# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

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## **BRIEFLY**

## **Property** acquired illegally by drug peddler attached in Kulgam: **Police**

SRINAGAR, Jan 15 (Agencies): The Kulgam Police on Monday attached illegally acquired property of a notorious drug paddler in Khudwani area of the district on Monday, a officials

"Today Property (double storey residential house) measuring 625 Sq. Ft belonging to a notorious drug peddler namely; Mashooq Ahmad Sheikh Son of Ghulam Qadir Sheikh R/O Khudwani Qaimoh, Kulgam under section 68-F(2) of NDPS Act 1985 was attached", police spokesperson

He said the property was identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Kulgam police. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in narcotic drug and psychotropic substances by the owner. Pertinently the said drug peddler is involved in Case FIR numbers 66/2023 of Police Station Qaimoh.

Locals of the area have hailed the initiative of police with regard to the attachment of immoveable property, which has been raised/used from illicit trafficking of narcotics by the drug peddlers in the Kulgam district.

### **Active Covid** cases in Country dip to 2,990

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): India has recorded 272 fresh cases of Covid, while the number of active cases of the infection has declined to 2,990, the health ministry said

on Monday. No deaths have been reported in a span of 24 hours, according to the ministry's data updated at 8 am.

The number of daily cases had dropped to double-digits till December 5, 2023 but they began to increase after emergence of a new variant and cold weather conditions. A single day rise of 841 new cases were

reported on December ■Turn to page 9

## **Indian Army's patriotism remains great source of inspiration** for all citizens: Prez Murmu on Army Day

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Monday greeted Army personnel on the 76th Army Day and said that their patriotism remains a great source of inspiration for all citizens. "In situations of conflict

as well as peace, our valiant soldiers are ever ready to serve the nation in every way they can. Today, a grateful nation pays tribute to those who have laid down their lives for the motherland



and salutes the spirit of the Indian Army! I offer my best wishes to all members of the Army,"

she said in a post on X. Army Day is observed on January 15 to mark Field Marshall K M Cari"Greetings to the Army

appa taking over as the

first Indian Commander-

in-Chief of the Indian

Army, replacing his Brit-

ish predecessor in 1949.

personnel, veterans and their families on Army Day! The Indian Army has a long tradition of exemplary bravery, guarding the nation's borders with utmost dedication. Their patriotism remains a great source of inspiration for all citizens," the president added



A delegation of prominent editors of Jammu based newspapers meeting with Director Information, Jatin Kishore and welcoming him on assuming the charge.

# Police committed to recognise services of SPOs, support them: **DGP RR Swain**



SRINAGAR, Jan 15 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Police Chief R R Swain on Monday stated that Special Police Officers (SPOs) are receiving good support and efforts are underway to regularize

those demonstrating good performance within the J&K Police force.

The DGP also high lighted that J&K Police is extending comprehensive assistance to Special Police Officers (SPOs), acknowledging

their selfless contributions, and emphasized ongoing support initiatives, including scholarships for their children, while expressing that those making notable contributions are undergoing regularization

Addressing reporters during his Public Darbar in Kupwara, he said that the decision to relocate from Srinagar was made to actively engage with the public, promptly address their grievances, and provide immediate relief.

The DGP lauded the Police force for its exemplary performance in

■Turn to page 9

## Renowned **Urdu poet** munawwar rana dies at age 71



LUCKNOW, Jan 14 (Agencies): Renowned poet Munawwar Rana passed away at the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences here on Sunday. He was 71 years

He was suffering from throat cancer for a long

Rana's daughter Sumaiya Rana told that her father died at the hospital late on Sunday night and will be laid to rest on Monday.

# Kashmir Valley experiences warmer days, colder nights: MeT



of the Kashmir valley and people were seen basking under the sun in parks and on the banks of iconic Dal Lake during the harshest part of winter "Chillia Kalan". Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature at 14.6°C on Sunday which was 8.2°C. above

normal against 6.4°C, while the minimum temperature further dipped to -4.3°C on Monday against the -4.2°C recorded Sunday night. Srinagar witnessed a record 15.0°C maximum temperature on January

13 which was 8.6°C ■Turn to page 9

## FASTags with incomplete KYC to be deactivated post Jan 31, Says NHAI

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Stateowned NHAI on Monday said FASTags with valid balance but with incomplete KYC will get deactivated by banks post January 31, 2024.

To enhance efficiency

of electronic toll collection system and provide seamless movement at toll plazas, NHAI has taken 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative that aims to discourage use of single FASTag for multiple vehicles or

linking multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle, a company statement said.

NHAI is also encouraging FASTag users to complete 'Know Your Customer' (KYC)

Turn to page 9

## IndiGo says passenger assaulted pilot; to be included in 'No-Fly List'

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): IndiGo on Monday said a passenger assaulted its first officer while he was making a flight delay announcement onboard a Goa-bound aircraft at the Delhi airport.

A purported video clipping of the incident, which took place on Sunday, has surfaced on social media.

"On January 14, 2024, during the announcement of a flight delay by the first officer of flight 6E2175, a passenger assaulted the first officer," the airline said in a statement.

An airline official said the incident took place onboard the Delhi-Goa flight.

As per protocol, IndiGo said the passenger was declared unruly and handed over to the local law enforcement agencies for further action.

According to the airline, the incident is being Turn to page 9





JAMMU, Jan 15 (Agencies): Determined to produce 300 MW electricity through solar energy, around 20,000 government buildings to have solar rooftop projects by

Official sources said on Monday that the Jammu and Kashmir government departments will have electricity supply through solar energy as the government has set a target of producing 300 MW of electricity by 2025.

"As many as 20,000 government buildings to have rooftop solar projects to be executed by Turn to page 9

# Kashmir's Batool Zehra sings Ram Bhajan in Pahari language

SRINAGAR, Jan 15 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir's Batool Zehra, a first year college student from Uri has sung a Ram bhajan in Pahari language to connect J&K with the Ram Lalla Pran Pratishtha ceremony, to be held on 22nd January in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.

Batool Zehra said "Our dear Prime Minister Narendra Modi has kept a 11-day fast. He is doing so as the nation is going to witness the Pran Pratishtha cer-



emony of Ram Lalla on January 22. Today, the entire country is echoed by Lord Ram's bhajans. Our Jammu and Kashmir is not left behind in

this initiative. Batool Zehra spoke on how she got inspired to sing a Ram bhajan. "I heard a Ram Bhajan

■Turn to page 9

# Notorious drug peddler arrested in Baramulla

SRINAGAR, Jan 15 (Agencies): Police on Monday arrested a most wanted and notorious drug peddler and recovered contraband substances from him in Jammu and Kashmir's

Police in Delina, at a checkpoint established at Juhama Market, intercepted one person, and during his search, 270 grams of brown sugarlike contraband substance were recovered

The accused was identified as Mohammad Ayoub Shah, a resident of Ladoora Rafiabad, police said, adding that he was arrested and shifted to Police Station Baramulla, where he remained in custody. Turn to page 9



CADNICA ELECTRONIC SOLUTIONS

Contact Person Mr. Sanjeev Kumar

9419143503

## **10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform about the sad demise of Shri Ramesh Kumar Raina S/o Late Shri Shibnath Raina originally R/o Chowgam, Devsar, Kulgam, Kashmir on 7th January 2024 at Bhopal (M.P)

10th Day Kriya will be held at Khatlapur Ghat, Chota Talab, Bhopal on 16th January 2024 at 9 am sharp.

**GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Sudha Raina -Wife

Son & Daughter in law & Grand Daughter

Romit, Akanksha & Aarohi

Varun Koul & Deepali Raina -Son in law & Daughter Phoola Dhar - Sister

Asha Ji Dhar & Bushan Lal Dhar - Sister & Brother in law Geeta Ji Raina & Moti Lal Raina -Sister & Brother in Laws

Ravi Ji Raina & Girja Raina Munu ji Raina & Fancy Raina

Vijay Raina & Kamna Raina - Brother & Sister in law

Veena Dhar, Sunjay Dhar, Bharat Raina, Arti Kaul, Renu Pandith, Anita Dhar, Babita Raina, Nitish Raina, Rohit, Rohan, Sheena, Bhoomi, Vidhya, Shivranjini, - All Nieces & Nephews

Shri Ramesh Kumar

Raina

Sh. Ram Kumar Gupta

Sh. Ram Chand

Mobile Nos - 9425302538, 9753589936, 9419795215

## TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sudden and sad demise of our beloved Sh. Ram Kumar Gupta, S/o Lt. Sh. Radhey Krishan, R/o Satani, Near State Bank, on 04-01-24. TENTH DAY shall be performed on 13-01-24 (Saturday) at 12.00PM at our residence Near SBI, Satani, Dhar Road, Udhampur. KRIYA shall be performed on 16-01-24 (Tuesday) at our residence.

our residence.
GRIEF STRICKEN: Smt. Savitri Devi (Mother) Smt. Shashi Gupta (Wife)

Daughters & Son-in-laws Meena Gupta & Rakesh Gupta Arti Gupta & Deepat Mahajan Komal Mahajan & Ankush Gupta Rijul Mahajan (Son)
Brothers & Sister-in-laws

Sh. Vijay Kumar & Smt. Geeta (9419161228)
Sh. Jeevan Kumar (9596817453)
Sh. Deleep Kumar & Smt. Kamlesh (9419808476)
Sh. Kewal Kumar & Smt. Kiran (9596695953)

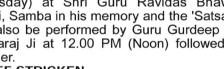
Sisters & Brother-in-laws Smt. Kanta Gupta & Sh. Sudesh Gupta Smt. Usha Gupta

Smt. Usna Gupta
Smt. Babli Kumari & Sh. Kiran Kumar Gupta
M/S VIJAY BUILDERS, R.A. ENFIELD

## **TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father Sh. Ram Chand S/o Lt. Sh. Taru Ram R/o Village Diani Samba has left us for his heavenly abode on January 07, 2024.

The 10th Day will be performed on 16/01/2024 (Tuesday) at Shri Guru Ravidas Bhawan Diani, Samba in his memory and the 'Satsang' will also be performed by Guru Gurdeep Giri Maharaj Ji at 12.00 PM (Noon) followed by Langer.



GRIEF STRICKEN Murti Devi (Wife)

Sh. Major Singh & Smt. Bachano Devi -Son & Daughter-in-Law

Sh. Darshan Kumar & Smt. Sujata Kumari -Son & Daughter-in-Law

Sh. Baldev Raj & Smt. Sharda Kumari - Son & Daughter-in-Law Sh. Sanjay Kumar & Smt. Renu Bala **-Son & Daughter-in-Law** 

Sh. Lal Chand & Smt. Meenu Devi - Son & Daughter-in-Law

and all Family Members.

Mob: 9858208438, 9419315915, 9906359745

## TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Shanti Devi W/o Lt Sh. Moti Ram Gupta (Gharota Wale) R/o Lane No 10 H.No. 125 Adarsh Vihar Deeli who left for heavenly abode on 8th January 2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on 16/01/24 (Tuesday) at Panch Mandir Sec-2, Behind Tawi Shopping Complex Channi Himmat Jammu from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. **GRIEF STRICKEN:-**

Sons and Daughters-in-law

Sh. Parveen Gupta & Ranjana Gupta Sh. Vinod Gupta and Sheetal Gupta (United India Insurance)

Sh. Raman Gupta and Tina Gupta Sh. Kiran Gupta and Shelly Gupta

Daughters and Sons-in-law

Smt Rama Gupta & Vijay Gupta Smt Rashmi Gupta & Sham Lal Gupta

Mob-9419181440: 9419188616

M/s Dhani Ram Mangat Ram Kanak Mandi/Warehouse Shubh Lakshmi Finance Corp Kanak Mandi

M/s Raman Stationery New Plot

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

INFORMED THAT OUR BELOVED MOTHER SMT SHAMRANI KOUL W/O LATE SH TARA CHAND KOUL OF QAZIGUND KASHMIR RESI-DENT OF LANE NO. 7, BLOCK 38, JAGTI AT PRESENT HOUSE NO. 743A, VINAYAK NAGAR SEC-3, MUTHI LEFT FOR HER HEAVENLY ABODE ON 13-01-2024.

SH KAWAL KRISHAN KOUL & SMT LOVELY KOUL SMT KUNDAN BHAT W/O LATE SH ASHOK KUMAR BHAT -DAUGHTER

SMT TEJA BHAT & SH DEEP KUMAR BHAT

SMT SARLA RAINA & SH KANHAYA LAL RAINA GRAND CHILDREN: DIKSHA, KOMAL, KUSHI, KAJAL KOUL

SAMASTH KOUL PARIWAR

MOBILE NO. 9469552304, 9419808104

## TENTH DAY

of our beloved mother Smt. Shanti Devi W/o Lt Sh. Moti Ram Gupta (Gharota Wale) R/o Lane No 10 H.No. 125 Adarsh Vihar Deeli who left for heavenly abode on 8th

Panch Mandir Sec-2, Behind Tawi Shopping Complex Channi Himmat Jammu from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-Sons and Daughters-in-law

Sh. Parveen Gupta & Raniana Gupta

Sh. Raman Gupta and Tina Gupta Sh. Kiran Gupta and Shelly Gupta

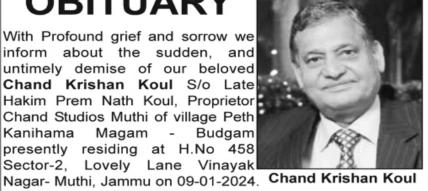
Daughters and Sons-in-law Smt Rama Gupta & Vijay Gupta

Smt Rashmi Gupta & Sham Lal Gupta

Shubh Lakshmi Finance Corp Kanak Mandi M/s Raman Stationery New Plot

**OBITUARY** With Profound grief and sorrow we

untimely demise of our beloved Chand Krishan Koul S/o Late Hakim Prem Nath Koul, Proprietor Chand Studios Muthi of village Peth Kanihama Magam - Budgam presently residing at H.No 458 Sector-2, Lovely Lane Vinayak



TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed

on 18-1-24 Thursday at Akhnoor Ghat and assembly will be held at Muthi Ghat near DSE-Jammu at 12 Noon, on 18-1-24. IN GRIEF

Samast Koul and Saproo Parivaar of Peth Kanihama Magam-Budgam

Phone Number- 9419148738,7836858015,7889826594

## TENTH DAY /KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Chanchala Devi w/o Late Sh. Krishan Lal Dogra, who left for heavenly abode on 5th January, 2024.

TENTH DAY will be performed on 14-01 24(Sunday) at our residence (Hno.51, Mohalla Paharian, Jammu) at 11.00 am.

KRIYA will be performed on 24(Wednesday) at our residence at 12.00 Noon. UTHALA will be performed on 19-1-24 (Friday) at Mahajan hall, shalamar road from 3:00-4:00

GRIEF STRICKEN

Sons & Daughter-in-laws

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar & Mrs. Sheetal Mr. Rajesh Dogra (Advocate) & Mrs. Sweety Dogra

Daughter & Son-in-law Mrs. Neelam Mehta & Mr. Dinesh Mehta

Grand Children

Shivani & Amit Manchanda Charu & Jaideep Mehta, Nikhil Dogra, Shivang Dogra,

Ritanshi Dogra, Prithish Dogra Contact: 9419193000, 9419195349, 9460186825

## TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, it is informed that our revered & beloved mother Smt. Laxhmi Shori W/o Late Radha Krishen Pandit of Brariangan (Uma Nagri), Anantnag at present H.No. 113, Sector - 4, Pamposh Colony, Janipur Jammu left for heavenly abode on 09-01-2024.

The Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed on 18-01-2024 (Thursday) at Akhnoor Ghat and Assembly at Muthi Ghat around 11.30 am. **Grief Stricken** 

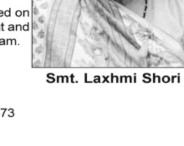
Daughters-in-law & Sons Teja & Bansi Lal Pandit - 9018892224 Ashok Kumar Pandit - 7051735503 Desha & Rattan Lal Pandit - 7006199573

Daughters & Sons-in-law Phoola & O.N. Koul - 8288819693 Vijay Raina - 9682116210

Rita & M.K. Koul - 9419120184 Grand Children, Great Grand Children Samast Pandit Parivar & Relatives



Smt. Chanchala Devi



# TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father Sh. Triloki Nath Pandit S/o Vasa Dev of Mohripora Anantnag at present TRT Nagrota Block K Flat No.11 Kandoli Nagrota. The **TENTH DAY** will be performed on 17-01-2024 (Wednesday) at Baderkali Mandir Thalwal Ghat and assembly will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Director School Education at 11AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Wife: Smt Tathi

Sons and Daughters-in-Law Sh. Raj Nath Pandit & Smt. Pummy Pandit Sh. K.L Pandit (Rinku) & Julie Pandit

Rakesh Kumar Pandit & Prerna Pandit Grand Children: Aryan, Aarav, Krishna, Pranav, Paarth Pandit Mobile No. 7889887586, 7006592293, 9682589553

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI

beloved mother Smt Sansaro Devi R/o Vill Kootah, near Radha Tenth Day will be performed on Sunday on 14th Jan 2024 at our residence at 12:00 Noon.

Kriya will be performed on Sunday on 17th Jan, 2024 at our resi

RASAM PAGRI will be performed on Friday, 19th Jan 2024 at 3PM at our residence. GRIEF STRICKEN Son and Daughter in law

Lok Nath and Surreshta Sundan Ashok Kumar and Raj Rani Sundan Devinder and Veena Sundan Daughter and Son in law Shakuntala and Lt Sh Yashpal Suman and Subhash Chander Abrol Chander Kanta and Ved Verma Sanyogita and Romesh Verma

Sunita and Surinder Kumar Verma



SH. TRILOKI NATH

PANDIT

**Smt Sansaro Devi** 

Grand Son and Daughter in law Chetan and Upasna Sundan Contact details Grand Children 9797470825 Amit, Mridul, Dhruv, Sneha **Great Grand Daughter** 7780831041 Chetana Sundan

#### 10TH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform

/eer Ji Pandita & Shakuntula Brothers & Sister-in-laws Ravi Ji Raina & Girja Raina

Munu ji Raina & Fancy Raina Sunil Raina & Swati Raina veena Dhar, Sunjay Dhar, Bharat Raina, Arti Kaul, Renu Pandith, Anita Dhar, Babita Raina Nitish Raina, Rohit, Rohan, Sheena, Bhoomi, Vidhya, Shivranjini, Sachin, Shreya, Vaibhav Vinita - All Nieces & Nephews

Mobile Nos - 9425302538, 9753589936, 9419795215 Address: Sector G, HIG-563, Ayodhya Nagar, Bhopal - 462041

TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow, we nform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt Raj Rani Thotha W/o Late Sh. Radha Krishan Thotha on 09-01-2024 presently residing at Govind Nagar Sector-2, H.No.306 near Reliance Towe Camp Road Talab Tillo, Jammu. The **Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 18-01-2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat near the Office of Director, School



Smt Rai Rani Thotha

In Grief Sons and Daughters-in-law Shuban Ji Thotha & Laja Thotha

Ashok Kumar Thotha & Veena Thotha Daughter & Son-in-law Veena Nathoo & Bushan Lal Nathoo

Education, Muthi at 9.30 am.

