

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 07, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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**Wamiqa Gabbi sneaks in a quick family break amid filming of Baby John**



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**PM Modi wishes 'good luck, success' on Ganesh Chaturthi**

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**Zelensky meets Meloni in Italy, presses for more arms**



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## BRIEFLY

### 25-year-old Banihal labourer's body recovered from Udhampur stream

SRINAGAR, Sep 7 (Agencies): The body of a 25-year-old man who drowned in a stream in Dudu Basantgarh area of Udhampur on Friday was recovered today, officials said.

He was identified as Manzoor Ahmed Najjar (25) son of Abdul Rehman Najjar, resident of Chamal was Banihal.

Police said Najjar had drowned in a stream on Friday.

They said his body was retrieved by police and other rescue teams around 11:00 a.m on Saturday.

As per police, Najjar was working as a labourer in Basantgarh.

However, how and why he drowned was not immediately known about.

### DEO Pulwama suspends Naib Tehsildar for negligence in election duty

SRINAGAR, Sep 7 (Agencies): The District Election Officer (DEO) Pulwama has suspended Naib Tehsildar Abdul Majeed Naik for negligence and dereliction of duty.

"Naik, who was deployed as a magistrate in the Flying Squad Team (FST), failed to perform his responsibilities in accordance with the guidelines set for election duty," reads a statement issued by District Administration Pulwama as per news agency KDC.

The officer has been attached to the office of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Tral for further action.

ADC Tral has been directed to conduct an inquiry into the matter and submit a detailed report to the District Election Officer for further course of action.

This step as per district administration has been taken to ensure the smooth conduct of the ongoing election process.

DEO has warned all officers/officials to be careful and exercise duties with diligence.

### Nine FIRs lodged, five govt employees suspended for poll code violations in J-K

JAMMU, Sep 7 (Agencies): The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer has said nine FIRs were lodged and five government employees suspended for violations of the Model Code of Conduct in Jammu and Kashmir.

## "Till there is no peace, no talks with Pakistan," says Home Minister Amit Shah, slams NC-Congress manifesto

JAMMU, Sep 7 (Agencies): Launching a scathing attack on Congress and the National Conference's manifesto, Union Minister and BJP leader Amit Shah said on Saturday that they want to bring back the old system and start talks with Pakistan but "till there is no peace, there will be no talks with Pakistan."

Criticising the Congress and National Conference's manifesto, Shah said that they want to spread terrorism, snatch res-



ervations of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharis and Dalits, release criminals and start LOC trade with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir.

Stating the BJP's 10

agendas for elections, Shah said, "Congress and NC want to bring back two flags, article in Jammu and Kashmir, will you? They want to snatch the reservation

of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharis and Dalits. I want to tell one thing to Rahul Gandhi: no matter how much effort you put in, we will not let the reservation of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharis and Dalits be touched. Abrogation of Article 370 has given rights to women, will you let them snatch their rights? They want to release the criminals wrapped up in terrorism, but we won't let them spread terrorism in Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, and Doda. They

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## With 6 nominated members, NDA has slender majority in Rajya Sabha



NEW DELHI, Sep 7 (Agencies): The BJP-led NDA has a slender majority in Rajya Sabha with the support of six nominated members, which would help the party get the nod for key

legislations such as the Waqf (Amendment) Bill. After the recent by-elections, the Upper House has an effective strength of 234, with the BJP having 96 members of its own. The number

of NDA MPs is 113. Six nominated members, who usually cast their vote with the government, take the strength of the NDA to 119, two more than the current halfway mark of 117.

The Congress has 27 members in the Upper House and its allies add another 58, taking the opposition alliance numbers to 85.

Among the key fence-sitters are the YSR Congress Party with nine members and the BJD with seven members.

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## Mission remains to ensure voice of love heard in every corner of Country: Rahul on BJY Anniversary



NEW DELHI, Sep 7 (Agencies): On the second anniversary of the launch of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said the yatra proved that Indians were inherently loving people and "today our mission remains to ensure that the voice of love is heard in every corner of the country".

"The Bharat Jodo Yatra taught me the

beauty of silence. In the midst of cheering crowds and slogans, I discovered the power to tune out the noise and focus entirely on the person next to me — to truly listen," Gandhi said in a post on X.

"In those 145 days, and the two years since, I've listened to thousands of Indians from diverse backgrounds. Each voice has carried wisdom, teaching me something new, and

each has represented our beloved Bharat Mata," the former Congress chief said.

The yatra proved that Indians are inherently loving people, he said.

"When I started this journey I said love will conquer hate and hope will defeat fear, today our mission remains the same — to ensure the voice of Bharat Mata, the voice of love is heard in every corner of our beloved country," Gandhi said, using the hashtag 'Bharat judne tak'.

Gandhi launched the yatra from Kanyakumari on September 7, 2022. It culminated on January 30, 2023, as he capped the ambitious 145-day journey in Srinagar.

During the course of the march, Gandhi

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## 297 Officers Commissioned into Indian Army



CHENNAI, Sep 7 (Agencies): As many as 258 officer cadets and 39 women officer cadets were commissioned into various arms and services of the Indian Army at an impressive ceremony at the Officers Training Academy, Chennai, on Saturday.

The 'Passing Out Parade,' held at the

Parameshwaran Drill Square of the institute, was reviewed by the Vice Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General N S Raja Subramani.

Ten officer cadets and five officer cadets (women) from friendly foreign countries also successfully completed their training, fostering bonds of camaraderie

and cooperation across international borders, the OTA said.

The parade marked the culmination of almost a yearlong grueling training for them in the premier institute.

The officer cadets belonged to the 118th batch of the Short Service Commission course and the 32nd batch of the

Short Service Commission Course (women) and other equivalent courses in the institute. The significant event, steeped in tradition and reverence, marked their transformation into the future leaders of the Indian Army.

The parade of the qualifying officer cadets captivated the spectators as they marched in perfect harmony, with martial tunes playing in the backdrop.

Lt General NS Raja Subramani presented the Sword of Honour to the Battalion Under Officer (BUO) Samrath Singh, OTA gold medal to BUO Simran Singh Rathi, silver medal to Academy Under Officer Tanishka Damodran and the bronze medal to Academy Cadet Adjutant Devesh Chandra Joshi.

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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

## 1 killed, 4 others injured after vehicle carrying students meets accident in J-K's Rajouri

RAJOURI, Sep 7 (Agencies): A student was killed while four others were injured after the vehicle they were in met an accident on Rajouri-Kotranka road near the Palma area, reports said Saturday.

Quoting an official, news agency NVI reported that a student was killed while four others were injured after a car bearing registration no JK11E 8411 veered off the road.

The official said the car was boarded by students on their way to school.

He added that the injured were later shifted to GMC Rajouri, while

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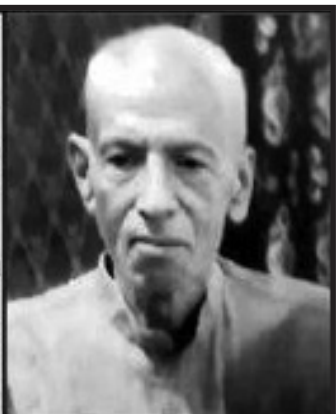


**MASVAR & VAHARVAAR**

One year has passed since you left us for your heavenly abode. Your blessings are always with us and you will forever remain in our hearts.

**Masvar & Vaharvaar of Late Sh. Dwarika Nath Saraf S/o Late Sh. Janki Nath Saraf,** erstwhile resident of Batapora Shopian (Kashmir) shall be performed on 7 & 8 Sep, 2024 at our residence H.No. 13, Tara Vihar (Behind Soap Factory) Khajuria Mohalla Paloura, Jammu.

**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:-  
Samast Saraf Parivaar**



**LATE SH. DWARIKA NATH SARAF**

**10TH DAY/KRIYA/ RASAM PAGRI & UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Jwala Dass Talgotra S/o Lt. Sh. Ram Lal** who left for his heavenly abode on 29th August, 2024.

**10th Day** will be performed on 07-09-2024 (Saturday) at 11.00 am at H.No. 03, Lane No. 27, Rajpura Mangotrian, Jammu.

**Kriya** will be performed on 08-09-2024 (Sunday) at 12 Noon at H.No. 03, Lane No. 27, Rajpura Mangotrian, Jammu.

**Rasam Pagri & Uthala** will be performed on 09-09-2024 (Monday) from 3.00 - 4.00 pm at Om Palace, Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

**Grief Stricken**  
Sahil Talgotra- Son  
Arun Kumar & Neera Talgotra- Brother & Bhabhi  
**Daughters & Son-in-Law**  
Renu & Vinod Kumar  
Anu & Anil Salaria  
Mannu & Rakesh Kumar  
Shiekh & Vineet Verma  
Ruhi & Ankit Sharma  
Mob.: 9419223538, 9419193035, 9419198194, 7051893375  
R/o H.No. 03, Lane No. 27, Rajpura Mangotrian, Jammu  
Jawala Tailors, Link Road, Jammu



**Sh. Jwala Dass Talgotra**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow I Bushan Lal Bhat (LIC) S/o Late Smt. Kamla Wali & Late Sh. Shive Nath Bhat erstwhile of Wanpoh Anantnag and presently at HNo 72- A, Lane 2, Amar Colony, Camp Road, Talab Tilloo 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**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Pushkar Nath Bhat S/o Late Sh. Govind Ram Bhat** original resident of Paharoo Budgam at present 396/15, Kabir Colony Talab Tilloo Jammu 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 9th Sept 2024 at 9.00 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

Smt Sarla Bhat - Wife  
**Sons & Daughters in Law**  
Sh. Chand Ji Bhat & Smt Rashmi Bhat (Moza)  
Sh. Sanjev Bhat & Smt Princey Bhat (Raina)  
Sh. Bino Ji Bhat & Smt Monika Bhat (Chhabra)  
**Daughter & Son in Law**  
Smt Lovely Bhat & Sh. Ramesh Bhat  
Smt Sarla Bhat W/o late Sh. M.L Bhat- Bhabhi  
**Nephews**  
Sh. Tej Kishan, Bhat & Smt Soni Bhat  
Sh. Vinod Kumar Bhat & Smt Sujata Bhat



**SH. PUSHKAR NATH BHAT**

Sh. Sunil Kumar Bhat & Smt Neelam Bhat  
**DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY:-  
Bhat's Moza's Raina's, Chhabra's**

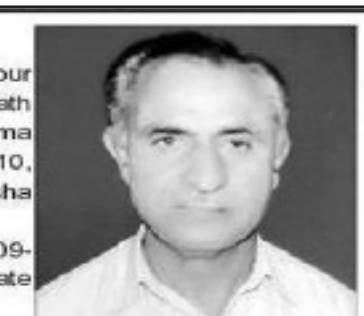
**10TH DAY KRIYA**

We are deeply saddened to inform you that our beloved **Sh Amar Nath Tikku S/o Arjan Nath Tikku**, originally resident of Vill. Tahab, Pulwama Kashmir at present 157 Sect. 1st Lane B-10, Vinayak Nagar, Muthi, Jammu attained Moksha on 31-08-2024.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 09-09-2024 (Monday) at Muthi Ghat (near Directorate of School Education) Jammu at 8:30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**

Smt Toshia Tikku - Wife 9796003159  
**(Son & D. in. Law)**  
Ajay Kumar Tikku & Suman Tikku - 8492953435  
Monika Zutshi (Daughter) 9671692747  
Triloki Nath Tikku & Sujata Tikku - Brother & Bhabhi- 9796011504  
Maharaj Krishan Tikku Brother - 9419769951  
Rohini Tikku & Arpita Tikku, Kanika Zutshi (Grand Daughter)



**Sh Amar Nath Tikku**

**MASVAR AND VAHARVAR**

One year has passed since you left for heavenly abode.

Our hearts still can't accept that you are not with us (Physically) anymore you lived a noble honest and graceful life and continue to be remembered for your love compassion care humor and kindness for all.

The void you left can never be filled. We know your love and blessing will always shower on us. We pray to God to grant Moksha to your noble soul.

**Masvar and Vaharvar** of our beloved mother (Smt. **Smt Parmeshwari Bakshi**) will be performed on 7th and 8th of September 2024 at our residence 147 Preetam Nagar Paloura Dhoke Jammu  
**Deeply Missed and Remembered By  
Samast Bakshi and Bhat Parivar**



**Smt Parmeshwari Bakshi**

**OBITUARY/TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

Our hearts are heavy with sorrow, and tears flow freely. No one can truly understand what it means to lose you.

We keep you close in our hearts, where you will stay, walking with us through our lives until we reunite once more.

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Shri H N Jattu** original resident of Ganpatyur, Srinagar and presently at A-2385 Greenfield Colony Sector 42, Faridabad. He left for heavenly abode on 3rd Sept 2024.

**Prayer Meet (Shanti Paath)** will be held at their residence on Sunday, 8th September 2024 at 4:00 pm.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed at Nigam Bodh Ghat, Kashmir Gate, New Delhi on Thursday, 12th September, 2024 at 9:00AM

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**

Kishore & Veena Jattu - Son & Daughter in Law  
Surennder & Neerja Jattu - Son & Daughter in Law  
Shakti & Raj Kumar Sharma - Daughter & Son in Law  
**Samast Parivar  
Jattu's, Sharma's, Bhat's**  
Mobile Numbers : 9810027476(Kishore Jattu) , 9810759959 (Vinay Jattu) , 9987507821 (Raj Kumar Sharma)



**Shri H N Jattu**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Tara Singh Bogal (Retd ZEO)** resident of Rahya.

**10TH DAY** will be held at 11 AM on 8.9.2024 (Sunday) at our residence Sarore Adda New colony near Govt High School.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

SMT KAILASH DEVI (WIFE)  
NARINDER SINGH & ANITA PATHANIA (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)  
DAMINDER SINGH & NEERU SAMBYAL (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)  
PARDEEP SINGH AND SONIA JASROTTA (SON & DAUGHTER IN LAW)  
NIRMALA DEVI & YASHPAL SINGH (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)  
CONTACT: 8825018727, 7006470803, 7889648715



**SH TARA SINGH BOGAL (RETD ZEO)**

**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 Chhatabad Srinagar & at present Kaushambi Ghaziabad on 31st August.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be held on 9th September 2024 at Munsadnagar Ghaziabad Ghat at 09 am.

**Assembly** at residence B-67 S1 3rd floor opposite Annapurna Society Kaushambi Ghaziabad 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 108730, 9654052187, 991033252, 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



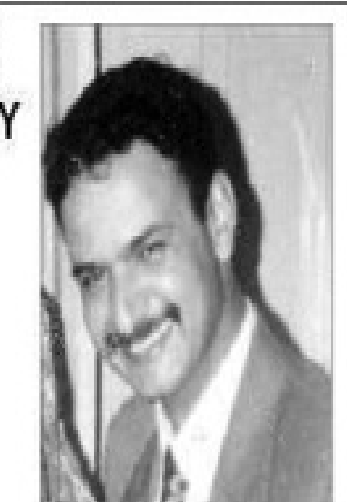
**Sh Piaray Lal Koul**

**REMEMBRANCE**

**ON 24TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

"We miss you and love you always. Forever in our hearts".

Late Sh Surinder Singh (Father)  
Smt Geeta Rani (Mother)  
Veer Bhanu Singh (Brother)  
Rashmi (Bhabhi)  
Rajinder & Lalita



**Vivek (Bantu)**

**MOURNING FROM GHAR PARIVAR**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved Son **Dr. Sanjay Bhat S/o Nard Bhat H/o Dr. Ati Razdan** originally from Village Gulgam-Kupwara has left for the heavenly abode on 4th September 2024.

**Mourning** will be at Flat No. 120 C, Sector 2, Pocket 2, DDA Flats, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

Shrishi Bhat (Daughter)  
N L Bhat (Father)  
Mobile No 9622102156  
Ajay Bhat (Brother)  
Mobile No. 9899361973  
**DEEPLY STRICKEN  
Samast Bhat Parivaar**



**DR. SANJAY BHAT**

**10TH DAY & 13TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt Shanti Devi W/o Late Sh Naib Chand R/o Village Janwas Sarthall Kishitwar A/P House No. 44/45 Sec. 5 Lower Roop Nagar Jammu.**

**10th Day** will be performed at 7.30 AM at Muthi Ghat Jammu on 7.09.2024.

**13th Day** will be performed on 10.09.2024 at our residence 44/45 Sec 5 Lower Roop Nagar Jammu.

**GRIEF STRICKEN :**

**Sons & Daughter-in-laws**  
Mohinder Singh Sen & Smt Sushma Devi  
Rajinder Singh Sen & Smt Anita Devi  
Dr. Ghansham Singh & Dr Simi Kotwal  
**Daughters & Son-in-laws**  
Smt Reeta Devi & Sh Dev Raj Rana  
Late Smt Chander Kanta & Sh Nirdosh Parihar  
Smt Anita Devi & Sh Nikesh Parihar  
Mob No. 9419167534, 7006283959, 9419194716, 9469179164



**Smt Shanti Devi**

**BIRTHDAY REMBRANCE**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF **KAMLESH GANDOTRA W/O VIJAY GANDOTRA** A HEARTFULL OF LOVE & KINDNESS. IT HAS BEEN 4 YEARS SINCE SHE LEFT BUT SHE NEVER REALLY DID. WE LONGINGLY THINK OF LOVE & GRACE SHE BROUGHT IN OUR LIVES. TODAY WE CELEBRATE HER MEMORY ON THE DAY OF HER BIRTH. MAY YOUR SOUL BE BLESSED WITH ETERNAL PEACE & HAPPINESS WHEREVER YOU MAY BE.

**DEEPLY MISSED & REMEMBERED BY :**  
**GANDOTRA FAMILY**  
Mob : 9419147473, 9419195883, 9417269697



**Smt Kamlesh Gandotra**

**REMEMBRANCE 2ND DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

Message in memory of our beloved **Dr. Chandra Shekhar** (While the grief is still in our hearts, on 7 September on your second Death Anniversary.

