

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 04, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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BRIEFLY

Civil Society asks political parties to include social reformation measures in their manifesto

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): Jammu & Kashmiri Civil Society Forum Wednesday asked all those political parties who are going to fight elections in J&K to include eradication of drug menace and social reformation in their election manifesto besides the other aspects.

In a statement issued here, Chairman JKCSF and former trade union leader Abdul Qayoom Wani said that drug addiction has badly crept in the Kashmir Society and was eating up its fabric unnoticeably.

He said J&K Civil Society Forum has been on forefront against the drug addiction since its inception and today when people of different political shades have come forward to fight assembly elections and claim to give better representations to people in development and prosperity, JKCSF believes that a society can't be prosperous unless it is cleaned from menace of drugs and other social evils.

Wani expressed concern over the situation that not a single political party has so far included eradication of narcotic drugs and social evils from the society that is killing the future and lives of the youth in particular in their manifesto.

"Talking of civic amenities like power, water and roads is good but there are new challenges faced by the society, amongst which the drug menace, social evils and social reformation is listing the number one. If a political party or a politician gives patronage to a drug dealer or an addict, and people with criminal background he is equally responsible for the devastation of this society, and claims of such politicians, for example, for development and prosperity keep no meaning" Wani wowed.

JKCSF vehemently urged upon all political parties and aspirant candidates to focus on the drug menace in their campaigns and to shunt-out drug peddlers, drug addicts, and people with criminal background if any, from

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Amit Shah to visit Jammu on Sep 6; will release manifesto, address rallies

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): Union Home Minister Amit Shah has a planned a two-day visit to Jammu starting from September 6. He will be releasing party manifesto even as address political rallies in the region, reports said Wednesday.

Quoting BJP's J&K general secretary Ashok Koul, news agency KNO reported Shah will release party's manifesto in a rally on September



ber 6 in Jammu. Koul said that Shah will also address political rallies in Jammu during

his two-day visit, while arrangements are being finalised for his visit.

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Jailed separatist leader Sarjan Barkati to try his luck against Omar Abdullah in Ganderbal

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): After the Election Commission of India (ECI) rejected his nomination papers from the Zainapora constituency in south Kashmir,

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Ex-Militants openly campaigning for NC, PDP candidates in J&K: Ram Madhav



SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): BJP national general secretary Ram Madhav on Wednesday accused the National Conference and the

People's Democratic Party of taking support from ex-militants for the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, and said the two parties

want to take the Union territory back to its "trouble-filled days". Referring to the Abdullahs and Muftis, Madhav, who is the party's in-charge for J-K, said the two families need to be shown the door.

"I have information that ex-militants are openly campaigning for the candidates of the NC and PDP. The people will have to defeat the parties who want to take J-K

Turn to page 9

Definition of democracy doesn't fit for a place reduced to UT from State: Rahul in Anantnag

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): Reiterating that J&K has to get back the Statehood, senior Congress leader and Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Parliament Rahul Gandhi said that definition of democracy doesn't fit with the J&K that has been reduced to a UT from being a State.

"Either BJP will announce restoration of Statehood to J&K or INDIA block will be doing



it as its first step after dethroning the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his party," Rahul said while addressing a gathering at Dooru in

Anantnag district where he kick-started the election campaign for the party, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO)

Present on the occasion were National Conference chief Dr Farooq Abdullah, NC MP from South Kashmir Mian Altaf, and senior Congress leaders. Rahul said he wonders how the democracy term is fitted

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Alliance with Congress need of the hour: Farooq Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said his party's alliance with the Congress was not a compulsion but the need of the hour for development of Jammu and Kashmir and restoration of statehood to the union territory.

The former chief minister also said that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's visit to the Union territory was a slap on the faces of those who would brand mainstream



leaders of Jammu and Kashmir as Pakistanis or Khalistanis. "It is not a compulsion. It is the need of the hour. We want to take

everyone along for the development of Jammu and Kashmir," Abdullah told reporters while leaving his residence to attend the election rally to be addressed by Rahul Gandhi in south Kashmir.

The NC president was responding to a question if forming an alliance with the Congress was a compulsion for his party.

"He (Rahul) is a big voice for our nation. It is a slap on the face of those who accused us of being Pakistanis

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Omar Abdullah files nomination papers from Ganderbal

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday filed nomination papers from the Ganderbal assembly seat.

Abdullah, accompanied by senior leaders of the party and his sons, filed the papers before the returning officer at the Mini-Secretariat



here. He reached the Mini-

Secretariat sitting atop a vehicle, surrounded by a

huge number of enthusiastic supporters.

This marks the return of the NC leader to the constituency that he represented from 2009 to 2014 when he was the chief minister of the NC-Congress coalition government in the erstwhile state of J-K.

He fought and won the 2014 assembly polls

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Not supporting any party: Altaf Bukhari as he files his nomination papers

SRINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): Apni Party chief, Syed Muhammad Altaf Bukhari Wednesday said that he is not supporting any other party, neither are they supporting his.

Bukhari said this while filing his nomination papers for the Chanapora Assembly constituency in the Returning Officer's office in Sri-



nagar.

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MBA MOTORS

MERCEDES - BMW - AUDI

DEALS IN SALE, PURCHASE, REPAIRING AND SERVICING OF USED CARS AND ORIGINAL SPARE PARTS

NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K) +91-9086207123

3 days casual leave for migrant employees to cast vote

JAMMU, Sep 4 (Agencies): The Government has sanctioned three days special casual leave in favour of Kashmiri migrant employees posted in Valley who are eligible to vote at Special Polling Stations to be set up at Jammu, Udhampur, Delhi during three phases of elections for the Assembly constituencies of Valley.

In the first phase voting will be held in 16 Assembly segments of Kashmir valley in four districts including Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam and Anantnag.

In second phase of polling elections will be held in 10 Assembly segments of Central Kashmir districts of Srinagar and Ganderbal on September 25. In third phase of

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10TH DAY & 11TH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Gayatri Devi** Wife of Lt. Sh Hari Ram at our residence VPO Chak Rakwalan, Tehsil and District Udhampur.

10TH DAY will be performed on 04-09-2024 (Wednesday) and **KRIYA** will be performed on 05-09-2024 (Thursday) at 8:30 AM to 12 Noon at Village Chak Rakwalan Tehsil and District Udhampur.

FROM
MAGOTRA FAMILY CHAK
PH: 8803580648, 9419158084



SMT GAYATRI DEVI

10TH DAY KRIYA

We are deeply saddened to inform you that our beloved **Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul** S/o Lt. Niranjan Nath Koul, Originally resident of Battapora, Shopian, at present 59/2, Shantipuram, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu attained Moksha on 27-08-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 5-09-2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education), Jammu at 8 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Sarojini Koul - Wife
Son & Daughter-in-law
Atul Koul & Megha Koul
Brother & Bhabhi
Rajinder Koul & Bimla Koul - 9419148372
Pinki Koul - Bhabhi
Subash Koul & Veena Koul - **Brother & Bhabhi** - 6005926919
Shivani Koul & Ishaan Koul - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Arpit Koul & Sakshi Koul - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Esha Koul - **Daughter**
Ranjeet Thakur - 9622087649
Yuvaan Koul & Eva Koul - **Grand Children**
IN GRIEF: Koul's Pandita's, Wanchoo's, Lahori's



SH. ASHOK KUMAR KOU

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow I Bushan Lal Bhat (LIC) S/o Late Smt. Kamla Wati & Late Sh. Shive Nath Bhat erstwhile of Wanpoh Anantnag and presently at HNo 72-A, Lane 2, Amar Colony, Camp Road, Talab Tilo Jammu regret to inform the sad demise of my beloved wife **Smt. Bimla Kumari** D/o Smt. Sham Rani and Late Sh Ram Chandra Pandit of Bugam who left for heavenly abode on 31-08-2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education) Jammu on 8.9.2024 (Sunday) at 9.00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Bushan Lal Bhat (Husband)
Daughter & Son-in-law
Smita Bhat & Rajesh Khazanchi
Daughters-in-Law & Sons
Ruby & Rahul Bhat
Jillian & Nikhil Bhat;
SAMAST PARIVAR
Bhats; Khazanchis; Rainas; Panditas; Brars and Swisher families
Mob No 7051293251; 9419202397



SMT. BIMLA KUMARI

10TH DAY KRIYA

We are deeply saddened to inform you that our beloved **Sh. Ashok Kumar Koul** S/o Niranjan Nath Koul, Originally resident of Battapora, Shopian, at present 59/2, Shantipuram, Lower Roop Nagar, Jammu attained Moksha on 27-08-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 5-09-2024 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education), Jammu at 8 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Sarojini Koul - Wife
Son & Daughter-in-law
Atul Koul & Megha Koul
Brother & Bhabhi
Rajinder Koul & Bimla Koul - 9419148372.
Pinki Koul - Bhabhi
Subash Koul & Veena Koul - **Brother & Bhabhi** - 6005926919
Shivani Koul & Ishaan Koul - **Daughter & Son-in-law**
Arpit Koul & Sakshi Koul - **Son & Daughter-in-law**
Esha Koul - **Daughter**
Ranjeet Thakur - 9622087649
Yuvaan Koul & Eva Koul - **Grand Children**
IN GRIEF: Pandita's, Wanchoo's, Lahori's



SH. ASHOK KUMAR KOU

10TH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Moti Lal Mattoo** S/o Lt. Nand Lal Mattoo originally R/o Natipora Srinagar at present 46/47 B, Block-A, Vipin Garden, Dwarka Mohr Near Faikad Baba Ashram, New Delhi on 27th Aug. 24.

The **10TH DAY KRIYA** shall take place on 5th Sept. 2024 at Shree Gauri Shankar Mandir, new Palam Vihar, Block-T, Sector-109, Gurugram at 7:00 AM.

KRIYA ASSEMBLY will be performed on 5th Sept 2024 at our residence at 11:00 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Brothers & Sister-in-law
Sh. C.L. Mattoo & Smt. Santosha Mattoo
Sh. B.L. Mattoo & Smt. Nancy Mattoo
Sisters & Brothers-in-law
Sh. P N Kaul & Smt. Dubri Kaul
Sh. C L Bhat & Smt. Rajni Bhat
Sh. M K Munshi & Smt. Jyoti Munshi
Sh. D N Bhat & Smt. Phoola Bhat
Ms. Muni Bhat



Sh. Moti Lal Mattoo

Mob. No.: 8383995727, 9717182841

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt Bandhu Chauhan**, R/o H No. 3, Priyadarshini Lane, Patta Paloura, Jammu on 2nd Sept 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Husband - Amar Singh Chauhan
Son - Ankush Chauhan
Daughter & Son-in-law
Gunjan Chauhan & Vishal Singh Manhas
CHAUHAN PARIVAAR
Mob : 8491976206/8082114859



Smt Bandhu Chauhan

TENTH DAY & KRIYA

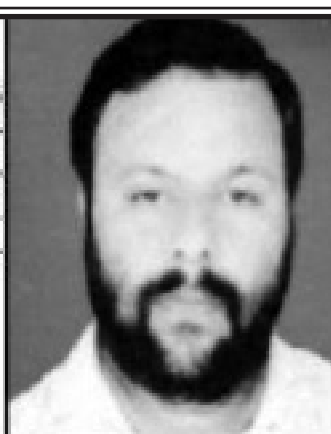
With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved father **Shri Rakesh Kumar Dubey** S/o Joginder Raj & Manorma Dubey on 28-08-2024 in our residence, 1/128 Indra Vihar Patoli, Jammu.

Tenth Day - 5/9/2024 at 11:00 AM.

Kriya - 6/9/2024 at 12:00 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Nitu Sharma - Wife
Abhishek Dubey - Son
Bhanu Dubey - Son
Ambika Dubey - Daughter
9622346123 (M)



Shri Rakesh Kumar Dubey

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Dr Bansi Lal Pandit** resident of BL- 22 Shalimar Bagh, Delhi who left for his heavenly abode on 29th August 2024. **TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 6th September 2024 at Nigambodh Ghat (Kashmiri Ghat) New Delhi at 9:00 AM.

Pandit Parivar

9311656918, 9968604386



Dr Bansi Lal Pandit

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved Father **Shri Bhushan Lal Shah** S/o Late Dina Nath Shah originally resident of Chhatabal Srinagar & at present Kausambi Ghazalabad on 31st August.

Tenth Day Kriya will be held on 9th September 2024 at Madanagar Ghazalabad Ghat at 09 am.

Assembly at residence B-67 S1 3rd floor opposite Annapurna Society Kausambi Ghazalabad at 11:30.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Babli Shah (Wife)
Jai Kishori Khat (Sister)
Son's & Daughter in law's
Ankush & Bhavana Mattoo Shah
Ankur & Neha Natang Shah
Daughter & Son in law
Payal & Amit Suri
Mobile: 9 899 106730, 9654052187, 9910333252, 9873057701



Shri Bhushan Lal Shah

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow and with heavy heart, we regret to inform the sad demise of our revered father **Sh Piaray Lal Koul** (S/o Late Sh Sarwanand Koul) erstwhile resident of Arreh (Kulgam, Kashmir) A/p 237, Dogra Nagar Lane No. 4, Lower Roop Nagar Muthi on 02-09-2024.

Tenth Day Kriya shall be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education on 11-9-2024 at 8.30 AM.

Grief Stricken

Smt Toshia Koul W/o Late Sh M K Koul- Bhabhi
Sh Sanjay Koul and Smt Simran Koul- Son & Daughter in law
Smt Bunty and Sh Raju Handoo -Daughter & Son in law
Smt Kiran Raina and Sh Suresh Raina- Daughter & Son in law
AND ALL GRAND CHILDREN
Contact No. 9149515466, 9596842769, 9149483611



Sh Piaray Lal Koul

KRIYA & RASAM PAGRI

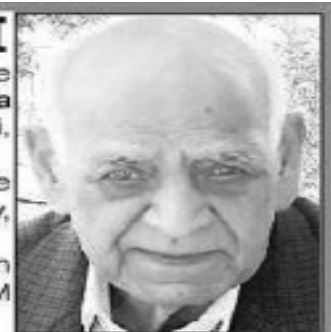
With profound grief, we regret to inform the demise of our beloved **Shree Vidya Vinayak Sharma Ji** S/o Pt. Rup Chand Ji, Jammu on 26 August, 2024.

Kriya will be performed at our residence 130 Malhotra Street, Jammu on Thursday, 5 September 2024 at 12 Noon.

Rasam Pagri will be performed at Mahajan Sabha, Shalamar Road, Jammu from 5 PM to 6 PM.

GRIEF STRICKEN:

Dr. R.N. Sharma (Brother)
Dr. Primla Sharma (Sister-in-law)
Prof Devendra Sharma (Brother-in-law)
Mrs. Satya Vaid (Sister), Mr. ID Vaid (Brother-in-law)
Prof Sarla Sharma (Sister), Dr. Avneesh Sharma (Nephew)
Punam (Niece), Vivek Kakkar (Nephew-in-law)
Mrs Reema Sharma (Niece-in-law), Atulya Sharma (Nephew)
Vaagish, Vaitree and Krish (Grand Nephew and Niece)
RSVP: 9711900940



Shree Vidya Vinayak Sharma Ji

TENTH DAY

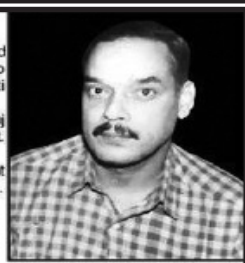
We feel utmost grief while announcing the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Madan Mohan** (S/o Late Sh. Som Raj Raina & Late Smt. Shanti Devi).

Tenth Day will be performed at Arya Samaj Hall, Sabji Mandi (Udhampur) on 5th Sept 2024 at 11:00 AM.

Kriya will be performed at Devika Ghat (Udhampur) on 6th Sept. 2024 at 12:00 Noon.

IN GRIEF:

Smt. Satya Raina (Wife)
Sh. Machukar Raina (Son)
Sh. Suchanshu Raina (Son)
Daughter and Son-in-law
Smt. Radhika Sharma and Sh. Sourab Sharma
Brothers and Sisters-in-law
Late Sh. Vachaspathi Raina & Smt. Reva Devi
Sh. H.K.Raina & Smt. Pushpa Raina
Sh. Yogeshwar Raina
Sisters and Jija Ji
Smt. Usha Raina & Sh. Kuldeep Magotra
Smt. Shashi Khajuria & Late. Sh. Ashwini Khajuria
Smt. Shushma Khajuria & Sh. Diwakar Khajuria
Cont No: 7889603469



SH. MADAN MOHAN

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With Profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the untimely and sad demise of our beloved father **Sh Pran Nath Tickoo** (Budshah) S/o Late Ganesh Dass Tickoo (Budshah) on 29/8/2024 originally from Narparistan Banna mohalla srinagar presently at Kendriya Vihar Sec 56 Gurgaon Haryana.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Chota Haridwar on 6th sept 2024.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt Sarla Tickoo - (Budshah)- Wife
Sons
Sudhir Tickoo (Budshah)
Rishi Tickoo (Budshah)
Shashi Tickoo (Budshah)
Nabud Badam Shuhul (Grand Children)
Dida we luv u lot... 9910777059 (M) 9818401135 (M)



Sh Pran Nath Tickoo

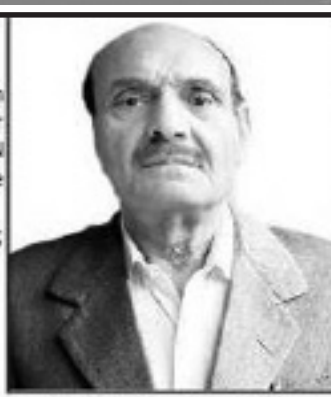
TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we are saddened to inform you all about the sad demise of our beloved father **Shri Pushkar Nath Kotru** S/o Late M.N Kotru R/o R.N Mandir Habba Kadal Srinagar (KMR) A/P H.No 42 - A Lane No 1 Sharika Nagar Gole Talab Tillo , Jammu.

TENTH DAY will be performed on Friday 06th September, 2024 at 8.30 am at Muthi Ghat Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN.

Smt Usha Kotru (Wife)
Smt Maya Kotru (Bhabhi)
(Son and Daughter in law)
Rajesh Kotru and Patni Kotru
Rakesh Kotru (Son)
Sahil Kotru and Anchu Kotru (Son and Daughter in law)
Shubam and Jyeshthu (Grand Children).
Mobile- 9906070368, 6006183305, 7298002471.
MOURNING FROM MALUN SIDE will also be held at the same place.



Shri Pushkar Nath Kotru

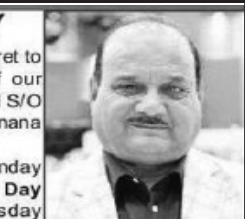
10TH DAY/13TH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform you the untimely demise of our beloved **Sh. Rajinder Singh Rakwal** S/O Sh. Bhagat Singh R/o Gurha Brahmana Patoli on 24.08.2024.