Mob.No. 9797374727 & 9149917239

#### TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Inform the sad demise of our beloved mother Smt. Roopavati Wangoo, wife of Late Shri Prithvi Nath Wangoo of Badiyaar Payeen Srinagar Kashmir, left for heavenly abode on 11 January 2024 at Jammu 3/113 Indra Vihar old Janipur Jammu. Our mother was an ardent disci-ple of Swami Lakshman Joo Maharaj of Ishber Nishat Srinagar - Kashmir,

The 10TH DAY will be performed at Akhnoor on Friday 19 January 2024, Assembly will be held at 12 noon at 3/113 Indra Vihar old Janipur Jamr GRIEF STRICKEN

Nancy Goja and Dr Moti Lal Goja (Daughter and Son-In-law) Ashok Kumar Wangoo, (Son) Dileep Wangoo and Veena Wangoo (Son and Daughter-in-law)

Rakesh Wangoo (Son) Asheesh Goja (Grandson)

## SMT. ROOPAVATI WANGOO

Karamyogi Sh. Narpati Shan

Asheesh Goja (Grandson)
Dr Urveshi Goja (Granddsughter)
Kahan Wangco and Aarti Wangco (Grand Son and Grand Daughter in law)
Sachin Wangco and Pooja Wangco (Grand Son and Grand Daughter in law)
Dr Divya (Grand Daughter), Divanshi (Grand Daughter)
Kapish Wangco (Grandson)
Gautam (Great Grandson), Riya (Great Granddaughter)
Aayan (Great Grandson)

## TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI/UTHALA

uru beloved father, Karamyogi Sh. Narpati Sharma Retd. Principal and Founder of Naveen Vidya Mandir School, Paloura) S/o Lt. Sh. Pandit Jagan Nath R/o Mohalla Panditan, Ward No. 80, Paloura, Jammu who left for heavenly abode on 5th of Jan 2024. TENTH DAY will be performed on 14th Jan 2024(Sunday at 11:00 am at our residence, Paloura, KRIYA will be performed on 15th Jan 2024(Monday) at ou

residence, Paloura.

RASAM PAGRI will be performed on 19th Jan 2024 at or

RASAM PAGRI will be performed on 19th Jan 2024 at our residence, Paloura.

UTHALA will be performed on 19th Jan 2024 (Friday) from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm at our residence, Paloura.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sons and Daughters-in-law
Son Sharima & Smt. Sunita Sharma
Sh. Dheer Chander Sharma & Smt. Shushma Sharma
Sh. Dheer Chander Sharma & Smt. Shushma Sharma
Sh. Dr. Deepak Pathak (Pracharak Geytri Parivaar , Shardikunj, Haridwar)

# mwal Pandit Pariwar ntact Numbers : 9469002491 , 9868223960 , 8492957910

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** With profound grief and sorrow we inform that the sad demise of our beloved Sh Vijay Kumar Bhasin S/o Late Makhan Lal Bhasin R/o Drabiyar Habba-Kadal Srinagar presently residing at House No. 196-C, Lane No. 04, Sector-01 Durga Nagar Jammu on 09.01.2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed or 18.01.2024 Thursday at Akhnoor Ghat and ssembly will be held at House No. 196-C, Lane No. 04, Sector-01, Durga Nagar Jammu at Sh Vijay Kumar 11:30 AM on 18.01.2024.

Grief Stricken: Smt Sunita Bhasin (Wife) Namrita Bhasin (Daughter) Daughter & Son in law

Renu Kumari & Sunney Duggal Sister & Brother in law Smt Girja Bhat & Sh Chuni Lal Bhat

7780911929 Grand Child: Tanvika Duggal

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORR DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SH CHAMAN LAL SANGOT SIO LATE SH RELU RAM SANGOTRA RIO BIRPUR AT P SENT POOJA COLONY, LOWER THATHAR BANTALAB JAM 10TH DAY KRIYA SHALL BE PERFORMED ON TUESDAY 16TO

TENTH DAY KRIYA

JAN. 2024 AT 10.00 AM AT HARI OM PALACE ADJACENT I NEEL KAMAL HIGH SCHOOL, MAIN ROAD BANTALA **GRIEF STRICKEN** GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Swams Sangotra - Wife
Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh Voonesh Sangotra & Smt Laxmi
Daughters & Son-in-laws
Smt Moonesh Sangotra & Sh Ravi Sammal
Smt Noonesh Sangotra & Sh Ravi Sammal
Smt Noonesh Sangotra & Sh Joginder Paul
Miss Rimpesh Sangotra - Daughter
Deepty Remembered By:
Sarmal and Chandal Parivar
Control No. 4559273327, 2803290309, 908

ntact No. 9419223357, 8803260306, 9086001660



Ph No. 7006744203,

SH CHAMAN LAL SANGOTRA

#### TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI | With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform you the sad demise of Smt Kaushalya Devi W/o Sh Vir Singh

abode on 6th January, 2024. TENTH DAY will be performed on 15-01 2024 (Monday) at our residence village upper Barnai, Jammu at 10 AM. KRIYA will be performed on 18-01-2024

Manhas of Barnai, who left for heavenly

RASAM PAGRI will be performed on 19-01-2024 (Friday) at 4PM at our residence village Smt Kaushalya Devi upper Barnai Jammu.

#### GRIEF STRICKEN MANHAS FAMILY & ALL RELATIVES/ FRIENDS. 9419835595, 7006982821, 9906384171, 6005297438.

TENTH DAY KRIYA With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of Sh.Pran Nath Bhat S/o Sh.Madhav Lal Bhat Originally resident of villagam Kupwara Kashmir at present Lane No 9 Block No.45, Otr No 10 Jagt Nagrota Jammu on 11-01-2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Mata Bhadra Kali Asthapan Thalwal at 9AM and assembly shall be held at Community Hall Lane No-4, Backside

MOBILE NO- 7006968006, 7006850495

at 11.30AM on 20-01-2024. Mourning Lane No 4 Back side Community Hall Jagt **GRIEF STRICKEN** 

Smt & Sh.Rajinder Kumar Pandita- Handwara Smt & Sh.Surinder Kumar Pandita- Handwara Smt Lalita Shuri W/o Sh.Krishan Lal- Sister & Jija Ji Smt. Santosh Kumari W/o Lt.Sh. Kanwal Krishan -Sister & Jija Ji Smt. Asha Raina W/o Sh. Shadi Lal – Sister & Jija Ji

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the contents on their own before acting there upon."



**SMT. SHANTI DEVI** 

SMT SHAMRANI KOUL

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, IT IS

THE TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED ON 21-01-2024 (SUNDAY) AT AKHNOOR GATH AND ASSEMBLY WILL BE HELD AT MUTHI GATH NEAR DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION

OFFICE MUTHI. IN GRIEF:

SONS & DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW SH MAHARAJ KRISHAN KOUL & SMT SWEETY KOUL

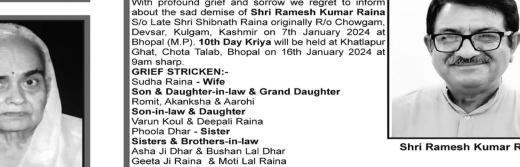
DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW

Tenth Day will be performed on 16/01/24 (Tuesday) at

Sh. Vinod Gupta and Sheetal Gupta (United India Insurance)

Mob-9419181440: 9419188616 M/s Dhani Ram Mangat Ram Kanak Mandi/Warehouse







# JTC/SKF urges Govt to solve issue of Kashmiri migrants forthwith

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15: Jagti Tenement Committee/Soan Kashmir Front (JTC/SKF) J&K under the presidentship of Shadi Lal Pandita urged Govt to solve the issue of Kashmiri migrants as soon as possible.

Since the immovable properties like land, houses, orchids etc. of Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir Valley for the last 34 years on which some people, government and semi government departments have made illegal encroachments, for which nothing have been changed on the ground level, Pandita urged the LG Administration and Central Government to look into the matter and take necessary action to remove these illegal encroachments to restore the properties to their owners.

He also sought compensation for community members who got displaced from the Valley leaving behind their agriculture/ horticulture land.

The LG administration should take immediate action to protect the immovable property of KP migrants as the same were sale in an illegal manner misusing the J&K Migrant Immovable Property (Stay of proceedings) Act 1997, he added.

"We also demand that release of balance amount of compensation to those KP migrants whose



houses were torched after the exodus in 1990, immediately, as the decision was taken by the then state government," he said.
On 18th November 2004, Pandita said, the then Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh visited Muthi Camp Phase I and announced for construction of Two Room Sets for Kashmiri Migrants residing in cemented roof sheeted sheds in camps.

A high level team from PMO visited some camps and subsequent to their visit sanction was accorded for construction of 5248 two room sets including allied facilities like Community Halls, Higher Secondary Schools, Prime Health Centers, Water Supply, Electric Supply, Small Hospitals, Road & Drainage system, STP plant, Parks etc under Prime Ministers Reconstruction Program (PMRP), he said adding that accordingly Government of

India, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) sanctioned the project for construction of 5248 flats for the welfare of the Kashmiri Migrants in 2 phases for the migrant camps Muthi, Purkhoo and Nagrota during the year September 2005, in which 4224 flats had been taken up at Mini Township Jagti-Nagrota during the year 2007.

After completing the Construction of the said project the camp resided migrant families were accommodated/allotted two room tenement in the year 2010, after doing screening exercise initiated by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioners Department headed by the then Commissioner, he said.

Now, after passed more than 13 years duration of time, the allottees of these tenement KP migrants of Jagti are being harassed by the Relief Organization by sealing of the quarter's

on unknown reasons, also stopping of meager cash assistance to some relief holders, denying ration slips to the families who are working all over the country for their livelihood, instead of make the living conditions of KP migrants easy but doing these kind of actions to camp intimates by the Relief Organization Migrants department is totally injustice and urged to the LG Government to take stern action in this matter, he said.

He warned the concerned authorities, if they do not stop harassing the Jagti Migrant Camp inhabitants, they will be responsible for any untoward incident or any ugly agitation in this connection.

We appealed that the settlements for the KPs be set-up in the Three district headquarters of the Kashmir valley with all kinds of basic amenities like hospitals, primary/secondary schools, shopping malls and under fool-proof security to infuse sense of safety.

We urged the government to reserve Two Parliament Seats / Five Legislative Assembly seat in the valley for the minority community instead of nominating the members.

Others who were present in the press conference including Sameer Koul, Kashi Nath Bhat, Ravinder Koul, Anil Dhar and Ramit Raina.

## AAP Jammu starts 6th day Badlao Yatra from Agore-Grota



divisive politics as well

#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Jan 15: The AAP- Jammu started its 6th day "Badlaav Yatra" on Monday from Agore-Grota to Sari-Bhalwal Jammu.

During the Yatra, the AAP volunteers were raising slogans against ruling dispensation for their utter failure on all fronts.

The AAP volunteers said that since 2014 the BJP has failed to fulfill even a single promise. In spite of the tall claims of the BJP government at the centre, the ground situation is entirely different

In order to expose the utter failures of Modi Government & its coward attempt to hide itself behind the inauguration of holy "RAM MANDIR" without its completion as highlighted by 4 Shankarachary peethas & rejected Ayodhya Ram Mandir invite.

The AAP volunteers, asked Modi Govt to boldly place it's 10 year's report card before the nation & the government must reply on highest ever unemployment, increasing crime rate against our women, inflation of prices & over 35000 suicides of our youth in last two years in the name of Agniveer scheme related paper leakage scams, the AAP

volunteers added.

This Badlao Yatra will touch maximum areas of all Constituencies of Jammu province, after 26th January, 2024 to aware the public about immediate challenges before the democracy of India because of Modi Govt's dictatorial proceedings,

The AAP volunteers have appealed the general masses to rise above the politics of religion & region in the larger interest of poor people & integration of the country and see through the game of

as Divide & rule policy of ruling dispensation as also the previous Political Parties who ruled the country as well as J&K, who simply boast of "Vikas" from the roof top but in fact, on ground, they are sowing the seeds of hatred, division in the society, leading & dragging the Country to a situation of 1947 which is highly dangerous for the unity & integrity of the Nation. The country has to run on the foot hold of its Constitution which teaches us to give regard to its religious sects on all costs, the AAP volunteers

maintained.
Frenzy of casteism, polarization in the name of religion will harm us than doing any good and that people not get mislead and swayed by emotive slogans and imaginary JUMLAS, the AAP volunteers said.

They added that the defeat of BJP-the biggest Party in the world, at the hands of smallest party of the world, in Delhi Assembly elections in 2015, 2020 & in MCD elections & also in Punjab Assembly elections by AAP, is itself remarkable & significant the AAP volunteers exclaimed.

The AAP volunteers further said that a beginning of BJP "MUKTH" Bharat because of their anti-poor & pro- capitalist policies and the day is not far when "JHAROO" will sweep the whole country because of unique model of Delhi governance acclaimed not only nationally but also inter-nationally, the AAP

volunteers maintained.
They further said that on one hand BJP is arresting political opponents on fake corruption charges while they themselves are on an MLA purchasing spree. Hard-earned public money is being misused to quench BJP's

thirst for power, the AAP Volunteers alleged.

They further said that the BJP & Prime Minister Modi cannot talk about fighting corruption now; the tainted leaders under the scanner of ED & CBI for corruption have been put into "washing machine" & BJP's detergent washing powder cleans all spots in seconds. Strange, the Modi washing powder failed to take effect in case of Manish Sisodia, Satyinder Jain, Sanjay Singh, and AAP Councilors in MCD & also in Council of Ministers & MLAs in Delhi & Punjab governments.

They further said that BJP led Government has been completely exposed because of white lies, corruption, un-employment, unprecedented price rise of LPG, Diesel, Petrol, fertilizers, edible oil, pulses, hike in transport charges etc and that people are fed up with them and badly see an alternative in AAP because of magical pro-poor, pro- workers, laborers and pro-people policies of AAP launched in Delhi & Punjab, the AAP Volunteers said.

They added that enough is enough now and that all the people can't be befooled for all the time as the people have seen through the game of polarization, of all traditional Political Parties so called the savior of Hindus & Muslims.

Prominent among those who joined the "Badlov Yatra" include Suresh Kumar Bhagat, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Nirmal Mahna, Rajesh Pangotra, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Ashni Matto, Adv. Dalvinder Kumar Bhagat, Adv. Arvind Bandral, Ranjodh Singh, Sandeep Singl Parihar, Shaadi Lal, Harsh Dev Singh, Girdhari Lal, Rattan Lal Panch, Santosh Devi, Neha Devi and Sham Lal Gupts.

## Hopelessness among people of J&K without elected Govt: Manjit Singh

**Top News Report** 

RAMGARH, Jan 15: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu and Former Minister Manjit Singh on Monday said that there is hopelessness among the people of Jammu and Kashmir without an elected Government.

Addressing a public meeting at Ramgarh in Samba, Manjit Singh expressed his concern over delaying tactics to restore the democratic system in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The people feel deprived of their basic rights in the wake of delayed elections for the last several years. In these years, various Govts were formed through elections, but the Jammu and Kashmir remained ignored for the same," he said while addressing the gathering at Ramgarh. The public meeting was organised by Legal Cell District President Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti

During the public meeting, the participants expressed their concern over growing developmental issues, unemployment, exploitation of resources by outsiders and lack of employment to local youth in the industrial sector.

Referring to their issues, Manjit Singh demanded that he Govt should hold the industrial sector accountable for not employing local youth of the surrounding areas in Samba's industrial sector.

"There is anger among the locals for hiring outsiders," he said while extending support to the locals.

He referred to the brewing concern over unscheduled power cuts in Ramgarh, Samba District that has affected the normal life especially when the temperature has witnessed unprecedented drop and contant dry spell.

He said that the Govt should initiative to streamline the electricity supply so that the drinking water can also be supplied regularly.

"The farmers have complaints that their water pumps do not work because of unscheduled long hours power cuts. Hence, the irrigation fields remain without water supplies," he said. He said that the power cuts have also affected the religious ceremonies in the district.

He pointed out that the Govt has not taken up step for on the spot recruitment of the unemployed border youth in Ramgarh and other areas along the International Border.

"Our youth should be given an opportunity to get recruited in the army, paramilitary, and JKP under a special recruitment drive in bordr areas of Jammu," he said.

He however lauded the local population for raising their voice for democratic system and extending support to Apni Party's policy of equitable development and employment to educated unemployed.

He said that the Party stands with the people of Jammu

plains and supports their demand for reservation of jobs in the industrial sector and protection of their resources and trade for the locals.

"We strongly oppose interference of outsiders and grab of

"We strongly oppose interference of outsiders and grab of our resources. The Apni Party will not tolerate any kind of discrimination with the people of Jammu plains irrespective of their region or religion. We believe in unity," he added.

Meanwhile, Adv Sahil Bharti also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the concerns of the local population and expectations with the Apni Party.

The prominent among those who were present in the public meeting include Senior Provincial Vice President Jammu, Ex-MLA Faqir Nath, District President Samba, Raman Thappa, ST State President Saleem Alam Choudhry, SC State President Jammu, Bodh Raj Bhagat, SC Wing State General Secretary, Joginder Lal, SC Provincial President Jammu, Lovely Mangol, Provincial President Youth Wing Jammu, Vipul Bali, Provincial Vice President Women Wing, Neelam Gupta, Provincial Secretary Women Wing.

# Cyber fraud and sextortion are major threats to youth: DIG Nazneen Bhasin



## Top News Report

JAMMU/ DELHI, Jan 14: Experts on multiple fields shared their views at the two-day conference organised to mark the 25th anniversary of the Haryana State Commission for Women.

On this occasion, Honorary General Secretary. Haryana State Council for Child Welfare, Smt. Ranjeeta Mehta said that we should always treat children with kindness, so that they can grow up in the right direction in life. She also highlighted the importance of sex education. so that children are aware and can understand the changes happening in their bodies over time. She stated that childless couples can adopt orphaned children through their Council, allowing children to receive a good education and become a part of the country's progress.

progress.
DIG, Nazneen Bhasin stated that the era of social media influencers is currently underway. Young people should concentrate on a single goal and should be protected from crimes such

as cyber fraud and sextortion.

