

# TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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## 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.

They identified the 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.

**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 Manoj 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 well".

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', saying 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.

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## 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 break-

through Anti-Narcotics Task Force (#ANTF) @ PunjabPoliceInd, has successfully arrested a Drug Inspector from SAS Nagar. The accused was facilitating drug smuggling operations connected to illegal pharmaceuticals, 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 Itihad 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

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## JKGF associate arrested with Grenades in Poonch

MENDHAR/JAMMU, Sep 13 (Agencies): The security forces arrested an associate of the Jammu and Kashmir Ghaznavi Force (JKGF) outfit and recovered explosive materials from his possession in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, 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 said.

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

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## EDITORIAL

## PM-eBus Sewa: Payment Security Mechanism

The 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 electric buses.

The Payment Security Mechanism under the PM-eBus 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

Suspended 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 help 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 growth-oriented 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 well-connected 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

While 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.

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## 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 Rajkummar.

"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 Banerjee, and Pankaj 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

work

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 Tripti 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 Mallik 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), Lavniya 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, they had called it quits again.

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."

Dwayne reveals his 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 teaches 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

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-in-law 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

a very brutal truth, but 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 this year, is known for TV shows such as Chotti Bahu, Shakti, 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 which she finished as the 1st runner-up - both in 2022.

## 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- Ready-ah? 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 Nayanthara 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 co-produced by Gaurav Verma.







## 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, emphasized the impor-



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 programs without having to pay any fees during their study period.

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 socio-economic 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-pre-

pared for their careers but also supported in finding suitable employment 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, allowing students to repay the amount in manageable installments once they start earning. This offers a stress-free path to financial independence and educational advancement. Kawa Group's initiative is expected to positively impact thousands of students across the country, empowering them to break free from the limitations of financial hardship and focus on their personal and pro-

fessional 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 information about the Educational Financial Assistance Scheme and how to apply, contact on 9086531007, 9419187867, 9419187895.

## 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 areas. 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.

## Shiv Sena resolves to rename Mughal Road, Dogra museum, 24X7 Duggar channel

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) Jammu Kashmir unit has expanded its manifesto based on 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 the party manifesto. 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 historical and ancient

places should be named after the heroes of Jammu and Kashmir and Dogra Maharajas. Sahni said that the party founder Vandana 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 candidates 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.

## PoJK DPsholds rally for long-awaited solutions of issues



### 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 issues. 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 Singh Chib.

## Raffa Boules camp concluded at Jammu Sanskriti School

### Top News Report

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

Rohini Aima, Principal 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

participating special 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, contributing to the success of the event.

FROM PAGE 1

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

said. 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 added. 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 in-depth 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 the trial court.

## 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. 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, Conventor Rikki Gupta, Co Conventor Vivek Patyal including Ex Councilors of bahu constituency and others party workers were present on the occasion.



The newly inaugurated 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, Kandraj, 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

Jojana, Shramew Jayate Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Hridaya Plan, PM Mudra Yojna, Ujala Yojana, Atal Pension Yojna, Prime Minister 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 Bharatm 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 innovation 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-



ured 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.



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



### Top News Report

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

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

## 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 achieve-

ment. 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 well-deserved 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. Sar-

ma'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 progress.

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 namely Shikha Bandral for Jammu West, Mohit Dalhotra for Jammu North, and Pinki Devi for Samba Constituency. In his statement,

Manhas emphasized the party's commitment to the underprivileged and marginalized sections of society, saying, "The NAUP is the party of the poor and oppressed. Our main ideology is to empower the underrepresented, giving them a platform to step into politics and claim the rights that have long been denied to them by other parties."

He further expressed confidence in the candidates, stating that they exemplify the party's

vision of grassroots leadership. Each candidate has been selected 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 landscape has for too long been dominated by those who overlook the issues of the poor. The NAUP stands to change that by ensuring that political power is in the hands of the people who truly understand and represent the needs of the community," Manhas added.

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

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

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: Hindustani 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 BJP members.

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.

## Training Programme on Agripreneurship Development in Kandi Area of Jammu organized by SKUAST-J

### Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 13: The training programme on "Agripreneurship Development in Kandi Area of Jammu; A Pathway to Self Reliant Rural Women and Youth" was organized by the Division of Agricultural Extension Education, SKUAST-Jammu (sponsored by JKST&IC project) for the Rural Women & Youths of Nud Block of district Samba women & youth of the local areas 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.

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 high-

lighted that in the Kandi areas, where low rainfall limits crop production, minor fruits thrive naturally despite the harsh conditions, therefore, developing Agripreneurship through the value addition of these minor fruits presents a significant opportunity for rural women and youth. She also highlighted that it enhances farmers' incomes by leveraging 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 Sharma.

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



### Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 13: In 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. Sheeta 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.