target to meet half of its energy needs through renewable energy by the year 2030," he said.

"For this, we have started building the Dhirubhai Ambani Green Energy Giga Complex



over 5,000 acres in Jamnagar. This will generate a large number of green jobs and enable the production of green products and materials and will make Gujarat a leading exporter of green products," he added.

He also spoke about Reliance Jio's 5G rollout and said Gujarat is fully 5G enabled. "This will make Gujarat a global leader in Digital Data Platforms and AI adop-

tion," he added.

Ambani praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's India's swift transformation as a global economic giant and said that he is the "most successful Prime Minister in India's history" and the "greatest global leader of our times".

"You are working on the mantra of global good and make India the world's growth engine. The story of your jour-

ney from Gujarat to the Global Stage in just two decades is nothing short of a modern epic," Ambani said.

"Therefore, I am confident that every Gujarati is confident and every Indian is confident that the Modi Era will take India to new summits of prosperity, progress and glory," he added.

In addition to Mukesh Ambani, numerous global leaders, prominent industrialists, and top CEOs graced the Gujarat Vibrant Summit 2024. During the event, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirmed his dedication to economic growth, assuring that India is on track to emerge as one of the top three economies globally.

Gautam Adani promises Rs 2 lakh crore investment in Gujarat, create 1 lakh jobs

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): The Adani Group on Wednesday revealed plans to invest Rs 2 lakh crore in the green energy and renewable sectors over the next five years in Gujarat. The announcement was made by Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani at the Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024.

Gautam Adani, speaking at the summit, outlined the ambitious investment strategy that positions Adani Group as a key player in India's transition to a cleaner and more sus-



tainable energy future. "We are expanding the green supply chain for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat and creating the largest integrated, renewable energy ecosystem... Over the next five years, the Adani group

will invest over Rs 2 lakh crores in Gujarat," Gautam Adani said.

This multi-billion-dollar investment is set to drive innovations, create employment opportunities, and significantly contribute to the

growth of the renewable energy sector in Gujarat. Gautam Adani indicated that the investment is expected to create up to 1 lakh jobs, directly and indirectly.

Besides outlining the conglomerate's investment plan for Gujarat, Adani went on to highlight the stellar economic growth India has achieved under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He highlighted India's strong GDP growth and per capita income since 2014, and added that the "best is yet to come". "India of today

is poised to shape the global future of tomorrow," he added.

Speaking about the Vibrant Gujarat Summit, Adani said, "Vibrant Gujarat is a stunning manifestation of your (PM Modi) extraordinary vision. It has all your hallmark signatures, merging grand ambition, massive scale, meticulous governance and flawless execution. It ignited a nationwide movement as all our states march forward competing and cooperating to fundamentally remodel India's industrial landscape."

Maruti Suzuki to invest Rs 35,000 crore for 2nd car plant in Gujarat

NEW DELHI, Jan 10 (Agencies): India's top carmaker Maruti Suzuki will invest Rs 35,000 crore (\$4.2 billion) to build a second car plant in Gujarat state and will add a new production line at an existing plant, the president of its parent company said.

The investments will see the company's annual production capacity in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state jump to 2 million vehicles from 750,000 currently.

The plans were announced during the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, where thousands of chief executives, investors and diplomats have gathered for the three-day biennial event.

Toshihiro Suzuki, president of Japan's Suzuki Motor, also said the group's first bat-



tery electric vehicle will be rolled out from Maruti's existing plant in Gujarat by the end of the year.

In addition to being sold in India and Europe, the car will be exported to Japan - marking the first time for Maruti to export to its parent

company's home country.

Maruti, which commands more than 40 per cent market share in the world's third-largest auto market, plans to have six EV models by 2030.

Suzuki said Maruti - which is mainly based in India's Harayana state - had come a long way.

"It is noteworthy that as compared to 10 years ago, we expect 1.7 times in vehicle production and 2.6 times in export sales in the current fiscal year," he said.

The investment summit is part of Prime Minister Modi's final push to attract more investment in the country before a national election in which he will fight for a third term and is widely expected to win.

Eat more veggies, legumes, nuts; less dairy & meat to cut Covid risk: Study

SAO PAULO, Jan 10 (Agencies): Eating a predominantly plant-based or vegetarian diet high in vegetables, legumes, nuts, is linked to 39 per cent lower odds of Covid-19 infection, claims a research.

Researchers from the Universidade de Sao Paulo in Brazil also claimed that a diet low in dairy products and meat may help to ward off the infection.