During the programme, Dhananjay Chauhan, a transgender activist highlighted the importance of equality requesting the government to make special provisions for transgenders in jobs so that they also live with dignity and respect.

Similarly, mountaineer (Everester) Anita Kundu said that humans move forward with their thoughts. "With the power of thoughts, we can achieve anything. She stated that mothers and women play crucial roles in society and by empowering women, we can help society to move forward", she added.

Speaking on the occasion, Brahma Kumari, Dr. Binny Sareen, stated that self-empowerment is essential for women and youth empowerment. For self-empowerment, we must connect with our culture, traditions and heritage laying emphasis on spiritual well being of the society.

The two days Silver jubilee of Haryana Women Commission

concluded in Surajkund with Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya addressing as the Summit as chief guest.

It may be mentioned that it was for the first time in the history of Haryana Women Commission, two days International Women Summit began at pictureque Rajhans resorts, Surajkund on Thursday with Women activists from across India and abroad, girl students, dignitaries from different countries participating.

The Summit was inaugurated by Rekha Sharma, Chairperson of National Women Commission.

Renu Bhatia, Chairperson of Haryana Women Commission said that the Summit was organized to showcase achievements of Women in multiple fields and to celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's number of Women centric initiatives like Beti Bachav Beti Padav, reservation to Women in Parliament and State assemblies. Dignitaries from different parts of the country and outside India participated in the Summit.

## Sukesh seeks lab testing of "Batnashak Batika" by J&K Drugs Controller

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15: Sr. Social Activist Sukesh.C.Khajuria who had alerted the drug authorities of J&K, on January 1, 2024 has now written a reminder with copies to Union Health Minister and other central and union territory officials pointing towards the dangers of sale of such drugs and medicines seeking chemical examinations of such

The social activist had expressed his apprehensions related to the Ayurvedic composition known as 'Batnashak Batika', manufactured by "Mayur Ayurvedic Home" which is increasingly being utilized for the treatment of joint pains, particularly in patients who have suffered from 'Chikungunya' disease in Jammu and Kashmir.

medicines at the earliest.

He wrote to the drug authorities in J&K that it has come to his notice that 'Batnashak Batika' reportedly demonstrates swift efficacy in alleviating post-Chikungunya joint pains, contrary to the conventional understanding that Ayurvedic herbal medicines typically facilitate gradual healing and recovery.



"Given the remarkable and expeditious healing attributed to this Ayurvedic medicine, I harbour reservations regarding its composition," he added.

Sukesh, who in the past three decades, had actively advocated various issues pertaining to the health and well-being of the general populace at state, national, and international platforms, wrote to the Drug Controller of Jammu and Kashmir, stating that they undoubtedly be cognizant of the prevalence of spurious drugs and concoctions in the market, posing risks to unsuspecting patients.

He further said that the quality of drugs is beyond the understanding of common man and it was the responsibility of the Drug Controller, which is mandated by the Constitution and law of the country to ensure the availability of quality drugs to the public and the market is free from counterfeit, spurious and substandard drugs.

He again requested the Drug controller to conduct a thorough chemical examination of the composition of 'BatnashakBatika' to determine whether any steroids or potentially harmful substances have been incorporated to expedite relief, posing potential health risks to consumers.Article 21 of the Constitution bestows upon citizens the right to life, and it is incumbent upon the state to protect the lives of its citizens, as mandated by the statute. Khajuria urged the

authorities for a comprehensive chemical examination of the aforementioned Ayurvedic medicine at the drug laboratory and subsequently, please disseminate the findings to the general public for the collective benefit of society. He expressed hope that earnest action by the authorities in the case would be beneficial for the society and dispel doubts and act as a deterrent if any shortcomings are found.

# Chandel asks Myanmar-Bangladesh residents to adopt Hinduism if want to live in India

## **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Hindutva leader Raju Chandel addressed journalists today, emphasizing that residents of Jammu and Kashmir, infiltrators from Myanmar, should either return to Myanmar or stay in India by adopting Hinduism.

Chandel expressed concern over the large number of infiltrators from Bangladesh and Myanmar in Jammu and Kashmir, who have forc-

ibly occupied resources meant for local residents by obtaining fake documents like Aadhaar cards, ration cards, and voter IDs.

He urged the government to issue a directive allowing those who adopt Hinduism to stay in India, while strict action should be taken against infiltrators who refuse to do so, including imprisonment and deportation.

Highlighting the histori-



cal connection between Myanmar and India, Chandel recalled that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had established the Azad Hind Fauj in Myanmar during World War II, with a significant population of Hindu Sanatanis still residing there.
Chandel appealed

to Home Minister Amit Shah to grant permission for those embracing Hinduism in Myanmar to stay in India, emphasizing that those who do not should either face imprisonment or be sent back to their respective countries. He also raised concerns about the political support some infiltrators receive from various parties in different states, providing them with government facilities.

ties.
Chandel specifically mentioned the involvement of Congress, CPI(M), JD(U), AAP, Trinamool Congress, and others, alleging that these parties support infiltrators for the sake

of vote banks

# **EDITORIAL**

# MAINTAIN PEACE

Peace and harmony are very important for building any society. Society is created only through peace and harmony, peace and harmony are considered the basis of society. If there is peace in the country, then there will be development in the country otherwise development is impossible.

The government of the country is making every effort to ensure peace and harmony in the country, but due to many Gujjars, the government is not able to succeed in this work and due to that, peace is disturbed in the country.

People of different religions live in India and celebrate any festival together. The constitution here provides freedom to all the people. Laws are made to maintain peace in any country, so that no person can disturb the peace. Any country is built due to peace and harmony, because if there is peace and harmony in the country, then that country can be developed, but due to vested interests this peace gets destroyed. There are many reasons due to which there is unrest in the country. Friends, peace and harmony are the most important needs of any country. Citizens of any country can feel safe and prosperous when there is an atmosphere of peace in their country, but still sometimes peace in some country or the other gets disturbed. You know that India is a country of diversity, here unity is seen in diversity.

The biggest interference in the peace of any country is done by terrorists, due to which many people die. Due to which protests and demonstrations are held everywhere. After terrorism, the second most attempt to defame religion causes dissatisfaction in the society.

There are many political parties which, for their own benefit, try to mislead the people of the society by using rude language against the people of the other party, which leads to unrest in the country.

The reservation system has created more unrest for the general category people. In such a situation, people from many other communities have also started demanding reservation for the people of their own communities, in such a situation these people keep protesting from time to time. Apart from this, due to unemployment, inflation and many other types of riots in different states, the possibilities of peace and harmony in the country are destroyed.

You must have often seen in political parties that there is complete silence here. In this way, it can be said that it is wrong for political parties to take the name of peace. Many types of terrorist attacks also disrupt peace.

# Modi's Ayodhya overdrive: Will dreams match reality?

By: Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr

**t** is difficult to draw a dividing line between ▲Prime Minister Narendra Modi's excessive enthusiasm as the Ram Mandir gets consecrated in Ayodhya on January 22, and the preparations being made by the Shree Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, the Central government-appointed committee to look after the functioning of the temple. The Prime Minister went to Ayodhya on December 30 to inaugurate the international airport, to flag off the Vande Bharat and Amrit Bharat trains from the temple town, preceded by a roadshow where he was showered with flower petals by the crowd. And he had announced projects worth Rs 11,100 crores for the development of the place, and Rs 4,600 crores for projects in other parts of Uttar Pradesh. He has been claiming in his characteristic declamatory manner about the revival of India's cultural glory by turning the pilgrim centres into star destinations of tourists from India and abroad. Of course, he included Ujjain and Varanasi along with Ayodhya as part of the cultural economic boom.

This sense of exultation, bordering on ecstasy, in the speeches and gestures of Prime Minister Modi can be traced to his instinctive grasp of the importance of the Ayodhya temple, which has been a longstanding part of Bharatiya Janata Party's political agenda. And with the Lok Sabha elections barely months away from the inauguration date, the Prime Minister wants the drums to be beaten louder than ever about

the temple, and he wants to be seen as closely associated with every aspect of it. He had deputed Nripendra Misra, his confidante and principal secretary, to head the temple construction committee, because he did not want to leave it to any other organisation. The credit for constructing the temple had to be claimed by the Prime Minister. The temple trust is a nominal one till the time of inauguration, a proxy for the Prime Minister, and it is he, through his trusted aides, who is orchestrating the triumphal opening ceremony. Narendra Modi outshines Lord Ram as he leads from the front the preparations for the mega event.

It is now a recognisable signature of Prime Minister Modi that he does not believe in anything low key. It has to be as loud as it can be, and he does not feel embarrassed by the fact that he might be overdoing things, or that it can turn out to be crass and vulgar. He is the artist of political bling, leaving behind the big fat Indian weddings and the Bollywood extravaganzas miles behind. To what extent will the constructed and inaugurated Ram Mandir at Ayodhya influence the Lok Sabha polls this summer? Prime Minister Modi wants to turn this into an effective campaign theme, and the razzmatazz he has been creating surrounding Ayodhya is done with this in mind.

The BJP has benefited from the Ram temple card in Uttar Pradesh for more than 20 years now. Now that the temple is there at last, will it still fetch votes? Uttar Pradesh has turned into an almost unassailable fortress for the Hindutva party. How much more will the temple card add to the party's kitty? Given that Prime Minister Modi is orchestrating the temple inauguration with a grand political intent shows that the party still wants to play on the sentimental quotient that the temple issue evokes in the state as it is not sure of its achievements on the economic and governance fronts in Uttar Pradesh.

This also extends to the other Hindi heartland states, except for Bihar. That after 10 years in power, Mr Modi and the BJP are forced to fall back on the old Ayodhya temple theme should come as a disappointment. But Mr Modi is not too worried about these niceties. He is quite focused on winning the election, and any issue that comes in handy is good enough. The temple issue is as good as any.

What is of great curiosity is his idea of turning Ayodhya into a point of revived Hindu national glory and to make it a point of international attention. Here is the inflection point when realism tips into vainglory, and fantasy takes over. This is the natural path of right-wing nationalism that Mr Modi and the BJP, with support from Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, travel, and this is the political cul de sac.

The big talk of India riding the two horses of modern technology and antiquated tradition takes a beating because technology is based on science and a certain attitude of mind. It requires that you do not look back but you look forward. A country, a party and a leader who hark back to a glorious irretrievable past, and indulge in talk of the great achievements of the past, cannot be moving

towards the future. But the BJP remains deeply anchored in India's imagined past, and without an understanding of its intellectual treasures, which are of great sustenance. The right-wing worldview is warped because it invokes a past which cannot be reconstructed. The hoopla around the Ram temple in Ayodhya is a desperate attempt to invoke what was a utopia of poet Valmiki's imagination, his artistic vision of a tale of human fortune and frailties. To take the Ram story in an unthinking crude manner, one ends up creating a Disneyland of Ayodhya, the small town which had seen its days of glory and honour in the days of the Buddha and the Jain Tirthankaras, of political importance in the late Gupta period.

The inability to distinguish between the past and present, of dreams and reality, is the infirmity of the national mind, and it leads to sharp discordance in the day-to-day life of the people. Indians have over the centuries carried their mythology in their minds while leading their life in the present, and did not allow the myth, with its emotional resonances, to come in the way of dealing with daily challenges. The RSS, the BJP and Mr Modi are leading the country on a slippery path where the past glories are being sought to be revived in a kitschy manner, and not allowing the people to lead normal lives. What the mythological past of India transmits is a sense of values, and Indians have lived with those tales and values without having to resort to these acrobatics of theatrical recreation.

# Role of parents during board exams



By: Vijay GarG

Parents play a crucial role during exams as they provide support and guidance to their children. Here are some roles that parents can fulfill:

1. Emotional support: Parents can provide emotional support and create a positive environment at home. They should encourage and motivate their children, boosting their confidence and reducing anxiety.

2. Routine and schedule: Parents can help in establishing a study routine and setting a schedule for their children. This helps in organizing their time effectively and ensures a balance between studying and other activities.

3. Proper nutrition: Parents should ensure their children have a healthy diet during exams, providing them with nutritious meals and snacks. A well-balanced diet contributes to improved concentration and overall well-being.

4. Adequate rest and sleep: Parents need to ensure that their children get enough sleep during exams. A wellrested mind is more focused and productive, and proper sleep also helps in retaining information.

5. Minimize distractions: Parents should create a quiet and peaceful environment at home during study hours. They can limit the use of electronic devices and avoid unnecessary noise or interruptions.

6. Revision assistance: Parents can help their children in reviewing their study material by testing their knowledge and discussing topics. This can enhance understanding and retention of information.

7. Exam preparation: Parents can assist in organizing study materials, providing necessary resources, and discussing strategies for effective studying. They can also help in locating additional learning resources or practice tests.

8. Communication with teachers: Parents should maintain communication with teachers to understand the exam requirements and expectations. This helps in supporting their children's study plans, identifying areas of improvement, and address-

ing concerns.

9. Stress management: Parents should be aware of signs of excessive stress or anxiety in their children and offer guidance on stress management techniques. Encouraging breaks, physical activities, or relaxation exercises can help in relieving stress.

10. Celebrate achievement: Parents should celebrate their child's efforts and achievements during exams. This boosts their morale and encourages a positive attitude towards learning.

Overall, parents should provide a supportive and nurturing environment during exams, ensuring their children feel confident, motivated, and well-prepared.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist Malout)

# Army's Chinar Corps unveils monumental 'Azmat-E-Hind' National Flag along LoC

**Top News Report** 

KUPWARA, Jan 15: In a poignant and patriotic endeavor, the Indian Army's Chinar Corps has erected a colossal 104 feet High Mast National Flag named 'Azmat-E-Hind' near the Zero Line along the Line of Control (LoC) at Teethwal, Kupwara.

This landmark initiative aims to strengthen the bond between the armed forces and the citizens residing in the border area, symbolizing resilience, unity, and national pride.

The 'Azmat-E-Hind' project, spearheaded by the Chinar Corps, signifies a monumental commitment to instilling a profound sense of patriotism and security among the local communities inhabiting the challenging border terrain.

The towering Tricolour not only serves as a

visual spectacle but also stands as a formidable testament to the indomitable spirit of the Indian Army in safeguarding

the nation's frontiers.

Located strategically close to the Zero Line, the 'Azmat-E-Hind' flag is a powerful symbol of the armed forces' dedication to protecting the citizens of the border area.

Its towering presence against the backdrop of the LoC at Teethwal, Kupwara, sends a resounding message of strength and solidarity, assuring the local populace of the unwavering commitment to their safety and well-being.

The inauguration ceremony of the 'Azmat-E-Hind' witnessed a gathering of military personnel, local leaders, and citizens, creating a moment of unity and shared pride.

The event not only showcased the military's dedication to national service but also highlighted the deep connection between the armed forces and the communities they

protect.

The majestic tricolor, standing tall amidst the challenging topography of Teethwal, serves as a visual reminder of the sacrifices made by the armed forces to ensure the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.

The meticulous planning and execution of the 'Azmat-E-Hind' project underscore the

Indian Army's commitment to fostering a sense of national pride and unity, especially in areas directly affected by the border dynamics.

Moreover, the 'Azmat-E-Hind' flag serves as a beacon of hope, inspiring the local populace with a renewed sense of patriotism. It stands as a symbol of resilience, symbolizing the collective strength of the Indian Army and the citizens of the border area in overcoming challenges and adversities.

In conclusion, the unveiling of the 'Azmat-E-Hind' National Flag by the Chinar Corps at Teethwal, Kupwara, is a monumental milestone that goes beyond being a mere physical structure. It encapsulates the spirit of unity, resilience, and national pride, echoing across the LoC and resonating in the hearts of the citizens it aims to protect.

# Lohri celebration held at GDC Udhampur

**Top News Report** 

UDHAMPUR, Jan 15: Govt. Degree College Udhampur celebrated Lohri Festival in the college ground with great zeal and enthusiasm.

The students and staff were totally absorbed in the festive spirit of Lohri. The program kicked off with the preparation of bone fire. On this occasion peanuts and popcorns were distributed among the staff and students.

The staff and students offered nuts, Rewris and Gachak to the God of Fire and enjoyed the festival by singing on the songs in praise of,' Dulla Bhatti', to whom this festival is commemorated.

Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal GDC Udhampur



Spread a good cheer among the students and staff and wished for a happy and prosperous new year for all.

He also exchanged the good wishes for the students to succeed in their academic and extra-curricular activities and added that Lohri is the festival of feast and food; all are very much attached to it so all of us should pray to Almighty for a healthy and prosperous year ahead.

He appreciated the students and encouraged the teaching faculty to play a vital role in keeping the tradition and culture alive by celebrating such kind of festivals.

## GDC R S Pura organizes "Surya Namaskar" on Makar Sankranti



## Top News Report

RS PURA, Jan 15: Makar Sankranti is an auspicious day in Indian culture dedicated to the Almighty God, Surya bringing along many cultural, spiritual and

agricultural messages. To mark the significance of this holy occasion Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India decided to reach out to humanity with a special and unique message of rejuvenating selves through "Surya Namaskar" Under the banner of Viksit Bharat@2047 initiative as each soul is an actor with a unique role to play and acceptance of each one's specialty and uniqueness makes our relations beautiful and harmonious.

In this connection, Department of Dogri and NCC unit of GDC R.S.Pura participated enthusiastically en-masses in Surya Namaskar with the aim to increase spirituality and establish a deep sense of gratitude towards life, thereby

providing an absolute peace to the mind and the soul in which the staff and students of the college enthusiastically participated through blunded mode.

The event was organized under the guidance of Dr. Rajni Bhagat, Principal of the College. She exhorted that the significance of this set of Yoga Asanas goes much beyond the salutation of the Sun, God. It has very profound impact on physical, mental and spiritual well being of humans. Surya Namaskar not only improve but also helps in maintaining mental balance in the current fast moving and stress generating world.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch (H.O.D Dogri/ Nodal officer Viksit Bharat) and co-coordinated by Dr Rakesh Choudhary, ANO NCC.

Prominent among the others who grace the occasion were, Prof. Vishal Sharma and Prof Sankeet Gupta.

# Hashmi condoles death of Urdu poet Munawwar Rana

**Top News Report** 

SRINAGAR, Jan 15: The prominent sociopolitical activist and student of Qom Islamic seminary, Syed Karar Hashmi has expressed his grief at the untimely death of internationally acclaimed urdu poet Munnawar Rana due to prolonged illness. He termed the death of acclaimed poet Munawwar Rana of Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, an irreparable loss and a big jolt in lit-

In a press statement he said that he was a

world.

erary circles across the



true patriot and had gained international acclaim for his significant contribution to Urdu literature, poetry and ghazals.

