

TOP NEWS OF J&K

JAMMU, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Daily Evening Newspaper



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Harris hits Trump's promise of mass deportations as Trump rallies on Long Island



e-paper: www.topnewsjk.in

RNI No. JKENG/2010/39369

Regd. No. JK-435

Vol.-15 Issue-259 Pages-12 Rs.-2/-

BRIEFLY

Atishi to take oath as Chief Minister of Delhi on September 21: AAP



NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Aam Aadmi Party on Thursday said that Rajya Sabha MP Atishi will take oath as the Chief Minister of Delhi on September 21.

"Atishi will take oath as the Chief Minister of Delhi on September 21, other ministers will also take their oaths alongside her," the Aam Aadmi Party said in a statement.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Atishi, who has staked claim to become the next Delhi Chief Minister, said on Tuesday that she is happy about the trust posed in her by the outgoing CM Arvind Kejriwal but also said that he has resigned from his post.

Atishi told reporters that she will work to bring back Kejriwal as Chief Minister after the assembly polls, which would be held in the next few months.

"First of all, I would like to thank the popular CM of Delhi, AAP national convener, and my guru - Arvind Kejriwal. He gave me such a huge responsibility and trusted me for it. This can be done only in AAP, only under the leadership of Arvind Kejriwal, that a first-time politician becomes the CM of a state. I come from an ordinary family.

Had I been in any other party, perhaps I would not have been given even an election ticket," Atishi said.

Atishi, 43, will be the third woman chief minister of Delhi after Sushma Swaraj and Sheila Dikshit. She is a prominent AAP leader and served as Advisor to Manish Sisodia when he was Education Minister. AAP leaders said she played a pivotal role in revamping the state of education in government-run schools in the national capital.

Atishi joined AAP at the time of its inception and was a key member of the Manifesto Drafting Committee of the party for the 2013 Assembly election. She has also served as a party spokesperson. She represents the

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Won't let the new generation be destroyed by the hands of three political parties": PM Modi in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Sep 19 (Agencies): Praising people of J&K for coming out in large numbers to cast votes in the first phase of Assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said that his ultimate mission is to give UT a complete freedom from the political fiefdom of three families—Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis.

PM Modi stated this in a jam-packed rally at Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium Sonwar in Srinagar. He started his speech in Kashmiri: "Myanin Saarni Keas-



hrehn bayan, te benin chu mayne tarfe namaskaar (Namaskaar to all my Kashmiri brothers and sisters).

As the crowd yelled

Modi, Modi, the Prime Minister thundered from the stage: "This is Naya Kashmir. Our endeavour is J&K's progress and development. I can see

today, my brothers and sisters shouting Khush-amdeed PM (welcome PM). I am thankful to you all from the core of my heart," he said.

Modi said in J&K, there is a festival of democracy underway. "Yesterday, seven districts witnessed the first phase of elections, first time, polls were held without the shadow of terrorism," he said.

"It was really a proud moment that such a huge number of people came out to vote yesterday. Kishtwar witnessed 80 per cent polling.

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BJP lashes out at Cong-NC alliance after Pak Defence Minister claims "Pak on same page as NC-Cong on restoration of Article 370"



NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): The BJP has lashed out at the Congress-National Conference alliance after Pakistan Defence Minister Khwaja Asif said that

Pakistan and the alliance were on the same page when it came to the restoration of Article 370 in the Union Territory.

BJP leader Amit

Malviya in a post on X said, "Pakistan, a terrorist state, endorses Congress and National Conference's position on Kashmir. Pakistan's Defence Minister Khwaja Asif, on Hamid Mir's Capital Talk on Geo News says, "Pakistan and National Conference-Congress alliance are on the same page in Jammu & Kashmir to restore Article 370 and 35A". How is it that, from Pannun to Pakistan, Rahul Gandhi

Turn to page 9

"I don't know what Pakistan says. I am not a Pakistani; I am an Indian citizen": Farooq Abdullah



UDHAMPUR, Sep 19 (Agencies): After Pakistan's Defence Minister Khwaja Asif said that

Pakistan and the NC-Congress alliance were on the same page on the restoration of Article 370,

National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah said on Thursday that he does not know what Pakistan says.

Speaking to ANI, he said, "I don't know what Pakistan says. I am not a Pakistani; I am an Indian citizen."

On the Jammu Kashmir Assembly Polls, he said that everything would be clear in front of the people on October 8.

"Wait till October 8, everything will be clear.

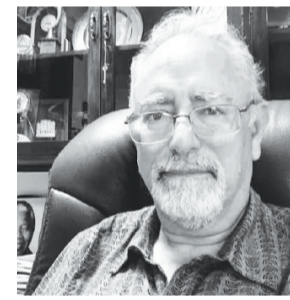
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First Muslim IAS Officer from Kashmir Valley Mohd Shafi Pandit passes away

SRINAGAR, Sep 19 (Agencies): Mohammad Shafi Pandit, the first Muslim IAS officer from Kashmir, passed away on Thursday. He was 80.

Pandit was undergoing treatment at a hospital in Delhi after he was detected with cancer about a month ago, his family said.

Pandit was the first Muslim from Kashmir to qualify the civil services



examinations in 1969. His final assignment with the government was as the head of autonomous Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commis-

sion. In the bureaucratic circles, Pandit was widely viewed as a chief secretary that Jammu and Kashmir never had.

The soft-spoken Pandit was part of many civil society and philanthropic initiatives in Kashmir. He also played a key role in rolling out of the Mandal Commission report as he was the joint secretary in the Government of India in 1992.

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Giving anticipatory bail in NDPS Act case 'very serious' issue, unheard of: SC

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Granting anticipatory bail in a case registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act is a "very serious" issue and "unheard of", the Supreme Court said on Thursday.

A bench headed by Justice B R Gavai and

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"BJP targeting three families to hide its failures," says Omar Abdullah

SRINAGAR, Sep 19 (Agencies): National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Thursday said that BJP has been targeting three families including Abdullahs in a bid to hide its failures.

Omar Abdullah said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Srinagar might have targeted the three families as there is nothing with them to show to the people.

"We cannot expect anything else from BJP. The party has wasted



last six years here. Jammu has witnessed revival of militancy, but BJP is busy in targeting three families," Omar said.

Replying to a query, he said PM Modi has never answered to any question after assuming power, but "We don't hide anywhere."

Centre's Actions Undermining JK Political Executive's Powers: Jairam Ramesh

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): The Congress on Thursday attacked BJP as Prime Minister Narendra Modi headed to Jammu and Kashmir, and accused the NDA government of attempting to infringe on the political executive's powers in the union territory.

LG Manoj Sinha with visiting Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 7, 2024. DIPR

With the PM heading to Srinagar and Katra for rallies, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam



Ramesh posed three questions to him.

Why is the Union Government "attempting to infringe" on the J-K political executive's powers, he asked.

In July 2024, the Home Ministry amended the rules under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorgan-

isation Act, 2019, giving powers to make decisions on crucial matters such as police and all-India services officers and granting sanctions for prosecution in various cases solely to the Union Government appointed Lieutenant Governor (LG), Ramesh pointed out.

"By curtailing the J&K political executive's policing and administrative powers, the Home Ministry has severely compromised the functioning of the future J&K Government," he said.

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TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of my beloved mother **Smt. Gouri Shouri Bhat** W/o Late Sh. Jia Lal Bhat R/o Anagam Bandipora Srinagar at present H.No. 213 Suraksha Vihar Paloura Top Phase-2nd Jammu.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 20th September 2024, at Muthi Ghat at 8:00 AM Near Directorate of School Education.

Grief Stricken:
Son and Daughter in law
Sh. Chuni Lal Bhat & Late Smt. Shama Bhat
Sh. Pyare Lal Bhat & Smt. Basanti Bhat
Sh. Bushen Lal Bhat & Smt. Safa Bhat

Daughters & Sons in Law
Smt. Amrita Wakhoo & Sh. Raj Nath Wakhoo
Smt. Jiga Pandita & Sh. Kuldeep Pandita

Grand Son & Grand Daughter in Law
Sunny Bhat & Neeta Bhat
Amit Bhat & Sonia Bhat
Rahul Bhat

Rohit Bhat & Shreya Bhat
Grand Daughter & Grand Son in Law
Upasana Koul & Suniti Koul
Debia Mahajan & Sameer Mahajan
Prayanka Koul & Arun Koul
Annie & Soumya Khot
Megha & Sh. Tikraj Ji
M: 91914976606, 9796271751, 7006276434, 9419814106



Smt. Gouri Shouri Bhat

TENTH DAY KRIYA

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, **Smt. Kamla Brij Dulari Kuchroo**, W/o Lt. Sh. Brij Mohan Kuchroo, originally a resident of Rajghat, Baramulla, Kashmir and presently residing at H.No. 22/1, Sec-1, Naaseb Nagar/ Pamposh Colony, Janipur, Jammu.

The **Tenth-Day Kriya** will be performed on Wednesday, 25th September 2024, 9:00 AM at Muthi Ghat, Jammu.

GRIEF STRICKEN:
Sons and Daughters-in-Law
Sh. Surinder and Smt. Nancy Kuchroo
Sh. Harish and Smt. Salochana Kuchroo
Sh. Vinod and Smt. Anoopma Kuchroo
Lt. Sh. Virender Kuchroo

Daughters and Sons-in-Law
Lt. Smt. Usha and Dr. B.K. Raina
Smt. Pushpa and Sh. G.L. Ganjoo
Smt. Daisy and Sh. R.K. Goja
Miss. Sushma Kuchroo

Brother-in-Law and Sister-in-Law
Sh. Makhlan Lal and Smt. Shanta Kuchroo
Lt. Sh. Ashok and Smt. Shubni Kuchroo

Sisters and Brother-in-Law
Smt. Ratna and Lt. Sh. Somnath Pandita
Smt. Krishna and Justice M.L. Koul

Brothers and Sister-in-Law
Sh. Tej Krishan and Smt. Kanika Pandita
Lt. Sh. Vijay and Smt. Pinky Pandita
Lt. Sh. Rajinder and Smt. Bita Pandita
Contact Details : 9419610419, 8700359488, 7889666145



SMT. KAMLA BRIJ DULARI KUCHROO

VAHERVAR AND MASWAR

"Your love remains a guiding light in our lives." A year has passed by since our beloved father, **Late Mr. Bansil Lal Wali**, left us to join the heavenly abode. The void he left behind in our lives is immense, but we cherish the memories and the lessons he taught us.

As a tribute to our beloved father, we are performing the **MASWAR AND VAHERVER (BARS)** POOJA that will be held at his residence. It's a time for us to come together and honor his life & legacy and seek blessings for his eternal journey.

Date: **Maswar** 19th September 2024
VAherver (BARS) 20th September 2024
Time: 9:00 am onwards
Venue: Flat No. 5032, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Gunjur, Varthur, Bangalore-560087

Please keep our family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Mrs. Desha Wali (Wife) Mob No. 9906061717
Mrs. Parool Sachu & Mr. Ashish Sachu (Daughter & Son-in-Law)
Mob No. 7760999780 / 9741266119
Grand Children - Bhavvin and Purvee



LATE MR. BANSI LAL WALI

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform sad and untimely demise of our beloved son **Amit Kumar Raina S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Raina R/o Kathwar Budgam** at present Lane No. 6 Block No. 28, Flat No. 9 Jagti Nagrota, Jammu.

Tenth Day will be performed on 24-09-2024 at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education at 8.00 am.

Grief Stricken
Father & Mother
Smt. Sunita Raina & Ashok Kumar Raina
Ranjeeta Raina and Vijay Raina- Uncle & Aunty
Daleep Raina and Sushma Raina- Do
Shalni Raina- Sister
Pinky and Ramesh Pandita- Fufi & Fufad
Neetu Dhar & Winoo Ji Dhar- Fufi & Fufad
Raj Raina- Fufi
Yogeta, Shruti, Tejasvi, Pihu- Sisters
Karan & Udesh- Brother



Amit Kumar Raina

Mob.: 9419575785, 979

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform our beloved and respected Father **Sh. Pran Nath Bhat S/o Lt. Sh. Ram Chand Bhat** originally resident of Nagam Chadoora, Budgam at present 316, Shantidoot Apartment Vasundha Enclave New Delhi, left for heavenly abode on 15/9/2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on Tuesday, 24th September, 2024 at Murad Nagar, Ghaziabad.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Sanbsh Bhat - Wife
Sh. Ravinder Bhat & Doly Bhat (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Smt. Renu Bhat - Daughter-in-law
Smt. Ritu Bhat - Daughter-in-law (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Smt. Jyoti Peer & Sh. Ravinder Peer
Smt. Anjali Kaul - Daughter

Grand Children : Ankush, Eshaan, Aaan, Shuhul
Samast Bhat Family
Contact Details : 9971711926, 9818673789



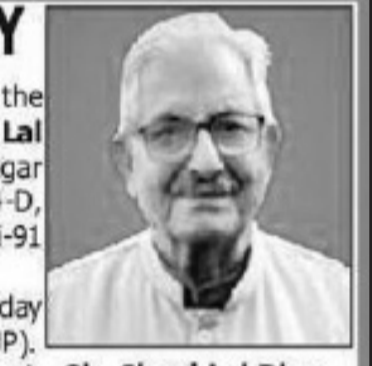
Sh. Pran Nath Bhat

OBITUARY/10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Sh. Chuni Lal Dhar** original resident of Lal Nagar Chanapora, Srinagar at present 174-D, Pocket-A, Mayur Vihar Phase 2, East Delhi-91 on Friday 13th September 2024.

10th Day shall be performed on Sunday 22nd September 2024 at Murad Nagar (UP). Assembly will be held at our residence at 11 am.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt. Jaya Dhar & Sh P.N. Dhar - Sister-in-law & Brother
Smt. Jai Kishori Raina - Sister
Smt. Girja Parimoo - Sister
Smt. Anjali & Sh. Umesh Dhar - Daughter-in-law & Son
Smt. Anjali & Sh. Vinod Khushu - Daughter & Son-in-law
Grand Children: Arushi, Yatharth, Ishita, Parth
Mobile - 9910084954, 9717198866, 9818333475



Sh. Chuni Lal Dhar

TENTH DAY

Though you are no longer physically with us, the love and the wisdom you imparted, will forever remain woven into the very fabric of who we are. Our beloved **Bairaj, Mr. O. N. Dhar (Retd Sr Lecturer in English)**, H/o Late Smt Phoola Dhar (Asha Ji) R/o Jagti, originally from Trichal Pulwama, left for heavenly abode on 12th September 24. Family Guardian Angel, a dedicated and passionate educationalist, who shaped and touched innumerable lives, will always remain the Legendary God of English.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat, near Directorate of School Education on Saturday 21-09-2024

Time for assembly is 8:30 am
GRIEF STRICKEN :
Chuni Lal Dhar (Brother)
Roshan Lal Raina & Jaya Raina (Brother & Sister-in-law)
Col Vimal Tikoo & Archana Tikoo (Son-in-law & Daughter)
Ashish & Renu (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Ankur & Apama (Son & Daughter-in-law)
Ankit (Son)
Abeer, Amaya & Amyra (Grand Children)
Contact: 9419131791, 9796108861, 9779455949



Mr. O. N. Dhar (Retd Sr Lecturer in English)

PRAYER MEET AND 10TH DAY KRIYA

This is to inform everyone that a prayer meet will be held to honour the life and legacy of our dearest Mother, **Smt. Girja Mahaldar (Asha Ji)** wife of Sh. Kundan Lal Mahaldar at 76-A Patoli Mangotriam, Jammu on Friday, 20th Sept 2024 from 4 PM to 7 PM.

TENTH DAY and Subsequent Days/Rituals will be held at Haridwar from 23rd Sep 2024 to 26 Sep 2024.

Anita and M K Koul
Antra and Sanjay Watal
Anupama and Abinash Khashu
Hopson and Vijaya Mahaldar
Anshinee and Akhil Koul
Nishchint and Kajal Mahaldar
Mob: 9878618451, 9849145151



SMT. GIRJA MAHALDAR (ASHA JI) 23-04-1953 TO 15-09-2024

TENTH DAY/KRIYA

We are deeply saddened by the untimely demise of **Sh. Rakesh Sharma S/o Lt. Sh. Tara Chand Sharma**, R/o H No 12, Lane No. 7, Opp. Bal Ashram Vaid Mandir, Karan Nagar, Jammu on 9 Sep.