Tenth Day will be performed on Monday 02.09.2024 at 11:00 AM and **13th Day** will be performed on Thursday 05.09.2024 at our residence Gurha Brahmana Patoli.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Seema Rakwal-Wife
Sh. Vishal Singh Rakwal & Pallavi Jermwal (Son & Daughter in law)
Sh. Sandeep Singh Jermwal (TSO) & Dr. Shalini Rajput (Daughter & Son-in-law)
All Brothers & Bhabhis
Grand Children
Saransh, Ritaban & Avinav
Phone No. 606045776, 9419165586, 9419136532
M/S Shiva Brick Kila
M/S Bawa Dev Traders Gurha Patoli Brahmana



Sh. Rajinder Singh Rakwal

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Rekha Mahajan exposes NC-Congress's deception in J&K, urges public to reject them

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) prominent leader Rekha Mahajan on Wednesday highlighted the crucial role being played by the BJP Morcha units in the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting saw the presence of Pooja Kapil Mishra Vice President national Mahila Morcha, Prabhari Jammu South Ayodhya Gupta, District General Secretary Akash Chopra, Vistarak Ashok Kumar, Convenor Sunny Sangotra, District Mahila Morcha President Divya Jain and others were present on the occasion.

Addressing the BJP workers, Rekha Mahajan emphasized that the Morcha's efforts are instrumental in mobilizing public support for the



party. She praised the BJP Morcha's tireless work in reaching out to the people of J&K, listening to their concerns, and addressing their grievances. Rekha noted that the Morcha's grassroots-level connect has helped the BJP understand the pulse of the people and tailor its policies accordingly. "The BJP Morcha is the backbone of our party's campaign in J&K," Rekha said. "Their dedication and hard work are helping us to build a

strong connection with the public. We are confident that their efforts will pay off in the assembly polls."

Rekha Mahajan also lambasted the National Conference and Congress parties for their history of deceiving the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

While interactive session with BJP Morcha cadres of Jammu South, Rekha Mahajan alleged that these parties have consistently made false

promises to the public, betraying their trust and exploiting their sentiments.

Rekha Mahajan highlighted the NC and Congress's track record of deception, citing numerous instances where they have reneged on their commitments. She accused them of prioritizing personal interests over public needs, ignoring the region's development and welfare. The NC and Congress have mastered the art of deception," Rekha said. "They have consistently made false promises to the people of J&K, only to betray their trust later. It's time for the public to reject these deceiving parties and choose a party that genuinely cares for their welfare."

Rekha contrasted the NC and Congress's deception with the BJP's

commitment to transparency, accountability, and good governance. She highlighted the BJP's initiatives for J&K, including enhanced education and skill development programs, job creation and employment opportunities, sports and cultural development initiatives, and leadership training and mentorship programs.

"The BJP has always stood for the people of J&K," Rekha said. "We have delivered on our promises, and we will continue to work tirelessly for the region's prosperity. Unlike the NC and Congress, we don't believe in making false promises or exploiting public sentiments." She urged the people of J&K to recognize the NC and Congress's deception and reject them in the assembly polls.

Adv Chander Mohan declares to contest independent from Jammu East

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Advocate Chandra Mohan Sharma, former Member J&K State Human Rights Commission and President, Tawi Andolan said that tremendous response received from general voters from Jammu East Constituency.

There is total disapproval of National Conference and Congress alliance at the same time. Voters are disappointed with selections of candidates by Bharatiya Janata Party.

"I, after resigning from the BJP Party as a protest against the working and policy of BJP state leadership, have firmly decided contest the election as an independent candidate and also by projecting myself as actual BJP with unparalleled track record of selfless service. After listening the demand of various OBC groups, I don't find reason as to why educational schol-



arship is being denied to the student of OBC communities," Advocate Chandra Mohan Sharma said in a press conference.

Sharma also said that he still remembers the public meeting addressed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the biggest sufferers of Article 370 were the OBC communities, and after elections, their grievances will be redressed. They will be given reservation as per the other states and which is 27%.

"I hold BJP state leadership for not projecting the demands of OBC communities. BJP State leadership is also being targeted for ignoring the

burning problems like widow pensions, smart meters, electricity interruptions and others," he said.

Adv Sharma was accompanied by prominent citizens including Adv Kanav Sharma, (Former District President BJYM Jammu), Ramesh Chander Sharma, Girdhari Lal Sharma, Smt Veena Bakshi, Sh Raj Kumar Gupta, Adv Sanchit Gupta & Neeraj Chandra (Former Vice Presidents, BJYM District Jammu), Aadesh Goswami (Former District Secretary BJYM Jammu), Rahul Podwal (Former District IT Incharge BJYM), Gourav Kumar, Bhanu Dhawan, Arnab Khajuria were present.

Shiv Sena (UBT) resolves on Article 371, special rights, free electricity-water, unemployment allowance



Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 4: With the resolution of protection of its cultural identity and first right of sons of soil on government jobs, free electricity-water and unemployment allowance etc., Shiv Sena (UBT) candidate for the first time from Kashmir valley fielded its nomination.

In the presence of party state chief Manish Sahni, party candidate 'Mohammad Ramzan Dar' filed his nomination along with hundreds of his supporters and workers from Srinagar, Hazratbal assembly seat of Kashmir.

On this occasion, state chief Manish Sahni accused the Modi government of central government of step-motherly treatment towards Jammu and Kashmir and violation of the rights of the people.

Sahni said that 12 states of the country including Manipur, Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim having "special status" under Article 371. Jammu and Kashmir completely meets the standards set for this. But the BJP government is hell bent on violating Jammu and Kashmir instead of giving rights to it.

He said that the recent

amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act to increase the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant Governor confirms his allegation. These amendments have reduced the jurisdiction of the Assembly and almost hollowed out the voting rights of the people, which cannot be justified for any democratic country.

Sahni said that every candidate of Shiv Sena (UBT) will contest the elections with the promise of special privileges to Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of rights of local people, free electricity and water, safe return of Kashmiri Pandits to the valley, etc.

Sahni described Jammu and Kashmir as the land of sages, saints and prophets and demanded the implementation of prohibition.

On this occasion Malik Bashir (President, Kashmir Division), Balwant Singh (Vice President), Raj Singh (President, Kamgar Wing), Rajesh Jandial (Secretary), Manjor Ahmed, Imran Akbar, Mustaq Mohd, Javed Ahmed Teli, Rafeeqa Begam and many others were present.

Mahant Rohit appeals LG for daily service of Jammu Tawi-Rishikesh Express



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish evam Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur Thathar, Jammu, has appealed to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to convert the currently weekly "Yog Nagari Rishikesh-Jammu Tawi Express 14606/14605" into a regular daily service.

In his letter, Shastri emphasized the difficulties faced by residents of Jammu and Kashmir due to the limited train services between Jammu and Rishikesh. Currently, only the Hemkund Express (14610/14609) operates daily between Katra (Jammu) and Rishikesh.

This single train service has proven inadequate, making it challenging for travelers, particularly those needing to visit Devbhoomi Uttarakhand for religious reasons. Shastri pointed out that

the weekly train, introduced by the Ministry of Railways in response to public demand, has only partially alleviated the problem. The religious significance of Haridwar, where Hindu rituals like the immersion of ashes must occur within ten days, makes timely travel critical. The current train schedule often forces families into expensive and inconvenient travel arrangements.

Furthermore, Shastri highlighted the importance of Uttarakhand, not only as a pilgrimage destination but also as an educational hub, with many students from Jammu and Kashmir studying there. The overcrowding on the limited train services causes significant hardship for both pilgrims and students.

In light of these issues, Shastri urged the Lieutenant Governor to advocate with the Ministry of Railways to establish a daily service for the "Yog Nagari Rishikesh-Jammu Tawi Express," thus providing much-needed relief to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He expressed confidence that the Lieutenant Governor would give serious consideration to this important request.

Vijay Bakaya chairs meet of migrant KP workers in Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Apni Party's General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya has directed the leaders of the Party to mobilize the migrant Kashmiri Pandit voters across the Kashmir valley in the wake of the scheduled assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

The crucial strategic meeting of the Party was chaired by Vijay Bakaya here at the Gandhi Nagar, Jammu Office to take certain decisions to help the contesting candidates in their respective assembly constituencies in Kashmir valley.

Following threadbare deliberation and inputs received from the workers on ground, Vijay Bakaya, who chaired the meet with migrant Kashmiri Pandit activists, advised them to mobilize KP migrant voters from various constituencies in

Kashmir living in Jammu to vote for the Apni Party candidates, whose symbol is a cricket bat.

He said that the Apni Party has stood firm since its inception in its resolve to take the people of UT on the road of development towards a prosperous and peaceful destiny.

He stated that the Apni Party on its own shall contest elections in the UT to form a government to implement its manifesto to restore democracy and ensure a better future for the youth, and all sections of people.

He asked the KP activists to set up a Campaign Committee which shall be responsible for contacting the KP voters. Bakaya appealed to the KP voters to come out on voting day in large numbers to cast their valuable vote to the Apni Party.

Besides the campaign committee members, the meeting was also attended by the Additional General Secre-

tary of the Party, Arun Kumar Chibber, General Secretary of Youth Wing/Spokesperson of the Party, Abhay Bakaya and others.

The following shall be the members of the Campaign Committee that include Virender Sathu and Hira Lal Bhat for Pahalgam constituency; Pawan Koul for Gulmarg constituency; Ashok Bannoo and Vaibhav Mattoo for Shangus - East constituency; G.L. Pandita for Kupwara constituency; Vinod Koul and Pinta Ji for Rafiyabad constituency; Ashwani Bhat for Sonawari constituency; Santosh Kumar and Rnkil for Shopian constituency; Bushan Bhat and Shivani Koul for Zainpora constituency; whereas Chand Ji Bhat and Rattan Lal Bhat for D.H. Pora constituency will mobilize the KP migrant voters in favour of the Apni Party candidates contesting from the above stated nine assembly constituencies.

DFSS demands reservation for Dogras



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Under the leadership of Ashok Gupta, President of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS), a massive rally was held in Jammu city, demanding reservation for Dogras in higher education institutes and government jobs.

The rally, which witnessed strong participation from party workers, aimed to safeguard the local economy and preserve the cultural identity of the Dogra community.

Gupta strongly advocated for a 50% reservation for Dogras in government jobs and educational institutions, stating that it is the rightful demand of the Dogras, who are the genuine domicile of Jammu and Kashmir. The rally resonated with slogans

of "Dogro Jo Arakshan Do" (Give Reservation to Dogras), emphasizing the community's plea for reserved seats in higher education and public sector employment.

Addressing the rally, Gupta highlighted that unemployment is a significant reason behind the demand for reservations. He pointed out that the local economy has struggled to provide sufficient job opportunities, pushing young Dogras to seek reservations as a solution. Similar demands have been seen among other communities across India, such as the Patels, Kapus, and Marathas.

Reports indicate that young Dogras have faced challenges in accessing quality education that could prepare them for

service-oriented careers. With limited admissions to government educational institutions, many are forced to pursue costly private education, often leading to substantial debt. Unfortunately, this education does not always yield the desired employment outcomes, leaving them to resort to unskilled jobs to pay off their debts.

The rally also called on political parties contesting in upcoming elections to clarify their stance on this issue, so that the people of Jammu can make informed decisions when voting.

Among those present at the protest were Hiranagar Pradhan Bittu, Ashish, Prem, Kalu, Ashish, Sanjeev, and several other prominent party members.

Dimple demands to start Darbar Move this year to save traders

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood, presented a memorandum to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and the Government of India, demanding several key actions.

In a press conference, Dimple requested include

Move's suspension, claiming it has led to substantial revenue losses for the government and severe hardships for local traders. He urged the immediate resumption of the Darbar Move to alleviate these issues.

Additionally, Dimple announced his decision not to contest the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir

Dimple criticized various political parties for their eagerness to contest elections under the current UT status, alleging that this serves the BJP's agenda to consolidate control and undermine the autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir. He reiterated his commitment to fight for the return of Article 370, the imple-



the reinstatement of the Darbar Move, the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, the return of state subject Permanent Resident Certificates (PRCs), and the cessation of the domicile system for outsiders.

Dimple emphasized the negative economic impact of the Darbar

Assembly elections under the Union Territory status, stating that his principles do not allow him to participate in an election where he would be subordinated to LG and Chief Ministers. He expressed a firm stance that he would only seek election under the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood.

mentation of the Instrument of Accession, and the unification of Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, and territories in Pakistan-administered regions.

Prominent leaders present at the press conference included Sachin Soi, Sat Sharma, Rupesh Bhat, Anmol Anand, and Sanjay Kumar.

Assembly Elections: BSP announces list of 15 candidates

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has announced its list of candidates for the upcoming 2nd and 3rd phases of the Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory Assembly elections.

With the approval of National President Ben Kumari Mayawati, the BSP named 15 candidates across various constituencies, including Satish Mohan for Reasi, Dr. Manohar Singh for Nowshera, Adv. Ishfaq Ahmed for Poonch Haveli, Mohd Rafiq for Rajouri, Raman Kumar for Jastrota, Sandeep Majotra for Kathua, Balbir Singh for Hiranagar, Baldev Raj for Samba, Raj Kumar for Vijaypur, Tilak Raj for Bishnah, Bishan Dass for Suchetgarh, Rajesh Gupta for Jammu East, Shak Mohd for Nagrota, Badri Nath for Jammu North, Jagdish Bhagat for Marh.

The list was unveiled at a press conference in Jammu, attended by senior party leaders such as Raja Ram, Ex-MP Incharge J&K(UT) and Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Avtar Singh Karimpuri, Ex-MP Incharge J&K(UT) and Himachal Pradesh, and Darshan Rana, President BSP J&K. The BSP's leadership expressed confidence in their candidates and emphasized the party's dedication to the welfare of all communities in the region. The party's campaign in Jammu & Kashmir is being closely watched as it seeks to increase its influence in the Union Territory.



EDITORIAL

PRESERVING
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental sustainability is the practice of maintaining the health and stability of our natural ecosystems while meeting human needs. It encompasses a broad range of activities and strategies aimed at reducing the negative impact of human activities on the environment and ensuring that natural resources are available for future generations. This concept is crucial in today's world, as the effects of climate change, deforestation, pollution, and resource depletion become increasingly apparent.

The importance of environmental sustainability cannot be overstated. Our natural environment provides essential services such as clean air and water, fertile soil, and biodiversity. These services are vital for human survival and well-being. However, human activities, such as industrialization, deforestation, and the burning of fossil fuels, have led to significant environmental degradation. The resulting impacts include global warming, loss of biodiversity, and disruption of natural ecosystems, which in turn affect food security, water availability, and public health.

To combat these challenges, it is crucial to adopt sustainable practices that balance environmental protection with economic development and social well-being. This involves recognizing the interconnectedness of human and natural systems and working towards solutions that benefit both.

One of the primary strategies for achieving environmental sustainability is the conservation of natural resources. This includes reducing, reusing, and recycling materials to minimize waste and lower the demand for new resources. Energy conservation is also essential, which can be achieved by adopting energy-efficient technologies and practices, such as using renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydro power.

Agriculture plays a significant role in environmental sustainability. Sustainable farming practices aim to produce food in ways that are environmentally friendly and economically viable. This includes techniques such as organic farming, crop rotation, and the use of integrated pest management to reduce the reliance on chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Additionally, promoting local food systems and reducing food waste can help decrease the carbon footprint of agriculture.

Ecosystems and biodiversity are crucial for maintaining environmental balance. Protecting natural habitats from destruction and fragmentation is essential for preserving wildlife and plant species. Efforts to restore degraded ecosystems, such as reforestation and wetland restoration, also contribute to environmental sustainability. Additionally, implementing policies and regulations to protect endangered species and their habitats can help maintain biodiversity.

Pollution is a major environmental concern that affects air, water, and soil quality. Strategies to reduce pollution include minimizing industrial emissions, treating wastewater before discharge, and managing waste through proper disposal and recycling. Encouraging the use of clean technologies and promoting public transportation can also help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Addressing climate change is a critical aspect of environmental sustainability. Mitigation efforts focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to slow the rate of global warming. This can be achieved through energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, and carbon offset programs. Adaptation strategies involve preparing for and responding to the impacts of climate change, such as improving infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events and developing early warning systems for natural disasters.

Raising awareness about environmental issues and educating individuals and communities about sustainable practices are vital for fostering a culture of environmental stewardship. Environmental education programs in schools, public awareness campaigns, and community engagement initiatives can help people understand the importance of sustainability and encourage them to take action in their daily lives.

Preserving environmental sustainability is not only about protecting the natural world but also about ensuring a healthy and prosperous future for all. It requires a collective effort from individuals, businesses, and governments to adopt practices that reduce environmental impact and promote the responsible use of resources. By embracing sustainable practices, we can work towards a balanced and resilient environment that supports both human needs and the health of our planet. The journey towards sustainability is ongoing, and every action counts in making a positive difference for the environment and future generations.

Understanding nuances of elections in Kashmir

By: Syed Ata Hasnain

In 1996 the Government of India decided to conduct the Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir after a gap of nine years, even as 4,000 terrorists roamed the urban and rural spaces of the state's territory. The Pakistan-sponsored proxy war which had begun in 1989 was then just entering into its eighth year. By 1992, the Army and other security forces had succeeded in destroying the intent of Pakistan's Deep State, of employing local Kashmiri youth as terrorists for its hybrid war strategy. Pakistan then employed foreign terrorists, recruited from Afghanistan's badlands and temporarily harbored in Pakistan, to fight in Jammu and Kashmir. They were battle hardened, having taken on the Soviet Army and bettered it back in the 1980s. Most importantly, they had fought for an Islamic cause, the very same cause that Pakistan wished to replicate in J&K to get deep-seated support from its people. To attract the foreign terrorists and stamp the J&K campaign as a "just war" for the Islamic cause, the Pakistani Deep State used the January 19, 1990 pogrom which targeted the Kashmiri Pandits as the message. A couple of proactive measures by the Army and the Jammu and Kashmir police helped to contain the fire. Among these was the raising of the Rashtriya Rifles (RR) and, alongside that, the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the J&K police. These became the mainstay of all counter-terror operations in the widespread rural zone with a somewhat leaky counter-infiltration grid, while the Border Security Force fought the restricted urban space. Also Read - M.P. Nathanael | Hema Committee report exposes the casting couch issue in filmdom

The decision to hold the elections was spurred by the 1994 information warfare launched by Pakistan across the West and in the Islamic world, that India had subjugated all human rights in J&K. That is when the February 22, 1994 joint resolution was passed by the Indian Parliament, with all parties and both Houses of Parliament in consensus about the entire territories of J&K being a part of India, with a recorded Indian aspiration of winning them all back. Also Read - Aakar Patel | Why Modi bhakts, 'influencers' of the Right, are so angry as world changed The elections were held in 1996 after many reviews and risk analyses. The expected dividend from the conduct was the message that India expected to convey regarding the strength and advantage of Indian democracy and democratic values. An additional aim was also to send a positive message to the Kashmiri population to neutralise the psychological effect of the botched 1987 elections. While most ground reports in 1996 indicated a potentially low turnout, it was decided to risk that and build on whatever success that could be gained. Also Read - Shikha Mukerjee | The kabaddi politics of census and caste It was a good decision just as the current decision to conduct polls in the Union territory because people's empowerment brings positive change and hope. India continued to look at elections after 1996 as enablers which added value to the reputation that it had built on rights and use of soft power. It was after the 1996 election that two major events took place, both in the security domain. First was the launch of Operation Sadbhavna, a military civic action programme. It was initiated for better military contact with the populace, supplementing the local administration's welfare projects in areas where it was difficult for the administration to per-

form duties on an everyday basis, win the people's hearts and minds and enhance people's self-esteem. Second, the Supreme Court of India also stepped in to temper the situation by listing out a set of "do's and don'ts" for the implementation of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, which was in place in Jammu and Kashmir since July 1990. All this was termed the humanisation of conflict. Operation Sadbhavna has been a runaway success for the last 27 years, dealing with six verticals -- education, medical, women's empowerment, small infrastructure, national integration and human resources development. The success can be measured by the fact that there is always a clamour for admission to the 43 Goodwill Schools that the Army runs in J&K. The Supreme Court's "do's and don'ts" is a codified behaviour for the Army to follow in conduct of ethical counter-terrorist operations. Also Read - Kishwar Desai | Amid smoker fury, PM faces pub 'ban'; Maggie's portrait retires from No. 10 We are suddenly witnessing great interest in J&K by the United States, with visits by senior officials to meet political leaders. While the US played a very negative role in the mid-1990s in supporting Pakistan and not doing enough to neutralise its support to separatists and sponsorship of the proxy war, in the current situation it seems to be in support of the elections. Our foreign policy interests rest on maintaining our strategic autonomy through a well-executed balance in approach to the big powers. If the US is on board to put pressure on Pakistan through a calibrated strategy it will only be to the advantage of India. An electoral verdict certified by independent observers will cement positive credentials five years after the momentous decision on the revocation of Article 370 of the Constitution.