He was an Iron Man, experienced and having a huge potential to handle any hurdle and challenges. He represented the voices of millions of Indians, who could not express

their views publicly.

He said that the late

Munawwar Rana got
a Sahitya Akademi

Award in 2014 for
his poetry collection
'Shahdaba'.

He is also a recipient of the Ameer Khusro Award, Mir Taqi Mir Award, Ghalib Award, Dr Zakir Hussain Award, and the Saraswati Samaj Award. It is very difficult to fulfil the vacuum created by his untimely death.

He observed that Rana had a great hold on the Persian and Arabic languages, as one can feel his poetic taste in different languages like Hindi, Awadhi, Persian and Arabic.

His works have been translated into several languages.

"Due to prolonged illness, he left the world, but his contributions will always remember this great personality. We stand thick and thin with his family at this critical junction and pray to Allah, may his soul rest in peace and convey my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May Almighty Allah bless him the highest place in Jannatul-Firdous," Syed Karar added.

## Red Ribbon Club of GDC R S Pura celebrates National Youth Day 2024



**Top News Report** 

R S PURA, Jan 15: Red Ribbon Club of Government Degree College, R S Pura in collaboration with J&K AIDS control society, Department of Health and Medical Education, Government of Jammu and Kashmir organized different activities in order to celebrate National Youth Day.

The different activities was organized under the patronage of worthy Principal Prof (Dr.) Rajni Bhagat and supervision of Prof Neelam Kumari, convenor, Red Ribbon Club.

The students of the club actively participated in Poster Making Competition and Discussion. Students were divided into small groups and encouraged to discuss the relevance of Swami Vivekananda's philosophy in pres-

ent scenario.

All the participants put forth their ideas and thoughts in a disciplined way.

In the second activity, students prepared posters on the teaching of the Swami Vivekananda. Swami Vivekananda is considered one of the great Indian Monks,

philosopher and religion teacher.

The motto of all these activities were to urging the youth to line up to the values, principles and beliefs that Swami Vivekananda embraced.

Prof Neelam Kumari(Convenor Red Ribbon Club) told the students about the objective and importance of celebration of National Youth Day. She also told them about the theme of National Youth Day 2024- Arise, Awake and Realise the Power You Hold.

More than 20 students of GDC R.S.Pura participated in the Poster Making Competition and poster were adjudged by Dr Sunil Mangoch (HoD Dogri and Dr Rekha Rani, Department of Education).

First position was secured by Ishaan Bharat of B.A Sem -I, second position was secured by Neetu Kumari of B.A. Sem-III and third position was secured by Amit Digra of B.A Sem-I.

Prizes were also distributed among the winners. Other faculty members viz Dr Rajinder Kumar, Dr Sudesh Kumar were also present on the occasion.

# SMVDU students present paper in ICoRE 2023

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**Top News Report** 

KATRA, Jan 15: Final year students of the School of Mechanical Engineering (SoME) namely, Sanjay Kumar, Pradikshan Sumbria, Shivesh Raj, and Reva Shankar presented a paper at the International Congress on Renewable Energy (ICoRE 2023) held at KREEPA Cochin Kerala under the aegis of Solar Energy Society of India (SESI) during 07-09, December 2023. It was a full-length paper on the review of recent advances in thermoelectric technology.

The Research was



mentored and guided by Prof. M Eswaramoorthy, Head, SoME. This achievement reflects the dedication and the quality of the research and serves as a testament to the rigorous academic standards and opportunities provided by the School of Mechanical Engineering at SMVDU.

The School of Mechanical Engineering at SMVDU continues to inspire and motivate its students to achieve excellence in their chosen fields while fostering an environment of innovation and academic growth.

Mechanical Engi-

neering student's successful participation in ICoRE 2023 is a notable milestone in their academic journey, setting an example for future students and highlighting the University's commitment to promoting research and scholarly endeavage.

# NOPRUF delegation calls on Director School Education Jammu

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15: A delegation of National old Pension restoration United Front (NOPRUF) under the leadership of General Secretary NOPRUF J&K Sakoon Manir met with Director School Education Jammu regarding burning issues of ReT Teachers

ers.

He apprised Director School Education Jammu about the demands of the

Front which include comprehensive transfer policy in favour of ReT Teachers, transition of Grade II and III teachers on Substantive Posts, issuance of Prior/Post Facto Permission of teachers whose files are lying in CEO offices Since August 2023, conversion of Grade III teachers into grade II and regularization of Left out ReT Teachers who have completed Five years of Service, concerns regarding vision



Document 2047 and removal of the clause of threat, timely DPC of Teachers to Masters every year, creation of Separate Education

Zone for Tehsil Kahra and Chirala, immediate implementation of UT Grades in favour of employees of J& K at Par with other UTs of the Country, and restoration of Old Pension Scheme in J&K.

DSEJ listened to the delegation patiently and assured a swift action regarding the demands putforth by the NOPRUF.

Those who accompanied Sadiq Hussain Provincial Advisor NOPRUF and Provincial General Secretary AJKRETTF, Ashiq Hussain District Legal Advisor NOPRUF, Vinod Kotwal, Faiz Ahmed and others.

# Modi Govt committed to uplift weaker sections: Sat

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15:
Former Minister, Sat
Sharma along with
Mandal President BJP
Talab Tillo Keshav
Chopra, BJP Senior
leader and Prabhari
Nowshera Sanjay Kumar
Baru and other leaders
inaugurated PM Vishwakarma Yojana Registration Camp at Ward No
41 of Talab Tillo Mandal.
Speaking on the occa-

that PM Modi is committed to uplift the weaker sections and Vishwakarma Scheme is launched to promote the business opportunities for the people engaged in skills.

sion Sat Sharma said

Keshav Chopra said that this scheme will help to provide work to the people, It is an Initiative that aims to empower the skills of the craftsman.

Sanjay Kumar Baru

highlighted the Modi Govt commitment fostering skill development to create better employment opportunities for the unemployed youth of the country. The camp was organ-

rne camp was organised by Adv Rajan Radha, Ashok Salgotra, K.L Sharma, Bhubesh Thapa, Rakesh Sharma, Kewal Verma, Omkar Verma, Rajinder Targotra, Jankar and others were also present.

# The lead pair of upcoming Punjabi film Drame Aale, Harish Verma and Sharan Kaur, believe theatre artistes are now finding more space in movies

lovers with their acting skills and banter alike, Harish Verma and Sharan Kaur, who are leading the upcoming Punjabi film Drame Aale' releasing on January 19, made a pit-stop in Chandigarh to share their excitement with us. This isn't your typical Punjabi comedy, as the two actors promise. Harish Verma elaborates, "The movie is true to its title. It's not just another entertainer, but actually has all theatre artistes as its actors. Even the theme is close to theatre. It blends the nuances of theatre and films beautifully, and the director has come up with something so new with this

Theatre artistes and Drame Aale are synonyms in different languages, so keeping the essence alive the team chose Tagore Theatre as their venue to interact with the city-based theatre artistes. Among those present were theatre director Sahib Singh, actors Anita Shabdeesh, Baninder Bunny, Sangeeta Gupta, and more. Encouraging them to give it their all, Harish and Sharan, who also began their journeys as theatre actors, spoke about the blurring line between the two forms. "In contrast to the past, where theatre artistes struggled for even background roles, today more and moreof them are finding



space in movies. It's a positive change.

Donning the turban

Recounting his start as an actor, Harish Verma, who began theatre with Gursharan Singh in Chandigarh, says he owes a lot to the city. "I've spent years honing my acting skills under the tutelage of some renowned writers and directors here. I remember Gursharan Singh ji would often say, 'Harish has it in him; he should get his portfolio ready and go to Mumbai.' This is where the actor in me was

Harish Verma has donned a turban for the first time in this film and takes pride in it, "When I look at myself in the mirror, I get this feeling that I am looking good. Turban really suits me; even my friends and fans have complimented me. Wearing it carries significant responsibility, undoubtedly providing me with an identity that feels both new and special.

Learning ground There are many firsts in the film for Sharan, which makes it my first comedy film, representing the theatre fraternity for the first time, and for the first time getting to act with the artistes of Pakistan's Punjab, Drame Aale holds a special place in my heart for numerous reasons."

Moving from theatre to TV to movies, both Harish and Sharan say, "Theatre is the bedrock; this is where the real training happens. An actor becomes an artiste when he has given his sweat and blood to theatre. The real polishing happens here. We can easily say it completes an actor's life and journey when he makes his presence felt in theatre."

But so much emphasis on theatre, especially when it's a promotion for a film? Director-writer Chander Kamboj explains the connection. "Yes, Drame Aale is a film but it is also a play. It features theatre artists from Punjab, Pakistan, and Punjab, India. Without revealing much, I would say their performances will tell why the name Drame Aale."

As the team wraps up the conversation, Harish Verma leaves us guessing when he says, "Many have missed it in the trailer, but when you watch the film, there is something to surprise you. I'll give a hint; it's related to me and my craft."

# Rashmika Mandanna shells fitness goals, says 'don't forget to stretch'



Actress Rashmika Mandanna on Monday

Amritsar lad Gaurav Sareen, who will soon be seen in

gave major fitness goals to her fans by sharing a glimpse of her morning workout, and said that one should not forget to stretch.

Taking to Instagram Stories, Rashmika, who enjoys 41.1 million followers on the photo sharing application dropped a picture of herself working out in a gym. She is wearing a black full-sleeved tee shirt and red shorts.

The photo is captioned: "Don't forget to stretch!! It's good for your body and you'll definitely be doing your older self a favour So don't forget to stretch ok Good morning everyoneeeee!"

On the work front, she was last seen in 'Animal', which features Ranbir Kapoor in a dual role as Ranvijay Singh and Aziz Haque. Senior star Anil Kapoor also plays dual characters of Balbir Singh and Kailash Petkar.

Bobby portrays the role of Abrar Haque while Rashmika plays Geetanjali lyengar, wife of Ranbir's character.

She next has 'Pushpa 2: The Rule', 'Rainbow' and 'The Girlfriend'.

## **Actress Shilpa Shetty wants more** action-oriented roles for women

Unlike Hollywood, there is a dearth of female action films in Hindi cinema, said actress Shilpa Shetty, who hoped the scenario will change in the coming future. Shetty, who is set to star as a cop in Rohit Shetty's maiden OTT series Indian Police Force, said even the audiences are ready to see women actors in action avatars on the screen.

"It is because of the budget that we don't make female action films here, and, also, we are still in a male-dominated society. I would love to have a scenario where women in India can also portray characters like Gal Gadot and Scarlett Johansson do. I wish filmmakers would take this opportunity now as good content is being made.

Whether it is for OTT or films, people are ready for this." the actress said.

Shilpa, 48, essays the role of police officer Tara Shetty in Indian Police Force, dubbed as the next chapter in Rohit Shetty's cine-



started with 2011 movie Singham and expanded with Singham Returns (2014), Simmba (2018)

Sooryavanshi and (2021).

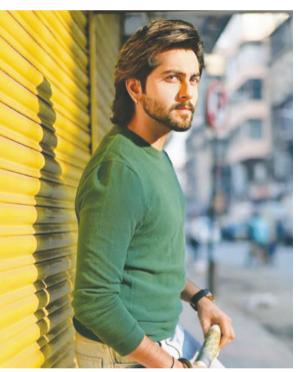
The series will also feature Sidharth Malhotra and Vivek Oberoi.

# the film Dashmi, says taking a break from television shows proved a boon for him

Embarking on a cinematic journey is no small feat, and Gaurav Sareen has successfully made the transition from television to the big screen. But it wasn't all that easy. He had to take a two-yearlong break from TV and go through many auditions before he got his dream project, Dashmi, in which he stars as the lead. "We started shooting for Dashmi in October 2022 and that's how I returned to the entertainment industry. The break was a conscious decision, as I hadjoined the industry to be a part of films in the first place." It wasn't alone his

dream, even Gaurav's grandmother wished to see him in movies, so when he got a call from casting director Vicky Sidana for a film, he was elated. "I got a call from Vicky asking me if I wanted to act in a film. The very next day I was in Mumbai."

Director Shantanu Anant Tambe's interest in him was piqued by a YouTube clip from Krish-



na Chali London, which showcased Gaurav's acting prowess. The subsequent meeting led to the narration of the film's climax and an offer he couldn't refuse. "The preparation for Dashmi involved intensive acting workshops in Goa, finalising costumes and setting the stage for a yearlong shooting schedule in Lucknow, among other things, as part of

pre-production." Good going As Gaurav passionately shares details about his upcoming projects, he beams with joy that he has another film in his kitty. "My next film is with Sunil Kumar Reddy, where I play the lead alongside Arbaaz Khan, who essays my

onscreen father." This

Reddy's foray into Hindi cinema after an extensive portfolio in South Indian industry. Reflecting on the stark

project also marks

differences between TV and films, Gaurav, who has led three TV shows in the past, highlights the rigorous preparation involved in the latter. "From costume fittings to chemistry tests with co-actors, the intricate process of filmmaking stands in contrast to the repetitive nature of television. It's a long and evolving process. TV, on the other hand, can get monotonous as you play the same character for months and sometimes even a year or more."

Back to where it all began, it was an unpleasant experience while shooting for a show that made Gauray think about a break. "I was hospitalised due to typhoid while shooting for Mahesh Pandev's Lovepanti and was being pressurised to shoot even when they had a bank of 20 episodes! I didn't get paid

and the maker replaced me without even telling me. I was disappointed, so my family convinced me to go back to Amritsar for a while.'

But all is well that ends well. The break from television paved the way for self-improvement. It allowed him to explore his interests, including martial arts.

Fruitful time

About the personal transformation he underwent during that time, he says, "From literature, biographies, and diverse series on Netflix, I devoured them all. I also worked on my fashion sense, dialect, and confidence."

Hailing from a small village Ajnala in Amritsar, Gaurav, who at one point in life was hesitant to speak in front of a few people, has evolved into a poised individual. As he eagerly awaits the completion of the second schedule for his ongoing project, he anticipates the release of Dashmi on January 19 will mark a significant milestone in his career.

# 'Not my space': ...Konkona on commercial films

Actress Konkona Sensharma has been a part of the entertainment industry for a long time. She has impressed the audience with performances in films such as Wake Up Sid, Mr and Mrs Iyer, Luck by Chance, Lipstick Under My Burkha and Talvar.

About commercial films and the kind of movies she likes to be a part of, she says, "I don't think about commercial cinema because that's not my space. I don't relate to it myself because I didn't grow up watching it. So I don't have that kind of nostalgia or attachment. I would rather like to be part of Mira Nair's

films. I feel at home in Monsoon Wedding or Namesake or like those kind of films one feels at home, like in my mother's films.'

Konkona's portrayal of Aisha Banerjee in the much-acclaimed film Wake Up Sid is still cherished for her nuanced performance.

Konkona spoke about the overwhelming love she still receives for Wake Up Sid a movie that has aged like fine wine. "I am always amazed by the love I get for Wake Up Sid. I can't tell you, for Aisha Banerjee, for the Ektara song, people are still sending me messages. I appreciate it because



I haven't done commercial films like that," Konkona said.

Konkona can now be seen in the crime thriller series Killer Soup, which also stars Manoj Bajpayee in the lead role.

Directed by Abhishek Chaubey, the series revolves around Swathi Shetty (played by Konkona), a budding cook who wishes for the entire world to enjoy her soup.

One mishap kicks off a chain reaction of accidents and frantic coverups, and she and her partner find themselves in hot water.

Killer Soup is currently streaming on an OTT platform.

# Malayalam film industry's first techno-musician KJ Joy dies at 77



Malayalam film industry's first techno-musician KJ Joy passed away in Chennai in the

wee hours of Monday, said industry sources. He has worked in nearly 200 films, including 12 Hindi films. The tag of techno-

musician came to Joy as he began the trend of using technology, including the use of key board, in south Indian cinema for the first time.

The 77-year-old Joy, hailing from Trissur, began his music career as an accordion artiste under his guru MS Viswanathan, who launched him as a fulltime music director in the 1975 Malayalam film 'Love Letter', after which he never looked back.

After suffering a stroke, Joy had been mostly keeping to his house in Chennai, where the last rites would be held.

# "Big Happiness": PM Modi Releases 540 Crore For Tribal Beneficiaries

During the event, PM Modi interacted with some beneficiaries of PM-JANMAN as they highlighted the positive changes in their lives after they availed of government schemes.

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that the country can develop only if benefits of various welfare schemes reach all, asserting that it is his guarantee that everyone, even those in the remotest of areas, will benefit from them.

Releasing the first instalment of 540 crore to one lakh beneficiaries of a rural housing scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) via video conferencing, he said the 10 years of his government have been dedicated to the poor.

The budget of many welfare schemes for the Scheduled Tribes has risen by five times and the scholarship for tribal students has grown by two-anda-half times in the last 10 years, he said, adding that the work is on to construct more than 500 Eklavya model school for them while only 90 existed earlier.

His government has exerted its full force to ensure that extremely backwards among the tribal population benefit from its every



scheme, he said.

PM Modi also credited guidance from President Droupadi Murmu, India's first tribal woman head of state, for the PM-JANMAN scheme, saying as someone who has come from the same background she often spoke about the issues facing them during her interactions with him.

Noting that Diwali is being celebrated in Ayodhya in the run-up to the consecration of Lord Ram's idol at the temple there, he said the festival is also being celebrated at the homes of these one lakh families who

have received the first instalment of fund to construct their own houses.

This is a matter of big happiness for him, the prime minister said.

More than four crore pucca houses have been built for the poor by his government, he said, asserting that those who were always ignored earlier have not only been reached out by him but also worshipped, he said.

During the event, PM Modi interacted with some beneficiaries of PM-JANMAN as they highlighted the positive changes in their lives after they availed

of government schemes to get access to cooking gas connection, electricity, piped water and housing.

"It is the endeavour of our government that no one is left out of its welfare schemes," he said.

The first instalment of 540 crore was released to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin.

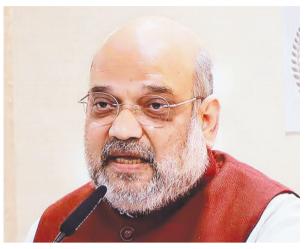
PM-JANMAN was launched for the socio-economic welfare of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) on November 15 on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.

PM-JANMAN, with a budget

of approximately 24,000 crore, focuses on 11 critical interventions through nine ministries and is aimed at improving socioeconomic conditions of PVTGs by saturating PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, electricity, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

# Union Home Minister Amit Shah bereaved as his elder sister passes away

Rajeshwariben Shah was in her mid-60s and was not keeping well for some time



AHMEDABAD, Jan 15 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah's elder sister died during treatment at a hospital in Mumbai on Monday, a BJP officebearer said.