10th Day shall be performed at 11:30 AM on 17 Sep (Tue), at our residence.

Kriya will be performed at 12:00 Noon on 18 Sep (Wed), at our residence.

Uthala will be performed from 4:00-5:00 PM on 20 Sep (Fri), at our residence.

GRIEF STRICKEN:-
Smt. Anju Sharma (Wife)
(Daughter & Son-in-law)
Ishara Sharma & Sahli Khindri
Shobanya Sharma (Daughter)

Brothers and Bhabhis
Col. Ravi & Smt. Divya Sharma
Sh. Ashwani & Smt. Manju Sharma

Sisters and Brothers-in-Law
Lt. Smt. Veena & Sh. Lalit Sharma
Smt. Sumta & Sh. Kailash Sharma
Smt. Seema & Sh. Joginder Sharma

Brothers-in-Law and Sisters-in-Law
Lt. Sh. Ashok & Smt. Rita Sharma
Sh. Arun & Smt. Vandana Sharma
Sh. Sanjeev Manrotra & Smt. Sushma Sharma

Sisters-in-Law and Brothers-in-Law
Smt. Shakti & Sh. K. L. Sharma
Smt. Neelam & Sh. Ram Sarup Sharma



SH. RAKESH SHARMA

OBITUARY 10TH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad and untimely demise of **Ms Shefali Vaid D/o Mr Goutam Bharti**.

10th Day will be held at our residence Domana, Flora Road near Hanuman Chowk on 20/9/2024 at 10.00 AM.

IN GRIEF
Smt. Shakuntla Devi (Grand Mother)
Smt. Lalita Devi & Sh Goutam Bharti (Parents) (Bhabi & Bhaiya)
Smt. Mehvish Sharma & Sh Sahil Vaid
Chachi & Chachu
Smt. Suresh & Sh Priyam Lal
Smt. Seema & Sh Rajiv Vaid
Smt. Ritu & Sh. Ram Doyal

Ph. 8492085442/8899144280



Ms Shefali Vaid

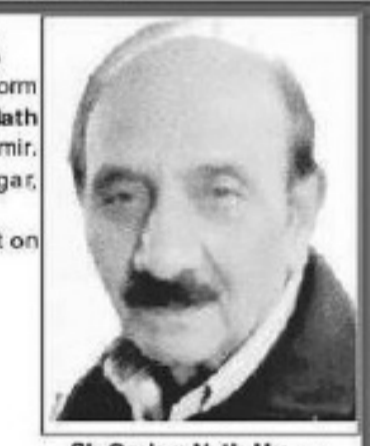
TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform about the sad demise of our beloved **Sh Omkar Nath Mussa** originally resident of Mattan Kashmir, Presently H No. 37, Lane No. 3 Bhatat Nagar, Bantala, Jammu.

10th Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat on 21-09-2024 at 9:00 am.

Grief Stricken :
Vijay Devi (Wife)
Sanjay Mussa & Anju (Son & Daughter in law)
Rahul Mussa & Suhani (Son & Daughter in law)
Ankit Mussa & Shiply (Son & Daughter in law)
Arti Khar & Dr Vinod Khar (Daughter & Son in law)
Usha Ji & Sh Ashok Ji Mussa (Sister & Brother in law)

Grand Children : Swastik, Suhana, Hardik, Rubani, Kavya, Aradhya, Aradhana
9149518330, 9419225122



Sh Omkar Nath Mussa

OBITUARY / 10TH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved **Uma Shree Bhat (Bhabhi)** Wife of Late T.N Bhat, resident of Fatehpura, Anantnag at present residing at Tata Primanti, Sector 72 Gurgaon, left for her heavenly abode on 15 September.

10th Day shall be performed on 24 September 2024 at Gaun Shankar Mandir in Gurgaon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Sushma Mujoo (9891948532-WhatsApp Call only)
Prof. J L Bhat (8825021983)
Dr D P Bhat (9418035669)
Phoola Bakshi (8847347448)

Bhat Family (Fatehpura, Anantnag)
Kamal Ji Fotedar (94191 86890)
Fotedar Family (Mattan)



Uma Shree Bhat

TENTH DAY / KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our father **Sh. Kailash Goswami S/o Lt. Shri Sant Kumar Goswami R/o 21/51 Sanjay Nagar** on 10/09/2024

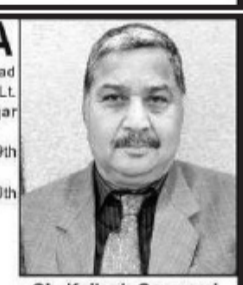
Tenth Day will be performed at our residence on 19th September 2024 (Thursday) at 11 AM

Kriya will be performed at our residence on 20th September 2024 (Friday) at 12 Noon.

GRIEF STRICKEN
Lt. Smt. Tripta Sharma - Wife
Rishav Goswami (Son)
Charu Goswami (Daughter)
Daughter and Son-in-law
Rudhika Goswami & Varun Sharma

Brother and Sister-in-law
Kiran Kant Goswami & Anjana Sharma

Sister & Brother-in-law
Sandhya & Ramesh Sharma
Dubey and Goswami Family
Mob: 9419144650, 7090633558



Sh. Kailash Goswami EX-SO DHS, Jammu

10TH DAY KRIYA/OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Smt. Soom Rani Ambardar (Kaushalya ji)** W/o Late Sh. Soom Nath Ambardar original resident of Nazuk Mohalla Anantnag at present Butta nagar Paloura Jammu on 14/09/2024.

Tenth Day Kriya will be performed on 23/09/2024 at Muthi Ghat 8:00 AM.

Grief Stricken :
Smt. Rajni and Sh. Ashok Kumar Ambardar.
Smt. Nancy W/o Lt. Sh. Shuban Krishan Ambardar
Smt. Vijay Ambardar W/o Lt. Sh. Sham Sunder Ambardar
Smt. Veena Raina and Sh. Anoop Ambardar
Smt. Anupama and Sh. Sanjay Goja
Smt. Anjali and Sh. Deepak Raina
Mr. Sunny Ambardar
Ms. Nishu Ambardar and Mr. Rohit Raina.

Children:
Rohit, Ankit, Ridhu, Shuhul, Vinku & Divu.

"Mourning from the family and the Malun Parivar will be held at Community Hall-1, Butta Nagar"

Contact Details : 9419121396, 95968 68866, 91496 81564



Smt. Soom Rani Ambardar (Kaushalya ji)

UTHALA

With profound grief & sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Late Smt Chanchal Kapoor** W/o Sh Prem Kapoor R/o House No. 870, near Gurudwara Janipur Colony.

Kriya, Satsang, Bhog will be held on 20th September 2024 at Trimurti Mandir 2-4 PM Janipur Colony.

Grief Stricken
Son & Daughter-in-law
Sh. Nirmal Kapoor & Smt. Arti Kapoor
Sh. Arun Kapoor & Smt. Lata Raj Kapoor

Daughter & Son-in-law
Smt. Seema Mahindroo & Sh. Kapil Mahindroo
Smt. Pooja Sharma & Smt. Sanjeev Sharma

Grand Children
C/o Shiva Ornaments, Janipur Colony
Mob: 7006003684, 8713005002



Late Smt Chanchal Kapoor

10TH DAY/KRIYA

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF & SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **KIYANSH GUPTA S/O SH ASHISH GUPTA R/O 146/A EXCELSIOR LANE JANIPUR JAMMU** ON 10-09-2024.

TENTH DAY WILL BE HELD ON 19-09-2024 AT 11.00 AM AT LAKKAD MANDI DURGA MANDIR (LANE NO. 1).

KRIYA WILL BE HELD ON 21-09-2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE H.NO. 146-A EXCELSIOR LANE JANIPUR JAMMU.

GRIEF STRICKEN
SMT USHA GUPTA -GRAND MOTHER
SMT SHIKHA & SH ASHISH GUPTA -MOTHER & FATHER
SMT SARUCHI & SH RAJEEV GUPTA -BUA & FUFAD JI
SMT ARTI & SH AMISH GUPTA -CHACHI & CHACHA JI
SH SHUBHAM MAHAJAN -MAMU JI
MOB. 9906024466



MASTER MAMU JI KIANSH GUPTA

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Smart meters will be removed as per public consensus: Sawhney

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Senior Congress leader and ex-MLA Jammu East Yogesh Sawhney, Congress-National Conference candidate from Jammu East Assembly constituency, has pledged that Congress party will remove the controversial smart meters installed in the region.

Sawhney, during a public address, assured the people that the removal of these meters will be a priority, echoing the sentiments of many residents who have voiced strong opposition against them.

This has become a key issue in the constituency, with mounting concerns over their accuracy and the inconvenience caused to the public. During his ongoing door-to-door campaign, many people



voiced the same concern. Sawhney highlighted that the smart meters were installed without proper public consensus, leading to widespread dissatisfaction.

He stated that the decision to implement these meters ignored the people's concerns and that the meters have proven to be faulty in many cases, issuing inflated bills that

have burdened households.

"These smart meters were forced upon the people without understanding their implications. They are faulty and have created unnecessary financial pressure on families," Sawhney said.

The Congress party, in its manifesto for Jammu East, has also included the removal of smart

meters as a major promise. Sawhney reiterated that Congress stands firmly with the people on this issue and will work towards ensuring that the faulty meters are removed and replaced with a fairer system. "We are committed to addressing this issue as it directly affects the livelihood of our citizens," he added.

Several areas of

Jammu East have been particularly vocal about the problems with the smart meters, leading to protests and demands for immediate action. Residents have reported receiving inflated electricity bills and experiencing disruptions in the supply due to faulty readings. Sawhney's promise has resonated with these citizens, who see this as a step toward relief from an ongoing struggle.

Yogesh Sawhney said that his stance on the smart meters is expected to be a defining issue in the campaign. His promise to remove the meters aligns with the larger public demand for transparency and accountability in governance, making it a central theme for Congress-NC's push to win the Jammu East constituency.

Mula Ram expresses gratitude to Party workers; promises new era of development in Marh

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Senior Congress leader Mula Ram today extended heartfelt gratitude to his party workers from both Congress and the National Conference (NC) for their relentless efforts toward his political success.

Mula Ram addressing a series of public meetings held in key areas of Marh, including Channo Chak, Shama Chak, Dabbay, Jhiri, Lalayal, Sardare Chak, Makwal, Nai Basti, Sum, Toph, and Gujjar Basti Mandal.

These meetings witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, who expressed their support for Mula Ram's candidacy and the Congress party's agenda for development.

During a series of meetings, Mula Ram acknowledged the dedication of his team, emphasizing that their day-and-night work has been the driving force behind his campaign.

"I am deeply grateful to my workers, both from Congress and NC, who have been working tirelessly to ensure our success in Marh. It is because of their unwavering support and commitment that we are seeing such a strong wave of support for Congress in this region," said Mula Ram while addressing his supporters.

Mula Ram highlighted the growing popularity of Congress in Marh, pointing out that many former BJP members are now



joining Congress, driven by the wave of public support for the party.

He stated that this shift reflects the increasing confidence of the people in the Congress party's vision and leadership.

"Many people from the BJP are now joining Congress after witnessing the growing support we are receiving in Marh. This is a clear sign that people want change, and they trust Congress to bring about that change. Our party stands for development, progress, and the welfare of the people, and we are committed to delivering on these promises," Mula Ram said.

Looking ahead, Mula Ram pledged to usher in a new era of development in Marh if elected. He outlined his vision for the constituency, focusing on improving infrastructure, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

Mula Ram said these efforts will help uplift the region and provide a better quality of life for its residents.

"Our goal is to bring meaningful change to Marh. We want to improve roads, schools, healthcare facilities, and

create job opportunities for our youth. This is not just about promises; it's about action. If given the mandate, we will work diligently to ensure that Marh sees a new era of development and growth," he added.

Accompanying Mula Ram during these meetings were several prominent political figures, including Madal Lal Bhagat, former BDC Phallian Mandal, Th. Hari Singh Chib, Raghuveer Singh, Saughar Saini, Kulbushan Sharma, Charanjeet Singh, Dr. Virender Lakhotra, Darshan Mehra, Bablu Langleh, and Swarn Singh.

These leaders also addressed the gatherings, highlighting the importance of voting for Congress to ensure the region's development.

"We stand united behind Mula Ram and Congress because we believe in the party's ability to bring positive change to Marh. The people here deserve better infrastructure, more jobs, and improved public services, and we are confident that Congress will deliver on these promises," said Madal Lal Bhagat.

NC, Congress alliance with Pakistan exposed : Chugh

'Pakistan dictating election agenda to NC, Congress'

Top News Report

KATHUA, Sep 19: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Thursday blasted the National Conference and the Congress for playing up the agenda of Pakistan during the J&K elections.

Taking a strong note of the statement of Pakistan Defence Minister Khwaja Asif to a Pakistani TV channel in which he said that Pakistan and the NC-Congress alliance are on the same page for the restoration of Article 370 and 35 (A), Chugh, who is also party incharge of J&K, said it has completely exposed the NC and the Congress for pursuing the Pakistan agenda.

Chugh said it not only demonstrated Pakistan's



intention to interfere in the J&K elections but also established that the Abdullahs of the NC and the Gandhi family in the Congress have been taking directions from Pakistan forces to cause disruption and disturbance in J&K.

Demanding an explanation from the Abdullahs and the Gandhi family to clarify their links with the Pakistan ISI, Chugh said it was reprehensible that an anti-national alliance has been dancing to the

tunes of Pakistan forces to fool the people of J&K.

In the past also it was clearly demonstrated by the Abdullahs that they would rather follow the agenda dictated by the Pakistan ISI to deprive J&K to its due development and progress. "It has been the foremost agenda of the Abdullahs and the Gandhis to keep J&K on the boil so that their vested political interests are protected at the cost of the common man in J&K", he said.

Chugh said the BJP takes strong exception to this dangerous alliance of the Pakistan forces with the NC and Congress and warned the people of J&K against falling into this anti-national trap at a time when voting has started for the Assembly elections in J&K.

Modi Govt will continue to work with dedication towards security, development, poor's welfare: Shah

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: The Union Minister for Home and Cooperative Amit Shah addressed a press conference on the report card of the first 100 days of Modi 3.0, i.e., the third term of the PM Modi.

On this occasion, Shah clarified that the first 100 days of Modi 3.0 have been a wonderful coordination of development and poor welfare by incorporating every section. Projects worth Rs 15 lakh crore were launched, the middle class was given tax relief and Rs 3 lakh crore has been transferred to the accounts of farmers in the 100 days of PM's third term. The 100 days of Modi 3.0 are the 100 days of laying a strong foundation for the creation of a 'developed India'.

Having been born in a small poor family, Modi has created a history by becoming the Prime Minister of the largest democracy of the world. After running a Govt dedicated to the development, security and welfare of the poor people of India for continuous 10 years, the people of the country once again gave their mandate to the Modi Govt.

There should be no hesitation in admitting that PM has played a vital role in securing India in the last 10 years by strengthening the external security, internal security and defence system of the country. Under PM's Make in India, India has become a production hub in the



whole world today. Several countries of the world want to make Modi's Digital India plans the foundation of their development. Be it banking, inflation or growth rate, India has progressed with discipline on all 13 parameters of economy.

Today the whole world is acknowledging India's strength in the field of space. India is emerging as a global power today and for the first time since independence the world has got a chance to see India's courageous foreign policy.

This is a coincidence that the day Modi 3.0 completed 100 days, exactly the same day the entire nation is celebrating Modi's 74th birthday. Alongside, many big institutions of the country and the BJP workers have decided to celebrate Modi's birthday as a fortnight dedicated to service. Engaged in creation of a new India by transforming the condition and direction of Indian politics, Shah presented the report card of 100 days of achievements of Modi 3.0 and gave a special birthday gift to Modi.

He also assured the people of the country that the coming 5 years will be golden given the first 100 days being so bright.

