TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

16

Rubina Dilaik reveals she has started getting 'bhabi roles' after giving birth



NATIONAL

TMC's O'Brien targets CBI over delay in chargesheet in Kolkata doc rape-murder case

INTERNATIONAL

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Elon Musk calls Australian government 'fascists' over new misinformation law



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Vol.-15 Issue-253 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Driver among two killed as truck rolls down into 300-ft gorge in Doda

JAMMU, Sep 13 (Agencies): Two people including driver died when a truck skidded off the road and rolled down into around 300-ft gorge in Doda district on Friday.

Official sources said that the truck (JK06-8747) met with an accident near Mahlori on Doda-Kishtwar highway in which the driver and his helper died on the spot.

deceased as Asif Ahmed son of Afzal Hajam of Bhagwah, Bhata and Amir Ahmed of Saikhwan, Doda. A police officer confirmed the accident and said that a case has been registered in this

regard.

They identified the

Independent candidate allegedly violates MCC; ARO Surankote seeks explanation

JAMMU, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Assistant Returning Officer (ARO) of Surankote has asked Independent candidate Choudhary Mohammad Akram to explain his position regarding an alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) in Surankote.

Akram is accused of holding a political rally at a school, which is against election rules. Meanwhile, it has been warned that in case Akram fails to provide a satisfactory explanation, legal action shall be initiated against him.

J&K Govt appoints JS Modi as Chairman for CCTV connectivity project

JAMMU, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Jammu and Kashmir Government has revised an earlier order, appointing JS Modi, Additional State Informatics Officer (Central) NIC, as the Chairman of the Technical Appraisal Committee for the "Implementation of Optical Fiber

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Restrictions will continue over individuals, groups threat to security & sovereignty of India: LG Sinha

SRINAGAR, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Lieutenant Governor J&K Manoi Sinha has said that individuals or groups who pose threat to security and sovereignty of India will remain under restrictions in future also. He said the government has succeeded in wiping out stone pelting in valley, while as efforts are on to dismantle terrorism and its ecosystem in J&K.

LG Sinha added that there is no restriction on the movement of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, and he is free to go anywhere.

"I reiterate that there is no restriction on the movement of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq. Yes, if he smells any threat to his life and security men advising him to limit his movement, then the



matter is different. He has to decide himself whether he should venture out or not. Security men deployed at him can take a call. But there is no restriction from my side. This is not the case of Mirwaiz only, the government has not restricted any religious person or a politician in Jammu & Kashmir," LG Sinha said.

He however added.

"The restrictions will remain upon those persons and groups who are inimical to security and sovereignty of India, and such restrictions will continue in future as

Speaking at Aaj Tak's Panchayat, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said since Article 370 was abrogated, the stone pelting in Kashmir has become a past,

while as efforts are one to wipe out left out terrorism and its ecosystem.

"Post abrogation of Article 370 the stone pelting has ended, while terrorism still exists in few areas. Security forces are being hit, and incidents of targeted killings took place occasionally. Earlier Kashmir and its terrorism was a grave concern for India, and when I joined the office of LG J&K, it was a challenge for me to contain the situation. But today I can say there is no top militant commander alive in J&K. All have been killed. Stone pelting is over. Efforts are on to wipe out left out terrorism and its ecosystem. The government has achieved a lot on this front," LG Sinha

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Supreme Court grants bail to Kejriwal in excise policy corruption case

NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the corruption case lodged by the CBI in connection with the excise policy 'scam', saving prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust deprivation of liberty.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan granted the relief to Kejriwal on furnishing a bail bond of Rs 10 lakh, and two sureties of like amount.

Kejriwal, who was arrested by the ED in the excise policy case on March 21, was granted interim bail on May 10 for campaigning in the



Lok Sabha polls and has been in jail since June 2 when he surrendered.

The top court directed Kejriwal not to make any public comment on the merits of the case and added that terms and conditions as imposed in the ED case would also be applicable here.

The top court, while granting him bail in the ED case, had said that Kejriwal cannot visit his office or the Delhi Secretariat and not sign any official file unless absolutely necessary to obtain the Lieutenant Governor's sanction.

It said completion of trial was unlikely to occur in the immediate future and rejected the apprehension of tampering by Kejriwal.

JKGF

with

associate

arrested

Grenades

in Poonch

MENDHAR/JAMMU,

Sep 13 (Agencies):

The security forces

arrested an associ-

ate of the Jammu and

Kashmir Ghaznavi

Force (JKGF) outfit and

recovered explosive

materials from his pos-

session in Jammu and

Kashmir's Poonch dis-

■Turn to page 9

Drug Inspector held, Rs 1.49 Cr cash recovered: Punjab Police



CHANDIGARH, Sep 13 (Agencies): A drug inspector, who allegedly facilitated drug smuggling operations and was in touch with jailed smugglers, has been arrested from Mohali, a top Punjab Police officer

said on Friday. Police also recovered Rs 1.49 crore cash from the drug inspector during the operation conducted by the Anti-

Narcotics Task Force of the Punjab Police. "In a major breakthrough Anti-Narcotics Task Force (#ANTF) @ PunjabPoliceInd, has successfully arrested a Drug Inspector from SAS Nagar. The accused was facilitating drug smuggling operapharmaceuticals, medical stores and laundering the drug money," Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said in a post on X.

Yadav said the accused was in touch with drug smugglers lodged inside jail and facilitated

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I will escort you to Tihar, will you leave field? Omar hits back at Er Rashid

SRINAGAR, Sep 13 (Agencies): Launching a scathing attack on the North Kashmir Member Parliament Er Rashid, National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah today dared the Awami Itehad Party (AIP) chief stating that "I am ready to escort Er Rashid up to Tihar jail, will he leave the field.'

Talking to reporters at Kulgam, Omar as per news agency NVI said he accepts the challenge thrown up by Er Rashid where he



claimed if I will accompany him upto Tihar, he will quit the field. "Let me tell you, I will escort him to Tihar, will he leave the field," Omar asked.

He said that NC-Con-

gress pre-poll alliance is aimed at keeping BJP at bay. "The alliance has been formed to tell

people that we are the two parties that are **Turn to page 9**

trict, a police spokesman said. A joint party of the police and army and 38 battalion of the CRPF conducted checkings at Potha bypass on Thursday evening, he

During searches, the security personnel noticed a person coming from Surankote towards Potha in a suspicious manner and apprehended him, the spokesperson said.

said.

During the search, a blue bag containing three HE-36 hand grenades, explosive substance and other incriminating material was recovered from his possession, he added.

The preliminary investigation established his identity as Mohammad Shabir of Daryala Nowshera area, the spokesperson said, adding he was in touch with a PoJK handler namely Azim Khan alias Mudeer, who directed him to collect this consignment from Surankot town.

The police has taken cognisance and more arrests are expected.



AKHAND PATH & ANTIM ARDAS

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THAT OUR BELOVED MAHEEP SINGH RANDHAWA (S/O LATE S. INDER SINGH RANDHAWA) HAS COMPLETED HIS JOURNEY OF LIFE AND LEFT FOR HIS HEAVENLY ABODE ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2024.

FOR THE PEACE OF THE DEPARTED SOUL ARAMBH SHRI AKHAND PATH SAHIB AT OUR RESIDENCE H. NO 18/B, KARAN NAGAR, JAMMU

ON FRIDAY 13-09-2024 FROM 9:00 AM. BHOG SHRI AKHAND PATH ON SUNDAY 15-09-2024 AT 9:00 AM, FOLLOWED BY KIRTAN AND ANTIM ARDAS AT GURUDWARA KALGIDHAR SAHIB, REHARI, JAMMU FROM 10.00 AM TO 12:00 NOON.

GURU KA LANGAR - 12:00 NOON ONWARDS

GRIEF STRICKEN:

SALINDER KOUR (MOTHER) SISTERS AND BROTHERS-IN-LAW GURPREET KOUR AND HARTEJ SINGH MANPREET KOUR AND SACHIN ARORA MANUEET SINGH RANDHAWA (UNCLE) PRITHPAL SINGH RANDHAWA (UNCLE)



MAHEEP SINGH RANDHAWA

MOB:- 9205050505. 9906294624

TENTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SOR-ROW, WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED SMT. RINKU KUMARI W/O SH SUNIL KHAROO, PRESENTLY RESIDING AT H. NO 411, SECTOR- 2, VINAYAK NAGAR, MUTHI JAMMU ON



MUTHI GHAT (NEAR DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL

EDUCATION) JAMMU AT 9 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN: SAMAST KHAROO FAMILY

SAMAST PANDITA FAMILY SAMAST RAINA FAMILY

AND ALL EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS. 7006262130, 7006701628, 9596779378

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved Anjana Sapru W/o Subhash Sapru R/o Kolkata, Presently at Bharat City Tila pipeline Ghazibad Tower A4 /1002 Pin 201003 left for heavenly abode on 5th of September. TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed on 14th of September at Muradnagar Ghat Uttar Pradesh.

PRAYER MEETING will be held at Bharat City Tila pipeline Ghazibad Tower A4 /1002 Pin 201003 at 13.00 hour.

GRIEF STRICKEN Subash Sapru - Husband Saicesh Sapru - Son Kumar Dev Chatterjee - Brother

Shashwat, Pratistha Nancy Sapru - Aunty Sunil Sapru - Brother in law

Sherya Sapru - Daughter



SMT. RINKU KUMARI

ANJANA SAPRU

Shweta Sapru - Sister in law Brother and Sister in law Amit and Khushboo Sapru Brother and Sister in law Sumit and Megha Sapru KALPANA MONDAL Contact No: 9999098818, 9821262259

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved SH CHAMAN LAL MUNSHI R/o Rangteng Alikadal A/P 64/4 Pamposh Colony, Janipur.

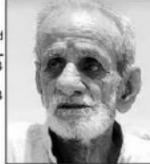
Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 16-09-2024

(Monday) at Muthi Ghat at 8.30 AM.

Grief Stricken Brother & Sister-in-law Sh M K Munshi & Smt Jyoti Munshi

Daughters & Sons-in-law Smt Seema & Sh Ramesh Koul Smt Shami & Sh Vijay Koul

Ms Meetu & Mr Rahul Hak Ms Anupama Munshi Ms Sulekha & Mr. Dhiraj Nebhnani



Sh Chaman Lal Munshi

M.N. 9419184676, 7006357694, 9086004589, 9419112130

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and somow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Joshi (Bittu) S.o Late Sh. Mohan Lai Joshi Rio F 175, Roulki, Bakshi Nagar, Jammuon

10TH DAY will be held on 13.09.2024 (Friday) at 8.30 a.m. KRIYA will be performed on 14.09.2024 (Saturday) at 12 Noon at our residence.

UTHALA will be performed from 4-5 p.m. on 14.09 2024 Saturday) at Geeta Mandir, Samrti Bhawan, Balshi Nagar.

Grief Stricken: Smt. Sushma Joshi - Wife Mr. Amit Joshi - Son

Mrs. Jagriti & Roht Dera - Daughter & Son-in-law Brother & Sister-in-law

Mrs. Saroj & Ranjeev Joshi Sisters & Brothers in-law Mrs. Rita Kumari W/o Late Sh. Pawan Sadhotra Mrs. Pratibha Shukla W/o Late Sh. Romesh Shukla

Mr. Vinod Goswami H/o Late Smt. Sunita Goswami Grand Daughters: Pranshi & Hitakshi Joshi Tent House, Roulki Bakshi Nagar, Jammu



Ranjeev General Store, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu Contact number: 9596285666, 9796031236

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Shuban Krishan Koul S/o Late Sh. Sarwanand Koul original resident of Hiller Arhama (Mohripora) at present TRT Purkhoo Camp Block D, Qtr No.27 Jammu currently staying at Community Hall Purkhoo Camp who left for heavenly abode on 07-09-2024.

TENTH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education Jammu on 15th Sept 2024 at 9:30 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN

Smt. Seema Koul -Wife Sanjay Koul -Son

Sakshi Koul -Daughter

Smt. & Sh. Avtar Krishan Koul -Brother & Bhabi Smt. & Sh. Jawahar Lal Koul -Brother & Bhabi CONTACT NO'S: 6006175229, 9086471717



SH SHUBAN KRISHAN KOUL

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad & untimely demise of our beloved Sh Brij Bushan Zalpuri (Kaka Ji) S/o Lt Sh D N Zalpuri on 5th of September 2024, at Jamshedpur, 7.00 AM. Erstwhile resident of Rainawari, Srinagar (Kmr), at present Flat No. A-6, 1st floor, Parvana Vihar apartment, Sector-9, Rohini Delhi.

Shanti Path will be performed on 14th of September 2024 at 1.00 PM onwards at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Jyoti Zalpuri (Wife)

Bhabis & Brothers

Smt Kavita Ji & Sh Shravan K Zalpuri

Smt Kiran Ji & Sh Ashok Zalpuri- Mob 9810374473 Smt Usha Ji Kaul & Sh Shashi Ji Kaul (Sister & Brother in law)

Sh Raj Zalpuri (Brother) Mob 9820844085

Mr Abhishek Zalpuri (Son)

Miss Dipti Zalpuri (Daughter) Mob. 9711282247 SAMAST ZALPURI & ZUTSHI PARIVAR

TENTH DAY KRIYA

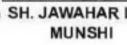
With profound grief we inform the sad demise of SH. JAWAHAR LAL MUNSHI S/o Lt. Sh. Prithvi Nath Munshi originally resident of Munshi Mohalla, Alikadal currently resident of Dehradun on 08-09-2024.

10TH DAY KRIYA will be held on 17-09-2024 at Kashmiri Pandit dharamshaala, Haridwar.

DEEPLY MOURNED BY: SMT. VEENA MUNSHI (WIFE)

NEERU & SAMEER NANAJKAR (DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW) SH. JAWAHAR LAL ANJU & DINESH PANDITA (DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW)

NIKHIL, NEHA, HARDIK & VARUN (GRANDCHILDREN) CONTACT 981 0036667, 9149334347, 7011900274, 9900265847



SMT. KAUSHALYA DEVI

Sh. Praveen Tikku

Khanna

Smt. Sudesh Rani

Kala

10 IH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother Smt. Kaushalya Devi Wife of Late Sh. Girdhari Lal (Retd. BDO) on 05-09-2024. The 10TH DAY RITUALS will be performed at our residence, "Kulhotra Niwas", Raipur Nardhani, on 14-09-2024 at 11:00 AM. We request the honour of your presence to join us in praying for the departing soul. Your prayers and blessings will be a great

comfort to us in this difficult time. Family members and relatives GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughters-in-law and Sons Smt. Champa Devi & Sh. Chaman Lal

Smt. Nirmala Devi & Sh. Ramprasad Smt. Sarla Devi & Late Sh. Shashi Kant Smt. Pinky Devi & Sh. Harish Chander

Daughter and Son-in-law Smt. Kushlata Devi & Sh. T.R. Magotra

KULHOTRA FAMILY MOB: 9149558970, 6006012704, 9906143402

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform that our beloved Sh. Praveen Tikku, S/o Lt Sh N N Tikku, originally from Rainawari, presently at 138, Matri Kunj, Jhotwara, Jaipur untimely left for the heavenly abode on 6th September 2024.

Mourning will be at C 707, Hanging Gardens, Jaisinghpura, Bhankrota, Jaipur on 15.09.2024

DEEPLY GRIEF STRICKEN

Anuradha Tikku (Wife) 8112252840 Gourish Tikku (Son) 9509894491

Samast Tikku, Bhat, Saraf, Raina & Pandita Parivaars 9999093638

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Capt. Om Parkash Khanna S/o Late Sh Karam Chand Khanna, who left for heavenly abode on 5-9-2024. Tenth Day will be performed at our res-

idence 190/3 Shant Nagar, Old Janipur, Jammu on 14-9-24 (Saturday) at 11 am. Kriya will be performed at our resi- Capt. Om Parkash dence 190/3 Shant Nagar, Old Janipur, Jammu on 17/9/24 (Tuesday),

Grief Stricken

Smt Chandrakanta - Wife

Smt Susheela & Govind Ram Khanna- Bhabi & Brother Smt Shalini & Ashok Khanna- D-In-law & Son

Smt Usha Arora- Daughter

Smt Sushma & Vijay Khanna- D-in-law & Son

Mob. 9622010045/7006637441

10TH DAY, KRIYA, UTHALA With profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the

sad demise of our Smt Sudesh Rani Kala w/o Late Sh. Sat Parkash Kala of Kishtwar on 3.09.2024 at Jammu.

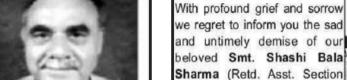
10th day will be performed at 11:30AM on 12/9/2024 (Thursday) at our residence H.No: 149 Sec-2, JDA Housing Colony Roop Nagar Jammu Kriya will be performed at our residence at 12:00 Noon on 14/09/2024 (Saturday).

UTHALA will be performed 5PM to 6PM on 14/09/2024 (Saturday) at Hari Mandir Rehari Colony, Jammu . GRIEF STRICKEN

Daughter & Son-in-law Smt. Archana Gupta & Sh. Chander Shekhar Devrani & Devar Smt. Prabha Gupta & Sh. Vinod Gupta

Bhabhi & Brother Smt. Sudesh Gupta & Bharat Bhushan Gupta Smt. Usha Gupta & Dr. Satvir Gupta - Sister & Brother-in-law Smt. Kanchan Gupta Wd/o Late Sh: Suresh Gupta Smt. Sarla Dogra Wd/o Late Shri Swami Raj Dogra

Samast Kala Parivar Mob. No: 9682385160, 9419109915



Sh Brij Bushan Zalpuri (Kaka Ji)

5:00 pm at Arya Samaj Mandir Smt. Shashi Bala Sharma Bakshi Nagar Jammu

Grief Stricken: Bhawna Sharma & Sahil Gupta (Daughter and Son in law)

Grand Daughter: Parshivi Gupta Soodan and Damral family

Contact: 9419831104, 7006801837, 6005103492, 9419163055

Sh. Puran Lal Kaloo

0 6

SMT DULARI

10TH DAY

UTHALA

officer S.B deptt.) W/o Lt. Shri

JB Sharma, who left for heaven-

ly abode on 8/09/24. Uthala will

be held on 14/09/24 from 4:00 to

With profound grief and sorrow we inform that Sh. Puran Lal Kaloo S/o Late Sh Janki Nath Kaloo, Originally R/o Badiyar Srinagar and presently at Bangalore has left this mortal world and merged with supreme consciousness on 8th September 2024 at 3 am.