"Plant-based dietary patterns are rich in antioxidants, phytochemicals and polyphenols, which positively affect several cell types implicated in the immune function and exhibit direct antiviral properties," the team wrote in the study, published in the open access journal *BMJ Nutrition Prevention & Health*.

In the study, the team set out to evaluate the potential impact of dietary patterns on the incidence, severity, and duration of Covid-19 infection among 702 adult volunteers all of



whom were recruited between March and July 2022. They were divided into either omnivorous (424) or predominantly plant-based (278) dietary groups.

The plant-based food group was further divided into flexitarians/semi-vegetarians who ate meat three or fewer times a week (87); and vegetarians and vegans (191).

The omnivores reported a higher rate of medical conditions and lower rates of physical activity. And the prevalence of overweight and obesity was significantly higher among the omnivores -- all factors associated with higher Covid-19 infection risk and more severe symptoms/com-

lications.

In all, 330 people (47 per cent) said that they had had Covid-19 infection. Of these, 224 (32 per cent) said they had mild symptoms and 106 (15 per cent) had moderate to severe symptoms.

The omnivores had a significantly higher reported incidence of Covid-19 than the plant-based dietary groups: 52 per cent vs 40 per cent. And they were more likely to have had moderate to severe infection: 18 per cent vs just over 11 per cent.

There was no difference, however, in how long symptoms lasted, the researchers said.

But those following a predominantly

plant-based or vegetarian/vegan diet were 39 per cent less likely to become infected than the omnivores.

It may be that predominantly plant-based diets provide more nutrients that boost the immune system and help to fight viral infections, they suggest, by way of an explanation for their findings.

The team noted that "this is an observational study, however, and as such, can't establish causal factors". The researchers also acknowledge that the study relied on personal recall and subjective assessment, both of which are prone to error.

Nevertheless, "in light of these findings and the findings of other studies, and because of the importance of identifying factors that can influence the incidence of Covid-19, we recommend the practice of following plant-based diets or vegetarian dietary patterns," they said.

76 Bn CRPF organizes medical camp under CAP



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: Continuing the wellness of civilians, 76 Battalion CRPF in collaboration with J&K Health Department, organized a free medical camp under Civic Action Programme on Wednesday at Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Nowabad, here under the guidance of Sandeep Khirwar, IG Jammu Sector and Ramesh Kumar, DIG Jammu Range.

The main objective of the camp was to reach out to the needy people of the

area to provide free health care and make them aware about their health.

In the Medical Camp, two Medical Officers namely Dr. S.Sowmiya, 76 Battalion, CRPF and Dr. Rimpi Sangral Medical Officer, conducted free medical check-up of around 250 civilians and provided free medicines.

T.H. Khan, Commandant-76 Bn inaugurated the Civic Action programme and appealed to all people of the area to remain fit by doing physical exercises regularly and sensitized them to maintain a

healthy lifestyle & hygiene. Besides, he also elaborated the role of the CRPF in maintaining cordial relationship between locals and force.

Mahendra Singh 21C, Rajesh Kumar Yadav 21C, Karnail Singh Dy. Comdt., Debu Dhakarwal, Asstt. Comdt., Mohan Shyam, Asstt. Comdt. of 76 Bn CRPF also participated in the camp.

The initiative drew positive response and was received well by the locals with the urge that CRPF to organize such camps in the future also.

Annual Identification of Defence Pensioners on SPARSH portal extends upto Jan 31 Jan

Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: In response to the evolving circumstances and to facilitate a smoother process for our esteemed defence pensioners, the Ministry of Defence has decided to extend the deadline for the annual identification of defence pensioners on newly SPARSH portal.

The same is applicable for all Defence Pensioners of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh also.

The original deadline, set for November 30, 2023, has now been extended to January 31, 2024.

This extension aims to ensure that all eligible pensioners have ample time to complete the necessary documentation and provide updated information for the annual identification process.

This decision is part of the Ministry's ongoing commitment to streamlining administrative processes and providing the best support to our defence community. We understand the importance of timely and accurate record-

keeping, and this extension aims to accommodate any unforeseen challenges pensioners may face in meeting the initial deadline.

Pensioners are urged to take advantage of this extended period to complete their annual identification promptly. The Ministry remains dedicated to maintaining transparency and efficiency in pension-related matters, and this extension is a testament to our commitment to the welfare of our defence personnel.

For further details and assistance, pensioners are encouraged to reach out to the designated helpline or visit the official Ministry of Defence website.