One lakh jobs, New Employment Act, and boost to energy sector: NC

Job applications for all govt exams free: Ankush, Dr Vikas



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Intensifying campaign for party candidate in Jammu North Assembly constituency, Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, Ankush Abrol on Thursday launched a scathing attack on BJP for its failure in mitigating the sufferings of youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a meeting, Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, Ankush Abrol flanked by Dr Vikas Sharma, Coordinator Jammu District and Secretary Central Zone JKNC, said, "The commitment is expected to resonate with thousands of workers who have been seeking job security and stability.

Abrol said, "NC has committed to providing one lakh jobs for the youth across various sectors. This initiative is expected to significantly reduce unemployment and provide much-needed opportunities for the younger population."

He further said that within the first three months of taking office, the government will pass the Jammu and Kashmir Youth Employment Gen-

eration Act. This legislation will focus on creating sustainable employment opportunities and is seen as a major step toward securing the future of the region's youth, he added.

In a move to ensure efficient governance, the NC government would fill all vacancies in government departments within 180 days. Additionally, policies will be introduced to ensure that future vacancies are filled promptly, reducing delays and improving the delivery of public services, Abrol elaborated.

He urged the voters not to get swayed by the fake narratives being spread by BJP and vote for their peace and prosperity that can be guaranteed only by JKNC.

Also speaking, Dr Vikas Sharma stated that in a bid to remove barriers to employment, the NC govt would make job applications for all government exams free. This decision is expected to provide financial relief to thousands of job seekers across the region.

Further elaborating the party election manifesto for youth, he said the job package would

include incentive-linked jobs under the start-up scheme, encouraging young entrepreneurs to launch their own businesses. This move will be aimed at fostering a culture of innovation and self-employment in Jammu and Kashmir.

He stated that NC, if elected to power, will target the energy sector for job creation. Through facilitation and incentives, mini hydropower generation projects, including solar power initiatives, will be developed, providing employment opportunities and contributing to the region's energy independence, he elaborated.

This comprehensive job package reflects the NC's commitment to addressing the pressing issue of unemployment and creating a brighter future for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, he concluded.

Among others included, Mr Davinder Sharma Block President of Jammu West, Rajinder Kumar, Vicky Thakur, Vinny Singh, Kewal Bhagat, Karan Singh, Shamsher Singh, Deep Kumar, Raj Kumar Bhagat, Gulshan Kumar and others.

Dr. Manyal's campaigns gains momentum in Ramgarh



Top News Report

RAMGARH, Sep 19: In Ramgarh, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, BJP MLA candidate and former Health Minister of J&K, is vigorously campaigning across numerous villages to garner support for the BJP.

He has been addressing gatherings in areas including Panjtala Khanwal, Khanwal Camp, Rehian, and many others, emphasizing his commitment to development and women empowerment.

Dr. Manyal framed the upcoming election as a critical choice between nationalism and anti-nationalism, urging voters to support the BJP for progress and stability in the region. He has been joined by notable leaders such as DDC Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, DDC Rajpara Asha Rani, DDC Samba Romesh Chander, and DDC Ramgarh Sarbjeet Singh Johal, reinforcing the party's collective vision for the constituency.

Neenu Sharma brings laurels to GDC Marh

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Alka Memorial Mathematical Competition (AMMC) is one of the major activities of the Jammu Mathematical Society (JMS) since 1992 and is conducted in the memory of a brilliant student of the Department of Mathematics, University of Jammu, Alka Gupta, who unfortunately passed away at a very young age in 1991 while pursuing her Ph.D from ISI Delhi.

A large number of students from various Universities and Colleges participated in this competition which was conducted on 18th of February, 2024.

Neenu Sharma student of Sem-V from GDC Marh brought laurels to GDC Marh by securing second position in this competition in UG category and was felicitated by Padma Shri Prof Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman Higher

Education Council J&K UT and Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu, Prof Umesh Rai at the inaugural function of 31st Annual Conference on "Recent Trends in Analysis and Allied Areas" organized by JMS on 12th of September, 2024. Principal of College Prof Dr Rakesh Kumar

Koul applauded the efforts of student and encouraged her to participate in more such competitions in future too.

The students of GDC, Marh participated in AMMC, 2024 under the guidance of Dr Ram Dayal, HoD Mathematics, GDC, Marh.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www Ireps.gov.in with closing date 07.10.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
13.09.2024	23.09.2024	07.10.2024
S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
1.	192-2024-25-ADEN-JRC	Repair and maintenance of Bridges Under ADEN JRC
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of offer
	2,25,52,904.43	60 Days
		Period of completion
		06 Months

Tender Notice No:- 770/W/169/WA-1/FZR-192-2024-25-ADEN-JRC
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2307/24

RETURNING OFFICER
AC 75 Bahu

No.RO/75BAHUGELA/2024/161-72 Dated: 18.09.2024

Subject: - General Election to J&K Legislative Assembly - 2024 - Inspection of Expenditure Registers.

NOTICE FOR INSPECTION OF EXPENDITURE REGISTERS

In terms of instructions issued by the Election Commission of India, it is brought to the notice of all Contesting Candidates/ Political parties that the Expenditure Observer, **75 Bahu** Constituency has fixed following dates for inspection of Expenditure Registers: -

- 1st Inspection:** 20th September, 2024 (Friday) at 10.30 am.
- 2nd Inspection:** 24th September, 2024 (Tuesday) at 10.30 am.
- 3rd Inspection:** 28th September, 2024 (Saturday) at 10.30 am.

Therefore, all the Contesting Candidates or their Authorized election agents/Authorized election expenditure agents are directed to present their day-to-day expenditure registers along with the supporting documents like the vouchers and the bank statement of election expenditure account in the inspection meeting. The venue of inspection of Expenditure Registers shall be the Auditorium, of Government Polytechnic, Bikram Chowk, Jammu.

DIP/J-5085/24

Returning Officer
75 Bahu

EDITORIAL

SIMULTANEOUS
ELECTIONS

Simultaneous elections, or the practice of holding elections for different levels of government at the same time, have been a topic of significant discussion and debate in India. This system proposes that elections for the Lok Sabha (the lower house of Parliament) and the state assemblies should occur simultaneously, potentially streamlining the electoral process and enhancing governance.

The idea of simultaneous elections has its roots in the early years of Indian democracy. The first general election in 1951-52 was conducted in conjunction with state assembly elections. However, over the years, this practice fell apart due to various political and logistical challenges. The dissolution of state assemblies at different times led to staggered elections, resulting in a scenario where elections became a recurrent affair in the country.

Conducting elections simultaneously can significantly reduce the financial burden on the exchequer. Separate elections require extensive resources for logistics, security, and administration. By holding them together, the government could save substantial amounts of taxpayer money.

Frequent elections can overwhelm the election machinery, leading to fatigue among officials and a decrease in efficiency. Simultaneous elections would allow officials to focus their resources and efforts on a single electoral exercise, enhancing the overall effectiveness of the electoral process.

Regular elections can lead to a state of perpetual campaigning, causing elected representatives to focus on short-term gains rather than long-term governance. By synchronizing elections, representatives may be encouraged to concentrate on their duties, resulting in better governance and policy implementation.

Simultaneous elections could lead to higher voter turnout. When citizens are faced with multiple elections in a short span, they may become disengaged or apathetic. Holding elections at the same time could streamline the voting process and encourage greater participation.

India's federal structure and the diversity of its states mean that local issues often differ significantly from national ones. Holding simultaneous elections could overshadow regional issues, leading to a mismatch between voter preferences and elected representatives.

A unified election could result in national parties overshadowing regional parties, diminishing the representation of local interests. This could lead to a centralized form of governance that may not accurately reflect the needs of diverse populations.

Organizing simultaneous elections on such a large scale presents logistical challenges, including the coordination of security forces, polling stations, and election officials across multiple jurisdictions.

Implementing simultaneous elections would require amendments to the Constitution. This necessitates political consensus, which may be difficult to achieve given the diverse interests of various political parties.

The discussion around simultaneous elections gained renewed attention in recent years, particularly following recommendations from various committees, including the Law Commission of India. In 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocated for the need to hold simultaneous elections, suggesting that it could lead to better governance.

Simultaneous elections present a compelling opportunity to enhance the efficiency and stability of India's democratic process. However, it is essential to carefully consider the diverse political, social, and logistical implications of such a move. A balanced approach that respects local issues while fostering national unity could pave the way for a more effective electoral system. Engaging in a robust public dialogue and seeking consensus among political parties will be crucial in determining the feasibility of implementing simultaneous elections in India. As the nation continues to evolve, the path towards electoral reform must remain inclusive, reflecting the diverse voices and aspirations of its citizens.

Double trouble for BJP as Assembly polls lie ahead

By: Sunil Gatade

As you sow, so shall you reap. Prime Minister Narendra Modi might remember this old saying as the beleaguered BJP is a baffled lot in most of the poll-bound states. Instead of playing on the front foot, Mr Modi has become almost inactive in campaigning, unlike the star campaigner who believed that the world revolved around him, projecting that he was the lone leader who could lead to the light. Also Read - Dilip Cherian | Senior Andhra cops suspended for wrongful arrest of model Advertisement Despite being an expert in electioneering, the BJP and Mr Modi are in the dark about how to go about the polls, given the scale of rebellion seen so far in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir. The likes of Ghulam Nabi Azad, who were taken away from the Congress, are proving to be dead ducks. With no worthwhile support, Mr Azad, who had led the G-23 rebellion against Rahul Gandhi, has almost folded his shop. Worse for Mr Azad is that there's no one to cry over the fate of the "Ghulam". Also Read - Sanjeev Ahluwalia | Budget for right results: State needs to step back It is unlikely to be a different story in Maharashtra too, where Mr Modi and home minister Amit Shah's politics have created much turmoil in the middle-roader state. It is not that they aren't burning the midnight oil. But it is they who have created such a mess in the state, especially in the past five years, that they have lost the way. The delay in announcing the poll schedule for the premier state itself smacks of the BJP's lack of confidence. A political observer remarked tongue-in-cheek that "it

is just a delay in the fait accompli". Unless a miracle happens in Maharashtra, the BJP and its allies are not on a strong wicket in the state. Pre-poll surveys speak of anti-incumbency affecting the BJP most. The Ladki Bahin Yojana has certainly made the ruling Mahayuti a talking point. But one swallow does not a summer make. Even the diehard supporters of the BJP in Haryana feel that the 10-year anti-incumbency and an aggressive Congress campaign is making matters more difficult day by day. The likes of the controversial Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, against whom a gag order has now been issued, has turned the situation muddier. Also Read - Devi Kar | Let's try listen more to each other; it's now a forgotten art Vinesh Phogat, who won the hearts of 140 crore Indians at the Olympic Games despite being denied the medal, has become a brand ambassador for the Congress in Haryana. Sadly, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the alleged perpetrator of the atrocities on the Olympian women wrestlers, looks like the champion for the BJP, which does not need enemies. The BJP lost Haryana six months back, on the day it abruptly replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as chief minister with Nayab Singh Saini. It was replacing one ordinary leader with another. Nothing to write home about. The replacement was virtually an announcement from the rooftops that there is something rotten in the land of Kurukshetra. Also Read - Aakar Patel | If Modi adopts Vajpayee's line, he'll get more space to govern Much publicised ED raids on those allegedly close to Bhupinder Singh Hooda have not dented his prospects of being the frontrunner in the CM

game if the Congress returns to power. Reports had it that the ED seized assets worth Rs 834 crores under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in a case involving Mr Hooda and a developer. The Congress leader has claimed that he has nothing to do with this case. The tragedy for the BJP is that it doesn't need any outsider to capsize its boat. Mr Modi and Mr Shah have taken in umpteen leaders from the Congress in their audacious move for a "Congress-mukt Bharat" and ensured a "Congress-yukt" BJP. The saffron party has changed beyond recognition and those who have come from the outside are now ruling the roost, or so goes the complaint from BJP veterans. Loyalists in the BJP, whether in Haryana or Jammu and Kashmir, do not believe that the panacea for the world's largest party is to hand it over to former Congressmen. The voices of dissidence are growing, loosening the strong grip of Mr Modi over the organisation. The fact is that the central control by the Modi-Shah duo is killing all initiative at the local level and creating a crisis at the central level with the BJP down to 240 seats in the Lok Sabha polls. This is throwing the organisation into a whirlpool. The RSS' Mohan Bhagwat was brought out from virtual retirement due to the BJP's poor show. The absence of a full-time party president is an added concern along with the tussle for the top post. Who will become the next president of the BJP will indicate whether the RSS is enjoying its newfound power or the party is still embedded in Mr Modi. At the moment, Mr Bhagwat is making some statements off and on, but looks like he is afraid to strike. Unless Mr Modi is told that

he needs to mend his ways in the changed scenario and is forced to act likewise, the deceleration is not going to stop. However, one redeeming factor appears to be Jharkhand. With the defection of former chief minister Champai Soren, the BJP is positioning itself as a formidable challenger to the JMM-Congress-RJD alliance that currently governs the state. The party already has an alliance with the AJSU in place. The BJP is experiencing turbulence across key states, struggling with internal discontent and as well as a strong Opposition. The party's future success will hinge on its ability to address these issues, recalibrate its strategies, and restore confidence among its base and allies. Mr Modi's cup of woes is full to the brim. No amount of targeting Rahul Gandhi, including his speeches in the United States, looks like making any dent at the ground level. The Leader of the Opposition is seeking to tell the world that the "Vishwa Guru" has feet made of clay. What Mr Modi fears the most is that if the BJP performs poorly in the coming Assembly polls, dissidence will snowball in key party-ruled states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, where he had installed his "yes men", who are no real leaders and have delivered little. The double trouble the BJP is facing is because of the vast influx into the party to make it the world's largest and appointing worthless cronies at crucial places. Troubled Manipur shows day in and day out the benefits or otherwise of the BJP's much-touted "double engine" governance model. There cannot be a worse advertisement than this.

Empowering teachers, Empowering India

By: Vijay GarG

With the National Education Policy 2020 and NCTE programs paving the way, India is poised to reclaim its status as a global beacon of knowledge

'Education is not just a way to gain knowledge but a means to transform the world'. It is our teachers who will lead this transformation, making India not only a land of knowledge but a beacon of hope and wisdom for the entire world. Teacher's Day, celebrated few days back, serves as a poignant reminder of the selfless contributions made by teachers throughout their careers.

It allows students to express their gratitude, love, and respect for the people who have guided and inspired them to become true citizens. The celebration is a vehicle for recognising the immeasurable value teachers bring to society and emphasising the importance of education as a pillar of the nation. India now moves closer to realizing its dream of becoming a Vishwa Guru, the teaching profession continues to be a vital force in this journey, as India is well on its way to reclaiming its ancient mantle.

India's rich educational heritage is deeply rooted in its culture, recapitulating the legacy of Indian education, where teachers are equated with creators 'Brahma, the creator of the universe' in Hindu philosophy. This essence of the guru-shishya (teacher-student) relationship, where knowledge was imparted by sages in gurukuls, gave a strong emphasis on the holistic development of children. The teachers or 'Gurus' were revered, holding a status that was even higher than that of emperors. India's ancient universities like Nalanda and Takshashila were some of the earliest global learning centres of learning for the world. India's ancient texts, such as the Vedas and Upanishads, have long been sources of wisdom for the world.

As India strives to reclaim its position as a global leader in knowledge, the role of teachers becomes even more crucial who are at the centre of this transformation. The time is ripe for the youth of India to embrace the teaching profession; by investing in the teaching profession and addressing its challenges, India can build a strong foundation for a future where it leads not just in power, but

in wisdom and knowledge as well. The role of teachers in this endeavour is indispensable, making them the true architects of India's bright future, by inspiring curiosity, encouraging critical thinking, and instilling values, they are shaping the future leaders of the world. Prime Minister vision for India as a global leader is not just about economic growth or technological advancement; it is about creating a society where knowledge, wisdom, and values are cherished. As India marches towards its goal of becoming a Vishwa Guru, the teaching profession will be playing a pivotal role in shaping this vision.