10TH DAY will be held at Yedryuru Vaidika Kendra, 22nd Cross Road, Sakkamma Garden, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560082 Bangalore) on 16th September 2024 at 10 am GRIEF STRICKEN:

Daughters-in-law & Sons Sunita & Ramesh Kumar Dhar Mobile: 9425403824 Sunita & Dr Pawan Dhar Mobile: 9953345001

Grand Daughters-in-law & Grand Sons Privanka & Anui Dhar Grand Daughters: Shrea, Riya

Great Grand Daughter: Kiera

TENTH DAY

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF SMT DULARI SAPROO KAUL W/O SH MOTI LAL KAUL R/O C-5 BHARAT NAGAR TALAB TILLO JAMMU ORIGINALLY R/O KARAN NAGAR, SRINAGAR. TENTH DAY KRIYA WILL BE PERFORMED

ON MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT AKHNOOR GHAT AND GATHERING/ ASSEMBLY WILL BE HELD AT MUTHI GHAT FROM 11.00 AM.
FAMILY MEMBERS:

SH MOTI LAL KAUL HUSBAND SANJEEV KUMAR KAUL -SON ANITA KAUL -DAUGHTER-IN-LAW CHANDNI KAUL -GRAND DAUGHTER SURAJ KAUL -GRANDSON GRIEF STRICKEN

NAQUIB'S, SAPROO'S, GANJOO'S, MOZA'S, MALLA'S CONTACT NO. 9419186136

TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Raman Sethi** W/o Sh. Dinesh Sethi R/o 410/2 Suraksha Vihar Top aloura who left for heavenly abode on 3rd of Sept.

Tenth Day will be performed at our residence from 10.00 am to 11.00 am on Thursday 12th Sept. 2024 Kriya will be held at our residence on 14th of Sept. 2024 at 12,00 Noon Rasam Pagri/Uthala will be performed or

Saturday 14th of Sept. 2024 at Trimurti Mandir near Ram Lila Ground Janipur Colony Jammu from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm Grief Stricken h. Dinesh Sethi- Husband Rhythem Sethi- Son

Ambika- Daughter Brothers & Bhabhis Sh. Khem Raj Sethi & Late Smt. Bimla Sethi Sh. Mahesh Sethi & Smt. Kanchan Sethi h. Adarash Sethi & Smt. Anu Sethi

Sh. Arun Sethi & Smt. Monika Sethi OBITUARY & TENTH DAY KRIYA

- I. BADRI NATH (HUSBAND)
JANS A DAUGHTERS-IN-LYSMIT, SANGEETA PANDITAI. RAJ. KUJMAR PANDITA-B. SMIT, SANGEETA PANDITAI. SATISH PANDITA-B. SMIT, PUSHIP LATAI. SUNIL KUJMAR PANDITA-B.
MIT, ANUAN PANDITA-B.
RAND CHILDREN: SAHIL, ASHISH, AYUSH, AAKASI

RIJIM.

RELY REMEMBER ED BY:

IT, VEENA JEE

IT, PHOOLA JEE

IT, PHOOLA JEE

IT, PHOOLA JEE

ROSHAN LALA SMT, RENU JEE

ROSHAN LALA SMT, RENU JEE

ASHOK SHANHAA SMT, RENU JEE

ASHOK SHANHAA SMT, PRAN LAN

LISHAN SHANHAA SMT, PRAN LAN

LISHAN SHANHAA SMT, BHARTI PANDITA ANIL KUMAR 8, SMT, ANITA JEE ISHAN SHARMA 8, SMT, BHARTI PANDITA L NEARS AND DEARS NTACT: 7006505393, 9796610484, 9419199533



Smt. Raman

Sethi

SETHI FAMILY

Mob. 9682390128.

7298015910, 9596352244

TENTH DAY/KRIYA With deep sorrow and heavy hearts, we share the painful and untimely demise of our helphard Sh. Carbon Market Sh. our beloved Sh. Omkar Nath Khar Ji, S/o

Late Sh. Som Nath Khar, originally from Mattan, Anantnag, Kashmir, at present behind IBP Petrol Pump Hatll Morh, Kathua, J&K. He left for his heavenly abode on 9th September 2024, leaving behind an replaceable void in our lives THE TENTH DAY KRIYA will be per formed on Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 10:00 AM at Bowli, near Ramilla

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS: FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS: KHAR
Smt. Suman Khar (Wife)
Archana Khar & Amit Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Anchal Khar & Akash Arora (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Ansisha Raina (Grand Daughter)
Smt. & Sh. Ashok Khar (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt. & Sh. Veer Ji Khar (Brother & Bhabhi)
Smt. Mohini Pandita (Sister)
Smt. Mohini Pandita (Sister)
Smt. & Sh. Ranjni and Moti Lai Mukhi (Sister and Brother-in-law)
CONTACT NUMBERS: 9999127411, 9906071070, 8766227886, 9858204077

TENTH DAY KRIYA the Tenth-Day Kriya of Suhasini Dhar Wio Sunil Dha who left for her heavenly abode on 05 September, 2024 t Dehi) will be performed at Munak Canal Ghat, Sacto 8, Rohini, Delhi, near Badii Tolophone Exchange or abunday 14th September 2024 at 9 AM

Saturday, 14th September 2024 at 9 AM. GRIEF STRICKEN:-Sunil Dhar - Husband Rachna Kar - Mami Ji Sister-in-law & Brother-in-law Upasara Bhan & Brig. Vikarin Bhan Brothers & Sisters-In-law Dilip Pandita & Rohini Pandita Vinod Pandita & Indu Pandita

Airco Pandita & Indu Pandita
Sons & Daughters-In-law
Spash Dhar & Shruti Ahuja Dhar
Shwelarish Dhar & Soshni Dhar
Jaughter & Son-In-law
Sandini Dhar Davisedi & Arshuman Dwivedi
Sloces & Nephew

opsoe Pandita, Arjita Bhan, Srijan Bhan, Diwanshi Pandita & Danish Pandita

Inder Ahuja & Family Nirja Misri & Anil Misri Seema Dwivedi & VP Dwivedi

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."



SH. OMKAR NATH

KHAR

(23.02.1964 - 05.09.2024)

Tarun Chugh slams Er Rashid for "Divisive Politics", reaffirms BJP's zero tolerance on terrorism

Awami Ittehad Party

(AIP), who seldom

misses a headline for

his diatribes or heavy-

worded attacks on both

regional and national

A populist appeal

attributed to Rashid has

been very vocal about

Kashmiri identity, self-

determination, and the

right to self-rule, which

frequently clashes with

the BJP ideology of

With his vocal stance

on contentious issues

like Article 370 and criti-

cism of the BJP's role

in Jammu and Kashmir,

Rashid has grown into a

major adversary of the

party's agenda. But the

direct attack by Chugh

heralds a new phase in

the BJP's electoral strat-

egy-by marking Rashid

as a key player whose

influence they seek to

Rashid of milking the

vulnerabilities of the

region to political advan-

tage, saying his leader-

ship has "fueled divi-

sion and resentment"

among the people.

"Engineer Rashid must

accused

undermine.

Chugh

national integration.

leaderships.

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 13: In an effort to shake the political scenario of Jammu and Kashmir, it is no less than a candid statement by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, as he has targeted Engineer Rashid with accusations of promoting "divisive politics" and playing a counterproductive role in the region's road to peace and develop-

This is yet another rise in temperature for the BJP through political rhetoric ahead of the upcoming assembly elections in the region.

While talking with media, as per Chugh explained the BJP's zero tolerance policy against terrorism, stating that his party was committed to peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "There will be no tolerance against terrorism.

Our party is committed to the peace, prosperity and progress of Jammu and Kashmir," Chugh ascertained to an audience highlighting nononsense policy of BJP.

Engineer Rashid certainly took the full brunt of the attack by Chugh, the BJP leader did not stop there. Chugh also tore into traditional regional strongmen, including the Abdullahs and Muftis who have dominated the political landscape in Jammu and Kashmir for many decades.

Chugh's remarks come at a time when the BJP



is seriously working to consolidate its presence in J&K, taking on the two dominant political dynasties of the National Conference headed by the Abdullah family and the Peoples Democratic Party led by Mehbooba Mufti.

The two families, especially the Muftis, have been under attack from the BJP leadership for their tie-ups in the past and failure to bring stability in the volatile region.

The Abdullahs and Muftis have retarded this state's progress for decades. And now we have Engineer Rashid, who is no different. His politics has only worked to divide the people, which has led to unrest," Chugh asserted with confidence.

During his address, he termed Rashid's politics part of an extended web of what he called "the divisive forces" that have been doing harm to the region.

Engineer Rashid is a highly popular independent politician, chief of Jammu and Kashmir

to. He pretends to stand for the people, but his actions only deepen the divides in the society," said Chugh, highlighting Rashid as a source of instability versus the BJP's promise of development and national Chugh further extend-

ed his attack to national figures like Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi, too, which also falls in line with the larger political discourse of the BJP. Chugh said the policies framed by them did not succeed in solving major problems in Jammu and Kashmir and thus engaged the region in a continuousbag of troubled times ".

answer for the instabil-

ity he has contributed

"Even the legacies of Gandhi and Nehru have contributed to this ongoing turmoil. The mistakes of the past should not be repeated. We are determined to correct these historical errors and bring Jammu and Kashmir into a new era of peace and prosperity," said Chugh.

Chugh's speech is part of the larger effort by the BJP to redefine its political footprint in Jammu and Kashmir-a region where it has traditionally found it difficult to get a foothold. The voiding of Article 370 in 2019 marked a turning point that finally allowed the BJP to project itself as the party of strong leadership and decisive

Under Modi, the BJP has focussed on showcasing Jammu and Kashmir as a transforming region. Economic development, investment in infrastructure, and also a crackdown on terrorism have become central to the party's messaging.

People of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better than politics of division. The BJP will usher in peace and development in each and every part of this region. We will not allow divisive leaders like Engineer Rashid to come in the way of progress," Chugh concluded, appealing to the voters to vote for BJP in the coming elections.

The political sparring between the BJP and regional leaders like Engineer Rashid is likely to get shriller in the run-up to assembly elections. The latter, who often projected himself as an outsider willing to take on the political establishment, is most likely to respond with sharp counter-arguments in the coming

days. For now, Chugh's impassive speech suggests the BJP will leave no stone unturned in its pursuit of conquering the political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir, marking the beginning of a high-pitched electoral season.

The question is whether the electorate in Jammu and Kashmir will buy into this messaging of national integration and progress being sold by the BJP or will stick with regional leaders championing Kashmiri identity and self-governance. And only time will tell which narrative resonates more as the political battle heats up.

Sawhney intensifies door-to-door campaign in Jammu East



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Congress-National Conference (NC) candidate Yogesh Sawhney from Jammu East intensified his robust door-todoor campaign in the constituency, receiving a warm reception from residents.

Sawhney covered the areas of New Plot, Tange Wali Gali, and Kachi Chawni, in Jammu East interacting with locals and discussing the pressing issues faced by the people.

The people of Jammu East welcomed him enthusiastically, expressing their concerns and hopes for a better future under his leadership.

Sawhney assured them that their voices

would not go unheard and committed to raising their most urgent issues in the political arena. Chief among these were the installation of smart meters, irregular electricity supply, and the harsh government measures of power disconnections

late payment of bills. He also highlighted the 15% increase in the power tariff, which has sparked widespread discontent in the region.

due to non-payment or

"The rising power costs and abrupt disconnections are unjust to the people of Jammu East. The government's lack of empathy toward common citizens has become evident. My focus will be on reversing these harsh policies and ensuring that the

voices of the people of Jammu East are heard," Sawhney stated during his interactions.

As the campaign progresses, Sawhney's commitment to fighting against these injustices has resonated with many in the constituency. The people welcomed his positive attitude and vowed their support in the upcoming elections, hoping for relief from the burden of high electricity costs and other civic issues.

Sawhney is focusing on key voter concerns, by positioning himself as a strong advocate for their rights. With the election approaching, his campaign shows no signs of slowing down, as he continues to make his case to the people of Jammu East.

Vijaypur continues to suffer because of unemployment, underdevelopment, political apathy: Manjit Singh



Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Sep 13: Apni Party's contesting candidate for Vijaypur assembly constituency, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has received overwhelming response from all the sections of society who were not willing to support the political party that downgraded their historic state of Jammu and Kashmir.

As a part of election campaign, the Former Minister, who is contesting from Vijaypur constituency, expressed his gratitude to the people of his constituency for extending their support to him in the scheduled elections for the legislative assembly of Jammu

and Kashmir. He said that the election campaign educated him about the basic needs and demands of the people which remained unfulfilled for the last several years in Jammu and Kashmir, especially Vijaypur, Samba, Ramgarh, and all the areas of Jammu plains.

"The people of Vijaypur constituency have witnessed how they were taken back to the stone-age with the constant negligence, and deprivation of the people from the basic amenities that were their constitutional rights. The residential and business colonies are being

discriminated against on the name of caste, creed and religion by the administration and they apparently act on the directions of a political party," he said.

He said that the people have made up their minds to bring change on the ground by supporting the Apni Party, and its ideology of equitable development.

"The traditional regional and national parties have exploited the people emotionally and did nothing to fulfil their demands for decades. The unemployment has increased, development has stopped, educational system has collapsed, health sector is unable to work fully and the terrorism is on rise in Jammu plains,' he picked holes in the failure of the Govt and the traditional parties to handle the present situation.

He said that the Apni Party has committed to bring change for the development and upliftment of the living standard of the people.

Old Wine Traders of J&K appeal for restoration of Old **Wine Licenses System**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: The aggrieved old wine traders of Jammu & Kashmir, have been engaged in the liquor trade for several decades, providing a respectful livelihood for ourselves and our fami-

Historically, Jammu & Kashmir has faced challenges in industrial development, leading to limited employment opportunities. To address this. the government issued JKEL-2 licenses for retail liquor trade specifically to unemployed youth, enabling them to earn a livelihood and create additional job opportunities for salesmen, accountants, and helpers.

In the year 2020-2021, there were 223 JKEL-2 licenses in Jammu & Kashmir (217 in Jammu division, 4 in Kashmir division, and 2 in Ladakh). However, in 2021, the UT government revoked these licenses, which were valid until 2023, by introducing a new Excise Policy under SRO 114 dated 31-03-2021. This policy transitioned the system from individual licenses to an auctionbased system

The implementation of this auction system has caused severe hardships for many license holders,

including widows, disabled individuals, female entrepreneurs, and senior citizens aged 60 and above. These individuals, who had one license per family, are now facing

financial difficulties as

they have lost their pri-

mary source of income. The new Excise Policies from 2021 to 2023-2024 have resulted in the formation of liquor cartels and a monopoly in the wine trade. Before the auction system, around 350 families were directly involved in the trade, and approximately 1200 families were indirectly dependent on it. Since the auction, the trade has become controlled by a few individuals, leading to cartelization and monopolistic practices. Liquor contractors are now overcharging customers, with rates increased by Rs.10 per quarter, Rs.20 per half, and Rs.40 to Rs.50 per bottle. This has led

The previous system of old licensees was more transparent and efficient, generating higher revenue for the government. The shift to the auction system has not only led to higher prices for customers but has also

caused a loss of revenue

to significant financial

losses for consumers and

a reduction in government

for the government. The old licensees contributed 20-30% more revenue annually compared to the current auction system.

We the old licensees have been advocating tirelessly for the restoration of the previous licensing system and have approached various authorities to highlight the issues with the current system. As the Assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir approach, we appeal to all political parties to take up our cause and advocate for the reinstatement of the old license system.

We have 350 families directly affected by the change and approximately 1200 families indirectly dependent on this trade. We are prepared to support any political party that addresses our concerns and works towards restoring our livelihood.

Old Aggrieved Wine Traders of Jammu and Kashmir, while talking to media persons, here urged all political parties to advocate for the reimplementation of the old licensing system, which was beneficial to the local economy and supported numerous families.

They sought immediate action is needed to dismantle the current monopolistic control of the liquor trade and address overcharging practices and ensure that the needs of the affected families, particularly those who are elderly, disabled. or otherwise vulnerable, are addressed.

"We look forward to your support and action on this critical issue to restore our livelihoods and ensure fair practices in the liquor trade in Jammu & Kashmir," they said.

BJP workers in Kalakote express resentment over Thakur Randir Singh's candidacy



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: BJP worker Dilbagh Singh Thakur and others from Kalakote expressed their strong opposition to the selection of Thakur Randir Singh as a "parachute candidate" for the BJP.

Thakur Randir Singh, a former National Conference (NC) leader for 40 years, was accused by Dilbagh Singh and his associates of joining the BJP only to shield himself from criminal activities and property amassed illegally.

In a press conference here on Friday, they claimed that Thakur Randir Singh is using his muscle power and wealth to overpower long-serving BJP workers and leaders.

Dilbagh Singh, who has been a social and political activist with the BJP and RSS since 2006, described how Randir Singh never supported BJP workers during his tenure in the NC.

He alleged that Randir Singh harassed him and his family for years, falsely accusing him of being involved in crimi-

nal activities to suppress his support for the BJP in the NC-dominated Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency.

Dilbagh Singh added that Randir Singh's entry into the BJP goes against the party's values and the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who once called for turning Kalakote from "Hell to Heaven" during a rally in 2014.

He criticized the BJP leadership, especially state president Ravinder Raina, for endorsing Randir Singh despite his past actions and alleged Gundaism.

Dilbagh Singh also recalled violent incidents from the 2014 and 2019 elections, where Randir Singh and his associates were involved in attacking BJP workers, including women, and using their political influence to file false cases against them.

He called for the BJP leadership to reconsider its decision and protect long-time party workers from being sidelined by "parachute candidates" like Thakur Randir Singh.

Vilakshan files complaint against Harsh Dev for filing false affidavit before RO

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Vilakshan Singh, President of the J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim), has officially lodged a complaint against Harsh Dev Singh, who is running for the upcoming assembly elections from Chenani Constitu-

The complaint, submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu and Kashmir, with a copy sent to the Returning Officer for the Chenani Assembly constituency, accuses Harsh Dev Singh of filing a false affidavit.

According to the complaint, Harsh Dev Singh concealed criminal antecedents in his affidavit. Specifically, Harsh Dev did not reveal that an FIR (No. 0059 of 2024) was registered against him on February 16, 2024, at Police Station

The FIR includes charges under sections 143, 147, 149, 500, 504, 506, 109, and 34 RPC. Harsh Dev Singh is identified as accused number five in this FIR.

Additionally, Harsh Dev Singh did not mention a pending criminal case titled "Vilakshan Singh V/S Ankit Love and others," in which he is an accused party. This case is currently being adjudicated in the court of the Learned 2nd Additional Munsiff Jammu, with Harsh Dev Singh listed as accused number three.

Vilakshan Singh has called for strict legal action against Harsh Dev Singh for allegedly concealing this vital information, which he argues undermines the integrity of the electoral process. Singh calls upon the authorities to address this issue promptly.