Amit Shah has cancelled all his engagements in Gujarat following the demise of Rajeshwariben Shah, he said.

Rajeshwariben was

in her mid-60s. She was not keeping well for some time and was undergoing treatment at a hospital in Mumbai, where she breathed her last in the early hours of Monday, the office-

bearer said.

"Following the death of his ailing sister, Shah has cancelled all his programmes for the day. Rajeshwariben's mortal remains have

been brought to her residence here on Monday morning and her last rites will be performed at Thaltej crematorium in the afternoon," he said

Shah, who represents Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency, was in Ahmedabad since Sunday to celebrate Makar Sankranti with BJP supporters.

On Monday, he was scheduled to attend two events in Banaskantha and Gandhinagar districts.

In Banaskantha, Shah, who also handles the Cooperation portfolio, was scheduled to inaugurate various projects of Banas Dairy at Deodar village.

In the afternoon, he was scheduled to inaugurate various development projects at Rashtriya Raksha University in Gandhinagar.

# On her birthday, Mayawati dashes INDIA bloc's hopes, says BSP will contest 2024 general election alone

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Monday said the party would go solo in the 2024 general election and that she had no plans to retire from politics though she had announced nephew Akash Anand as her political heir.

Addressing a press conference on her 68th birthday in Lucknow, Mayawati dashed the hopes of the Congress which had made overtures to the veteran Dalit leader to join the anti-BJP INDIA alliance.

Mayawati on Monday effectively snubbed the offer, leaving room open for some formidable non-BJP and non-Congress parties to contest alone. That would create a sort of third front which the principal opposition party Congress has been guarding against.

Two recent major conclaves of the Congress -- CWC meeting in Telangana and AICC plenary in Raipur -- had pledged to work for consolidation of secular like-minded forces to prevent the formation of a third front, which, it said, would help the BJP.



In Uttar Pradesh, a solo run of the BSP would pose a challenge to both SP and Congress.

The BSP which had contested the 2019 general election in alliance with the SP had won 10 seats while the SP had won just five.

UP has 80 Lok Sabha seats, the highest in India.

Mayawati said she would continue to work for the party till her last breath.

She also criticised Rahul Gandhi's ongoing Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, also noting that the BSP is concerned about reports of potential vulnerabilities of electronic voting machines.

# 'This is not about ego...'; Swami Nischalanand Maharaj clarifies why 4 Shankaracharyas are not attending Ram Mandir inauguration

SOUTH 24 PARGA-NAS (WEST BENGAL). Jan 15 (Agencies): In the midst of assertions from opposing factions that the four Shankaracharyas are contemplating skipping the Pran Pratishtha ceremony of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, Swami Nischalanand Saraswati Maharaj, the Shankaracharya of Puri, said their decision is rooted in the deviation from established traditions during the installation of the Ram Lalla idol.

Speaking to agency, the Swami revealed why the four Shankaracharyas are not attending the Ram Mandir Pran Pratishtha event.

"The Shankaracharyas uphold their own



dignity. This is not about ego. Are we expected to merely sit outside and applaud when the Prime Minister installs the idol of Ram Lalla? The presence of a 'secular' government does not imply the obliteration of tradition," he remarked.

Meanwhile, there has

been a lot of hue and cry in the opposition over the four Shankaracharyas reportedly skipping

the event.

Opposition parties, including the Congress, have claimed that the Shankaracharyas have decided against attending the January 22 event

'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony at an 'incomplete temple'.

after objecting to the

Turning down the invite for the event, Congress leader Ashok Gehlot said even our Shankaracharyas (religious guru) will not be attending the Ram Mandir event which shows that the reason for not attending it is important.

"When they politicised the event and took decisions, our Shankaracharyas, who are at the top of Sanatan Dharma and guide us, said they would not attend the event. This has become such an issue that all Shankarachariyas are saying they will boycott the event. If the Shankaracharyas are saying

so, it has its own importance." Gehlot said.

Delhi minister and Aam Aadmi Party leader Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that the BJP is trying to separate two-thirds of the country's population from Lord Ram by putting a political tag on the Pran Pratishtha of the Ram temple.

"There is a system and set of rituals to perform the Pran Pratishtha. If this event is religious, then is it happening under the guidance of the Shankaracharyas of the four Peeths? All four Shankaracharyas have said clearly that the Pran Pratishtha of an incomplete temple cannot be done. If this event is not religious, then it is political," he said.

# Jallikattu kicks off in Tamil Nadu's Madurai, 36 including a sub-inspector injured



AVANIYAPURAM, Jan 15 (Agencies): As Tamil Nadu celebrates Pongal, a harvest festival, at least 36 people, including a sub-inspector, were injured as the bull-taming sport, Jallikattu, kicked off at Avaniyapuram in Madurai district on Monday. Six of the 36 have

rai district on Monday.
Six of the 36 have been shifted to Rajaji Government Hospital in Madurai for treatment.
Earlier, 29 people were

injured in Tamil Nadu's Pudukkottai

As many as 1,000 bulls and 600 tamers have been registered for the event. It began on Monday at 8 am and will be held for the next three days.

People across the state ushered in the auspicious Tamil month 'Thai', preparing the sweet dish 'Pongal', made of rice and jaggery to symbolise prosperity.

# 2 Noida-Bound Buses Collide With Each Other Amid Fog, 40 Injured

MATHURA (UP), Jan 15 (Agencies): Two buses collided with each other amid fog here early Monday, leaving 40 passengers injured, police said.

The accident took place around 3 am when both the buses were on their way to Noida from Agra, Senior Superintendent of Police, Shailesh Kumar Pandey, said.

The injured were rushed to district and private hospitals, he said.

According to police, the condition of five of the injured passengers was serious.

A senior government doctor said 20 of the injured were discharged after first aid, while the rest are undergoing treatment.

## Upset About Not Having Daughter, Madhya Pradesh Man Kills Newborn Son

BETUL (MP), Jan 15 (Agencies): A man allegedly killed his newborn son in an inebriated state in Madhya Pradesh's Betul district, as he was disappointed at not having a daughter, police said on Monday.

The accused said he had hoped to have a daughter as he already had two sons, an official said.

The incident occurred

in Bajjarwad village under Kotwali police station limits on Sunday evening, he said.

Investigations revealed that the accused, Anil Uikey, was inebriated when he beat up his wife and snatched their 12-day-old son from her, Kotwali police station incharge Anil Uikey said.

The woman fled the spot, as she was scared of being beaten up further, and when she returned home later, she found the baby dead inside their hut, he said. There were strangula-

tion marks on the baby's neck, the official said.

A first information report (FIR) was registered against Uikey under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and he was placed under arrest, he said.

On interrogation, the accused said that he already had two sons and had hoped to have a daughter when his third son was born, the official said.

# Central Bureau of Investigation books lieutenant colonel in disproportionate assets case

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): The CBI has slapped a fresh case of corruption against Lieutenant Colonel Abhishek Chandra, the then SSO (contract and victualling) at Andaman and Nicobar Command, for allegedly amassing disproportionate assets and depositing cash in lakhs in accounts of his family members, officials said on Monday.

family members, officials said on Monday. Lieutenant Colonel Chandra was booked in 2022 for allegedly demanding and accepting illegal gratification from various vendors in cash as well as in bank deposits in the accounts of his family members, they said.

During the probe, the agency scrutinised documents related to his assets which indicated that Chandra and his wife were in possession of assets which they could not satisfactorily account for, the officials said.

"It has also been revealed that huge cash amount of Rs 15 lakh was deposited by Lieutenant Colonel Abhishek Chandra and his wife Priya Chandra in cash from Port Blair through cash deposit vouchers in the account of Sashi Sharma (mother of Priya Chandra), Paritosh Sharma (brother

of Priya Chandra) and also in his bank account besides that of his father Suresh Chandra and his minor sons," the agency has alleged.

The Central Bureau of Investigation said the deposits were made during the period 2017 and 2019, and Chandras could not satisfactorily account for the source of these cash amounts deposited by them from

Port Blair in the above bank accounts.

The agency has alleged that Chandra allegedly acquired assets worth Rs 31.29 lakh which were 33.31 per cent above his known sources of income following which the CBI filed an FIR against him and his wife under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, they said.

# Labourer killed in accident at under-construction mall in Ghaziabad



GHAZIABAD, Jan 15 (Agencies): A labourer was killed, and five others were injured after a portion of an underconstruction mall in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad fell on them.

Labourers were working at the construction site when the incident happened at 12 midnight.

The incident happened at the construction site of Gaur Aero City Mall in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad.

# North Korea says it tested solid-fuel missile tipped with hypersonic weapon

SEOUL, Jan 15 (Agencies): North Korea on Monday said it flight-tested a new solid-fuel intermediate-range missile tipped with a hypersonic warhead as it pursues more powerful, harder-to-detect weapons designed to strike remote U.S. targets in the region.

The report by North Korea's state media came a day after the South Korean and Japanese militaries detected the launch from a site near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, in what was the North's first ballistic test of 2024.

The launch came two months after North Korea said it successfully tested engines for a new solid-fuel intermediaterange missile, which reflected a push to advance its lineup of weapons targeting U.S. military bases in Guam and Japan.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Sunday's launch was aimed at verifying the reliability of the missile's solid-fuel engines and the maneuverable flight capabilities of the hypersonic warhead. It described the test as a success but didn't provide flight details.

KCNA did not mention whether North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was present at the test, which it said was part of the country's regular weapons development activities.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile flew about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) before landing in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. The North's existing intermediaterange missiles, including the Hwasong-12 that may be able to reach the U.S. military hub of Guam in the Pacific, are powered by liquid-fuel engines, which need to be fueled before launch and cannot stay fueled for long periods of time.

Missiles with built-in solid propellants can be made ready to launch faster and are easier to move and conceal, which theoretically makes it harder for adversaries to detect and preempt the launch.

The North since 2021 has also been testing hypersonic



weapons, which are designed to exceed five times the speed of sound. If perfected, such systems could potentially pose a challenge to regional missile defense systems because of their speed and maneuverabil-

Chang Young-keun, a missile expert at South Korea's Research Institute for National Strategy, said the test Sunday would have been focused more on developing a solid-fuel first stage for an IRBM than evaluating the purported hypersonic warhead.

Experts say it's unclear whether the North's hypersonic vehicles consistently maintained a desired speed exceeding Mach 5 during its tests in 2021 and 2022. But it's likely that the North is trying to build a hypersonic weapons system powered by solid-fuel booster rockets, simultaneously with its efforts to develop the new IRBM, and may conduct more flight tests soon, Chang said.

"In particular, a hypersonic missile with IRBM-level range would be an effective mean for evading U.S. missile defenses and striking Guam," Chang said about the North's ambitions.

Lee Sung Joon, spokesperson of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the military was analyzing the North's latest test but declined to provide specific assessments about the North Korean capabilities demonstrated by the launch.

The South's Defense Ministry issued a statement demanding the North to halt its ballistic testing activities that violate U.N. Security Council resolutions. It said the South Korean military was maintaining a firm joint defense posture with its U.S. allies and is ready to respond "overwhelmingly" in the event of a direct provocation by the

Hypersonic weapons were part of a wish-list of sophisticated military assets Kim unveiled in 2021, along with multi-warhead missiles, spy satellites, solidfuel long-range missiles and submarine-launched nuclear missiles.

North Korean military scientists and engineers have been checking off Kim's list of goals, testing for the first time last year a solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile, named Hwasong-18, which added to the North's arsenal of weapons targeting the U.S. mainland.

The North's also launched its first military reconnaissance satellite in November and aims to launch three more satellites in 2024, as Kim describes those devices as crucial for monitoring U.S. and South Korean military activities and enhancing the threat of his nuclear-capable missiles.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest point in years after Kim in recent months ramped up his weapons demonstrations. The United States and its allies Seoul and Tokyo responded by strengthening their combined military exercises and sharpening their nuclear deterrence strategies.

There are also concerns about an alleged arms cooperation between North Korea and Russia as they align in the face of separate, intensifying confrontations with Washington. In their latest sign of diplomacy, a North Korean delegation led by Kim's foreign minister, Choe Sun Hui, arrived in Moscow on Sunday on a visit at the invitation of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, KCNA said. The report did not specify what would be discussed.

The U.S. and South Korean governments have claimed that North Korea has been providing Russia with arms supplies, including artillery and missiles, to help prolong its invasion of Ukraine.

The Biden administration said it has evidence that missiles provided by North Korea to Russia had been used in the war in Ukraine. In a joint statement last week, the U.S., South Korea and their partners said the missile transfer supports Russia's war of aggression and provides North Korea with valuable technical and military insights.

Koo Byoungsam, spokesperson of South Korea's Unification Ministry, said Seoul is closely watching Choe's visit to Russia and lamented that North Korea and Russia were allegedly "maintaining illegal cooperation activities, including arms exchanges" following Kim's September visit to Russia for a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Koo didn't provide a specific answer when asked whether Choe could be working to set up a Putin visit to North Korea.

Both Moscow and Pyongyang have denied accusations about North Korean arms transfers to Russia.

Some experts say the North could try to further dial up pressure in an election year in South Korea and the United States.

North Korea earlier this month fired a barrage of artillery shells near the disputed western sea boundary with South Korea, prompting the South to conduct similar firing exercises in return. Kim has also released verbal threats, using a political conference last week to define South Korea as the North's "principal enemy" and threatened to anni-

hilate it if provoked.

## Hamas health ministry says more than 60 killed in Gaza strikes



GAZA, Jan 15 (Agencies): Gaza's Hamasrun health ministry reported early Monday that more than 60 Palestinians were killed in Israeli military strikes across the territory overnight.

It said dozens of people were also wounded in what the militant group's media office described as "intense" Israeli strikes and artillery bombardments across the Gaza Strip.

The strikes hit the

southern cities of Khan Yunis and Rafah, as well as areas around Gaza City, the media office said.

It said two hospitals, a girls' school and "dozens" of homes were among the targets.

Hospitals, protected under international humanitarian law, have been hit repeatedly by Israeli strikes in Gaza since the war erupted.

The Israeli military accuses Hamas of having tunnels under

hospitals and using them as command centres, as well as exploiting civilian infrastructure in general to shield its activities -a charge the Islamist group denies.

The war in Gaza began when Hamas fighters attacked Israel on October 7, resulting in about 1,140 deaths in Israel, mostly civilians, according to an agency tally based on official figures.

The militants also seized about 250 hostages, 132 of whom Israel says remain in Gaza, including at least 25 believed to have been killed.

Israel vowed to destroy Hamas in retaliation and launched a relentless military campaign that has killed at least 23,968 people in the Palestinian territory, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's health ministry.

## **China Welcomes Island Nation's Decision To Cut Ties With Taiwan**

BEIJING, Jan 15 (Agencies): China said Monday it welcomed Nauru's decision to cut ties with Taiwan, after the Pacific island nation announced it was severing relations with Taipei.

"As a sovereign and independent nation, Nauru has announced... that it has severed its so-called 'diplomatic relations' with Taiwan and is willing to restore relations with China," a spokesperson for Beijing's foreign ministry said.

"China appreciates and welcomes the Nauru government's decision," they added.

Beijing views self-ruled Taiwan as part of its territory and has refused to rule out the use of force to seize it one day.



diplomatic relations with countries that recognise Taipei as a sovereign

"There is only one China in the world, and Taiwan is an inalienable part of it," the ministry spokesperson said.

"The Nauru government's decision to resume diplomatic ties with China fully demonstrates once again that the One China Principle reflects the sentiments of the people and is in line with the general trend," the spokesperson added.

"China is willing to open a new chapter in bilateral ties with Nauru on the basis of (this) principle.'

The announcement came days after Taiwan elected the independence-leaning Lai Ching-te as its next president.

# Almost 100,000 Afghan children are in dire need of support, 3 months after earthquakes, UNICEF says

UNICEF said it urgently needs \$1.4 billion in 2024 to meet the humanitarian and basic needs of 19.4 million Afghans, half of the population.



KABUL, Jan 15 (Agencies): Almost 100,000 children in Afghanistan are in dire need of support, three months after earthquakes devastated the country's west, the U.N. children's agency said Monday.

A 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook Herat province on Oct. 7 and a second strong quake struck the same province days later, on Oct. 11, killing more than 1,000 people. The majority of those dead in the quakes in Zinda Jan and Injil districts were women and children, and 21,000 homes were destroyed, UNICEF said

in a statement. "The atmosphere in

these villages is thick with suffering even 100 days after the earthquakes in western Afghanistan when families lost absolutely everything," said Fran Equiza, UNICEF representative in Afghanistan.

"Children are still trying to cope with the loss and trauma. Schools and health centers, which children depend upon, are damaged beyond repair, or destroyed completely," he added.

"As if this was not enough, winter has taken hold and temperatures hover below freezing," Equiza said. "Children and families

without homes live in life-threatening conditions at night, with no way to heat their temporary shelters.'

UNICEF said it urgently needs \$1.4 billion in 2024 to meet the humanitarian and basic needs of 19.4 million Afghans, half of the population.

The Taliban's failure to invest in public services has contributed to the deterioration of basic services, hindering the ability of vulnerable communities to recover from shocks and build resilience, the agency added..

"We are grateful to our donor partners who mobilized resourc-

es quickly, enabling UNICEF to respond within days to the urgent needs of children and their families in Herat," Equiza said.

But more help is needed "to ensure that children not only survive the winter but have a chance to thrive in the months and vears to come," he added.

Daniel Timme, head of communications for UNICEF in Afghanistan, said schools, homes, health facilities and water systems were destroyed.

"We have money coming in but it's not enough. These communities need to be independent again. It's not enough to put out the fire. We need to make it (Afghanistan) more resilient," Timme said.

Separately and for all of Afghanistan, UNICEF said Monday that 23.3 million people, including 12.6 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance" in 2024, "mainly due to the residual impacts of a protracted conflict, extreme climate shocks and the country's severe economic decline."

# After Key Polls, Taiwan President Praises "Close And Staunch" US Ties

"Your visit is highly meaningful. It fully demonstrates US support for Taiwan's democracy and highlights the close and staunch parntership between Taiwan and the US," Tsai said.



TAIPEI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen hailed on Monday the island's "close and staunch" partnership with the United States, as she welcomed a delegation from Washington making a post-election visit expected to anger Beijing.

The unofficial delegation was sent by US President Joe Biden's administration to meet senior politicians including Tsai's Vice President Lai Ching-te, who won Saturday's poll.

Voters on the self-ruled island defied Beijing's repeated calls not to elect Lai, whom it condemned as a dangerous separatist who would take Taiwan down the "evil path" of independence.