Teachers are the torchbearers of knowledge, and their empowerment is crucial when India embarks on its mission of becoming a Vishwa Guru. India's aspiration to become a Vishwa Guru is deeply intertwined with its education system, where National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has emerged as a significant step in this direction, focusing on improving teacher education, and professional development, and creating a conducive environment for teaching and learning.

The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which empha-

sizes a more flexible, multi-disciplinary approach to education, places a strong focus on the professional development of teachers.

For India to truly become a Vishwa Guru, it must invest in its teachers, who serve as architects of the nation's future through their unwavering dedication.

This is where NCTE is playing a pivotal role in providing them with the resources, training, and support they need to excel in their profession. The flagship programs of NCTE are instrumental in elevating the status of teachers in society, by giving them the right support & training. India's teachers will undoubtedly lead the way in shaping the future of the world. It recognizes that to nurture future leaders, teachers themselves must be continuously learning and adapting to new pedagogies to ensure that they are equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

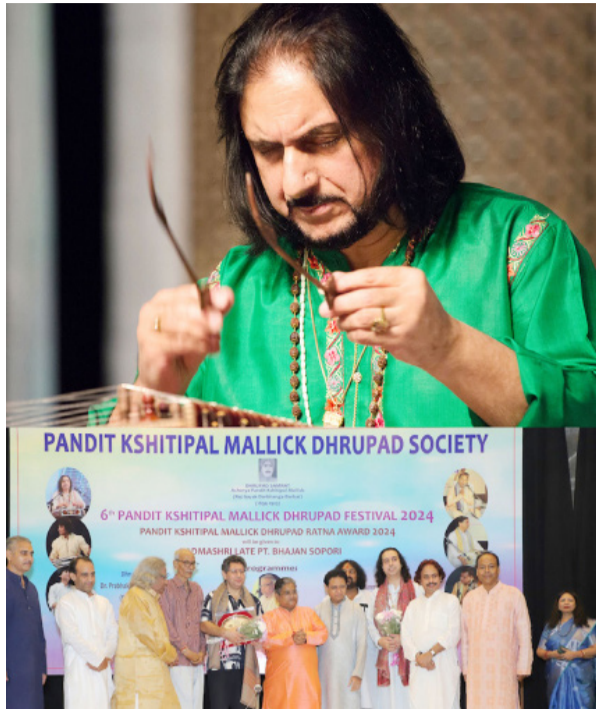
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Pt. Bhajan Sopori posthumously awarded Dhrupad Ratna Award

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: The Great Music Legend of India, Late Pandit Bhajan Sopori has been honored with the Pandit Kshitipal Mallick Dhrupad Ratna Award 2024 for his life-long contribution and unmatched service to music. The function was organized by Pandit Kshitipal Mallick Dhrupad Society at India International Centre, Delhi. The music community came together to remember and honor the legendary Santoor Maestro & Music Composer Pandit Bhajan Sopori, who was fondly known as the Saint of Santoor and the King of Strings.

"Late Pandit Bhajan Sopori introduced Dhrupad on Santoor with the accompaniment of the Pakhawaj and contributed significantly in popularizing Dhrupad music. Keeping in mind his 7 decades of service to music; taking Santoor to international plat-



forms; establishing the Sopori Baaj which is the style he created combining aspects of Dhrupad, Khayal and Tantrakari, Panditji took Santoor to a new level. His music and Santoor continues to inspire millions even

today", said senior musicologist and writer Pandit Vijay Shankar Mishra at the occasion. The award was received by Pandit Bhajan Sopori's sons Sohrab Sopori and Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori, the present

representative of the 300-year-old Sopori Sufiana Gharana of Kashmir, with its age old roots of Shaivite - Sufi Parampara. The award was presented by members of the Dhrupad Society, Mallick family and renowned musicians and scholars like Pandit Vijay Shankar Mishra, Vocalist Pandit Bholanath Mishra, Violinist Ustad Asghar Hussain, Tabla maestro Ustad Akram Khan, Guitar player Pandit Ajay Jha and many others.

The occasion featured Dhrupad recital of Dr. Prabhakar Narayan Pathak Mallick who presented Raga Yaman followed by Santoor recital by Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori, who presented the shades of Sopori Baaj dominated by Dhrupad Ang Meends and Gamaks in Raga Bhawani, a self composed Raga by Pandit Abhay Sopori. He was joined by Pandit Mithilesh Jha on Tabla and Rishi Shankar

Upadhyay on Pakhawaj.

Pandit Bhajan Sopori received hundreds of national and international awards and honors, and titles and decorations during his lifetime including the prestigious Padma Shri, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Rashtriya Kalidas Samman, J&K Government Lifetime Achievement Award, J&K Government Honorarium, multiple Honorary Doctorates by different Universities, amongst others. J&K Government named the auditorium at DIPR Kashmir in Pandit ji's name as "Pandit Bhajan Sopori Auditorium" at Srinagar on 15th August 2022. He was also honored posthumously with the prestigious Maharaja Banaras Vibhuti Narayan Singh Award 2023 Varanasi, Circle of Excellence Award 2022 by Kashmir Overseas Association USA, and Parampara Lifetime Achievement Honor 2022 by Parichay Foundation Odisha.

GDC R S Pura organises two days activity on SHS campaign



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: As a part of series of activities to be carried out to commemorate birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, NSS Unit organized two days activities under the guidance of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour from 18th & 19th September 2024.

Swachhta Hi Sewa (SHS) is a massive mass movement that seeks to create a Clean India. This drive aimed to promote waste management

at individual and mass level.

At the onset of the programme on 18th September, 2024 a cleanliness drive was organized in the vicinity of the campus. On the 2nd day i.e 19th September, 2024 poster making competition was held on theme-"Swachhta hi Sewa hai".

More than 20 students participated in these activities with great enthusiasm and exuberance. While speaking on these occasions, Principal of the college empha-

sized the importance of cleanliness for a healthy, socially responsible, economically dynamic, and progressive nation.

The entire programme was coordinated by Dr. Shivani Manchanda, Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch & Dr. Savleen Kour.

Prominent faculty members present on the occasion were Dr. Neena Gupta, Prof. Shifali Abrol, Dr. Savanter Kour, Dr. Raj Kumari Jamwal, Dr. Kiran Pathania, Dr. Akriti Parihar and Dr. Hari Singh.

GGM Science College lifts Inter-Collegiate Football Tournament trophy

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: In a thrilling finale held today at the Science College Grounds, Govt. Gandhi Memorial (GGM) Science College, Jammu, clinched the championship title at the Inter-Collegiate Football Tournament.

The final match was played between GGM Science College and Govt. MAM College, Jammu that showcased fierce competition and high-energy performances from both the teams, with GGM Science College standing out for their exceptional skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Dr. Ashaq Hussain, Incharge of the GGM Science College Football Team, while divulging the details, highlighted the intensity and skill level on display, emphasizing the narrow margins that decided the championship.



Dr. Hussain added that in a highly competitive game, both teams displayed remarkable talent and determination, resulting in a scoreless draw at the end of regular allotted time.

The match was then decided by penalty kicks, where GGM Science College managed to score 2 goals, securing their victory, while MAM College could only find the net once. For GGM Science College, Shivansh Raina and Aryan Jamwal suc-

cessfully scored goals during the penalties whereas, Daksh was the lone goal scorer for MAM College.

The final match was officiated by Rahul Sharma, Aman Sudan, Kartik Sharma, Atul Verma, and Gagan Kumar. During the valedictory ceremony, which was presided over by Prof. (Dr.) Monika Sharma, Dean Student Welfare at Cluster University Jammu, the victorious players of

GGM Science College were crowned with gold medals, celebrating their hard-fought triumph. In his address, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College, congratulated the players for bringing laurels to the institution. He also commended the efforts of Dr. Ashaq Hussain, Dr. Sunil Dutt (convener sports), and Dr. Vinod Kumar Bakshi (Director Physical Education) for their dedicated management

and support to the team.

Dr. Monika Sharma, in her presidential address, extended her heartfelt congratulations to the winning team and praised the MAM College players for their exceptional performance.

"Winning or losing hardly matters when you play exceptionally well; it's the spirit of the game that counts," she further remarked.

The final match was attended by prominent dignitaries, including Dr. Chaman Lal, Dr. Arun Kumar, Physical Directors Neenu Sawhney, Ravi Kumar, Ramandeep Kralia, Kajal Premi, and Neelam Sharma from the Sports Department of GGM Science College.

The tournament has set a high standard for collegiate football in the region, and GGM Science College's triumph will be remembered as a testament to the power of teamwork, dedication,

Gursimar brings laurels to GDC R S Pura



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Gursimar Kour, a student of 5th Semester of Govt. Degree College (GDC) R.S Pura brought laurels to the college by winning prizes in three different competitions organized under 'Hindi Pakhwara' for celebration of Hindi Diwas.

She won 2nd Prize in self composed poetry recitation competition orga-

nized by J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages on 14th September, 2024.

She also won First Prize in Poetry recitation competition organized under 'Hindi Pakhwara' in Govt. Degree College R.S. Pura on 17th September, 2024.

She further won 1st Prize in Poetry Recitation competition organized by Central University of Jammu on 18th September, 2024.

It was an Inter College/ Inter University competition organized by Department of Hindi, Central University of Jammu.

Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, Principal of the college lauded the efforts of the student and her mentors.

She also felicitated Gursimar Kour and encouraged all the students to participate in the different events and showcase their talent

M L Kaith vows to remain on call 24 hours for Marh Block people



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Independent candidate from Marh SSP retired M.L Kaith intensified the door to door campaign in different locations in Dine Chack, Smailpur, Shahzadpur, Choana Chack, Shah Pur Tikri, Dei Chack, Bhadrone, Pouni Chack, Sarora and

Akalpur of Marh Constituency.

He expressed confidence in his imminent victory. He attributed this certainty to his unwavering commitment to protect public interests and his comprehensive vision for Marh Block's holistic development.

Kaith said, With the pub-

lic's full blessings, we will deliver benefits to all segments of society.

He concluded, "I will work tirelessly to ensure Marh's prosperity. If I am voted to power, all the promises I made to the people of Marh block will be fulfilled, and I will remain accessible 24x7 to address their concerns."

Awareness Camp on HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse organized by JKSPYM

Top News Report

JAMMU Sep 19: JKSPYM, is currently running a Targeted Intervention project for People Who Inject Drugs (PWIDs), administered by the Jammu and Kashmir AIDS Control Society (JKACS) under the Department of Health and Medical Education. Recently, we organized a CBS cum Awareness Camp at Village Patoli Brahmna, Jammu, with the support of the village's respected Sarpanch.

The camp aimed to educate attendees about critical health issues, including HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infec-

tions (STIs), and the dangers of drug abuse. Participants learned about hepatitis and its associated risks, as well as the importance of HIV testing. As part of the initiative, HIV and syphilis tests were conducted on-site.

The camp also focused on opioid substitution therapy (OST) and other harm reduction strategies. We extend our gratitude to everyone who participated, helping to reduce the health burden in the UT of J&K by committing to safe practices and spreading awareness in their communities. Together, we are making strides toward a healthier future.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: The historic Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir have sparked significant discussion in Pakistan, particularly following the abrogation of Article 370. In a recent interview on Geo News, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif claimed that both Pakistan and the National Conference-Congress alliance share a common goal: the restoration of Article 370 and 35A, which pertain to the region's special

status and permanent residency.

In response, members of the Dogra Front & Shiv Sena (DFSS), led by President Ashok Gupta, organized a protest in Jammu city, demanding clarification from the NC-Congress alliance regarding Asif's statements. Gupta emphasized that the Pakistani minister raise concerns among Indians, asserting that any alignment with Pakistan is viewed as anti-Indian.

He called for the NC-Congress to clarify their stance, insisting that such

statements create confusion among the public. Additionally, Gupta criticized the release of individuals like engineer Rashid, whom he labeled a Pakistan supporter, arguing that their presence poses a threat to security and peace in the region.

The protest saw participation from party members including Abhishek, Sushil, Akshay, Ram, Prabhat, Prem, Bantu, Naresh, and others, all voicing their concerns and demanding accountability from local political parties.

Three days 14th annual global conference on cardiovascular care concludes

Top News Report

CHANDIGARH / JAMMU, Sep 19: The 3 days 14th annual global 'Cardiomersion' conference on cardiovascular care concluded at Mohali on Thursday. During the conference around 400 leading cardiovascular experts across the world discussed comprehensive management of cardiovascular diseases.

The conference focused

on an integrated approach to comprehensive cardiovascular care with insightful sessions, expert discussions, and collaborative exchanges between experts. It also provided a comprehensive platform for the latest advancements and innovations in the management of cardiovascular diseases (CVD).

Throughout the three days, the conference covered a wide range of

topics which were critical to the evolving field of cardiovascular care. The academic sessions on day 1 focused on preventative measures in cardiovascular diseases, emphasizing the role of early intervention in improving patient outcomes. The health benefits of unconventional therapies like yoga, music therapy and balanced Diet were also discussed by experts.

The second day delved



into advanced cardiac interventions with sessions highlighting technological innovations such as transcatheter aortic

valve implantation (TAVI), thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR), and robotic-assisted and thoracoscopic surgeries.

Experts from the USA presented the latest research on improving surgical outcomes through minimally invasive techniques and the integration of advanced imaging technologies, which have been transforming the field of cardiovascular surgery. Discussions by Dr Deepak Puri, global chairman of Cardiomersion and senior director CTVS at Max Hospital, Mohali also centered

around the global rise in sudden cardiac deaths among younger populations and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on heart failure and other cardiovascular conditions.

On the final day, participants engaged in paper presentations that explored the comprehensive management of cardiovascular and other lifestyle diseases, with a special emphasis on holistic and interdisci-

plinary approaches. The sessions on stress management for healthcare professionals were conducted thus recognizing the critical need to protect those on the frontlines of patient care from burnout and lifestyle diseases.

Overall the conference highlighted resounding support for the continued advancement of integrated, multidisciplinary approaches to cardiovascular care.

Kareena Kapoor on 25 years in Bollywood, working with Saif, Taimur's fame

Would love to work with Saif soon: Kareena Kapoor Khan

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan has said she wants to once again share the screen space with husband Saif Ali Khan and hopes that an opportunity to collaborate will come her way soon.

The 43-year-old actor said she is looking forward to Saif's Telugu debut "Devara: Part 1", which is set to be released in theatres on September 27.

"I would love to work with him right now. He's also going to taste blood because he's coming for the first time in a Telugu film that's releasing next week. So I think that people are really excited, so I would love to do something with him soon, hopefully," Kareena told reporters on Wednesday night.

She was speaking at a press event ahead of a film festival that will celebrate 25 years of her career.

At the event, Kareena officially announced the festival, titled "PVRINOX celebrates 25 Years of Kareena Kapoor Khan Festi-



val", at PVR INOX Lido Cinema here.

The week-long film festival will run in over 30 cinemas halls in 15 cities from September 20 to September 27.

Kareena, who first worked with Saif on JP Dutta's war drama

"LOC Kargil", followed by hits like "Omkaara", "Tashan", "Kurbaan" and "Agent Vinod", said he was extremely happy when he heard about the festival.

"When I told him about this, he was very excited. So he wants to watch 'Omkaara' and 'Ashoka'

for sure," she added.

The actor, who married Saif in October 2012 and shares two sons -- Taimur and Jeh -- with him, revealed her children haven't watched any of her films.

"Maybe I should get them to watch something at the festival. I think if I ask, everyone's going to say 'Jab We Met'. 'Omkaara' would be a bit shocking for them with their father in. So, yeah, I think we can start with 'Jab We Met'," she said.

Talking about Taimur, Kareena said he is aware that he is famous among the paparazzi.

"With the paparazzi all around he knows that he's famous. But he keeps asking, 'Am I famous?' I'm like, 'No, you're not famous. I'm famous. You haven't done anything.'"

"So he's like, 'Maybe one day I'll do it'. Right now, it's not a film in his mind. It's only football. I hope he will watch some of my films. I'm sure, someday," she said.