We hope and pray that you are in a better place now. Not a day has passed since that we haven't remembered you (Dr. Chandra Shekhar Associate Professor Department of Psychology University of Jammu) integral part of our lives and shall always remain.

so we all love you so much.  
**FROM:**  
Dr. Nasta (Wife)  
Talrajat (Son)  
Talrajat (Daughter)



**Dr. Chandra Shekhar**

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# Chrungoo accuses BJP of exploiting issue of Hindu exodus for electoral gain

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Dr. Ajay Chrungoo, Chairman of Panun Kashmir, alongside other leaders, addressed several pressing concerns regarding the ongoing election process for the first Legislative Assembly in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference at the Press Club on Saturday, Chrungoo issued a stark warning to the Government of India, cautioning against transforming the democratic process into an instrument that furthers the denial of the Kashmiri Hindu genocide.

Dr. Chrungoo stated that the BJP government has allowed the genocide of Hindus to progress into its final stage, known as the "Consolidation of Genocide," which normalizes this crime against humanity.

The Kashmiri Hindus, who remain in exile due



to the genocide, are once again facing an election process without addressing the root issues of their displacement.

Dr. Chrungoo condemned the upcoming elections, stating that they will be misrepresented as a victory for democracy while, in reality, they marginalize and exclude the exiled Hindu population.

He emphasized that the expulsion of Kashmiri Hindus from their homeland has also effectively removed them from the democratic processes of

the Indian Republic, raising concerns about their disenfranchisement.

Panun Kashmir drew attention to the manipulation of the voting process for internally displaced Hindus, where deceit, false promises, and coercion have transformed their votes into captive electoral instruments, distorting the integrity of their participation.

Successive governments, both at the Centre and in Jammu and Kashmir, have consistently proclaimed their dedica-

tion to democracy while simultaneously denying the genocide of Hindus.

This, according to Dr. Chrungoo, has turned the democratic process into a tool of genocide denial.

He criticized the ongoing elections as a "vicious drama of fake empowerment", which ultimately consolidates the genocide by erasing the memory and suffering of its victims.

Dr. Chrungoo accused the BJP of exploiting the issue of Hindu exodus for electoral gain while simultaneously becoming complicit in the genocide's denial.

He pointed to the government's inaction during recent cycles of religious cleansing as evidence of its failure to protect the remaining Hindus in Kashmir.

The danger of Jihadi separatists manipulating the elections to further their agenda was also highlighted.

Panun Kashmir expressed concerns about the government's belief that election participation equals an endorsement of Indian nationhood and the Constitution.

Dr. Chrungoo stated that the Government of India's handling of the democratic process has led to the rehabilitation of separatist forces and the transformation of elected governments into structures that support Jihadi terrorism and separatism within the country.

The Kashmiri Hindus will not support any political process that denies their genocide or contributes to the internal weakening of the nation, he said adding that a political process that consolidates their genocide holds no meaning for them.

Both the Congress and the BJP have failed the Kashmiri Hindus, allowing demographic destruction to continue unabated, he said.

# SMFG India Credit launches its 1000th Branch

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: SMFG India Credit Co. Ltd., a prominent player in India's Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) sector, proudly announces the opening of its 1000th branch, located in Vashi, Navi Mumbai. This landmark event underscores the company's unwavering commitment to expanding its footprint across the country and bringing financial services to underpenetrated markets. To mark this significant milestone, SMFG India Credit has collaborated with India Post to release a Special Cover & My Stamp.

The official unveiling was graced by the presence of Yagi Koji, Consul-General of Japan in Mumbai, Abhijeet Bansode, Director - Postal Services (HQ) Maharashtra Circle, alongside Shantanu Mitra, CEO & MD of SMFG India Credit.

The launch of the 1000th branch is a testament to SMFG India Credit's strategic vision of deepening its presence within the large and diverse Indian market.

Since its inception in 2007, the company has consistently pursued growth, evolving into a



Pan-India institution that now operates in over 670 towns and 70,000+ villages, supported by a workforce exceeding 23,000 employees.

Over the past two years, SMFG India Credit has added approximately 300 new branches, with a significant 95% of these branches established in Tier-2+ cities and semi-rural areas.

This expansion aligns with the company's mission to extend formal credit access to diverse populations across India, empowering them to achieve financial independence.

Reflecting on this momentous occasion, Shantanu Mitra, CEO & MD of SMFG India Credit, stated, "The inauguration of our 1000th branch is a significant milestone that demonstrates our deep commitment to providing formal credit access to people across India and helping them achieve financial inde-

pendence. As we celebrate this achievement, we are proud to release a Special Cover with My Stamp in association with Department of Post, symbolising the significance of the growth achieved by the company so far and the contributions to India's financial services sector. Our journey has been one of continuous evolution, adapting to the changing needs of our customers while staying true to our mission of enabling access to financial services to all and achieving fulfilled growth."

This milestone not only highlights the success of the company's growth strategy but also reaffirms its role as a vital contributor to India's financial services sector. With the inauguration of the 1000th branch, SMFG India Credit sets the stage for further achievements in its pursuit of becoming the financial partner of choice for every Indian.

# JKEEGA seeks reinstatement of seven suspended Gazetted Engineers

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: The Jammu and Kashmir Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA), led by General Secretary Sachin Tickoo, held an Executive Council meeting in Jammu to address pressing concerns, particularly focusing on the reinstatement of seven suspended Gazetted Engineers—four from Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC) and three from Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC).

These engineers had been suspended for over six months due to alleged poor billing and collection efficiency in their respective jurisdictions. JKEEGA emphasized that the suspension did not consider the challenging terrain, infrastructure, and manpower constraints that the engineers were working under.

The association highlighted that the suspended engineers had been making significant efforts to improve billing and collection efficiency despite these challenges. Importantly, their reinstatement



had already been recommended by the Managing Directors of both JPDC and KPDC. JKEEGA referenced a Supreme Court judgment, particularly the case of Ajay Kumar Choudhary vs. Union of India, which dictates that the currency of a suspension order should not exceed three months unless a memorandum of charges or a charge sheet is served within that time. Failure to do so would make the suspension arbitrary and in violation of Articles 14 and 16 of the Indian Constitution.

The prolonged suspension, according to JKEEGA, has caused severe mental distress to the affected engineers and has negatively impacted the morale of the entire workforce. The association appealed to

the Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir and the Principal Secretary of the Power Development Department (PDD) for the immediate reinstatement of the engineers. JKEEGA warned that if the suspension is not revoked within the next 15 days, the association would be compelled to call a General Council meeting and consider agitation to press for their demands.

Another key issue raised during the meeting was the regularization of serving and retired engineers, as mandated by the State Administrative Council's decision dated October 22, 2019. Despite the council's mandate, the process has been delayed, leaving many engineers in uncertainty about their future.

The association also pointed out that several critical posts within the engineering hierarchy remain vacant. These include Superintending Engineers (SE) 13 vacancies, Executive Engineers (XEN) 67 vacancies, Assistant Executive Engineers (AEE) 109 vacancies, and Junior Engineers (JE) 350 vacancies.

The Executive Council noted that these vacancies are forcing many senior engineers to manage multiple positions on an additional charge basis, further exacerbating the workload and administrative inefficiencies. The overburdening of Executive Engineers and Superintending Engineers is becoming untenable, with many finding it challenging to fulfill their responsibilities across multiple locations simultaneously.

JKEEGA also raised concerns about the slow progress in recruiting Junior Engineers (Electrical). According to the association, 292 posts of Junior Engineers have been referred to the Service Selection Board by JPDC, KPDC, JKPTL, and JKPC. However, recruitment delays,

caused by administrative impediments, are hindering progress. The association urged the General Administration Department to clear these obstacles swiftly. Recruiting Junior Engineers is crucial not only for providing employment opportunities to local youth but also for managing the significant projects under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), which has an earmarked budget of ₹5000 crore.

In light of these pressing concerns, JKEEGA made a formal appeal to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, as well as to the Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary of the PDD. They requested immediate intervention to resolve the issues facing the engineering fraternity. The association believes that addressing these problems promptly will boost the morale of the engineers and improve the overall functioning of the PDD. They reiterated that the workforce is currently under immense stress due to the additional charge system and the prolonged suspension of their colleagues.

# General Category People Front demands end of reservation

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Yash Paul Sanson, President General Category People's Front of India (GCPF) has alleged that Congress and BJP governments never took any step towards welfare of marginalized section of general category rather than playing divisive vote bank politics based on caste and religion for political vested interests. "Governments had done nothing to end the evil of caste and made it a qualification for some ethnic groups and disqualification for others which amount to extending differential treatment to a large section of society," Sanson said while addressing the press conference here on Saturday.

He urged government to end this differential treatment between people.

He accused political outfits of tacitly supporting and promoting caste

politics, betraying the trust of the people by putting their selfish agenda above basic fundamental principles of Equality, Justice Liberty and dignity.

He lashed out the government for not taking any legal step to make the caste irrelevant and alleged that legitimate basic rights were being denied to General Category by imposing restrictions on the application of these rights.

He said that Front in protest against denial to the basic right of "Right to be elected" and misuse of SCs/STs Atrocities act. Front appealed the voters of all reserved constituencies to use NOTA as preferred choice or boycott the elections in forthcoming elections.

Front hailed the recent verdicts of Supreme Court of India and endorsed the views of Jatin Ram Manghi, Ex-Chief Minister of Bihar and Minister in Modi

Government and Korari Lal Meena, Senior BJP leader from Rajasthan on exclusion of creamy layer and provision of quota within quota for the extremely backward to end the monopoly of elite class among SCs/STs.

Front alleged that through reservation, general Category people are deliberately and systematically ignored and marginalized which is a political crime.

Enough is enough. Time has come to end reservation, discrimination, inequalities and injustices and demanded universal social security and equality act.

Members of the Front including Raj Kumar Banathia, Som Nath Sharma, Gen. Secretary, Jagdish Dogra, V.K. Sharma, Deepak Khajuria, Bhushan Paregal, Dr. Bansilal, Surinder Kumar, Gopal Dass Verma, Ravi Sawhney were present on the occasion.

# Teachers Day celebrated at Gayatri Shakti Peeth



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Teachers Day is an important occasion celebrated in many countries to honour the contributions of teachers in shaping individual lives and Society. In India it is celebrated on September 5th, marking the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a renowned philosopher, scholar and India's second President. He was a firm believer in education as a means of transforming society and his birthday was chosen to celebrate the work of educators. Dr Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner, Chairman Indian yoga Association and President Vichar Kranti Manch International

al, explained about the importance and significance of teachers day on recognition recognition of teachers role: Teachers Day acknowledges the critical role of teacher in developing students intellectual and personal growth, shaping their character and important values.

Tribute to mentorship: it honours teachers as mentors, who guide, inspire and support students throughout their learning journey. The light was thrown on appreciation and gratitude from students towards teachers. Promotion of education, it was highlighted the importance of education in building a progressive and just society. Inspiration for

future educators was also explained about. Overall Teachers Day celebrated at Gayatri Shakti Peeth, Janipura, special pooja was performed by Shri Nandkishor Mandal, State Parivrajak Gayatri Shaktipeeth.

Vedic Preacher Sh Avtar Krishan koul, state Deputy Regional Officer, who is also a promoter of knowledge of Vedas and ancient scared texts of Hinduism, hold profound importance in day to day life for individuals seeking Spiritual, Moral and Practical guidance.

Mr koul was honoured as a Spiritual teacher, incidently it was also 72nd birthday of Mr Koul, Dr Jain composed life sketch in poetry, which was presented to him. Prominent Personalities attended the function included S/Sh Tarsem Nagar, State Regional Officer Shantikunj, Lokesh Bali, Joint Director horticulture department, Dr Shiv Kumar Ex Deputy Director, Jeevanlal from PDD, Nand Kishore Mandal, Gayatri Shaktipeeth and Ms Sumiti Raina from Headquarter Haridwar.

# Veterinary section of JMC holds awareness cum interaction programme for animal owners



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: An awareness cum interaction programme was organized on Saturday by Veterinary section of JMC for work animal owners operating within JMC limits.

The main motive of the programme was to aware the owners of Marriage buggies/ Horse cart/ horses/ Pony/ Mule/ Camel/ Donkey and other work animals regarding registration of their work animals in accordance with the Prevention of Cruelty to Draught and Pack Animals Rules, 1965 and J&K Municipal Corporation Act, 2000.

The stakeholders were appraised by Dr. Divya Sharma, JMC regarding importance of registration of work animals, their health & fitness status,

duration of their working hours, capacity of load on animals and various animal welfare issues.

The registration has been made hassle free by just submitting the fitness certificate of the animals and an affidavit in accordance with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 & Draught and Pack Animals Rules, 1965 by the owner.

The owners were also made aware regarding the fines & penalties that could be imposed on the defaulters.

Veterinary section of JMC is carrying out various drives within JMC limits to curtail the incidences of cruelty towards work animals as well as plying of these animals by their owners without obtaining proper licensing from Jammu Municipal Corporation.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
Office of The Executive Engineer Machinery Division Jammu  
e-mail: mdjxen@gmail.com

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
E-NIT No. MDJ/Tech/e-NIT/2024-25/45 DATED: 05/09/2024 DUE ON: 26/09/2024

On behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Government of Jammu & Kashmir Bids are invited by Executive Engineer Machinery Division Jammu by e-Tendering mode from reputed firms for undertaking the work as per SBD/BOQ.

S.No.	e-NIT No.	Description of work	Cost of tender (Rs.)	Time of Completion	Tender opening authority
1.	MDJ/Tech/e-NIT/2024-25/45	Repairs to TVR 17813 ESCORT	200.00	07 days	Executive Engineer Machinery Division Jammu

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, terms & conditions, bill of quantities can be seen / downloaded from J&K Govt. website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).  
All other information regarding the e-NIT can be had from the office of the undersigned on any working day during the working hours before due date.

**DIP/J-4907/24**

-Sd-  
Er. Mushtaq Ahmed)  
Executive Engineer  
Machinery Division  
Jammu



## EDITORIAL

GANESH  
CHATURTHI

Ganesh Chaturthi, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, is one of the most widely celebrated Hindu festivals in India, dedicated to Lord Ganesha, the elephant-headed god of wisdom, prosperity, and new beginnings. The festival, which lasts for ten days, typically falls in the Hindu month of Bhadrapada (August-September). It is marked by grand public processions, elaborate rituals, and a sense of community as people come together to celebrate their beloved deity.

The origins of Ganesh Chaturthi can be traced back to ancient times, with early references to the worship of Lord Ganesha found in religious texts dating back over 1,600 years. However, the festival's public celebration gained prominence during the reign of the Maratha king Shivaji in the 17th century, as a way to unite people and foster community spirit. It was later revived and popularized by freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak in the late 19th century as a means of promoting nationalistic fervor against British colonial rule. Tilak transformed the private celebration into a large, public event, encouraging community participation and cultural unity. His vision was to use Ganesh Chaturthi as a platform for people from all walks of life to come together, thereby transcending caste and regional boundaries.

The celebration of Ganesh Chaturthi begins with the installation of clay idols of Lord Ganesha in homes, temples, and elaborate pandals (temporary structures). Devotees bring the idol home amidst prayers and chants of "Ganpati Bappa Morya," a traditional chant seeking the blessings of Lord Ganesha. The idol is often decorated with flowers, garlands, and lamps, and offerings of sweets like modaks (a sweet dumpling believed to be Ganesha's favorite) are made.

The main rituals during the festival include the chanting of Vedic hymns, reciting of the Ganapati Atharvashirsha, and performing the aarti (devotional songs sung in praise of the deity). Each day, prayers are offered to Lord Ganesha, with the belief that he will remove obstacles and bestow wisdom and prosperity on his devotees.

One of the most significant aspects of the festival is the spirit of devotion and community involvement. Elaborate and grand pandals are set up by local communities, each competing to create the most magnificent displays. These pandals often feature massive, artistically crafted idols and serve as venues for cultural programs, including music, dance, and plays that depict stories from Hindu mythology.

Traditionally, the idols were made of natural clay, which easily dissolved in water after the immersion (Visarjan) ceremony, a critical aspect of the festival. However, in recent years, the increasing use of plaster of Paris (POP) and non-biodegradable paints for making idols has raised environmental concerns. When these idols are immersed in rivers, lakes, or seas during the Visarjan, they cause significant pollution, harming aquatic life and ecosystems.

In response, there has been a growing movement toward eco-friendly Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations. Many communities now encourage the use of idols made from natural clay, mud, or biodegradable materials. Additionally, artificial ponds are set up for immersion to reduce water pollution. Awareness campaigns also promote sustainable practices such as minimizing the use of plastic decorations and promoting green alternatives like natural dyes and recyclable materials.

The culmination of the festival occurs with the immersion of the Ganesha idols in water bodies, known as the Visarjan. This is a deeply symbolic and emotional moment for devotees, as they bid farewell to their beloved deity with the hope that he will return the following year. The immersion signifies the cycle of birth, life, and death, teaching that all physical forms are temporary, and only the spirit is eternal. It is a reminder of the impermanence of material life and the constant flow of time.

During the Visarjan, large processions take place, with devotees dancing, singing, and shouting joyous chants of "Ganpati Bappa Morya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar Ya" (O Lord Ganesha, come back soon next year). The immersion is both a spiritual and community event, reflecting the faith, devotion, and unity of the people.

Ganesh Chaturthi has transcended its religious significance to become a cultural phenomenon. While it is predominantly celebrated in Maharashtra, it has spread to other parts of India, including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Goa, as well as among the Indian diaspora worldwide. The festival has become a symbol of Indian culture, fostering a sense of identity, unity, and tradition among people from diverse backgrounds.

Ganesh Chaturthi is more than just a religious celebration. It is a vibrant expression of devotion, community, and culture, reflecting the deep-rooted traditions and values of Hinduism. At its core, the festival encourages people to come together in prayer and joy, celebrating new beginnings and seeking the blessings of Lord Ganesha for prosperity and wisdom.