Thereafter, a strategy for further integration in conjunction with grassroots political activity can be instituted. However, to make this a more comprehensive exercise, the Indian narrative must be effectively communicated at every major foreign capital and important strategic institutions and international think tanks. This won't just happen on its own without a push. Knowledge on Jammu and Kashmir and the strategic dynamics related to it is extremely limited in India and communication on it is usually negligible. Good work by the government in the form of effective decisions can sometimes be lost at the altar of communications, or simply the lack of it. Which is why the Indian narrative must become the dominant one. India must not be defensive and its narrative must find greater understanding among the clergy and the polity in the Islamic nations, and also international think tanks in major world capitals. Recent developments in the security domain related to encounters in Rajouri, Machil and Tangdhar must not be viewed as deteriorating conditions prior to the election. These incidents are in the rim areas near the Line of Control and are attempts at infiltration by a desperate Pakistan to cause impediment in the successful conduct of the polls. There cannot be any guarantee that the run-up to the polls will be completely peaceful as our adversaries are working overtime to establish their relevance and narratives. However, one can only be fully confident that the commanders, staff and troops of today have the full measure of the situation. Aberrations such as in Jammu are just that -- aberrations, in the light of the well-known penchant of the Army's ability to recover fully from them and deliver.

Hema Committee report exposes the casting couch issue in filmdom

By: M.P. Nathanael

The disclosure of the Justice K. Hema Committee report on issues relating to the women in Kerala's Malayalam film industry, with greater emphasis on sexual harassment, may not have come as a surprise to many who follow filmdom, though the report from an official committee set up by the government has stirred a hornet's nest. It is widely known that women seeking entry into the film world must perforce go through the casting couch, barring those hailing from a film background. Also Read - Syed Ata Hasnain | Understanding nuances of elections in Kashmir Advertisement In April 2018, Sri Reddy, a Telugu actress who debuted in the film Nenu Namma Abbardam way back in 2011, followed by two more films, sat on a topless protest right in front of Movie Artists Association office in Hyderabad as it refused to grant her membership of the association. Membership of the association is mandatory for further roles after the completion of three films. While protesting, she disclosed that she had to go through the casting couch to bag the films in which she had acted and that was the only route in the entire Telugu film industry. Also Read - Aakar Patel | Why Modi bhakts, 'influencers' of the Right, are so angry as world changed Bollywood is no exception. Actor Kangana Ranaut minced no words to reveal that every actress has to submit to the sexual favours demanded by directors or heroes of the films in order find a place in the film. From her own experi-

ence, actor Suchitra Pillai admitted to sexual favours being sought by powerful film personalities. She refused certain films as she did not want to "compromise". Even male actors at times must go through the ordeal of having to go through sexual overtures from directors when they are struggling to find entry into the films. They, however, have the option to just walk out and approach other directors for roles in their films. Having gone through the ordeal, actors like Rajeev Khandelwal and Ranveer Singh had turned down offers in certain films. Also Read - Shikha Mukerjee | The kabaddi politics of census and caste The formation of the Justice Hema committee was a sequel to the sexual assault on a prominent Malayalam film actress by actor Dileep and his cronies in a moving car way back in February 2017 in Kochi, which led to an uproar in Kerala. Some of the leading actresses and women in the industry formed the Women in Cinema Collective (WCC) and demanded action against the culprits, apart from probing the issues confronting the women actors and artistes. Also Read - Kishwar Desai | Amid smoker fury, PM faces pub 'ban'; Maggie's portrait retires from No. 10 A three-member committee headed by Justice K. Hema that was tasked to go into various issues confronting the women submitted its report to the Kerala government in December 2019. It was not made public as Justice Hema had written to the government in February 2020 not to release the 295-page report due to the "sensitive nature of the information". After a petition under the Right to Information Act

and the intervention of the Kerala high court, the report was released after redacting 63 pages which were considered highly sensitive. The high court has demanded that the entire report be sent to it in a sealed cover to arrive at a solution on "how to protect these vulnerable women and what action can be taken against the perpetrators of the crime". With the report now in the public domain and making headlines in the media, leading to debates, some actors like Sreelekha Mitra, Revathi Sampath and Minu Muneer have come out openly alleging sexual harassment or assault against powerful personalities in Kerala film circles. Consequent to the allegations of Sreelekha Mitra, a Bengali actor, that Ranjith had misbehaved with her, he resigned from the post of chairperson of the government-run Kerala Chalchitra Academy. While Sreelekha has filed a formal complaint with the Kochi police, 18 others have registered complaints in police stations, all of which are being transferred to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to carry out the investigations. Another actor, Minu Muneer, came out with allegations against actor Mukesh, now a CPI(M) MLA in Kochi, Jayasurya, and two others for sexually exploiting her during the shooting of a movie. There has since been a clamour for the resignation of Mukesh as MLA. While actor Siddique resigned from Association of Malayalam Movies Artists (AMMA) as general secretary after actor Revathy Sampath's disclosure that he had sexually exploited her, the entire executive committee of 17 members of the AMMA led by

its president, senior actor Mohanlal, had resigned and the committee disbanded last week. The elections for new committee will be held within two months. With another actor Sonia Malhar joining the bandwagon of survivors, many more victims may come out openly against the perpetrators, but at a heavy price, for they may never be offered new roles. Those well past their prime have nothing to lose. Further punitive action could be initiated against those who ventured to seek sexual favours from women seeking roles in films after the submission of the SIT report. The Hema Committee report, though, has dwelt on sexual exploitation of women in Malayalam cinema, and has highlighted other issues like lack of basic facilities of toilets, lack of proper transport, discrimination in payment of remuneration to men and women actors and artists, online harassment and the lack of a grievance redressal mechanism. These are problems that can be solved without much ado by the directors. But the setting up of grievance redressal mechanism calls for government intervention. Since the internal complaints committees cannot be effective enough in film projects, the formation of judicial tribunals is under consideration by the government. Immediate steps need to be taken to monitor ground-level implementation of the recommendations of the Justice Hema Committee report in a time-bound manner. The #MeToo movement may soon see the powerful and the mighty bracing themselves to counter allegations hurled at them by their victims.

GDC R.S. Pura organises election awareness rally under SVEEP Program 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Electoral Literacy Club, Department of Political Science, and NCC cadets of Government Degree College (GDC), R S Pura in collaboration with the District SVEEP team, Jammu lead by ACD Dr. Vikas Sharma organised an awareness rally under the guidance of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour and supervision of Dr Rakesh Choudhary NCC ANO of the College.

Under the SVEEP program, the rally was a community-focused event that aimed at raising awareness on election related issues.

These rallies typically involve a coordinated march or assembly, where cadets hold banners, placards, and posters, and engage with the



public to disseminate important messages on upcoming Assembly Election in UT of JK. The rally involved students and NCC cadets from GDC R S Pura, along with students of HSS R. S. Pura.

The NCC cadets were joined by faculty members, official of the rural development and other students from the college.

In this rally, various

activities were conducted. Cadets would likely march through the Market and streets of R S Pura, covering key areas to ensure maximum visibility. They might chant slogans or sing songs that align with the rally's theme to engage and inspire the public. They raised slogan like 'My Vote. My Right', 'Chunav ka Parv, Desh ka Garv', 'Pehle Matdaan, Phir Jalpaan.

The cadets would carry placards and banners displaying messages related to the cause of maximum voting turnout. These could include quotes or appeals to the public to take action. Cadets may also stop at various points to interact with the public, distributing pamphlets or delivering short speeches to educate people about the issue. The rally might involve engaging with

local residents, shopkeepers, and passersby, encouraging them to join the adopt the behaviours or practices of voting on 1st October 2024. At the culmination of the rally in HSS R S Pura, there were short speeches by ACD DR Vikas Sharma and Dr Avneet Sharma emphasizing the importance of the issue and the role of the community in addressing it.

Local media might cover the event to amplify the message and reach a broader audience beyond those who directly witness the rally.

These rallies were crucial in spreading awareness and motivating the community to participate in nation-building activities, reflecting the student and NCC cadet's commitment to developing responsible citizens.

Festivals play vital role in promoting cultural unity & spiritual growth: Kavinder



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Festivals play a vital role in strengthening the bonds between communities and bringing people together to celebrate peace, harmony, and shared cultural heritage. They serve as a reminder of our collective values and traditions, fostering unity in diversity.

This was stated by Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister while interacting with members of Residents Welfare Association, Gandhi Nagar here on Wednesday. The Association members invited Kavinder Gupta for participation in the upcoming

ing Ganesh Mahotsav as Chief Guest.

Kavinder Gupta, known for his strong connection with the people of Jammu, expressed his delight at being invited to the Mahotsav and emphasized the significance of the festival in promoting cultural unity and spiritual growth. He stated, "Ganesh Chaturthi is not only a celebration of Lord Ganesh's wisdom and blessings but also a reminder of our rich traditions and the power of unity in diversity. Festivals like these strengthen the bonds between communities and bring people together to celebrate peace and harmony."

The Residents' Welfare

Association of Gandhi Nagar has been organizing the Ganesh Mahotsav for several years, and the event has grown into a major cultural and religious celebration in the area. This year's celebration will feature traditional rituals, devotional songs, cultural performances, and community feasts, making it a memorable occasion for all attendees.

Kavinder Gupta appreciated the efforts of the Association members in maintaining such traditions. He further added, "It is heartening to see communities come together for such a noble cause. These festivals not only deepen the cultural roots of society but also act as platforms for spreading messages of hope, positivity, and communal harmony. Our festivals are the backbone of our society, and it is through them that we pass on the values of love, respect, and togetherness to future generations," he added.

GGM Science College organizes practical demonstration on "How to Vote"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Electoral Literacy Club and SVEEP Cell of GGM Science College Jammu, on Wednesday organized a Practical Demonstration on "How to Vote" aimed at educating students and first-time voters on the importance and procedure of casting a vote.

The primary goal of the program was to raise awareness among students about the importance of electoral participation and to ensure they are familiar with the voting process, particularly the use of EVMs and VVPATs.

The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal, of the college. He highlighted the critical role young voters play in the democratic process. He encouraged the students to take the initiative to register and motivate their peers to

do the same.

Prof. Brinder Kumar, Convener ELC (Electoral Literacy Club) was the resource person on the occasion. He demonstrated in details through his presentation the entire process related to voter registration, procedure for correcting errors on voter cards and information on how your candidate and polling booth location.

The program was attended by more than 100 students of the college. The planning and preparation for the event was monitored by members of ELC & SVEEP Cell of the college.

The faculty members who participated in the program included, Dr. Narinder Kumar, Dr. Rahul Kait, Prof. Bal Krishan, Prof. Gourav Gupta.

The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks from Dr. Chaman Lal, Convener SVEEP Cell.

Moral education essential for combating issues like drug addiction and corruption: PSAJK President

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 4: The Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK) Zone Dooru-Verinag successfully organized a one-day inter-school conference at the historic Mughal Garden in Verinag.

The conference, themed "The Importance of Moral Education in Schools," gathered distinguished guests, educators, students, and civil society members for a day of insightful discussions on the crucial role of moral education in the school curriculum.

The event was graced by G. N. Var, President of PSAJK, who was as the Chief Guest, and Mohammed Syed Wani, District President of PSAJK Anantnag, as the Guest of Honour.

Other notable guests included Shah Gulzar, Chief Organizer of PSAJK; Javid Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Dooru Citizens Forum; and Ghulam Nabi Ganai from Civil Society Verinag. Numerous schools participated, with students and teachers contributing to the vibrant discussions.

Students delivered compelling presentations, emphasizing the responsibilities of schools in today's challenging times. "Being part of this conference has inspired us to



reflect on our responsibilities not just as students but as future citizens. We are grateful for the platform provided to share our thoughts on the significance of moral education," they remarked.

In his address, PSAJK President G. N. Var emphasized the critical role of schools in shaping the moral and ethical values of students, urging educators to prioritize this aspect of education. "Moral education is the cornerstone of a strong and just society. Schools must take up the mantle of instilling these values in our children, ensuring they grow into responsible and ethical citizens. This conference has highlighted the urgency of this mission," Var stated.

He further noted, "In today's digital era, where information is abundant but discernment is crucial, the need for moral education has never been more pressing. The proliferation of technology and social media presents both opportunities

and challenges. As we navigate these changes, it is imperative that we equip our students not only with academic knowledge but also with the ethical framework to use it wisely."

Var also highlighted the necessity of comprehensive teacher training to ensure the effective delivery of moral education. "Teachers are the cornerstone of quality education. For moral education to be impactful, our educators need continuous training and support to integrate these values into their teaching methodologies. This is essential for addressing pressing issues such as drug addiction among the younger generation and widespread corruption."

He emphasized, "Schools play a pivotal role in character building. It is within these walls that students learn the values of integrity, empathy, and responsibility. As we work to enhance moral education, our goal is to foster a generation that contrib-

utes positively to society, growing into mature and conscientious citizens, officers, and professionals."

Var concluded with a call to action, saying, "We must collectively strive to strengthen our efforts in providing moral education. By doing so, we will help shape a better society where values are not just taught but lived. Together, we can produce individuals who are not only successful but also principled and compassionate."

Mohammed Syed Wani, District President of PSAJK Anantnag, remarked, "Our schools are not just institutions for academic learning but also sanctuaries where the future leaders of our society are nurtured. Moral education must be at the heart of our educational endeavors."

Shah Gulzar, Chief Organizer of PSAJK, added, "Moral education is not just an academic subject; it is the foundation upon which we build our lives. Today's conference has shown that we are all united in our commitment to this cause."

Javid Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Dooru Citizens Forum, emphasized, "The involvement of civil society in promoting moral education is crucial. Schools, along with the community, must

work together to create an environment where ethical values are nurtured and celebrated."

Ghulam Nabi Ganai from Civil Society Verinag commented, "The importance of moral education lies in teaching our students to lead lives of integrity and purpose. Today's conference is a step towards reinforcing this commitment."

Teachers also shared their thoughts: "Our role as educators goes beyond academics. We are entrusted with the task of shaping the character of our students. This conference has reaffirmed our dedication to integrating moral values into our teaching."

At the conclusion of the event, certificates of appreciation were distributed to the participating students in recognition of their extraordinary presentations and speeches.

Mohammed Altaf Khan, Zonal President of PSAJK Dooru-Verinag, expressed his gratitude, saying, "I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the participants, our esteemed guests, and the dedicated students and teachers who made this conference a success. Your contributions have made today's event a milestone in our ongoing efforts to prioritize moral education in our schools."

Internal Hackathon held at CUJ's ECE Department for SIH 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering at the Central University of Jammu (CUJ), in association with IIC cell of Central University of Jammu has successfully hosted an Internal Hackathon to select the innovative ideas to take part in Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024.

The event was held in the Conference Room on the Ground Floor of the Satish Dhawan Centre for Space Sciences. During the event, eight teams have been selected and recommended for Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024.

The evaluation panel consisted of distinguished professors and experts from the department. The event was headed by Prof. Rakesh Kumar Jha, (HoD, DOECE). Internal hackathon organizing committee is also heartily thankful to Dr. Sachin Gupta, Dr. Sanjeev Yadav, Dr. Sunil



Datt Sharma, Dr. Misbah Shafi, Dr. Harneet Kour, Dr. Pravesh Pal, Dr. Rajeev Malik, and Dr. Priyank Sharma for evaluation of innovative ideas presented by the students.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Sunil Datt Sharma along with other faculty members of the department under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Jha.

The student coordinators, Mrigank Jaiswal (ECE, Semester III) and Kritish Nagyal (ECE Avionics, Semester III), played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth execution of the Hackathon.

All the experts carefully assessed the presentations, focusing on

criteria such as innovation, feasibility, technical depth, and potential impact. They also interacted with the teams, offering insights and suggestions to further refine their ideas.

Lastly, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Jha, HoD, remarked that, "The Internal Hackathon for SIH 2024 has given our students an excellent opportunity to challenge themselves and think outside the box. It is heartening to see such enthusiasm and talent among the first and second-year students. Events like these are vital in nurturing a problem-solving mindset and preparing them for larger platforms like SIH".

Three-day orientation-induction program organised for students at GCOE Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Government College of Education, Jammu, inaugurated a three-day orientation cum induction program for its newly admitted students today. The program is designed to familiarize students with the college's academic environment, resources, and key faculty members, ensuring a smooth transition into their academic journey.

The event was presided over by Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal of the College, who warmly welcomed the new students. In her opening address, Dr. Parihar emphasized the importance of holistic education and encouraged students to take full advantage of the

opportunities the college offers. She also provided an insightful introduction to the esteemed faculty members and the college's academic and extracurricular framework.

Following the Principal's address, Dr. Rajinder Kour, the B.Ed. Coordinator, delivered an informative session on the curriculum and expectations for B.Ed. students. Dr. Shalini Rana, the IQAC Convener, also spoke at length about the college's quality assurance measures and the continuous efforts to maintain academic excellence.

Prof Sarita Dogra and Prof Ambica held interactive sessions with the students, focusing on various aspects of college life, including student

support services, co-curricular activities, and the importance of maintaining a balance between academic and personal life.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Professor Roopa Kumari, who expressed gratitude to all the faculty members and students for their enthusiastic participation. She also assured the new students of the college's unwavering support in their academic endeavors. This orientation program marks the beginning of an exciting academic year at the Government College of Education, Jammu, as the institution continues its tradition of nurturing future educators with dedication and commitment.