Sr.DEE/G/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders www.iresp.gov.in against below titled Tenders Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.						
Tender No	Name of Work	App Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Completion Period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect/ T-37- 2024-25	Provision of On Grid solar power plant at Station/Service buildings at different locations over Firozpur Division.	2,11,64,272/-	2,55,800.00/-	04 Months	03.10.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.i
261-Elect/ T-36- 2024-25	Electrical Work in c/w Upgradation/ Improvement of Sanehwal, Malsian Sahkot, Nurmahal & Nakodar goods shed under SSE/P/LDH	90,69,007.30/-	1,81,400.005-	6 Months	03.10.2024 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.ir

EDITORIAL

PM-eBus Sewa: Payment Security Mechanism

he PM-eBus Sewa is a government initiative aimed at revolutionizing urban mobility in India through the deployment of electric buses in major cities. This program, launched under the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP), seeks to address the growing environmental concerns and provide a sustainable solution for public transportation. One of the most crucial components of this program is the Payment Security Mechanism (PSM), which ensures the financial sustainability and smooth execution of the initiative.

The PM-eBus Sewa program aims to introduce electric buses into the urban transport systems across cities in India. The deployment of electric buses aligns with the government's commitment to reducing carbon emissions, combating climate change, and promoting green energy solutions. The initiative aims to bridge the gap between demand and supply for electric public transportation and enhance the quality of service offered to commuters.

Key features of the PM-eBus Sewa program include Deployment of electric buses in 100 cities; Focus on tier-2 and tier-3 cities, alongside metro cities, to improve connectivity; Support for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, such as charging stations and maintenance facilities; Integration with smart urban mobility solutions to enhance commuter experience; Importance of Payment Security Mechanism (PSM).

For any large-scale initiative like the PM-eBus Sewa, a robust Payment Security Mechanism is crucial to ensure the financial viability of the project and attract private sector participation. The PSM ensures that the cash flows required to sustain operations are protected, thereby safeguarding the interests of various stakeholders, including bus operators, investors, and lenders.

The PSM in the PM-eBus Sewa aims to provide assurance regarding timely payments, especially to private operators contracted to run these buses under a public-private partnership (PPP) model. This mechanism helps mitigate risks associated with delays or defaults in payments, ensuring that operations remain uninterrupted and sustainable in the long term.

The Payment Security Mechanism in the PM-eBus Sewa is structured to create a financial buffer that ensures payments to operators and vendors are made on time. The key components of this mechanism include:

Escrow Accounts: An escrow account is established to hold a pre-determined amount of funds dedicated to covering payments to private operators. This account is managed independently and ensures that payments are disbursed in a timely manner, even if there are delays in payments from government agencies or other entities.

Letters of Credit can be issued by government bodies to provide further security to operators. These LCs act as a guarantee for payments due to private players and ensure that financial institutions can provide liquidity to operators when needed. LCs help in providing an additional layer of security, especially in cases where payment risks are high.

Payments under the PM-eBus Sewa are based on the actual trips made by the buses, ensuring that operators are paid for the service they provide. This model prevents delays in lump-sum payments and ensures a continuous cash flow, thus reducing the financial strain on operators.

In cases where the revenue generated from ticket sales is insufficient to cover operational costs, the government provides viability gap funding (VGF) to ensure that operators remain financially viable. This funding helps bridge the gap between operating costs and actual revenue, ensuring that the initiative continues without disruption.

The Payment Security Mechanism incorporates a framework that ensures payments are made within a specified time period. Operators are assured that they will receive payments within the agreed timeline, which is essential for maintaining smooth operations and encouraging private participation in the program.

The government plays a crucial role in ensuring the success of the Payment Security Mechanism under the PM-eBus Sewa initiative. By creating a strong regulatory framework, the government ensures that private operators and other stakeholders are protected from financial risks. This includes the timely release of funds, monitoring the escrow accounts, and ensuring that trip-based payments are processed efficiently.

In addition to financial oversight, the government also provides subsidies and incentives to encourage the adoption of electric buses. These incentives include subsidies for electric bus purchases, financial support for setting up charging infrastructure, and tax breaks for manufacturers and operators of

The Payment Security Mechanism under the PMeBus Sewa is essential for the financial sustainability and success of the initiative. By providing assurance to private operators and ensuring timely payments, the PSM promotes confidence in the program, encourages private sector participation, and contributes to the overall goal of improving urban mobility through eco-friendly transportation solutions

After Khedkar's IAS exit, more complaints of fake credentials

By: Dilip Cherian

uspended IAS officer Puja Khedkar's discharge from Service has spotlighted a larger issue within the civil services selection process. Ms Khedkar was dismissed under Rule 12 of the IAS (Probation) Rules 1954, but her case seems to have opened a can of worms. Since her removal, the UPSC has received over 30 complaints from people accusing other candidates of misrepresenting their credentials. Also Read - Abhijit Bhattacharyya Ukraine fights to survive as Europe battles fatigue Advertisement Sources have informed DKB that these complaints have been forwarded to the department of personnel and training (DoPT) for further investigation. If the allegations hold water, tough action is expected. A key area of concern is the misuse of the disability quota, as seen in Ms Khedkar's case, which has prompted the government to initiate discussions on preventing such abuses. Multiple meetings are reportedly being held to address these issues. Also Read - Sunanda K. Datta-Ray | Delhi, Dhaka need to mend fences: Could Hasina help? Interestingly, several of Ms Khedkar's batchmates at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) were apparently aware of her alleged manipulation

of the disability quota but chose not to report it. To avoid similar lapses in the future, both the DoPT and LBSNAA are working on new protocols to better identify and deal with such concerns early on. On its part, the UPSC has also upgraded its systems to tackle fraudulent practices. The commission has enhanced its software to detect name changes by linking candidates' names to their date of birth, which should help prevent fraud between attempts. These steps are a much-needed course correction for the selection process. Also Read - Kasturi M. | All that India's women really need is respect and equality Tuhin Kanta Pandey steps into the spotlight in a new role This column has previously talked about the Odisha cadre's rise. Here's another example. Tuhin Kanta Pandey, a senior IAS officer from the Odisha cadre (1987 batch), is India's new finance secretary, stepping into a pivotal role following the elevation of Dr. T.V. Somanathan to Cabinet secretary. Mr Pandey brings a wealth of expertise, having previously led the department of investment and public asset management (Dipam). Under his leadership, Dipam successfully managed high-profile divestments, including the historic sale of Air India, demonstrating his ability to manage complex government undertakings. He is the longest-serving secretary in charge

of Dipam, indicating the trust he enjoys among his political masters. Also Read - Wasbir Hussain Manipur: Local ethnic 'war' turns into a national crisis Mr Pandey's portfolio, which also included the position of secretary of the department of public enterprises (DPE), provides him with a unique perspective on managing public sector firms and implementing privatization policies. Observers expect this knowledge to shape Mr Pandey's tenure as finance secretary, particularly given the government's continued emphasis on disinvestment, fiscal prudence, and structural reforms. Looking ahead, we may anticipate Mr Pandey to continue driving Mr Modi's privatisation agenda, potentially expanding it to new areas. With his track record, Mr Pandey is also likely to push for more efficient asset management and may simplify public-private partnerships to attract foreign and domestic investments. His experience leading Dipam through one of India's most critical privatisation phases implies a proactive, reformist approach that could prove advantageous as the government faces financial challenges and seeks to boost economic growth. Mr Pandey's tenure may also see a greater emphasis on balancing fiscal consolidation with growthoriented measures, especially as India navigates global economic uncertainties. Media maverick with bureaucratic ties Purva Misra's move to NDTV as chief people officer is certainly one to watch. After an impressive 11-year run as CHRO at India Today Group and COO of India Today Media Institute, she's bringing a wealth of experience to her new role. Her expertise in managing people and navigating the complex media landscape makes her a great fit for NDTV, which has been seeing a lot of changes recently. What adds a unique dimension to Purva's profile is her strong family connections. As the daughter of Nripendra Misra, former principal secretary to PM Narendra Modi and the chair of the Ram Temple construction committee, Purva comes from a family deeply embedded in key areas of governance and policy. Her father is known for being one of Mr Modi's most trusted aides, and that's no small feat. Add to that her husband, Shyamal Misra, a 1996-batch IAS officer currently serving as additional secretary in the ministry of home affairs, and you've got a family that's wellconnected across multiple layers of government. While Purva has clearly carved out her niche in the corporate world, her family's political clout adds an interesting layer to her professional journey. Her shift to NDTV is bound to be significant, and it'll be exciting to see how her leadership influences the network moving forward.

India needs to bridge the digital divide in villages for development

By: Vijay GarG

hile some individuals have access to the latest technologies, others lack even basic information or resources. In India, this divide is particularly stark. Urban areas, which constitute just 3% of the country, contribute nearly 70% of India's GDP, whereas more than 900 million citizens in rural areas remain underserved and lack basic facilities such as access to banking, investment, and credit.

Key Areas for Enhancing Digital Access in Rural Areas

Infrastructure Shortcomings: Rural areas often suffer from inadequate infrastructure, making it difficult to establish reliable internet connections. For example, in many parts of Bihar, electricity is unstable, which directly impacts internet connectivity. Addressing these shortcomings is crucial for enabling digital access in villages.

Enhancing Access: Even when digital infrastructure is available, access to devices remains a significant barrier. Smartphones and computers, although relatively affordable, are still expensive for many in rural areas. Government schemes, such as Madhya Pradesh's free smartphone yojana for students, are essential to bridge this gap by providing affordable or free devices to those in need.

Awareness: Digital literacy is another critical area that needs attention. Many rural residents are unaware of how to effectively use technology. Initiatives like Kerala's Akshaya program, which has significantly boosted digital literacy, serve as excellent examples. As a result of such programs, Kerala is now among the top states in digital literacy.

Creating Economic Opportunities: Technology should also be a tool for economic empowerment. For instance, Rajasthan's e-Mitra kiosks allow residents to pay bills and obtain certificates locally, thereby increasing local employment and income opportunities. These kiosks not only make services accessible but also create jobs, contributing to

the economic development of rural areas.

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Solutions to Bridge the Digital Divide in Rural India

Innovative Distribution Models: Assisted Accessibility: To bridge the digital divide, India needs innovative distribution models that simplify access to advanced technology and leverage the trust of local communities. The concept of assisted accessibility can play a pivotal role here. Local retailers, who already function as business correspondents (BCs) for basic banking services, can be empowered to serve as nerve centres for financial accessibility in rural areas. By enhancing their capacity and enabling them to offer advanced financial services like credit, insurance, and investments, these local networks can ensure that last-mile citizens have access to crucial financial tools. These services should be distributed in a way that adheres to the principles of availability, applicability, acceptability, and affordability. This model has seen success in some villages and now needs to be scaled up across the country.

Tailored Services for Rural Channels: Services provided through these rural channels must be specifically designed to meet the unique needs of rural populations, rather than simply adapting urban solutions. For example, while urban areas might benefit from comprehensive insurance plans, rural regions would be better served by microfinance and microinsurance options.

Successful examples: This approach has already been demonstrated successfully by telecom companies and FMCGs through their sachet packaging strategies, which cater to the smaller budgets and consumption patterns of rural consumers.

Similarly, banks and non-banking financial companies are now collaborating with corporate BCs to introduce innovative products like microcredit, microinsurance, and goal-based flexible savings plans. For example, SBI's YONO platform

offers personalised financial offers. This can be tailored to the specific needs of rural customers.

Jan Nivesh, Jan Suraksha, and Jan Credit: Initiatives like the Jan Dhan Yojana have shown the potential for large-scale inclusion efforts, and similar strategies are necessary to introduce and popularise programs like Jan Nivesh (People's Investment), Jan Suraksha (People's Protection), and Jan Credit (People's Credit).

These initiatives can only be successful if they become part of a broader movement driven by increasing demand for credit, loans, and other financial services essential for full economic inclusion.

Bringing Villages Online: The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) has the potential to bridge the digital divide by bringing rural communities online. By enabling small retailers in villages to sell their products through digital platforms, ONDC can significantly expand their business opportunities and increase market access. This digital inclusion is already evident in the mutual fund industry, where more than 400,000 new portfolios are being created each month from Tier-II and Tier-III cities. This burgeoning trend highlights the increasing financial engagement of rural populations and underscores the transformative impact of digital platforms on rural economic participation.

Content in Local Languages: To make digital tools and resources accessible to a broader rural audience, it's crucial to provide content in local languages.

Companies like Google are leading the way by offering services in nine Indian languages, which ensures that language barriers do not prevent rural populations from engaging with digital platforms.

Cybersecurity Awareness: As more rural residents come online, it's important to raise awareness about cybersecurity. Educating people about online safety, fraud prevention, and secure financial transactions will protect them as they increasingly use digital services. This is especially critical as

financial inclusion expands, ensuring that villagers can trust and safely use digital platforms.

Expanding 5G and Telemedicine: The expansion of 5G technology into every village is essential for improving connectivity and enabling advanced services like telemedicine. With better internet access, even the most remote areas can benefit from healthcare services delivered through digital platforms, making medical care more accessible and timely.

Blockchain Technology for Secure Transactions: Blockchain technology can play a key role in securing financial transactions, especially in rural areas where trust in digital financial systems needs to be established. By using blockchain to enhance the security and transparency of transactions, villagers can be more confident in using digital financial services, fostering greater adoption and trust in the digital economy.

Conclusion

Bridging the digital divide in India's rural areas is crucial for ensuring inclusive development and empowering millions of citizens. By addressing infrastructure shortcomings, enhancing access to devices, raising digital literacy, and creating economic opportunities, India can significantly narrow the gap between urban and rural areas. This approach is essential for realising the vision of a "Viksit Bharat," where every citizen, regardless of location, is included in the nation's progress and prosperity.

(Vijay GarG Retired Principal Educational columnist street kour Chand, MHR Malout -152107 Punjab)

CEC LAHDC for addressing security concerns in **Monasteries**

Top News Report

LEH, Sep 13: Chairman/CEC Adv. Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC, Leh convened a meeting regarding security challenges affecting monasteries with a focus on enhancing safety means.

Dy. Chairman Tsering Angchuk, Executive Councillor for Culture Stanzin Chosphel, ADC Ghulam Mohd., LBA Youth President Jigmet Raftan; tourism official Fesal Iqbal Tantry; Dy. SP (HQ) Regzin Sangdup; Iama uchos and chakzot from 16 monasteries

The meeting focused on enhancing security measures around the monasteries. Officials discussed various strategies to prevent future incidents, including the



installation of improved CCTV cameras and better street lighting. Upgrading to halogen lights will also increase visibility and overall security.

Dy. SP (Hq) Regzin Sangdup stated that the police are committed to catching the thief as it is their duty, and they are confident that the perpetrators will be appre-

hended soon. He provided a brief update on the situation and mentioned that the current CCTV system requires an upgrade. During the meeting, it was informed that the tourism management strategies are also being reviewed to

regulate tourist entry

and exit more effective-

ly and LBA Youth Wing

has committed to sup-

porting night time security efforts.

CEC assured that they will implement a system upgrade for the CCTV network, incorporating advanced motion sensors and alarm features to enhance protection, particularly during nighttime. This upgrade will be carried out in phases, beginning with an assessment and

initial installation, followed by a review and subsequent enhancements based on the initial results. The possibility of employing private security personnel, under specific conditions, was also considered as a means to further safeguard these sites.

Additionally, Chairman

stated that the council is dedicated to implementing these upgrades. A detailed survey will be conducted to determine the precise requirements for CCTV and other security systems and assured that the authorities are committed to enhancing the safety and security of the monasteries and further encouraged all local communities and monastery authorities to stay vigilant.

Techno India Group, Manchester City launch Manchester City Football School in Kolkata

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Techno India Group officially partnered with City Football Group to launch the first-ever Manchester City Football School in West Bengal, marking a new era in Indian football development. The school, which began its pre-registration in September, aims to nurture young talent from across the country by offering players a unique blend of world-class football coaching and a strong sports foundation.

The football school will cater to athletes aged three to seventeen, providing them with top-tier training led by full-time Manchester City coaches who have been handpicked by City Football Group. These coaches will implement Manchester City's renowned training methodology, tailored to each player's skill level

and designed to elevate young athletes to international standards.

Alongside the football training, the school will provide a select group of exceptional students with a unique opportunity to train at Manchester City's UK facilities. They will be invited to immerse themselves in the club's renowned training environment and gain exposure to top-tier international football facilities.

Furthermore, all

enrolled students will receive a detailed performance report and personalised improvement plan during the program, crafted directly by Manchester City Football School in the UK. These reports will be sent to Kolkata to be distributed to the students, offering valuable insight and tailored recommendations to accelerate their skill development and enhance their



understanding of the game at a professional level

The opening of this football school is expected to set a new benchmark for sports education in India, broadening the opportunities for aspiring footballers. The school, with an initial capacity of 150 students, underscores Techno India Group's dedication to fostering holistic development

through distinguished sports training.

Debdut Roychowdhury, Director of Techno India Group, emphasised the significance of this partnership, "It is with immense pride, excitement and joy that we announce our partnership with the Manchester City Football School. By combining their world-class expertise in football training with Kolkata's proud football heritage, this collaboration reflects our vision and deep commitment to nurturing the champions of tomorrow."

"We are delighted to be opening our first Manchester City Football School in Kolkata with Techno India Group, who are a leading education provider to children and young adults throughout West Bengal. We are looking forward to creating a first-class educational experience, through the presence of fully trained, full time Manchester City Coaches, based on the same approach and methodology that we use in our programs in Manchester, tailored to the level of each player," said Jorgina Busquets, Managing Director - Football Education, Recreation and Partner Clubs for City Football Group.

Ashwin Sankranti on Sept 16: Mahant Rohit

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13:
Ashwin Sankranti, a day of immense religious significance in Sanatan Dharma, will be observed on Monday, September 16, this year.
According to Mahant Rohit Shastri, Head of the Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, the sacred period of Ashwin Sankranti will begin in the afternoon. This day marks the

Sun's transit from Leo

to Virgo, a phenom-

enon known as Kanya

Sankranti.

Ashwin Sankranti is an auspicious time for performing religious rituals, taking holy dips, and offering charity. Traditionally, devotees bathe in sacred rivers like the Ganga. However, if one is unable to visit a river, they can add Ganga water to their regular bath at home to purify themselves spiritually. The day encourages acts of charity such as donating food, sweets. and other essential items to Brahmins and the needy, with the belief that donations on



this day bring tenfold benefits.