Feels like a full-circle moment: Kiran Rao on 'Laapataa Ladies' releasing in Japan



As Kiran Rao's acclaimed film 'Laapataa Ladies' is set to release in Japan on October 4, the filmmaker said that she is an admirer of Japanese cinema and this feels like a full-circle moment.

Kiran said, "I'm thrilled that 'Laapataa Ladies' is releasing in Japan. As an admirer of Japanese cinema, this feels like a full-circle moment."

The actress said that she always had a "deep interest in Japanese culture".

"I hope the film's emotional core will resonate with Japanese audiences just as it did with ours." The filmmaker calls the release a "significant milestone for the film". She said, "And showcases how cinema can bridge cultures through

shared stories and emotions. It's surreal to see a film so close to my heart reaching new audiences. I'm thankful to Jio Studios and Aamir Khan Productions for extending the film's global reach."

"Taking it to Japan is an exciting next chapter. Their enthusiasm and support have been crucial in making this happen."

"Laapataa Ladies" premiered in March 2024 in India and captivated audiences for over 100 days in theatres and then continued to earn love and appreciation from audiences on OTT.

The film is a slice-of-life comedy about the misadventures of two young brides who get separated on the same train but with different grooms. It is a blend of mistaken identities and laugh-out-loud escapades. "Laapataa Ladies" stars Nitanshi Goel, Pratibha Ranta, Sparsh Shrivastava and Ravi Kishan.

Presented by Jio Studios, 'Laapataa Ladies' is directed by Kiran Rao and produced by Aamir Khan, Kiran Rao and Jyoti Deshpande. The film has been made under the banner of Aamir Khan Productions and Kindling Productions, with the script based on an award-winning story by Biplab Goswami. The screenplay and dialogues are written by Sneha Desai, with additional dialogues penned by Divyanidhi Sharma.

Actor Pankaj Kapur shares why he hasn't directed again since Mausam

Veteran actor Pankaj Kapur, who took over the director's chair for the 2011 romantic drama Mausam, starring his son and actor Shahid Kapoor, and Sonam Kapoor, recently opened up about why he chose not to direct any films after it. Mausam was set against the backdrop of multiple sociopolitical events. While the film had high expectations from the audience, its reception at the box office was mixed.

Now in an interview with agency, Kapur spoke about his decision and mentioned a combination of factors that influenced it.

The actor mentioned that he has not entirely ruled out directing again. He is clear that it will only happen if the right story compels



him. For now, he is content with continuing to grace the screen with his acting. He said, "Mausam is the only film I wrote and directed. Having said that, I do have scripts, but I cannot go from door-to-door selling them. I do not have that

temperament. My temperament is more of an actor."

"I mean, I don't mind if somebody comes to me and says do you have a script? Can I hear something? I'm ready to narrate it and if the person says yes, I like what you have written, I am ready to go ahead and direct the film. It's not that I don't like directing. I love directing, but I cannot struggle to make a film. So, after 'Mausam', I decided to be more of an actor, and when an opportunity arises, I will direct," Kapur concluded.

Pankaj Kapur is gearing up for the release of his next film, Binny Aur Family, which is set to release on September 20. The film also stars Varun Dhawan's niece, Anjini Dhawan.

Filmmakers have found their latest muse, and it's the influencers

Social media influencers are driving dinner table conversations now; becoming pop culture references and taking over the reins of Bollywood with aplomb. Initially, it was models like John Abraham, Bipasha Basu, Aishwarya Rai and Sushmita Sen, who were envied for...



They bring relatability and vulnerability to the screen beautifully."

Shining bright with Chamkeela

Starting as a child actor in theatre, Sahiba Bali navigated her way through various fields — from cricket broadcasting, content creation and marketing to acting. Born to a Punjabi Hindu mom and a Kashmiri Sikh dad, this lovely young lady is a content creator, with a passion for travelling, food and wellness. Known for projects Bard of Blood (2019), Tanaav (2022) and Laila Majnu (2018), Sahiba was recently seen in Imtiaz Ali's critically acclaimed Chamkeela. "Influencers get eyeballs, but eventually they only deliver hits if they are good in the craft of acting. Mumbai is a fascinating illusion where dreamers get lost and achievers make it big," says the actress, emphasising the value of hard work and discipline over social media popularity.

Winging it with Ankush Today, he is India's number one beauty content creator in the men's category. From having his own YouTube show, Wing It with Ankush, to walking the Cannes Red Carpet in 2024, Ankush Bahuguna has finally got the success he deserved.

With a plethora of skills under his belt (quite like his name suggests), Bahuguna made and starred in his own short film titled Almost, which was received well. "I was featured in a short film Badoli Bhavna and am now confident to embrace my Bollywood dreams," shares the effervescent Delhi boy, who has shifted base to Mumbai and is busy auditioning for meaty roles to make it big in Bollywood. "Acting was always Plan A and I'm finally at a place in life where I can give this dream my all. Along the way, I also realised how grateful I am to the audience I've built, and I'd never let that go."

The UP Govt's move to engage influencers to promote state schemes cheers the digital community, which would like to see influencing as a mainstream career option

The UP Government has come up with the UP Digital Media Policy, 2024, which allows influencers to promote state schemes and earn up to Rs 8 lakh per month... something that comes as welcome news for influencers. With newfound love and respect for this influencer generation, influencing has become a mainstream career option!

Lifestyle and fashion creator Muskaan Khandelwal calls UP government's announcement a recognition for digital content creators' community. "With this new initiative of the UP government, there will be a shift in how influencers are perceived. While there's a sense that 'we have arrived', there's still much more to do. As influencers, we face challenges like inconsistent income streams, the

pressure to stay relevant and the constant need for creativity. It's still a relatively new career path and for it to be seen as truly mainstream, we need more stability and recognition across industries," she adds.

Digital content creator and actress Miloni Jhonsa believes that the perception has definitely changed as people got platforms to showcase their skills and productivity. "The chances of experimentation in a creative space increase, and hence monetisation and the scope of work does too, which makes it as good as any other career choice for someone. Also, at this point it all comes down to a mix of hard work, luck and talent."

Actress Shivangi Verma also thinks that content creation is in

She says, "If the UP Government wants to incentivise the reach of influencers and social media, there is nothing wrong in it. Everything can co-exist. In the digital age, everyone is a consumer and government too wants to reach out to the general public about their policies. What better way than spreading awareness through social media influencers or digital content creators?"

Whereas Khandelwal opines that even though government grant is a great start, there's a need to hold workshops, mentorship programmes, and collaborations between the government and influencers. She adds, "By providing resources for budding content creators, the government can help shape this

evolving industry and encourage more young people to pursue it confidently."

On the other hand, Jeetusri, fashion, beauty and lifestyle influencer, is concerned how there are still many different states wherein influencers are not allowed to shoot at specific locations. She explains, "First and foremost, influencers need the support from the government with respect to permission to shoot. As per job categories, there are various roles which could be created for influencers as in there are so many breakthrough technologies government is using to make livelihoods easy and clean. So, showcasing that through influencers would make a bigger impact on citizens."



Cleanliness Only Will Make India Healthy And Developed: President Murmu

UJJAIN (MP), Sep 19 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday said cleanliness only will make the country healthy and developed and appealed to the people to come forward and take a step in this direction.

Addressing the Safai Mitra Sammelan (conference of sanitation workers) in Ujjain, Murmu also lauded Madhya Pradesh's Indore city for remaining on top in the cleanliness survey for the seventh time in a row and Bhopal for being the cleanest state capital in the country.

"It gives me immense happiness to felicitate safai mitras (sanitation workers). Cleanliness only will make the country healthy and developed. By honouring safai mitras we are honouring ourselves," she said.

Murmu appealed to the people to take a step forward for making the country "swachh, swasthya



aur viksit" (clean, healthy and developed).

The Swachh Bharat Mission has become a nationwide movement in the last 10 years and resulted in bringing about comprehensive changes in the country, she said.

The campaign raised awareness about cleanliness among

the people and their behaviour towards "swachhata" has changed a lot, the president said.

She also congratulated the government for making a provision of toilets for girl students in schools, which has resulted in raising their literacy level.

On the occasion, Murmu felici-

tated five safai mitras, including four women, for their dedicated efforts towards cleanliness.

She also laid the foundation stone for the Ujjain-Indore six-lane road, to be built at the cost of Rs 1,692 crore.

Earlier in the day, Murmu planted a Kadamb (Bur flower) sapling on the campus of the more than two-century-old Residency Kothi in Indore.

MP Governor Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Mohan Yadav joined her and planted the sapplings of Rudraksh and Parijat trees, respectively, in the premises, officials said.

Yadav presented to Murmu a literature containing details of the public welfare schemes being run by his government, they said.

Murmu president the CM a picture of the Rashtrapati Bhavan as a souvenir of her visit to the state.

'Must save...': RG Kar victim's father in fresh letter to CBI

Says spoke with his daughter over the phone a few hours before her death



KOLKATA, Sep 19 (Agencies): The father of the doctor, who was allegedly raped and murdered in the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital last month, informed the CBI that he had talked with his daughter over the phone a few hours before her death and urged the agency to "save" call records of her phone, a source said on Thursday. In a letter to the CBI, the father also

requested the officers to secure the CCTV footage at the hospital, primarily those on the floor of the seminar hall, where the body of his daughter was found on August 9.

"The father of the deceased wrote a letter to us with a request that we save the call records," the CBI source said.

The central agency officer said that the letter, along with the status report of their probe of

the rape-murder case at the hospital, was shared with the Supreme Court on September 17 during its hearing.

In his two-page letter, the father, who expressed his "helplessness and anxiety" over the investigation of his daughter's death mystery, has also requested the CBI officers to recover the duty chart to find out who all were on duty on that August 8 night along with his daughter.

The parents had also told the CBI that several interns and physicians from the hospital might have been involved in the crime. A day after the medic's body bearing severe injury marks was found on August 9, a civic volunteer was arrested by the Kolkata Police in connection with the case.

On August 13, the Calcutta High Court ordered the transfer of the probe from the Kolkata police to the CBI, which started its investigation the next day.

5 youths hurt as speeding SUV crashes into guardrail

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Five college students were injured after their speeding SUV crashed into a guardrail that pierced through the middle of the vehicle near Rajghat in north Delhi early Thursday, according to the police.

Four of the five students are students of Delhi University colleges.

The occupants of the car were returning from a birthday party

at a pub in Gurugram. They have been hospitalised, police said.

Prima facie, it appears that the car was being driven at a high speed and the driver lost control, leading to the crash, according to the police.

The incident occurred on the stretch of road from Shanti Van to Geeta Colony, the police added.

Ashwani Mishra (19), a first-

year student at Delhi University's Dyal Singh College, had rented the car for a night to celebrate his birthday.

Mishra, Ashwani Pandey (19), and Keshav (20), all residents of east Delhi's Laxmi Nagar, along with Saket resident Krishna (18) and Chhatarpur resident Ujjawal (19) drove to Zee Town, a pub in Gurugram, on Wednesday night. On the way back, Mishra was at the wheel of the car, cops

said.

"While crossing the Geeta Colony flyover, Mishra got distracted while changing the song playing on his mobile phone and lost control of the vehicle. The car collided with the railing," the police said in a statement.

Among the five admitted to Delhi's Lok Nayak Hospital, the condition of Mishra and Pandey is critical, according to the police.

Delhi High Court asks Puja Khedkar to respond to UPSC's perjury allegations

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): The Delhi High Court on Thursday sought the stand of Puja Khedkar on UPSC's allegation that the former IAS probationer committed perjury by making a false statement in relation to her anticipatory bail plea.

Justice Subramaniam Prasad asked Khedkar to file her reply to the commission's application, which is filed in the proceedings on her pre-arrest bail plea. "I will issue notice. File your reply," Justice Prasad told Khedkar's counsel, and listed the matter for hearing on September 26.

Khedkar has been accused of cheating and wrongly availing OBC and disability quota benefits in civil services examination.

She has denied all allegations against her.

In its application filed through lawyer Vardhman Kaushik, UPSC submitted that Khedkar, in her rejoinder, made an "absolutely false" statement on affidavit that the commission had collected her biometrics during personality tests.

Seeking initiation of inquiry and appropriate proceedings against her for the violation, the application alleged that even in another proceedings pending in the high court, Khedkar has committed "perjury", which is an offence under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Senior advocate Naresh Kaushik, appearing for UPSC, said her conduct was "dangerously wrong".

"The claim that the commission collected her biometrics is absolutely false made with the sole aim and purpose of deceiving this Hon'ble Court for obtaining favourable orders. The said claim is denied since the commission did not collect any biometric (eyes and fingerprints) during her personality test or car-

ried out any attempts verification on the basis of the same. The commission has not collected any biometric information from any candidate during the personality test of the civil services examinations held so far," the application said.

"There is little doubt in the conclusion that the conduct of Ms Puja Manorama Dilip Khedkar amounts to perjury," it asserted.

Khedkar's counsel, on the other hand, termed the application a "pressure tactic".

Khedkar allegedly misrepresented information in her application for UPSC Civil Services Examination 2022 to get reservation benefits.

The high court has earlier granted her interim protection from arrest in the case.

Both UPSC and the Delhi Police have sought dismissal of her plea for pre-arrest bail.

The Delhi Police has claimed that any relief to her would hinder its probe into the "deep-rooted conspiracy" and that the case has wider implications on public trust as well as the integrity of the civil services examination.

UPSC has earlier said Khedkar committed a fraud against the commission and the public, and her custodial interrogation was necessary to unearth the "magnitude of the fraud" that could not have been done without the help of other individuals.

UPSC initiated a series of actions against Khedkar in July, including lodging a criminal case against her for availing attempts in the civil services exam by faking her identity.

The Delhi Police has registered an FIR under provisions of the IPC, Information Technology Act and Right of Persons with Disabilities Act.

Congress slams Nadda's response to Kharge as 'intemperate', 'senseless'

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): The Congress on Thursday slammed as "intemperate" and "senseless" BJP president JP Nadda's reply to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on his letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagging "threats" aimed at Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh took a swipe at Prime Minister Modi, saying there was once a PM who, for 17 years, replied to each and every official and personal letter sent to him.

"Former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh writes to the non-biological PM on COVID-19. The Health Minister is given an abusive reply to send in his name.

"Congress President and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge ji writes to non-biological PM on the grave threats being hurled at the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi by Mr. Modi's colleagues.



The BJP President is given the task of sending an intemperate and senseless reply," Ramesh said in a post on X.

"There was once a PM who, for seventeen years, replied to each and every official and personal letter sent to him - as over a 100 volumes of his Selected Works will testify," Ramesh said in an obvious reference to India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

"But self-proclaimed divinities are different I suppose," the Congress leader added.

His remarks came after BJP president Nadda accused Gandhi of having a history of abusing Prime Minister Modi and OBCs, and of siding with anti-India forces.

In his letter to Kharge,

Nadda cited his party's own litany of complaints against the LoP and other Congress members for their choice of words against the prime minister.

"Under what compulsion are you trying to justify Rahul Gandhi," the BJP president asked his Congress counterpart in a three-page letter written in Hindi.

He claimed that Kharge's letter was driven by his political compulsion to market a "failed product" repeatedly rejected by people.

On Tuesday, Kharge had raised with PM Modi the issue of "extremely objectionable" and violent statements by ruling alliance members targeting Rahul Gandhi and urged him to discipline his leaders.

In his letter to Modi,

Kharge had asserted that strict legal action should be taken against those giving such statements so that Indian politics can be prevented from degenerating and nothing untoward happens.

"I want to draw your attention to an issue which is directly related to democracy and the Constitution.

You must be aware that a series of extremely objectionable, violent and rude statements are being made against the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi," the Congress chief said.

"I have to say with sadness that the violent language used by the leaders of the BJP and your allies is harmful for the future.

The world is shocked that the Minister of State for Railways in the central government, a minister from BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh, is calling the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha 'number one terrorist'," Kharge had said in an apparent reference to the remarks by MoS

Railways Ravneet Singh Bittu and UP minister Raghuraj Singh.

"An MLA from a party that has ties with your government in Maharashtra is announcing a reward of Rs 11 lakh to the person who 'cuts off the tongue of the Leader of the Opposition and brings it to him'.