Mona Puri installed as President Inner Wheel Club Jammu Kesaria



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Inner Wheel Club Jammu Kesaria on Wednesday held its Installation Ceremony, where Mona Puri was installed as the new President, along with her executive team.

The event, which also celebrated the Teej festival, took place at Vimp's Channi, Jammu.

The ceremony began

with a welcome for the Chief Guest, Past District Chairman Santosh Gupta, who officially collared the incoming President, Mona Puri, as per the club's agenda.

Following the installation, the club members celebrated Teej by playing fun-filled games and exchanging gifts, all dressed in shades of green, which was the dress code for the occa-

sion. During the event, President Mona Puri announced a special project for the day. The club pledged 10 Dogri suits for the girls of Ved Mandir Ashram, Amphalla, which were handed over to the Ashram's representative.

The event was marked by joy, unity, and a strong commitment to community service.

Salman Khan firing case takes a twist: Accused fear for their lives, blame Dawood Ibrahim

The family members of two accused in the firing outside Bollywood actor Salman Khan's house in Mumbai have written to the Maharashtra and Bihar governments, requesting their protection and claiming that a conspiracy was being orchestrated by underworld don Dawood Ibrahim's henchmen to get them killed.

This comes after Lawrence Bishnoi gang members Vicky Gupta and Sagar Pal were arrested on April 14 this year from Gujarat for firing at Bollywood actor Salman Khan's house.

The letters were written by Sonu Gupta, brother of accused Vicky Gupta, resident of Majharia in the West Champaran district of Bihar and the second letter was sent by Rahul Pal, brother of accused Sagar Pal, who also lives in the same area.

Both the accused are currently lodged in Taloja jail. It is said that both the brothers had met the accused, where they were allegedly told that some con-



spiracies were being hatched to kill them by Dawood Ibrahim's henchmen.

The letters allege that they would meet the same fate as their co-accused Anuj Thapan, who died in police custody in May.

Jailed accused Vicky Gupta's lawyer also spoke on the matter and said, "Vicky Gupta and Sagar Pal have given an application to the authorities for pro-

tection of their lives. They say that they are being threatened by D Company. The accused have informed their families about this."

"The victim (Salman Khan) has known relations with a gangster, perhaps he wants to get the accused killed, this is the allegation of the accused (Vicky Gupta and Sagar Pal). We've written to the Central government, Maharashtra and Bihar governments

for their protection." On April 14, two bike-borne men opened fire outside Salman Khan's residence in the suburban Bandra area.

The duo Vicky Gupta and Sagar Pal were later arrested from Gujarat.

Anuj Thapan (32) was arrested on April 26 from Punjab along with one other person in the case. Thapan was found dead on May 1 inside the washroom of the crime branch's police lock-up.

Earlier, the Mumbai Police invoked the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) against all the accused arrested in connection with the firing incident.

Mumbai Crime Branch officials said that gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and his brother Anmol Bishnoi have been declared wanted accused in connection with the case. Anmol Bishnoi claimed responsibility for the firing outside Salman's residence in a Facebook post following the attack.

Kangana announces next film amid 'Emergency' release delay



Actor Kangana Ranaut announced her new movie "Bharat Bhhagya Viddhaata" as she awaits certification for her directorial venture "Emergency" from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

According to the makers, the film aims to spotlight the invaluable contributions of the working-class heroes who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

Manoj Tapadia will direct and write "Bharat Bhhagya Viddhaata", produced by Eunoia Films and Floating Rocks Entertainment.

Ranaut shared the announcement in an X post.

"Experience the magic of real-life heroism on

the big screen! Ecstatic to announce Bharat Bhhagya Viddhaata, a cinematic tribute to the unsung heroes, with talented producer duo Babita Ashiwal & Adi Sharma, and visionary director-writer Manoj Tapadia.

"Eunoia films and Floating rocks Entertainment sets out on their maiden venture with Bharat Bhhagya viddhaata. #BharatBhhagyaViddhaata promises to resonate deeply with audiences, inspiring a sense of hope, courage, and resilience. @sharmaa_adi @Babita-ashiwal @MANOJTA-PADIA @KanganaTeam #eunoiafilms #floatingrocksEntertainment," she wrote.

Working on "Bharat Bhhagya Viddhaata" has been incredibly rewarding, said Babita Ashiwal of Eunoia Films.

"Our goal is to create content that captivates our audience. With Kangana on board, we are confident the movie will strike the right chord," Ashiwal said in a statement.

"Our collaboration on this movie with Kangana is focused on creating content that transcends borders and connects with audiences on a deeply emotional level. High-content films are indeed the future of blockbuster successes," added Floating Rocks Entertainment's Adi Sharma.

Meanwhile, "Emergency" directed, written, and co-written by Ranaut - the BJP Lok Sabha member from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh - is yet to get a clearance from the CBFC. After multiple delays, the film was scheduled for release on September 6.

The movie, starring Ranaut in the role of former prime minister Indira Gandhi, has courted criticism from several Sikh religious bodies who claim it may "incite communal tensions" and "spread misinformation".

Courting controversy

As IC-814: The Kandahar Hijack lands in trouble, we take a look at films and web series that faced a similar fate in the recent past

Controversy can raise its ugly head from any quarter nowadays, given the world of social media and hyper-sensitive netizens. This time around it is Netflix web series IC-814: The Kandahar Hijack, which is in the line of fire. The row erupted over using 'Bhola' and 'Shankar' as code names for two of the hijackers in the series.

In this regard, Monika Shergill, vice-president, Content, at Netflix India, was summoned by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. After meeting the secretary, Sanjay Jaju in New Delhi on Tuesday, like always, damage control followed.

"For the benefit of audiences unfamiliar with the 1999 hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight 814, the opening disclaimer has been updated to include the real and code names of the hijackers," said Shergill, after the meeting. "The code names in the series reflect those used during the actual event," she said in the statement.

Controversial zone
Not just IC-814, many shows and films have earned the ire of viewers recently. Back in 2021, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry summoned Amazon Prime's India officials after a

controversy erupted over the web series Tandav over 'hurting religious sentiments' and showing Hindu deities in bad light. The show was also labelled 'anti-Dalit'. The director, Ali Abbas Zafar issued an apology, "We are in further engagement with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to resolve the concerns that have been raised. We value your continued patience and support, and should have a solution shortly," posted Zafar on X.

Earlier in June this year, Netflix film Maharaj came under fire. A petition filed by members of the Pushtimarg sect argued that the film, based on the Maharaj Libel Case of 1862, contained content that could incite violence and hurt religious sentiments. Later, the court quashed the stay.

In the same month, Kamal Chandra-directed Hamare Baarah too came under fire for offending religious sentiments and distortion of Quranic teachings after its trailer was released. The Annu Kapoor-starrer that was set to release on June 5 was postponed to June 21. The Bombay High Court finally gave clearance after the removal of objectionable scenes and recertification by Central Board



of Film Certification (CBFC) following the mandated edits. The Court also imposed a fine of Rs 5 lakh on the filmmakers for releasing uncertified trailer and the litigation getting the film 'unpaid publicity'. In June, 2024, the Bombay HC stayed the release of the film Shaadi Ke Director, Karan Aur Johar on a petition filed by director Karan Johar as his name was used in the movie's title without his authorisation.

Abhishek Chaubey directorial Udda Punjab too suffered CBFC's ire with the governing body reportedly proposing 94 cuts and 13 pointers. The Bombay High Court, however, cleared the film with one cut.

Hitting it hard

Not just shows, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting blocked 18 OTT platforms for vulgar content after multiple warnings in March this year. Films are governed by the Cinematograph Act, 1952, undergo certification by the Censor Board before a theatrical release. Television follows guidelines prescribed under the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, with an intention to include OTT platforms and user-generated content within the scope of the Broadcasting Services Regulation (BSR) Bill, proposed it on November 2023. A fresh draft is due to be published after detailed consultations.

Neetu Kapoor remembers Rishi Kapoor on his 72nd birth anniversary

Veteran actor Neetu Kapoor on Wednesday paid tribute to her late husband and frequent co-star Rishi Kapoor on what would have been his 72nd birthday.

Rishi Kapoor, star of several Hindi films including 'Bobby', 'Karz', 'Agneepath', 'Kapoor & Sons' and 'Mulk', was born on September 4, 1952. He was the middle child among iconic filmmaker Raj Kapoor and Krishna Kapoor's five children.

He died at the age of 67 on April 30, 2020 after a two-year battle with cancer.

Neetu Kapoor wished her late husband, who worked with her on

'Rafoo Chakkar', 'Amar Akbar Anthony' and 'Do Dooni Chaar', on his birth anniversary in an Instagram post.

'In remembrance. Would have been 72 today,' she captioned an old picture of Rishi Kapoor blowing out candles on his birthday cake.

Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, the daughter of Rishi Kapoor and Neetu Kapoor, shared a throwback picture of her father and daughter Samara Sahni with a birthday cake.

'Happy Birthday Papa. How I wish u were here celebrating your special day with both your granddaughters (sic)'

she wrote, referring to Samara and her niece Raha Kapoor.

'Your bandari Sam is all grown up and baby Raha is the cutest,' she said, adding that the 22-month-old daughter of actor couple Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt is 'mini you'.

'Papa, I will always cherish the memories we got to share. We miss you so much and our love for you only deepens with each passing day,' she wrote on her Instagram stories.

Raha was born on November 6, 2022, over two years after Rishi Kapoor's death.

'Laapataa Ladies' fame Pratibha Ranta, Sparsh Shrivastava reunite for a music video

The 'Laapataa Ladies' co-stars Sparsh Shrivastava, and Pratibha Ranta have reunited for a music video titled 'Saccha Wala Pyaar', which is sung by Tulsi Kumar and Vishal Mishra.

Produced by Bhushan Kumar, the song is a heartfelt ode to true love, capturing the essence of romance in every note. The three minute 32 seconds music video is set against the mesmerizing landscapes of Leh, and stars Tulsi alongside Sparsh and Pratibha. Their on-screen chemistry brings the story of 'Saccha Wala Pyaar' to life, making it a visual and auditory delight for fans. Expressing his joy at being part of this project, Sparsh said: "Working on 'Saccha Wala Pyaar' was an incredible experience. The song is beautifully composed and sung, and the visuals of Leh in the video are breathtaking. The old taste in composition layered with new-age beats takes the song to the next level. It was an honor to collaborate with Tulsi ma'am, Vishal sir, and my friend Pratibha to bring this beautiful love story to life." Tulsi commented: "Saccha Wala Pyaar is a song that resonates with the purest emotions of love. I have done a lot of romantic songs in the past but in this one, we have experimented with my tone and scale to give it a very youthful and fresh sound."

"Shooting in Leh amidst its natural beauty added a magical touch to the video. I believe listeners will connect with the sincerity and passion we've



poured into this song. The USP of the song lies in its simple melody which is conveyed with an equally simple hook line - Saccha Wala Pyaar chahida," she added.

Pratibha said that the song holds an incredibly special place in her heart, not just because of the beautiful music, but also because of the amazing collaboration with Sparsh, Tulsi, and Vishal.

"Working with such talented and passionate artists was a true privilege, and together we created something magical. Filming in the breathtakingly picturesque locations of Leh, with its stunning landscapes and serene beauty, added a whole new dimension to the experience. The storyline we brought to life resonates deeply with love, connection, and emotion. I'm thrilled for everyone to watch, listen, and immerse themselves in the love and sincerity we aimed to convey through every moment of this project," she concluded.

The song is available on T-Series YouTube channel.

Pondered over joining social media but had no courage: Pankaj Kapur

Veteran actor Pankaj Kapur felt the fear of missing out, or FOMO in internet slang, when he was "nowhere" to be seen in the Instagram posts from his granddaughter's birthday party, an experience that made him briefly consider making his debut on social media.

But the actor, known for TV series "Karamchand", "Office Office" as well as films "Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro", "Ek Doctor Ki Maut", and "Maqbool", said he is a private person who likes to keep to himself.

Kapur is the father of actor Shahid Kapoor, whose daughter Misha turned eight on August 26.

"It was my granddaughter's birthday, there were a lot of posts on Instagram that were happening, but I was nowhere. So, I missed being a part of that Instagram business. But, I think I'm a very private



person and I like keeping to myself," he said.

The actor, who will next be seen in "Binny and Family" with debutante Anjini Dhawan, said he takes help from his children to keep up with the times.

"Whatever I need to know, I find out. Children like Anjini and my children help me out about getting to know what is happening around. But there might be a time when I might consider it. I have been pondering over it but I have not had the courage to do it because I'm a private

person and I like being in the space I'm in right now," he added.

"Binny And Family" is a family drama, exploring the relationship and complexity between three generations. Kapur, who plays the grandfather to Anjini's Binny, described the upcoming movie as a "lovely story".

"It's a story that everybody in the audience will be able to relate to. All of us have had grandparents, I have grandchildren now. So, we can see what are the issues between grandparents

and grandchildren, what is the bonding between them, how they are in a way interdependent, how the older generation needs to realise the worth and the mind of the younger generation," he said.

Like any grandparent, Kapur said he adores his grandchildren Misha and Zain, who will turn six on Thursday.

"I feel they adore me too, so we have a great bonding happening. As they are growing up, things are changing and their priorities in life are changing. But the emotional bond that exists between a grandfather and a grandchild stays the same.

"One tries to be abreast with the times and provide them with what they will need to grow up and for their times to come and become a part of that time, instead of staying in the time, we have already led." The National School of

Drama alumnus was all praise for newcomer Anjini, granddaughter of veteran actor Anil Dhawan and niece of actor Varun Dhawan.

"She has been very kind to me. She was rather prepared with what she was doing," he said. "But I'm a believer that the younger generation knows more than the older one. And, so, I quietly told her that you should do what is right and what feels right in the heart for you and that's the only sharing I had with her while shooting the film. I'm very happy to see the way her performance has come out," he added.

Produced by Mahaveer Jain Films & Wave Band Productions, "Binny And Family" is scheduled to be released on September 20. It also stars Rajesh Kumar, Himani Shivpuri and Charu Shankar.

President Murmu inaugurates Vishwashanti Buddha Vihar in Maharashtra's Latur

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Vishwashanti Buddha Vihar at Udgir in Maharashtra's Latur district on Wednesday.

The president, who has been on a visit to Maharashtra since Monday, arrived in Nanded this morning, from where she was flown to Udgir in a helicopter for the event.

After the inauguration of the Buddha Vihara, a prayer was conducted there. The statue of Lord Buddha installed at the Buddha Vihar weighs 520 kilograms and is 10.5 feet tall,



officials said.

Governor C P Radhakrishnan, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Minister Deven-

dra Fadnavis, Union minister Ramdas Athawale, state ministers Sanjay Bansode and Aditi Tatkare and members of

All India Bhikkhu Sangha were present for the inaugural event.

Deputy CM Ajit Pawar could not attend the event as he was unwell and is taking rest at his residence in Mumbai, sources from his party said. This Buddha Vihar is a replica of a similar establishment in Kalaburagi in neighbouring Karnataka, the officials said.

This Buddha Vihar has been built on 1.15 hectares of land and can accommodate 1,200 people. Its entry gate is based on the design of the entry gate of Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh, they said.

Akhilesh doesn't have the heart to handle a bulldozer: Adityanath



LUCKNOW, Sep 4 (Agencies): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday retorted sharply to Akhilesh Yadav's warning that he will after 2027 order all "bulldozers" to Gorakhpur - the home district of the CM -- saying not everyone has the heart to handle a bulldozer.

Adityanath made the remark responding to the Samajwadi Party chief's Tuesday comment on bulldozer, the machine which has become emblematic of

his style of governance. "As soon as the Samajwadi government is formed in 2027, the bulldozers of the entire state will head towards Gorakhpur," Yadav had said. Adityanath said only those with a "bulldozer-like capability" can operate it.

"Today these people have come back in a new form to mislead the public. Not everyone's hands can fit on a bulldozer. It requires both 'dil and dimaag'. Only someone who has a

bulldozer-like capability and determination can operate it. Those who grovel before the rioters will not be able to stand in front of a bulldozer," he said while addressing an appointment letter distribution event.

The CM also made a pun on Yadav's nickname saying, "Now 'Tipu' is also trying to become a 'Sultan'."

He said Yadav's ambition of returning to power in Uttar Pradesh is nothing more than a daydream, and accused the former chief minister and his uncle Shivpal Yadav of indulging in extortion during his rule.

"There used to be a competition between 'chacha-bhatija' in extorting money. Areas between them were divided. I can see that at this time some man-eating wolves are creating havoc in different districts. More or less the same situation was in the state before 2017," Adityanath said.

4 friends die in Tamil Nadu as car smashes barricade, gets thrown under truck's rear

CHENNAI, Sep 4 (Agencies): Four young men were killed on the spot after the car they were travelling in crashed into a stationary truck on Wednesday on the busy East Coast Road, police said.

The vehicle, allegedly driven

at high speed, first smashed into a barricade, lost control and subsequently hit the rear of the lorry, and all the four occupants died.

The incident occurred in the small hours of Wednesday at Semmancherry Kuppam on the

ECR.

Mohammed Ashik, following his return to Chennai from Malaysia on September 3, along with his three friends, was driving towards the city on the Pudukcherry-Chennai highway. The other three deceased have

been identified as Adil Mohammed, Aslaf Ahmed and Sultan.

The truck was parked on roadside following a breakdown and it belonged to a transport firm at Mylapore in the city.

A case has been registered and a probe is on.

Akhilesh Yadav slams Adityanath for 'DNA' jibe

LUCKNOW, Sep 4 (Agencies): Hitting back at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for his 'DNA' jibe at the Samajwadi Party, party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday said he should first understand the meaning of the abbreviation before hurling allegations.

The SP chief, without naming Adityanath, said those who speak a lot also have to listen a lot.

Adityanath had on Tuesday attacked the Samajwadi Party, saying anarchy and hooliganism are ingrained in its DNA and it has torn apart the social fabric and created an identity



crisis for people.

Slamming the chief minister, Yadav said on X, "You should have known the full form before making allegations. DNA = Deoxyribonucleic Acid. Even if

you knew you would not be able to speak it.

People who get MPs and MLAs recruited in crores and billions, the less they speak the more respect they have."

Rahul Gandhi donates 1-month salary to Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee for rehabilitation work in Wayanad

NEW DELHI, Sep 4 (Agencies): Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has donated his one month's salary—Rs 2.3 lakh—to the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) towards rehabilitation activities for the victims of the Wayanad landslides, the party's state unit said on Wednesday.

KPCC general secretary M Liju, in a statement, said that the donation was made to the funds being collected by the Congress' state unit as part of



ment that the party will build and provide 100 houses to the people of Wayanad who lost their loved ones, homes and livelihoods in the devastating landslides of July 30.

As part of the fund-

raising, a mobile app—'Stand with Wayanad - INC'—has been created, the statement said.