In J&K, those pensioners whose annual identification has yet not been done, they may visit their nearest SPARSH Seva Kendra or DPDO under PCDA Northern Command for their annual identification. For identification, they must carry their Aadhaar Card, PPO Number, Bank Passbook and Mobile with them.

SMVDU faculty presents paper at International Conference

Top News Report

KATRA, Jan 10: Dr. Surender Singh, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) attended the 2024 JNVU-ABVU-AIMT International Conference on "Innovative Research in Science, Management, and Technology (ICIRSMT)", organized at Institute of Evening Studies, Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur, Rajasthan during 5th-7th January 2024.

The conference was organized in Association with AIMT, USA, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, USA, and Maryam Abacha American University of Nigeria.

Dr. Singh presented



the research paper titled "Novel Fuzzy Knowledge Measure and Fuzzy Correlation Coefficient with Their Applications", and received the best paper award in the Science & Technology Track.

In this paper, positive and negative evaluations of uncertainty due to vagueness have been discussed along with the evolution of a novel method for the study of fuzzy correlation measures.

Eminent Speakers and delegates from countries such as the USA, Japan, Oman, Botswana, Mauritius, Iraq, and India presented their research work in various interdisciplinary fields.

The participation in this conference was supported by the Professional Development Assistance (PDA) of SMVDU.

Dr. Surender Singh thanked Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU for allowing him to attend this conference.

Dr. Singh interacted with eminent researchers working on applied and interdisciplinary aspects of Mathematics and expects some value addition and collaborations in his future research work.

EJAC demands immediate salary release for NHM employees

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 10: As the National Health Mission (NHM) employees enter their third month without salaries, the Employees Joint Action Committee (EJAC) vehemently demands the immediate payment of the rightful earnings for these dedicated officers/officials within the Health Department.

The Jammu and Kashmir EJAC President Wajahat Durrani has expressed deep concern over the prolonged withholding of salaries, asserting that keeping the hard-earned and sole source of livelihood of these essential healthcare workers withheld for such an extended period is intolerable.



The financial strain on these individuals, who are at the forefront of our health services, is not only unjust but also jeopardizes their ability to carry out their duties effectively.

The statement issued by Spokesperson EJAC Mir Bashir today, emphasized "President Wajahat Durrani urges swift action to rectify this dire situation. The

delay in salary disbursement not only affects the morale of the healthcare workforce but also hampers their ability to provide uninterrupted services to the community."

President Durrani underscored that releasing salaries is not merely a financial matter but a recognition of the invaluable contribution made by these healthcare professionals.

The administration is urged to prioritize the welfare of its employees and act promptly to alleviate their financial distress.

"We trust that the concerned authorities will heed this urgent call and ensure that the hardworking individuals in the health sector receive their due compensation without further delay," he added.

DCC discusses strategy, preparations for forthcoming Parliamentary elections



Top News Report

JAMMU, Jan 10: A meeting of District Congress Committee Jammu Urban under the presidency of Th. Manmohan Singh was held here on Wednesday at PCC HQ Shaheedi Chowk Jammu in which the strategy and preparations for forthcoming Parliamentary elections was discussed, besides general problems of people were highlighted.

Speaking on the occasion, Th. Manmohan asked the party functionaries of the grass root level to gear up themselves for the elections to the Lok Sabha and also elections to the JMC and Assembly whenever held. He said that Block and ward committees would be strengthened further in

order to gear up the urban district for the ensuing elections in the state.

He exhorted upon block and ward presidents to convene meetings in their respective blocks and wards to aware people about the policies and programmes of Congress Party.

Manmohan further said that we must try to win the trust and confidence of people and spread the policies and programmes to the party as well. He appealed the party functionaries to liberally contribute in the 'Donate for Deseh' fund launched by AICC.

Manmohan said BJP leadership in the state always sincerely followed the dictates of BJP high command and bartered the interests of Jammu.

He said that the so called champions of

Jammu utterly failed to represent the aspirations of people and safeguard their interests, be it educated youth, farmers, traders or employees/workers and betrayed the trust reposed in BJP by the Jammu people.

Now the people are eagerly waiting to teach lesson to the BJP in the Parliament as well as in Assembly and Local Body elections.

Dr. R.K. Khajuria, Pawan Dev Singh, Vijay Malhotra, Atul Sharma, Sat Pal Sapolia, Nageshwar, Pawan Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Sanjeev Katal, Latish Sharma,, Kewal Jogi, Som Nat Shama, Chander Shekhar Sharma, Manohan Sharma, Danesh Verma, H.S. Bagi, Rishu Kumar, Raj Kumar, Rajeev and Ram Dayal also spoke in the meeting.