## UK should check social media use to spread hatred, instigate violence

By: Farrukh Dhondy

This week a flimsy dingy carrying an overload of wretched asylum seekers trying to get to British shores across the English Channel sank, killing twelve people -- including several children. Also Read - Shobhaa De | Does anyone give a damn for rape victims in India? Advertisement This is a recurring tragedy. These asylum seekers are, most of them at least, fleeing persecution from countries such as Afghanistan, Sudan, Somalia and a hundred others. They pay criminal gangs thousands of pounds to get them to Turkey, Europe and then to Britain. The Tory and now the Labour government say the solution is to target and eliminate these gangs. Easier said than done. The gangs operate from the countries where the asylum seekers originate, through subsidiaries in Europe and to flunkies in France who are low-level members of the gangs and are entrusted with cramming perhaps ninety people onto a dingy meant to hold thirty or forty and setting them loose at night to sink or swim if the boat collapses. Also Read - Indranil Banerjee | Hunt for scapegoats won't improve future of B'desh The French authorities, whom the UK governments subsidise for the operations of crack-down on the people-smuggling gangs, have publicly stated that they blame Britain's lax employ-

ment laws, which facilitate cheap immigrant labour, which lure these asylum-seekers. Those who survive the crossings are picked up by Britain's Royal Navy or the Coast Guard and lead a suspended life for months and even years while their claims to asylum are being assessed by what has been proved to be a slow and woefully under-manned department of the home office. Also Read - Dilip Cherian | Kerala keeps it all in the family: Wife replaces husband as CS Accommodating the asylum-seekers during this process is seen by the rabble-rousers as an unnecessary drain on the exchequer and hence the British taxpayer. In July this year three very young children were brutally murdered in a dance class in Stockport when a young man, with some acquaintance with this Taylor-Swift-themed dance class, entered with a sword and attacked the children and the adults who then confronted him. Also Read - Sunil Gatade | Modi 3.0: How a 'strong leader' is on the retreat His identity, under British law which forbids under-age criminals being named, was kept from the media. Rabble-rousers, people opposed to immigrants of any sort and others who have long felt and asserted that "Muslim" immigrants are responsible for horrible crimes, got in the act and onto the social media. These included far-right politicians such as the leader of the Reform Party, Nigel Farage, who said on TV that the police

were keeping the identity of the murderer under wraps because he was perhaps a Muslim immigrant. I have to be clear here. Mr Farage did not say this explicitly. He merely said that we were not being told the whole truth. And yet in my estimation I think the policies of Mr Farage and Reform would take the implication that the murderer was a Muslim asylum-seeker and that this manner of horrific slaughter was attributable to just such a person. The rabble-rousing worked. Riots followed in perhaps twenty cities of the UK from July 30 to August 5. Hundreds of rioters attempted to set fire to mosques and buildings where asylum seekers were housed and attacked the police who were on duty to preserve the peace. The Labour government was not going to stand by and Sir Keir Starmer and home secretary Yvette Cooper swiftly deployed the police in force to stop this thuggery. You may recall, gentle reader, that the fellow Elon Musk used his X platform to ridiculously assert that Britain was on the "brink of civil war". Hundreds of arrests were made, some for throwing bricks at the police, others for trying to set fire to buildings housing asylum seekers, others for urging attacks on Muslims and mosques. Some of the offences are ridiculous. Babara Barker, 52, from Manchester, pleaded not guilty to a charge of violent disorder for buying

eggs which were then used by the protestors to throw during a riot. Some are more serious: Lucy Connolly, the wife of a Tory councillor, posted this message on Musk's social platform X: "Mass deportation now, set fire to all the f\*\*\*\*\* hotels full of the bastards for all I care ... If that makes me racist, so be it." I think, gentle reader, the post makes Lucy more than just a racist. Provocative arsonist? "Intellectually-challenged" moron? The political F-word? Another offender called for the burning of mosques with the worshippers inside. The latest statistic says that 800 people have been charged with offences arising from the riots. Some of these didn't offend physically by setting fire to bins and attempting to push them through the doors of asylum-seekers' residences. They were provocateurs from the safety of their premises, using social platforms -- provocateurs of the hapless; malevolent shepherds goading grubby sheep. The government has taken note of it and now seeks to find a way to prevent the use of the social media to spread hatred and provoke attacks such as we saw in early August. No doubt some right-wing cry-babies (and I can name names -- the Spectator and Telegraph columnists?) will characterise it as an attack on free speech. It isn't. Expressing hatred should be allowed. Instigating violence against Muslims, Jews, immigrants or even Zoroastrians, shouldn't.

## Does anyone give a damn for rape victims in India?

By: Shobhaa De

Take a look at the statistics: In 2022, around 32,000 rape cases were reported to the police across India. But on top of that, over 13,000 cases were pending from previous years, adding up to 45,000 cases that the cops were supposed to handle. And chew on this: in seven out of 10 cases, rapists escape punishment. How come? Simply because we don't have a sufficient number of prisons to accommodate the staggering number of rapists running around, assaulting defenseless women. Rapists are like India's stray dogs: impossible to count or control. Seen as a menace to society and a threat to the vulnerable who they pounce on, they run wild and roam free. The statistics for unreported rapes are beyond computation. Experts say culprits get away with the crime because our overburdened police lack the time needed for a thorough investigation. The conviction rate in rape cases is a dismal 27.4 per cent. Shocked? I am not. The ugly truth is that rape does not count as a "serious" crime in our twisted society. Nobody really cares, no one bothers. Rape happens, we shrug. And move on to the next story. Also Read - Farrukh Dhondy | UK should check social media use to spread hatred, instigate violence Advertisement Rape remains just another four-letter word. Didi has suddenly woken up to rape's seriousness. There has been a huge hungama over the stringent anti-rape bill that was unanimously passed by the West Bengal Assembly recently, which proposed the death penalty for rapists, no less. No half measures. Seedha maut. The Aparajita Women and Child (West Bengal Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill 2024 wants to

alter sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). The bill also recommends imprisonment of 3-5 years for disclosing the victim's identity. The West Bengal chief minister's critics accused her of milking the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital tragedy to score political brownie points and hog headlines. It is a clumsy, misplaced attempt to demonstrate good intentions, after messing up big time. Unfortunately for Didi, the latest stunt has backfired and comes off as a loud, theatrical act that has raised more questions on the rape-murder scandal, without addressing the issues themselves. Is anything likely to change anytime soon? Will the passing of the bill transform the lives of women by ensuring their safety? Certainly not! This is an eyewash, and hogwash, that hasn't fooled anyone. So long as there is police apathy and appalling conditions at the workplace remain, the bill will be a piece of worthless paper. A footnote, best ignored. Also Read - Indranil Banerjee | Hunt for scapegoats won't improve future of B'desh It may be worth researching why women in the Northeast are relatively better off, with a lower rate of sexual crimes than the national average. Are they more valued in society? Better respected? Is the mindset of men from the Northeast significantly different from that of their counterparts in Delhi? Why is Delhi stuck with such a vile reputation? How come Delhi "leads" with one nasty incident per 700 women -- the country's highest? If India's capital can "boast" about this "achievement", is there any wonder why the rest of the country damns the "rape culture" there and families are reluctant to allow their daughters to seek employment in such a dangerous city? But Mumbai, with all its swag,

is not much better, despite the perception of it being the safest metropolis in India. It is anything but! Millions of female Mumbaikars risk assault on a daily basis as they rush to work, looking over their shoulders constantly. Most cop stations are frightfully under-manned and the havaldars on duty barely look up when a woman walks in to file a rape complaint. She is treated like a nuisance who is wasting their precious time and keeping them away from more important cases. Also Read - Dilip Cherian | Kerala keeps it all in the family: Wife replaces husband as CS With all the noise surrounding the Kolkata rape and murder case, the selective outrage also underlines the class discrimination faced by other rape victims, like the two Dalit teens who were found hanging from a tree in UP's Farrukhabad district. Officials claimed swabs were sent for testing "to rule out rape", after the family protested. Since when has the "swab test" become the definitive test to establish rape? Also Read - Sunil Gatade | Modi 3.0: How a 'strong leader' is on the retreat I am scratching my head to find some cheerful news worth sharing as we herald the forthcoming festive season. I am stumped! I can't get over the absurdity of all the stories surrounding the 35-foot steel statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj that toppled over at Rajkot Fort in Malvan. The impressive statue of the warrior king was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in December 2023 during the Navy Day celebrations. Nine months later, the gigantic statue fell off its pedestal during high winds. And all hell broke loose as rival political parties started the blame game. Meanwhile, the terrified sculptor disappeared! I am feeling really bad for 39-year-old Jaydeep Apte,

whose track record has been pretty impressive so far. In 2019, Apte was commissioned by the UK-based Sikh Soldier organisation to sculpt a bronze bust of a Sikh soldier which was unveiled in West Yorkshire. It's crazy that seven police teams were unable to find Apte for 10 days! Come on... he is not a gangster or some underworld don. Hard to believe the ex-alumnus of the J.J. School of Art successfully eluded the cops like a seasoned, hardened criminal. Now comes the good news: the absconding sculptor has finally been nabbed after he surrendered to the police outside his own home. Ridiculous, or what? Perhaps, as the poor fellow said in an earlier interview, he wasn't given sufficient time to work on the statue. Most importantly, what exactly is his culpability? Isn't he as guilty or as innocent as corrupt road contractors whose slipshod work at an inflated cost leads to so many fatal accidents. Nobody arrests them, so why go after the sculptor? Clearly, the politics of the statue are more important than fair play. There is talk that Apte is a close friend of Shrikant, chief minister Eknath Shinde's son. Is that why seven police teams failed to locate him? Meanwhile, the Malvan police filed an FIR against Apte and Chetan Patil, the structural engineer, under several sections, including "attempt to murder". Huh??? For now, I am cheering myself up as Mumbai gets ready to welcome its much-adored Bappa over the weekend. It's modak time as hundreds of pandals gear up for ten days of energetic celebrations. The Assembly elections in Maharashtra are around the corner, with Uddhav Thackeray actively pitching himself as the next chief minister. Get ready for fireworks, folks. And do watch out -- the biggest rocket is in Sharad Pawar's hands.



## Mahajan Sewa Sangh felicitates Sham Lal Sharma, appeals to community for support

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Neeraj Gupta, the President of the Mahajan Sewa Sangh Charitable Trust, along with other members of the Trust, has played a pivotal role in felicitating the nomination of Sham Lal Sharma as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate for the Jammu North constituency.

The Mahajan Sewa Sangh Charitable Trust, known for its commitment to community service and socio-political engagement, has been actively involved in supporting and promoting candidates who align with their values and goals. In this context, the



Trust's involvement with Sham Lal Sharma's nomination underscores their strategic effort to back a candidate with significant experience and a strong track record in public service.

Sham Lal Sharma, a respected former minister, has been recognized

for his contributions to regional development and governance. His nomination by the BJP is seen as a move to leverage his extensive experience and leadership skills to address the needs and aspirations of the Jammu North constituency.

Neeraj Gupta, President of the Mahajan Sewa Sangh Charitable Trust, has supported Sham Lal Sharma's nomination as the BJP candidate for Jammu North. Gupta has also appealed to the Mahajan community to vote for Sharma, highlighting

his extensive experience and effective leadership as a former minister.

Gupta emphasized that Sharma's candidacy represents a strong opportunity for addressing the community's needs and driving positive change.

By mobilizing the Mahajan community's support, Gupta aims to strengthen Sharma's campaign and ensure a unified push for effective representation in Jammu North.

The people who were present on the occasion included Advocate Anil Gupta Secretary Cum Cashier, R. K Gupta General Secretary, Arun Gupta Retd SE Secretary, Vivek Gupta and Vicky Gupta Joint Secretary and Arun Gupta MSS.

## Several senior BJP, PDP, Apni party workers join Congress in Devsar

### Top News Report

KULGAM, Sep 7: Several senior Bharatiya Janta party (BJP), People democratic party (PDP) and Apni party workers joined the Congress Party at Devsar in presence of senior Congress leader G A Mir and congress candidate for Devsar assembly seat Amanullah Mantoo.

They were welcomed in the party fold by Congress leaders prominent among those who joined Congress include, Fayaz Ahmad Shah zonal president Apni Party, Muzamil Guroo District Secretary Youth PDP from Qimoh, Gh Mohd Mir Halqa president Waripora Kund Apni Party, Abdul Rashid Bhat



Block president Kund BJP, Peer Nazir Ahmad State executive member BJP, Abdul Rashid District Secretary BJP Kulgam.

While welcoming them, Congress leaders said "Congress is an instrument of service to the people, which has

remained dedicated to the cause of serving the people. The party believes in strengthening the people and is committed to equitable development of Jammu and Kashmir. Congress is duty bound to address the urges and aspirations of the people."

## Dr. Gautam attends workshop at AIIMS New Delhi

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Dr Gautam Sharma, MDS, President of Indian Dental Association (IDA), Jammu attended a three days periodontal and peri-implant plastic surgery symposium & microsurgical cadaveric workshop at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

The resource persons for this 3 days workshop from September 5 to 7, 2024, at AIIMS, included Dr. Shayan Barootchi, Dr. Vikender Yadav, Dr. Saravanan SP and Dr. Amit.

Dr. Shayan Barootchi, DMD, MS, is an Assistant Professor in the Depart-



ment of Oral Medicine, Infection, and Immunity,

Division of Periodontology, at the Harvard School

of Dental Medicine and holds a position as Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, Department of Periodontics and Oral Medicine.

Dr. Vikender Yadav, is Additional Professor at the Centre for Dental Education and Research, AIIMS, New Delhi.

Dr. Saravanan SP and Dr. Amit are the Dental Officers and Classified Specialists in Periodontology in the Indian Army Dental Corps.

Topics of the workshop included understanding gingival recession, coronally advanced flap, tunnelling flap, connective tissue graft and substitutes, periodontal

and peri-implant plastic microsurgery: clinical concepts, diagnosis and management of implant esthetic complications, keratinized tissue augmentation around teeth and implants, timings and therapies for soft tissue augmentation around implants, microsurgical workshop on animal model (Demonstrations and Hands-on), demonstration and hands-on of surgical techniques on cadavers.

Dr. Gautam Sharma is dental officer of the University of Jammu and is regularly attending the high-end dentistry symposiums especially Periodontal and microsurgical hands-on workshops.

## CUJ organizes Basic Life Support Training Programme



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: The Central University of Jammu (CUJ), in collaboration with the Jammu Skill and Simulation Centre RIHFW, Nagrota Jammu organized a one-day training programme on Basic Life Support (BLS) for students at the CUJ campus.

The program saw the participation of more than 75 students from various departments who received hands-on training in essential life-saving skills.

The session was

chaired by Dr. Manoj Bhagat, Principal of RIHFW/JSSC Nagrota Jammu, and Dr. Shelly Mahajan, National Master Trainer (ICRC, Delhi) from RIHFW Nagrota Jammu, who guided the participants through practical demonstrations and key techniques of Basic Life Support. During the Programme the others who were present Mr. Rajeev Gupta, In-Charge Coordinator of the Skill Lab, RIHFW Nagrota Jammu, and Kewal Sharma, MTS, RIHFW Nagrota Jammu.

The training program was coordinated by Dr. Vijayata Puri, Senior Medical Officer at the CUJ Health Centre, with support from Alka Saini, Nursing Officer, Ankur Sharma, Medical Attendant/Dresser, Mohinder Singh, Attendant, and other dedicated supporting staff.

This initiative aimed at equipping students with critical skills to respond effectively during medical emergencies and is part of CUJ's ongoing efforts to promote health education and emergency preparedness.

## 99% boulders, substandard material being used in MGREGA works in Kilam

### Top News Report

KULGAM, Sep 7: Residents of Kilam area of Devsar expressed anguish over the poor quality construction work of MGREGA as RDD department has come under scanner after residents alleged that large number of boulders and substandard material is being used in these works

Sources told that the contractors are using 99% boulders and substandard material in the construction of irrigation ladh and others works of



MGREGA in the area.

"The concerned contractors are using heavy boulder and sub-standard material. These contractors openly violate rules by using unapproved material. We appeal to the concerned departments to take action against the unscrupulous contractors," they said.

The locals also alleged that no government employee is visiting the construction site for inspection and monitor the work as the result the works has been not

executed in good condition and due to the poor attention by the department the state treasure get huge loss.

While experts said that using such kind of material is not feasible for such constructions. Experts and locals have urged higher authorities to look into the matter

Meanwhile, People of Kilam requested district administration Kulgam to look into the matter and take stern action against the contractors, Employees involved for such type of misappropriation.

## City University will organize HIMPUN 3.0 Job Fair 2024 in Nagarota Bagwan

### Top News Report

KANGRA, Sep 7: City University Ludhiana is organizing HIMPUN 3.0 Mega Job Fair 2024 on September 16, 2024 in OBC Hall, Nagarota Bagwan in which more than 30 brand companies are coming. Any 12th pass, graduate, post graduate, polytechnic pass can apply in this.

The chief guest of this program will be Cabinet Minister (Tourism Department) Raghubir Singh Bali and the guest of honor will be former Mayor Devinder Jaggi.

For more information, you can contact on these numbers 9988173027 (Dr. Vineet Thakur), 9914504907 (Dr. Nitán Arora).

## People welcomes Amit Kapoor's fight as independent candidate from Jammu North AC

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Amit Kapoor's decision to contest the Jammu North assembly constituency as an independent candidate has generated considerable excitement among the local residents.

Kapoor made his formal announcement, which was met with an overwhelming response from the people of the area. Hundreds of supporters flocked to his office in Janipur, where they warmly welcomed him by garlanding him and pledging their full support in the upcoming elections.

In his address to the gathering, Amit Kapoor reassured the community that he would work tirelessly to meet their expectations and fulfill their aspirations. He emphasized that his candidacy was not just about gaining a political seat but about continuing the fight for the issues that matter most to the people of Jammu North. Kapoor has built

his reputation by actively protesting against several contentious issues in the region, such as the installation of smart meters, the imposition of property taxes, and other public grievances.

He stressed that his battle for the people's rights, which he has waged consistently over the years, will not cease. Kapoor assured his supporters that no stone would be left unturned to resolve the challenges faced by the community, and he made a direct appeal for their support in the upcoming assembly election. His candidacy is rooted in the belief that only a local leader with a deep understanding of the region's issues can effectively represent Jammu North in the assembly.