It also said that Congress MP K Sudhakaran was personally assessing the progress of the Wayanad rehabilitation

work.

It further said that party units, subsidiaries, MPs and MLAs have been notified about the amounts to be donated by them.

"Donations can be transferred directly by the Congress workers, supporters and leaders through the mobile app. Once the donation is received in the bank account, the donor will receive a direct message via SMS and a digital receipt with the signature of KPCC president K Sudhakaran and Leader of Opposition in the state assembly V D

Satheesan," the statement said.

The KPCC has formed a nine-member committee to spearhead the fund-raising campaign and reconstruction activities.

The KPCC has exempted its mandalam committees in Wayanad district from the fund-raising activities.

Over 200 people died and 78 are still missing in the landslides that hit Panchirimattam, Chooraimala and Mundakkai villages under the Mepjadi panchayat in Wayanad on July 30.

Swati Maliwal slams Sunita Kejriwal over 'relieved' post on Bibhav Kumar's bail

NEW DELHI, Sep 4 (Agencies): Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal said on Wednesday that Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's wife Sunita Kejriwal was "relieved" that Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar, who she accused of assaulting her, was released on bail.

On Tuesday, Sunita Kejriwal had shared a picture of Bibhav Kumar on X and said in Hindi that it was "a day of relief".

Swati Maliwal had alleged that Kumar assaulted her when she visited the Chief Minister's residence on May 13. She had filed a complaint against Kejriwal's aide, following which he was arrested on May 18. However,

Kumar was granted bail by the Supreme Court on Monday.

During the hearing, the court had said that Kumar had been in judicial custody for 100 days and a chargesheet had been filed.

"Injuries (to Maliwal) are simple. It's a case for bail. You should not oppose. You can't keep a person in jail in such a case," it had said.

Maliwal took a dig at Sunita Kejriwal, and said in a post on X in Hindi, "The Chief Minister's wife, who was at home when I was being beaten up, is feeling very 'relieved'. (She is feeling) Relieved because the man who beat me and misbehaved



with me in his house has been released on bail."

She further said in the post that it was a "clear message" to everyone that they should "assault women", and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) would first troll the survivor, "completely ruin the survivor" and then hire "an army of the country's most expensive lawyers" to save the

assaulter.

"How can we expect respect for our sisters and daughters from those who find solace in seeing such people? God is watching everything, justice will be done," she added in the post.

On Tuesday, Maliwal had shared a picture from the Mahabharata, which showed the infamous scene of Draupadi's disrobing.

Maliwal, who was nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the AAP, has been at loggerheads with the party since the incident.

Meanwhile, the AAP had discredited the incident and Delhi Minister Atishi had called her "BJP's pawn".

1 Killed, 2 injured in blast at Tamil Nadu firecracker unit



CHENNAI, Sep 4 (Agencies): A person has died and at least two others have been injured after a blast took place at a firecracker manufacturing unit in Tamil Nadu's Salem district on Wednesday. "A worker dropped a

consignment of chemicals he was carrying and this appears to have triggered the blast. We are investigating further," a police officer told agency.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has expressed his condo-

lences and announced compensation of 3 lakh to the families of the dead and 1 lakh to the injured.

The incident comes days after an explosion at a firecracker warehouse in the state's Thoothkudi on Saturday. Two people had died and four people had been injured in the blast, which took place at the Sivashakthi Fireworks godown. Officials had said firecrackers had been stored there to be used in weddings and temple festivals.

10 injured as makeshift tent collapses during religious gathering



SARAN, Sep 4 (Agencies): At least 10 people were injured after a makeshift tent collapsed during a religious gathering at Hishua area in Bihar's Saran district on Wednesday, the police said.

The incident occurred around 3am when a religious procession was passing through the area. The injured were immediately taken to the nearest government hospital, a senior police officer said.

"A temporary tent was installed for the procession. Some people tried to climb up the tent, subsequently it collapsed, causing minor injuries to around 10 people. All of them are out of danger," SP Kumar Ashish said. The matter is being investigated, he added.

Junior doctors continue protest over Kolkata medic's rape-murder

KOLKATA, Sep 4 (Agencies): The cease-work by junior doctors at state-run hospitals in West Bengal continued on Wednesday to protest against the alleged rape and murder of a trainee medic at RG Kar hospital here last month.

Health services remained crippled at most state-run medical facilities due to the cease work, which has been underway for over three weeks now.

"Our demand for justice is still unfulfilled. The protests will continue till



our sister gets justice and the culprits are brought to book," one of the junior medics said. He said Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal has not resigned, too, which was another demand of the agitating doctors.

The protesters have alleged inadequate steps by the police

during its probe into the August 9 rape-murder of the young doctor, before the investigation was handed over to the CBI by the Calcutta High Court.

The body of an on-duty postgraduate trainee was found in the seminar room of state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in the city.

The incident has triggered nationwide outrage. "We believe that many people are being shielded in the case and the truth must come out," another junior doctor at a state-run hospital told agency.

A civic volunteer was arrested shortly after the trainee doctor's body was discovered.

The CBI has also arrested former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, Sandip Ghosh, for alleged financial misconduct at the medical establishment.

IIT-Bhubaneswar student dies after 'falling' from fifth floor of administrative building

BHUBANESWAR, Sep 4 (Agencies): A woman studying at IIT-Bhubaneswar died after allegedly falling from the fifth floor of its administrative building, police said on Wednesday.

The body of the 23-year-old woman was recovered by police from the institute's campus on Tuesday night.

"We suspect it to be a case of suicide," a police officer said.

Kritika Raj was a third-year B Tech student from Delhi.

"Last night at about 11, a student fell down from the fifth floor of the administration building which houses the library...The police were informed immediately and are investigating the case," the institute said in a statement.

The body has been taken to Khurda district headquarters hospital for post-mortem, the officer said.

Kim Jong-Un orders execution of 30 officials for 'failing' to prevent deaths in floods: Report

Recently, Kim visited Uiju County to meet flood victims and offered support

SEOUL, Sep 4 (Agencies): North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un has ordered the execution of 30 officials for their alleged failure to prevent flooding and landslides that claimed 1,000 lives, local media reported.

Around 20 to 30 leaders, charged with corruption and dereliction of duty, have been sentenced to capital punishment, TV Chosun reported, quoting a North Korean official.

Similarly, around 20 to 30 cadres in the flood-stricken area were executed at the same time late last month, the official told the television network.

Earlier, Kim had ordered authorities to "strictly punish" the officials after the floods and landslides caused high mortality and displaced over 15,000, as per the North Korean Central News Agency.

Heavy rain pummelled the



North border city of Sinuiju and Uiju County in North Phyongan Province flooding 4,100 houses, 7,410 acres of agricultural land, and many public buildings, structures, roads, and railways, Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported.

South Korean media outlets

have reported that the number of those who died or went missing could exceed about 1,000.

Recently, Kim visited Uiju County to meet flood victims and offered support, the KCNA said.

During the visit, he denounced South Korean media's reports on North Korea's severe flood

damage as "fabrications" and "politically motivated false propaganda".

Though North Korea was offered assistance from China, Russia and even South Korea, Kim refused assistance.

Kim, while expressing gratitude to Russian President Vladimir Putin for offering assistance for rain damage recovery, said he will seek help when necessary.

He said North Korea plans to pursue rehabilitation work according to the already-established plan as state measures have been taken.

North Korea's public executions have surged since the COVID-19 pandemic. Before the pandemic, there were 10 public executions per year which mounted to 100 annual public executions, according to the Korea Times.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba resigns ahead of expected govt shake-up



KYIV, Sep 4 (Agencies): Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba resigned Wednesday, following an announcement last week from President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that a Cabinet reshuffle was imminent.

Kuleba's resignation request will be discussed by lawmakers at the next plenary meeting, Speaker of parliament Ruslan Stefanchuk said on his Facebook page.

The foreign minister's resignation came as at least seven people were killed and 35 injured in an overnight strike on Lviv, city Mayor Andrii Sadovyy said Wednesday morning.

A child and a medical worker were among the dead and others are in critical condition, he said.

The attack happened a day after two ballistic missiles blasted a military academy and nearby hospital in Poltava in Ukraine, killing more than 50 people and wounding more than 200 others, Ukrainian officials said, in one of the deadliest Russian strikes since the war began.

The missiles tore into the heart of the Poltava Military Institute of Communication's main building, causing several stories to collapse.

The missiles hit shortly after an air-raid alert sounded, when many people were on their way to a bomb shelter, Ukraine's Defense Ministry said, describing the strike Tuesday as "barbaric."

Poltava is about 350 kilometers (200 miles) southeast of Kyiv, on the main highway and rail route between Kyiv and Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv, which is close to the Russian border.

The attack happened as Ukrainian forces sought to carve out their holdings in Russia's Kursk border region after a surprise Ukrainian incursion that began Aug. 6 and as the Russian army hacks its way deeper into eastern Ukraine.

Pak woman killed in front of father for refusing marriage proposal: report

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, Sep 4 (Agencies): A 40-year-old female school teacher was allegedly shot and killed in front of her father after she refused a marriage proposal, agency reported.

The incident occurred in the Jangdara Totalai area of Buner in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where the suspect opened fire on the teacher and fled the scene. The local police have registered a first information report (FIR) and launched an investigation, as reported by agency.

According to the victim's father, the suspect had previously attacked his daughter, and despite reporting the incident to the police, no action was taken.

This comes amid rising crime cases across different parts of Pakistan.

Similar incidents were reported in the month of June as well.

In a similar incident in the Mardan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on June 8, a female school teacher, who contracted free-will marriage was killed in the name of 'honour.'

The incident occurred in the Tazagram area of Mardan district in which the 22-year-old woman was killed after being dragged out of a car, according to details.

Further, as per the police information, the teacher was killed in the name of honour, nine months after she had a court marriage.

The police started the investigation as evidence from the crime scene had been collected. The woman's dead body has been sent to the hospital for medico-legal formalities, according to agency.

The attackers managed to escape after the murder and are still at large.

On June 4, two sisters, who contracted free will marriages, were killed in the name of 'honour'.

According to the District Police Officer (DPO), the two sisters had married boys they loved against the wishes of their family. They were brought back due to a decision made by a "Panchayat."

The police said that the sisters were killed by their father, brother, and uncle.

'With or without British arms, Israel will win this war': Benjamin Netanyahu after UK suspends arms licenses

TEL AVIV, Sep 4 (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu condemned the British government's decision to suspend thirty arms licences to Israel, asserting that regardless of the UK's support, Israel remains resolute in its determination to emerge victorious in this conflict.

"With or without British arms, Israel will win this war and secure our common future," posted the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel on X.

Denouncing it as a "shameful move that will not change Israel's determination to defeat Hamas," he said, "Instead of standing with



Israel, a fellow democracy defending itself against barbarism, Britain's misguided decision will only embolden Hamas."

Notably, Hamas savagely murdered 1200 people on October 7, including 14 British citizens. Moreover, Hamas is still holding over 100

hostages, including 5 British citizens. This comes after the UK announced to suspend 30 out of 350 arms export licences to Israel, citing a "clear risk" they could be used in serious breaches of international humanitarian law.

Foreign Secretary David Lammy told parliament that the partial ban covers items "which could be used in the current conflict in Gaza" against Hamas but did not include parts for F-35 fighter jets, according to Al Jazeera.

"Israel is pursuing a just war with just means, taking unprecedented measures to keep civilians out of harm's way and comporting fully with international law," added Netanyahu.

Netanyahu drew a historical parallel, and compared Israel's battle against Hamas to Britain's fight against the Nazi regime during World War II, and said, "Just as Britain's heroic

stand against the Nazis is seen today as having been vital in defending our common civilization, so too will history judge Israel's stand against Hamas and Iran's axis of terror."

Netanyahu emphasised that Israel is conducting a just war, utilising just means, while taking unprecedented steps to minimise harm to civilians and adhering to international law.

"Israel is pursuing a just war with just means, taking unprecedented measures to keep civilians out of harm's way and comporting fully with international law," he said.

'Beware of handsome men, beautiful women': China's spy warning to students

BEIJING, Sep 4 (Agencies): China's state security agency on Wednesday warned students with access to sensitive information against falling for "handsome men" or "beautiful women" that might entice them to spy for foreign powers.

Beijing's Ministry of State Security (MSS) has promoted claims that foreign spies are working to lure loyal Chinese to betray their country -- often in lurid and unusual ways -- since opening a WeChat account last year.

It has warned that foreign spies "have countless disguises, and can even change their gender" and called on

citizens to "build 1.4 billion lines of defence" against threats to the country.

And it accused on Wednesday foreign intelligence agencies of deploying "romance traps" to lure Chinese students.

It said foreign spies were using job ads and even online dating to "lure and coerce" young students, especially those with access to "sensitive scientific research data", to hand over confidential information.

"They may even disguise themselves as 'handsome men' or 'beautiful women'... and drag young students into 'romance trap'," it



warned.

The MSS did not name which countries were behind the alleged scheme.

But it warned that spies might be disguising themselves as university scholars, scientific researchers or consultants, luring students short of cash in what it called "targeted infiltration".

In another lurid tale this

month, the MSS warned the public to beware "wolves in sheep's clothing" -- foreign agents pretending to be "good Samaritans".

In June, it accused Britain's MI6 intelligence agency of recruiting a couple who worked for the central government to spy for the UK.

Under Xi Jinping, China's most powerful and authoritarian leader in

decades, Beijing has stepped up dark warnings that foreign powers are seeking to clip the country's rise.

China and Western powers have long traded accusations of spying but only recently started to disclose details of alleged individual cases.

In May, investigators searched the Brussels office of a German MEP suspected of spying for China.

And on Tuesday, a former official who worked as an aide to the governor of New York state was arrested and charged with working as an agent of China in return for millions of dollars.

Indonesia arrests a fugitive former Filipino town mayor wanted for illegal online gaming scams



JAKARTA, Sep 4 (Agencies): A dismissed town mayor who fled the Philippines after being accused of helping establish an illegal online gaming and scam center catering mostly to clients in China has been arrested near Indonesia's capital, officials said Wednesday.

Indonesian authorities arrested Alice Guo at a house in Jakarta's satellite city of Tangerang just before midnight on Tuesday, according to Khrista Murti, chief of the international division of the National Police.

Guo was in custody and awaiting deportation to the Philippines, Murti said, adding that her arrest was the result of "cooperation between Indonesian and Filipino's police."

Filipino President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. thanked the Indonesian authorities.

"Let this serve as a warning to those who attempt to evade justice," Marcos said and added that arrangements were being made to bring Guo back to the Philippines where she faces a slew of criminal charges.

After Guo fled the Philippines in July, she was tracked in Malaysia and Singapore before turning up in Indonesia. Two companions, who reportedly slipped out of the Philippines with her without going through normal immigration and clearing procedures, were recently arrested in Indonesia.

Guo ran as a Filipino candidate in 2022 elections and won as mayor of the rural town of Bambang in Tarlac province north of Manila. She was accused of helping establish a massive complex with several buildings near the

town hall as a hub for an illegal online gambling and scam outfit that catered mostly to clients in China, where gambling is forbidden.

A Senate committee ordered Guo arrested after she refused to appear in hearings looking into the illegal gambling business that flourished under Marcos's predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte, who nurtured cozy ties with Chinese President Xi Jinping while often criticizing the United States and European countries.

Guo has also been accused of concealing her Chinese nationality to run for public office, which is reserved for Filipino citizens only. At the time, a few senators suggested she may be working as a Chinese spy.

Guo has denied any wrongdoing but was dismissed from her post for grave misconduct by the Ombudsman, an agency that investigates and prosecutes government officials accused of crimes, including graft and corruption.

In July, Marcos ordered an immediate ban on widespread and mostly Chinese-run online gaming operations, accusing them of involvement in human trafficking, torture, kidnappings and murder.

The crackdown on the Chinese-run online gambling outfits -- estimated to number more than 400 across the Philippines and employing tens of thousands of Chinese and Southeast Asian nationals -- was backed by Beijing.

It resulted in the shutdown in the Philippines of sprawling complexes, where authorities suspect thousands of Chinese, Vietnamese and other nationals mostly from Southeast Asia have been illegally recruited and forced to work in dismal conditions.

Philippine senators say the massive online gambling industry has flourished largely due to corruption in government regulatory agencies and big payoffs to officials.

Indonesia and the Philippines signed an extradition agreement in 1976.

Pak Restricts Public Servants From Using Social Media Without Permission

ISLAMABAD, Sep 4 (Agencies): The Pakistan government has issued an order barring all government employees from using social media without permission to stop disclosure of official information and documents, The News International reported.

According to an office memorandum issued by the Establishment Division, government employees have been asked to adhere to the instruction under the Government Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

As per the order, the government employees will not

be allowed to use any social media platform without permission, The News International reported.

The memorandum stated, "Government employees cannot express opinions or facts that affect the reputation of the government," adding that employees are not permitted to speak against government policy, decisions, national sovereignty and dignity.

It further stated that public servants cannot share their opinions or rhetoric on social media platforms without permission. Strict action would be taken

against government employees for violating the directives issued in the order, according to The News International report.

According to the memorandum, a government employee cannot share official documents and information with unrelated persons.

It stated that employees cannot speak to the media in a way that impacts Pakistan's ties with other nations.

The memorandum stated, "Civil servants have often been seen debating on social media. The guidelines are not intended to ban the positive use of social

media." According to the memorandum, institutions have been asked to monitor their social media platforms to remove objectionable content.

The memorandum stated, "Government servants of all services and groups are bound to follow the instructions. Violation may lead to misconduct proceedings against the employees concerned," according to the report.

It asked federal secretaries, additional secretaries, heads of departments, and chief secretaries to execute the memorandum.

Assembly Election 2024: SVEEP activities intensified at Kishtwar

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 4: In order to accelerate the progress of preparedness for General Election to Legislative Assembly 2024, the District Election Officer (DEO), Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan- on Wednesday launched a massive Systematic Voter's Education & Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Programme in the district. The programme held at Chowgan Ground, Kishtwar, under the overall supervision of District Election Officer (DEO) Kishtwar included multifarious activities to generate Electoral aware-

ness among field functionaries and Students. The event, organized as part of the ongoing SVEEP Campaign for the Assembly Election 2024, attracted over 1,500 participants, including Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), ASHAs, students from Government Higher Secondary School Boys, GHSS Girls, Polytechnic College, and NCC Scouts from Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar. Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar cum DEO Kishtwar Shri Rajesh Kumar Shavan-JKAS, along with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP)

Abdul Qayoom-JKPS, were the main dignitaries gracing the occasion. The event also saw the presence of District Nodal Officer SVEEP(DIO) Dr Kuldeep Kumar, Nodal Officer Training Shri Riyaz Ahmed Butt, Nodal Officer SVEEP 49-Kishtwar Assembly Constituency Masood Qazi, and Principals from GHSS Boys and GHSS Girls, among other officials from the Election and SVEEP Cell. As part of the programme, DEO/DC Kishtwar along with SSP Kishtwar participated in a plantation drive, symbolically planting a Chinar

tree to signify growth and the importance of environmental stewardship. Following the plantation drive, a Voters Pledge was administered to all participants, emphasizing the significance of ethical voting and the right to vote. In his address, DEO/DC Kishtwar highlighted the pivotal role of students, AWWs, and ASHAs as ambassadors in spreading electoral awareness. He encouraged them to engage their peer groups and the general public, motivating them to exercise their right to vote and to do so ethically in the ongoing Assembly Election. He further urged the

participants to ensure maximum voter turnout on September 18, 2024, which is the designated polling day for the district. The event concluded with a renewed commitment from all attendees to actively participate in the democratic process, ensuring that every vote is cast with integrity and responsibility, contributing to the strength of the nation's democratic fabric. A cleanliness Drive was also conducted on the occasion besides the participants taking selfie on selfie points installed in the venue to empower the spirit of Voting Rights and ethical voting.