The day also emphasizes fasting, and it is customary to consume only one meal, ideally sattvic (pure and vegetarian) food. Mahant Rohit Shastri stresses that offerings should be made to deities, especially Lord Satyanarayan and the Sun God

an and the Sun God. While Ashwin Sankranti is a period of spiritual importance, Mahant Shastri also noted some astrological concerns. Inflation is expected to persist, which could lead to hardships for the public. Diseases may spread, and corruption, unrest, and violence may increase. The planetary alignments also suggest that prominent personalities may pass away unexpectedly, and there is a risk of natural disasters such as earthquakes. Northern and eastern states might experience heavy rainfall and floods.

Mahant Rohit Shastri emphasized that on this day, people should refrain from consuming tamasic foods (those considered impure, such as meat and alcohol). The consumption of intoxicants is strongly discouraged, as they are said to have a detrimental impact on both physical health and one's spiritual future.

Instead, devotees are encouraged to consume only sattvic foods, which are pure, simple, and conducive to spiritual practice. These offerings are made to the deities as part of the rituals performed on this day.

Additionally, worship of Lord Satyanarayan, the Sun God, and one's personal deity is advised to ensure divine blessings and spiritual upliftment.

Change exam session in October-November instead of March April in Kishtwar: Ajeet



Top News Report

KISHTWAR, Sep 13: J&K National Conference Senior Leader, Spokesperson of Chenab Valley Zone Ajeet Bhagat strongly demanded from the J&K administration of Jammu and Kashmir

that the examination of the students held in March and April should be conducted in October and November.

Due to which they are facing difficulties in working hard, so the government of Jammu and Kashmir is strongly requested to do it in October and November instead of March and April so that the students do not face any problem. Making a strong demand from the administration,

Bhagat said that the students are facing problems due to the lengthy process and the students are suffering. He said that we have full confidence that the Governor administration will take important steps in this regard and the students will be relieved, he has said in his statement that at present there is unrest going on in Jammu and Kashmir and students are suffering due to this unrest, he expressed confidence.

We are confident that the Governor's administration will look into this issue closely and the students' exams, which are scheduled for March and April, will be conducted in October and November.

GCW Bhagwati Nagar organizes seminar on "Suicide and Suidal Thought"

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: IQAC and NSS Unit of Government College for Women (GCW), Bhagwati Nagar organised one day seminar on the topic "Suicide and Suidal Thought: Symtoms, Caues & Prevention" under the patronage of Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college.

Suicide is a major public health challenge, with more than 700000 deaths each year globally and to tackle with this grave issue every year World Suicide Prevention Day is celebrated on 10th September globally.

The main objective of the seminar was to raise awareness about the importance of reducing stigma and encouraging open conversations to prevent suicides.

Dr. Shamim Akhter, Medical Officer, PHC Shri Amarnath Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar, was the resource person on the occasion. She extensively elaborated on the theme of



World Suicide Prevention Day for 2024-2026, that is, "Changing the Narrative on Suicide" with the call to action "Start the Conversation".

She said that changing the narrative on suicide is about transforming how we perceive this complex issue and shifting from a culture of silence and stigma to one of openness, understanding and sup-

Speaking on the occasion Principal of the college, Dr. Meeru Abrol, stressed upon encouraging everyone to start the conversation on suicide and suicide prevention. She highlighted that every conversa-

tion, no matter how small, contributes to a supportive and understanding society and by initiating these vital conversations, we can break down barriers, raise awareness, and create better cultures of support.

About 70 students of the college participated enthusiastically in the seminar wherein they raised various queries and issues. All the queries were dealt professionally by the resource person and ended the seminar with group dis-

cussion session.

The seminar was organised by Coordiantor IQAC Prof. Nisha Bhagat and NSS PO Dr. Preeti Salthia.

Awareness programme on cyber bullying held at GDC Akhnoor

Top News Report

AKHNOOR, Sep 13: Internal Complaint Committee against Sexual Harassment (ICCASH) of Govt. Degree College (GDC) Akhnoor under the aegis of IQAC organized Postermaking/Slogan writing competition on 'Cyber Bullying' on Friday under the patronage of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Romilla Malla Bhat.

The program focused awareness on the issue of Cyber bullying which takes place in the digital platform with intent of harming and hurting people emotionally and mentally resulting in psychological distress among people who experience it.

The aim was to spread awareness among students who live in digital space to refrain from such activities.

Speaking on the occasion, Convener ICCASH, Dr. Monika Malhotra addressed the students that Cyber bullying can take place on social media platforms, messaging platforms and mobile phones. It is repeated behavior aimed at scaring, annoying or shaming those who are targeted. She further emphasized on remaining alert and preventing such acts.

Dr. Deepali Mahajan member ICCASH

ing which are seriously damaging and can affect anyone easily and gravely.

Highlighting on the causes and effects of Cyber bullying, Prof. Shreya Sharma reiterated that the effects of Cyber bullying include mental health issues, increased stress, anxiety, depression and low self esteem. In all 20 students participated in the event. Thirty minutes time was allotted to the participants.

The Poster making competition was adjudged by Prof. Savita Jamwal and Dr. Shammi Kumar and Slogan competition was adjudged by Prof. Deepika Gupta and Dr. Sanjay Kapoor.

The winners of Poster making competition were Sapna (Ist), Janvi Sharma (2nd) and Tannu Sharma (3rd) whereas in the category of Slogan writing competition winners were Uday Sharma (1st), Riya Verma (2nd) and Neha Sharma (3rd).

The program was coordinated by committee members Dr. Monika Malhotra, Dr. Deepali Mahajan, Dr. Rajiv Katoch, Prof. Anjeela Qureshi, Prof. Suresh Kumar, Prof. Shreya Sharma.

Other faculty members who attended the program included Dr. Anju Bala, Dr. Sandhya Rani, Dr. Seema Bhau, Dr. Slony Gupta, Prof. Urmil Rani, Prof. Seema Kumari, Prof. Sonu and Dr. Neba Uttam



Apni Party's MLA candidate Pavneet Kour conducts door-to-door campaign at Simbal Camp



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Pavneet Kour, the MLA candidate of the Apni Party for Jammu South, on Friday conducted an extensive door-to-door campaign today at Simbal Camp.

With a strong focus on addressing local issues and connecting with residents personally, she emphasized her commitment to bringing about real change.

During the campaign, Kour reiterated her promises, which include making Punjabi an official language, granting minority status to Sikhs, and ensuring 500 units of free electricity in the summer and 300 units in the winter. She also discussed plans to create sports academies, combat drug abuse among youth, and provide better access to government schemes for the elderly.

As a woman candidate, Pavneet Kour appealed for the support of the community, stressing her dedication to serving all sections of society and ensuring that their voices are heard in the legislative assembly. The people of Simbal Camp responded positively to her message, showing interest in her vision for a better and more inclusive future.

The campaign will continue across other areas of Jammu South in the coming days, as Kour continues to build momentum ahead of the upcoming elections.

Rajkummar Rao says many told him Stree 2's success feels like 'personal victory': It was overwhelming

Actor Rajkummar Rao on Thursday said he was inundated with calls and messages after the success of his latest release Stree 2 and many people reached out to him saying it felt like a "personal victory".

The horror comedy, a sequel to 2018's Stree, is directed by Amar Kaushik and written by Niren Bhatt.

Rajkummar Rao on the response to Stree 2

"We are happy that Stree 2 got such a good response and achieved so much success. The numbers mean that many people have watched our film. I've received love from people, personally on messages, calls. and social media," said Rajkum-

"Many people told me, this feels like a personal victory.



This made me emotionally vulnerable.

A lot of them also said, we are connected with your journey. Your win is like our win, you give us hope

All this was overwhelming for me," the actor told reporters here at the trailer launch of his upcoming film Vicky Vidya Ka

Woh Wala Video.

Stree 2 also stars Shraddha Kapoor, Aparshakti Khurana, Abhishek Baneriee, and Pankai Tripathi, among others. The film, which was released in theatres on August 15, backed by Maddock Films, has earned over 600 crore in India

Rajkummar Rao's upcoming

The actor, who has started shooting for his next film Maalik, said he will continue to work with utmost honesty on every film. The film, which was announced on Rajkummar's birthday on August 31, is an upcoming action thriller to be directed by filmmaker Pulkit.

"Three days after the release of the film (Stree 2), I had started shooting for Maalik. I love what I do and that will never change irrespective of whether the film earns 100, 500 or 5,000," said Rajkummar.

"It all depends on destiny. If it's a good film, it will receive love from the audience. I do my work honestly as an actor, which I've been doing from my first film till now," he added. Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video also stars Triptii Dimri.

Kathak danseuse Sree **Bandyopadhyay delights** dance lovers in City Beautiful



Music lovers of City Beautiful were treated to a scintillating dance performance by promising Kathak danseuse, Sree Bandyopadhyay, during the 299th Monthly Baithak Programme, organised by Pracheen Kala Kendra at the ML Koser Indoor Auditorium.

Sree Bandyopadhyay started training under the guidance of Guru Sandip Mallick in Kolkata and later completed her post-graduate diploma from the Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, under the guidance of Pt Jai Kishan Maharaj.

Meanwhile, her fine footwork and knowledge of the rhythm impressed the audience.

A fine team of accompanists, Ustad Shakeel Ahmed Khan (tabla), Lavnya Ambade (sitar), Atul Devesh (vocal) and Jaya Bhatt (padant), made the performance stand out.

Cardi B welcomes baby girl, says 'prettiest lil thing'

Cardi B has welcomed a baby girl with her estranged husband Offset more than a month after filing for divorce.

The two are already parents to 6-year-old daughter Kulture and 2-year-old son Wave.

"The prettiest lil thing," Cardi captioned a September 12 Instagram post featuring photos of their family at the hospital, noting the birth date, "9/7/24."

The "Bodak Yellow" hitmaker announced her pregnancy hours after filing for a divorce from the 32-year-old rapper on August 1 by showing off her bump in an Instagram post, reports eonline.com.

She had captioned the post: "With every ending comes a new beginning! I am so grateful to have shared this season with you, you have brought me more love, more life and most of all renewed my power! Reminded me that I can have it all!"

She added: "You've reminded me that I never have to choose between life, love, and my passion! I love you so much and can not wait for you to witness what you helped me



accomplish, what you pushed me to do.

The "WAP" hitmaker said that it is so much easier taking life's twists, turns and test laying down, but you, your brother and your sister "have shown me why it's worth it to push through!"

According to her recent divorce filing, Cardi B has requested primary custody of their children along with child support from the Offset.

The petition stated that Cardi and Offset had "experienced irreconcilable differences that have caused the breakdown of the marriage" and that "there is no reasonable prospect

of reconciliation."

The couple tied the knot in 2017. They have taken time apart a few times throughout their relationship, with their first split occurring in 2018 amid cheating rumours.

The duo reunited in 2019, at awards shows, before breaking up again in 2020 resulting in Cardi filing for divorce. She dismissed the proceedings later that year, but by 2023, tney had called it quits

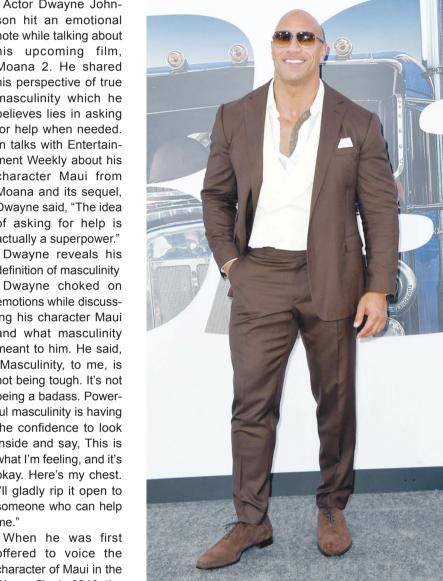
After a New Year's Eve reunion in 2024, Cardi B shared insight into their complicated relationship and the status of their marriage.

Dwayne Johnson promotes Moana 2 in emotional interview, reflects upon true meaning of masculinity: 'Asking for help...'

Actor Dwayne Johnson hit an emotional note while talking about his upcoming film, Moana 2. He shared his perspective of true masculinity which he believes lies in asking for help when needed. In talks with Entertainment Weekly about his character Maui from Moana and its sequel, Dwayne said, "The idea of asking for help is actually a superpower."

definition of masculinity Dwayne choked on emotions while discussing his character Maui and what masculinity meant to him. He said, "Masculinity, to me, is not being tough. It's not being a badass. Powerful masculinity is having the confidence to look inside and say, This is what I'm feeling, and it's okay. Here's my chest. I'll gladly rip it open to someone who can help me."

When he was first offered to voice the character of Maui in the Disney film in 2016, the



actor said to the media outlet, "I was like, 'Okay, I know who this is." He further described the demigod inside out, saying: "This guy who is very presentational, who puts on a show, who loves to hold court, sing and dance, and make people feel good." The actor added, "But there's a lot that's brewing deep down that, eventually, he is going to have to contend with because it's like a ball that you're holding underwater. Eventually, you've got to let the ball go, and it's going to explode." Dwayne himself had conflicted with the messages of vulnerability while he was growing up and faced losses in his life. Dwayne's Maui teach-

es opening up to others The Red Notice actor believed that the character of Maui in the original film and the upcoming sequel will be crucial as it will show people that "you can be strong, you can be big, you can be independent, but it's

okay to ask for help.' He continued, "When you do finally ask for help, the universe and your loved ones have a way of meeting you halfway. Even the strongest of people need help." The actor is also a father to three daughters, Simone Johnson, 23 who he shares with his ex-wife Dany Garcia, Jasmine Johnson, 8, and Tiana Johnson, 6, whom he shares with his wife, Lauren Hashian, as reported by People.

The actor also known as The Rock will team up with Auli'i Cravalho, who plays Moana, once again for the sequel. The former revealed that the film will begin with Maui in the deep end of troubles. Cravalho revealed that the demigod and her character are "much more comrades," this time. She told EW. "There isn't as much of a hierarchy and power between demigod and human. He trusts her to make large decisions, and she trusts Maui to listen to her."

Rubina Dilaik reveals she has started getting 'bhabi roles' after giving birth a very brutal truth, but

Actors Rubina Dilaik and Abhinav Shukla welcomed their twin daughters - Jeeva and Edhaa - in November last year. Rubina has now opened up about navigating her career after becoming a mother, revealing some unexpected challenges. She made the revelations in a new episode of her chat show Kisine Bataya Nahi as she discussed her parenthood journey with actor Sharad Kelkar.

'I am being asked to play bhabhi

Addressing the existing stigma against female actors, Rubina said in Hindi, "When female actors welcome kids, they are being categorised in a certain way... (Despite losing the baby weight) I am being asked to play bhabhi-type (sister-inlaw type) roles on the whole.

'Male actor's shelf life is slightly longer as lead' Sharad chimed in to say, "I will tell you, it is

that's a fact, you can't deny it – a male actor's shelf life is slightly longer than a female actor's shelf life as a lead... it is not about being biased, it is practical. Because you (Rubina) came at 18 (as a lead) and you became a star of television for at least 10 years, ab bari dusro ki hai (Now it is other people's chance to rule like you)."

'A huge change not just for me but my entire family'

In December 2023, new mom Rubina had spoken to HT City about being a first-time parent. She had said, "Our twin pregnancy is the first pregnancy, so there is not really a benchmark to compare to know which one is easier or tougher.

We were preparing ourselves over these nine months. Had it been a single pregnancy, then also the preparations would have been



the same."

As she navigated the early days of parenthood, Rubina also said, "There is so much going on, and it is a huge change not just for me but the entire family. Everybody is accommodating into this new life. It's too early to comment on anything about the motherhood part of it, but I can feel the change, and that change will eventually transpire into something meaningful over time. That's all I can see and experience for myself." More about Rubina

Rubina, who turned 35

which she finished as

the 1st runner-up – both

in 2022.

this year, is known for TV shows such as Chotti Bahu, Shakt, Punar Vivah - Ek Nayi Umeed and Jeannie Aur Juju. In 2020, she emerged as the winner of Bigg Boss 14. She participated in Fear Factor: Khatron Ke Khiladi 12 and Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 10 - in

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Jawan' to now release in Japan on November 29



Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan announced that his blockbuster movie "Jawan" will be released in theatres in Japan on November 29.

The high-octane thriller, directed by filmmaker Atlee, was released in September 2023 and minted over Rs 1,100 crore gross at the world-

wide box office. Shah Rukh shared a Japanese poster for the film on his social media pages to announce its release in the country.

"Ek kahani justice ki... vengeance ki...villain aur hero ki... Ek kahani Jawan ki...

Aa rahi hai Japan ke theatres mein pehli baar!!! Toh ab reh gaya bas ek sawaal- Readyah? The fire and action you all loved is making a massy massy massy arrival in Japan!#Jawan hits the screens in Japan on 29th Nov, 2024," the 58-year-old actor posted.

"Jawan" outlines "the emotional journey of a man who is set to rectify the wrongs in the society". It stars Shah Rukh in the dual role of Vikram Rathore and his son Azad.

The movie also features Navanthara and Vijay Sethupathi with Deepika Padukone and Sanjay Dutt in special appearances.

Sanya Malhotra, Priyamani, Girija Oak, Sanjeeta Bhattacharya, Lehar Khan, Aaliyah Qureshi, Ridhi Dogra, Sunil Grover and Mukesh Chhabra round out the cast.

A Red Chillies Entertainment presentation, "Jawan" is produced by Gauri Khan and coproduced by Gaurav Verma.

Row over OBC list: SC to consider advancing date of hearing on WB's plea against HC verdict

State challenges Calcutta High Court's decision striking down OBC status of 77 communities, affecting public sector jobs and education reservations

NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Supreme Court on Friday said it would consider advancing date of hearing on a plea of the West Bengal government against a Calcutta High Court verdict striking down the OBC status of several castes, mostly Muslim groups, for granting reservation to them in public sector jobs and staterun educational institutions.

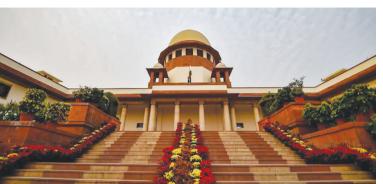
The top court is scheduled to hear the appeal on September 30 and the litigants, including the Trinamool Congress-led state government, have sought advancing of the date of hear-

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra was urged by senior advocate N K Kaul that 77 communities have been "de-reserved" and due to the impugned judgement, the admission process in relation to them are getting affected.

"I will pass an order (on advancing the date of hearing) in the afternoon. Please circulate an e-mail," the CJI told Kaul.

The top court had earlier on August 5 asked the state government to provide quantifiable data on social and economic backwardness of fresh castes it has included in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list and on their inadequate representation in the public sector

While issuing notices to private litigants on the plea of the state government against the



high court verdict, the bench had asked the authorities to file an affidavit giving details of the consultations, if any, conducted by it and the state's backward classes panel before including the castes, mostly Muslim groups, in the OBC list.