Kapoor placed significant emphasis on reforming the education system. He promised to provide free education to children in the area, ensuring access to quality education for all. He also committed to tackling the



issue of private school mafias, which he accused of exploiting parents with high fees and unnecessary charges. Kapoor stated that he has been vocal against the private school nexus in the past and will continue to fight against the exploitation by private educational institutions.

Specifically, he vowed to end practices like annual charges imposed by private schools and to break the women uniform nexus—a term likely referring to unfair practices related to school uniforms. Additionally,

Kapoor promised to uplift the quality of government schools, aiming to bring them up to a standard where they can compete with private institutions.

One of Kapoor's most popular promises is the provision of 300 units of free electricity to every household. This commitment comes in response to growing public dissatisfaction with the rising cost of electricity and the installation of smart meters, which many see as an unnecessary burden. Kapoor has been a staunch critic of smart meters and, during

his speech, reaffirmed his stance, promising to remove smart meters from households across the constituency.

Kapoor outlined a robust social welfare plan aimed at improving the economic conditions of the local population. He pledged to introduce a monthly pension of Rs. 3000 for the elderly and Rs. 5000 for disabled individuals, ensuring financial security for the most vulnerable sections of society. Additionally, he promised Rs. 1000 monthly pensions for domestic women, recognizing the contributions of homemakers and aiming to support their financial independence.

He also promised free bus service for women, aimed at empowering them with greater mobility and access to work, education, and healthcare. Kapoor's agenda for women was designed to address both economic and social barriers, ensuring that they receive their rightful place in the development narrative of

the region.

Kapoor pledged to safeguard the jobs of local youth and protect the land rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He promised to secure employment opportunities for the youth within the region, ensuring that local talent is not overlooked in favor of outsiders. Furthermore, Kapoor promised to protect the land of local residents from being acquired by external interests, which has been a concern for many in the region due to the changes brought about by recent land laws.

A key part of Kapoor's campaign is the promise to restore the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir. The revocation of the state's special status in 2019 and its bifurcation into a union territory has been a contentious issue. Kapoor assured the people that he would work tirelessly in the assembly to advocate for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, a move that has the potential to bring

back autonomy and boost local governance.

Kapoor made a firm commitment to fighting corruption, which he believes is one of the root causes of inefficiency and inequity in governance. He promised the people that he would work towards eliminating corruption from government offices and services, ensuring transparency and accountability in the administration.

Kapoor has been a vocal opponent of the property tax that has been proposed by the administration in recent years. He reassured the people that under his leadership, he would fight to ensure that the property tax is not implemented in Jammu North, as he believes it would add an unnecessary financial burden on the common people.

Amit Kapoor was critical of political leaders who, according to him, have remained silent on important issues such as the installation of smart meters and the imposi-

tion of property taxes. He urged the people not to be swayed by these leaders who now claim to be their well-wishers, highlighting that they have not stood by the public when it mattered most.

He made a passionate appeal to the voters to reject outside candidates, emphasizing the importance of electing a local leader who understands the specific needs and concerns of the people. Kapoor positioned himself as the voice of the common man, someone who has consistently fought for the rights of the people and will continue to do so in the assembly.

He reiterated his commitment to resolving the issues of the people, ensuring development, and safeguarding the rights and dignity of the local population. Kapoor's call for support was clear—he urged the voters to make an informed choice, reject outside candidates, and elect a leader who is truly invested in the welfare of Jammu North.



## Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi to award 11 artistes from various fields

Eminent singer and Zee Sa Re Ga Ma winner Rinku Kalia, Sarangi maestro Vinod Pawar and noted ghazal singer Kanwar Jagmohan will be awarded the 'Kala Pratibha Awards-2024' by the Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi (CSNA). It's for the first time in the 44-year history of CSNA that such awards have been announced. Akademi President Sudesh Sharma said, "Tricity artistes gave a very enthusiastic response to the announcements in July and sent applications to the Akademi, out of which a committee selected the names of winners."

As many as 11 awards have been announced by the Akademi, out of which one CSNA Kala Vibhuti Award (Life Time Achievement Award), one Kala Parikh Award (Art Promoter Award) and three each in dance, music and acting, Kala Pratibha Awards, will be given. Sharma said, "The selection of CSNA Kala Vibhuti Award and Kala Parikh Award was decided unanimously by the General Body of the Akademi."

The first CSNA Kala Vibhuti



Award of the year 2024 will be given to Veena Dhir in view of her lifelong work dedicated to art. "Apart from exhibiting excellence in acting, dance and singing, Veena has also given training in these disciplines in various educational institutions. Playing the lead role in the Haryana feature film Bahurani, she has also acted in many serials

on Doordarshan. Despite being established in the film world, she did not leave the stage and despite her deteriorating health, she is still associated with theatre," said Sharma.

Kala Parikh Award (Art Promoter Award) for 2024 has been given to Impact Arts, whose founder is the famous theatre and Punjabi film artist Baninder-

jit Singh Banni.

In the category of the first CSNA Kala Pratibha Awards in the field of drama, senior director Umesh Kant has been selected in the direction category, famous artiste Abhishek Sharma in the acting category and Subhashish Niyogi in the lighting, make-up, set, furnishings, music, costumes, puppetry and craft category.

In the dance field, in the category of the first CSNA Kala Pratibha Awards, Tarsem Chand Kalehari was selected in the folk dance category, Gaurav Sharma in the modern dance category and the famous kathak dancer and director Amit Gangani in the classical dance category.

"All these artistes have been working in their respective fields for many years and apart from exhibiting their art, they are also educating the new generation," added Sharma. All these winners will be given awards during a grand function, the date for which will be formally announced by the Academy in due course.

## Anil Kapoor features in 2024's TIME100 AI list



Actor Anil Kapoor has been honoured for his significant contributions in fighting against the limitations of artificial intelligence (AI). He is the only Indian to be included in Time Maga-

zine's list, which honoured 100 people from different walks of life, who created an impact in the world of AI. The recognition seems fated as we hear about a film that Kapoor is currently

developing — a film about the potential of AI to inspire creativity and change lives for the better.

Taking to Instagram, Anil shared pictures along with a message that read, "With immense gratitude and a humble heart, I find myself among the visionaries shaping the future of artificial intelligence. This recognition by Time is not just an honour, but a moment of reflection on the journey of innovation and creativity. Thank you for recognising this endeavour @time." As soon as he shared the post, fans and industry members congratulated him in the comment section. Farah Khan Kunder wrote, "Omg!! Congratulations Papajiiii!! Aapka Time aa gaya." Anil's daughter and actor Sonam Kapoor dropped heart emojis.

## Wamiqa Gabbi sneaks in a quick family break amid filming of Baby John

Amid her busy schedule, actress Wamiqa Gabbi recently carved out two days to spend quality time with her family in Chandigarh. Wamiqa Gabbi took this brief respite before diving back into her work commitments in Mumbai.

The actress, who is busy filming for her upcoming movie Baby John, besides preparing for a new series by Raj & DK, seized the opportunity to unwind after a prior engagement in Delhi. Her brief but precious 48-hour break allowed her to reconnect with her loved ones and recharge before returning to her hectic professional life.

A trained kathak dancer, Wamiqa gained prominence with the Punjabi film Tu Mera 22 Main Tera 22 featuring Yo Yo Honey Singh and Amrinder Gill.

She further cemented her place in the Punjabi film industry with roles in Ishq Brandy and Ishq Haazir Hai, besides playing the lead in Sixteen.

Gabbi also starred in the Telugu film Bhale Manchi Roju, before appearing in Nikka Zaildar 2 and Nikka Zaildar



3. Her role as Annu in the sports biopic 83 directed by Kabir Khan showcased her versatility.

Wamiqa was last seen in Vishal Bhardwaj's spy thriller Khufiya streaming on Netflix, alongside Tabu and Ali Fazal.

Baby John is an action

film directed by Kalees and produced by Atlee, Murad Khetani, and Jyoti Deshpande under Jio Studios, Cine1 Studios, and A for Apple Productions.

The film stars Varun Dhawan, Keerthy Suresh, and Jackie Shroff in key roles.

## You hit me with a shoe, Karan Aujla stops London concert after fan attack

A video of Punjabi singer Karan Aujla being attacked during a live show in London has gone viral.

The video shows a fan hitting the singer with a shoe during the show. The shoe directly hit the singer's face, meanwhile the singer, who is seen raging with anger, stopped the show midway and started searching for the person who threw the shoe.

Fuming Karan said:



"Hold on! who was that, I f\*\*\*ing telling you

come up on the stage, Let's do one to one right

now, adding that "I am not singing that bad that

you hit me with a shoes."

He went on to say, "If any of you have a problem with me, then come directly on the stage and talk... because I am not saying anything wrong."

Just then, the security guards caught the man in the crowd who threw the shoe at the singer and took him away.

The shoe attack on Karan Aujla has sparked an outrage and also security concerns.

## Ramsay brothers are back!

With movies like *Veerana*, *Purani Haveli*, *Tahkhana* and *Hotel*, among others, to their credit, the Ramsay brothers were a name to reckon with when it came to the horror genre during the 90s. Though the brothers had stopped making films,...

With movies like *Veerana*, *Purani Haveli*, *Tahkhana* and *Hotel*, among others, to their credit, the Ramsay brothers were a name to reckon with when it came to the horror genre during the 90s. Though the brothers had stopped making films, they are back with a horror show on ALTT.

Sagar Ramsay is producing a new series and says it will showcase a new side of psychological horror. Titled *Bandh Darwaze Ke Peeche*, the series will soon go

on the floors.

About the series, he said, "Our series has a fresh script that delves into the unexplored realms of psychological horror. The series takes a bold new direction, blending modern storytelling with intense, spine-chilling moments guaranteed to take the audience on a roller-coaster ride. The script has been meticulously crafted to engage today's audience, offering a unique mix of fear, thrill, mystery, and, of



course, most importantly, horror, which sets it apart. It explores

dark, hidden secrets and supernatural phenomena, all wrapped in

a gripping storyline that is both unpredictable and relatable."

## Visfot movie review: Riteish Deshmukh, Fardeen Khan's drama implodes with done-to-death story

Visfot movie review: Corrupt cops, gangsters, damsel in distress in love with one of the gangsters, lovemaking scenes, an encounter, the end — I have just described a random Sanjay Gupta film to you. And Visfot (which he has only produced), is no different.

What's the story? Kookie Gulati brings to us this directorial set in the slums of Mumbai (because filmmakers think this is the hub of all crimes, not cool). Shoaib Khan (played by Fardeen Khan) is a man who wants to leave Dongri, but his friend Many (Nachiket Purnapatre) leaves a jacket containing illegal substances in his car, and later comes

back to retrieve it. Due to a fire at their house, his mother (Sheeba Chhadha), suffering from dementia, misplaces it.

Another track runs parallel — Akash Shelar (Riteish Deshmukh) has caught his wife Tara (Priya Bapat) cheating on him. His son Paddy, meanwhile, is also missing from the café he had left him at, as he chases his wife. The two lives converge due to both misplacing something, and that's the rest of the story.

How does the film fare?

The cracks show early in Visfot (a remake of the 2012 Venezuelan film *Rock! Paper! Scissors!*, and written by Hussain Dalal and Abbas Dalal)

when you already know what's going to happen next. There's no attempt made to be original, because the story follows the same pattern we wrote about in the beginning. One waits for some twist which is going to blow our minds, but there's nothing here you haven't seen before. The only good bit here is the casting, which again doesn't get to rise above this boring screenplay. It is proof that only signing good actors minus a good script leads to a mess.

There is so much wasted potential. The extramarital affair track has been written so poorly that you feel bad for Riteish, who has proved himself as a con-

sistent actor otherwise.

In the midst of tensions running high, the dialogues boil down to 'yeh mera bachcha hai' 'nahi hamara bachcha hai' 'mera bachcha kahaan hai?' 'Voh mera bhi beta hai!'... you get the drift. It's all there in these scenes supposed to make you feel bad for this couple — the close-up shots, the breaking down — but there's only so much that can make up for the amateur writing.

Casting Seema Biswas as a ruthless ganglord was a win in itself, because she's convincing from the word go. As a viewer, I was eager to know her backstory, and that's what defines a good actor. They make

you feel for them, there's a connect.

Riteish is unfortunately not given a deserving role to dig his teeth into. Fardeen, who was supposed to make a full fledged comeback with this, is strictly average in Visfot.

Khel Khel Mein, which released in August this year, is a shining example of how good content and smart writing can even elevate the impact of Fardeen's performances.

Please note that I write the 'impact' gets improved, not the performance itself.

Visfot, overall, ends up as a whimper instead of a banging time at the movies. It's streaming on JioCinema.

## Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia reflects on her bond with Rohit Shetty



Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia, one of the stand-out contestants on the latest season of Kha-

tron Ke Khiladi, opens up about her unique bond with the show's host and mentor, Rohit

Shetty. Known for his larger-than-life personality and inspiring leadership, Rohit has made a lasting impression on Nimrit during her journey on the show.

Nimrit shared, "Rohit sir is hands down the best mentor ever. There is so much I have learned just by watching him handle different situations. Early on in the show, he praised my performance, but I felt like I had more to prove. Then, during a particular stunt, which I didn't even win, I felt like I finally earned my place in his eyes. The odds were not in my favour, but Rohit sir recognised my determination and my will to keep going."



## PM Modi wishes 'good luck, success' on Ganesh Chaturthi

NEW DELHI, Sep 7 (Agencies): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday greeted people on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi and wished that the festival brings good luck, success and prosperity in the lives of all. In a post on X, PM Modi shared a video of him praying to Lord Ganesh and said, "Heartiest greetings of Ganesh Chaturthi to all countrymen. Ganpati Bappa



Moryal".

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated across the country to mark

the birth of the god of wisdom, who is worshipped before beginning anything new.

## Day after rocket attacks, six killed as violence erupts in Manipur's Jiribam district

IMPHAL, Sep 7 (Agencies): Six persons were killed in Manipur's Jiribam district on Saturday morning as there is no letup in the ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kuki-Zo tribals.

Official sources said an elderly Meitei man was shot dead in his sleep at Nungchappi village around 5.30 am. In a retaliatory gunfight, five insurgents – four from the Kuki community and one from the Meitei community – were killed. Later, the violence escalated to Rashidpur where intermittent firing continued until 9.50 am, the sources said, adding that the situation remained tense as the hostilities continued.

Located in Manipur's westernmost periphery bordering Assam's Cachar district, Jiribam has a mixed population of Meiteis,



Kuki-Zo tribals, Nagas and various other communities. It was unaffected by the ethnic violence in the past year until trouble breaking out here in the first week of June.

The incident in Jiribam on Saturday came a day after a 70-year-old priest was killed when suspected militants had fired a rocket that landed at the residential compound of former Chief Minister Mairembam Koireng

Singh in Moirang area of Bishnupur district. Five others were also injured. The victims were preparing for an upcoming religious function when they were hit by splinters.

Another rocket fired by the suspected militants on Friday morning at Terakhongshangbi in the same district damaged two buildings. The range of such rockets is over 3 km, the police said.

Meanwhile, all schools in the state remained closed on Saturday. The government had ordered the closure of government schools, government-aided, private and central schools keeping in mind the safety of students and teachers.

The ethnic violence, which first broke out on May 3 last year, left over 230 people dead and around 60,000 others displaced.

## Death toll in UP's Hathras bus accident rises to 17 as two kids succumb to injuries

HATHRAS (UP), Sep 7 (Agencies): Two more children died in Hathras bus accident while undergoing treatment at a hospital, taking the death toll to 17, officials said on Saturday.

Appi (2) and Gulshan succumbed to their injuries at a hospital in Aligarh, they said.

As many as 16 people -- 11 in Hathras and 5 in Aligarh -- are undergoing treatment, District Magistrate of Hathras Ashish Kumar told agency on Saturday.

At least 15 people, including four women and as many children, travelling in a van were killed on Friday after a roadways bus hit the vehicle from behind on National Highway 93 in Hathras district of Uttar

Pradesh, officials said. "The bus hit the van while trying to overtake it on the Agra-Aligarh national highway," Superintendent of Police (SP) Nipun Agarwal said.

The accident occurred near Kanwarpur village, about 10 kilometres from the district headquarters. The passengers were on their way to Agra from Hathras.

The deceased have been identified as Irshad (25), Munne Khan (55), Muskan (16), Tali (28), Tabassum (28), Najma (25), Bhola (25), Khushbu (25), Jameel (50), Chote (25), Ayan (two), Sufiyan (one), Alfaz (six), Shoaib (five) and Ishrat (50).

Salam Mohammad, a relative of some of the



deceased persons said that the accident took place, when some of his family members were returning to their home in Agra after attending a 'chaalisvaa' (a mourning ritual) in Sasni area of Hathras district.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed district officials to reach the spot and take care of the relief measures on Friday.

The chief minister also gave instructions to provide a financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh each to the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 each to those seriously injured.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the deaths in the accident and wished a speedy recovery to the injured. The local administration is providing all possible

help to the victims under the supervision of the state government, he said on X.

Modi announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each for the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for those injured.

President Droupadi Murmu condoled the loss of lives in the accident and prayed for a speedy recovery of the injured.

"The news of the deaths of several people in a road accident in Hathras district of Uttar Pradesh is extremely sad. I express my deepest condolences to the bereaved families who lost their loved ones and pray for a speedy recovery of those injured," Murmu said in a post in Hindi on X.

## 4 from Rajasthan killed, 6 injured as SUV rams into truck in MP



VIDISHA, Sep 7 (Agencies): Four persons from Rajasthan were killed and six others accompanying them injured when their SUV rammed into a truck in Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh in the early hours of Saturday, police said.

The accident occurred around 4 am on Biaora-Bina highway under Lateri police station limits, a police official said.

"A group of 10 persons, including seven women, from Jhalawad in Rajasthan was returning from a pilgrimage when their Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) rammed into a truck. Two women and as many men were killed in the accident," he said.