A BJP leader and former MLA in Delhi is threatening to make him 'fate like his grandmother'," Kharge had said.

Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Gaikwad announced that he will give Rs 11 lakh to anyone chopping off Gandhi's tongue for his remarks on scrapping the reservation system.

Union minister Bittu on Sunday said if those "manufacturing bombs" were supporting Gandhi, he is the "number one terrorist".

Minister in the BJP's UP government Raghuraj Singh reportedly made similar remarks as that of Bittu.

Earlier, BJP leader Tarvinder Singh Marwah had purportedly made "threatening" remarks against Gandhi.

Shashi Tharoor to head standing committee on external affairs

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor will head the parliamentary standing committee on external affairs and veteran leader Digvijaya Singh will head the panel on education, party sources said on Thursday.

Former Punjab chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi will lead the parliamentary standing committee on agriculture and Koraput MP Saptagiri Ulaka will head the panel on rural development.

Mr Channi, who is a Dalit, and Ulaka, who hails from a tribal community, were chosen by the party with social justice being the centrepiece of all recent appointments.

The leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has been stressing the participation of the deprived sections in governance and calling for the party

organisation to be more inclusive.

The sources said the Congress has forwarded the names of the four leaders to head the four department-related parliamentary standing committees it has been assigned to lead.

While there has been no official notification on the chairship of the parliamentary standing committees, it is expected to come out soon.

The Congress will chair the Department Related Standing Committee on External Affairs; Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing; Rural Development and Panchayati Raj in the Lok Sabha; and Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports in the Rajya Sabha.

This was decided after hectic parleys between the government and the opposi-



tion over the panels' chairship.

Congress' chief whip in the Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh and the party's deputy leader in the Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi were involved in the negotiations with the government to arrive at a consensus.

Significantly, the Congress will chair the crucial committee on external affairs

after a gap of five years. Tharoor had also headed the panel on external affairs between September 2014 and May 2019.

In the previous Lok Sabha, the Congress held the chairship of two department-related standing committees in the Rajya Sabha and one in the Lok Sabha.

While Mr Ramesh headed the committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Abhishek Singhvi chaired the panel on Commerce. Mr Tharoor headed the Committee on Chemicals and Fertilisers in the Lok Sabha.

Mr Ramesh will this time be a member of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, a panel he headed last time.

Talks had been going on for quite some

time over the chairship of the department-related standing committees, with the government and opposition bargaining hard over control of key committees such as external affairs, defence, finance and home.

Department-related standing committees deal with various Union ministries and scrutinise their budgetary allocations and bills introduced in Parliament.

They also recommend the government to bring bills and make policies on important issues.

The Congress already has K C Venugopal as chairperson of the key Public Accounts Committee. While a majority of the standing committees come under the Lok Sabha Secretariat, some are serviced by the Rajya Sabha.

32 Killed, over 3,250 injured as walkie-talkies, pagers explode in Lebanon

Israeli military and Iran-backed Hezbollah members have been fighting across the Lebanese border since the Israel-Hamas war broke out in Gaza in October 2023.

BEIRUT, Sep 19 (Agencies): At least 32 people were killed and more than 3,250 injured as walkie-talkies and pagers used by Hezbollah members blew up in its strongholds across Lebanon in the last two days, stoking fears of an all-out war with Israel.

Walkie-talkies used by Iran-backed Hezbollah members blew up in its Beirut stronghold on Wednesday, killing at least 20 people and injuring more than 450 others. At least one of Wednesday's blasts took place near a funeral organised by Hezbollah for those killed the previous day.

The explosions came a day after thousands of pagers used by Hezbollah exploded across Lebanon, killing 12 people, including two children, and injuring about 2,800.

Hezbollah said Israel was "fully responsible for this criminal aggression" and vowed



revenge. Israel has so far not officially said anything about the explosions.

In Tuesday's explosions, sources said Israeli spies remotely detonated explosives they planted in a Hezbollah order of 5,000 pagers before they entered the country.

Hezbollah members turned to pagers and other low-tech communication devices to evade

Israeli surveillance of mobile phones.

Hezbollah, Iran's most powerful proxy in the Middle East, said that it attacked Israeli artillery positions with rockets. The Israeli military, however, said there were no reports of any damage or casualties.

The US warned all sides against "escalation" in the Middle East after two days of

blasts in Lebanon. "We still don't want to see an escalation of any kind."

We don't believe that the way to solve where we're at in this crisis is by additional military operations at all," US National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby told reporters.

United Nations chief Antonio Guterres warned that the pager blasts targeting Hezbollah indicate "a serious risk of a dramatic escalation in Lebanon and everything must be done to avoid that escalation."

The United Nations Security Council is scheduled to meet on Friday over the pager blasts in Lebanon.

Israel and Hezbollah have been fighting across the Lebanese border after the war in Gaza erupted on October 7, 2023, when Hamas, a Hezbollah ally also backed by Iran, attacked Israeli towns.

At least 1000 people evacuated as flooding hits northern Italy



ROME, Sep 19 (Agencies): About a thousand residents were evacuated in the northern Italian region of Emilia-Romagna after it was hit by torrential rains and severe flooding overnight, local media reported Thursday.

Rivers flooded in three of the region's provinces — Ravenna, Bologna and Faenza — as local mayors asked people to stay on upper floors or leave their

houses.

At least 800 residents in the Ravenna area and almost 200 in Bologna province spent the night in shelters, schools and sports centers as local rivers overflowed.

Trains were suspended and schools closed across the affected areas, and residents have been advised to avoid travel and work from home where possible.

The Faenza area was just recovering from the devastating floods that hit Emilia-Romagna in May 2023, claiming 17 lives and causing billions of euros in damages.

"The night was dramatic, we waited for the river flood to cross the city," Faenza mayor Massimo Isola told state TV Rainews. "It rose really close to the limit, but thanks to the works done over the past year we managed to avoid an overflow in the center of the city."

Several Central and Eastern European nations have been plagued by severe flooding in recent days, including Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland and Romania, with the death toll rising over 20 people across the region.

Fruit and seafood are the latest front in escalating Taiwan-China tensions

TAIPEI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Taiwan said Thursday that China's ban on imports of its fruit, vegetables, seafood and other goods violates trade rules, in the latest escalation of tensions between the self-governing island republic and its massive neighbor, which claims Taiwan as its own territory and has vowed to annex it by military means.

The Taiwanese government's Mainland Affairs Council said the ban, which takes effect next week, ignores rules laid out by the World Trade Organization, of which both sides are members.

The move comes amid growing military, political and economic pressure on Taiwan's government to concede to Beijing's control. Taiwan's semi-tropical climate and fertile soil have nurtured an agricultural industry valued at around \$500 billion dollars, alongside high-tech corporations that produce the world's most cutting-edge computer chips.

China's move "harms the interests of farmers" on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and does nothing to improve relations between the two, the council said. China and Taiwan should seek dialogue through the WTO to resolve their differences, it added.



The WTO is one of the few forums through which discussion is possible between the two sides, which divided amid civil war in 1949. Chinese diplomatic pressure has barred Taiwan from the United Nations and reduced its number of official diplomatic allies to 12.

The Chinese ban appears to target rural Taiwanese, who for the past two decades have largely voted for pro-independence candidates but whose local officials have been courted by China with all-expense vacations and other enticements.

China has used trade pressure on countries such as Australia, South Korea and Norway over perceived political slights, using its market for resources and consumer goods as leverage, with mixed results.

Malaysian police detain CEO and other leaders of Islamic group as probe into child sex abuse widens

KUALA LUMPUR, Sep 19 (Agencies): Malaysian police on Thursday detained the CEO and other top leaders of an Islamic business group that is under investigation after hundreds of children believed to be sexually abused were rescued this month from welfare homes linked to the group.

National police chief Razarudin Husain said 12 men and seven women were detained following a police raid on a condominium in Kuala Lumpur. They ranged in age from 25 to 65.

Nasiruddin Mohamad Ali, CEO of Global Ikhwan Services and Business, and several members of GISB's advisory board were among those detained, Razarudin told The Associated Press. Others arrested on the list seen by AP included two of Nasiruddin's four wives and two of his



children.

Some family members of the late Ashaari Mohamad, who headed the Islamic sect Al Arqam, which was deemed heretical and banned by the government in 1994, were also named on the list. Global Ikhwan was founded by Ashaari and flourished after his death in 2010.

Nasirudin earlier said in a video there may be cases of sodomy in GISB homes but denied any wrongdoing.

The arrests came after police rescued 402 children from 20 welfare homes linked to GISB

on Sept. 11. Dozens of suspects were arrested in the case, which outraged the nation and sparked calls for better child protection and monitoring of childcare centers.

Razarudin has said some of the children, aged from 1 to 17, were believed sodomized by their guardians and taught to sexually abuse each other. He said they were denied medical treatment and burned with hot metal spoons as punishment for being disobedient. Medical screening has so far showed that at least 13

teens were sodomized and 172 children suffered long-term physical and emotional injuries, Razarudin said.

The children, whose parents are Global Ikhwan employees, were placed in the homes since they were infants and believed to be indoctrinated from a young age to be loyal to the group, police have said. The children were also believed to have been exploited to collect public donations.

Authorities have frozen 96 bank accounts linked to GISB, with a value of 581,000 ringgit (\$137,000), as part of the investigation into sexual abuse, child neglect, human trafficking and money laundering.

GISB, which aims to promote an Islamic way of life, owns mini-markets, bakeries, restaurants, pharmacies, properties and other businesses abroad. It employs some 5,000

people. Global Ikhwan gained attention in 2011 when it formed an "Obedient Wives Club" that sparked controversy by teaching women to be "good sex workers" to keep their husbands from straying.

Apart from the criminal investigations, Islamic authorities are also checking on other homes and religious schools under GISB amid concerns it is promoting deviant teachings linked to Al Arqam.

On Thursday, three young men were charged with sexually assaulting young children in a religious school in southern Negeri Sembilan state. Razarudin said the trio were linked to GISB but gave no further details. Earlier this week, a businessman linked to GISB was charged with criminal intimidation for threatening a former GISB staff to withdraw a complaint to police.

Harris hits Trump's promise of mass deportations as Trump rallies on Long Island

WASHINGTON, Sep 19 (Agencies): Vice President Kamala Harris criticized Republican Donald Trump's promise to deport millions of people who are in the United States illegally, questioning whether he would rely on massive raids and detention camps to carry it out.

Harris, the Democratic presidential nominee, told the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's annual leadership conference that the nation can find both a pathway to citizenship for those who want to come and at the same time secure the border. "We can do both, and we must do both," she said.

Trump, for his part, leaned heavily on his alarmist message on immigration as he held a rally in Uniondale on New York's Long Island, focusing the bulk of his remarks on the subject.

"We're just destroying the fabric of life in our country. And we're

not going to take it any longer. And you got to get rid of these people. Give me a shot," Trump said.

Both candidates took a break from campaigning in the toss-up states that will likely decide the Nov. 5 election. The former president drew a large, roaring crowd, giving him a chance to show deep support even in a blue state.

He ripped into Democratic leadership in New York City and state, blaming them for homeless people living in what he called "horrible, disgusting, dangerous, filthy encampments," and even the conditions on the New York City subway, which he called "squalid and unsafe" and promised to renovate.

"What the hell do you have to lose?" he said in asking for their votes.

Before heading out to the suburbs, Trump stopped at a Bitcoin cafe in New York City. Trump has recently embraced

cryptocurrency and helped launch his family's new cryptocurrency venture.

Harris harked back to the Trump administration's immigration policies as she bid for Hispanic support.

"While we fight to move our nation forward to a brighter future, Donald Trump and his extremist allies will keep trying to pull us backward," Harris said. "We all remember what they did to tear families apart, and now they have pledged to carry out the largest deportation, a mass deportation, in American history."

"Imagine what that would look like and what that would be? How's that going to happen? Massive raids? Massive detention camps? What are they talking about?" she said.

Trump has promised to carry out "the largest deportation operation in the history of our country" if he's elected in November. He has



offered no details on how such an operation would work.

Trump has focused on immigration as a top campaign issue and made it a key focus of his remarks Wednesday.

"Look at what's happening," he told his crowd in New York. "Businesses that are fleeing, money draining out of your state and hundreds of thousands of illegal migrants sucking your public resources dry."

Trump said he plans in the next two weeks to visit Springfield, Ohio, which has been the center of false accusa-

tions from the former president and his running mate JD Vance that members of the city's Haitian community are abducting and eating cats and dogs. Trump also said he plans to visit Aurora, Colorado, where he says a Venezuelan street gang with a small presence in the city has taken over a rundown apartment complex. Aurora police say that's not the case.

He has an advantage over Harris in opinion polling on whom voters trust to better handle the issue.

Meanwhile, the Teamsters labor union declined to endorse

either Harris or Trump, saying neither had sufficient support from its 1.3 million members.

Harris had met with a panel of Teamsters, having long courted organized labor and made support for the middle class her central policy goal. Trump met earlier in the year with a panel of Teamsters, and its president, Sean O'Brien, spoke at his invitation at the Republican National Convention.

Trump's rally Wednesday night was in Uniondale, an area that could be key to Republicans maintaining control of the House. His party is trying to protect 18 Republicans in Democratic-heavy congressional districts that Joe Biden carried in 2020, particularly in coastal New York and California, and going on offense to challenge Democrats elsewhere.

Long Island in particular features one of the most closely watched

races, between first-term Republican Rep. Anthony D'Esposito and Democrat Laura Gillen. D'Esposito is a former New York Police detective who won in 2022 in a district that Biden won by about 15 percentage points in 2020.

Trump posted on his Truth Social platform that the GOP has "a real chance of winning" New York "for the first time in many decades." In that same post, Trump also pledged that he would "get SALT back," suggesting he would eliminate a cap on state and local tax deductions that were part of tax cut legislation he signed into law in 2017.

The so-called SALT cap has led to bigger tax bills for many residents of New York, New Jersey, California and other high-cost, high-tax states, and is an important campaign issue in those states, particularly among those New York Republicans serving in districts Biden won.

Harris' speech to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute marked the second day in a row that she has tended to constituencies considered key to the Democratic Party.

She sat for an interview in Philadelphia with members of the National Association of Black Journalists.

She decried Trump's rhetoric and said voters should make sure he "can't have that microphone again." She has trips planned later in the week to Michigan, Georgia and Wisconsin.

Trump is attempting to return to his campaign cadence after Sunday's apparent assassination attempt as he golfed in Florida. He traveled to Flint, Michigan, and has not appeared to alter plans for upcoming trips to the nation's capital and North Carolina later in the week.

His running mate, Ohio Sen. JD Vance, held an event in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Vishwakarma Sabha RS Pura backs BJP candidate Dr. Narinder Singh in upcoming elections

Top News Report

R S PURA, Sep 19: The Vishwakarma Sabha RS Pura has officially extended its support to Dr. Narinder Singh, the BJP candidate for the Jammu South Assembly constituency. A public outreach program was organized at the Vishwakarma Sabha in RS Pura, where several prominent BJP leaders were in attendance.

Dr. Narinder Singh, along with Braham Jyot Satti, Incharge of the BJP OBC Morcha, addressed the gathering hosted by Krishan Lal Verma, President of the Vishwakarma Sabha. Other leaders, including Brijesh Singh, Om Parkash Chachu, and Lucky Chabardiya, also participated in the event.

The program commenced with paying obeisance, followed by interactions with key members of the Vishwakarma Sabha and local residents. Leaders reassured attendees that the BJP is committed to working in the public's interest and is the only political party that raises the voice of Jammu.

Krishan Lal Verma expressed enthusiasm about supporting Dr. Narinder Singh, highlighting his decade-long service to the public and asserting that he is a deserving candidate. He emphasized that the BJP is the only party that



actively considers the needs of the OBC community, noting the recent increase in OBC reservations to 4%.

In his address, Dr. Narinder Singh emphasized that the BJP is a party of nationalists dedicated to the welfare of all societal segments. He reflected on the positive changes in Jammu and Kashmir since 2014, asserting that the region is now almost free from terrorism. He highlighted the BJP's commitment to

facilitated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Braham Jyot Satti reiterated the government's efforts to deliver beneficial schemes to those in need, urging the public to be wary of other parties' false promises. He reinforced the idea that the BJP is the only party working diligently for the general public's welfare.