Beijing, which claims the selfruled island as its territory and has never renounced force to bring it under its control, insisted that the vote did not change the fact the island was part of China.

"Your visit is highly meaningful. It fully demonstrates US support for

Taiwan's democracy and highlights the close and staunch partnership between Taiwan and the US," Tsai told the US delegates.

Communist-ruled China vehemently objects to anything that even suggests official recognition of Taiwan, and the US visit is expected to cause annoyance, particularly as the delegates are due to meet Lai later in the day.

The Chinese foreign ministry on Sunday condemned US Secretary of State Antony Blinken for congratulating Lai on his victory.

Top partner The delegation consists of a former US national security adviser and a former deputy secretary of state, and was led by the chair of the American Institute of Taiwan -- the de facto US embassy for the

Lai, of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), had vowed to defend the island from China's "intimidation", and Taipei's foreign ministry told Beijing to accept the

Taiwan is not diplomatically recognised by most countries in the world, though the United States is a partner and its top weapons provider.

The last time a US delegation visited immediately after an election was in 2016, after Tsai's win, to meet her incoming team and the losing candidates.

Since her election, China has cut off all high-level communications with Tsai, as she and her party have defended Taiwan's sovereignty by saying the island is "already independent".

Big legislature loss

Under Tsai's two-term administration, Taiwan has greatly bolstered its defence resources -- buying fighter jets and building its own submarine -- as a form of deterrence against increasingly bellicose threats from China.

Her deputy Lai has vowed to follow the same policy path.

But he has been more outspoken in the past on the issue of independence, though he has moderated his comments to fit the party line in the lead-up to the election.

His win in Saturday's vote delivered an unprecedented third term for the DPP, but they no longer have their majority in the legislature, losing 12 seats, while the main opposition Kuomintang party gained 14 seats.

China's Taiwan Affairs Office said on the heels of the election results that "the Democratic Progressive Party cannot represent the mainstream public opinion on the island", according to Xinhua.

# **Dr. Jitendra distributes QPM in Kissan Samelan**, appreciates farmers friendly CSIR Aroma Mission

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15: As part of CSIR Aroma Mission Phase-III, CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu organized a Kissan Samelan in Town Hall Ramnagar here on Monday in which Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space and Vice President CSIR was Chief Guest and Lal Chand, DDC Chairman, Udhampur, Mool Raj, DDC member-1 Ramnagar and J. R. Bhardwaj, DDC-2 Ramnagar were present among many others. More than 500 farmers from various villages of Ramnagar Tehsil of Udhampur attended this day long Kissan Samelan.



On the occasion, Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh distributed the quality planting material of Lavender and Lemon grass among the farmers of the area.

Addressing the farmers of Ramnagar and adjoining area, the minister said that those who have entered the lavender sector are making a fortune out of it.

But we need to give a wider publicity and awareness among all stakeholders about these new opportunities of livelihood rolled out in

recent years is required. Dr. Jitendra also appreciated the efforts of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for enhancing the income of farmers

through CSIR-Aroma Mission which also gave birth to the Purple revolution, which he mentioned in other words as Bengani Kraanti started from Bhaderwah and now got spread to North east, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM expressed gratitude continued but the focus has also been put on products development, startup and innovation promotion.

Pertinently, the Kissan Samalen was organised in order to make the farmers aware about the activities envisaged under CSIR-Aroma Mis-

Dr. Suphla Gupta, Nodal Scientist from CSIR-IIIM for CSIR-Aroma Mission Phase-III, Dr. Saurbah Saran, I/C Technology Business Incubator and other team of Scientists of Aroma Mission including Dr. Sabha Jeet, Dr. Rajinder Bhanweria, Akash Verma and Ankush Verma were in team which organised this event.

This program also marked a significant milestone in the mission's journey toward a sustainable and economically vibrant Udhampur district.

# Nissan appoints Saurabh Vatsa as Deputy Managing Director

**Top News Report** 

GURUGRAM, Jan 15: Nissan Motor India (NMIPL) on Monday announced the appointment of Saurabh Vatsa as Deputy Managing Director effective January 15.

Saurabh will report to MD Rakesh Srivastava and will support in implementing the ongoing transformation roadmap for India as the company gets ready to deliver on the Mid Term Plan (MTP) and drive into our Ambition 2030 goals.

This appointment is reflective of the company's transformation plan to meet the opportunities and challenges ahead for the automotive industry in India.

Saurabh joins Nissan from Stellantis where he was a member of the Stellantis leadership team and was spearheading the Citroen

brand since its inception in India and was responsible for all aspects of the business as Brand Head.

Prior to Stellantis, Saurabh worked with General Motors (GM) for over two decades including long term assignments in South Korea among several key leadership roles within the company.

Saurabh comes with extensive experience across Asian markets along with deep knowledge of the automotive industry having worked within multiple strategic business functions such

and Planning and Moni-

as, Product Planning. Program Management, Sales Planning, Marketing, Communications and Retail / Commercial Sales.

Saurabh is a graduate of Delhi University, with an MBA from the International Management Institute and has completed an executive management program at the London Business School.

In this new role, he will support the leadership for Nissan's transformation plan and prepare the company for its next phase as outlined by the company in 2023.

## Prof. Joorel assumes office as Rector of Bhaderwah Campus Finance Committee,

**Top News Report** 

BHADERWAH, Jan 15: Prof. J P Singh Joorel from the Department of Statistics, University of Jammu on Monday assumed charge as Rector Bhaderwah Campus relieving Prof. Rahul Gupta who served the campus diligently for over three years.

Prof. Rahul Gupta made significant contributions to the development of Bhaderwah Campus during his tenure. The Bhaderwah Campus staff expresses its gratitude for his dedicated service.

The official order from the University of

Jammu appointed Prof. J P Singh Joorel as the new Rector of Bhaderwah, relieving Prof. Rahul Gupta from the additional charge.

Prof. Joorel brings with him a wealth of experience in administration, having served as the Head of the Department of Statistics for more than five years.

a collective commitment to the upliftment

Upon assuming charge, Prof. J P Singh Joorel engaged with the teaching and nonteaching staff, leaving an indelible impression with his inspiring words. He urged everyone to work with honesty and dedication, fostering



of Bhaderwah Campus. A promising start to a journey of shared excellence and growth under his leadership

His extensive career includes leadership roles such as the Director (VC Rank) of the INFLIBNET Centre in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, an Autonomous Inter-University Centre of

the University Grants

to Union Minister for

gracing the occasion

and also appealed the

farmers to take full ben-

efits of the CSIR-Aroma

Mission through which a

strong connect between

farmers and scientists

He informed that

during Phase-I and II of

CSIR Aroma Mission,

the extension activities

of Aroma Crops have

been done in the region

which proved a great

success and now under

Phase-III of CSIR-Aro-

ma Mission, not only

the extension of crops is

have been made.

Commission, where he served for five years. Presently a Professor of Statistics at the University of Jammu, Prof. Joorel boasts a remarkable 37 years of experience in teaching, research, and adminis-

tration. Prof. Joorel has a robust academic background, having served at various esteemed institutions such as Jammu University, Dr Y S Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan, HP, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Agra University (Agra College), and U P Government. He has supervised twenty-five Ph.D. and M.Phil students,

published approximately 100 research papers in reputed journals, authored book chapters, and presented at international/national conferences.

His contributions to Jammu University include serving in various key positions, such as Director, **UGC-Human Resource** Development Centre, HoD, OSD (Examinations), Dean Faculty, Coordinator (DST PURSE Scheme), and Director UGC-HRDC, among others. Prof. Joorel has also been an active participant in decision-making bodies like the University Council, Syndicate,

toring Board.Beyond his university roles, Prof. Joorel has made valuable contributions to the academic community, serving on the Council of "The Indian Statistical Institute" and Governing Bodies of several Autonomous Colleges. He has been a member of important committees and boards, including the ICT Committee of NAAC, Academic Council of Consortium of Educational Communication (Inter-Uni-

Prof. J P Singh

more.

versity Centre of UGC),

**Empowered Commit-**

tee of UGC-CARE, and

Joorel's vast experience and exposure to national bodies focused on academic and educational growth make him a valuable addition to the leadership team

of Bhaderwah Campus. His international exposure, having travelled to the U.S.A., Australia, Portugal, Thailand, Taiwan, and Malaysia, further enriches the academic diversity he brings to the position.

Additionally, Prof. Joorel has been a member of search committees responsible for appointing Vice-Chancellors in various universities, showcasing his commitment to fostering academic excellence.

## Police committed to recognise services of SPOs, support them: DGP RR Swain

handling public matters with professionalism, emphasizing the core responsibility of serving the public, and highlighted the effective identification and actions taken against anti-social elements

"We discern the distinction between those radicalizing innocent individuals who fall prey to their influence, and we extend opportunities to those making mistakes for the first time. Individuals who exhibit responsible and respectful behavior will receive double respect from our side," he remarked

"Interacting with the public is a fundamental responsibility, and my senior officers consistently emphasize this. Commending the conduct of the people of J&K, they assert that individuals who act responsibly and respectfully towards them will receive respect in return, multiplied tenfold," stated

## **Kashmir Valley experi**ences warmer days, colder nights: MeT

above normal of 6.4°C since 2003 during this period of the season.

The other stations of the Kashmir valley also witnessed 8-9°C above normal day temperature on the previous day.

Meteorological Centre Srinagar predicted dry weather likely to continue till January 24 with feeble Western Disturbances (WDs) approaching on 16th and 20th evening.

It said under the influence of these WDs, the weather will remain generally cloudy with the possibility of light Rain/Snow over isolated middle & higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Overall, there is no significant weather activity till January 24", the MeT office

As per the indications of different models, the outlook during January 25-27, there is a possibility of light rain or snow at scattered places during the period.

Meanwhile, Qazigund on Srinagar-Jam-

mu national highway had a low of-4.2°C against -4.0°C a day ago, while Kokernag recorded a low of -2.0°C against the -2.2°C recorded the previous night. Pahalgam dipped to -5.6°C against

-5.5°C recorded the previous night. It was still 1.5°C above normal for the tourist spot of south Kashmir.

Gulmarg plummeted to -2.8°C against the -1.2°C recorded on the previous night. It was 5.1°C above normal for the famous ski resort of north Kashmir.

Kupwara recorded a low of -4.1°C against the -4.0°C recorded the previous day. It was 1.2°C below normal for the frontier Kashmir district during this period of the season, the MeT office said.

## **FASTags with incomplete KYC** to be deactivated **post Jan 31, Says NHAI**

process of their latest FASTag by updating KYC as per RBI guidelines, it added.

To avoid inconvenience, the statement said users must ensure that KYC of their latest FASTag is completed.

It added that FASTag users must also comply with 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' and discard all the earlier issued FASTags through their respective banks.

"Only the latest FASTag account shall remain active as previous tags will be deactivated/blacklisted after 31st January 2024," the statement said.

For further assistance or queries, FASTag users can reach out to nearest toll plazas or toll-free customer care number of their respective issuer banks

The statement said NHAI has taken this initiative after recent reports of multiple FASTags being issued for a particular vehicle and FASTags being issued without KYC in violation of RBI's mandate.

Apart from this, FASTags are sometimes deliberately not fixed on the windscreen of the vehicle, resulting in unnecessary delays at toll plazas and causing inconvenience to fellow national highway users.

With penetration rate of around 98 per cent and over 8 crore users, FASTag has revolutionized the electronic toll collection system in the country.

FROM PAGE 1 The statement noted that 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative will help make toll operations more efficient and ensure

## **Notorious drug peddler** arrested in Baramulla

seamless and comfortable journeys.

A case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigations initiated, police added.

## IndiGo says passenger assaulted pilot: to be included in 'No-Fly List'

referred to the independent internal committee for appropriate action and inclusion of the passenger on the 'no-fly list' as laid down in regulatory guidelines.

A complaint has been filed with the Delhi

## **Around 20K J&K Govt** buildings to have rooftop solar projects by 2025

the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA)," official sources

They revealed that as of now 27.61 MW electricity is being generated with an installation of rooftop solar projects on 1900 government buildings.

"These projects have been established with the help of JAKEDA and other sister concern departments," they said, adding that the load of government related institutions is about 600 MW.

"Out of approximately 4000 MW load with JPDCL, the load of the government related entities including hospitals, schools, colleges, universities, defense establishments and street lights besides 22,49,4 registered government offices are approximately 600 MW," they said.

"Nearly 15 percent energy is consumed by the government establishments, which is annually estimated to be 3000 mn units of electricity and if only 50 percent of the energy needs are met through rooftop solar projects, the J&K government will save about Rs 700 crore every year," they

Official sources said that the financial burden will also be reduced with electricity consumption by educational institutions like Kashmir University, National Institute of Technology and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology that have better potential for power generation through solar energy.

"Reducing electricity consumption in government departments will provide relief from increasing electricity load," they said.

"The outstanding dues of various government departments are worth crores, which was waived off under a scheme, but still several government departments are not submitting their monthly electricity bills." official sources said.

"JAKEDA promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, including hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and hydrogen energy in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon emission, economic growth and prosperity," they said.

## Kashmir's Batool Zehra sings Ram Bhajan in **Pahari language**

sung by Jubin Nautiyal and I thought that I could sing the same song in the Pahari language as well. I recorded Ram Bhajan in my language. People from the muslim community are also congratulating me."

Batool Zehra highlights Islamic teachings which encouraged her to sing a Ram

"I come from the Saiyyad community and Imam Hussain taught us to love our nation. People from all the communities are our brothers and sisters. Muslims must respect Hindus and Hindus must do the same. Lord Ram was supreme amongst human beings because of his virtues. And, he was an epitome of justice and good conduct."

Meanwhile, preparations are underway in full swing for the grand temple opening, which will draw dignitaries and people from all walks of life. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has decided to

enthrone Ram Lalla at the sanctum-sanctorum of the Ram Temple at noon on January 22. Vedic rituals for the Pran-Pratishtha ceremony of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya will begin on January 16, a week before the main ceremony.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will preside over the ceremonial installation of Shri Ram Lalla inside the sanctum sanctorum of the temple. Earlier, on Friday, PM Modi announced a special 11-day 'anushthan (ritual) ahead of the Pran Pratishtha ceremony at Ayodhya's Ram Temple.

A priest from Varanasi, Lakshmi Kant Dixit, will perform the main rituals of the consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla on January 22. From January 14 to January 22. Avodhva will mark the 'Amrit Mahotsav'. Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Rama, holds great spiritual, historical, and cultural significance for the people of India.

## **Active Covid cases in** Country dip to 2,990

31, 2023 which is 0.2 per cent of the peak cases reported in May 2021, official sources said.

Of the total active cases, a large majority of these (around 92 per cent) are recovering under home isolation.

"The currently available data suggests that the JN.1 variant is neither leading to an exponential rise in new cases nor a surge in hospitalisation and mortality," the sources stated.

India has witnessed three waves of COVID-19 in the past with the peak incidence of daily new cases and deaths being reported in the Delta wave during April-June 2021. At its peak, 4,14,188 new cases and 3,915 deaths were reported on May 7, 2021. Since the pandemic began in early 2020, more than 4.5 crore people have got infected and over 5.3 lakh people have died across the country due to the infection. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease stands at over 4.4 crore with a national recovery rate of 98.81 per cent, according to the

ministry's website. According to the website, 220.67 crore doses of Covid vaccines have so far been administered in the country.

# Markets reach record high as Sensex breaches 73,000 mark for first time

Among the Sensex firms, Wipro zooms nearly 11 per cent

MUMBAI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Benchmark equity indices hit record peaks in early trade on Monday, with the Sensex breaching the 73,000 milestone for the first time ever and the Nifty surging past the historic 22,000-mark, driven by a sharp rally in IT stocks.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 720.33 points to reach an all-time peak of 73,288.78 in early trade. The Nifty also breached the 22,000 milestone, climbing 187.4 points to reach a lifetime high of 22,081.95.

Among the Sensex firms, Wipro zoomed nearly 11 per cent even as the IT company on Friday posted 11.74 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to Rs 2,694.2 crore for the third quarter ended December 31, 2023.

The other prominent

gainers were Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, State Bank of India and HDFC Bank.

HCL Technologies on Friday reported 6.2 per cent increase in consolidated net profit at Rs 4,350 crore, highest ever on a quarterly basis, in the three months ended December 2023 on the back of growth in both services and software businesses.

Hindustan Unilever, Bajaj Finance, NTPC and Asian Paints were

ch among the laggards.
h- In Asian markets,
ta Seoul, Tokyo and
s, Shanghai were trading

The US markets ended on a muted note on

in the green while Hong

Kong quoted marginally

Friday.
Global oil benchmark
Brent crude climbed
0.24 per cent to USD
78.48 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors offloaded equities worth Rs 340.05 crore on Friday, according to exchange

# India ranked 35th for leveraging future possibilities; United Kingdom tops the list

The Future Possibilities Index, a flagship global future trends study, has Denmark, the US, the Netherlands and Germany in the top five after the UK

DAVOS, Jan 15 (Agencies): India has been ranked 35th on a global index of countries best placed for leveraging future possibilities while the UK topped the list released here on Monday.

The Future Possibilities Index (FPI), a flagship global future trends study released by Newsweek Vantage and Horizon Group on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, has Denmark, the US, the Netherlands and Germany in the top five after the UK.

Among large emerging markets, China is placed highest at 19th this year, followed by Brazil at 30th, India (35th) and South Africa (50th).

The study compared the factors that will help governments, investors and other private sector stakeholders leverage



six global, transformational trends for growth and wellbeing across 70 countries.

These six global transformational trends are Exabyte Economy (advanced digital technologies), Wellbeing Economy (health prevention and wellness), Net Zero Economy (reduction of carbon emissions), Circular Economy (recycling and reuse), BioGrowth Economy (food and agriculture innovations), and Experience Economy (consumption of experiences instead of physical goods).

The combined business opportunity of all six trends is estimated at more than USD 44 trillion by 2030, more than 40 per cent of global GDP in 2023, the study said.

The study used data from recognised international organisations as well as a survey of 5,000 business executives conducted for the project by Phronesis Partners.

These opportunities are likely to benefit the Global North more than the Global South in terms of economic growth and broader societal wellbeing and a strong industry base is needed to benefit, the report found.

The international development community must help developing countries take full advantage of these opportunities by strengthening related industries, it added.

# Wholesale inflation rises to 0.73 per cent in December mainly due to sharp rise in food prices

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): The whole-sale price index (WPI)-based inflation rose in December at 0.73 per cent mainly due to a sharp rise in food prices.

The WPI inflation was in the negative zone from April to October and had turned positive in November at 0.26 per cent.