The high court had on May 22 struck down the OBC status of several castes in West Bengal granted since 2010, holding as illegal the reservation for them in the public sector jobs and state-run educational institu-

"Issue notice, including on the application of stay (of the judgement filed by the state government). The state of West Bengal shall file an affidavit before this court explaining the process followed for classification of 77 communities as OBCs: (1) the nature of survey; (2) whether there was a lack of consultation with the Commission (state backward panel) in respect of any communities in the list of 77 communities designated as OBCs," the bench had said.

The bench had also asked whether any consultation was done by the state before the

sub-classification of the OBCs. "The state shall clarify the nature of study relied upon by it (for inclusion of castes in OBC list)," the CJI had said, adding it would give an opportunity to the state government to respond to the findings of the high court.

The top court notices were issued to Amal Chandra Das, Nilmadhab Karmakar, Aatmadeep, Purabi Saha and others.

They had moved the high court against the inclusion of these castes in the OBC list.

While striking down the OBC status of several classes granted since 2010, the high court had said, "Religion indeed appears to have been the sole criterion" for declaring these communities as OBCs.

The high court had said that it is of the view that the "selection of 77 classes of Muslims as backwards is an affront to the Muslim community as a whole".

Maintaining that this court's mind is not free from doubt that "the said community (Muslims) has been treated as a commodity for political ends", the bench had said, "This is clear from the chain of events that led to the classification of the 77 classes as OBCs and their inclusion to be treated as a vote bank."

Passing the judgement on petitions challenging the provisions of the state's reservation Act of 2012 and reservations granted in 2010, the high court had clarified that the services of citizens of the struck-down classes, who are already in service or have availed the benefit of reservation or have succeeded in any selection process of the state, will not be affected by the order.

In all, the high court struck down 77 classes of reservation given between April 2010 and September 2010.

It also struck down 37 classes for reservation as OBC given under the West Bengal Backward Classes (Other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) (Reservation of Vacancies in Services and Posts) Act. 2012.

While the court had scrapped the 77 classes over "illegality" of reports recommending such classification, other 37 classes were removed from the OBC list for non-consultation by the West Bengal Backward Classes Commission.

The bench had also struck down an executive order of May 11, 2012 creating several sub-classes.

The high court ruled that the directions will take effect prospectively.

BJP equally responsible for Blue Star, '84 riots: Punjab ex-CM Channi



NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): Two top Punjab Congress leaders on Friday alleged that the BJP, its leader LK Advani and their ideological mentor, the RSS, were equally responsible for Operation Blue Star and the anti-Sikh riots that took place in the country after the assassination of PM Indira Gandhi in 1984. They said it was time the BJP apologised for its role in the Army operation and the massacre of Sikhs.

Responding to a question at a press conference at the AICC headquarters, Charanjit Singh Channi, Lok Sabha member and former Punjab Chief Minister, said Advani had admitted in his book that Operation Blue Star was launched as a result of pressure built by the BJP on the Congress government, then in power at the Centre, demanding strong action against Punjab militants. Advani had also written that the 1984 riots were a back-

lash, Channi said. Channi, who was accompanied by the CLP leader of Punjab, Partap Singh Bajwa, said the Congress had already apologised for the military operation targeting Harmandir Sahib and the riots, and the BJP should also do

On the continuance of riot accused Jagdish Tytler in the Congress, Channi said the BJP had been in power at the Centre for the last 10 years, and it should take appropriate action against those guilty.

He said the BJP had twisted what Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had recently said during an interaction in the US. What Rahul said had struck a chord with the Sikhs and the BJP

resented it, he claimed. The former CM said the concern expressed by Rahul Gandhi about the state of religious freedom of the minorities in BJP-ruled India was justified and every Sikh and non-Sikh resident of Punjab agreed with Rahul on the issue.

When farmers were agitating against the farm laws brought in by the BJP, they were unfairly called "Khalistanis" by the BJP, the Congress leaders said.

Raising the issue of slogan shouting by a Sikh leader of the BJP in Delhi recently, warning Rahul that he would be assassinated in the same fashion as his grandmother Indira Gandhi was, the Punjab leaders said it was strange that the BJP leader had not yet been arrested. If there was further delay, they would file an FIR against the Sikh BJP leader, they said, demanding upgrade of the security of the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

They also expressed surprise that the BJP had not taken action against Kangana Ranaut, despite the Mandi MP saying that farmers took money to take part in the agitation against the farm laws.

TMC's O'Brien targets CBI over delay in chargesheet in Kolkata doc rape-murder case

NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Derek O'Brien on Friday questioned the delay in filing a chargesheet by the CBI in the RG Kar hospital rape-murder case.

In a post on the social media platform X, the TMC leader demanded 'swift justice'.

'How long will the RG Kar victim's family have to wait for justice, O'Brien, the TMC's Parliamentary party leader in the Rajya Sabha, said in the post.

The Supreme Court is monitoring the case, he said, adding, 'CBI has the accused & all the



evidence. Why is it not filing a chargesheet & starting trial?'

'We all want swift justice. Why is CBI delaying the trial? We need answers,' O'Brien said.

The body of an on-duty post-graduate trainee doctor was found in the seminar room of the West Bengal govern-

ment-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital last month. She was raped and murdered.

> The Calcutta High Court transferred the probe in the case to the CBI from the Kolkata Police.

The main accused, a civic volunteer, has been arrested

Nurse cuts doctor's private parts, escapes gangrape bid at Bihar hospital currently receiving treat-

SAMASTIPUR, Sep 13 (Agencies): A nurse at a private hospital in Bihar's Samastipur district defended herself by cutting a doctor's private parts with a surgical blade when he and two associates allegedly attempted to rape her. All three accused, including Dr Sanjay Kumar Sanju, have been arrested.

The accused have been identified as Dr Sanjay Kumar Sanju from Begusarai district, Sunil Kumar Gupta from Vaishali district, and Awadhesh Kumar from the Mangra area.

According to reports, the doctor, along with his two associates, had consumed alcohol and, in an



intoxicated state, began harassing the nurse, who was employed at the healthcare center. The situation escalated when Sanju attempted to sexually assault the nurse. Acting swiftly, the nurse grabbed a surgical blade and cut his private part, freeing herself from his grip and fleeing the scene.

Sunil and Awadhesh

reportedly chased the nurse, but she managed to escape and alert the police by dialling the

> Tiwari conducted a raid, arresting the doctor and his two accomplices. Bloodstained clothes were recovered from the

emergency number

112. Following her call,

a team led by SP Vinay

crime scene. The injured doctor is ment in police custody at a hospital, where his condition is being kept confidential. Police are actively investigating the case and gathering further evidence.

In a statement, DSP Sanjay Kumar Pandey revealed that the victim made a distress call to emergency services late at night.

The information was passed on to the local police station and the SP, prompting immediate action. The victim was found hiding in a nearby field, where she detailed her ordeal.

The nurse, who had been employed at the hospital for the past 10 to 15 months, recounted how the doctor, a physiotherapist, and his two associates had been drinking before they began harassing her. When she resisted the doctor's advances. she initially struggled to fend him off. In an act of self-defense, she used a surgical blade to attack the doctor, giving her a chance to escape and call for help.

Investigators recovered several pieces of evidence from the scene, including bloodstained bedsheets, three mobile phones, and alcohol bottles. It was also discovered that the hospital's CCTV cameras had been disabled before the crime was committed.

Junior doctor arrested for raping 11-year-old patient in UP's Agra

AGRA, Sep 13 (Agencies): A junior doctor at Agra's Sarojani Naidu Medical College and Hospital has been arrested for allegedly raping an 11-year-old girl, police said today.

An FIR has been lodged in the case against the junior doctor of the pediatric department of the SN Medical College and Hospital, they said.

"The doctor has been arrested

after the incident and further probe is on," police said.

"The girl was admitted to the Pediatric Department of the college. She is 11-year-old and the junior doctor has been suspended after the incident. A committee has been formed to investigate the case," Sarojani Naidu Medical College and Hospital Principal Dr Prashant Gupta told

The girl was admitted in the emergency ward of the SN Medical College on September 6 due to high fever. She was shifted to the Pediatric Department for further treatment on September 7. "At Pediatric Department on Tuesday night, the junior doctor called the girl in his chamber and allegedly sexually harassed her and raped her. The girl fled from the clutches

of the doctor and informed her mother about the incident, said the family members.

The doctor Dilshad Hussain was arrested after an FIR was lodged against him at MM Gate Police Station, police said.

The FIR has been lodged under sections 64 (2), 65 (2) of the Bhartiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), 2023 and the POCSO Act against the doctor, they said.

India successfully test fires two Surface-to-Air Missiles in 2 days



BALASORE, Sep 13 (Agencies): India on Friday successfully test-fired the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VLSRSAM) for the second consecutive day from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur on the Odisha coast, defence sources

A statement from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) confirmed that both tests on September 12 and 13 were

"In both the tests, the missile successfully intercepted a high-speed low altitude aerial target mimicking sea skimming aerial target," the statement

The missile showcased its precision and capability to neutralise targets, the statement said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lauded DRDO, the Indian Navy & all associated teams for the successful flight tests and stated that this missile equipped with modern technologies will give further technological boost to the Armed Forces, it said.

For safety reasons, the Balasore district administration temporarily relocated 3,100 residents from six villages within 2.5 km radius of ITR Launch Pad

A revenue official said these precautions were taken in consultation with the ITR authorities at Chandipur.

This follows the earlier test on Thursday when the VLSRSAM missile effectively engaged another low-altitude target. These consecutive tests not only demonstrate the weapon system's reliability but also validate the recent upgrades made to various components of the system.

The Secretary of Department of Defence R&D and DRDO Chairman, Dr Samir V Kamat, also congratulated the teams involved in the flight tests of the VLSRSAM system.

28-year-old woman injured in attack by man-eater wolf in **UP's Bahraich**

BAHRAICH, Sep 13 (Agencies): A 28-year-old woman was attacked by a wolf and sustained injuries to her neck and chest in Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich, officials said on Friday.

The latest attack took place in Singiya Nasirpur village in Bahraich, which has been affected by wolf attacks for some time

The animal attacked a villager for a fourth consecutive day in the area since the fifth of the six wolves on the loose in the region was caught by the authorities.

Wolf attacks continue unabated as people are living in fear as the man-eater animals are on the loose in the area. The escalating threat of wild animal attacks has sparked concern

among locals. Meanwhile, the authorities are trying their best to catch the wolf, but hardly any strategy seems to be working as continuous heavy rain in Bahraich is hampering search operations in the affected area.

The Singiya Nasirpur incident came a day after two separate jackal attacks left several villagers injured, including a 10-year-old boy. A jackal was also caught on camera moving through a field, prompting the Forest Department to be on high

alert.

These recent incidents come amid an ongoing crisis in Bahraich, where wolves have claimed the lives of over 10 people and injured dozens more. Authorities have intensified their efforts to capture the predators, successfully apprehending five wolves. However, a sixth wolf remains at large, continuing to instil fear among the local population.

Vietnam typhoon death toll rises to 233 as more bodies found in areas hit by landslides and floods

Typhoon Yagi made landfall Saturday, starting a week of heavy rains that have triggered flash floods and landslides, particularly in Vietnam's mountainous north.

HANOI, Sep 13 (Agencies): The death toll in the aftermath of a typhoon in Vietnam climbed to 233 on Friday as rescue workers recovered more bodies from areas hit by landslides and flash floods, state media reported.

Flood waters from the swollen Red River in the capital, Hanoi, were beginning to recede somewhat, but many neighborhoods remained inundated and farther north experts were predicting it could still be days before any relief was in sight.

Typhoon Yagi made landfall Saturday, starting a week of heavy rains that have triggered flash floods and landslides, particularly in Vietnam's mountainous north.

Across Vietnam, 103 people are still listed as missing and more than 800 have been injured.

Most fatalities have come in the province of Lao Cai, where a flash flood swept away the entire hamlet of Lang Nu on Tuesday. Eight villagers turned up safe



on Friday morning, telling others that they had left before the deluge, state-run VNExpress newspaper reported, but 48 others from Lang Nu have been found dead, and another 39 remain missing.

Roads to Lang Nu have been badly damaged, making it impossible to bring in heavy equipment to aid in the rescue effort.

Some 500 personnel with sniffer dogs are on hand, and in a visit to the scene on Thursday, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh promised they would not relent in their search for those still missing.

"Their families are in agony," Chinh said.

Coffins were stacked near the disaster site in preparation for the worst, and villager Tran Thi Ngan mourned at a makeshift altar for family members she had lost.

"It's a disaster," she told VTV news. "That's the fate we have to accept."

In Cao Bang, another northern province bordering China, 21 bodies had been recovered by Friday, four days after a landslide pushed a bus, a car and several motorcycles into a small river, swollen with floodwaters. Ten more people remain missing.

In the aftermath of Yagi, the strongest typhoon to hit the

Southeast Asian country in decades, Australia has already begun delivering humanitarian

aid supplies as part of

\$2 million in assistance.

South Korea has also pledged \$2 million in humanitarian aid, and the U.S. Embassy said Friday it would provide \$1 million in support through the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID.

"With more heavy rain forecast in the coming days, USAID's disaster experts continue to monitor humanitarian needs in close coordination with local emergency authorities and partners on the ground," the embassy

said in a statement. "USAID humanitarian experts on the ground are participating in ongoing assessments to ensure U.S. assistance rapidly reaches populations in need."

Experts say storms like Typhoon Yagi are getting stronger due to climate change, as warmer ocean waters provide more energy to fuel them, leading to higher winds and heavier rainfall.

The typhoon and ensuing heavy rains have damaged factories in northern provinces like Haiphong, home to electric car company VinFast, Apple parts suppliers and other electronic manufacturers, which could affect international supply chains, the Center for Strategic and International Studies said in a research note.

"Though 95 percent of businesses operating in Haiphong were expected to resume some activity on September 10, repair efforts will likely lower output for the next weeks and months," CSIS said.

Russia expels 6 British diplomats it accuses of spying and "subversive activities"

MOSCOW, Sep 13 (Agencies): Russia's Federal Security Service on Friday accused six British diplomats of spying and said a decision has been made to withdraw their accreditation.

Russian state TV quoted an official from the security service known as the FSB as saying that they will be expelled. The expulsions come as Prime Minister Keir Starmer visits Washington for talks with President Joe Biden that will include Ukraine's request to use Western-supplied weapons against targets inside Russia.

Starmer said on his way to the U.S. that Britain does not "seek any conflict with Russia." "Russia started this conflict. Russia illegally invaded Ukraine. Russia could end this conflict straight away," he told reporters.

"Ukraine has the right to self-defense and we've obviously been absolutely fully supportive of Ukraine's right to self-defense — we're providing training capability, as you know. But we don't seek any conflict with Russia that's not our intention in the slightest,"

The FSB said it received documents indicating that the diplomats were sent to Russia by a division of the U.K. Foreign Office "whose main task is to inflict a strategic defeat on our country," and that they were involved in "intelligence-gathering and subversive activities."

Based on these documents and "in response to numerous unfriendly steps by London," the Russian Foreign Ministry withdrew the accreditation of the diplomats, the FSB said, without identifying them. It warned that if other diplomats are found to be carrying out "similar actions," the agency

"will demand early termination of their missions" to Russia.

Russian state TV said in a report that the six diplomats had met with independent media and rights groups that have been declared "foreign agents" - a label the Russian authorities have actively used against organizations and individuals critical of the Kremlin.

The British Embassy in Moscow did not immediately respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. There was no immediate comment from Britain's Foreign Office.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said in an online statement that "We fully agree with the assessments of the activities of the British so-called diplomats expressed by the Russian FSB. The British Embassy has gone far beyond the limits outlined by the Vienna Conventions." She said the diplomats were carrying out "subversive actions aimed at causing harm to our people."

Expulsions of diplomats — both Western diplomats working in Russia and Russian diplomats working in Western countries — have become increasingly common since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022.

Russian news outlet RBC counted last year that Western countries and Japan expelled a total 670 Russian diplomats between the beginning of 2022 and October 2023, while Moscow expelled 346 diplomats in response. According to RBC, it was more than in the previous 20 years combined.

In May the U.K. expelled Russia's defense attaché in London, alleging he was an undeclared intelligence officer, and closed several Russian diplomatic properties in Britain that it said were being used for spying.

North Korea gives glimpse of secretive uranium-enrichment facility as Kim pushes for more nukes

SEOUL, Sep 13 (Agencies): North Korea offered a rare glimpse into a secretive facility to produce weapons-grade uranium as state media reported Friday that leader Kim Jong Un visited the area and called for stronger efforts to "exponentially" increase the number of his nuclear weapons.

It's unclear if the site is at the North's main Yongbyon nuclear complex, but it's the North's first disclosure of a uranium-enrichment facility since it showed one at Yongbyon to visiting American scholars in 2010. While the latest unveiling is likely an attempt to apply more pressure on the US and its allies, the images North Korea's media released of the area could provide outsiders with a valuable source of information for estimating the amount of nuclear ingredients that North Korea has produced.

During a visit to the Nuclear Weapons Institute and the production base of weapon-grade nuclear materials, Kim expressed "great satisfaction repeatedly over the wonderful technical force of the nuclear power field" held by North Korea, the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

KCNA said that Kim went around the control room of the uranium enrichment base and a construction site that would expand its capacity for producing nuclear weapons. North Korean state media photos showed Kim being briefed by scientists while walking along long lines of tall gray tubes, but KCNA didn't say when Kim visited the facilities and where they are located.

KCNA said Kim stressed the need to further augment the

number of centrifuges to "exponentially increase the nuclear weapons for self-defense," a goal he has repeatedly stated in recent years. It said Kim ordered officials to push forward the introduction of a new-type centrifuge, which has reached its completion stage.

Kim said North Korea needs greater defense and preemptive attack capabilities because "anti-(North Korea) nuclear threats perpetrated by the US imperialists-led vassal forces have become more undisguised and crossed the red-line," KCNA said. South Korea's Unifi-

cation Ministry said it strongly condemned North Korea's unveiling of a uranium-enrichment facility and Kim's vows to boost his country's nuclear capability. A ministry statement said North Korea's "illegal" pursuit of nuclear weapons in defiance of U.N. bans is a serious threat to international peace. It said North Korea must realize it cannot win anything with its nuclear program.

North Korea first showed a uranium enrichment site in Yongbyon to the outside world in November 2010, when it allowed a visiting delegation of Stanford University scholars led by nuclear physicist, Siegfried Hecker, to tour its centrifuges. North Korean officials then reportedly told Hecker that 2,000 centrifuges were already installed and running at Yongbyon.