The deceased were identified as Kishanlal Lodha (60), Vinod Kumar Mali (34), Vardi Bai Lodha (70) and Rajbai Bheel (48), the

official said.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav expressed grief over the incident.

"Saddening news has been received about the death of four people from Jhalawar district of Rajasthan in a road accident while returning from Bageshwar Dham in Lateri block under Vidisha district. The district administration has been directed to provide proper treatment to the seriously injured," Yadav said in a post on X.

The Madhya Pradesh government stands with the families of the deceased in this hour of distress, he said.

The state government will provide appropriate financial assistance to the kin of the victims, he said.

## Minor 'sexually assaulted', found unconscious on road in Bengal's Hooghly

KOLKATA, Sep 7 (Agencies): A 15-year-old girl was allegedly sexually assaulted and dumped in an unconscious state on the roadside in West Bengal's Hooghly district. The incident, which happened on Friday night, comes amid the uproar over the brutal rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata.

The minor was found unconscious with torn clothes at Haripal in Hooghly district. The girl was returning home from tuition when she was allegedly picked up in a car.

The girl has been admitted to a local hospital and a medical exam was conducted on her. A complaint has been lodged with West Bengal Police, which has started an investi-

gation. "Investigation till now, including the medico legal opinion, has revealed that there are no suspects at this stage," the Bengal Police tweeted.

"Request to respect the privacy of the girl child and her family. Stern legal action will be initiated against those spreading rumours," it further said.

The BJP alleged that the police were trying to cover up the incident, saying the hospital was cordoned off, and media access was denied.

"Mamata Banerjee's police have cordoned off the hospital, the media isn't being given access and local TMC leaders are swirling around, to ensure the incident doesn't get reported," BJP IT Cell chief Amit Malviya said.

Calling West Bengal the most "unsafe place" for women, Malviya demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

"Mamata Banerjee has failed. She must step down, immediately. Enough is enough. She hasn't even set up fast-track courts to handle rape and POCSO cases," Malviya tweeted.

The incident comes even as protests over the rape and murder of the 31-year-old doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Hospital have refused to die. The semi-naked body of the doctor was found in the seminar hall of the hospital on August 9.

A civic volunteer of the Kolkata Police, 33-year-old Sanjay Roy, was arrested a day later. The CBI is probing the case.

## "Throw my daughter, son-in-law in river for treachery": NCP Minister to voters

*Dharmaraobaba Atram was reacting to reports that his daughter Bhagyashree is likely to join the rival faction of the NCP led by Sharad Pawar.*

MUMBAI, Sep 7 (Agencies): Maharashtra Minister of Food and Drug Administration and senior NCP leader Dharmaraobaba Atram has urged the voters of Aheri Assembly constituency to throw his daughter Bhagyashree and son-in-law Rituraj Halgekar in the Pranhita river for 'treachery' after reports surfaced that she could join the rival NCP faction led by Sharad Pawar.

Mr Atram made the controversial remarks in the presence of the party's national president and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, who was in Aheri during his 'Jansanman Yatra' to promote the Mahayuti government's Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana and other welfare and development



schemes.

The trigger for Mr Atram to target his daughter was her reported move to switch sides and join NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar) to fight against him.

"People leave the party but there is no need to pay attention to them. Some people in our family want to join another party by using my political clout. For 40 years, people have

engineered defections in state politics. Now the Sharad Pawar group leaders want to divide my house and field my daughter against me. Don't trust my son-in-law and daughter," said Mr Atram, amid loud applause and slogans.

"These people have ditched me. Everyone should throw them in the nearby Pranhita River. They are taking my daughter to their

side and pitting her against her father. A girl who could not become a daughter of her father, how can she become yours? You have to think about it. What justice will she give to you? Don't trust them. In politics, I will not see this as my daughter, brother or sister," said Mr Atram, who is expected to be the party's nominee from the Aheri Assembly segment in the coming election.

He added that if one daughter deserts him, another daughter is still with him so is his son, his brother and his cousin's son.

"The whole family has gathered behind me," he said, sending a clear message to his daughter that he is not worried about his poll prospects.

NCP national president Ajit Pawar, who deserted his uncle and joined hands with the BJP and Shiv Sena last year, took note of Dharmaraobaba Atram's warning to his daughter and made an appeal to her.

"The whole family is with Dharmaraobaba, who has made one of them the president of Zilla Parishad. But now they (Bhagyashree) are preparing to contest Dharmaraobaba himself. Wrestling is very popular with us. Always the master does not teach all tricks to the one who learns from him. He reserves one but teaches others. I want to tell them (Bhagyashree) not to make the mistake. Stay with your father," he said.

## Two coaches of Indore-Jabalpur Express train derail in MP

JABALPUR, Sep 7 (Agencies): Two coaches of Indore-Jabalpur Express train derailed on Saturday morning when it was approaching the Jabalpur station in Madhya Pradesh, railway officials said.

No passenger was injured in the derailment that occurred around 5.40 am, they said.

Restoration work is underway and a committee has been formed to probe the incident, according to them.

Jabalpur station falls under the West Central Railway (WCR) zone. "Two coaches of the Indore-Jabalpur Super-

fast Express (22191) derailed when the train was approaching platform number 6 of the Jabalpur station," an official said.

The derailed coaches were positioned just behind the engine, he said, adding that the derailment took place around 50 metres away from the platform.

Talking to agency, Madhur Verma, senior Divisional Commercial Manager (DCM) of WCR's Jabalpur Rail Division, "The train's scheduled arrival time is 5.35 am. The derailment occurred at 5.38 am when the train



was about to enter the Jabalpur station. The loco pilot immediately stopped the train and saved other coaches from getting dragged."

"Two coaches adjoining the engine got derailed, but fortunately, no passenger was

injured in the incident," he said.

The passengers got off the train and traffic on the adjoining tracks was stopped for around half an hour, Verma said.

"A multi-departmental inquiry committee has been constituted to carry

out a probe," he said.

There was no major impact on the railway traffic as only platform number six of the station was closed for operations, he said.

Harshit Shrivastava, chief public relations officer of the West Central Railway said, "The train was running at the dead-stop speed of 5 kmph when the incident occurred."

The cause behind the derailment will be known after a probe, he said, adding that railway traffic on the route was normal and efforts to re-rail the derailed coaches were on.

## Worker of Mumbai's Ganpati Mandal dies after being hit by speeding car



MUMBAI, Sep 7 (Agencies): One person died and another person was severely injured after a speeding car hit two workers, Mumbai police confirmed on Saturday.

Two workers of

Mulund Cha Raja Ganpati Mandal were hit by a speeding car on Saturday early morning at 4 am, leading to one person dying and another person being in critical condition. The incident happened

on the second day of Ganesh Chaturthi. The police are investigating the matter

According to the police, Navghar police have registered a case and are searching for the driver.

"Two workers of Mulund Cha Raja Ganpati Mandal were hit by a speeding car, one died and one is in critical condition.

The incident happened at 4:00 am. Police have registered a case and are searching for the car driver," said a statement by Mumbai Police.



## Ukraine destroys scores of Russian drones as it continues to face a new wave of long-range attacks

KYIV, Sep 7 (Agencies): Scores of drones were shot down over Ukraine Saturday as the country continues to face increased long-range bombardment from invading Russian forces.

The Ukrainian Air Force said that 67 drones were launched over the country overnight, with air defenses active in 11 regions across the country, including in the capital, Kyiv. Fifty-eight drones were shot down, with three more destroyed by electronic weapons systems, it said.

Debris from one drone was photographed on the street outside Ukraine's parliament, the Verkhovna Rada. Ukraine's parliamentary press service confirmed that drone fragments had been found but said there were no casualties and no damage to the parliament building.



The bombardment follows a week of increased long-range attacks across Ukraine, including a missile strike on a Ukrainian military academy and hospital Tuesday in the city of Poltava that killed 55 people and wounded 328 more.

Another attack Wednesday on Lviv — a city near the border with NATO member Poland and far from the front lines —

killed seven people, including a mother and her three daughters.

The deaths had a profound impact on the city, which had largely been spared the worst of the attacks that typically target infrastructure and are focused with greater intensity in the east of the country.

The attacks have also underscored Moscow's long-range

capabilities as Ukraine braces for what will likely be another difficult winter as Russia continues to smash Ukraine's power grid, knocking out some 70% of generation capacity and rupturing heat and water supplies.

Meanwhile, Kyiv has continued to launch its own strikes against Russia. In the Russian border region of Voronezh Saturday, Gov. Aleksandr Gusev said that a drone strike had sparked a fire and the detonation of "explosive objects."

Writing on social media, he said that a state of emergency had been declared for the region's Ostrogozhsky district and that several villages had been evacuated.

He did not provide the names of the villages affected and urged followers not to share photos or videos of fire that could be geolocated online.

## Libya's coast guard intercepts 64 Europe-bound migrants, days after a deadly shipwreck

CAIRO, Sep 7 (Agencies): Libya's coast guard intercepted dozens of Europe-bound migrants on a boat and returned them to shore, authorities said Saturday, a few days after a shipwreck off the North African country left nearly two dozen dead or missing.

The boat was carrying 64 migrants and was intercepted Friday off the northwestern town of Sirte, according to the town's coast guard unit. It posted images on Facebook showing dozens of migrants, including at least one woman and a child, upon their return. The coast guard also set the migrant boat on fire, a procedure aimed at preventing its reuse by traffickers.

On Wednesday, a boat carrying 32 migrants from Egypt and Syria capsized off Libya's eastern town of Tobruk, leaving 22

missing and presumed dead.

The Libyan coast guard said it rescued nine people and recovered one body.

Libya, which has borders with six nations and a longshore on the Mediterranean, plunged into chaos following a NATO-backed uprising that toppled and killed longtime autocrat Moammar Gadhafi in 2011. Since then, the oil-rich country has emerged as the dominant transit point for migrants fleeing war and poverty in Africa and the Middle East and seeking better lives in Europe.

Human traffickers in recent years have benefited from the disorder in Libya, smuggling in migrants across the country's lengthy borders.

The migrants are crowded onto ill-equipped vessels, including rubber boats,

and set off on risky sea voyages to Europe.

According to the International Organization for Migration's missing migrants project, at least 434 were reported dead and 611 missing off Libya between January and August this year while more than 14,100 migrants were intercepted and brought back to shore.

The intercepted migrants are held in government-run detention centers rife with abuses, including forced labor, beatings, rapes and torture — practices that amount to crimes against humanity, according to U.N.-commissioned investigators.

The abuse often accompanies attempts to extort money from the families of the imprisoned migrants before releasing them or allowing them to leave Libya on traffickers' boats to Europe.

## Boeing's troubled capsule returns to Earth empty, 2 astronauts left behind in space

NEW MEXICO, Sep 7 (Agencies): Boeing's first astronaut mission ended Friday night with an empty capsule landing and two test pilots still in space, left behind until next year because NASA judged their return too risky.

Six hours after departing the International Space Station, Starliner parachuted into New Mexico's White Sands Missile Range, descending on autopilot through the desert darkness.

It was an uneventful close to a drama that began with the June launch of Starliner's long-delayed crew debut and quickly escalated into a dragged-out cliffhanger of a mission stricken by thruster failures and helium leaks. For months, Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams' return was in question as engineers struggled to understand the capsule's problems.

Boeing insisted after extensive testing that Starliner was safe to bring the two home,

but NASA disagreed and booked a flight with SpaceX instead. Their SpaceX ride won't launch until the end of this month, which means they'll be up there until February — more than eight months after blasting off on what should have been a quick trip.

Wilmore and Williams should have flown Starliner back to Earth by mid-June, a week after launching in it. But their ride to the space station was marred by the cascade of thruster trouble and helium loss, and NASA ultimately decided it was too risky to return them on Starliner. So with fresh software updates, the fully automated capsule left with their empty seats and blue spacesuits along with some old station equipment.

"She's on her way home," Williams radioed as the white and blue-trimmed capsule undocked from the space station 260 miles (420 kilometers) over China and disappeared into the black void.

Williams stayed up late to see how everything turned out. "A good landing, pretty awesome," said Boeing's Mission Control.

Cameras on the space station and a pair of NASA planes caught the capsule as a white streak coming in for the touchdown, which drew cheers and applause.

Starliner's crew demo capped a journey filled with delays and setbacks. After the space shuttles retired more than a decade ago, NASA hired Boeing and SpaceX for orbital taxi service. Boeing ran into so many problems on its first test flight with no one aboard in 2019 that it had to repeat it. The 2022 do-over uncovered even more flaws and the repair bill topped \$1 billion.

SpaceX's crew ferry flight later this month will be its 10th for NASA since 2020. The Dragon capsule will launch on the half-year expedition with only two astronauts since two seats are reserved for Wilm-

ore and Williams for the return leg.

As veteran astronauts and retired Navy captains, Wilmore and Williams anticipated hurdles on the test flight. They've kept busy in space, helping with repairs and experiments. The two are now full-time station crew members along with the seven others on board.

Even before the pair launched on June 5 from Cape Canaveral, Florida, Starliner's propulsion system was leaking helium. The leak was small and thought to be isolated, but four more cropped up after liftoff. Then five thrusters failed. Although four of the thrusters were recovered, it gave NASA pause as to whether more malfunctions might hamper the capsule's descent from orbit.

Boeing conducted numerous thruster tests in space and on the ground over the summer, and was convinced its spacecraft could safely bring the astronauts back. But

NASA could not get comfortable with the thruster situation and went with SpaceX.

Flight controllers conducted more test firings of the capsule's thrusters following undocking; one failed to ignite. Engineers suspect the more the thrusters are fired, the hotter they become, causing protective seals to swell and obstruct the flow of propellant. They won't be able to examine any of the parts; the section holding the thrusters was ditched just before reentry.

Starliner will be transported back to NASA's Kennedy Space Center, where the analyses will unfold.

"We will review the data and determine the next steps for the program," Boeing program manager Mark Nappi said in a statement.

NASA's commercial crew program manager Steve Stich said earlier this week that the space agency remains committed to having two competing US companies transporting astronauts.

## Zelensky meets Meloni in Italy, presses for more arms



CERNOBBIO, Sep 7 (Agencies): Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky met Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on Saturday, her office said, as he presses allies for more weapons in his country's fight against Russia.

The pair met in Cernobbio, northern Italy, on the margins of the European House-Ambrosetti forum, where Zelensky spoke on Friday and Meloni

was due to speak on Saturday.

Italy has strongly supported Ukraine and has sent weapons to help it defend itself against Russian forces, while insisting that these must only be used on Ukrainian soil.

Before heading to Italy, Zelensky had on Friday pressed his case to allies meeting at the US Ramstein Air Base in Germany, where Washington unveiled

\$250 million in new military aid for Ukraine.

He also met German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. The gatherings came as Moscow's forces advance in the eastern Ukrainian region of Donbas.

Russian President Vladimir Putin declared on Thursday that capturing the region was his "primary objective" in the conflict, which has dragged on for two and a half years.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban -- who upset his European Union counterparts and Zelensky by meeting Putin in Moscow in July -- is also attending the three-day Italian forum.

Zelensky rejected Orban's calls at Cernobbio for a ceasefire, saying that Putin had never respected earlier accords.

## The heads of the CIA and MI6 issue a joint call for a cease-fire in Gaza

LONDON, Sep 7 (Agencies): The heads of the American and British foreign intelligence agencies said Saturday they are "working ceaselessly" for a cease-fire in Gaza, using a rare joint public statement to press for peace.

CIA Director William Burns and MI6 Chief Richard Moore said their agencies had "exploited our intelligence channels to push hard for restraint and de-escalation."

In an opinion piece for the Financial Times, the two spymasters said a cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war "could end the suffering and appalling loss of life of Palestinian civilians and bring home the hostages after 11 months of hellish confinement."

Burns has been heavily involved in efforts to broker an end to the fighting, traveling to Egypt in August for high-level talks aimed at bringing about a hostage deal and at least

a temporary halt to the conflict.

So far there has been no agreement, though United States officials insist a deal is close. U.S. President Joe Biden said recently that "just a couple more issues" remain unresolved. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, however, has said reports of a breakthrough are "exactly inaccurate."

The U.S. and the United Kingdom are both staunch allies of Israel, though London diverged from Washington on Monday by suspending some arms exports to Israel because of the risk they could be used to break international law.

Burns and Moore also stressed the strength of the trans-Atlantic relationship in the face of "an unprecedented array of threats," including an assertive Russia, an ever-more powerful China and the constant threat from international

terrorism — all complicated by rapid technological change.

They highlighted Russia's "reckless campaign of sabotage" across Europe and the "cynical use of technology to spread lies and disinformation designed to drive wedges between us."

U.S. officials have long accused Moscow of meddling in American elections, and this week the Biden administration seized Kremlin-run websites and charged employees of Russian broadcaster RT with covertly funding social media campaigns to pump out pro-Kremlin messages and sow discord around November's presidential contest.

The article is the first joint opinion piece by the heads of the two spy agencies. The two directors pointed to a new era of openness in their secretive field, noting that the CIA and MI6 both declassified

intelligence about Russia's plan to invade Ukraine before Moscow attacked its neighbor in February 2022.

"We saw it coming, and were able to warn the international community so we could all rally to Ukraine's defense," they said.

Two and a half years into a war with no quick end in sight, the spy chiefs said "staying the course" in supporting Ukraine remained vital.

They said the conflict has brought an unprecedented mix of conventional weaponry, fast-evolving technology in the form of drones and satellites, cyber-warfare and information operations "at incredible pace and scale."

"This conflict has demonstrated that technology, deployed alongside extraordinary bravery and traditional weaponry, can alter the course of war," they said, praising "Ukraine's resilience, innovation and elan."

## Typhoon Yagi makes landfall in northern Vietnam. Authorities shutter airports and order evacuations

HANOI, Sep 7 (Agencies): Typhoon Yagi made landfall Saturday afternoon in northern Vietnam where authorities shuttered airports and evacuated the most vulnerable.

The typhoon, described by Vietnamese meteorological authorities as "one of the most powerful typhoons in the region over the past decade," made its way to the Southeast Asian country after it left two people dead and nearly a hundred others injured in the Chinese province of Hainan.