Assembly Election: DEO Kishtwar chairs meeting of Election Nodal Officers, reviews logistics preparedness

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 4: District Election Officer (DEO) Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan on Wednesday chaired a meeting of designated Nodal Officers at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, here to review the Polling Day arrangements scheduled on 18th September 2024 under the first phase of the Assembly Election 2024. SSP Kishtwar Abdul Qayoom, ROs of 49-Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, 48-Inderal Idrees Lone, and 50-Paddar Nagseni Amit Kumar besides Nodal officers were present in the meeting. At the outset, the DEO took a first hand appraisal from all designated Nodal Officers with regard to tasks assigned to them for conduct of Assembly Elections-2024 in district. The DEO reviewed the preparations being made by all concerned Nodal Officers related

to key aspects of the Assembly Elections including Man Power Management, Traffic Plan, Communication Plan, Transportation of Polling staff/Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), implementation of Modal Code of Conduct (MCC), Material Management, Collection & Distribution Counters, Intermediate strong rooms, AMF and Web casting of Polling stations, Training programmes, SVEEP activities, functioning of Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC), Expenditure Monitoring Cell and Integrating Election Control Room and other related activities aimed at ensuring smooth and peaceful general elections in the District. The DEO directed all the designated Nodal Officers to work with due diligence and dedication to ensure smooth, free and fair elections. He expressed confidence in the collective resolve and

capability of the Nodal Officers to fulfill their roles effectively and efficiently, thereby contributing to the successful conduct of the Assembly Elections-2024 in Kishtwar. He stressed all Nodal officers to work with a proactive approach and execute allotted tasks on ground and maintain cooperation and coordination with the line executing departments. He further asked them to go through comprehensive ECI guidelines regarding duties and responsibilities during the election period. During the meeting, DEO asked the Returning Officers (ROs) of all the 3 Assembly Constituencies to ensure logistics and security arrangements including the technological interventions/ upgrade well in advance. Earlier, the DEO was briefed by all the designated Nodal Officers about the preparations made so far for Assembly Elections-2024.

PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar organizes lecture on 'Urbanism and Emerging Social Trends'

Top News Report

JAMMU Sep 4: Department of Sociology, PSPS Govt. College for Women Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, on Wednesday organised a one day special lecture on the theme 'Urbanism and the Emerging Social Trends'. Dr. Suraj Mohani Jamwal, HOD, Sociology inaugurated the event with a formal welcome address. Dr S.P. Saraswat, Principal of the college, congratulated the department for organising an event on such a contemporary

social issue. He encouraged the students to be knowledge driven and to be able to differentiate between the right and wrong. Dr. Hema Gandotra, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Jammu was the resource person of the event. Prof. Hema stressed on the urbanism as a way of life and its challenging impacts on environment and society as a whole. She added that we all are living in a risk society where we are witnessing a number of new challeng-

es which include mass growth of slums, environmental degradation, rise in urban crimes, relationship crisis, drug abuse etc. She emphasized on the need to make eco cum people friendly development policies. It is the need of hour to become more vigilant about increasing environmental threats. Prof. Poonam Kesar presented the formal vote of thanks. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Khyrul-ul- Nisa and Ghuniksha Manhas (3rd Semester).

Heritage School boys dominate Inter District Division Level Handball Tournament

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Heritage School's Boys' Handball teams have once again showcased their exceptional talent and sportsmanship at the Inter District Division Level Handball Tournament held on August 28 and 29, 2024, in Udhampur. Representing District Jammu in the U14 and U17 categories, the young achievers from Heritage School played a pivotal role in securing remarkable victories. The U14 team, led

by Suvinay Mahajan, Vihaan Gupta and Parniet Mahajan, emerged as the champion in its category. In the U17 category, Armaan Singh and Krishna Rajput were key members of the team that clinched the gold medal. Their outstanding performance and significant contribution to the District Jammu's success, has added another feather in the school's cap. The entire Heritage community extends its heartfelt congratulations to the winning teams and their coaches.

Poonch ensures Easy Voting Access to 3,536 persons with disabilities

Top News Report

POONCH, Sep 4: To ensure maximum voter turnout and inclusivity in the upcoming Assembly elections, District Election Officer Poonch Vikas Kundal chaired an important meeting on Wednesday to review and finalize arrangements to facilitate the voting process for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). The District Election Officer (DEO) emphasized the importance of creating a hassle-free and accessible environment for all voters. It was highlighted that the Poonch district has a total of 3,536 voters identified as Persons with Disabilities. In light of this, the election authorities have made comprehensive arrangements at polling stations in all three assembly constituencies of Surankote, Poonch, and Mendhar across the border district. These facilities include the installation of ramps for easy access, provision of wheelchairs, and other necessary measures to accommodate the needs of PwD voters, ensuring that they can exercise their right to vote without any hurdle. In a move to inspire and encourage voter participation among PwDs, some prominent Persons with Disabilities have been appointed as icons and ambassadors whose role is to motivate and empower fellow PwD voters, demonstrating that every vote counts and every

individual has a voice in the democratic process. It is pertinent to mention here that as per these guidelines, PwD voters who are unable to visit polling stations due to severe disabilities will be provided the option of home voting. Election officials will visit their homes to facilitate this process, ensuring that every eligible voter can cast their vote. The DEO emphasized the importance of the measures, stating, "Our objective is to ensure 100% voting participation, particularly among Persons with Disabilities. It is our responsibility to provide an inclusive and accessible voting environment for every eligible voter in the district." To further reinforce the efforts, the DEO issued directives to the Returning Officers (ROs) and Chief Education officer Poonch (Nodal Officer SVEEP) to make sure that all facilities are in place which will guarantee a seamless voting experience on the day of the election. Moulvi Fareed, A prominent icon for Persons with Disabilities lauded the District Election Authorities during the meeting, praising their commitment to inclusivity. He states that the authorities' focused efforts have not only inspired PwD voters but also instilled a strong sense of responsibility and empowerment, affirming their vital role and rights in the democratic process.

GDC Paloura organises Extension-cum-Awareness Lecture

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Department of Zoology, GDC Paloura (Mishriwala) organised an Extension Cum Awareness Lecture on this eve of National Wild Life Day in the College on Wednesday. Vijay Kumar, Wild Life Warden, Jammu, acted

as Resource Person for the event and delivered a detailed Power Point presentation on the topic "Wild life: Significance Threats and Conservation Strategic". During presentation, the speaker laid stress need to conservation of wild animals and their habitats as our survival is also linked with these

wild animals. The programme began with welcome address by Dr. Sanjay Kotwal, HoD Zoology. While delivering the Presidential Address, Dr. Kulvinder Kour, Principal of College, stressed on relevance of topic and exhorted students to be part of this mission to conserve wild animals. Prominent among those present on the occasion were Dr. Sapna Sharma, HoD Chemistry, Prof. Pooja Sharma, HoD Sociology, Prof. Vishal Magotra, HoD History, Prof. Rakesh Kumar, HoD Physics, Renuka Jasrotia, Chief Librarian, Dr. Sikander S Khan (Vet. Technology). The Technical support

was provided by Prof. Joginder Kumar, HoD Computer Application and Dr. Gaurav Kumar, HoD Mathematics. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Nidhi Sharma, student of Zoology. Proceedings of the programme were conducted by Arti Devi, semester 5th student of Zoology.

FROM PAGE 1

Amit Shah to visit Jammu on Sep 6; will release manifesto, address rallies

Meanwhile, party sources said that Shah's visit to Jammu will be a moral booster for both candidates and workers.

Jailed separatist leader Sarjan Barkati to try his luck against Omar Abdullah in Ganderbal

Ex-Militants openly campaigning for NC, PDP candidates in J&K: Ram Madhav

back to its bad days and support new leadership which wants peace and progress," Madhav told reporters here.

He was accompanying the party's candidate from Lal Chowk assembly constituency Aijaz Hussain during filing of nominations.

Referring to the elections manifestos released by the NC and the PDP which promise restoration of Article 370 and statehood, resolution of Kashmir issue, and talks with Pakistan, Madhav said the two regional parties want to take J-K back to its old, trouble-filled days.

"I want to remind the people of J-K that the NC, PDP and others have brought up manifestos which will take J-K back to old, trouble-filled days," he said, adding, new parties, new leaders will emerge in the Kashmir valley, while in Jammu region, the BJP will emerge as a representative of peace and development.

He said a new government, led by the BJP, will be formed in J-K. Asked about many young faces contest-

ing the polls, the BJP leader said this is the strategy of the people of J-K as they want new leadership.

"A good number of youth are coming forward and they should be supported. This state was under the grip of two families, those two families need to be shown the door. This state needs to be rid of those families," he said, referring to the families of NC president Farooq Abdullah and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti.

Asked whether the BJP will ally with any party if there is a fractured mandate, Madhav said the BJP will emerge as the single largest party, but "if there is such a situation, we will discuss it afterwards".

He welcomed the entry of former members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) into the election fray.

"There is space for everyone in a democracy. We welcome everyone who wants to come forward to contest elections through democracy. But, no one should contest the polls using the support of terrorists and ex-militants. The polls will be held peacefully and in a transparent manner. That is the assurance of (Narendra) Modi, like the Parliament polls were conducted in a transparent manner.

"Many people (former members of JeI) have realised that elections are conducted here in a free and fair manner. So, that is why they have come forward to contest, and we welcome everyone who wants to contest," he added.

The BJP national general secretary said Union Home Minister will address an election rally in Jammu region on September 6.

"After that, the prime minister and other leaders will also visit," he said.

Definition of democracy doesn't fit for a place reduced to UT from State: Rahul in Anantnag

with the J&K by the BJP. "J&K was a State, downgraded to two UTs and yet

BJP claims democracy in J&K. Democracy term fits with the State that has its own Assembly where issues are discussed and laws are made. Here, all such things were snatched," he said.

He said that in 1947, the then Maharajas' (Kings) were side-lined to pave the way for democracy and an elected government. "In J&K, we have a LG. I believe the LG word is wrong. It should be 'Raja' of 21st Century as he acts at his will," Rahul said.

Lashing out at the BJP, Rahul said that the Modi-government is benefitting only two families—Ambanis and Adanis. "I was told that names of Ambani and Adani can't be mentioned in a speech in the Parliament. I requested the Speaker there what I should call them then. I mentioned them as A1 and A2," said the LoP said.

He reiterated that wherever BJP opens the shop of hatred, Congress will open shops of love. "We will win this battle by promoting brotherhood and harmony," he said. Rahul urged the people to support each other. "Wherever there is an NC candidate, Congress leaders and workers should support him and vice-versa," he said, adding that the NC-Congress government will come to J & K for sure.

He said that Kashmiri Pandits were exploited by the BJP for vote bank politics. "In lieu, KPs got nothing," he said. Rahul asked party candidate from Dooru, Ghulam Ahmed Mir to invite him for two to three days to Anantnag. "You are inviting me for 45 minutes. Is say dil nahi bharta," he said.

Alliance with Congress need of the hour: Farooq Abdullah

or Khalistanis. I hope people of the country understand that we want the state (Jammu and Kashmir) to come out of this difficult period and develop. I have seen for the first time that a state has been downgraded to a union territory. This has to change and full statehood has to be restored ... that is what we are trying," he added.

In response to a question, Abdullah said the National Conference did not suffer attri-

tion of leaders like other parties ahead of the assembly polls as people have realised that his party is in a position to do something good.

Abdullah refused to comment on statements made by PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti against the National Conference, saying "she keeps on saying different things".

Omar Abdullah files nomination papers from Ganderbal

from Beerwah assembly seat in central Kashmir's Budgam district. Abdullah had also contested from Sonwar seat in Srinagar, but was defeated there by then PDP leader Mohammad Ashraf Mir.

Ganderbal has been bastion of the NC and the Abdullahs with NC founder Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and incumbent president Farooq Abdullah having represented the constituency several times.

After the Centre stripped J-K of its special status and bifurcated J-K into two union territories in August 2019, Abdullah had vowed to not fight for a seat in the legislature of a union territory.

However, he recently said it would send out a "wrong signal" when he asks his party colleagues to contest and the people to cast their votes for an assembly "that I may be suggesting that I look down upon".

"I am conscious of one thing which I had not thought over fully, which is my mistake. If I was not ready to contest an election for an assembly, how can I get the people ready to vote for that assembly?"

"How can I hope that my colleagues will seek votes for an assembly which I am not ready to accept or may be suggesting that I look down upon? It has put a pressure on me and I do not want to give a wrong signal to the people," he had said.

Abdullah had contested the Lok Sabha elections from Baramulla seat in north Kashmir, but was defeated by Sheikh Abdul Rashid, alias Engineer Rashid who is in Tihar jail on terror funding charges.

Polling to elect 90 members of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly will be held on Sep-

Not supporting any party: Altaf Bukhari as he files his nomination papers

He was accompanied by scores of his party workers and supporters, who were seen raising slogans in favour of Bukhari.

When being asked about the former chief ministers including, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti, and Gh Nabi Azad not contesting the elections, Bukhari said that it is their own decision, and "may God bless them all," news agency NVI reported.

Bukhari will be up against National Conference candidate Mushtaq Ahmed Guroo and PDP's Muhammad Iqbal Tramboo.

3 days casual leave for migrant employees to cast vote

elections, the polling will be held for 21 Assembly segments of one Central Kashmir district of Budgam and three districts of North Kashmir including Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora.

The migrant employees of these districts can avail casual leave on the polling days in their respective constituencies. An order to this effect was issued by General Administrative Department (GAD) here, today.

Civil Society asks political parties to include social reformation measures in their manifesto

their parties and patronage in the broad-day light announcements. This will help eradicating the menace in J&K, it said.

Our membership drive should be all-encompassing and all-inclusive: Amit Shah

Top News Report

JAMMU/SRINAGAR, Sep 4: The world's largest democratic party launched a national membership drive starting on September 2, with the first membership being taken by the PM Modi.

The goal of this membership drive is not only to once again make the BJP the world's largest democratic party, just as it did in 2014, but also to make this campaign all-encompassing and all-inclusive.

All-encompassing means that no booth in the country, whether in a remote mountain,



island, dense forest, or wilderness, should be left untouched. All-inclusive means that any citizen of the country, regardless of caste, religion, or creed, should be connected to the ideology of the BJP. The BJP is the only party that does not consider its members and workers just as numbers. Every BJP worker is a living entity, a carrier of ideology. Here, the worker nurtures the work cul-

ture and acts as a link between the government and the organisation, always keeping the government connected with the people.

Today, there are more than 1,500 political parties in our India. But there is no other party, except for the BJP, that conducts a membership drive every six years in a democratic manner, with trust and openness. It is well known that there was a time when the BJP had only two members, and today, the BJP is not only the largest democratic party in India but also the largest in the world. This is a testament to the uniqueness of the

BJP, which has endured numerous hardships, challenges, defeats, and setbacks during its struggle but never allowed its efforts to cease.

Today, under the leadership of PM Modi, over the past 10 years, 60 crore poor people have received homes, electricity, toilets, rations, gas, and free healthcare up to 5 lakh rupees. At the same time, under the BJP Govt, today's India envisions the construction of a developed, empowered, and prosperous nation. Whether it's rural or urban development, energy or space, digitization or infrastructure, robust development has

taken place in every sector under PM's leadership. This leadership has also strengthened internal and external security in the country, enabling India to achieve new heights every day.

After the completion of this membership drive, a new organisation will be formed, and once again, the campaign for India's victory and BJP's victory will begin. Therefore, it is essential that we all expand the BJP by reaching every village, every home, every city, every island, forest, and mountain, so that we can realise PM Modi's vision of a great and developed India.

BLSKS celebrates "Happy Teachers Day 2024"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: To celebrate "Happy Teacher's Day 2024," the Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), in coordination with Sangam Tru Art Production, presented its 455th Wednesday Series Musical Play, "Gurukul," at the Rehearsal Hall, Durga Bhawan, Janipur, Jammu.

The theme of the play, "Empowering Educators for a Sustainable Future," emphasized the vital role teachers play in preparing a generation that is environmentally conscious, socially responsible, and equipped to tackle future challenges.

The event was inaugurated by V.K. Magotra, Former Regional Director, Directorate of Field Publicity, Government of India. The esteemed guests included Dr. Tara Singh Charak, Former Deputy Director, Health Department, J&K Government; Romesh Chander, Event Director, Shashvat Art Gallery; Dr. Anju Dogra, J&K Health Department; and Mukesh Singh, Media Person, Jammu.

The musical play, which was written, produced, and directed by Dr. M.L. Dogra, Former Regional Director, Song and Drama Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, commenced with performances of songs



such as "Jai Saraswati Maa," "Sun sun Sehalim-eri sun," "Bin Guru Giyan Nahi," and "Padho Padho Loko," by renowned BLSKS artists. The music for the play was composed by Raju Bajjal, Music Instructor at BLSKS.

Magotra praised the role of teachers and students, highlighting the importance of education. He also stressed the value of such cultural events in generating awareness about the country's heritage and encouraged cultural organizations to contribute to preserving the nation's composite culture.

Dr. M.L. Dogra, in his welcome address, reflected on the significance of Teachers' Day, which coincides with the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a revered educator and former President of India.

He shared that Radhakrishnan had suggested that his birthday be observed as Teachers' Day to honor the teaching profession. Dr. Dogra emphasized that teachers, often considered second parents, are crucial in molding future generations and described the acronym "Teacher" as representing qualities like Talented, Educated, Adorable, Charming, Helpful, Encouraging, and Responsible.

Usha Raina, Guru/Troup Leader at BLSKS, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all teachers, acknowledging their dedication, patience, and passion.

The musical play featured performances by Zulekha Bano, Sunil Kumar, Rajni Gupta, Bindia Okheda, Naiya Diga, Rahul Kumar, Sant Dasa, and Kuldeep Raj. Master Deepak Kumar concluded the event with a vote of thanks, celebrating the successful execution of the program. The entire performance was recorded and shared on social media for the benefit of the public.

JKNPP (Bhim) announces Tranter Singh as Assembly Candidate for Udhampur West Constituency

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Sep 4: Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (Bhim) announced the candidature of Tranter Singh for the upcoming Assembly elections from the Udhampur West constituency.

The announcement was made by JKNPP (Bhim) President, Vilakshan Singh, in a public meeting held on Wednesday at Udhampur.