Satellite images in recent years have indicated North Korea was expanding a uranium enrichment plant at its Yongbyon nuclear complex. Nuclear weapons can be built using either highly enriched uranium or plutonium, and

North Korea has facilities to produce both at Yongbyon. It's not clear exactly how much weapons-grade plutonium or highly enriched uranium has been produced at Yongbyon and where North Korea stores it. "For analysts outside

the country, the released images will provide a valuable source of information for rectify ing our assumptions about how much material North Korea may have amassed to date," said Ankit Panda, an expert with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"Overall, we should not assume that North Korea will be as constrained as it once was by fissile material limitations. This is especially true for highly enriched uranium, where North Korea is significantly less constrained in its ability to scale up than it is with plutonium," Panda said.

In 2018, Hecker and Stanford University scholars estimated North Korea's highly enriched uranium inventory was 250 to 500 kilograms (550 to 1,100 pounds), sufficient for 25 to 30 nuclear devices.

The North Korean photos released Friday showed about 1,000 centrifuges. When operated year-round, they would be able to produce around 20 to 25 kilograms (44 to 55 pounds) of highly enriched uranium, which would be enough to create a single bomb, according to Yang Uk, a security expert at Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

The new-type centrifuge Kim wants to introduce is likely an advanced carbon fiberbased one that could allow North Korea to produce five to 10 times more highly enriched uranium than its existing ones, said Lee Choon Geun, an honorary research fellow at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute.

Some U.S. and South Korean experts speculate North Korea is covertly running at least one other uranium-enrichment plant. In 2018, a top South Korean official told parliament that North Korea was estimated to have already manufactured up to 60 nuclear weapons. Estimates on how many nuclear bombs North Korea can add every year vary, ranging from six to as much as 18.

Since 2022, North Korea has sharply ramped up weapons testing activities to expand and modernize its arsenal of nuclear missiles targeting the US and South Korea. Analysts say North Korea could perform nuclear test explosions or long-range missile tests ahead of the US presidential election in November with the intent to influence the outcome and increase its leverage in future dealings with the Americans.

"Overall, the message they are trying to send is that their nuclear capability is not just an empty threat, but that they are continuing to produce (bomb fuel)," Yang said. "And who are they speaking to? It could obviously be South Korea but also certainly the United States."

North Korea had conducted test-launches of multiple short-range ballistic missiles.

In an apparent reference to those launches, KCNA said Kim had supervised test-firing of nuclear-capable 600mm multiple rockets to examine the performance of their new launch vehicles.

Elon Musk calls Australian government 'fascists' over new misinformation law

SYDNEY, Sep 13 (Agencies): Elon Musk, owner of social media platform X, on Friday called Australia's centre-left government "fascists" over proposed legislation to slap fines on social media firms for failing to prevent the spread of misinformation online.

Australia's Labor government on Thursday unveiled legislation in Parliament which could fine internet platforms up to 5% of their global revenue for enabling misinformation, joining a worldwide push to rein in borderless tech giants.

The proposed law would require tech platforms to set codes of conduct to stop dangerous falsehoods spread-



ing and be approved by a regulator. The regulator would set its own standard if a platform failed to do so and fine firms for non-compliance.

Musk, who views himself as a champion of free speech, responded to a post by an X user linking the agency story

tion law with one word: "Fascists"

about the misinforma-

In a previous clash with the Australian government, X in April went to court to challenge a cyber regulator's order for the removal of some posts about the stabbing of a bishop in Sydney, prompting Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to call Musk an "arrogant billionaire".

Musk's latest criticism of the push against misinformation drew rebukes from government lawmakers, with Assistant Treasurer Stephen Jones calling his comment "crackpot

"This is about sovereignty, and whether it's the Australian government or any other government around the world, we assert our right to pass laws which will keep Australians safe," Jones told ABC television.

Social media platforms should not publish scam content, deepfake materials and livestream violence in the name of free speech, he said.

Retirement age in China raised, change to come into effect from January 2025

BEIJING, Sep 13 (Agencies): China's top legislative body has approved a proposal to raise the country's retirement age, the official Xinhua news agency said on Friday, accelerating an overhaul of decades-old laws to tackle the economic pressure of a shrinking workforce.

China's retirement ages are currently amongst the lowest globally. Reform is urgent with life expectancy in China having risen to 78 years as of 2021 from about 44 years in 1960 and projected to exceed 80 years by 2050. At the same time, the working population needed to support the elderly is shrinking. The retirement age will be raised for men to 63 years old from 60, while for women in white collar work, it will be raised to 58 years from 55. For women in bluecollar work, it will be increased to 55 from 50.

The changes are set to come into force on January 1, 2025 and be implemented over a 15-year period. Having people work for longer would ease pressure on pension budgets with many Chinese provinces already reeling from large deficits. But delaying pension payouts and requiring

older workers to stay at their jobs longer may not be welcomed by all of them.

Hundreds of thousands of people took to social media after Xinhua reported that China's top lawmakers discussed the topic on September 10, with many expressing concern there would be more jobseekers chasing too few openings.

By raising the retirement age, the government can increase the labour force participation rate, helping to mitigate the adverse effects of population ageing, said Xiujian Peng, senior research fellow at the Centre of Policy Studies at Victoria University in Australia.

"The government must take action. If the population continues to decline, the shrinking of the labour force will accelerate, further negatively impacting economic growth".

Xing Zhaopeng, ANZ's senior China strategist, said the move would have little short-term impact but help maintain stable productivity growth in the long run.

Wang Xiaoping, Minister of Human Resources and Social Security, said on Friday that the raising of the retirement age would be done gradually, with the adjustment starting from next year but taking 15 years to fully implement. It would be done on a flexible

and voluntary basis whereby an employee can choose to retire earlier or extend retirement for a period of up to three years, she said.

Outdated retirement ages have resulted in a growing number of retirees and a declining pool of active workers, said Bruce Pang, chief economist China at Jones Lang LaSalle.

In China, authorities expect the cohort of those aged 60 and older to rise from 280 million to more than 400 million by 2035, equal to the populations of Britain and the

United States combined. Eleven of China's 31 provinciallevel jurisdictions are running pension budget deficits, finance ministry data show. The state-run Chinese Academy of Sciences said the pension system would run out of money by 2035 without further reform.

China's move aligns it more closely with its regional peers, Japan and South Korea, where people can only receive pensions at 65 and 63 years, respectively.

Kawa Group of Institutions Introduces 'Education For All' initiative

Top News Report

JAMMU Sep 13: Through its innovative programs and partnerships, Kawa Group aims to empower students and professionals to achieve their full potential. Kawa Group has long been recognized as a leader in driving educational innovation since last 30 years, in a significant move towards making quality education accessible to all, Kawa Group (J&K) is proud to announce the launch of its innovative 'Education For All' Initiative, an Educational Financial Assistance Scheme aimed at supporting students across diverse academic fields. This groundbreaking initiative allows students to pursue higher education without the immediate burden of tuition fees, enabling them to pay their course fees after successful completion of their studies and securing employment, this latest initiative furthers its mission to create opportunities for students regardless of their financial background.

M S Katoch (Chairman) of Kawa Group,



tance of this initiative by stating that "Education is the foundation of progress, but the rising cost of tuition fees often makes it inaccessible for many deserving students. At Kawa Group, we believe that no student should be denied an education due to financial constraints. Our new financial assistance scheme ensures that students can focus on achieving their academic and career goals, with the flexibility to repay fees after securing employment."

He further explained that under this scheme. students can enroll in their desired programswithout having to pay any fees during their study period.

solutions of issues

The fees can be paid after the successful completion of the course and upon securing employment, making it a unique option for students who might otherwise face financial challenges. He further added that the scheme is open to all students, regardless of their socioeconomic background, who meet the academic criteria set by the regulatory bodies.

Further, he said that the Kawa Group is committed to helping students to secure employment post course completion. The scheme includes robust job placement services in collaboration with industry partners, ensuring that students are not only well-prefessional growth. With the backing of renowned educational institutions and industry leaders, the scheme aims to create a ripple effect in the education sector, promoting inclusivity and encouraging more students to pursue higher education. Kawa Group plans to

expand the scheme in the coming years, reaching more students and offering additional support services, such as career counseling and mentorship programs, to ensure their success in both academics and employment.

Other members who were present in the conference were Abhimanyu Katoch (MD, Kawa Group, Ayush Katoch (Director, Kawa Group), Dr Heena Jamwal (Director RGIP), Anjana Bavouria (Director RGCN), Dr Bharti Sharma (Principal, Kawa College), Dilbagh Singh, Rushal Manhas. For more informa-

tion about the Educational Financial Assistance Scheme and how to apply, contact on 9086531007, 9419187867,

JMC Commissioner conducts extensive tour of Jammu South Wards



Top News Report

JAMMU. Sep 13: Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Friday conducted an extensive tour of the wards in Jammu South to take stock of illegal construction and development of unauthorised colonies by private persons and sub-division of big plots into small ones with in municipal jurisdiction.

Elucidating the importance of real-time reporting in the matter, the Commissioner said that It would go a long

way in thwart the illegal constructions and development of unauthorised colonies in the municipal

Directing the enforcement staff for keeping strict vigil with regards to construction without approved building plans and development of unauthorised colonies, Dr Devansh said that real-time reporting plays a pivotal role in municipal operations.

The tour, aimed at addressing local concerns, showcased the Commissioner's commitment to improving urban infrastructure and community engagement. He also got first -hand appraisal about health and sanitation activities being carried out in these wards.

During the tour, the hands-on approach of the Commissioner underscored the necessity for timely updates and transparency in municipal activities, which he believes are crucial for effective governance and public trust.

The Commissioner said that such types of inspection would also be conducted in other wards of the Municipal limit, saying that such inspections would provide a platform for residents to voice their concerns and suggestions regarding local development, further strengthening the relationship between the JMC and the community.

their personal and proemphasized the impor-9419187895. Balasaheb Thackeray) Jammu Kashmir unit has expanded its PoJK DPs holds rally for long-awaited manifesto based on

pared for their careers

but also supported in

finding suitable employ-

ment opportunities.

One of the key aspects

of the scheme is that

the repayment of fees

will be after one year

of course completion or

after placement, allow-

ing students to repay

the amount in manage-

able installments once

they start earning. This

offers a stress-free path

to financial indepen-

dence and educational

Kawa Group's initiative

is expected to positively

impact thousands of stu-

dents across the coun-

try, empowering them

to break free from the

limitations of financial

hardship and focus on

advancement.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: A rally of Displaced Persons (DPs) from Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) took place at Maharaja Hari Singh Park. Under the leadership of Captain (Retd) Yudhvir Singh Chib, the event aimed to spotlight the ongoing challenges faced by PoJK DPs, who have been advocating for long-pending resolutions to their

A large number of DPs participated in the rally, carrying placards, banners, and flags. They attempted to march towards the Secretariat to present their

grievances but were stopped by a police presence near Dogra Chowk.

The rally highlighted the historical grievances of the PoJK DPs, who claim that territory was ceded to Pakistan by the then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1947 and additional areas were gifted during the Indo-Pak War of 1971 by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The DPs expressed their frustration with what they perceive as ongoing neglect and discrimination from successive governments, particularly under Congress leadership. They voiced hopes that the current

BJP government would address their concerns more effectively

The DPs acknowledged the relief provided by the BJP government, including the allocation of Rs 750 crores and Rs 5.5 lakh per DP. However, they are seeking the release of additional funds recommended by the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC), which would total Rs 30 lakhs per DP.

Captain Yudhvir Singh Chib urged the DPs to unite and support BJP candidates in the upcoming elections, scheduled for September and October 2024.

He stressed that backing BJP

would help ensure that their concerns are addressed and improve their representation in the state government.

The rally also included specific demands from the DPs. They requested the allocation of agriculture land and residential plots (minimum 10 Maria's per DP) to support their livelihood and housing needs. Additionally, they sought further assistance under the PM Awas Yojna to aid in house construction. They appealed for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to benefit from reservations in government services and higher education.

Furthermore, they requested increased representation in the state assembly, proposing a minimum of 12 seats for PoJK DPs. Finally, they called for the immediate release of pending payments amounting to Rs 5.5 lakhs per DP, which have been delayed despite being processed by the District Administration.

The rally was attended by J.P. Sharma, Kuldeep Singh Chib, Kulbir Singh Chib, Sakandya Devi, Kehar Singh Chib, Master Raghunath Singh, Ch. Rattan Lal, Thoru Ram Chib, Sham Singh Chib, Hoshnaki Ram, Kamal Sharma, and Ranjit

Shiv Sena resolves to rename Mughal Road, Dogra museum, 24X7 Duggar channel in the party manifesto. places should be

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Shiv Sena (Uddhav public aspirations and resolved to change the name of Mughal Road, name Jammu and Srinagar airports and broadcast 24*7 digital Duggar channel along with Dogra museum in Katra.

In a press conference held today at Jammu Press Club, party state president Manish Sahni released his new manifesto and said that some more suggestions received from the public have been given place In which Mughal Road connecting Rajouri-Poonch of Jammu division to Kashmir is to be renamed as Dogra ruler Maharaja Gulab Singh Marg, Jammu airport will be named after Maharaja Hari Singh and Srinagar airport will be named after Professor Balraj Madhok. Along with this, to promote Dogra cultural identity, a Dogra museum will be established in the Holy city of Katra and 24*7 digital Duggar channel will be broadcast. Sahni said that any Mughal stamp that causes plunder in India and Jammu and Kashmir cannot be tolerated at all. Our

named after the heroes of Jammu and Kashmir and Dogra Maharajas. Sahni said that the party founder Vandania Balasaheb Thackeray has taught his Shiv Sainiks to raise their voice for their cultural identity and the rights of the local people. Sahni has appealed to the voters to give a chance to Shiv Sena(UBT), Victory of our candi-

dates will be guarantee of restoration of rights.

On this occasion, party candidates Meenakshi Chhibber(Jammu West) , Jai Bharat (Bharti) (72-Bishnah(SC)) , Rajesh Kumar (Kathua) were also present.

Raffa Boules camp concluded at Jammu Sankriti School

historical and ancient

Top News Report Rohini Aima, Principal

JAMMU, Sep 13: A four-day free Raffa Boules camp for special children, which began on September 9, 2021, concluded today at Jammu Sanskriti School. Around 30 special students from various classes (5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th) participated in both double and single matches, showcasing their skills in the Raffa throw.

The closing ceremony was graced by cum Vice Chairperson of Jammu Sanskriti School, as the chief guest. The camp was led by Sunny Nanda, General Secretary of the Raffa Boules India Federation. Raffa is one of the sports recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and is a traditional Italian sport known as Raffa Boccie.

Rohini Aima appreciated the enthusiasm and performance of the

students, highlighting the importance of such inclusive sports initiatives. She congratulated the winning players and extended her gratitude to the Raffa Boules India Federation for providing this opportunity to the special children. Special educators Surya Khajuria, Bhawana Sarotra, Ambica Gupta, and Komal Arya were also present, contribut-

ing to the success of the

Restrictions will continue over individuals. groups threat to security & sovereignty of

India: LG Sinha

He held that only wiping out militancy cannot resolve the matter, but there is need to chalk out well-built strategy so that terrorism and its ecosystem will get wiped out perpetually. "With the killing of terrorists alone the matter is not going to resolve. There is a need to end its ecosystem. Due to coordinated efforts in last few years, we have seen a decline in local militant recruitment. International events like G20 happened in Srinagar and elections held peacefully. This frustrated our neighbor who has strategized things accordingly. They have started to send infiltrators in J&K to continue its nefarious designs. But I assure people of J&K, and India that these people (infiltrators) will be sent back where from they have come. We don't believe in buying peace, rather it will be established now," Lieutenant Governor said.

Supreme Court grants bail to Kejriwal in excise policy corruption case

Justice Bhuyan, who wrote a separate judgement, concurred with Justice Kant on grant of bail

However, Justice Bhuyan questioned the timing of Kejriwal's arrest by the CBI and said the agency's aim was to frustrate grant of bail to him in the ED case.

I fail to understand the CBI's urgency to arrest Kejriwal on cusp of release in the ED case when it did not do so for 22 months, Justice Bhuyan said.

He said the CBI can't justify arrest and continued detention citing evasive replies by Kejriwal, and added that non-cooperation cannot mean self-incrimination.

"The CBI must dispel notion of being a caged parrot, must show it is an uncaged parrot," Justice Bhuyan said.

It would be travesty of justice to keep Kejriwal in custody when he has got bail in the ED case on the same grounds, he said. Justice Bhuyan said he has serious reservations on the conditions imposed in the ED case on Kejriwal which bar him from entering the CM's office and signing files. "I am not commenting on conditions imposed on Kejriwal due to judicial discipline as it was in separate ED case," he

FROM PAGE 1

Singh Chib.

The bench had on September 5 reserved its verdict on the pleas.

Kejriwal has filed two separate petitions challenging the denial of bail and against his arrest by the CBI in the corruption case filed by the central agency.

The AAP chief was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on June 26. He has challenged in the apex court the Delhi High Court's August 5 order which upheld his arrest in the corruption case.

On July 12, the apex court had granted interim bail to Kejriwal in the money laundering case.

The top court had referred to a larger bench, preferably of five judges, for indepth consideration of three questions on the aspect of "need and necessity of arrest" under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

During the arguments on September 5 on Kejriwal's plea in the corruption case, the chief minister had vehemently opposed in the apex court the CBI's contentions that he should have approached the trial court first for bail in the corruption case. Questioning the maintainability of Kejriw-

al's pleas, Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for the CBI, had submitted that even in the money laundering case in which he had challenged his arrest by the ED, he was sent back by the apex court to

Drug Inspector held. Rs 1.49 Cr cash recovered: **Punjab Police**

their drug network outside.

"Serious financial irregularities have been observed, whereby ANTF identified and froze 24 bank accounts with 7.09 crores. In addition to this, two bank lockers were seized," he said.

"ANTF recovered 1.49 crores in cash, 260 gm of gold & foreign currency. Furthermore, substantial assets acquired through the proceeds of illegal activities were identified, including real-estate valued at 2.40 crores in Zirakpur & Dabwali," he added,

I will escort you to **Tihar, will you leave** field? Omar hits back at **Er Rashid**

against BJP. We request voters to ensure our victory so that BJP doesn't get power in J&K," Omar said.

event.

About bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Omar said courts are the only way out to come out from jails. "Vote can't bring someone out from Jail as was projected during parliamentary polls in north Kashmir," he said referring to MP Er Rashid's release on bail.

On Er Rashid statement that let NC come up with a concrete road map for restoration of Article 370, Omar said: "We have covered all issues in our manifesto".

"From unemployment to Article 370, we have covered everything. We have also talked about Indo-Pak dialogue," Omar said, adding that "What else were we supposed to cover in our document".