Yagi landed at Vietnam's coastal provinces of Quang Ninh and Haiphong with wind speeds of up to 149 kilometers per hour (92 miles per hour), state media reported. Before landing, strong winds felled a tree, killing a woman in the capital, Hanoi, local media said Saturday.

Quang Ninh is home to the UNESCO World Heritage site Ha Long

Bay, known for its many towering limestone islands. Hundreds of cruises were canceled at the popular site before the typhoon landed, according to local media. Haiphong is an industrial hub, home to large factories, including EV maker VinFast and Apple supplier Pegatron.

The typhoon has also triggered power outages in large parts of Quang Ninh and Thai Binh provinces.

Earlier, the government issued several alerts, and those vulnerable to floods or landslides were evacuated. Four airports were shuttered, including in Hanoi, and Haiphong. Authorities pruned trees in Hanoi to make them less susceptible to falling, but wind and rain knocked over several along with billboards in northern cities. Local media reported that many moored boats were swept out to sea.

Yagi struck the Chinese city of Wenchang

in Hainan province on Friday afternoon with wind speeds of up to about 245 kph (152 mph) near its center. Local authorities said Saturday the typhoon left two people dead and injured at least 92 others.

Some 420,000 Hainan residents were relocated before the typhoon's landfall. Another half a million people in Guangdong province were evacuated before Yagi made a second landfall in the province's Xuwen County on Friday night. Haikou's meteorological observatory downgraded its typhoon signal from red to orange on Saturday, as the typhoon moved further away from the city.

Before leaving Hong Kong, Yagi forced more than 270 people to seek refuge at temporary government shelters on Friday, and over 100 flights in the city were canceled due to the typhoon. Heavy rain and strong winds felled dozens of trees,

and trading on the stock market, bank services and schools were halted. Yagi was still a storm when it blew out of the northwest-Philippines into the South China Sea on Wednesday, leaving at least 20 people dead and 26 others missing mostly in landslides and widespread flooding and affecting more than 2.3 million people in northern and central provinces.

More than 82,200 people were displaced from their homes in Philippine provinces, and classes, work, inter-island ferry services and domestic flights were disrupted for days, including in the densely populated capital region, metropolitan Manila. Warm water in oceans power storms and as they become warmer because of climate change, a U.N. climate change report warned that intense typhoons are becoming more common, especially in Southeast Asia.



## GGM Science College organizes Nukkad Natak to highlight drug abuse, cleanliness, literacy awareness

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: As a part of Swacchta Pakhwada, the NSS units of GGM Science College organized Nukkad Natak (street play) to raise awareness about critical social issues including drug abuse, cleanliness, and literacy.

The event, which took place on September 6 and 7, saw active participation from students, faculty, and the local community.

The first day's theme, was the Drugs and Cleanliness: A Path to a Healthier Community," that brought attention to the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of cleanliness in fostering a healthy society.



The next day, focus shifted to "Literacy and Cleanliness," highlighting how education plays a pivotal role in maintaining a clean and sustainable environment.

The whole even was arranged under the guidance of Principal of

the College Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, who addressed the audience on both days, stressing the importance of fighting against drug abuse, promoting cleanliness, and advocating for literacy as essential steps toward building a

responsible and progressive community.

Students delivered thought-provoking performances, using the medium of street theatre to engage the audience.

Their portrayal of the damaging effects of drug addiction and the trans-

formative impact of literacy and cleanliness was highly appreciated.

The event drew the attention of notable faculty members, including Dr. Ashaq Hussain of the Chemistry Department, Prof. Kiran Bala, H.O.D. Biotechnology, and Dr. Arti Sharma, H.O.D. Environmental Science.

The initiative was led by NSS Programme Officers Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, whose leadership and dedication ensured the success of the event. The two-day street play was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on the community and reinforcing the need for collective efforts in addressing these critical social challenges.

## 23rd Jammu District Sport Climbing Championship on Sept 21

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: 23rd Jammu District Sport Climbing Championship shall be organized by Mountaineering Association of J&K in collaboration with Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalan, Jammu on 21st September, 2024.

About 300 climbers from various institutions of Jammu district are likely to vie for honors in the competition which may extend to the next day in case the competitions are not completed on the first day.

The competitions to be conducted on the pre-fabricated 40ft high Tenzing Norgay Sport Climbing Wall in Sprawling Buds ICSE School campus

shall be held in eight categories of Men, Women (born in 2007 and earlier), Boys/Girls (born in 2008, 2009 & 2010); Sub Jr. Boys / Girls (born in 2011 and 2012) and Mini Boys/Girls (born in 2013 and after). The competitions in all the categories shall be held in 'lead climbing' only. However, there shall be demonstrations in speed climbing by international climbers at the time of inauguration of the championship.

For further information interested climbers/institutions should contact the General Secretary of Mountaineering Association of J&K Shawetica Khajuria on Mob. No: 7006099855 on or before 16th September, 2024. Whereas Shawetica

Khajuria, General Secretary of the Association and an international judge in sport climbing shall be the President of the Jury of the Competition, Sonam Sidharth, General Secretary of District Mountaineering Association, Jammu is the Organising Secretary of the competition. International climbers Shivani Charak, Shilpa Charak and Arun Deep Singh are also a part of the organizing committee along with senior members Sushil Singh, Shashi Kant Sharma, Sunil Chakhar, Sourav Deep Singh, Prerna Charak, Vikas Singh & Anu Sharma.

The district championship has been sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

## Amit Shah has unveiled a plethora of gifts for J&K in BJP's election manifesto: Rekha

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan on Saturday hailed the Jammu and Kashmir BJP election manifesto (Sankalp Patra), calling it a visionary document that outlines a comprehensive plan for the region's development and prosperity. She noted that it provides Rs 18,000 per year to the senior most women in every household through the 'Maa Samman Yojana.'

Providing assistance through the state government for women SHGs on the issue of interest on bank loans, Providing 2 free LPG cylinders every year to the Pradhan



Mantri Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries, Creates 5 lakh employment opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir through Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Rozgar Yojana (PPNDRY), Tablets/laptops to students studying in higher secondary classes in remote areas, Policy to address the issues facing 7,000 existing MSME units in Jammu and Kashmir so that access to land

and public utilities will be addressed, Free-allotment of 5 marlas of land for landless beneficiaries through the Atal Awas Yojana, Ayushman Bharat Sehat Scheme by an additional Rs 2 lakh from Rs 5 lakh.

Rekha Mahajan emphasized that union Home Minister Amit Shah has unveiled a plethora of gifts for Jammu and Kashmir in the BJP's election manifesto, cementing the party's commitment to the region's development and prosperity.

Rekha Mahajan hailed the manifesto, saying, "Amit Shah has outdone himself with this magnificent document. It's a treasure trove of gifts for Jammu and Kashmir, addressing the needs and aspirations of all sections

of society."

Rekha said the manifesto highlights the BJP's achievements in Jammu and Kashmir, including unprecedented development and infrastructure growth, enhanced connectivity and transportation networks, improved healthcare and education facilities, empowerment of marginalized communities, promotion of tourism and cultural heritage, effective governance, and corruption-free administration.

Rekha emphasized, "The manifesto builds on the BJP's past achievements and outlines a bold vision for Jammu and Kashmir's future. It is a document that will inspire hope and confidence among the people of the region."

Rekha highlighted the BJP manifesto also outlines the BJP's plans for Jammu and Kashmir's future, including the creation of employment opportunities for youth, enhancement of education and healthcare facilities, promotion of tourism and industry, empowerment of women and marginalized communities, and effective governance and corruption-free administration.

Rekha Mahajan added, "The manifesto is a promise to the people of Jammu and Kashmir that we will continue to work tirelessly for their development and prosperity. Under the banner of PM Modi-led government committed to making Jammu and Kashmir a model of growth and progress.

## JKBS grieves unfortunate demise of DySP (Retd) K.C.Bassa

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: To mourn the sad and sudden demise of DySP (Retd) K.C.Bassa who originally hailed from Village Allah and was presently putting up in Bishnah Town, the Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members held a condolence meeting here today.

While speaking, Hony Captain Ram Chand Bassa (Retd) said, the deceased had served with the Central Bureau of Investigation for long and made his family and the community proud. He was a role model to police personnel.

JKBS' General Secretary Mr R.L.Kaith described the departed officer as an epitome of kindness. His demise is a great loss.

All present prayed to Almighty to grant eternal peace to the



departed soul and give immense strength to the bereaved family to bear

this immeasurable loss.

Among those who attended the meeting included Hony Captain Kamal Dass Kaith (Retd), Subedar Karam Chand Bassa (Retd), SI (Retd) Darshan Kumar Bassa, Havildar Des Raj Kaith (Retd), Hans Raj Loria, Sham Lal Bassa, Tilak Raj Bassa, Madan Raj Kaith, Naresh Kumar Kaith, Hakikat Anmol and Jagdish Raj Kaith.

### NOTICE

I, Mahesh Magotra, S/o Kamal Magotra, R/o H.No. 194-A, Last Morh, Sarwal Colony, Jammu, have applied for the issuance of a death certificate for my mother, namely Smt. Pushpa Magotra, W/o Kamal Magotra, who expired on 04-05-24 at Sarwal, Jammu, with Reg. No. 002284 dt. 22/3/24. I have also applied for the correction of my father's name (Kamal Magotra), which was entered as "Kewal Magotra" instead of Kamal Magotra. Objections, if any, may be conveyed to the Registrar, Jammu Municipal Corporation, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

## FROM PAGE 1

### "Till there is no peace, no talks with Pakistan," says Home Minister Amit Shah, slams NC-Congress manifesto

say we will re-start LoC trade, but who will benefit from it? There profit will be used in spreading terrorism. They want to talk to Pakistan but I want to say that till there is no peace, there will be no talks with Pakistan."

"Three families want Jammu and Kashmir to incline towards terrorism. Gandhi, Abdullah and the Mufti family have looted money from Jammu and Kashmir; they want to restore the old system, which means there will be inequality in Jammu. No power can talk about giving autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir. They are fooling the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Rahul Gandhi should stop misguiding people. They want to snatch the reservation of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharjis and Dalits," said Shah.

The Home Minister said that the alliance was fooling people by saying they would restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir as only the government can do this and PM Modi will do this.

"Congress and National Conference are saying they will restore statehood. Tell me who can give it? It is only the Central government, PM Modi who can give it. So stop fooling the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We have said that at an appropriate time after the elections, we will give statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. We have said this in Parliament. Rahul Gandhi should stop misleading the people of J&K," Union Minister Amit Shah said,

In a veiled attack at the National Conference and the PDP, Shah said that there are people who became chief ministers when there was peace in the territory but whenever there was little disturbance, they rushed to Delhi in coffee bars.

"Kashmir has suffered a lot from terrorism. There were governments in Kashmir that turned blind eye to terrorism. There are people who would come here and become chief ministers when there was peace and when there was terrorism, they would go to Delhi and drink coffee in coffee bars." Praising the Modi government, Shah said

that the BJP government has reduced upto 70 per cent terrorism in the territory and now Amarnath Yatra is carried out fearlessly.

"The Bharatiya Janata Party has done the work of reducing terrorism by 70 per cent in 10 years. After many years, the Amarnath Yatra was carried out fearlessly. After many years, night theatre started in the valley, Tazia procession was carried out in the valley. The people of Jammu and Kashmir especially the people of Jammu have to decide whether they want terrorism or peace, development. If NC and Congress come to power, terrorism will come and if BJP will come, then no one can infiltrate here," said Shah.

Addressing the 'Karyakarta Sammelan', Shah, "We just don't have to defeat them, we have to seize their deposits. The movement started by Pandit Prem Nath Dogra was ended by PM Modi Ji on August 5, 2019. It is a coincidence that the first election rally of BJP is starting on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi and we all know that Lord Ganesh destroys all the obstacles of the path. I want to express my gratitude to the citizens on this occasion. The upcoming elections are historic elections. For the first time since the country's independence, the voters of Jammu and Kashmir will cast their votes under the tricolour. For the first time, votes will be casted under the Constitution of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and not under two constitutions. For the first time, no any PM will sit in Jammu and Kashmir as only one person can be PM. These elections are results out of the shadow of the article 370 and we have seen its results in Lok Sabha elections."

Exuding confidence, Shah said that BJP will contest these elections with full strength and urged the booth workers of the party to work on ground by door-to-door campaigning.

"I want to clear all the speculations that BJP will contest and win these elections with full strength. The biggest strength of Bharatiya Janata Party is booth workers and booth presidents. When our booth workers come on the election ground, best leader have flown from the field. This time, our booth workers have to go to each home and tell about the changes that were made in Jammu. For over 70 years, we have fought for our development, pilgrimage of Amarnath Yatra, we had to protest for it, but now, the day have come that you don't

need to ask for or do protests for it because Modi Ji will give it," Shah stated.

Urging the booth workers of the party, Shah said, "I want to tell our booth workers that along with their family, they have to take 3 families with them for voting before 11.30 am, which means total 4 families and then nobody can defeat BJP. We have to tell people about NC-Congress' division agenda. I did a press conference to expose NC-Congress' divisional agenda."

### With 6 nominated members, NDA has slender majority in Rajya Sabha

There are four AIADMK members, three Independents and other MPs from smaller parties who are not aligned to either of the two major groups.

Four seats from Jammu and Kashmir in the Upper House are vacant as the Union Territory is yet to get its first legislative assembly. This reduces the effective strength of the Rajya Sabha to 241.

There are 11 vacancies in total: Jammu and Kashmir (4), Andhra Pradesh (4), Nominated (4), Odisha (1).

Two members of the YSRCP and one member of the BJD have quit as Rajya Sabha MPs recently.

The BJD member — Sujeet Kumar — has since joined the BJP, which is expected to win the bypoll to the seat as it has the numbers in the Odisha assembly.

The two YSRCP members — M Venkataramana Rao and B Masthan Rao — quit their membership of the upper house last month. They are expected to join the TDP, a BJP ally that is the ruling party in Andhra Pradesh.

The BJP's allies in the Upper House include the Janata Dal (United), Nationalist Congress Party, Janata Dal (Secular), Republican Party of India (Athawale), Shiv Sena, Rashtriya Lok Dal, National People's Party, PMK, Tamil Manila Congress and the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL).

### Mission remains to ensure voice of love heard in every corner of Country: Rahul on BJI

### Anniversary

addressed 12 public meetings, more than 100 street corner meetings and 13 press conferences. He had over 275 planned walking interactions and more than 100 sitting interactions.

With more than 4,000 kilometres under his belt, Gandhi managed to catch the attention of his supporters as well as detractors. The march witnessed participation from a cross-section of society, including film and TV celebrities such as Kamal Haasan, Pooja Bhatt, Riya Sen, Swara Bhasker, Rashami Desai, Akanksha Puri and Amol Palekar.

Besides, writers and military veterans, including former Army chief Gen (Retd) Deepak Kapoor and ex-Navy chief Admiral (Retd) L Ramdas, and noted people such as former Reserve Bank of India governor Raghuram Rajan and ex-finance secretary Arvind Mayaram also participated in the yatra.

Opposition leaders such as the National Conference's Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, People's Democratic Party's Mehbooba Mufti, Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders Aaditya Thackeray, Priyanka Chaturvedi and Sanjay Raut, and Nationalist Congress Party (SP) leader Supriya Sule also walked alongside Gandhi at various points during the march.

### 297 Officers Commissioned into Indian Army

The Vice Chief of Army Staff, in his address, lauded the officer cadets and the OTA staff for their exemplary achievements, exhorting the newly commissioned officers to uphold the cardinal military values of 'Selfless Service to the Nation' and steadfast pursuit of excellence in all endeavours.

"You are privileged to soon be in command of some of the finest soldiers in the world. These troops are your most valuable asset. You are now entrusted with their lives and well-being. Therefore, train and equip your command with the necessary skills, discipline and fortitude, to be combat ready," he urged.

Also, the Vice Chief of Army Staff called upon them to keep honing their skills and qualities as a leader. "Lead by example,

have the courage to make tough decisions, compassion to listen to the needs of others and earn the respect of your command," he said.

Further, they should acknowledge the contribution and congratulate their parents, he added.

Following the immaculate parade, the highly valued Pipping Ceremony was held in the campus. The cadet officers in their new capacity as the commissioned Army Officers, adorned with gleaming insignia on their shoulders, pledged their allegiance to the Constitution of India and committed to safeguarding the nation at all costs.

### 1 killed, 4 others injured after vehicle carrying students meets accident in J-K's Rajouri

their identities are yet to be confirmed. Meanwhile, police have taken up the investigation into the cause of the accident.

### Nine FIRs lodged, five govt employees suspended for poll code violations in J-K

Twenty-three warnings were issued and inquiries were underway in 48 cases of poll code violations, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) said in a statement.

The Model Code of Conduct for elections to the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly came into effect on August 16.

The statement from the CEO's office said 175 cases of poll code violations, including 96 against political parties and candidates and 53 against government employees, had been reported across Jammu and Kashmir.

However, 89 complaints were dropped as these were found to be "baseless and false", the statement said and added five government employees were placed under suspension by the authorities in Srinagar for participating in political activities and further inquiry was initiated against them.

Warnings were issued to violators in 23 cases while FIRs were lodged in nine cases of violations of serious nature. Inquiries have been initiated in 48 cases, the statement said.

Elections to the 90-member Jammu and Kashmir Assembly will be held in three phases on September 18, September 25 and October 1, and the votes counted on October 8.



## IIPA J&K Regional Branch holds 14th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) J&K Regional Branch organized 14th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture on the theme "Embedded & Exposed: A Journalist's Immersive Experience and Vulnerability." Pradeep Dutta, Senior Editor at Times Now Jammu delivered the lecture.

While delivering the Lecture, Pradeep Dutta called upon the media persons to challenge the fake narratives peddled by anti-India forces, with robust counter-narratives.

Saying that besides being journalists, we also belong to a nation and anything wrong narrative against India must be countered without any inhibition. Based on his experiences, he has been consistently challenging fake narratives amidst the chaos and always succeeded.