Vilakshan Singh, while making the announcement, emphasized that Tranter Singh is a dynamic and dedicated leader who has always worked tirelessly for the welfare of the people. His deep understanding of

the local issues, coupled with his commitment to social justice and development, makes him the ideal candidate to represent Udhampur West.

"Tranter Singh has been a staunch advocate for the rights of the people of Udhampur. His vision aligns perfectly with the values of the JKNPP, and I am confident that he will bring about the much-needed change in the constituency," said Vilakshan Singh.

Tranter Singh, a well-known figure in the region, has been actively involved in various grassroots movements and has consistently raised his voice for the underprivileged. His candidacy has been met with enthusiasm from party workers and the

local population, who see him as a beacon of hope and progress.

In his address, Tranter Singh expressed his gratitude towards the JKNPP leadership and the people of Udhampur West for their unwavering support. He reiterated his commitment to work for the overall development of the constituency, focusing on key issues like infrastructure, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

As the JKNPP (Bhim) gears up for the forthcoming elections, the party is confident that Tranter Singh's candidacy will energize the electorate and contribute to a resounding victory for the party in Udhampur West.

GM Science College organizes lecture on "Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in the Contemporary World"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: The Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and NSS Units of GGM Science College organized lecture on "The Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in the Contemporary World" under the patronage of Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta Principal GGM Science College and the guidance of Dr. Seema Gandotra, Convener GCPCS on Wednesday.

Keeping in view the urgent need to revive Gandhiji's principles to address modern, political and environmental issues through ethical and non-violent approach among the students, the organising committee invited the resource person Dr. Ramesh Chander, Assistant Professor Department of Philosophy GCW Parade.

Dr Ramesh deliberated upon the topic extensively and exhorted students to follow Gandhian ideology in true spirit. The resource person also emphasised the relevance and importance of health, hygiene and cleanliness to build healthier planet.

In his address, Principal of the host college also

highlighted the role of educational institutions in shaping future leaders. The programme aimed at the holistic development of students to build peaceful and congenial social environment.

The students enthusiastically participated in the interactive session gaining deeper insight into Gandhiji's aspirations and his work to promote harmony between nature and society.

The event began with a welcome address by Dr. Shalini Sharma. The session was coordinated by Dr. Shalini Sharma, Prof. Sunita Kumari, Prof. Mehnaz Bano, along with NSS Programme Officers Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma. Their collaborative efforts ensured the smooth execution of the event.

Dr. Vandana Khajuria, Head Department of English and Dr. Birender Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Zoology also graced the occasion.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Sunita Kumari who expressed appreciation to the speaker, participants, and all those involved in making the event a success.

Sham Sharma challenges rivals, asserts BJP's commitment to real change in Jammu



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: In a resounding call for progress and national strength, Senior BJP leader and candidate for Jammu North Assembly Constituency, Sham Lal Sharma on Wednesday asserted that the BJP stands as the only party in the country with a clear agenda aimed at making the nation strong across all fronts to ensure the safety, welfare, and prosperity of its citizens.

He emphasized that BJP is a "party with a difference," which does not resort to false promises or hollow slogans but instead fulfills its commitments on the ground.

Addressing a large gathering of party workers at the inauguration of the Central Election Office in Purkhu, Sham Lal Sharma highlighted the party's successful fulfillment of three major promises included in its Core Agenda: the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A from Jammu and Kashmir, and the enactment of the Triple Talaq law.

He noted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the nation has not only progressed tremendously on multiple fronts but has also ascended to the status of the 5th largest economy in the world.

Sharma cautioned the public against the "mischievous designs" of the so-called secular parties like Congress, National Conference (NC), and

the People's Democratic Party (PDP). He accused these parties of engaging in the politics of appeasement and misleading the people in the name of caste, creed, and colour.

He criticized the NC, originally known as the Muslim Conference, stating that the party was founded with a specific religious agenda by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and has proven this through decades of discriminatory governance.

"These parties discriminated against Jammu on all fronts and funneled the major share of central funds to Kashmir Valley, promoting communalism, separatism, and nepotism," he added.

"Due to their wrong policies and promotion of dynasty politics, the state lagged in progress and was ultimately pushed into turmoil."

Calling upon BJP workers to work tirelessly to ensure the party's victory in the upcoming Assembly elections, Sharma urged them to embody the spirit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan, "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Paryas," and to bring everyone on board without discrimination.

He asserted that only the BJP can ensure peace, progress, and economic development in Jammu and Kashmir.

District General Secretary Ajay Sharma conducted the proceedings during the occasion. Former Rajya Sabha MP and senior BJP leader, Shamsher Singh Manhas,

also spoke on the occasion, encouraging party workers to make collective efforts, reach out to every booth, and convince the electorate about the people-friendly policies of the BJP to ensure Sham Lal Sharma's victory. "BJP is a disciplined party where workers are loyal and function like a family," he said.

District President Omi Khajuria also addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of unity and grassroots mobilization in the upcoming elections. He highlighted the need for every worker to reach out to the last person in the constituency, ensuring that the BJP's message of development, transparency, and good governance reaches every household.

"The people of Jammu North have witnessed the dedication and hard work of BJP leaders and workers. It is our collective responsibility to continue this legacy and ensure a resounding victory for the party," Khajuria said. He urged the party cadre to remain vigilant, counter false narratives, and work with full dedication to strengthen the party's presence at every booth level.

Those who were present are Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta, Seh-Prabhari Ravi Bakshi, Election I/c Rajinder Singh Katoch, Surinder Bhagat, Preduman Singh, Ravish Mengi, Rakesh Singh, Suresh Khajuria, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Bhuvnesh Mehta and Amit Singh Rajput.

National Conference appoints new office bearers

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Provincial President Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Jammu Province Rattan Lal Gupta with the approval of the Party President Dr. Farooq Abdullah has been nominated Raj Kumar Sharma as District President Reasi. Sher Singh has been

nominated as Senior Vice President. Tirath Ram has been nominated as District President Billawar (organizational Phari District).

This has been done in view of ensuing Assembly elections in these two districts to function with close coordination and strengthen the party units in the respective districts.

Arvind slams NC for anti-national rhetoric, plan to revive Article 370

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Senior BJP leader and contesting candidate for Jammu West Assembly constituency, Arvind Gupta, criticized the National Conference (NC) for its persistent anti-national rhetoric and its agenda to bring back Article 370.

Addressing a series of meeting here today, the senior BJP leader criticized NC's alignment with Congress in the upcoming Assembly polls, stating that both parties are focused on reviving Article 370 and granting autonomous powers to the state, a move he termed as detrimental to the nation's unity and security.

He said "Under the garb of Article 370, Jammu & Kashmir witnessed a dark era of hartals, stone-pelting, killings of innocents, and the closure of schools and colleges in Kashmir Province. Since the historic abrogation of Article 370 by

the Modi government, peace and stability have returned to J&K. The violence, shutdowns, and unrest are no longer a part of our daily lives. But now, the National Conference, backed by Congress, is shamelessly contesting these polls with the sole agenda of bringing back Article 370."

The senior BJP leader further highlighted the involvement of former militants in campaigning for NC and PDP candidates as clear evidence of their anti-national stance. "When ex-militants are openly campaigning for these parties, what further proof do we need of their anti-national agenda? Their intentions are clear, and they pose a serious threat to the hard-earned peace in Jammu & Kashmir."

Arvind Gupta praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and his relentless efforts in building a developed and secure India. "Our Prime Minister is working

tirelessly, strengthening international relations with countries like Brunei and Singapore to elevate India's stature on the global stage. While BJP is focused on development and progress, parties like NC, PDP, and Congress are busy courting international terrorism by pushing to revive Article 370 and destabilize the region."

The senior BJP leader reiterated his commitment to safeguarding the interests of Jammu & Kashmir and ensuring that divisive forces like NC, PDP, and Congress are defeated in the upcoming Assembly elections. He urged the people of Jammu West to support the BJP's nationalist agenda and stand united against any attempts to undo the progress achieved under the Modi government.

He appealed to the people of Jammu West to extend full support to BJP in the Assembly polls with an aim to continue an era of peace and prosperity in Jammu

and Kashmir. "Together, we will ensure that Jammu & Kashmir remains an integral part of India's journey towards peace, progress, and prosperity," he added.

Earlier, Arvind Gupta, as part of his poll campaigning, visited various wards including Ward No 41, 30, 28, 32 and several localities of Talab Tillo. He also attended a religious program of Baba Badh Bagh Singh Ji in Ward 32.

Prominent among those who were present included senior leader Brijesh Gupta, Mandal President Keshav Chopra, Mandal President Atul Bakshi, Ayodhya Gupta, K.L. Sharma, R.S. Manni, Devinder Gupta, Lal Singh Jastrotia, Veena Gupta, Dr. Pameesh Mahajan, Puneet Mahajan, Bhupinder Gupta, Dr. R.K. Gupta, Anu Gupta, Kuldeep Kandhari, Manav Mahajan, Karan Singh, Ravi Kant, Tripta Jamwal, Sandeep Gupta, Raj Kumar, Vikram Gupta, and Sourav Sharma.

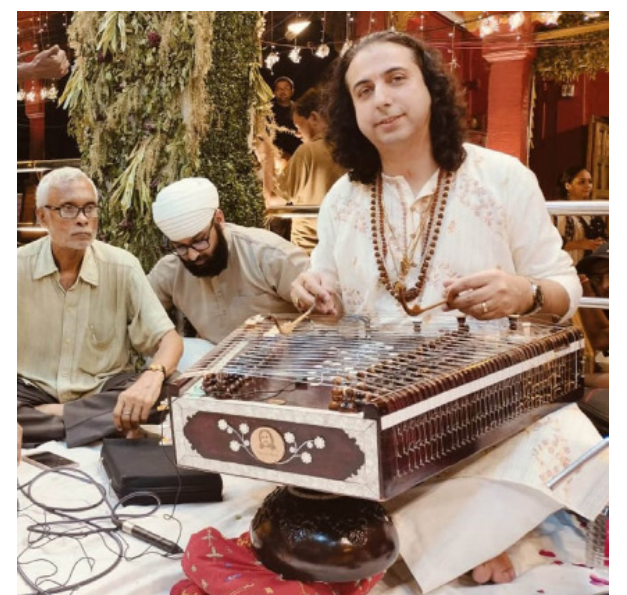
Raga Bhagwati—a new raga by maestro Pt. Abhay Sopori

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Renowned Music Maestro Pt. Abhay Rustum Sopori has introduced a new Hindustani Classical raga, named Raga Bhagwati in tribute to Mother Goddess Durga. This significant addition to the classical music repertoire was presented during his performance at the prestigious Ma Kushmanda Sangeet Samaroh, held at Durgakund, Varanasi.

Pt. Abhay Sopori, a distinguished representative of the Shaiv-Sufi tradition and the 300-year-old Santoor legacy of the Sopori-Sufiana Gharana of Kashmir, unveiled Raga Bhagwati with a deep sense of devotion and reverence. During the concert, he explained that Raga Bhagwati embodies the essence of devotion and prayer to Goddess Durga, representing the supreme power in Hindu tradition.

The presentation of this new raga included an Aalap & Jod, followed by Vilambit Gat in Teentaal, Gat in Madhalaya Ektaal, and Drut Gat in Teentaal. Abhay's performance was a mesmerizing display of mellifluous playing, rapid tempo, and



the intricate nuances of the Sopori Baaj, a unique style of playing Classical Santoor developed by the legendary Saint-Musician, the late Pt. Bhajan Sopori ji. This performance showcased both the Gayaki and Tantrakari styles, featuring techniques such as Meends, Gamaks, Glides, Taans, Bol patterns, and various Chhands. Adding to the spiritual ambiance, Abhay also performed a new Bandish penned by him "He Ma Tu Hai Bhawani, Durga Tu Durgatishani, Jagat Janani Sati Sadhvi, Maha Lakshmi Saraswati Kali, Kripa

Karo he Bhagwati, 'Das' Kare Pukar." The soulful rendition of this Bandish further highlighted the raga's thematic focus on divine femininity and power. He was accompanied by Pt. Lalit Kumar on Tabla and Ankit Parikh on Pakhawaj, whose rhythms added depth and texture to the performance.

This introduction of Raga Bhagwati marks a significant contribution to the Hindustani Classical music tradition and continues Pt. Abhay Sopori's legacy of innovation and devotion in the world of music.

Duleep Trophy: Rishabh Pant in focus on red-ball return; selectors eye backup options

Rishabh Pant, who returned to white-ball formats after that horrific car crash, is yet to play in a longer-duration match.

BENGALURU, Sep 4 (Agencies): Rishabh Pant's red-ball return will be closely monitored but the national selectors will also trace suitable backup options to frontline stars when Duleep Trophy, which precludes an important Test season, begins across Bengaluru and Anantapur on Thursday. Pant, who returned to white-ball formats after that horrific car crash, is yet to play in a longer-duration match. His last red-ball outing was against Bangladesh in December 2022. Now, he will turn out for Abhimanyu Easwaran-led Team B against Shubman Gill-captained Team A at the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Satisfying his outings in the shorter versions were, but this four-day tournament offers him a unique challenge – batting and 'keeping for an undefined number of overs.

Pant is the designated stumper in Team B, and it is evident that the Ajit Agarkar-led selection panel is intending to take a deep look into his role as the wicket-keeper-batter in a season that will culminate with the World Test Championship Final at the Lord's next June.

But that is just one piece of the puzzle as other worthy contenders are there for the wicketkeeper-batter's slot.

The front-runner is Dhruv Jurel (Team A), who was impressive in his debut series against England earlier this year.

Then there's Ishan Kishan, who will play for Team D which is marshalled by Shreyas Iyer at Anantapur.

Kishan, though a long shot, will be eager to use Duleep Trophy as a platform to stake his claim for an India return after an unsavoury train of incidents saw him losing the BCCI central contract in the current cycle.

The return of veterans Virat



Kohli and Rohit Sharma for the Bangladesh series will gobble up two batting slots along with Gill at No. 3.

Hence, there will be a jostle between KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Sarfaraz Khan, who impressed all with an excellent Test debut against England, for settling into the available middle-order space.

It's imperative for Rahul, who is in Team A as a pure batter, and Shreyas to come good in Duleep Trophy as they missed a large chunk of the home matches against England – the former with an injury and the latter was dropped after the second Test at Visakhapatnam.

Bowling back-up

India have been well-served by the troika of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami in Tests for a while now, but it's unwise to enter a long Test season without sufficient alternates.

More so because Siraj will miss the first round of Duleep Trophy with an illness and Shami, whose last competitive outing was the 2023 50-over World Cup final, is still recuperating after a surgery.

The selectors will keep a close eye on Bengal duo of Mukesh Kumar and Akash Deep, both of whom had bright initiations into traditional format, along with

Arshdeep Singh, Avesh Khan, Khaleel Ahmed, Vidwath Kaverappa, Vysakh Vijayakumar and Harshit Rana.

While the pace department needs some urgent solutions, the spin has a slightly different landscape.

Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, who was released from Team B, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel form a formidable Indian spin unit.

While there is no pressing demand for the support cast, the selectors would like to be ready with instant supply in case of an eventuality.

In that context, spinners such as Washington Sundar, also a capable batter, R Sai Kishore, top wicket-taker in the previous Ranji season with 53 scalps, Manav Suthar and Saurabh Kumar will be hoping to be in the range of the five wisemen's radar.

Dark horses

There is a litany of fringe players who would want to give a further fillip to their career after showcasing talent at various levels.

Karnataka's Devdutt Padikkal had a roaring Ranji season in 2023-24, which earned him a Test debut against England at Dharamsala.

Baba Indrajith of Tamil Nadu is a consistent domestic performer

and he once again underlined his prowess making 767 runs in the last Ranji season, and Musheer Khan, younger brother of Sarfaraz, smoothly graduated to First-Class cricket for Mumbai after blazing the Under-19 circuit.

B Sai Sudharsan of Tamil Nadu, who made white ball debut for India, too has given an early indication of his readiness for red-ball cricket with a hundred for Surrey in English county cricket. He will play for Team C under Rituraj Gaikwad.

Squads:
India A: Shubman Gill (C), Mayank Agarwal, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel (WK), KL Rahul, Tilak Varma, Shivam Dube, Tanush Kotian, Kuldeep Yadav, Akash Deep, Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed, Avesh Khan, Vidwath Kaverappa, Kumar Kushagra, Shaswat Rawat.

India B: Abhimanyu Easwaran (C), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (WK), Musheer Khan, Nitish Kumar Reddy (subject to fitness), Washington Sundar, Navdeep Saini, Yash Dayal, Mukesh Kumar, Rahul Chahar, R Sai Kishore, Mohit Awasthi, N Jagadeesan (WK).

India C: Rituraj Gaikwad (C), Sai Sudharsan, Rajat Patidar, Abhishek Porel (WK), Suryakumar Yadav, B Indrajit, Hrithik Shokeen, Manav Suthar, Gaurav Yadav, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Anshul Khamboj, Himanshu Chauhan, Mayank Markande, Aryan Juyal (WK), Sandeep Warrier.

India D: Shreyas Iyer (C), Atharva Taide, Yash Dube, Devdutt Padikkal, Ishan Kishan (WK), Ricky Bhui, Saransh Jain, Axar Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Aditya Thakare, Harshit Rana, Tushar Deshpande, Akash Sengupta, KS Bharat (WK), Saunabh Kumar.

ICC Test Rankings: Pakistan slip to 59-year low after series loss to Bangladesh

ICC Test Rankings: Pakistan slipped two spots to No. 8 in the latest rankings, updated on Wednesday, September 04. The decline came after Pakistan were whitewashed 2-0 at home by Bangladesh on Tuesday.



DUBAI, Sep 4 (Agencies): Pakistan slipped to No. 8 in the latest International Cricket Council Test team rankings on Wednesday, September 4. This decline follows their six-wicket defeat to Bangladesh in the final match of a two-Test series, which Pakistan lost 2-0 on home soil. As a result, Pakistan's rating has dropped to 76 points, their lowest in Test cricket since 1965.

Pakistan were in the sixth spot before the start of the Test series against Bangladesh. Pakistan lost the first Test by 10 wickets despite declaring their first innings. They lost the second one by six wickets despite having Bangladesh reeling at 26 for 6 in the first innings in Rawalpindi. Pakistan never had rating points fewer than 76, barring a brief period in which they did not play sufficient Test

matches to accumulate rating points, according to the ICC.

The development comes a day after Pakistan slipped to No. 8 in the nine-team ICC World Test Championship points table. Pakistan have won only two of their nine matches in the ongoing Test championship cycle, which will culminate with the final at Lord's in London next year. Pakistan's hopes of featuring in the final have taken a massive blow after the series sweep at home. Pakistan have not won a Test match at home since March 2021 -- a poor streak in which they have lost six and drawn four in familiar conditions. Pakistan last won a Test match at home against South Africa in February 2021.