J&K Govt appoints JS Modi as Chairman for CCTV connectivity project

Connectivity for CCTV Sites" project in the Union Territory. Modi replaces Mohammad Saleem Khan, the former State Informatics Officer, NIC, J&K.

Satpal, Randhawa inaugurate new Bahu Assembly Head Office in Channi Himmat

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: In a significant move to strengthen the BJP's presence in Jammu and Kashmir, working state President J&K Satpal Sharma and MLA candidate for Bahu Constituency Vikram Randhawa, inaugurated a new assembly head office in Channi Himmat, in the esteem presence of former Dy CM J&K Kavinder Gupta, BJP National Mahila Morcha General Secretary Deepti Rawat Bhardwaj, State Vice President J&K Anuradha Charak, Prabhari Jammu South Ayodhya Gupta, Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta, BJP District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan, Bahu constituency election Incharge Jaidev Rajwal, IT head J&K Ishant Gupta, Social Media Incharge J&K Ankit Gupta, State Social Media Co Incharge Nitish Mahajan, District General Secretary Pushpinder Singh, Pravasi Incharge Neeraj Panthri, Convenor Rikki Gupta, Co Covenor Vivek Patyal including Ex Councillors of bahu constituency and others party workers were present on the occasion.

The newly inaugu-



rated office is poised to serve as a hub for the BJP's activities at the grassroots level, enabling the party to connect with the people more effectively and address their concerns promptly.

Randhawa expressed his gratitude to Satpal Sharma and Kavinder Gupta for gracing the occasion and emphasized the significance of the new head office in bolstering the party's presence in the region.

"This office will be a symbol of our commitment to the people of Bahu Constituency and a testament to our resolve to work tirelessly for their welfare," Randhawa said.

Satpal Sharma and Kavinder Gupta, in his address, praised Randhawa's dedication to public service and his vision for the development of Bahu Constituency. They emphasized the importance of strengthening the

party's grassroots presence, ensuring that the benefits of good governance reach every citizen.

Rekha Mahajan praised the newly inaugurated head office of Bahu Constituency, terming it a significant milestone in enhancing communication and connectivity with party workers.

Vikram Randhawa

highlights the new bahu assembly head office will facilitate enhanced connectivity with the people, streamlined communication channels, increased accessibility for feedback and grievances, amplified party activities, and outreach programs. Randhawa assured the gathering that the office would be a hub for innovative ideas, collaborative efforts, and inclusive growth, reflecting the BJP's philosophy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas."

Congress-NC form next government in J&K: Mula Ram

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: In an impressive rally held in the Phallian Mandal zone of the Marh constituency, senior Congress leader and contesting candidate, Mula Ram voiced the concerns of the local populace, highlighting the neglect faced under the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government.

Addressing a large gathering, Mula Ram emphasized that the Phallian Mandal area has been utterly ignored by the BJP, leading to widespread dissatisfaction among the people. He pointed out that wherever one goes, there is growing discontent with the BJP's failure to deliver on its promises.

Mula Ram expressed confidence in the people's desire for change, noting that Congress meetings in the region are witnessing large turnouts.

"The enthusiasm for the Congress and National Conference (NC) alliance is clear, as people are fed up with the false promises and hollow slogans of the BJP," he said.

"The Congress-NC alliance is determined to address critical issues that have plagued Jammu and Kashmir under BJP rule, with a focus on smart meters, statehood, unemployment, safeguarding state laws, fighting corruption, and tackling the drug mafia," Mula Ram asserted

Mula Ram reiterated the Congress and NC alliance's commitment to restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, which was stripped away by the BJP in a move that continues to hurt the sentiments of the people.

"The people of J&K deserve to have their statehood restored, along with their pride and dignity. Under the INDI Alliance, we



will work tirelessly to ensure that the aspirations of the people are met," he said.

Unemployment, which has skyrocketed under BJP rule, will also be a top priority for the Congress-NC alliance.

"Our youth are educated and capable, yet they are left without jobs. This is unacceptable. The BJP has done nothing to create employment opportunities for our young people. It is time for a government that truly cares about their future," Mula Ram said.

He assured the gathering that the alliance would take concrete steps to generate jobs and create a thriving economy in the region.

He also emphasized the regularization of PHE, PDD, Anganwari and ASHA workers.

"These workers are the backbone of our society, and they deserve permanent jobs and the respect that comes with it. The BJP government has made only empty promises to these hardworking individuals. The Congress-NC alliance will ensure that they are regularized and given the dignity they deserve," he added.

The Congress leader further lambasted the BJP for the rampant corruption that has flour-

ished under its rule.

"Corruption has become a way of life under BJP's administration. The common man is suffering, while the rich and powerful continue to get away with loot. The Congress-NC alliance is committed to ending this menace. We will ensure transparency and accountability at every level of government," Mula Ram promised.

He also called out the growing drug mafia problem in the region, which has devastated many families.

"Under BJP's watch, the drug mafia has grown stronger, and our youth are falling prey to addiction.

We will take strong, decisive action against the drug mafia and ensure a safer, drug-free society for our future generations," he stated.

Mula Ram urged the people to support the INDI Alliance candidates, as the Congress-NC alliance represents the real hope for development in Jammu and Kashmir.

"BJP has made grand promises but delivered nothing. Their 'Jumlas' have fooled the people for too long. It is time to elect a government that will actually work for the betterment of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

He assured voters that the Congress-NC alliance would bring back development, jobs, and a sense of security to the region.

The rally was also attended by several local leaders and former Sarpanches of the Phallian Mandal area, including Saudgher Singh Saini, Khajura Ram, Baru Bhagat, Bishen Dass, Darsan Lal, Rattan Lal Sharma, Jeet Choudhary, Sarsa Ram, Sahil Ram, and Labba Ram.

These leaders echoed Mula Ram's sentiments, calling for an end to the BJP's rule and urging the people to vote for the Congress-NC alliance to ensure a brighter future for Jammu and Kashmir.

"BJP has done nothing for us. Our area remains neglected, there is no development, and our young people are unemployed," said a local resident. This frustration has been brewing for years, as the BJP has continually failed to meet the needs of the people in Phallian Mandal and beyond.

Mula Ram's speech, along with the growing support for the Congress-NC alliance, reflects the shifting political landscape in Jammu and Kashmir.

The people are ready for change, and the INDI Alliance stands poised to bring the region back on track with a focus on development, statehood, and good governance.

With the elections approaching, the Congress and NC alliance is confident that the people will reject the BJP's jumlas and choose a government that truly prioritizes their needs.

"We are fighting for the future of Jammu and Kashmir, for our youth, for our workers, and for our state. Together, we will bring about the change that is long overdue," Mula Ram concluded to resounding applause from the crowd.

Central University of Jammu organises 8th Shiksha Shastraarth

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) hosted the 8th Shiksha Shastraarth, at Malviya Shiksha Bhawani, a distinguished academic event organised by the Department of Educational Studies which brought together scholars, teacher educators and students to engage in advanced discussions on key aspects of preparing Research Proposal in educational research and Quality publication. The event was organised under the visionary leadership of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, vice-chancellor, Central University of Jammu.

The event featured two prominent sessions by the resource persons Dr. Ashwani Kumar Nanda & Dr. Pawan Kumar on themes related to the Research Proposal and Quality publications.

The resource persons were welcomed by Prof. Asit Kumar Mantry, HoD, Department of Educational Studies. In his welcome address, Prof. Mantry reflected that the Department



of Educational Studies keeps organising such events for the benefits of the students and the scholars to enrich their professional competencies. He further added that today's event is one of such type for the students.

The first session was chaired by Dr. Ashwani Kumar Nanda, Dean of Social Sciences, Head, Department of Economics, at CUJ, where Dr. Nanda, led an in-depth session on research proposal preparation. His session was aimed at equipping participants with the necessary skills to craft compelling and high-quality

research proposals. His presentation covered essential components of proposal writing, including framing research questions, developing methodologies, and structuring proposals to meet academic and funding criteria. The insights shared by Dr. Nanda had enlightened the participants in their educational journey as a researcher.

The second session under Shiksha Shastraarth was taken by Dr. Pawan Kumar, Associate Dean (Research) where Dr. Kumar conducted a session focusing on writing quality

paper to publishing in Standard Journals. He shared his expertise on producing high-standard research articles and papers.

His talk addressed critical aspects such as writing clear and concise abstracts, ensuring methodological rigor, and adhering to publication standards. The session was designed to enhance participants' ability to produce impactful academic work and research outputs

The Shiksha Shastraarth provided a valuable platform for participants to enhance their research capabilities and improve their academic writing skills. The sessions were highly interactive, allowing for meaningful engagement between the speaker and young research students.

CUJ remains committed to fostering academic excellence and supporting the professional development of researchers and educators.

The success of this event underscores CUJ's dedication to advancing research skills and scholarship.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ravi Vanguri, where he expressed his gratitude towards the resource persons for enlightening the scholars and students with their valuable experience and insights.

Dr. Ravi Vanguri also thanked the faculty members namely Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dr. Aman, Dr. Kiran, Dr. Yadram, Dr. Mohan Galgotra and other members of the Department for their support in organising the 8th Shiksha Shastraarth successfully.

Dr. Manyal urges support for his vision of development in Ramgarh Assembly Constituency



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Sep 13: Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, BJP MLA candidate for Ramgarh, on Friday embarked on a door-to-door campaign in Ramgarh Assembly Constituency to connect with the people and highlight the achievements of the BJP government.

During his campaign, Dr. Manyal visited various villages, including Dug, Gore Chak, Nandpur, Kotli, Khor, Bhaka Check, Kandral, Jhang, and Rara.

He interacted with the people, listened to their concerns, and outlined his vision for the development of Ramgarh Assembly Constituency.

Dr. Manyal also highlighted the various schemes and programs initiated by the BJP government, which include initiatives such as Jan Dhan Yojna, Skill India Mission, Make in India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Sansad Adarsh Gram

Yojana, Shramew Jayate Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Hridaya Plan, PM Mudra Yojna, Ujala Yojana, Atal Pension Yojna, Prime Minister Jyoti Jyoti Bima Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Smart City Scheme, AMRUT Plan, Digital India Mission, Gold Monetization Scheme, Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme, UDAY, Start-up India, Setu Bhartam Yojna, Stand Up India, Gramoday Se Bharat Uday, Prime Minister Ujjwala Plan, and Namami Gange Yojana.

These initiatives, a gift of NDA under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, have transformed the country and improved the lives of its citizens.

Dr. Manyal requests your support in his endeavors to bring about positive change and growth to Ramgarh Assembly Constituency. He believes that together, we can make a difference and create a brighter future for ourselves and future generations.

CUJ organizes Smart India Internal Hackathon 2024

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: The Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Central University of Jammu (CUJ), organized an Internal Hackathon for nominating teams for participation in Smart India Hackathon 2024 (SIH-2024), demonstrating the department's commitment to fostering innova-

tion and technological excellence. Smart India Hackathon 2024 (SIH-2024) is a nationwide initiative of Government of India that provides student a platform to solve real time problems and to inculcate a culture of product innovation among students.

The event was held on 5th-6th September 2024, where 35 teams initially registered, and 12 teams were selected after a competitive internal selection process to showcase their skills and creativity.

Participants worked diligently over two days, brainstorming and developing solutions to tackle real-world challenges. The event buzzed with enthusiasm as students harnessed their creativity, collaborated seamlessly, and ven-



tured into uncharted technological territory.

From ideation to final execution,

each phase of the hackathon highlighted the ingenuity and drive of our teams. Their solutions not only exemplified technical skills but also reflected a keen understanding of the practical challenges we face today, positioning themselves for success at the national level of SIH-2024.

A panel of experts comprises of faculty members of the department and nominated faculty members from ECE department had evaluated the proposals of various teams. Dr. Jaswinder Singh and Dr. Palak Mahajan, Assistant Professor of the CSE department were the coordinator of this internal hackathon.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor congratulated the shortlisted teams on their achievement and gave his best wishes to the students for the national competition.

Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar appreciated the efforts of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering for motivating the students of the department to take part in such nationwide competitions.

Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Head-CSE also congratulated the students and wished them good luck for the SIH 2024 national competition.

Gambhir leads Indian team's huddle in Chennai for Bangladesh Test series

Gautam Gambhir led the Indian team's huddle as the Test squad reached Chennai ahead of the 1st match vs Bangladesh. The opening Test will be played on September 19.

CHENNAI, Sep 13 (Agencies): The Indian team has regrouped ahead of the big home season as they will take on Bangladesh for a 2-match Test series. This will also be the first assignment of India's new coaching staff, which recently included Morne Morkel as the bowling coach.

the Indian team huddled The official social before the start of trainmedia handle of the ing. Gambhir, along-BCCI shared glimpses side assistant coach of India's first training Abhishek Nayar and session from M Chid-Morkel, addressed the Indian team. All the star ambaram Stadium in Chennai. The caption players, including capread, "The countdown tain Rohit Sharma, Virat starts as Team India Kohli and ace pacer Jasbegin their preps for an prit Bumrah returned to exciting home season. the side.

It was a bright sunny Kohli and Rohit landed morning at Chepauk as in Chennai during the

ne Indian team huddled wee hours of Friday KL Rahul took part in

Team India in Chennai Kohli flew directly from London, where he spent quality time with his family and Rohit arrived from Mumbai.

morning, September 13.

The Indian team regrouped after a month-long break from international cricket and many players like Shubman Gill, Axar Patel and

onship final, which will be held in June 2025 at Lord's Cricket Ground. India will host Bangla-

the World Test Champi-

India will host Bangladesh, followed by New Zealand for a 3-match Test series. Their main challenge will be the 5-match Border Gavaskar Trophy series against Australia, starting November this year.

India squad for 1st Test against Bangladesh Rohit Sharma (C),

Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (WK), Dhruv Jurel (WK), R Ashwin, R Jadeja, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohd. Siraj, Akash Deep, Jasprit Bumrah, Yash Dayal.

Had suicidal thoughts after missing Paris Olympics: Bains



NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): Missing out on the recent Paris Olympics was so depressing for double Asian Games medallist middle distance runner Harmilan Bains that

she contemplated suicide. Now having got over that tough phase, she is exploring another career-option like

modelling.
The 26-year-old was one of the stars of the

Indian athletics team in the Asian Games in China last year when she won two medals — a silver each in 800m and 1500m.

a silver each in 800m and 1500m.

She was, however, wrecked by injury the whole of this season, which dashed her hopes of making a serious try for a Paris

Olympics berth. "I really wanted to be in the Olympics and I gave my all. But there was injury after injury and that affected my performance," she said. "After missing Paris, I was in depression, I was totally blank, I could not think of anything. Even the thought of committing suicide crossed my mind and I wanted to quit the sport," she added.

She is currently suffering from a Grade 2B hamstring tear and admitted that her athletics career is uncertain.

"I'll retire after playing with your son": Two-time World Cup winner's epic reply to Prithvi Shaw

NEW DELHI, Sep 13 (Agencies): Age is just a number. Some of the Indian players have actually proved this with their performances. There is a long list of such players that includes the likes of MS Dhoni and Piyush Chawla. The two are still active in the Indian Premier League. While Chawla is 35, 43-year-old Dhoni is also aging like fine wine. Both the players were the part of IPL 2024. Dhoni appeared for Chennai Super Kings and Chawla played for Mumbai Indians.

Though both of them are close to their retirements from the game of cricket, neither Dhoni nor Chawla have shown any keen interest towards the decision.

"Will Piyush Chawla retire first or MS Dhoni," asked host Shubhankar Mishra on his show.

"Mahi bhai (MS Dhoni)," replied Chawla before sharing a laugh.

"A while ago, Prithvi Shaw told me 'PC bhai bas karo yaar ab'. I said, I've played with Sachin paaji, and now playing with his son. I am play-



ing with you, and after playing with your son, I will retire," the veteran India spinner added.

Chawala made his India debut in 2007. Besides being MS Dhoni's India teammate, Chawla has also been the member of India's 2007 T20 World Cup and 2011 ODI World Cup winning teams. Notably, Dhoni was the captain of the side in both the events.

Dhoni called time on his international career in 2020, but out-offavour Chawla has not made any formal announcement of his retirement.

In another interview, Dhoni's former India teammate Mohammed Shami had revealed the player's retirement strategy.

"You (media) guys have been putting a

question mark on his future. The man himself says, 'Dekha Jayega' (let's see)," Shami had said on Shubhankar Mishra's YouTube channel.

"I had this conversation with Mahi bhai, asking 'When should a player retire?'. He said, 'First when you yourself get bored and second, Jab lage ki laat padne wali hai (when you realise that you would be kicked out of the team).'

"But the first and foremost thing is that when you stop enjoying the game, it's a sign that your time has come. Better you choose the best moment to retire. Because your body starts intimating you if you can't sustain a particular format. That's when a player should call it time," Shami had added.

"Was never going to be...": Afghanistan coach's honest verdict amid Greater Noida venue's criticism

Afghanistan and New Zealand coaches held a joint press conference after the one-off Test between the two teams was called off without a ball being bowled.

GREATER NOIDA, Sep 13 (Agencies): Disappointed and frustrated after rain forced their one-off Test to be abandoned without any play, head coaches of Afghanistan and New Zealand on Friday said only inclement weather was to be blamed for the fiasco as scheduling a match during monsoon season is "always tricky". A wet outfield and persistent rain played spoilsport and authorities at the illequipped Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex were at their wits' end to make the field suitable for play. It was only the eight instance of a Test being abandoned without any action.

round one of the Duleep

The Test series also

marked the return of

Rishabh Pant to red-ball

cricket, a format in which

he flourished and played

many match-winning

The upcoming 10 Test

matches will be crucial

for India in order to stand

a chance to make it to

Trophy.

knocks.

"We were very excited to play against New Zealand and put ourselves up against the challenge of that," Afghanistan head coach Jonathan Trott said at a joint press conference with his New Zealand counterpart Gary Stead.

"Unfortunately, the weather has played its part and it's made it difficult for us to get a game and we're very disappointed. To try and play a Test match at this time of year (monsoon) is always tricky.

"(In terms of facilities) obviously disappointed that we haven't been able to play as the amount of water that's come down is unprecedented for this time of year," he added.

Stead said the BlackCaps were also frustrated as they



were looking at this fixture as a preparation for the upcoming World Test Championship series against Sri Lanka and India.

"It's frustrating for us. It was our first Test against Afghanistan and we were really excited about that as well. They've been great competitors of ours over the last few World Cups as well."

New Zealand fly out to Sri Lanka on Saturday for a twomatch Test series, starting in Galle on September 18.

"For us, we have the World Test Championship just around the corner in Sri Lanka as well. So, the preparation towards that would have been really useful for us as well," he said.