"Positive rate of inflation in December 2023 is primarily due to increase in prices of food articles, machinery and equipment, other manufacturing, other transport equipment and computer, electronics and optical products, etc," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement on Monday.

Food inflation rose to 9.38 per cent in December from 8.18 per cent in November 2023.

Inflation in vegetables was 26.3 per cent, while

in pulses it was 19.6 per cent in December. Retail or consumer price-based inflation (CPI) print for December rose to a four-month high of 5.69 per cent, as per the data released last week.

The Reserve Bank in its bi-monthly monetary policy last month held interest rates steady and flagged risks of rising food inflation in November and December.

# Since 2020, world's five richest have doubled fortune, while five billion have grown poorer: Oxfam



DAVOS, Jan 15 (Agencies): The world's wealthiest five men have more than doubled their fortune since 2020, the charity Oxfam said on Monday, as it called on nations to resist the ultra-rich's influence over tax policy.

A report from the charity, published as the global elite hobnob at the World Economic Forum in Davos this week, said their wealth rose from \$405 billion in 2020 to \$869 billion last year.

Yet since 2020, nearly five billion people worldwide have grown poorer, Oxfam said. Billionaires are today \$3.3 billion richer than they were in 2020, despite many crises devastating the world's economy since this decade began, including the Covid pan-

Oxfam's yearly report on inequality worldwide is traditionally released just before the forum opens on Monday in the Swiss Alpine

The charity raised concerns over increasing global inequality, with the richest individuals and companies amassing greater wealth thanks to surging stock prices, but also significantly more power.

"Corporate power is used to drive inequality: by squeezing workers and enriching wealthy shareholders, dodging taxes, and privatising the state," Oxfam said.

It also accused corporations of driving "inequality by undertaking a sustained and highly effective war on taxation", with farreaching consequences.

reaching consequences.

Oxfam said states handed power over to

monopolies, allowing corporations to influence the wages people are paid, food prices and which medicines individuals can access.

"Around the world, members of the private sector have relentlessly pushed for lower rates, more loopholes, less transparency, and other measures aimed at enabling companies to contribute as little as possible to public coffers," Oxfam added.

The charity said thanks to intensive lobbying over tax policymaking, corporations have been able to pay lower corporate taxes, thereby depriving governments of money that could be used to financially support the poorest in society.

Corporate taxes have significantly dropped in OECD countries from 48 percent in 1980 to 23.1 percent in 2022, Oxfam noted.

To address the imbalance, Oxfam called for a wealth tax on the world's millionaires and billionaires that it says could bring in \$1.8 trillion dollars each year.

The charity also called to cap CEO pay and break up private monopolies.

# Patients below 40 undergoing knee replacement surgery at PGI

CHANDIGARH, Jan 15 (Agencies): Joint replacement surgery isn't just for the elderly anymore. The Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) here is witnessing a rise in knee replacement surgeries among younger patients reporting early osteoarthritis.

From conducting over 20 surgeries in a month, the orthopaedic unit is now conducting 40-50 surgeries a month. Dr Aditya Aggarwal, an orthopaedic surgeon, says obesity and sedentary lifestyle are to be blamed as patients as young as 35 years are now undergoing total knee replacement at the

ing from early osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. Usually, ioint replacement is required in patients above 60 years of age. Another trend that has been noticed is that a lot of patients have started reporting osteonecrosis of hip wherein the blood supply to the bone tissue in the hip joint is disrupted, leading to a collapse of hip joint. Dr Aggarwal says, "A lot of patients with osteonecrosis are reporting at the OPDs. It is probably attributed to excessive use of steroids during Covid. Earlier, only three to four patients used to report

PGI. These patients are suffer-

hip problems."

"Lifestyle choices and injury prevention are crucial for managing joint health at a younger age. Modern and sedentary lifestyle, characterised by prolonged periods of sitting and lack of physical activity, contribute to joint issues and weight gain, leading to a higher risk of osteoarthritis," he adds.

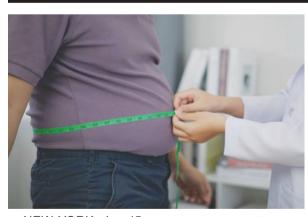
Sharing tips on how to prevent osteoarthritis, Dr Aggarwal says, "Preventing osteoarthritis in younger adults involves adopting a proactive approach to joint health. Maintaining a healthy weight reduces the risk of developing osteoarthritis. Focus on exercises that target the mus-

cles around the knees, hips and other vulnerable joints."

He advises if a patient has got advanced arthritis, he or she should get treatment as early as possible so that it doesn't lead to more deformity and degeneration of other joints and loss of bone around knee. The surgery is more complicated with no guaranteed results. He advised early management of such patients. He also advocates total knee replacement as an enduring solution, citing less invasive and highly successful advancements in technology. Advanced TKR surgeries offer lasting pain relief, improved mobility, faster

# Obesity may raise risk of blood cancer by over 70 per cent: Study

Smoking habits and exercise may also impact one's likelihood of developing multiple myeloma, said the team from Massachusetts General Hospital



NEW YORK, Jan 15 (Agencies): Researchers find that obesity may increase the risk of developing multiple myeloma -- a blood cancer of the plasma cells -- by more than 70 per cent.

Smoking habits and exercise may also impact one's likelihood of developing multiple myeloma, said the team from Massachusetts General Hospital in the US.

The research published in Blood Advances revealed that individuals with obesity are more likely to have monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) -- a benign blood condition that often precedes multiple myeloma.

"While significant advancements have been made in therapeutics for multiple myeloma, it remains an incurable disease, often diagnosed after patients have already experienced end-organ damage," explained David Lee, from Massachusetts General Hospital.

The team enrolled 2,628 individuals from across the US who were at elevated risk of developing multiple myeloma, based on self-identified race and family history of hematologic malignancies, between February 2019 and March 2022.

They found that being obese was associated with 73 per cent higher odds of having MGUS, compared to individuals with normal weights. This association remained unchanged when accounting for physical activity.

However, highly active individuals (defined as doing the equivalent of running or jogging

45-60 minutes per day or more) were less likely to have MGUS even after adjusting for BMI class, whereas those who reported heavy smoking and short sleep were more likely to also have detectable levels of MGUS.

MGUS, characterised by an abnormal protein produced by plasma cells, is a known precursor to multiple myeloma. Most people with MGUS exhibit no significant symptoms and are not immediately ill. Rather, the presence of MGUS serves as a warning to monitor for the potential development of more critical conditions, like multiple myeloma, that MGUS can turn into.

"These results guide our future research in understanding the influence of modifiable risk factors, such as weight, exercise, and smoking, on cancer risk," explained Lee.

"Before we can develop effective preventative health strategies to lower the risk of serious diseases like multiple myeloma, we first need to better understand the relationship between MGUS and potentially modifiable risk factors like obesity."

# How to protect your heart in winter

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): People with heart issues might have to be extra cautious in winter. Although cases of heart problems are witnessed throughout the year, experts have indicated that the cold months see a rise in heart attacks and strokes.

Numerous studies have indicated a surge in cardiovascular incidents such as heart attacks, heart failure, and arrhythmias during this time. Apart from the sudden drop in the temperature, excessive stress and physical exertion strains the heart.

"As the weather gets colder, your body and heart must work harder to maintain a healthy body temperature. When temperatures drop, the body's physiology changes to stay warm. The low temperatures activate the sympathetic nervous system and increase catecholamine secretion, leading to blood vessel constriction, higher heart rate, elevated blood pressure,

and cholesterol levels, and an increased risk of blood clotting," Dr Vidya Suratkal, Cardiologist, Lilayati Hospital, told agency.

at the OPDs and now at least

eight patients are coming with

Lilavati Hospital, told agency.
Dr Suratkal said that people with pre-existing heart conditions, and elevated blood pressure, and those who drink alcohol and tobacco are particularly vulnerable to heightened risks in cold climates.

In fact, factors such as air pollution, reduced physical activity, emotional stress, unhealthy eating habits, and increased susceptibility to viral infections also contribute to a higher risk of heart attacks and heart failure.

Speaking about people running marathons in the cold weather, Dr Amit S Gangwani Consultant Interventional Cardiologist, Zynova Shalby Hospital, said, "Participating in marathons has been associated with numerous health benefits. However, recent studies have raised concerns about the potential impact of marathon running on heart

health. While regular moderate exercise can reduce the risk of heart disease, long-distance running may place excessive strain."

Besides this, dehydration can significantly impact the heart. When the body becomes dehydrated, blood volume decreases, forcing the heart to work harder to pump blood and deliver oxygen to essential organs and muscles. This increased strain on the heart can lead to potential cardiac arrest in extreme cases. With temperatures dropping in North India, experts are saying to stay active with indoor exercises and eating fibre-rich foods like oily fish, nuts, fruits and vegetables to control cholesterol levels.

Maintaining a healthy weight is crucial as excess weight puts additional stress on the heart. It's common to indulge in heavier meals in winter, so monitoring portion sizes and opting for lighter alternatives will help

manage calorie intake," said Dr Vidya Suratkal, Lilavati Hospital. Next, hydration supports heart

recovery and durable implants.

Next, hydration supports heart function. "Don't overlook hydration as cold air tends to be dry and dehydrated, so drinking plenty of water helps maintain proper blood viscosity. It is also the need of the hour to go for regular check-ups with the cardiologist. Please do not skip any medication or self-medicate as it can be risky for you," advised Dr Gangwani.

Dr Vidya Suratkal added that one should also be aware of the warning signs to take timely action. "Pay attention to warning signs such as chest pain, shortness of breath, or palpitations during training and seek medical advice if they occur. Incorporating cross-training activities like swimming or cycling into your routine can reduce the risk of overexertion on the heart and lower the likelihood of developing heart problems," said Dr

Suratkal.

# Dube, Jaiswal fire in easy win, India clinch series

INDORE, Jan 15 (Agencies): Riding on a flurry of mighty maximums, Shivam Dube and Yashasvi Jaiswal smashed Afghanistan's bowlers to smithereens on way to swashbuckling half-centuries as India made short work of a 173-run target to win the second T20I by six wickets.

While Yashasvi got out after hammering 68 off 34 balls, including six sixes, Dube was unbeaten on a 32-ball 63, hitting four maximums in the process. India completed the chase with 26 balls to spare, taking an unassailable lead in the threematch series.

Gulbadin Naib top-scored with a breezy 35-ball 57 before lower-order batters Mujeeb Ur Rahman (21 off 9 balls) and Karim Janat (20 off 10) chipped in with useful contributions to lift



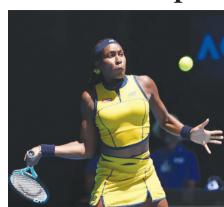
Afghanistan to 172 all out. India's chase began on a eventful note that saw a firstball boundary by Yashasvi Jaiswal, a loud shout for an lbw and an unsuccessful Afghanistan review, and a first-ball duck for Rohit Sharma. In his first T20I since November 2022, Virat Kohli began with a lovely boundary before Jaiswal smashed Fazalhaq Farooqi for wo sixes

Recreating the famous shot he played against Haris Rauf in the last T20 World Cup, Kohli hit a short-of-a-length Naveen-ul-Haq delivery back over the bowler's head for a four. However, Naveen-ul-Haq cut short Kohli's promising stay at the crease by having the maestro caught at mid-off for a 16-ball 29.

Unperturbed by the Kohli's dismissal, the duo of Jaiswal and Dube went about their task in a brutal manner, leaving the Afghan bowlers bruised and battered.

Brief scores: Afghanistan: 172 all out in 20 overs (Gulbadin 57; Arshdeep 3/32, Axar 2/17); India: 173/4 in 15.4 overs (Jaiswal 68, Dube 63; Janat 2/13)

# **Coco Gauff Finds Rhythm To Reach Australian Open Second Round**



MELBOURNE, Jan 15 (Agencies): Coco Gauff eased into the second round of the Australian Open on Monday, beating unseeded Anna Karolina Schmiedlova 6-3, 6-0 in a one-sided affair on centre court. The American, bidding to become the first woman since Naomi Osaka in 2018-19 to win the US Open and Australian Open back-to-back, made a nervy start.

But she still had too much for her struggling Slovakian opponent, who failed to win any of her seven service games. Fourth seed Gauff broke Schmiedlova, ranked 68, four times in the opening set with two holds proving decisive for the 19-year-old, who defended her Auckland title earlier this month.

She found more of a rhythm in the second set, taking it 6-0 in just 25 minutes on a sun-baked Rod Laver Arena.

"I was a little nervous in the first set and I think I did well returning and then I found my serve towards the end (of the set)," she said.

The teenager said she was always nervous in the first round of a major, adding that she had to give herself a talking to on court.

She said she told herself: "I feel good, I look good so just have fun.' I was able to relax."

Gauff will play unseeded American Caroline Dolehide in the second round.

## "Hasn't Scored A Single Run": Ex India Star Blasts Rohit Sharma After Indore T20I

INDORE, Jan 15 (Agencies): The Indian cricket team has the 3-match T20I series against Afghanistan in their kitty, having won the first two matches convincingly. While the likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shivam Dube, Ravi Bishnoi, Axar Patel. etc. have impressed, skipper Rohit Sharma's form hasn't been the best. After getting run-out in the first match without opening his account, Rohit fell for a duck in the second match too. Though there is no question about the Hitman's ability, former India cricketer Aakash Chopra has questioned his shot selection after the strange dismissal in the second T20I

Rohit looked to step out and smash the ball on the first delivery he faced from Fazalhaq Farooqi. But, missed the ball completely and saw it hit the stumps. Chopra, in a video on his You-Tube channel, didn't shy away from criticising the India skipper.

"It was extremely surprising the way Rohit got out. He was playing just his first ball. He doesn't play such shots. The ball went and hit his stumps. He got run out in the last match and was bowled for zero in this match. He hasn't scored a single run in this series thus far," Chopra said.

"Run-out was not his mistake but the shot selection definitely was. There is no doubt about Rohit Sharma's form and ability. However, he will have to be in form in the IPL and I feel he will bat like this only. We need 38-40, the runs he was scoring in the ODI World Cup, from his bat," he added.

With the competition for the T20 World Cup 2024 heating up, Rohit is up against a number of youngsters like Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, etc. for the opening spot in the team.

Virat Kohli, who made his T20I comeback after a gap of 14 months, also looked to have opted for an aggressive approach in the match. He scored 16-ball 29 before getting perished at the hands of Naveen-ul-Haq.

# Cramps And Tears As Daniil Medvedev Beats Brutal Heat At Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Jan 15 (Agencies): Frenchman Terence Atmane smashed his racquet. served underarm and retired in tears as he dealt with serious cramp in pushing third seed Daniil Medvedev hard at the Australian Open on Monday. The qualifier struggled in the searing heat on Margaret Court Arena, stunning the Russian by taking the first set but was unable to continue when trailing 5-7, 6-2, 6-4, 1-0. "The conditions were brutal," said two-time tournament finalist Medvedev. "The more he (Atmane) plays this intensity, the better he will be prepared."

"I'm just happy to be through," he added. "I



played bad at the beginning in the first set, but I was happy I could regain momentum."

Medvedev broke for 2-1 in the opening set and raced to 5-3, but a battling Atmane levelled the score at 5-5 when Medvedev missed a . . alla. .

With his confidence building, the Frenchman, on his Grand Slam debut, held serve then broke again to take the set and leave the world number three shaking his head in disbelief.

Medvedev woke up

to steam through the second set before Atmane started cramping badly.

He resorted to underarm serves as he struggled to move and demolished his racquet when he lost serve to slip 2-1 behind in the third set.

The 22-year-old gamely battled on, still in pain, mixing underarm and overarm serves as Medvedev cashed in to take the third set.

But after losing the first game of the fourth set, he was forced to retire, sobbing as his tournament ended.

Medvedev, who faces Finland's unseeded Emil Ruusuvuori in the next round, said ahead of the match he is trying

to "mature" and do fewer "stupid things" on court to shake off his reputation as a tennis villain.

The Russian is no stranger to outbursts and meltdowns on court, which has earned him a love-hate relationship with fans.

He was mostly well behaved against Atmane, but did complain about the water bottles.

Medvedev lost to Novak Djokovic in the 2021 Melbourne final and Rafael Nadal a year later, which sparked a form slump.

But has since bounced back, winning 66 matches last season, more than any other player on tour.

# Focus On Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty As Home Shuttlers Look To Dazzle At India Open

Expectations will be high when Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty spearhead the home challenge at the India Open super 750 badminton tournament beginning in Delhi on Tuesday

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Expectations will be high when Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty spearhead the home challenge at the India Open super 750 badminton tournament beginning in Delhi on Tuesday, hoping to annex their first silverware of the new season. With six titles in 2023, Satwik and Chirag have been a cut above the rest of the Indians, and the runnerup finish at the Malaysia super 1000 has only spiced things up as the Indian shuttlers look to deliver at home. The BAI flagship tournament, which was upgraded to super 750 in 2023, proved a dampener last season when none of the Indians could cross the second round.

In the 2022 edition, Satwik-Chirag and Lakshya Sen stood at the podium with the men's doubles and men's singles crown and the home shuttlers will hope to once again live up to the expectations and prove that last year was an aberration.

Satwik and Chirag have all the wherewithal to go the distance this time as the duo will be charged up after coming marginally short in the final in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday.

"We want to do well in our home country next week, so we don't want to relax with this, we are more hungry and next week we want to do well in front of our home crowd," Satwik said on Sunday.

Second seeds Satwik and Chirag, who were forced to pull out ahead of the second round last year due to an injury suffered by the former, will face world No. 25 Fang-Jen Lee and Fang-Chih Lee of Taipei in their opening round.

Chirag added: "We are not done yet. India Open is coming up next week and we want to go



one better." While Satwik-Chirag will be one of the frontrunners for the title, all eyes will also be on HS Prannoy, Lakshya Sen, and Kidambi Srikanth in men's singles, especially in the absence of two-time Olympic medallist P V Sindhu, who is nursing a knee injury.

Having fared poorly in Malaysia, world No. 8 Prannoy and Lakshya will look to find their rhythm quickly, while Srikanth must have got some confidence back following his win over Jonatan Christie in the opening round last week.

Prannoy and Sen will look for a good start, having suffered first-round exits in Kuala Lumpur, when they open against Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien Chen and Pri-

yanshu Rajawat respectively.
Srikanth, on the other hand, looked in good touch during his opening round last week and it will be paramount for him to go deep into the tournament which he won in 2015, keeping the race to Olym-

pic qualification in mind.

The former world No.1 will open against Hong Kong's Lee Cheuk

Yiu.

It is a two-way race for the second spot in the Olympic qualification with Srikanth, a 2016 Rio Olympic Olympian, currently ranked 24th and Sen ahead at 17th spot. Prannoy at eighth remains the frontrunner.