ICC TEST RANKINGS (AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2024)

1. Australia - 124 points
2. India - 120 points

3. England - 108 points
4. South Africa - 104 points
5. New Zealand - 96 points
6. Sri Lanka - 83 points
7. West Indies - 77 points
8. Pakistan - 76 points
9. Bangladesh - 66 points
10. Ireland - 26 points
11. Zimbabwe - 4 points
12. Afghanistan - 0 points

It's been a series of lows for Pakistan cricket amidst a period of internal turmoil. Shan Masood, who replaced Babar Azam as Test captain, has lost all his five matches in charge and is facing the threat of sacking. After a 3-0 defeat to Australia in Australia, Pakistan roped in Jason Gillespie as their new Test coach. However, the former Australian fast bowler's arrival hasn't changed much for the senior national team.

"I am not worried for my job security," he said. "I took this job to make the changes we believe will help this team. If I believe this team can go in a certain direction, even if my personal failure takes Pakistan in that direction, I will be content. However much time I get I'll be grateful for it and do my best," Shan Masood said when asked if he was worrying about his captaincy role.

Nathan Lyon suggests new format for WTC: '3-Test final at 3 different venues'

SYDNEY, Sep 4 (Agencies): Australian spinner Nathan Lyon has put forward an ambitious proposal for the World Test Championship (WTC) Final, suggesting that it should be played as a three-match series across three different venues. In a video for the ICC, Lyon explained that this format would offer a more balanced opportunity for both teams, allowing them to recover even if they lose the first match.

This idea, according to Lyon, would enhance the competitiveness of the WTC by providing each team with a fair chance to prove their mettle over multiple games. While Lyon acknowledged that the current format of the WTC, which consists of a single final, has its merits, he argued that a three-match final would better reflect the essence of Test cricket, where endurance and adaptability are key.

"One thing I would like to see. I'd like to see the World Test Championship Final, potentially in a three-match series. That may become a little bit better because you, potentially, can lose using a Test match in one session where [in a three-match series] it may allow teams to bounce back, you show

their dominance and win 3-0. We're pretty time-poor anyway and that's going to be a challenge, but that's one thing I would change," Lyon said.

By playing at three different venues, teams would face a variety of conditions, making the series more challenging and exciting. This approach, he believes, would prevent any single team from having an undue advantage due to familiar conditions.

However, Lyon also recognised the logistical challenges that came with his proposal.

"You potentially could go one in England, one in India, one in Australia, so you have all different conditions, but obviously, the timing of that changes everything. I don't think we're going to get on the MCG in the middle of August, just putting it out there," Lyon added.

Organising a three-match final at different venues would require careful planning and coordination, considering the time and resources needed to move teams to travel a lot between locations. Despite these challenges, Lyon's suggestion has sparked an interesting discussion about how to further elevate the prestige and fairness of the WTC Final.

Take singles, Maharaj! Yuvraj wishes birthday boy Abhishek

NEW DELHI, Sep 4 (Agencies): India's latest batting sensation, Abhishek Sharma, celebrated his 23rd birthday on Wednesday, September 4. Among the first to extend birthday wishes was his mentor, Yuvraj Singh. The World Cup-winning former all-rounder took to social media to post a heartfelt birthday message that also included a piece of advice for the young opener. Frustrated by his repeated attempts to make Abhishek understand the importance of taking singles, Yuvraj decided to convey this crucial advice through a public birthday message.

"Happy birthday sir Abhishek. Hope you take as many singles



this year as many as you knock out of the park. Keep putting in the hard work! loads of love and wishes for a great year ahead!" Yuvraj wrote in his message on Wednesday.

In the throwback video, Yuvraj can be seen telling Abhishek to keep the ball down and not try lofted shots during a training session. However, Abhishek doesn't listen and keeps hitting the net bowlers out of

the park.

"Tu Na Sudhri (You won't change)," Yuvraj can be heard saying in the video.

Yuvraj has been mentoring several young Punjab cricketers, including Abhishek, Shubman Gill, Anmolpreet Singh, and Prabhsimran Singh. This mentorship began during the Covid-19 pandemic when Yuvraj invited these players to his home for a five-

week training camp. Yuvraj's mentorship has been instrumental in the development of all these youngsters. Abhishek, in particular, has credited Yuvraj for his growth, stating that the training sessions changed his perspective towards the game. Yuvraj's focus on fitness, strength, and specific match situations helped Abhishek and the other players adapt and improve their game plans.

Yuvraj has been working on Abhishek's bowling as well.

It's been a special season of cricket for Abhishek Sharma. The 23-year-old made his international debut earlier this year. He went on to hit a hundred in only his second T20I during

India's tour of Zimbabwe in July. The Punjab batter hit eight sixes and seven boundaries in a whirlwind knock in Harare.

Abhishek Sharma made heads turn in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season, keeping the selectors invested with a string of sensational performances for the SunRisers Hyderabad. Abhishek forged a successful opening partnership with Australia's World Cup hero, Travis Head for the SunRisers.

Abhishek hit 484 runs in 16 matches at a staggering strike rate of over 200. He topped the six-hitting charts with 42 massive ones, four more than Virat Kohli and Heinrich Klaasen.

Accidental chess player Vidit Gujrathi says it's worked out well for him

He decided to pursue chess instead as he was already familiar with the sport after spending considerable time playing with his father.

NEW DELHI, Sep 4 (Agencies): A self-proclaimed accidental chess player, Indian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi says he thought of sports as a more "stable" career option after watching his doctor parents being called to work at odd hours, an "error of judgement" that has ultimately "worked out well" for him.

The 29-year-old from Nashik will be turning up for Mumba Masters in the second season

of the Global Chess League, a joint venture between Tech Mahindra and FIDE, from October 3 to 12 in London.

Gujrathi was around six when he was advised to put his ambition of playing cricket on hold till he was older by a local club. He decided to pursue chess instead as he was already familiar with the sport after spending considerable time playing with his father.

"I saw it as a good

opportunity to learn and beat him. It was a complete accident, but a happy one," Gujrathi recalled in a press release issued by the event organisers. Having seen his doctor parents work at odd hours due to late-night emergencies, Gujrathi said he wanted a relatively easy-going life and thought of sports as the right option.

"I did not realise then that sports can be more volatile. I made a judg-



ment error, but it worked out well," he quipped,

referring to long hours he has to devote to train-

ing. In 2017, he became the fourth Indian after Viswanathan Anand, Krishnan Sasikiran, and Pentala Harikrishna, to cross the 2700 Elo rating.

Gujrathi, who still holds a rating of over 2700, was among three Indians who competed in this year's Candidates Tournament, an eight-man competition held to determine the Challenger for the World Chess Championship slated for November. He

did log some impressive results but could not win the tournament.

Talking about the upcoming league and his team Mumba Masters, Gujrathi said, "Definitely, our eyes are on the trophy this year. But I wish to improve my performance." Mumba Masters retained most of their squad from the first season, with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave returning as the Icon Player while Gujrathi and Alexander

Grischuk came back as Superstar Men players.

Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli have joined once again as Superstar Women, with Raunak Sadhwani as the Prodigy for the franchise in the second season. "Last year, we got along well with each other, and the team had a great atmosphere. We will be there for around a couple of weeks, and hence, it is important to also have a good time," Gujrathi said.

GDC Kishtwar hosts SVEEP rally to promote voter awareness

Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 4: Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar on Wednesday organized a SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) rally aimed at promoting voter awareness among students and the local community.

The event was organised under the direction of District Administration Kishtwar and was a collaborative effort led by the Electoral Literacy Club/SVEEP, in collaboration with the NCC Women's Wing and the NSS Unit of GDC Kishtwar under the guidance of Principal GDC Kishtwar Prof Basharat Iqbal and under supervision of



Dr Yasar Ahmed, Nodal Officer SVEEP, Dr Tabasum Saleem, CTO NCC Women Wing and Prof Esrar Ul Ayub, PO NSS.

The event was graced with presence of DC Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan, DIO Kishtwar, Kuldeep Kumar, Masood Hussain Qazi Nodal Officer SVEEP AC-49 Kishtwar, and other dignitaries of District administration Kishtwar.

The rally saw enthusi-

astic participation from around 200 students including NCC cadets and NSS volunteers of GDC Kishtwar and students from various schools of Kishtwar highlighting the importance of active citizenship and electoral participation.

The event commenced with a rally that traversed through key areas of Kishtwar towards Chowgan, spreading the message of the significance

of voting. Students carried banners and placards with slogans encouraging voter participation, while volunteers distributed pamphlets to passersby, urging them to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming elections.

A significant highlight of the event was the solemn pledge for voting, taken by all participants, reaffirming their commitment to the democratic process.

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The pledge emphasized the responsibility of every citizen to vote in a free and fair manner, ensuring the strength and vitality of India's democracy.

The event concluded with words of encouragement and appreciation by the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar. He appreciated the participants and urged the students to continue their efforts in promoting voter education and participation within their communities.

The SVEEP rally at GDC Kishtwar is part of a series of initiatives planned by the college to engage students in civic responsibilities and encourage a culture of active participation in the democratic process.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu pays tribute to Chaman Arora

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: In a condolence meeting convened at Dogri Bhawan, Karan Nagar Jammu, Dogri Sanstha paid emotional tribute to Chaman Arora, an eminent Dogri short story writer who passed away recently.

While commenting on his close association with Chaman Arora, Prof. Lalit Magotra, President Dogri Sanstha Jammu said that he was a very good short story writer and a simple and straight forward man.

At the time when short story in dogri language was mostly limited to exploitation and rural life subjects, he gave new dimensions to story writing along with his contemporary writers during seventh decade of last century and onwards. His passing away for heavenly abode is a big set back to Dogri, particularly short story writing and a personal loss to him as he was his childhood friend and the friendship continued till his last breathe.

Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju', General Secretary while paying homage to departed soul said that he was a man of principles and was never afraid of penning down harsh realities of life.

His stories prove that he was an imaginative & realistic and such a blend is a blessing for any fic-



tion writer. His creative works portray advent of modern and progressive story writing in Dogri literature.

On this occasion, Prof. Veena Gupta, Vice President Dogri Sanstha said that he was a nice human being who encouraged others to write in mother tongue Dogri and was an integral part of Dogri Sanstha Jammu.

Prof. Shahsi Pathania also remembered him through his short stories and Madan Lal Padha, well known dogri translator, writer and a close friend of Chaman Arora also paid emotional tribute while recalling long association with him.

Khalid Hussain, eminent Punjabi short story writer also recalled his memories and quality time spent with him. Balwant Thakur, Director Natrang recalled that he got introduced to him through his sons as they were his students and were significant part of his

first theatre production for children 'Mere Hisse Ki Dhoop Kahan Hai' and thereafter regular meetings with him helped to know him personally and he realized that he was a gem of a person.

Deepak Kumar, Director RANGYUG recalled that his first step on the stage was a stage play Jeene Ki Quid, written by Chaman Arora along with Prof. Lalit Magotra.

Susheel Begana paid him tribute through a thought provoking poem written by Chaman Arora himself and Arvinder Singh 'Amn' former Addl. Secretary Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages while raising a concern that quality writers should be replaced by quality writers paid rich tribute to departed soul for his contributions to dogri literature.

Chuni Lal Sharma, well known broadcaster also remembered his long association with Chaman Arora during Aakashwani days and prayed for solace to departed soul. Raj Kumar Behrupia, Pawan Verma and a number of others also paid homage to the celebrated Dogri short story writer and condolence meeting was attended by a number of litterateurs of Dogri, Hindi and Punjabi including office bearers of Sanstha attended the meeting.

Declamation Contest on Drug Abuse held at SPPND GDC Samba



Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 4: The NCORD Cell (Narco Coordination Cell) of Shri Pandit Prem Nath Dogra, GDC Samba in collaboration with Health and Family Welfare Department, Samba organized Declamation Contest on Drug Abuse "Say Yes to Life, No to Drugs" under the patronship of Principal of the college, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri.

Dr. Papinder Kumar, formally welcomed Dr. Anju Saraf- Nodal Officer, Nasha, Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and Dr. Anju Bala from Health and Family Welfare Department, Samba. In his welcome address,

he highlighted the need of sensitizing the students about the risks associated with drug abuse and channeling their energies in making a healthy and supportive campus environment.

Dr. Anju Saraf apprised the students about peer pressure, the major underlying cause of drug abuse, which has a profound influence on adolescents as they are highly vulnerable.

She acquainted the students with Tele-MANAS, a government helpline where individuals in distress can access medical aid from healthcare providers, 24 hours a day. The event witnessed

enthusiastic participation from the students of different semesters.

The panel of judges included Dr. Anju Saraf, Dr. Anju Bala, Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Head, Department of Punjabi and Dr. Joginder Singh, Head, Department of Dogri. Sushma Devi, Seema Devi and Geetika all from Vth Semester were adjudged as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners of the declamation contest and certificate of appreciation were given to all the participants.

At the conclusion of the program all the participants and faculty members took a pledge on Nasha Mukht Bharat.

Abdul Rahman honored with growth achievers award at national education event

Top News Report

DODA, Sep 4: Abdul Rahman, also known as Abid Rahman, the director of the Al-Rahman Institute of Computer Education in Kahara, Doda, Jammu & Kashmir, has been honored with the Growth Achie-

vers Award, presented by the All India Council for Professional Education (AICPE), celebrates institutions and individuals who demonstrate remarkable progress and innovation in the field of education. Abdul Rahman's leadership has been piv-



ers Award at the 2024 AICPE Education Excellence Awards.

The award ceremony took place on September 1st, 2024, in Nagpur, Maharashtra, during the National Teacher's Day celebrations.

Rahman, who is also a former sub-editor of The Chenab Times, was recognized for his outstanding leadership in driving the institute's significant growth and development in educational offerings.

Under his guidance, the Al-Rahman Institute has made considerable progress in expanding learning opportunities in the region, contributing meaningfully to the broader educational landscape in Jammu & Kashmir.

otal to the institute's success, establishing it as a beacon of educational advancement within the community.

"This award is a testament to our collective efforts at the institute to provide quality education and empower our students with the skills they need for the future," said Rahman. "We will continue to work diligently to ensure that education in our region continues to advance."

The recognition emphasizes the crucial role of leadership and innovation in education, especially in underserved regions, and highlights the significant impact of educators like Abdul Rahman in shaping the future of education in India.

Dozen of political workers from Devser Constituency join Congress party



Top News Report

KULGAM, Sep 4: In a major boost for the Congress ahead of the upcoming assembly elections, dozens of political workers from the Qaimoh and Khudwani and Kund areas of Devsar constituency have joined the party.

The induction ceremony was held today and was headed by Congress District President and Contesting Candidate from Devsar Amanullah Mantoo.

The event saw the presence of enthusiastic supporters and party workers who welcomed the new members with open arms.

These political workers, previously affiliated with various other political parties, expressed their confidence in the Congress vision and leadership.

Speaking at the event, Congress Block Muzaffar Dar president welcomed the new entrants and highlighted the Indian National Congress commitment to development, social justice, and inclusive governance. "The joining of these workers is a testament to the growing faith in our party's mission to bring positive change to Qaimoh khudwani Devsar and kund Together, we will work towards the betterment

of our constituency and ensure a bright future for all," Muzaffar Dar.

The new members pledged their full support to the Indian National Congress Candidate from devsar Amanullah Mantoo stating that they believe the party is best positioned to address the region's needs and aspirations. This move is seen as a significant development in the political landscape of Devsar, with the Indian National Congress gaining ground in a competitive race.

Meanwhile Mantoo appreciated the party workers for their enthusiasm and vibrant political activities in the Constituency

Awareness Programme organized by Civil Defence Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: One day Awareness-cum-demonstration programme held at NCC Camping Ground Nagrota Jammu, which was organized by Civil Defence Jammu under the supervision of Dy. Controller Civil Defence Jammu.

In the awareness Camp NCC cadets were made aware about the basic knowledge of First Aid, CPR, Chocking, Fire fighting and other Emergency rescue methods by the Civil Defence Instructors.

The programme was organized in the premises of NCC Camp, Nagrota where 500 NCC cadets of Kashmir Province have attended the said programme. During the programme demonstration on first aid, fire fighting was presented by the Civil Defence team. The Camp Commander Col. Saurabh Saxena 1st J&K Bn, NCC Srinagar and Col. Ramendra, Adm. Office, NCC camping ground Nagrota appreciated the role of Civil Defence organization and thanked the Civil Defence team for organizing such important awareness-cum-demonstration programme.

Paramjit Kumar, Chief Warden Civil Defence, Jammu, SI Ram Dayal, In charge Trainings, Civil Defence Instructors Jammu and staff of NCC Nagrota also present on the occasion.

BSSK High School hosts Toycathon, showcasing student innovation

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: BSSK High School is proud to announce the successful completion of the Toycathon event, which saw enthusiastic participation from students across classes 6th to 10th.

Under the expert guidance of Bandana, the students showcased their creativity and innovation, presenting a range of imaginative toy designs and concepts.

Anju Bakshi, the Principal of BSSK High School, was impressed by the students' efforts and praised their ingenuity. She highlighted the importance of such events in fostering a spirit of innovation and problem-solving among young learners.

Sushil Singh Charak,



representing the school administration, also extended his heartfelt appreciation to the students, teachers, and the entire school management for their collective efforts in making the event a resounding success. He emphasized the role of educators in shaping the future and commended the team for their dedication to nurturing young

mind. The Toycathon event not only provided students with an opportunity to explore their creative potential but also reinforced the school's commitment to holistic education. The administration looks forward to organizing more such events in the future to continue inspiring and motivating students to excel in all spheres of life.

Samsung TV Plus expands its channel offerings; debuts Aaj Tak HD, The Lallantop for consumers

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 4: Samsung TV Plus, the brand's free ad-supported streaming TV (FAST) service in India, has announced the launch of Aaj Tak HD and The Lallantop on its portfolio.

The partnership between Samsung TV Plus and TV Today Network underscores Samsung's commitment to deliver top-quality programming and meet the evolving needs of viewers in an increasingly connected world.

TV Today Network's FAST channel offering from The Lallantop and Aaj Tak HD, will meet audiences' need for compelling and premium free content on the biggest screen in the house. The connected TV base in

India continues to grow as more households opt for internet-enabled smart TV options.

"Our endeavour is to bring unparalleled access and exceptional value to our audiences and advertisers on the Samsung TV plus platform. The addition of Aaj Tak HD and The Lallantop channels will provide increased access to the latest news from the world of business, politics, entertainment and more. This partnership with TV Today Network is a testament to that commitment," said Kunal Mehta, Head of Partnerships, Samsung TV Plus India.

"We are thrilled to announce the launch of our two new FAST channels on Samsung TV Plus India. This partner-

ship represents a significant milestone for us, as it allows us to bring our diverse and engaging content to a broader audience through one of the most popular and innovative smart TV platforms. With numerous options available for connected TV viewers, this collaboration enables us to broaden our audience and engage with those embracing new technologies, ensuring our content remains accessible across diverse viewing ecosystems," said Salil Kumar, CEO - Digital Business, TVTN.

Samsung TV Plus, already delivers more than 100 FAST live channels and thousands of on-demand movies and TV shows to millions of users across India - all 100% free.