"So, the most disappointing part for us is that we've lost that ability to be match-hardened and match-ready when we go into our Test match next week," Stead lamented.

The 52-year-old added that the defending WTC champions are

looking to qualify for a second final.

"The World Test Championship is alive and well and we're currently in third place, and we want to make the finals again. We've been there once in the past, and we're desperate to get there again.

"So every Test match we play will be an important one," he said.

The WTC table is currently led by India followed by Australia. After their Asian tour, the Kiwis will host England for a three-Test series.

"The conditions that we face in Galle will be, I'm sure, different to Bangalore, Pune and Mumbai when we come back here again. So, it's still about adapting to the different surfaces," Stead said referring to the three-Test rubber against India next month.

Despite bright sunshine on the opening two days, no play was possible as the umpires cited

players safety as a concern owing to the poor condition of the outfield.

"It's worth noting I think it's been 1200 millimeters of rain in the last week and even though it was fine for those two days, there were thunderstorms the nights before and the ground was just too soft and the umpires deemed that unfit to play on," Stead said.

Asked if a white-ball game was discussed as a replacement, Trott said that at one point, they were considering some options.

"There were a few things discussed, but we looked at the ground today, and it was never really going to be attainable, unfortunately.

"The other thing is you've got to make sure that there's obviously a huge desire to play cricket but you've got to take into account the safety of the players, because New Zealand have got a huge tour coming up," Trott said.

Ahead of the Test, Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi had called for a dedicated home venue for his side and Trott reiterated the skipper's views.

"If you have one fixed venue, then you can iron out the issues that arise. That's always nice. But I think this is maybe a result of not having played a lot of Test cricket in the past and still trying to find a venue that we can use consistently," he said.

Canada, Australia, Germany set to advance in Davis Cup Finals after group-stage wins

MANCHESTER, Sep 13 (Agencies): Canada, Australia and Germany remained unbeaten in the group stage of the Davis Cup Finals after each winning their second straight match, while Czech player Tomas Machac retired injured for the second time in two days after playing only six minutes.

Canada won 3-0 against Finland, Australia beat the Czech Republic by the same score, and Germany swept aside Chile 3-0.

Denis Shapovalov beat Eero Vasa 7-6 (2), 6-2 and Felix Auger-Aliassime followed up with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Otto Virtanen for the 2022 Davis Cup champions in Manchester, England.

There was an element of revenge after Canada

lost to Finland in last year's quarterfinals.

"Everybody's in good spirits, so it's very good," Auger-Aliassime said. "Any motivation is good, but I think it's a different year, a different time, and (last year's loss) was behind us. This year we have a full team and everybody's playing better than last year. Everybody's improved."

Auger-Aliassime was back on court soon after with Shapovalov in doubles to wrap up the tie with a 6-2, 7-5 win over Virtanen and Harri Heliovaara.

Machac's injury was the focus as Australia marched into a 2-0 lead against the Czech Republic in Valencia, Spain. What had seemed to be simply cramps when he retired against Spain's Carlos Alcaraz on Wednesday proved more serious and longlasting as Machac played just nine points in his match with Alexei Popyrin.

Machac was playing with bandages around his right calf and called for a medical timeout after Popyrin held serve in the first game, before retiring at 30-15 down in the second.

"We saw him last night, and he didn't look too good last night, so we wish him a speedy recovery and hopefully he's back on tour quickly," Popyrin said.

Earlier, Thanasi Kokkinakis had given Australia the lead in the opening match by beating Jakub Mensik 6-2, 6-7 (2), 6-3. Australia made it 3-0 in the doubles as Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell beat Mensik and Adam Pavlasek 6-4, 6-2.

On an indoor hard

court in Zhuhai, China, Germany's Maximilian Marterer beat Tomas Barrios Vera 6-1, 6-3, then Yannick Hanfmann defeated Alejandro Tabilo 7-5, 6-4 to clinch the tie. Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz, who have lost only one cup match, beat Barrios Vera and Matias Soto 6-1, 6-3. In no match was Germany broken. Germany has never lost to Chile, which didn't

Cok- use an ill Nicolas Jarry.

The Netherlands
the picked up its first win

against Brazil in the only one of Thursday's ties that was decided in doubles. Wesley Koolhof and Botic van de Zandschulp won a close match 6-4, 7-6 (5) against Brazil's Rafael Matos and Marcelo Melo to hand Brazil its second loss in Bologna, Italy.

Brazil had led after Joao Fonseca beat van de Zandschulp 6-4, 7-6 (3) in the first match but Tallon Griekspoor leveled the tie with a 7-6 (2), 6-4 win over Thiago Monteiro.

Four groups of teams are playing in four cities this week to qualify for the eight-team Finals in Malaga, Spain, in November. The top two countries in each four-team group advance.

Shreyas Iyer trolled for wearing sunglasses while batting, dismissed for a duck in Duleep Trophy



ANANTAPUR, Sep 13 (Agencies): Shreyas lyer's recent appearance in the Duleep Trophy has sparked a flurry of reactions after he came out to bat wearing sunglasses, only to be dismissed for a duck after facing seven balls.

The incident occurred during the second Duleep Trophy match, where lyer, captain of India D, stepped onto the pitch with an unconventional look that quickly became a talking point on social media.

lyer's brief innings included a mix of defensive plays and a final full-length delivery from pacer Khaleel Ahmed, which led to a catch at mid-on. This dismissal followed a lackluster performance in his previous match, where he scored 9 and 54, contributing to his ongoing struggle to secure a spot in the national team.

His decision to wear sunglasses while batting, intended perhaps as a style statement, was met with a wave of trolling from fans on platforms like X (formerly Twitter), with many questioning his seriousness in the game.

This fan had a sarcastic take on lyer's dismissal. He said on X (formerly Twitter), "Came with Sunglasses and gone

for a duck".

"Batting with sunglasses after getting dropped from team, He is not taking cricket seriously!!" said another fan.

Another fan had yet another witty remark suggesting that he had more style in his career than actual performance.

As India D continues to face challenges in the tournament, Iyer's performance and choice of attire have ignited discussions about his future in the sport, especially with the upcoming Test series against Bangladesh looming.

ANTF Jammu organizes awareness program on Drug Abuse at Luthra Higher Secondary



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: As part of the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) Jammu organized a drug abuse and society, and how awareness program on preventive measures Friday at Luthra Higher can be implemented. Secondary School in

Talab Tillo, Jammu. The event saw participation from around 200 students and staff members, aiming to educate the youth about the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of a drug-free society. SSP ANTF, Raj Kumar, led the program, delivering insightful talks on various aspects of drug abuse, its impact on individuals, families,

The primary goal of the program was to raise public awareness and encourage collective efforts to combat the

growing drug menace. During the session, the students were urged to

stay away from drugs and engage in productive activities like sports, which are recognized as effective preventive measures against drug

The program emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and the role sports can play in keeping youth engaged in positive pursuits.

SSP Raj Kumar also highlighted the critical role that students and the general public play in reporting drug-related activities. He encouraged attendees to share information with law enforcement agencies about drug peddlers and smugglers to help in taking strict legal action against those involved in the drug trade.

Students were also asked to spread the message of awareness among their peer groups, fostering a larger societal understanding of the dangers of drug abuse.

The ANTF emphasized that only by working together can the community effectively tackle the growing threat of narcotics in Jammu and Kashmir.

vision of grassroots

leadership. Each candi-

date has been selected

890 central laws implemented in J&K post Art 370 abrogation: BJP

We are committed for welfare of last man standing in row: YV Sharma

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: The J&K BJP Spokesperson, YV Sharma, on Friday said that eight hundred and ninety (890) central laws have been implemented in J&K after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5 2019 and several revolutionary steps have also been taken by Modi Government for the welfare of people.

This was stated by YV Sharma, while addressing a press conference at BJP media centre, here today. BJP Spokesperson, Lt Gen (Retd), Rakesh Sharma, Balbir Ram Rattan and J&K BJP Media Incharge, Dr Pardeep Mahotra were also present in the press conference

Sharma said that two hundred and nine (209) laws of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir have also been repealed after the abrogation of Article 370 by the Modi Government.

BJP is committed for the welfare of the people, especially the poor, marginalised and

the deprived, and we have promised this in our 'Sankalp Patra' also.

"After BJP forms government in J&K, 5 marlas of land will be given to the landless and separate colonies will also be set up for the poor," Sharma said, adding, "We will also ensure affordable healthcare for the poor".

He said that 10kg of rice and 1kg of sugar will also be provided to the poor after the formation of BJP Government here in J&K.

"A monetary help (pension) of Rs 18000 per year will be given to senior most woman of every family, he said and added, "After the formation of BJP Government in J&K, the monthly pension of the widows, physically challenged and the old age people will also be enhanced to Rs 3000 instead of the existing Rs 1000"

He said that the BJP is committed for the welfare of the last man standing in row.

Mahajan Sewa Sangh team congratulates Sat Sharma on appointment as BJP J&K **UT Working President**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Neeraj Gupta, President of Mahajan Sewa Sangh (MSS), together with Advocate Anil Gupta, Secretary, R.K. Gupta, General Secretary, and other prominent members of MSS, has warmly congratulated Sat Sharma, on his recent appointment as the Working President of BJP J&K UT.

The congratulatory event took place today, where Neeraj Gupta, Advocate Anil Gupta, R.K. Gupta, and other MSS members gathered to celebrate Sh. Sharma's significant achievement. The assembly highlighted the collective pride and support of Mahajan Sewa Sangh for Sharma's new role.

"Sat Sharma's elevation to the position of BJP J&K UT Working President is a welldeserved recognition of his exemplary service and leadership," Neeraj Gupta said and added, "We are confident that under his guidance, the party will continue to make strides in addressing the needs and aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

Advocate Anil Gupta and R.K. Gupta also offered their congratulations, praising Sh. Sharma's dedication and commitment to public service. Their support underscores the strong alignment between Mahajan Sewa Sangh and leaders who are focused on community development and prog-

Sat Sharma, a distinguished Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in public service, steps into this new role with a proven track record of effective leadership. His appointment is expected to strengthen the BJP's efforts in the region and enhance its engagement with the local communities.

Mahajan Sewa Sangh looks forward to supporting Sharma in his new capacity and working collaboratively to advance the development goals for Jammu and Kashmir.

The people who were present on the occasion included Sh Arun Gupta SE, Jeet Raj and Apurav Mahajan.

NAUP announces MLA candidates for key Jammu Constituencies



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: The National Awami United Party (NAUP) on Friday announced its candidates for the upcoming MLA elections in key constituencies across the Jammu region.

Party President Sandeep Singh Manhas declared the candidates for Jammu West, Mohit Dalhotra for Jammu North, and Pinki Devi for

Samba Constituency, In his statement.

for their dedication to serving the people and their alignment with the party's mission to bring real change by focusing on the needs of the common people. "The political land-Manhas emphasized the party's commitment to the underprivileged and marginalized sections

scape has for too long been dominated by those who overlook the issues of the poor. The of society, saying, "The NAUP stands to change NAUP is the party of the that by ensuring that poor and oppressed. political power is in the Our main ideology is to hands of the people who empower the underreptruly understand and resented, giving them a represent the needs of platform to step into polithe community," Manhas tics and claim the rights added.

The NAUP is calling for a new era in politics where the focus is on inclusivity, opportunity, and fairness for all, regardless of socioeconomic background.

Nobody has courage to form government in J&K without BJP: Chandel

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Hinduist BJP leader Raju Chandel, while addressing journalists today, made bold claims about the political future of Jammu and Kashmir. Chandel asserted that no government can be formed in the region without the involvement of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), emphasizing the party's rising influence and popularity among the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a scathing attack on other political parties, Chandel accused many politicians in Jammu and Kashmir of having links to terrorism and being pro-



Pakistan. He alleged that these parties foster terrorism and have shielded themselves from violence, while BJP leaders and Kashmiri Pandits have been frequent targets of terrorist attacks. He suggested that the absence of attacks on the leaders of these "terrorist-loving" parties raises suspicions about their affiliations with extremists, accusing them of encouraging violence against

Chandel also emphasized that the BJP's influence in the region has surged to such an extent that people are leaving other parties to join the BJP in large numbers. He predicted that many more individuals from opposition parties would defect to the BJP before the upcoming elections, and that many independent candidates, once elected, would align themselves with the BJP to help form the next government.

Chandel further claimed that prominent leaders from the Con-

gress, PDP, Aam Aadmi Party, and other opposition parties are likely to lose their deposits in the Jammu and Kashmir elections, attributing this to the extensive development work initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government. He credited these development efforts for reshaping the political landscape of the region in favor of the BJP.

The BJP leader's remarks come at a time when political discourse in Jammu and Kashmir is intensifying, with various parties gearing up for the next elections. Chandel's statements reflect the confidence within BJP ranks, as the party seeks to consolidate its position in the region.

Govt Polytechnic Jammu concludes three-day induction programme

that have long been

denied to them by other

He further expressed

confidence in the candi-

dates, stating that they

exemplify the party's

parties.'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Government Polytechnic Jammu announced the completion of a three-days induction programme aimed at welcoming and orienting the new batch of students for the academic year-2024.

The event was designed to provide an engaging and informative introduction to the institution, its values, and the academic journey ahead.

The induction programme began with an inaugural session, where Er Arun Bangotra Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu delivered a warm welcome address

He emphasized the institution's commitment to academic excellence, skill development, and holistic growth. The session was followed by an overview of the curriculum, facilities and resources available to

On the 2nd Day, the focus shifted to interactive workshops and seminars conducted by esteemed faculty members. These sessions

covered a range of topics, including academic expectations, discipline, and

effective study techniques. Students also had the opportunity to engage in group activities designed to foster teamwork and communication skills On the final day, Chamel

Singh (PEM) shared with students the various sports activities being conducted in institution. He encouraged the stu-

dents to actively take part in the inter department sports competitions.

Lt. Rishab Sharma NCC officer in his addressed the students about the NCC unit of the college and achievements of the cadets and the benefits of joining the NCC.

Dhiraj Kumar NSS program officer also highlighted the activities of the NSS and invited the students to be part of College NSS wing for their all-round development through social

Amit Gupta Incharge Unnat Bharat Abhyan also encouraged students to

take part in the activities of UBA.

Sanam Gupta Incharge Red Ribbon club urged students to be part of RRC as responsible citizens to save lives through awareness about HIV AIDS disease and precautions.

Throughout the programme, encouraged the students to ask questions, interact with peers, and familiarize themselves with the campus facilities. The feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many students expressing excitement and confidence about their upcoming academic

journey. The induction programme was meticulously planned and executed, thanks to the efforts of the organizing committee and the enthusiastic participation of both students and staff.

Government Polytechnic Jammu is committed to ensuring that every student feels welcomed and wellprepared as they embark on their educational jourorganized by SKUAST-J lighted that in the Kandi **Top News Report** areas, where low rainfall SAMBA, Sep 13: The limits crop production, training programme on minor fruits thrive natural-"Agripreneurship Devel-Iv despite the harsh conopment in Kandi Area of ditions, therefore, devel-Jammu; A Pathway to Self oping Agripreneurship Reliant Rural Women and through the value addition Youth" was organized by of these minor fruits presthe Division of Agriculturents a significant opportual Extension Education, nity for rural women and SKUAST-Jammu (sponyouth. She also highsored by JKST&IC projlighted that it enhances ect) for the Rural Women farmers' incomes by & Youths of Nud Block of

Training Programme on Agripreneurship

Development in Kandi Area of Jammu

under guidance of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi. The Chief Guest of the occasion Prof Hema Tripathi, Assoc Director Extension, SKUAST-Jammu inaugurated the session at KVK Samba.

district Samba women &

youth of the local areas

Prof Jagmohan Singh, Head, Division of Post-Harvest Management, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Chief Scientist and Head, KVK Samba; Prof Poonam Parihar, Division of Agricultural Extension Education, PI and organizing secretary of the JKST&IC project, Dr. Neerja Sharma, Chief Scientist, Horticulture, KVK Samba and Dr. Shalini Khajuria, Programme Assistant, KVK, Samba attended the programme.

While giving the welcoming address, Prof Poonam Parihar highleveraging their unique qualities, nutritional benefits, and cultural significance, entrepreneurs can create innovative products, enhance agricultural incomes, and contribute to sustainable practices providing higher value products but also creates local jobs in processing and marketing.

Prof Hema informed the participants about the value addition of minor fruits which can substantially uplift rural livelihoods by creating a range of economic and social benefits. She said that this programme will help to preserve and promote regional identities by showcasing local fruits, contributing to cultural heritage and local pride. She further added that minor fruits with their diverse characteristics and untapped potential, offer significant opportunities for value addition and

entrepreneurship.

Dr. Sanjay Khajuria said that value addition is an important aspect of Agripreneurship, significantly enhancing the economic value of agricultural products through various processes and innovations. He said that that value addition of minor fruits contribute to poverty reduction and livelihood enhancement as well as ensure household food and nutritional security adding women participation through employment and income generation.

Prof Jagmohan Singh, Head, Division of Post-Harvest Management briefed the participants about the importance of value addition, industrial growth, urbanization & globalization. He laid practical demonstration on Value addition of Karonda into many value added bi-products e.g., Karonda Squash &Karonda pickle etc.

The Programme was attended by Sarabjeet Singh, Senior Technical Assistant, DoAEE, Mukesh, Kumar, Artist cum photographer& UG PG &Ph.D students of SKUAST-Jammu.

The programme was concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr.Neerja

SVEEP Cell, Electoral Literacy Club of GGM Science College Jammu organize Plantation Drive



Top News Report JAMMU, Sep 13: În a remarkable initiative aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and civic responsibility, the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Cell and the Electoral Literacy Club of GGM Science College Jammu conducted a plantation drive on Friday.

The event commenced with an opening address by Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College, who emphasized the importance of collective action in addressing environmental challenges.

"Today's initiative is not just about planting trees; it's about planting the seeds of awareness and responsibility," stated the Principal. "By engaging in this activity, we are demonstrating our commitment to both our environment and our community."The plantation drive, held on

the college campus, saw enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members

The plantation drive was organized as part of a broader effort to foster awareness about environmental conservation and its crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. The SVEEP Cell and Electoral Literacy Club, known for their commitment to enhancing electoral literacy and democratic engagement, recognized the significance of integrating environmental stewardship into their mission. The faculty members

who present in the event were Dr. Narinder Kumar. Dr. Rahul Kait, Prof. Bal Krishan, Dr. Sheetu Raina, Prof. Arti Sharma, Prof. Amit Kumar, Dr. Chaman Lal Convener (SVEEP), Prof. Brinder Kumar Convener (ELC), Dr. Suresh Sharma, Prof. Vishal Sharma including all committee members.

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