The Olympic race in women's doubles has also heated up with the new pair of Ashwini Ponnappa, a two-time Olympian, and Tanisha Crasto and Commonwealth Games bronze medallists Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly -- both ranked 14th in Olympic Games qualification.

Ashwini-Tanisha reached three successive finals in December last year and won one of them at the Guwahati Masters.

The duo reached the second round in Malaysia and would look to continue their good run when they take on the world No. 10 Thai combination of Rawinda Prajongjai and Jongkolphan Kititharakul.

Treesa and Gayatri, on the other hand, will cross swords against fourth seeds Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida of Japan.

# Shivam Dube's Ultimate 'CSK And MS Dhoni' Remark Post 2nd T20I Heroics

INDORE, Jan 15 (Agencies): India allrounder Shivam Dube justified his selection for the T20I series against Afghanistan, scoring back-to-back half-centuries as the hosts went 2-0 up in the 3-match assignment. Dube, who remained unbeaten in both matches so far, has been a revelation this series, rising up to the challenge, especially in the wake of the T20 World Cup 2024 selection. After his heroics earned India a spectacular victory in the 2nd T20I against Afghanistan in Indore, Dube paid a special tribute to his Indian Premier League franchise Chennai Super Kings, and MS Dhoni.

Dube, who was bought by Chennai Super Kings ahead of the IPL 2022 auction for a price of INR 4 crore, has emerged as



a true pace bowling allrounder, filling the void left by Hardik Pandya in the Indian team. While Dube has had the game in him, he is grateful to CSK and Dhoni for getting the best out of him.

"The credit goes to the CSK team and Mahi bhai because I have always had the game in me. But bringing out the best from a player is something done by CSK," Dube said after the match on Jio Cinema.

"All the things they have given me, the confidence, they have told me that 'Shivam, you can score runs in the IPL, don't worry, we believe in you'. And many others, like Mike Hussey and Fleming, told me that they have faith in me. It was there in my mind," he added. Shivam Dube finished off India's run-chase

off India's run-chase with a spectacular knock of 63 runs off

32 balls. In company, he had opening batter Yashasvi Jaiswal who scored 68 runs off just 34 balls. Despite sparing 4.2 overs in the chase of 173 runs, Dube said that he should've finished the game even earlier.

"The skipper is really happy, he told me well played. We both are stroke players, we know our game. My role was to take on the spinners, but our plan was to both attack and finish the game early. There wasn't any target in mind, but we should have finished the game earlier," Dube said.

"There are many things that have worked, apart from skill it is about how mentally you prepare for the T20 game. How to handle pressure, and deciding which bowlers to take on," he concluded.

# Sachin Tendulkar disturbed by 'misuse of technology' after fake video of him and his daughter emerges

NEW DELHI, Jan 15 (Agencies): Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar called out a fake video, attributing him and his daughter Sara. A video has been doing the rounds on social media platforms which showed Tendulkar in the background with the voice-over of a different person.

In the clip, it was said that Tendulkar's daughter plays a certain game that helps her earn money. After the clip surfaced, Tendulkar put on a post on his social media platform, giving

a clarification.
The legendary crick-

eter said that he was disturbed to see "rampant misuse of technology". He also made an appeal to stop the "spread of misinformation and deepfakes" and also asked people to be more alert and careful.

"These videos are

fake. It is disturbing to see rampant misuse of technology. Request everyone to report videos, ads & apps like these in large numbers. Social Media platforms need to be alert and responsive to complaints. Swift action from their end is crucial to stopping the spread of misinformation and

deepfakes," Sachin took to X and wrote.

In his post, Tendulkar also tagged the Ministry of Electronics & IT, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, the Union Minister of State, and Maharashtra Cyber Crime.

Deepfakes, a portmanteau of "deep learning" and "fake," are hyperrealistic video or audio recordings created using artificial intelligence. These manipulated media can depict individuals saying or doing things they never did, leading to a myriad of ethical and societal

concerns.
The potential for harm

is vast: from personal attacks to widespread misinformation that could undermine political processes, incite violence, or even provoke international incidents.

Despite emerging laws and technological defenses, the rapid advancement and accessibility of deepfake technology make it a formidable challenge to detect and regulate.

As deepfakes blur the line between reality and fiction, they pose a dire threat to the integrity of information, personal reputation, and democratic institutions worldwide.

# Sandeep of Punjab lifts 124th Panthal **Kesari Dangal Title 2024**



#### **Top News Report**

KATRA, Jan 15: Wrestler Sandeep of Khanna (Punjab) lifted 124th Annual Panthal Kesari Dangal title 2024 by defeating Wrestler Munish of Delhi in a neck to neck contest at village Panthal in District Reasi.

Sandeep was adjudged as the best Wrestler in the vishal Dangal, Dangal was organized by Shri Swami Nitya Nand Dangal Committee on the eve of Makar

The Winner of main bout Wrestler Sandeep was given a cash prize of Rs. 6,1000 in addition to "Gurj and Patta" while runner-up Wrestler was cash awarded with Rs. 50,000.

Deputy Commissioner Reasi

Vishesh Paul Mahajan was the chief quest on the occasion who witnessed the Dangal and encouraged the youths who Participated. Former Joint Secretary J&K Sports Council and President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association Shiv Kumar Sharma presided over the function.

SDM Katra Deepak Dubey, ASP Katra Vipan Chandern and DDC Chairman Panthal Rajinder Mengi were the guests of honour.

DSP Katra Surinder Singh Bil-Ioria, ACF, SMVDSB Vinay Khajuria, Tehsiuldar Katra Jatinder Singh, SHO Katra Nishant Gupta, Sher Singh Vice President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association Varinder Badyal and Ex Sarpanch Karnail Singh were the special

The proceedings of the Dangal were conducted by Naresh Kumar (Pappu Lakri), Welcome address was presented by Prittam Kumar Magotra. The vote of thanks was presented by Ex. Sarpanch Rajinder Kumar Thappa.

of Reasi who defeated Wrestler

Partik of Haryana winner Surjeet

Singh was cash awarded with Rs.

12,000 while runner-up Wrestler

Partik got Rs. 9,000.

Members who helped for conduct of this Dangal included Prittam Kumar Magotra, Mukesh Khajuria, Rajinder Kumar Thappa (Ex. Sarpanch), Parshotam Kumar Khajuria (Bittu), Barjesh Khajuria, Madan Lal Sanmotra, Ved Parkash, Om Parkash Sanmotra, Parshotam Kumar Mengi.

The bouts were appreciated by Sat Paul Verma, Om Parkash Verma, Raj Singh and Sunny

Other Results: Kharpu of Jammu beat Ranjeet Singh of J&K Police, Dillar Khan of J&K Police beat Ambrish of Delhi, Ajay Sharma of Udhampur beat Shivam of Delhi and Liakat of Jammu beat Madan Singh of Roun Domail Akhara.

Shiv Kumar Sharma thanked District Administration, Police Department, media persons and people who witnessed the Dangal. He also appreciated bouts and organizers and technical officials

# **Delphic Council of J&K** organises Kavi Sammelan



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Jan 15: In order to commemorate, the onset of New Year, The Delphic Council of Jammu and Kashmir" in collaboration with J&K Academy of arts, culture and languages organised "Manjari-2024", a Multi Lingual Kavi Sammelan at KL. Saigal Hall, Jammu on 15th January, 2024.

The programme was Moderated by Prof. (Dr.) Shahnawaz Parveen & Dr Sushma Rajput in well disciplined and coordinated manner with professional skills

Er Ashok Singh President, Delphic Council of J&K and Secretary General of Indian Delphic Council, welcomed Ms. Trishla Kumari, Special Secretary, Department of Culture, J&K who was the Chief Guest on the occasion and Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary J&K Academy of Arts, Culture & Language, Jammu who was the Guest of Honour, Advisors, Poets, Guests from various disciplines of literary world.

The presence of top people from the literary world, savoured, the glee of multi Lingual, Kavi Sammelan from all the Languages of the J&K.

Trishilla Kumari, Chief Guest while speaking on the occasion, lauded the efforts of the Delphic Council of J&K who are working in 6 Art Categories of the Delphic Council in J&K and especially the dying Art & Culture which is the need of the hour.

She also loud the role of JSK Academy of arts, Culture of languages for organising such Multi Lingual events, that creates harmony among the multifaceted society of J&K.

Er. Ashok Singh, emphasized the role of languages that play an important role in country's development and J&K being a Multi Lingual UT. There is need for organising such multi lingual events, which cohesive the society and also bridges the gap between different cultures.

He appealed to the intelligentsia to promote all the State languages. He promised to carry forward such programmes in future also.

Bharat Singh Manhas Secretary Cultural Academy while speaking said the J&K Academy is always at the forefront for collaborating with the organisations which are

working for taking Art, Culture and Language of the UT to its newer hights and assured the Delphic Council for all possible help in future also.

While proposing vote of thanks, Anila Singh Charak, Director Lanquage Arts & Rhetoric thanked the chief guest and quest of honour, the participating poets and

The organising team, comprising of Dr. Shanawaz from Cultural Academy, Dr. Ayash Arif Vice President, NN Thussu, Treasurer, Bishan Dass, Joint Secretary, Vijay Puri, Mohan Lal Bhagat SSP, Ankush Sharma and Shabir Mujahid Advisors of the Delphic Council, Dr. Sushma Rajput, Dr. Gharo Choudhary, Nirma Chohan, Vinod Verma Directors of the Delphic Council and Randhir Singh and Sheetal Verma Deputy Director of Social Arts & Communication the

The stage was taken over by the well-known poets Dr. Sushma Rajput, Randhir Singh, Bishan Singh Dardi and Meenakshi Kesar of Dogri Anila Singh Charak, Sanjeev Bhasin and Sheikh Mohd Kalyan of Hindi, Prof Shaad Ramzan of Kashmiri, Mr. Ayaz Rasool Nazki and Prof Zaman Azuldar of Urdu Er. Nirmal S Chouhan of Bhaderwahi Naseem Akhter of Gojri and Sheikh Zahoor of Pahari. The artists mesmerised the audience with their poetic skills and instant humanitarian mes-

# **SSP Railways Jammu** reviews security meeting ahead of R-Day



#### **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Jan 15: In view of forthcoming Republic Day-2024, a security review meeting was held by Mohan Lal Kaith, SSP Railways Jammu in his office which was attended by Albeena Malik, SDPO Railways Jammu, Naresh Kumar-SDPO Railways Vijaypur, Inspr. Niaz Ahmed-SHO PS GRP Jammu. Inspr. Ajay Kumar-SHO Ps GRP Kathua, Chetan Singh- SHO RPFJAT and all IC PPs of GRP Jammu.

The main objective of the meeting was to review the security preparedness/ measures taken on ground in view of prevailing security scenario and forthcoming Republic Day - 2024.

SSP Railways Jammu stressed upon augmenting the security measures on ground and for remaining extra vigilant/ alert in view of the prevailing scenario and forthcoming Republic Day-2024.

It was emphasized that round the clock patrolling be conducted jointly by officials of GRP and RPF so that it becomes effective and meaningful and the same was agreed by RPF officials

present in the meeting.

It was further stressed

upon that maximum and proper use of security equipment installed at Railway stations be made and visitors be frisked thoroughly to rule out any act of sabo-PP's were directed by SSP to personally conduct regular checking particularly during Night hours to ensure that directions are implemented on ground in letter and spirit. SDPOs were directed to regularly supervise and monitor the performance of officers and men and any lapse be immediately brought to the notice of SSP for taking action against the erring offi-

During the meeting, a review of intelligence inputs was carried out and all the officers were asked to remain alert to avoid any untoward incident in view of the Republic day function on January 26.

## Jammu University to hold 'Protsaahan' under UTSAAH-Ten Days Multi-Arts **Festival from tomorrow**

In the said Dangal forty one

bouts were played and expen-

diture of Rs. 5,25,000 has been

incurred for conduct of this one

Second main bout was won

by Wrestler Rashid of Domana

Akhara Jammu who defeated

Wrestler Jatinder of Harayana

winner Wrestler Rashid was cash

awarded with Rs. 41,000 while

runner-up Wrestler Jatinder got

The third bout was won by

Nadeem of J&K Police of Doda

who defeated Wrestler Wajid

of District Jajjar of (Haryana).

Winner Wrestler Nadeem was

cash awarded with Rs. 18,000

while runer-up Wrestler Wajid got

Rs. 13,000. 4th bout was won

by Surject Singh of J&K Police

day long Dangal.

**Top News Report** 

JAMMU, Jan 15: UTSAAH, Club Consortium of the University of Jammu is organising 'Protsaahan'- A Ten-day Multi-Arts festival from 16th of January, 2024, in which 12 prominent clubs under different coordinators shall be organising their activities for the various stakeholders of the University and civil society.

In a statement issued by the University of Jammu, the consortium of 12 clubs, including Translation Club, Photography Club, Nature and Wildlife Club, Literary Club, Heritage and Tourism Club, Film Club, Theatre Club, Music Club, Painting Club, Dance Club, Science Club and Community Service and Social Justice Club shall be presenting the culture, heritage and literature of Jammu province under the banner of UTSAAH.

"The inauguration of Protsaahan shall take place with the opening of a five-day art camp by Painting Club and a Blood Donation camp by Community Service and Social Justice Club," the statement reads, adding that senior functionaries from different government departments shall grace the occasion. During the Blood donation camp over 75 units of blood is expected to be collected, whereas on the next working day, 18th January Community service and social justice club shall also organize a session on Drug De-addiction.

Meanwhile, on 17th of January the photography club shall be conducting 'Heritage and Street Photography Event: A journey through time', wherein participants shall be divided into different groups to capture heritage sites of Jammu city, during different time periods.

Similarly, on 19th and 22nd of January, Film Club is organising two days workshop on techniques on film making, whereas Translation club shall be organizing a symposium of poetry in the major languages of Jammu and its translation and discussions of the same with the popular poets on 19th of January.

"Nature and wildlife club is organising two days wildlife and bird photography workshop in association with Nikon India on 20th January, whereas Science club is also organising two days workshop on beginning on 22nd January," reads the press statement. Music and Literary club shall organize a function on folk literature and folk songs on 23rd of January.

A grand finale of the festival shall be held on 24th of January, wherein Heritage and Tourism club shall organize Dogra Turban Tying Competition and a street shall be prepared to showcase the food and handicraft of Jammu province. Programmes by Theatre, Film and Dance clubs shall be showcased and the paintings and photographs made during the workshop shall also be exhibited during the

Appreciating the efforts of all the coordinators in each club in providing all the students, staff, non teaching, non gazetted, faculty and alumni a platform to hone their passions and to showcase them in a span of just one year, the Chairperson of the Club Prof Satnam Kaur said. "It was a visionary initiative of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof Umesh Rai and it has been extremely successful in realizing the spirit of NEP in an holistic manner."

She also appreciated the constructive role of media in supporting the clubs and providing widespread coverage to ensure the inclusion of civil society in all these activities.

'Protsaahan' is the second in the series of UTSAAH, Club Consortium festivals, the first of which was Duggar Darpan held last year.

## **Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyan Program** conducted in Panchyat Balgran



## Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Jan 15: Bharatiya Janata Party in the presence of BJP State Secretary Haji Tariq Hussain Keen, DDC Drabshalla Ashok Kumar, Mandal President Shahid Butt and all other participate in Jan Samvad Abhiyan program conducted in Panchyat Balgran and Tippri constituency Inderwal.

The BJP in Jammu and Kashmir launched its mass contact programme 'Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyan' on Tuesday under unit president Ravinder Raina's leadership, conducting a series of 111 events on the first day of the campaign. the party said.

The party gave a call to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to re-elect the Narendra Modi government at the Centre in 2024,

highlighting that this would further accelerate the pace of development across the entire nation, particularly in the Union territory. Launching the campaign from the Patyari Panchayat in Bishnah, party said the initiative was aimed at familiarising the people with the welfare schemes, accomplishments and initiatives of the Modi government over the past nine years

"PM Modi's efforts have brought development to every village as well as prosperity and peace everywhere. The BJP has undertaken this abhiyaan with the target to reach every home in every village," he said.

Party also announced that the party will organise "choupal" sessions to engage with the public and discuss the achievements of the BJP-led government.

"People should re-elect the Modi government in 2024,

The general secretary of J&K BJP and in-charge for the abbivaan in the Union territory Vibodh Gupta said 111 programmes were conducted on the inaugural day. He said speakers addressed the public at the panchayat and ward levels. enlightening them about the remarkable strides in development and welfare under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Party highlighted the improved security situation and the substantial development projects undertaken in the region.

Party said selected party activists will serve as speakers, engaging with the public over the next three months to inform them about these policies, schemes, and accomplish-

# Seven days skill development programme commences at JU

## **Top News Report**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Regional cum Facilitation Centre, Northern Region-II, National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of AYUSH, Gol under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir in collaboration with Department of Botany, University of Jammu kick-started 07 days skill development programme on "Value Addition of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants for health security and entrepreneurial opportunity". The programme started with a welcome address by Prof. Veenu Kaul, Head, Department of Botany, University of Jammu. She applauded the efforts of RCFC NR-II for collaborating with the Department of Botany, University of Jammu and organizing it in its premises. She also appreciated the guick response of the participants for registering for the programme and lauded the response of experts from different R & D organizations for sharing the knowledge and



experience in the medicinal and aromatic plants sector. The inaugural session of the training was chaired by Dr. Alka Sharma Professor, The

**Business School and Director** SIIEDC, University of Jammu. A total of 25 participants have been selected from the Department of Botany and School of Biotechnology, University of Jammu. The Chief Guest was optimistic about the message that this programme shall convey for the development of entrepreneurial skills among the participants besides conveying knowledge about the values addition of medicinal and aromatic plants for nutrition and health security.

Prof. Sheikh Bilal Ahmed, Regional Director, RCFC NR-II, SKUAST-K gave a comprehensive overview of the training program, emphasising the

immense potential of medicinal and aromatic plants in developing a diverse range of products and entrepreneurial opportuni-

He highlighted the vital role of Medicinal and Aromatic plants endemic to Jammu and Kashmir for livelihood generation and health security and also emphasized upon the significance of value addition in enhancing farmers' income and highlighted on various medicinal plants indigenous to Jammu & Kashmir, stressing their potential for product development and their use in daily lifestyle.

Other dignitaries included the Faculty members of Department of Botany and other sister Departments of Life Sciences, Director RARI Jammu and scientists of SKUAST Jammu. Dr. Geeta Sharma, Assistant Prof. Department of Botany and co-coordinator of this programme presented a formal vote of thanks. Ms. Puranamrita, research scholar Botany, conducted the proceedings.

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