Dutta said that main-



taining objectivity is the biggest challenge for war journalists, especially when confronted with the complex and competing storylines and fake narratives churned out from all sides.

Illustrating the harsh realities on the ground, he recited the poems that he has penned from conflict zones, shedding light on the struggles faced by the people in these areas and providing a unique perspective on the human cost of war.

Listing dangers of reporting from the frontlines in the conflict zones, Pradeep explained how war journalist's like him had to face unimaginable dangers, risking life and limb to report from the frontlines.

He narrated his own

experiences in Ukraine and Israel as a testament to the perils of war journalism, having had multiple close calls with death that left an indelible mark.

From navigating minefields and dodging sniper fire to witnessing unspeakable atrocities, the psychological and physical toll of covering war is immense. Yet, fearless journalists persist, driven by a fierce commitment to truth-telling and a determination to shed light on the darkest corners of human conflict.

He said that journalists have to learn the art of deciphering silence and have to develop the art of story telling, without compromising on ethics.

BR Sharma, IAS (Retd) Chairman IIPA J&K

Regional Branch while paying tributes to Late Sat Paul Sahni in his address said that the journalism in the era of social media is witnessing transformational change. However, it is the ethical and moral responsibility of journalists to build narratives which are in the national interest. He further said that truth should be communicated ensuring full neutrality.

Dr Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd) Patron IIPA J&K Regional Branch in his presidential remarks said that Sat Paul Sahni as a journalist had the courage to speak the truth. While sharing his views on the theme, he said that unfortunately many a times truth is the biggest casualty during the media reporting. Citing various past incidents from the Jammu & Kashmir, he said that power of media is exploited to build fake narratives which negatively impact the history of the region. He said that both the vernacular media and national media

has the responsibility to be objective and committed to truthful reporting.

The lecture was preceded by a heartfelt tribute to Late Sat Paul Sahni by KB Jandial, Vice-Chairman, of IIPA J&K Regional Branch Earlier, Director Seminars Er. M M Gupta welcomed the key speaker & members to 14th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture.

Prof Alka Sharma Hony Secretary IIPA J&K Regional Branch presented the vote of thanks and while the proceedings were conducted by the Prof Anil Gupta Joint Secretary, IIPA JKRB.

The event was attended by a diverse group of participants, including IIPA members, civil society representatives, media professionals, faculty members, and students from IIMC and University of Jammu. The presence of senior retired officials and members of the media fraternity further enhanced the significance of the occasion.

## Expert Talk on Drug Abuse delivered by Dr. BeenaJad at SMVD University



### Top News Report

KATRA Sep 7: As part of the ongoing student induction program for first-year students at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Dr. BeenaJad, Senior Consultant and Head of the Department of Lab Medicine, delivered an insightful lecture on the critical issue of drug abuse.

This expert talk, a crucial component of the induction program, was warmly welcomed by Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs at SMVDU, who emphasized its importance for the youth.

Dr. Beena's presentation highlighted the severe consequences

of drug abuse, including its impact on mental and physical health.

Her talk aimed to equip students with knowledge and strategies to avoid substance abuse and understand its broader societal effects.

The session followed an earlier presentation by Dr. Varun Dutta, Nodal Officer for the NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyan at SMVDU. He showcased various videos demonstrating the harmful effects of drug abuse.

The session ended with Q&A session. Earlier, before this session, Sumant S. Sharma, Asst. Prof., SMVDU, delivered an engaging talk on "Harmony in Relationships," further enriching the stu-

dents' orientation experience.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar emphasised on holistic development of students through active participation in academic and extra-curricular activities.

The student induction program is being jointly coordinated by a team of dedicated faculty members: Dr. Pooja Sharma, Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Dr. Varun Dutta, Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Dr. Amit Sinha, and Dr. Kamaldeep.

The program aims to provide new students with valuable insights and guidance as they embark on their academic journey.

## GOC-in-C Northern Command felicitates Defence Correspondents Course-2024



### Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Sep 7: Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar, GOC-in-C Northern Command felicitated 34 pan India journalists of Defence Correspondents Course (DCC-2024) at Rezagla Hall, Udhampur today.

The Course was organized by Directorate of Public Relations, Ministry of Defence.

The DCC-2024 under Lt Col Manish Shrivastava, PRO Dehradun had congregated at Karwar on 19 August 2024. The participants of the course after undergoing the Navy module at Karwar (Mumbai) and Air force module at Sulur (Tamil Nadu), reached Jammu on 01 Sep 2024.

The Army Leg commenced with visit to Ratnchak Military Station to get an insight of Armoured Equipment, training activities, obstacle crossing drills and Tank Ride to get

a feeling of battle zone. Thereafter they witnessed demonstration on Artillery equipment by Tiger Division.

The DCC journalists were given a chance to see the Anti Infiltration Obstacle System (AIOS) on the Line of Control (LC) in Poonch-Rajouri sector. They were taken to forward areas along LC in Jhangar and Bhimbar Gali, Rajouri and were briefed about demography of the region and LC.

During their visit to Pine-wood School, Hamirpur they interacted with the students and teachers. The course also visited the Corps Battle School, Sarol in order to witness the orientation training of soldiers and interacted with Indian Army soldiers during the visit. The visit of journalists to such remote locations helped them in understanding the hardships and the challenges faced by the troops of Indian Army and

Awaam along the borders and in the hinterland in J&K.

During the valedictory function, Lt Col Manish Shrivastava, PRO Dehradun and Nodal Officer presented the Course report, Nominated Participants shared their experiences and The Army Cdr awarded the course completion certificates to the participants and emphasized on positive and factual reporting on defence matters.

In his address, the GOC-in-C emphasized the budding Defence journalists on sensible reporting on operations and reports on Bravehearts. He also emphasized on the National Security aspects while reporting stories on defence activities specially in LC and hinterland. The GOC-In-C also stressed upon the role of journalists in the Nation Building.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that "the aim of the course was to get journalists from all over the country to give an overview of the functioning of the three wings of the Armed Forces.

In the end, on behalf of Directorate of Public Relations, MoD a memento was presented to the GOC-In-C by Lt Col Manish Shrivastava as a token of gratitude.

## CATC conducted by 1 J&K Bn NCC Srinagar at NCC Training Academy Nagrota

### Top News Report

NAGROTA, Sep 7: The JK&L Directorate continues its mission to empower the youth of Jammu & Kashmir by offering them the avenues to build valuable skills for their careers.

One such initiative is the Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC) conducted by the 1 J&K Battalion NCC, Srinagar, at the NCC Training Academy, Nagrota, from 02 to 11 September 2024. The camp has attracted 468 cadets from across the region.

As part of the camp, 57 cadets are participating in a specialized "Smartphone Filmmaking" course from 05 to 09 September, led by Amjad Jami, a distinguished director from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune.

Jami, a visual communication expert with over 35 years of award-winning experience, is guiding the cadets through the nuances of smartphone filmmaking. This initiative, under the aegis of the JK&L Directorate, focuses on teaching cadets how to creatively harness

smartphone technology for filmmaking.

Maj Gen RK Sachdeva, ADG, JK&L Directorate, visited the camp.

He was briefed by Col Saurabh Saxena, the Camp Commandant, on the training activities, particularly the filmmaking course.

This intensive five-day program aims to provide cadets with practical knowledge of camera functionalities, light effects, and movie editing, both indoors and outdoors.

The cadets will also learn about linking picture and sound in group projects.

In his address, Maj Gen Sachdeva emphasized the significance of learning new skills and making the most of this unique opportunity.

He highlighted that technology is shaping the future, and it is crucial for the youth to stay ahead by mastering such tools. The training not only boosts technical know-how but also empowers the cadets to explore their creative potential using modern technology.

## BSR Motorsports organizes Speed Fest India – Jammu Edition

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: The first-ever Speed Fest India – Jammu Edition, organized by BSR Motorsports in association with Backyard Customs, concluded with a thrilling display of motorsport talent. Powered by Nexa, the event featured exciting races, handicraft stalls, automobile exhibits, and simulators, all in a time attack format.

A historic drive from MA Stadium to Hari Niwas Palace, followed by a spectacular gala dinner, added a unique touch to the event.

The Divisional Commissioner of Jammu, along with the Director of Tourism and the Joint Director of Tourism, inaugurated the three-day event, which attracted over 2,000 spectators.

The winners of the races were Achintya

Mehrotra (1st place, Rs 31,000), Gurjot Singh (2nd place, Rs 21,000), and Manyavir Pratap Sharma (3rd place Rs 11,000).

All champions received trophies, medals, and certificates for their outstanding performances. The success of Speed Fest India has set the stage for motorsports in Jammu, with future events expected, as highlighted by the Director of Tourism.

Supported by Nexa as the title sponsor, with Harley Davidson as the gold sponsor, and AK Customs, Silencer House, Virtual Racing Hub, and Classic Jacks as silver sponsors, the event was further backed by PepsiCo Gatorade as the official beverage partner. BSR Motorsports proudly announced the continuation of the SPEEDFEST INDIA series across the nation.

## BJP to form next Govt in J&K with public support: Khatana

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Emphasizing the party's manifesto reflects the unwavering commitment of the Modi government, senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana on Saturday highlighted how the ongoing journey of development and empowerment in the region, following decades of misuse under the NC-Congress, is becoming increasingly evident on the ground with each passing day.

Khatana made these remarks while speaking about the party's newly unveiled manifesto, 'Sankalp Patra 2024', which was released by Union Home Minister Amit Shah during his two-day visit to the region.

In his statement, Khatana praised the Modi government for its unwavering focus on bringing Jammu and Kashmir onto a path of progress and ensuring that each citizen, especially those who had long suffered under the National Conference (NC) and Congress governments, can now witness tangible changes on the ground. "The journey of development and empowerment is becoming more visible with each passing day," Khatana stated, adding that BJP's manifestos reflect the enduring promise of the Modi government to uplift the region.

The BJP leader pointed out that prior to 2014, Jammu and Kashmir was riddled with corruption, militancy, and separatism, while the Jammu region faced constant discrimination. These were

issues that dominated the discourse of regional leaders, but lacked concrete solutions. The shift in leadership, following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's election in 2014, marked the beginning of a new chapter for the entire nation, including Jammu and Kashmir.

"After taking over the reins of the country in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has been scripting a new chapter of development and empowerment for India and its citizens," Khatana said. "He never looked back, and his visionary leadership is aimed at making India a world leader. The significant changes we see in Jammu and Kashmir today are a direct result of Modi ji's focus on inclusive development and security."

According to Khatana, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have now fully grasped Modi's vision for the region. The BJP leader expressed confidence that with the unwavering support of every citizen in the region, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will form the next government in Jammu and Kashmir. This statement comes at a crucial time, as the region gears up for the assembly polls. Khatana reminded the public that the counting of votes, after the three-phase elections, will take place on October 8th.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir have seen the difference, and with their blessings, BJP is poised to win," he said. Khatana also highlighted the recent visit of Home Minister Amit Shah to

Jammu and Kashmir, during which Shah officially launched the BJP's campaign for the upcoming assembly polls. Shah, during his visit, unveiled the 'Sankalp Patra 2024', a manifesto that reflects the BJP's clear commitment to the overall development of the region.

"The Sankalp Patra addresses the core issues facing Jammu and Kashmir, with a focus on governance that is truly for the people, by the people, and of the people," Khatana stated. He added that the manifesto was designed to be inclusive, taking into consideration the needs and interests of all sections of society. "Whether it is our mothers, students, or senior citizens, everyone has been taken on board. The Sankalp Patra is not just a political document; it is a commitment to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he asserted.

Khatana believes that the BJP's manifesto addresses key concerns around governance, which has been a central issue in the region. The BJP's vision, as outlined in the manifesto, is to continue providing good governance that not only improves infrastructure and development but also empowers the people at every level.

"Prime Minister Modi ji has a clear vision for Jammu and Kashmir, and with the support of Home Minister Amit Shah, this vision is being turned into a reality. The BJP is committed to making Jammu and Kashmir a beacon of peace, development, and prosperity," Khatana emphasized.

## Ganesh Idol installation ceremony organized by Movement Kalki

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: On the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, Saturday, Movement Kalki's Religious Committee organized a special event for the installation of Lord Ganesh's idol at Shiv Mandir, Gandu di Chowni.

The event was hosted by Religious Committee member, Sunita Kundal. Core Committee member Thakur Arjun Singh, along with Kundal and local residents, graced the occasion.

The ceremony was held at Sunita Kundal's residence, Gandu di Chowni, Eidgah Road, opposite Hari Singh High Secondary School, near Shiv Mandir, Residence Road.

In addition to the idol installation, special prayers were conducted, with active participation from Movement Kalki members and the local community.



The primary purpose of this event organized by Movement Kalki's Religious Committee was to foster a deeper spiritual connection among the community. Members of the committee, alongside Movement Kalki's Core Committee members, came together to pray for the welfare and prosperity of the society and the nation.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic turnout from both Movement Kalki members and local devotees, who gathered

to seek Lord Ganesh's blessings. During the event, attendees were also introduced to Movement Kalki's objectives and mission, reinforcing their faith and commitment to the organization's cause.

The Religious Committee of Movement Kalki extended heartfelt thanks to all participants and assured that more such spiritual events will be organized in the future to continue fostering unity and devotion among the community.

## White Knight Corps hosts Veterans' Outreach Session at Nagrota

### Top News Report

NAGROTA, Sep 7: The Indian Army's White Knight Corps organized a Veterans' Outreach Session at Nagrota Military Station, bringing together veterans to discuss relevant issues.

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the White Knight Corps, led the session, engaging with the veterans, listening to their concerns, and gathering suggestions.

He assured the veterans that their feedback would be addressed with a focus on improving support for former military personnel. Veterans and their spouses expressed their appreciation to the Indian Army and the White Knight Corps for the initiative.

They thanked the Team White Knight for address-

ing their concerns and for providing insights into the Army's current efforts to strengthen the welfare of its retired members.

The session also Indian Army's White Knight Corps Hosts Veterans' Outreach Session at Nagrota Military

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The session also provided a platform to discuss the current security situation in the region.

Veterans shared their thoughts on improving information flow and response coordination in various contingencies. The Indian Army acknowledged the role of veterans in supporting ongoing efforts and reiterated its commitment to addressing their concerns.



## From J-K battlefield to Paralympics bronze: Sema's inspirational journey through hardships

Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Sema's win a 'proud moment' for the nation while hailing his incredible strength and determination.

PARIS, Sep 7 (Agencies): On a quiet October day in 2002, a young soldier's dreams were shattered in a heartbeat in the volatile terrain of Jammu and Kashmir's Chowkibal.

An unexpected explosion ended the ambition of Havildar Hokato Hotozhe Sema to join the Special Forces.

That landmine blast during an anti-terrorist operation claimed his left leg below the knee, inflicting immense physical pain and mental trauma.

Sema's world went dark, or everyone thought so.

But for him, it was the beginning of an extraordinary journey of resilience, courage, and fierce determination to rebuild life—a process he went through at the Army Paralympic Node, BEG Centre in Pune.

Twenty-two years later, at the swank State de France, the 40-year-old Indian shot-putter came up with his career-best throw of 14.65 metres to secure a bronze medal in the men's F57 category at the Paralympics to swell the country's medal haul to 27 (six gold, nine silver and 12 bronze).



His rise in para-athletics has been nothing short of inspiring.

He quickly distinguished himself with his sheer willpower in the F57 category, which includes athletes with limb deficiencies and impaired muscle power.

Sema was encouraged by senior army officials at the Pune-based Artificial Limb Centre to take up shot put after seeing his fitness as he embraced the sport in 2016 at the age of 32.

That year, he travelled to Jaipur to compete in the National Para Athletics Championships. A silver at the Morocco

Grand Prix in 2022 was followed by a bronze medal at the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou.

He narrowly missed a medal at the 2024 World Championships, finishing fourth. But Sema's determination never wavered.

The defining moment came during his Paralympic debut, when he battled against a fiercely competitive field.

Strapped to a throwing chair, each of his six throws was a manifestation of grit and physical strength.

He touched the 14 metres mark on his second throw and

then improved further with a heave of 14.40 metres.

Sema achieved his best throw in his fourth attempt, bettering his personal best to 14.49 metres en route to the bronze.

Iran's Yasin Khosravi, the 31-year-old two-time para world champion, clinched the top spot with a Paralympic record of 15.96 metres, while Brazil's Thiago Dos Santos took the silver (15.06 metres).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Sema's win a 'proud moment' for the nation while hailing his incredible strength and determination.

"A proud moment for our nation as Hokato Hotozhe Sema brings home the Bronze medal in Men's Shot Put F57! His incredible strength and determination are exceptional. Congratulations to him. Best wishes for the endeavours ahead," PM Modi wrote on X.

Sema has been supported by the Khelo India initiative and his training, boarding, and lodging were taken care of by the National Centre of Excellence scheme.

## LEAP of faith: Praveen Kumar's record-breaking jump gets country sixth gold



PARIS, Sep 7 (Agencies): High jumper Praveen Kumar upgraded his Tokyo silver to a gold with a record-smashing performance, helping India nose ahead of the likes of Canada and South Korea in the overall standings as the country's para-athletes continued to defy projections in their best ever Paralympics performance here.

The 21-year-old from Noida, who was born with a short leg, jumped to a new Asian record of 2.08 metres in the T64 category, which also featured athletes of the T44 classification. He clinched the top honours ahead of USA's Derek Loccident (2.06m) and Uzbekistan's Temurbek Giyazov (2.03m).

T64 is for athletes with movement moderately affected in one leg or the absence of one or both legs below the knee, while T44, to which Praveen belongs, is for athletes with movement affected at a low or moderate degree in one leg.

The country's medal haul swelled to 26 — six gold, nine silver and 11

bronze medals. The performance surpasses all pre-Games projections and with one more day of competitions left, it is expected to get better.

Opting to start from 1.89m, Kumar aced seven jumps in his first attempt to put himself in pole position. The bar was then raised to 2.10m, with Kumar and Loccident fighting for the top spot but both failed to clear the mark.

Kumar, who was also the 2023 World Championship bronze medalist, recorded not just an Asian record but his personal best performance too.