Jagdev extends congratulations to newly nominated JKPYC District Social Media Coordinators



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Jan 10: In a gesture of appreciation and encouragement, Jagdev Gaga, the National General Secretary and Incharge of Jammu and Kashmir for the Indian Youth Congress (IYC), has extended heartfelt congratulations to the recently nominated district social media coordinators of the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Youth Congress (JKPYC).

Recognizing the pivotal role of social media in today's digital landscape, Jagdev Gaga acknowledged the significance of these appointments, emphasizing the crucial responsibility these coordinators hold in effectively disseminating the party's message and vision across various districts.

Expressing confidence in the capabilities and

commitment of the newly appointed coordinators, Gaga highlighted the importance of their role in harnessing the power of social media platforms to engage, mobilize, and connect with the youth in Jammu and Kashmir.

He underscored the need for them to use these platforms responsibly to amplify the voices of the youth and communicate the initiatives and ideologies of the Indian Youth Congress effectively.

Encouraging innovation and constructive engagement, Jagdev conveyed his best wishes to the appointed district social media coordinators, urging them to leverage social media as a tool for empowerment, awareness, and positive change in their respective districts.

This commendation from the IYC National General Secretary serves as a testament to the dedication and efforts of the newly appointed district social media coordinators and reinforces the party's commitment to harnessing the potential of digital platforms for constructive political engagement and youth empowerment.

JU condoles passing of Prem Singh Sahi, former Registrar

Top News Report

JAMMU, Dec 10: University of Jammu (JU) deeply condoles the passing of Prem Singh Sahi, former Registrar, University of Jammu, an Ace Administrator.

Sahi joined the university service as Junior Superintendent on May 30, 1959 and retired from service on December 31, 1999. He worked as Registrar, University of Jammu from April 9, 1996

to July 31, 1998.

Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor expressed his condolences on the demise of P.S Sahi and prayed that Almighty give enough strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Entire university fraternity including teachers, officers and staff paid rich tributes to the noble soul and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family in this hour of grief.

JKBS members honour Rahul Mottan for achieving great milestone in modelling, acting



Top News Report

R S PURA, Jan 10: Members of Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha (JKBS) in a brief function held here on Wednesday, honoured Rahul Mottan for achieving the great milestone in modelling, singing and acting.

Rahul Mottan comes of a respectable family from R.S.Pura's village called Gagjan. Although he belongs to a small village but always dreamt of becoming para star

on the big screen, said his friends while speaking on the occasion.

JKBS General Secretary R.L.Kaith when talked to his family it said, Rahul has a flair for modelling, dancing, singing and acting. At the very young age, he went to Punjabi film industry based in Mohali with the dream to star and set up his career in the modelling, singing and acting and today, he ha become a famous personality.

JKBS members

wished for him that he might always shine like the sun and illuminate the lives of those around him.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included JKBS' Deputy Chairman Havildar Des Raj Kaith, President Rachhpal Kaith, R.S.Pura Block President Jagdish Raj Kaith, Satwari Block President Master Naresh Kumar Kaith, Retired Section Officer Parkash Chand Mottan and Subedar Darshan Lal.

Prof. Supran Sharma conducted a Training Session in STP at Delhi University

Top News Report

KATRA, Jan 10: Prof. Supran Sharma of the School of Business, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University conducted a session in the Short Term Course on Research Methodology for University and College teachers organized by the Centre for Professional Development in Higher Education, UGC - Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), University of Delhi.

In this one-week duration program, Prof. Sharma has taken two sessions focusing on the varied dimensions of Multivariate Analysis and provided insights into the diverse aspects of the topic.

During the sessions, Prof. Sharma empha-



sized that the quality of research work depends on the appropriateness of the research tools and as per the nature of the data as well as the objectives of the research work in hand. For holistic and comprehensive development of research aptitude exposure to contemporary research tools is a mandatory obligation.

Prof. Sharma mentioned that in the present era of advanced software, simulators, artificial intelligence, etc.

it is exceptionally critical to choose suitable research modeling and tools to prescribe policy suggestions implicating from the research analysis.

In the prestigious program, faculty members of different nooks and corners of the country and different streams including Sociology, Management, Product Design, Chemistry, English, and Economics from various Universities and Colleges attended the program and participated enthusiastically with a lot of queries, comments, discussion, etc.

A lot of questions were asked by the participants which were satisfactorily replied to by the resource person in a creative and constructive manner.