Krishan Lal concluded by thanking Dr. Narinder Singh and other BJP leaders for their engagement and attention to the community's needs. He stated that the OBC community is the backbone of India and expressed confidence that with their support, the BJP would secure a full mandate and govern independently.

This gathering underscored the BJP's outreach efforts in Jammu South as they seek to strengthen their position ahead of the upcoming assembly elections.

Randhawa pledges reform, performance, and transformation for Bahu Constituency



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) senior leader Vikram Randhawa, candidate for Bahu Constituency, has emphasized the party's ideology of "Reform, Perform, and Transform" as a guiding principle for its governance.

This mantra reflects the BJP's commitment to bringing about positive change and progress in India. Randhawa extensively conducted a door-to-door campaign in Trikuta Nagar and its adjoining areas of Bahu Constituency in the presence of Mandal President Neeraj Puri, Kulbir Charak, Indu Puri and Vishal Gupta accompanied him.

Randhawa's emphasis on "Reform, Perform, and Transform" for Bahu constituency is my first priority, he highlights the BJP's commitment to creating a better future for the citizens. With his experience in governance and politics, Randhawa's prediction suggests that the BJP is well-positioned to secure a majority in the J&K assembly election.

By focusing on governance, economic growth, and social welfare, the party aims to build a stronger, more prosperous nation. He enlightened that the BJP-led government will continue pursuing its agenda of reform, perform, and transform to ensure social justice and empowerment of the poor, youth, women, and farmers and push for fulfilling the vision of a viksit bharat or developed India by 2047.

He set a slogan: "Jinko kisi ne nahi poocha, unko Randhawa puja hai" (Randhawa worships those who were neglected by the others, particularly in Bahu constituency)," he said.

These initiatives demonstrate the BJP's commitment to transforming India and improving the lives of its citizens. By embracing the ideology of "Reform, Perform, and Transform," the BJP under Vikram Randhawa's leadership aims to build on its past successes and create a brighter future for the general populace of Bahu Constituency.

Randhawa highlighted

during the door-to-door campaign the centrally sponsored important schemes for the people of the country, i.e., Har Ghar Jal (Jal Jeevan Mission), Har Ghar Shauchalay (Swach Bharat Mission) Har Ghar Bijli (Saubhagya Yojana) Har Ghar Gas Cylinder (Ujjwala Yojana) Har Ghar Ration (Gareeb Kalyan Yojana) Har Ghar Bank account (Jan Dhan Yojana) Har Ghar Swasthya (Ayushman Yojana) Har Ghar Teeka (largest vaccine drive) Har Ghar Pakka Ghar (PM Aawas Yojana) These ten schemes (Ram baan) have transformed the lives of the poorest of the poor and have helped raise their standard of living to a level of dignity that they have always aspired for but were denied by a largely inefficient delivery mechanism led by a patronizing Mai Baap mindset, Randhawa said.

Today, it is the more than tens crores of beneficiaries of these schemes who view Modi as a "Messiah" and will vote and support him irrespective of the narrative of the opposition, he added.

JKBS hails Yogita Kaith, others on being awarded trophies for exhibiting painting

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: The Jammu and Kashmir Batwal Sabha members at a meeting held in Surya Vihar here on Thursday, hailed Yogita

JKBS' Chairman Dilay Ram Kaith, Deputy Chairman Hav. Des Raj Kaith, President Rachhpai Kaith, General Secretary R.L.Kaith and other members were mesmerised by seeing



Kaith and others of Vishwa Bharti Higher Secondary School Akalpur, on being awarded trophies by the Department of Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing, Government of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, for exhibiting wonderful paintings.

their paintings and said, "Yogita, you and your class fellows are going to have a big future if all you keep painting like this".

Members congratulated Yogita and other students' parents for this remarkable achievement, and wished their children all the best for future.

NSS SMVDU organizes wall painting for beautification of University surroundings

Top News Report

KATRA, Sep 19: NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers organized a wall painting event to beautify University surroundings.

The wall painting work was carried out on a long wall outside the main gate of the University.

More than 20 NSS volunteers worked enthusiastically for the beautification of the area. Firstly, whitewash was done on the whole wall area. Then, the drawing work was carried out by the volunteers.

Afterwards, painting with different colors was carried out. Themes based paintings were drawn by the volunteers.

The theme was based on different kinds of wheels. A Wheel is the symbol of progress for a society or nation. NSS student coordinators Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma coordinated the whole event. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers for organizing the event.

Army celebrates World Ozone Day at Chowkian

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Sep 19: Indian Army celebrated World Ozone Day at Patti, Chowkian in Rajouri District with great pomp and splendour. The event was celebrated in Government middle school, Patti with an interactive lecture on the Ozone layer, its importance, because of its depletion and the remedial measures.

The students were taught with the help of a chart and demonstration about the ozone layer, its depletion and why it



needs to be protected. A plant was planted near the school as a counter action against deforestation.

The occasion culminated with a pledge to safeguard the ozone layer and promote sustainable development.

A total of 38 students, 05 Teachers and 07 civilians joined in celebrating World Ozone Day.

Boost immunity through Yoga, Ayurveda, Homemade Remedies: Dr. Shreyansh



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: An awareness program focused on enhancing immunity through simple homemade remedies, yoga, and Ayurveda was recently held at the Government Ayurvedic Hospital.

Organized under the guidance of Dr. Mohan Singh, Director of Ayush J&K, Dr. Vandna Dogra, Medical Superintendent, and Dr. Aruna Bhat, Deputy Superintendent, the event aimed to educate participants on effective practices for improving overall health.

Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Yoga Commissioner and President of Vichar Kranri Manch International, shared valuable insights on yoga and homemade remedies.

He emphasized the importance of these practices in supporting immune health.

Dr. Lotika Bharti, Medical Superintendent of Shalakyia (Eye & ENT),

discussed various eye and ENT problems, highlighting preventive and therapeutic procedures such as Netraseka and Shirodhara.

The program included demonstrations of effective homemade remedies for boosting immunity. Participants learned to prepare Turmeric Milk (Golden Milk) by boiling milk with turmeric and black pepper, while also optionally adding honey, Ginger, Honey, and Lemon Tea was highlighted for its infection-fighting properties, made by boiling ginger in water and mixing in lemon juice and honey. Other remedies included Tulsi (Holy Basil) Tea, Amla (Indian Gooseberry) Juice, and Chyawanprash, an ancient Ayurvedic supplement known for its immune-boosting benefits.

In addition to dietary remedies, the program emphasized yoga practices that support immune function. Breathing exercises such as Kapalabhati

and Anulom-Vilom were demonstrated for their benefits in detoxifying the body and improving respiratory health. Various yoga poses, including Bhujangasana (Cobra Pose), Setu Bandhasana (Bridge Pose), Matsyasana (Fish Pose), and Adho Mukha Svanasana (Downward-Facing Dog Pose), were introduced as effective methods to enhance circulation and stimulate the immune system.

Participants were also encouraged to practice regular meditation, which helps reduce stress—an essential factor for maintaining a robust immune system. Dr. Harbaksh Singh, Panchkarma Specialist, welcomed attendees, while Dr. Reeta Dubey, Therapist, expressed gratitude through the vote of thanks. The active involvement of attendees, including Dr. Sahiba, Navya, and others, contributed to the program's success in promoting holistic health practices.

Congress will provide MSP, crop insurance to farmers, one lakh jobs to youth: Bharat Priye

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: National General Secretary of Kisan Congress Deepak Sharma and President of Jammu and Kashmir Kisan Congress Bharat Priye addressed the press conference at PCC headquarters. Earlier, hundreds of farmers were present in the party office to welcome Bharat Priye and welcomed their leader by wearing flower garlands. While talking to journalists, Deepak Sharma said that today the farmers of the country are crying tears of blood due to the wrong policies of the government. Farmers' loans are not being waived off, but the Modi government has waived off Rs 16 lakh crore of loans of big industrial houses.

Congress will provide Rs 36,000 annually to the woman head of the household, unemployment



ment allowance to the youth and one lakh jobs. Bharat Priye said that the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir are currently going through a period of extreme despair.

The promises made by Congress in its manifesto to the farmers will be applicable in Jammu and Kashmir. With this he will start a farmer helpline to know whose problems they are facing. Landless, tenant farming and land owning farmer families will be given additional financial assistance of

Rs 4,000 every year, will arrange for 99 years lease to landless farmers cultivating state land. The minimum price for apple crop will be fixed at Rs 72 per kg. 100% crop insurance will be given for all crops against natural calamities.

A fund of Rs 2500 crore will be created for all district-level irrigation projects to ensure 100% irrigation for the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir. Wholesale grain markets will be created in each block.

JU organises awareness program on prevention of sexual harassment



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: Jammu University Internal Complaints Committee Against Sexual Harassment (JUICCASH) initiated a series of awareness programmes on prevention of sexual harassment in Educational institutions for newly admitted students.

The first lecture in this series was organised for 1st semester students of faculty of life sciences in Department of Botany. Sheetal Nanda Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Government of Jammu and Kashmir was the Chief Guest of the function. Pooja Uppal,

Advocate, High Court was the resource person.

Prof. Namrata Sharma, Presiding officer, JUICCASH welcomed the guests and students and made them aware of the mandate of the committee. Pooja Uppal, Advocate made the audience aware of the various provisions of laws regarding sexual harassment in Educational institutions.

Speaking on the occasion, Sheetal Nanda emphasised the rights of every individual to complain against sexual harassment. Her motivational address included her being an alumnus of Jammu University and her efforts to safeguard

women against any sort of harassment.

Dr. Bindu Sangra, a member of JUICCASH apprised the students about intricacies of laws for safeguarding rights of every student.

The event was attended by 1st semester students of Departments of Botany, Zoology, Environmental sciences, and School of Biotechnology. Prof. Susheel Verma, Head of Department of Botany, Professor Veenu Kaul, Dr. Sikander Pal, Dr. Geeta, Dr. Harish, Dr. Skarma, Dr. Sheetal, Dr. Tarsem and other faculty members as well as all members of JUICCASH were also present.

Mega SVEEP programme organized at GDC Khour

Top News Report

KHOUR, Sep 19: Under the aegis of SVEEP (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation), Electoral Literacy Club in collaboration with NSS and NCC wing of GDC Khour organized a Mega SVEEP programme in which series of activities conducted on voter's education and electoral participation under the patronage of principal Prof. (Dr.) T. K. Sharma who is also the Nodal Officer of SVEEP, Assembly Constituency 82-Chhamb.

The event aimed to promote democratic values and increase voter's participation in the forthcoming Assembly election 2024.

The event began with a formal welcome address by Dr. Rashmi Sharma, Convener Electoral Literacy Club, who empha-

sized the importance of voter's participation in the democratic process.

The NCC Cadets and NSS Volunteers along with the students from the various departments of the College participated with great enthusiasm. The students highlighted the importance of exercising one's voting rights through various speeches, songs and poetry recitation.

In the event, esteemed Principal Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma with all faculty members and students participated in a 'Selfie for Vote' activity. At the designated Selfie Point, Principal and faculty members clicked their photographs with a message, 'My Vote, My Voice.'

In the event, Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma encouraged the participants by saying, "Voting is the foundation of democracy and it is our responsibility to par-

ticipate in the electoral process."

He also emphasized the significance of voting rights and highlighted the importance of voting as a responsibility and privilege. He, further, urged the students to cast their vote, and actively participate in the elections.

Moreover, he praised the efforts of Electoral Literacy Club, for organizing this event and encouraging students to participate in it with such great fervor. He, further, acknowledged the work of NSS and NCC unit of the college and encouraged them to continue their work and keep organizing such events in future with the same spirit.

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of GDC Khour played a pivotal role in organizing the event, ensuring quality and effectiveness.

OTD in 2007: Yuvraj Singh thrashes Stuart Broad for six sixes in an over

Star India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh hit England's Stuart Broad for six consecutive sixes in an over during the T20 World Cup 2007 at Kingsmead Durban.

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): On September 19, 2007 former India all rounder Yuvraj Singh unleashed his beast mode on England fast bowler Stuart Broad who found himself at the receiving end of his ruthless strokeplay. The southpaw smashed six consecutive sixes off the then 21-year-old and etched his name in record books becoming the second player to achieve the feat in international cricket after Herschelle Gibbs.

Yuvraj walked in to bat with India on 155/3 after 16.4 overs and joined MS Dhoni at the crease. The southpaw got a brisk start to his innings scoring three boundaries in his first six balls and moved to 14 runs. However, an altercation with England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff completely changed his mindset and awakened the sleeping beast inside of him.



As Stuart Broad took his mark to bowl the 19th over the innings, a charged-up Yuvraj waited for him at the striker's end waiting to unleash his fury. What followed next was pure carnage as the crowd at Kingsmead, Durban witnessed a historic feat as Yuvraj's flashing willow cut Flintoff's ego into pieces.

Broad ran in to bowl the over, unaware that he was going to

have the worst nightmare of his life come true right before his eyes. The youngster tried everything, from switching sides to varying his pace. However, a bloodthirsty Yuvraj made the boundary ropes disappear, with his massive shots which went soaring into the night sky and landed in the crowd one after the other.

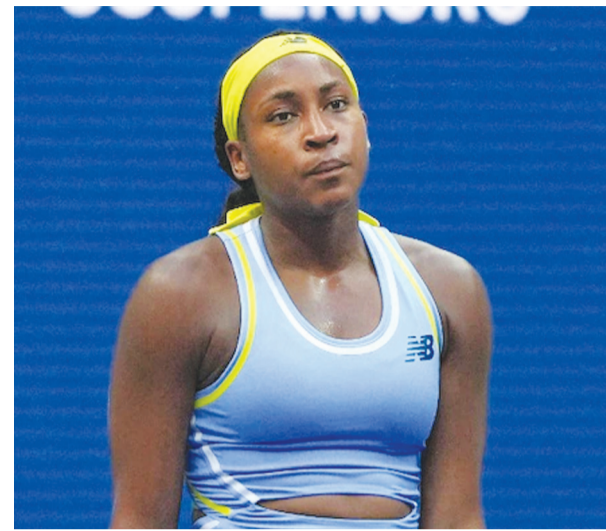
Yuvraj scores fastest fifty in

T20is

Former India cricketer Ravi Shastri made the moment even more memorable as his commentary fit perfectly with Yuvraj's assault on Broad as his captain Paul Collingwood just stood and watched the mayhem. Cow corner, deep square leg, long off and deep point were the regions where Yuvraj launched his six sixes sending the crowd into a frenzy.

Courtesy of his explosive batting, he also registered the then-fastest half-century in T20is off just 12 balls. He further smashed his seventh maximum against Flintoff in the next over before the England seamer finally dismissed him for 58 (16). India went on to score 218/4 in their allotted 20 overs and won the match by 18 runs. Yuvraj was deservedly adjudged Player of the Match for his breathtaking innings.

Coco Gauff splits with Brad Gilbert as coach after 14-month run



NEW YORK, Sep 19 (Agencies): Coco Gauff, last year's US Open champion, and coach Brad Gilbert announced on Wednesday they have split after 14 months together. The move comes after the 20-year-old American was ousted in the round of 16 at Wimbledon, the Paris Olym-

pics, the WTA Toronto event and the US Open and in her first match at Cincinnati in her last Open tuneup. "Thank you @bgtennisnation! We had an incredible run and I wish you all the best in the future!" Gauff posted on X, formerly known as Twitter. Sixth-ranked Gauff won last year at Wash-

ington and Cincinnati before capturing her first Grand Slam title at the US Open, becoming the first teen champion in New York since Serena Williams in 1999.

"Thanks to @CocoGauff and the entire team for an absolutely amazing summer run in 2023 and for 14 months of incredible team effort," Gilbert posted on X.

"Coco, at just 20 years young, your future is incredibly bright, and I wish you nothing but continued success ahead. I'm excited for the next chapter in my Coaching career."

World number six Gauff reached the Australian and French Open semi-finals earlier this year but could not approach her 2023 success this summer.