He is the third Indian high jumper after Sharad Kumar and Mariyappan Thangavelu to secure a medal in Paris. Sharad and Thangavelu won silver and bronze in the men's high jump T63 event.

Kumar's impairment, which is congenital, affects the bones that connect his hip to his left leg. Kumar confessed to grappling with feelings of inadequacy in his formative years.

He started playing sports to deal with his

insecurities and found a passion for volleyball. But his life changed when he took part in a high jump event at an able-bodied athletics competition.

In nick of time Just three months before the Paralympic Games, Kumar was grappling with a groin injury, which stopped him from going for gold at the World Championships. But thanks to the efforts of his coach Satyapal Singh and his never-say-die attitude, Kumar was up and running within 15 days and preparing in earnest for the Paralympics.

"I want to give credit for my success to my coach, my sponsors and my physiotherapist. When I got injured three months back, they supported me wholeheartedly. I had a groin problem and I want to thank all of them for their support," said Kumar, who hails from Govindgarh village in Gautam Budh Nagar in UP.

The high jumper added that following his recovery, his coach kept pushing him to cross 2.05m in training. "He kept focusing on that 2.05m mark. Every time I went for the jump, I was only aiming for my personal best," he said.

"Before I took off for the 2.08m jump that fetched me the gold medal, I closed my eyes and saw my parents and coach urging me to go for the record. I thought they had always wanted me to win the gold here," he added.

## Pacers make India difficult to beat in Australia: Marnus Labuschagne

SYDNEY, Sep 7 (Agencies): Star batter Marnus Labuschagne reckons fast bowlers make India a "difficult" side to beat in Australian conditions as the hosts look to end their barren run in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy which has lasted nearly a decade.

India have won every bilateral Test series against Australia since losing 1-2 in an away affair in 2014-15. They recorded identical 2-1 series wins in 2018-19 and 2020-21 Down Under.

"India's fast bowling

is very good, which is really what makes them such a tough team to beat in Australian conditions," Labuschagne said.

The middle-order mainstay termed the rivalry as 'tough' irrespective of where they are playing.

"There is always high anticipation. To these two teams, it doesn't matter where we're playing, if it's in England, Australia or India, it's always a tough contest," he said.

Australia spinner Nathan Lyon termed Indian players as "super-

stars" while hoping to revive his on-field rivalry with India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin.

"I've always said throughout my whole career (that) I want to compete against the best and you look through the whole Indian line-up, the whole squad, there's absolute superstars everywhere," he said.

"I know Ashwin, we debuted around similar times and we've competed against each other in a number of series. I have got nothing but respect for him. He is an absolute master in the



craft of off-spin bowling and it's been an absolute privilege to play against him and learn off him," said Lyon.

All-rounder Cameron Green reckoned the five-Test series between India and Australia start-

ing on November 22 at Perth could be a "preview" for the final of the World Test Championship next year. India lead the WTC table, followed by Australia. The WTC final will be played at Lord's on June 11-15.

## US Open: Jannik Sinner unbothered by wrist injury ahead of final vs Taylor Fritz

NEW YORK, Sep 7 (Agencies): World number 1 Jannik Sinner is unbothered about his wrist injury ahead of the US Open 2024 final clash against Taylor Fritz. Notably, Sinner became the first Italian man to qualify for the final at Flushing Meadows as he beat Jack Draper in straight sets in the first men's singles semi-final at Arthur Ashe Stadium on Saturday, September 7.

During the match, Sinner sustained a wrist injury as he was attended by the medical team beside the court. Commenting on his injury ahead of the all-important final, the 23-year-old revealed that it went away while playing and hoped that it wouldn't bother him in the final.

"The physio (loosened) it up very fast on court, so after I felt OK in the beginning. Then, after, it went away by playing, which is good. Let's see how it is tomorrow when



it's cold. It's going to be a different feeling. Hopefully, it's nothing to concern about," said Sinner after the game.

Further speaking ahead, Sinner hailed Draper for his gameplay and predicted big title victories for him in the future. He also expressed excitement ahead of the final, acknowledging the massive home support

for Taylor Fritz.

Taylor Fritz qualified for maiden Grand Slam final

"Playing against Jack, it's never easy. He served very well... Happy to win this one. I know that he's potentially winning some big titles in the future. We're in New York playing against an American, so it's going to be, for sure, the crowd a little bit more on their side. But it's normal. It's like when I play in Italy... so I'm going to accept that," he added.

Fritz qualified for his maiden Grand Slam final by beating his compatriot Frances Tiafoe 4-6 7-5 4-6 6-4 6-1 in the semi-final. As a result, he became the first American to qualify for the US Open final after 2006 and also has a chance to become the first person from his nation to win a major singles title since Andy Roddick's 2003 US Open victory.

## Bangladesh will find it difficult to counter India at home, says Sriram

CHENNAI, Sep 7 (Agencies): The Indian cricket team will be taking on Bangladesh in a two-match Test series starting from September 19. While it will be India's first Test since March, Bangladesh are coming off a historic 2-0 series win in Pakistan.

Bangladesh haven't been the strongest of Test teams away from home, with their only sweep in the longest format coming against West Indies in 2009. So, this win against Pakistan is special on multiple fronts. Former India player Sridharan Sriram, who has coached Bangladesh in the past, credits the Najmul Hossain Shanto-led team for their remarkable show against Pakistan, but he knows that beating India in India would be a difficult side to beat.

Sriram also insists that spinners will play a big role and believes that R Ashwin would be among wickets. "It was a creditable show by Bangladesh in Pakistan in the Test series," he tells this newspaper. "Bangladesh will come to India with more confidence. Bangladesh as a nation has gone through a lot in recent times and it was a very good team effort to beat Pakistan in Pakistan." One expected Pakistan to make a strong comeback after facing defeat in the first Test by 10 wickets, but they failed to live up to the expectations in the second Test.

"Both experienced and young players stood up. Mushfiqur's century, Mehidy Hassan's all round performance, Litton Das's ability to pull the team out of the woods, Nahid Rana's

spell, and Hassan Mahmud's bowling sort of stood out in the series," points out Sriram.

Bangladesh will be hoping to replicate the success against Pakistan when they tour India. But Sriram cautions that India are a different ball game and one cannot easily dislodge Rohit Sharma and Co.

"India are a well-oiled machine and India's bowling attack, especially spin, will be much stronger than Pakistan. So Bangladesh will find it difficult to counter India," opines Sriram. "Ashwin will enjoy bowling to the left handers in the Bangladesh line up. And it will be a challenge for all of them (Bangladesh) to play Ashwin, irrespective of the wicket," signs off Sriram.

## "I worked on...": Shubman Gill reveals strategy in order to improve in Test cricket

The 24-year-old has an average of 35.52 after playing 25 Tests.

NEW DELHI, Sep 7 (Agencies): Shubman Gill credited working on his defensive batting as key to his turnaround in Test fortunes during the England series earlier in the year. The 24-year-old has an average of 35.52 after playing 25 Tests, and he smashed 452 runs in the home series against England. "I worked on my defence

a little bit more, especially against the spinners," Gill told ESPNcricinfo, as quoted by the ICC. Currently, Gill is playing in the Duleep Trophy as captain of the India A side.

He displayed an average performance in India A's first innings as he scored 25 runs from 43 balls at a strike rate of 58.14. The 24-year-

old hit three fours during his time on the crease at M.Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Gill added that one should be able to defend more when they are playing on a turning track. He revealed that his main focus during the five-match Test series against England was to play more defensive shots.



"If you're playing on a turning track, you should be able to defend a lot more, then you play your scoring shots. I feel it [batting-friendly tracks in white-ball games] takes away a little bit of your defensive game over a period of time. So that was my focus in the England series," he added.

Gill made his Test

debut against Australia in 2020. Following that, he has played 25 long-format matches and 46 innings, where he has scored 1492 runs at a strike rate of 59.37.

He went on to make a crucial hundred in Vizag in the second Test and finished the series against England with an average of 56.5.

India will be playing

a two-match Test and three-game T20I series against Bangladesh at home from September 19 to October 12. This will be followed by a three-match test series against New Zealand from October 16 to November 5.

These two series will pave India's preparation for the Border Gavaskar Trophy later this year.



## Basic infrastructure in Smart City of Jammu is crumbling: Sawhney

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Former Minister J&K and ex-MLA Jammu East, Yogesh Sawhney, convened a meeting with residents of Ward No. 1, Panjirthi, Jammu East, on Saturday.

During the meeting, residents discussed several critical issues with Sawhney.

The meeting particularly saw a significant participation from senior members of the community. Key issues raised by them during the meeting included persistent water shortages, erratic electricity supply, and the dilapidated state of lanes and drains, all of which have been longstanding grievances of the ward.

The meeting was organised by Ram Magotra. The senior Congress leader was accompanied by Birender Singh Manhas, Chandher Shekhar, Pawan Dev Singh, Rajesh Khosla,



Sunil Kumar, and Ashok Sharma.

Those present in the meeting included Ram Swaroop, Badu, Dhyan Singh, Jeevan Singh, Kuldeep Raj Sharma, Dwarka Nath Sharma, Raj Kumar, Sanjay, Pranav, Mahir, Raman, Bali, Tarun Gandotra, Uday Singh Puri, Virender Kumar, Kailash, Aamir Khan, Deepu, Gopal Krishan, Fateh

Singh, Bansil Lal, Madhuri Devi, Jyoti Sharma, Pinki Katoch, Swarna Kanta, Raj Rani, Bindu Sharma, Sarthik Vijay Sharma, Asha Sahni and others.

Addressing the concerns of the people, Sawhney asserted that it was deeply concerning that basic infrastructure continues to crumble in the area. It is an example of complete negligence

by the administration. The Mubarak Mandi complex, a heritage site in name, stands neglected, and this neglect mirrors the lack of attention to the region's fundamental amenities. Water and electricity, which are lifelines for people, have been overlooked for far too long, causing a deep rooted resentment among the residents. The infrastructure

in lanes and drains is severely lacking, posing health risks and affecting the daily lives of the people.

The drains are not taken care of, thereby, often leading to overflowing and causing major health hazard for the people. The lanes are extremely tight and roads are broken to the extent, then comes the problem of traffic in the area. Basically, the list of problems is endless, said Sawhney.

He added that these have been long standing problems of the people and till date remain unaddressed. There was no initiative by the BJP leaders for development of Jammu East in any sense, and it has deteriorated continuously under the existing regime. The people realise that it is high time to change that for better quality of life, better opportunities and growth, Sawhney stated.

## Vikrant Kapoor meets newly appointed officers of Forest Deptt

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: Under the leadership of State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor the party leaders today met the newly appointed Chief Conservator of forest Dr Kumar M.K, IFS and Conservator East Circle of Forest Department of JK UT Pradeep Chander P Wahule, IFS and welcomed them by presenting Mata Ki Chunari. During this, they discussed in detail with them various issues including encroachment on the land of the Forest Department.

Giving detailed information about this, Hindustan Shiv Sena state president Vikrant Kapoor said that they met the newly appointed senior officials of the Forest Department and welcomed them and hoped that during their tenure they would leave no stone unturned to remove the encroachment on forest land. Along with this, he also discussed in detail with these officials on various issues related to the Forest Department.

The issues discussed by them included the contracts of the forest department which are sometimes started and sometimes stopped, due to which the livelihood of thousands of youth and others who are dependent on these contracts were affected badly. Along with this, they also discussed about the Livelihood Scheme started by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, from which people are not getting direct benefits. Under this scheme, herbs coming



out of the forests have been made free for the local people so that they can earn their livelihood by selling them in the market. He also emphasized on taking steps to simplify this policy and make people aware of it. He said that both the officers listened to the issues raised by them patiently and assured them that they will make every effort to solve these issues and concrete steps will be taken to solve the problems highlighted by them.

## GDC Kishtwar hosts SVEEP Rally

### Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 7: Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar 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 in view of the visit of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT Pandurang Pole, and was a collaborative effort led by the Electoral Literacy Club/SVEEP, in collaboration with the NCC SW and the NSS Unit of GDC Kishtwar under the guidance of Principal GDC Kishtwar Prof Basharat Iqbal and supervision of Dr Yasar Ahmed, Nodal Officer SVEEP, Dr Tabassum Saleem, CTO NCC SW and Prof Esrar Ul Ayub, PO NSS.

The event was graced with presence of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT Pandurang Pole, DC Kishtwar, Rajesh Kumar Shavan, SSP Kishtwar Abdul Qayoom, DIO Kishtwar Kuldeep Kumar, Masood Hus-



sain Qazi Nodal Officer SVEEP AC-49 Kishtwar, and other dignitaries of District administration Kishtwar.

The rally saw enthusiastic participation from around 200 students including NCC cadets and NSS volunteers of GDC Kishtwar and students of various schools of district 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 in presence of Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT Pandurang Pole, and DC Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan reaffirming their commitment to the democratic process.

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.

Three students of GDC Kishtwar Salma Liyaqat, Sonika Devi and Simran Thakur shared their excitement of casting their first vote and motivated students to participate in upcoming assembly election on 18

September 2024. The students were felicitated with trophies by Chief Electoral Officer, J&K UT and DC Kishtwar, SSP Kishtwar and other dignitaries of District administration Kishtwar.

The event concluded with words of encouragement and appreciation by the Chief Electoral Officer. 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.

## CUJ awarded 'A' Grade in SWAYAM NPTEL Online Certification Courses

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 7: The Central University of Jammu SWAYAM-NPTEL Local Chapter has been awarded 'A' Grade in the recently declared results of the online certification courses offered by SWAYAM NPTEL.

On the basis of this performance, the Local Chapter of NPTEL Central University of Jammu has got this distinction, wherein 4 students have ranked among top 1%, 8 students have been ranked among top 2% and 14 students among top 5% across the country.

It is worth mentioning that the Department of Physics has been awarded 'Special Discipline award' for excelling in Physics online courses in Central University of Jammu. In addition to this achievement 11 students have been awarded Gold Medals, 90 students got Silver Medals and 198 students



have achieved Elite Certifications in the recently declared results of the Session January- April 2024.

The National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) is a joint venture of the IITs and IISc, of the Ministry of Education (MoE) Government of India, and was launched in 2003.

SWAYAM NPTEL has been offering self-study courses across engineering, humanities and science streams for more than a decade.

SWAYAM NPTEL offers online certification for its courses by which the students get an opportunity to earn a certificate from the IITs or IISc Bangalore.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, congratulated all the students and faculty for achieving this milestone and achieving 'A' Rating as well as being listed among top 100 institutes across the country.

He also appreciated Prof. J. N. Baliya, SPOC,

CU Jammu for putting up his sincere efforts in this direction. Prof Jain further remarked that this is a major encouragement to all of our efforts to provide our students with the best resources to expand their knowledge beyond the classroom.

Prof. Baliya was invited for a Felicitation Ceremony at IIT Kanpur for receiving this recognition.

Sharing this achievement, SWAYAM Coordinator Prof. J. N. Baliya informed that Central University of Jammu, SWAYAM NPTEL Local Chapter, which is active since 2017, has been facilitating the NPTEL technology courses offered through online platforms.

He further added that SWAYAM NPTEL enables the students and faculty to gain valuable skills through the programs designed and delivered by the experienced IIT and IISc. faculty.

## Senior Lecturer brings laurels to DIET Kishtwar for outstanding Educational Research

### Top News Report

DODA, Sep 7: Humaira Ayub, a Senior Lecturer at DIET Kishtwar, has brought great honor to her institution by having her research study selected as one of the top five submissions in the Jammu province. Out of 25 research reports submitted to SCERT Jammu, her study, titled "The Current Scenario of ICT Integration in Classrooms of District Kishtwar," was recognized among the best, elevating the status of DIET Kishtwar.

Her research focuses on the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in classrooms throughout District Kishtwar.

It provides a detailed analysis of both the successes and challenges of using ICT in educa-



tion, offering practical solutions to enhance the learning experience.

The relevance of her study, especially in the context of modern education, has been praised for its depth and practical recommendations for improving classroom practices through technology.

In a letter of appreciation, the Joint Director of SCERT Jammu commended Humaira Ayub for her dedication, sincerity, and the quality of

her work.

Her research was recognized for its thoroughness and its potential to contribute positively to the advancement of education in the region.

This recognition highlights Humaira's commitment to enhancing the teaching-learning environment and her forward-thinking approach in addressing the needs of modern classrooms.

Humaira Ayub's achievement has uplifted the reputation of

DIET Kishtwar, marking a proud moment for the institution. In recognition of her accomplishment, Principal DIET Kishtwar Prahad Bhagat, along with the entire staff, honored her for this significant contribution. Her success has not only brought recognition to DIET Kishtwar but also set a standard of excellence for future research and educational practices.

This achievement serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and the educational community, demonstrating how dedication to research and innovation can bring both personal and institutional success. Humaira Ayub's work is a shining example of educational excellence, motivating others to pursue impactful research in the field of education.

## GDC R S Pura culminates Summer Internship Programme

### Top News Report

R S PURA, Sep 7: Department of Zoology in collaboration with Department of fisheries "Fish Aquarium cum Awareness Centre" Bagh-e Bahu culminated a 60 hours long summer internship programme for B.Sc. Zoology 5th semester students under the guidance of Principal of the College, Dr. Preetpal Kour and Supervision of Dr. Chanchal Angral (HOD Zoology) Prof. Shifali Abrol Associate Professor, and Dr. Hari Singh, Assistant Professor, from Deptt. of Zoology.

During the internship programme students were acquainted with different species of fishes displayed in the underground aquarium of Bagh-e Bahu, Jammu.

They also got a firsthand knowledge of making fish aquarium and other relat-



ed fish gears. At the end of the Program, a written test was conducted based on their training Session, where students of GDC R.S.Pura performed extremely well.

Finally a detailed project report was submitted by the respective students to their mentors displaying

their work done during the course. After the completion of the course, certificates was distributed to the students by the Principal of the College Dr. Preetpal Kour who appreciated the efforts of the Department in organising such a beneficial internship program and

also congratulated the students for successful completion of the internship programme.

She also outlined the objective of the internship and motivated the students to take research as a career and conveyed her best wishes to the students.