Hidden talent: French Olympic star Leon Marchand opts for disguise

PARIS, Sep 19 (Agencies): French Olympic swimming hero Leon Marchand said that his record-breaking exploits in the Paris pool have changed his life so much that he often needs to don a disguise to evade attention. The 22-year-old won all four of his individual races at the Games -- the 200m butterfly, 200m breaststroke and 200m-400m medley double. It thrust him into elite company as the first male swimmer to do so at a singles Games since American legend Michael Phelps in 2008. However, fame has its occasional downside.

"I'm going to lose a little freedom and spontaneity because I can't go out to restaurants like I used to anymore," Marchand said as Toulouse feted its new Olympic star.

"I need to organise myself a little more. I



can't do my shopping alone. I wear a cap and glasses. I try to hide a little.

"But when people do stop me in the street, it's to say 'thank you'. That's kind and I take it to my heart."

He added: "I have got used to it quite quickly even if the first weeks were difficult, because it's a fairly radical change in status."

Marchand said that the Paris Olympics, which were widely praised

for their smooth organisation, had sparked a wave of optimism in the country.

"France has changed and I hope it will last," said Marchand.

"Sport is something quite special. It conveys an emotion that you can't have anywhere else and the French realised this. We must continue to celebrate athletes, try to put more resources into infrastructure, more sport in schools."

Indian Women crush Georgia; D Gukesh leads men to victory over China

BUDAPEST, Sep 19 (Agencies): Grandmaster R Vaishali and Vantika Agrawal put up impressive performances as Indian women defeated Georgia while World Championship challenger D Gukesh led the men to victory over China in the seventh round as both teams continued their unbeaten streak in 45th Chess Olympiad in Budapest. Vaishali and Vantika notched wins against Lela Javakhishvili and Bella Khotenashvili as Indian women thumped second seeds Georgia 3-1, while the men eked out a 2.5-1.5 over China.

On a day that saw D Harika settling for a draw with Nana Dzagnidze and Divya Deshmukh being held by Nino Batsiashvili from a better position, it was Vantika who handled her time pressure extremely well to play almost 20 moves with just about a minute on her clock to win her game and seal India's seventh straight victory.

The Indian women took their tally to an impressive 14 points out of a possible 14 and



stretched their lead to two points over nearest rivals Poland, Kazakhstan and France who all have 12 points apiece.

In a surprising turn of events a blunder by Olivia Kiobasa of Poland against Nataliya Buksa of Ukraine cost the Polish team dearly in the sixth hour of play as what looked like a certain victory became a 2-2 draw.

In the open section, Indian Grandmaster Gukesh showed the way.

Playing the white side of a Closed Sicilian Gukesh

reached a drawn endgame after nearly five hours of play but he remained focus to find one mistake that was made by Chinese top board Wei Yi.

Speculation were rife about a possible clash between D Gukesh and Ding Liren -- the two contestants in the next World Championship for a final showdown ahead of their match in Singapore in November.

However, the Chinese think tank decided to rest the reigning world champion. That was already a shock for the pundits

of the game.

R Praggnanandhaa played out a quick draw as black against Yangyi Yu of China while P Harikrishna pressed for some time before the position petered out to be equal in the ensuing rook and pawns endgame against Wang Yue of China on the fourth board.

Earlier Arjun Erigaise went for the kill against an alert Bu Xiangzhi and the latter found a nice piece sacrifice to force a draw through repetition.

With just four rounds to come, the Indian men have done everything correct thus far and are sitting pretty with a 100 percent score like their female counterparts.

Iran is the only team in close pursuit of the leaders on 13 points while a pack of four teams -- Serbia, Hungary, Armenia and defending champions Uzbekistan share the third spot on 12 points each.

In the next round now, the Indian men will take on Iran while the women are pitted against Poland.

Jugraj Singh: India's new hockey star who sold water bottles at Attari border

CHANDIGARH, Sep 19 (Agencies): Jugraj Singh emerged as the unlikely hero for the Indian men's hockey team as he scored the winner against China in the Asian Champions Trophy 2024 final. There was no goal in the first three quarters of the summit clash but Jugraj was able to find the back of the net in the 51st minute to guide his side to a record-extending fifth title. It was a rare goal for the 27-year-old who plays as a centre-back but its importance was not lost on anyone. It was a shining moment for Jugraj who used to sell tricolour flags and

water bottles to tourists at the Attari-Wagah border to help his family financially.

Jugraj's father Sukhjeet Singh worked as a porter for nearly 30 years and he revealed that his son used to do multiple jobs while growing up in order to support the family.

"I don't know anything other than doing hard labour, but my son has made me and our family proud. He used to sell Indian flags at the Beating Retreat ceremony to help me run the family, but see where he has reached today," he told agency.

Jugraj's life would have continued in the



same path if he was not spotted by coach Navjit Singh. Navjit started coaching Jugraj on the grass field at Government Senior Secondary School and he soon impressed everyone with his talent.

"Jugraj was well-built compared to other chil-

dren his age. It perhaps had to do with him lifting heavy loads when his father needed a helping hand," Navjit said.

He even took help of his friends in England and Canada to provide his students with hockey kits.

"Jugraj would prac-

tice in the morning and afternoon before going to sell flags to tourists. Even though his day would end late, he would be the first one to be at training in the morning," the coach added.

In 2009, Jugraj joined the Baba Uttam Singh National Hockey Academy in Khadoor Sahib and over the next four years, he took part in the Nehru Cup competitions.

Jugraj continued to work hard and he was finally rewarded during the FIH Hockey Pro League 2021-22 as he went on to make his debut for the senior Indian men's hockey team.

Cricket Australia bans Victorian women's coach Dulip Samaraweera for 20 years



SYDNEY, Sep 19 (Agencies): Cricket Australia (CA) has imposed a 20-year ban on Dulip Samaraweera, the former head coach of the Victorian women's cricket team, after an investigation revealed a "coercive" relationship between him and a female player. The decision marks a significant moment in Australian cricket as the sport's governing body continues to prioritize player welfare and integrity.

Samaraweera, a former Sri Lankan Test cricketer, had resigned from his role in May 2024, only two weeks into a two-year contract. His resignation followed a dispute over a staff appointment that was blocked due to Cricket Victoria's internal policies. Before his appointment, Samaraweera had been serving as interim head coach since November 2023 after the departure of Jarrad Loughman.

The findings of the investigation were released by CA's integrity department, which confirmed that Samaraweera's behavior violated section 2.23 of the

organization's code of conduct. While specific details of the misconduct have not been fully disclosed, it was revealed that his actions were deemed inappropriate and coercive in nature. Cricket Australia emphasized the importance of safeguarding the wellbeing of players, with CEO Nick Cummins of Cricket Victoria commending the victim's resilience.

"The victim in this case has demonstrated incredible strength of character and courage in speaking up. She will continue to receive our ongoing support to allow her to achieve her goals on and off the field," Cummins said in a statement.

Cricket Australia has reiterated its commitment to fostering a safe and respectful environment for players and staff. "The CA integrity department investigates complaints brought to it under integrity codes and policies, which also apply to state and territory associations," read CA's statement. "We strongly encourage the reporting of inappropriate behaviors, which can be made directly to the CA integrity unit or via the core integrity hotline."

Samaraweera, who played seven Tests and five ODIs for Sri Lanka between 1993 and 1994, will not be eligible to hold any position within Australian cricket for the next two decades. This ban represents one of the harshest penalties handed down in Australian cricket in recent times, as the sport moves to confront misconduct and reinforce a culture of respect.

Asiad bronze winner Kiran fails dope test

NEW DELHI, Sep 19 (Agencies): Asian Games bronze medallist shot putter Kiran Baliyan has been provisionally suspended by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for testing positive for a banned substance as a slew of



athletes across sports figured in the latest list of dope offenders.

Surprisingly, Olympics medallist Bajrang Punia's name is missing from the latest update though he figured in a previous list issued by the NADA recently.

The NADA had, on June 23, suspended Punia for a second time, three weeks after its Anti-Disciplinary Doping panel had revoked his suspension.

The 25-year-old Baliyan, who had become only the second Indian

to win a medal in women's shot put in the Asian Games at Hangzhou last year, returned positive for metandienone, an anabolic androgenic steroid banned at all times. She stares at a maximum ban period of four years.

VC SMVDU inaugurates Skill Hub Center, Government-Supported Initiative for Skill Development

Top News Report

KATRA, Sep 19: Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU inaugurated Skill Hub Center, SMVDU aimed at promoting skill development and vocational training in the region.

Supported by the Government of India, the centre has been equipped with essential training kits, providing students with high-quality resources and practical knowledge.

The Skill Hub Centre aligns with key government initiatives, including the PM Vishwakarma Scheme (PMV) and the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), both designed to enhance employability and foster entrepreneurship.

During the launch, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Coordinator of the Skill Hub



Centre, outlined the various benefits of the initiative, emphasizing its potential to bridge the gap between traditional education and industry needs.

He highlighted that the centre will play a pivotal role in improving employment prospects by offering hands-on vocational training.

Prof. Pragati Kumar,

Vice Chancellor, SMVDU addressed the gathering, urging students, faculty, and participants to seize the opportunities provided.

He emphasized the importance of skill development in today's competitive world and expressed confidence that the Skill Hub Centre, backed by PM Vishwakarma and PMKVY schemes, will

equip students with industry-relevant skills.

Prof. Kumar underscored the centre's contribution to not only personal growth but also to the socio-economic development of the region and the nation.

Ajay Sharma, Registrar, SMVDU, in his message, commended the efforts in establishing the Skill Hub

Centre and highlighted the critical role such initiatives play in transforming the academic landscape.

He encouraged students to actively engage in the training programs, stressing that skill development is not merely an adjunct to education but a key driver of career success.

He also acknowledged the support from the Government of India and reiterated the university's commitment to providing world-class training and development opportunities for students and the wider community.

Other members present on the occasion included Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. M. Eswaramoorthy, Er. Deepak Byotra, Workshop Superintendent, Dr. Varun Dutta, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Dr. Amit Sinha and other staff members.

Restore old pension scheme for all govt employees: NOPRUF



Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: A meeting of the National Working Committee of the National Old Pension Restoration United Front (NOPRUF) was held at Rajendra Bhawan, New Delhi, organized by B P Singh Rawat, the National President.

The meeting focused on crucial issues related to the New Pension Scheme (NPS), the Unorganized Pension Scheme (UPS), and the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

Shiv Gopal Mishra, General Secretary of the All India Railways Federation, also participated, emphasizing the urgent need for a stronger nationwide agitation to unite more government employees at the grassroots level.

This collective effort aims to safeguard the interests of government employees regarding pension rights.

The committee concluded with a slogan "One Nation, One Pension," advocating for the resto-

ration of the old pension scheme for all government employees.

State representatives, including Raghunandan, Rajesh Sharma, Dr. Alok Yadav, Sajjan Singh, Santosh, Gurmukh Singh, Vikram Singh Rawat, and I D Songma, provided updates on their respective states' progress in the campaign for pension restoration.

Their insights highlighted the ongoing efforts and current status in advocating for the Old Pension Scheme.

Talent Hunt by Radio Mirchi held at SPPND GDC Samba



Top News Report

SAMBA, Sep 19: SPPND Government Degree College, Samba under the leadership of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri hosted an exhilarating Talent Hunt competition organised by Radio Mirchi.

The event aimed at providing a platform for students to showcase their diverse talents and boost their confidence. A wide range of performances including singing, dancing highlighted the event, demonstrating the creative potential of the students.

The atmosphere was charged with excitement as students took to the stage, encouraged by their peers and teachers alike. The event was a resounding success, seamlessly managed by the faculty and student volunteers.

The event was part of Radio Mirchi's initiative to engage with young audience and provide them a platform to shine on a broader stage.

This memorable event stands as a testament to the college's commitment to holistic education and its dedication to providing students with ample opportunities to excel in both academics and arts. The winners of Talent Hunt were honoured with gifts by the Radio Mirchi team.

The title of Mr. and Miss Mirchi Fresher were awarded to Arun and Sheetal Sharma from Semester 3.

Principal lauded the participants for their commendable performances and emphasized the importance of such platforms in fostering creativity and self expression among students.

Army holds Swasth Bharat Mobile Medical Patrol at Dabbar, Potha

Top News Report

RAJOURI, Sep 19: Indian Army interacted with communities in remote and inaccessible regions of Dabbar & Potha of Kalal to provide necessary healthcare services.

The mobile medical patrols, equipped with essential medical supplies and services, reached these areas to provide healthcare with compassion.

The primary objective was to provide on-the-spot medical care, including basic health check-ups, treatment of common ailments and distribution of necessary medications.

The medical patrol also focused on preventive healthcare by offering immunizations and disseminating information about hygiene, nutrition and disease prevention. The Mobile Medical Patrol provided special attention to vulnerable sections of the population, such as children and the elderly.

By ensuring that these groups receive timely



and appropriate medical attention, the Indian Army helped to mitigate the risk of complications that could arise from untreated health issues.

The response from the local population has been overwhelmingly positive. Villagers expressed deep gratitude for the Army's initiative, which brings much-needed medical services directly to their doorsteps.

Beyond the immediate medical benefits, the mobile medical patrols play a crucial role in building and strengthening the relationship between the

Indian Army and the local communities and fosters trust and goodwill.

The proactive approach in medical assistance helps to prevent onset of diseases and also reduces the healthcare burden on the individual and the system.

It hence reassures the residents of the Indian Army's commitment to their welfare and security, thereby enhancing the sense of safety and community cohesion.

A total number of 41 villagers (14 Male, 19 Female and 08 Children) were benefitted by the mobile medical patrol.

Record turnout in 1st Phase elections signals a new dawn of democracy in J&K: Gaurav

Top News Report

JAMMU, Sep 19: The first phase of Jammu and Kashmir's elections witnessed an impressive 59% voter turnout, a historic moment marking a renewed faith in democracy across the region. Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, lauded the overwhelming participation, stating, "The people of J&K have spoken loud and clear—boycott is a thing of the past, and the ballot is the future."

Gaurav said that this election, the first in over a decade, has drawn voters in bulk, with Kishtwar recording a remarkable 77.23% turnout, the highest across all districts. Even regions like Shopian, Tral, and Pulwama, traditionally impacted by insurgency, saw enthusiastic voter participation—signify-



ing a profound transformation in the electoral landscape since the abrogation of Article 370. Pulwama, often noted for low turnout, recorded a respectable 46.03%, breaking past patterns, he added.

Gaurav Gupta praised Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, and Chief Electoral Officer P K Pole for their pivotal role in ensuring a peaceful and well-coordinated election process. Their leadership has contribut-

ed significantly to restoring the people's confidence in the electoral system and reinforcing democratic values, he added.

"This record turnout is not just about numbers—it's about the unwavering spirit of the people of Jammu and Kashmir who are ready to shape their own future through democracy," he said and emphasized that the massive participation reflects the renewed optimism and hope injected into the region post-Article 370, fueling aspirations for growth, peace, and development.

With the first phase completed successfully, he urged voters to maintain the same enthusiasm in the subsequent phases, stressing that each vote is a powerful step toward shaping a more peaceful and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir.

Vivek Bali praises 'One Nation, One Election' initiative

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Sep 19: Vivek Bali Senior political leader, has welcomed and praised the concept of 'One Nation, One Election,' emphasizing its potential to transform India's electoral process.

In his statement, Bali highlighted that the initiative, which proposes synchronizing elections across the country, could lead to significant administrative, economic, and political benefits.

"By having simultaneous elections at the central, state, and local levels, we not only reduce the financial burden on the exchequer but also ensure that development work and governance remain uninterrupted," Bali stated.

He further emphasized that constant election cycles hinder the government's focus on long-term developmental projects due to the model code of conduct frequently coming into force.



Bali also mentioned that 'One Nation, One Election' would encourage voter turnout by simplifying the process and engaging citizens across the country in a unified electoral process.

"It strengthens the democratic spirit of the country by ensuring that citizens actively participate in every level of governance," he added.

This endorsement from Vivek Bali aligns progressive vision for the region and the nation, aiming for efficient governance, seamless development, and increased public participation.

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